Library Updates: March 2015
Academic Technology: Upcoming Efforts

- **Faculty Engagement Effort** We will be meeting one-on-one with recently hired tenure-track faculty to discuss their pedagogical, research, and technology needs.

- **CTLR support** We will be working with CTLR staff to redesign the Center's website and with science students to develop a Writing in Sciences Website.

- **Classroom Design and Assessment** We will create a map of learning spaces on campus and make recommendations on equipment choices in these spaces. Facilities, Media Services and Library Liaisons members will be part of the team.

- **Digital Liberal Arts (DLA) Initiative** We will continue the support and look for new ways to assist both projects and goals of the DLA.
- **Digital Media Tutors (DMTs)**

    - We will finish the DMT website by the end of summer.
    - We will look for innovative ways to take advantage of DMT talent (e.g. app development user group).

- **Planning for Canvas Pilot** Once approved, we will launch a Canvas pilot this summer for the Language Schools

- **Improvements to Workshops and Training**

    - We will continue working with CTLR on programming, such as the Science of Learning spring institute, and explore creative ways to making it accessible to the entire Middlebury enterprise. This March, for example, MIIS participated in John Tallmadge's presentations at CTLR through video-conferencing.
    - Work with ITS to improve the way helpdesk tickets are handled so that ATG members have more time to pursue faculty outreach and ATG projects.

Discovery & Access: Upcoming Efforts

- **Print Approval Plan** We will be implementing the approximately 50% reduction in our print approval plan agreed to at the recent liaisons meeting focused on collections issues.
- **Intota Assessment** We will be implementing ProQuest's collection assessment module and learning how to use it effectively.
- **Deaccessioning** We have begun reviewing the As (both circulating and reference collections) for items we hold that are no longer needed. This is preliminary to a similar but much larger effort across other areas of the collection, and is necessary to provide room for natural collection growth as well as accommodate the all-but-inevitable move of some of the Armstrong Library collection in to Davis.
- **E-book Discovery Improvements** As a result of some confusion about what ebooks we have access to, we are looking at ways to improve subject access to the bibliographic records for the EBL ebooks we have not yet purchased. Our investigation thus far has not revealed a simple fix.

- **Restore alumni access to JSTOR/Project Muse** We are working with ITS, the alumni office, and various vendors to restore alumni access to these databases. Access was disrupted when the alumni office switched platforms from Harris Online to iModules. Again, not a simple fix.

Research & Instruction: Upcoming Efforts

- **Research & Technology Assessments** We are coordinating with the Office of Planning and Assessment to explore opportunities to refine our efforts to assess the research and technology skills of current and incoming students.
- **Planning for 2015 Summer** This spring, liaisons who coordinated the wrap-up reports for the summer session (LS, BLSE, SOE) will be checking in with directors and managers to initiate follow-through on the recommendations that were made.
- **Collection management** Librarians and their colleagues in Collection Management will begin work on weeding more of the circulating collection, and we'll probably fold in sections of the Reference collection as well.
- **Staffing** We are busily planning for 3 departures in the R&I workgroup. We've started departure checklists, conversations about temporary coverage for key responsibilities, and training.
- **Scrivener pilot** This Spring we are offering a limited number of licenses to the software program Scrivener (http://www.literatureandlatte.com/scrivener.php) to interested student thesis writers and faculty. We're recruiting now.
- **Information Literacy** Carrie and Brenda spoke with FLAC about our information literacy program. All faculty think it is important to help students learn how to find, evaluate and use sources in general, but some faculty have trouble linking those skills to their own classes. We'll continue to seek out departments that are interested in participating in our pilot for intermediate and advanced skills development. Most recently, we've asked Psychology, and we'll soon ask History.
- **Library website usability testing** We have begun to parse out the findings of the report from Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science students on their usability testing of the library site. Initial findings here: Library website usability study completed. In the coming months, we'll discuss and implement changes including: making the go/guides block more noticeable, removing the search function from the Database A-Z tab, making library floor plans easier to find, making the link to renew books easier to find, changing the Course Reserves instructor search button text to "Instructor Last Name," and creating more visual consistency between print and e-Reserves on the "Reserves" tab of the Quick Search box.

Special Collections & Archives: Upcoming Efforts

- **Disaster Planning Workshop** We are holding a Library wide in-service workshop in April.
- **Language Schools Centennial** We will be providing research support and mounting an exhibition this summer.
- **Environmental Studies 50th Anniversary** We will be providing research support and mounting several exhibitions.
- **DLA** Upcoming projects with the DLA include Will Nash's crowdsourced transcription of the Helen Thoreau scrapbooks, applying to become a "hub" to the Digital Public Library

of America, and hiring a student *DLA Special Collections Research Associate* to promote archival audio-visual collections.

- **Programming** Increasingly, we have seen the benefits of co-sponsoring programs. We draw larger audiences and share costs. Upcomings plans are underway to co-sponsor events with the Sheldon Museum, New England Review, Museum of Art, Ron and Jessica Leibowitz, the Museum of Art, Academic Affairs, and the Italian Department.
- **Born-digital Archives** With the newly acquired VT Freedom to Marry Archives, the President's departure, and increasing awareness of digital archives, we plan to increase our expertise and capacity with new staff and new tools.
- **First Folio! The Book that Gave us Shakespeare** Middlebury College will host a rare copy of Shakespeare's First Folio. Special Collections is partnering with many College faculty and staff, the Town Hall Theatre, Vermont Humanities Council, Ilsley Public Library, UVM, etc. See the Washington Post's story here.

Library Administration: Upcoming Efforts

- **Library Data Project** Each of the main areas of the library will be scheduling deep dive presentations to propose which data they propose to include in a library-wide dashboard. These will take place in April and May.
- **Community Relationship Management System (aka faculty engagement project)** We'll be reviewing the results of our survey of other institutions and developing requirements for this system, and then looking at various technology options.
- **Library Newsletter** Having created a plan for a quarterly newsletter, we'll publish our first issue this spring.
- **Library Mission, Vision, and Values** Having published these to our website, we will now be integrating them into our annual planning and goal setting, and discussing further at one of the spring staff meetings.
- **MISO analysis** Having identified three questions to dig into deeper (dissatisfaction with Moodle, support for audio/video creation, and input into library decision making) we will explore ways to better understand the sources of this dissatisfaction.
- **Open Access Working Group** Having formed an open access working group, we'll be digging into research and outreach to better understand what (if anything) we want to do about open access. More information on the group can be found at http://go.middlebury.edu/openaccess/ .
- **E-portfolio for Faculty** Working with ITS and the working group, we will be refining our requirements for this system, and evaluating various technical options.
- **Top Ten Student Tech Skills** Once we've revised our survey, we'll be sending out to employers, and then use those results to begin the process of creating a 'tech skills' map that will allow students to see where within the curriculum, on campus, and on-line they can acquire desired technical skills.
- **Armstrong Library Re-Envisioning** We are working with colleagues in the Sciences, the Registrar's Office, and Facilities to re-imagine the shape and services of Armstrong Library as part of a larger effort to address space challenges in BiHall.

Library: Recent Accomplishments

Academic Technology: Recent Accomplishments

- **Classroom Design and Assessment**

  - Participated in a number of meetings originating from different offices, including Suzanne's. A group is being organized to create a map of learning spaces on campus and it will include members of the library liaisons, Media Services and Facilities.
  - Wilson Lab redesign is moving ahead. Design plans were informed by input from faculty, students and the ATG group.
  - Attending the "Next Generation Learning Spaces" conference provided new ideas and insight on learning spaces planning from design to maintenance.

- **Digital Enhancement Fund**

  - Funds are being awarded
  - Funding through the ATG budget has also supported the purchase of equipment to support different pedagogical methodologies (e.g. Surface Pro 3 for the recording of handwritten annotation videos and the installation of a 70" touch screen in MBH464)

- **Digital Liberal Arts (DLA) Initiative**

  - Communication channels have been established and the process is slowly being ironed out.
  - ATG is assisting with DLA projects through consultations, DMT participation and by interfacing with ITS for deployment of tools.

- **Digital Media Tutors (DMTs)**

  - The type of data collected has improved although a more robust system is needed.
  - Conversations are taking place to address the current and future role of the DMTs since the program is now being asked to provide assistance to different entities on campus.
  - Efforts are being made to raise the visibility and contribution of the program through the design of a website.

- **Distance Learning Initiatives**

  - ATG continues to provide support for distance learning initiatives through regular meetings with Media Services, MIIS and faculty/organizers participating in these initiatives.
  - Provided support for Leng 2015 online course.

- **Grant Opportunities**

- Meets regularly with the Director of Corporate & Foundation Relations as well as establishing lines of communication with College Advancement.

- **Outreach**

  - New lines of communication with College Advancement, ITS (HelpDesk, Software support) have been established to inform/coordinate ATG efforts in introducing innovation to Middlebury. However, outreach to faculty needs to be expanded and scaled.

- **Digital Learning Technology Evaluations**

  - Funds have been added to FY15-16 to support the LMS pilot (Canvas).
  - FLAC committee members have been informed.
  - Pilot plan has been devised and at this point awaiting for budget approval to move forward.
  - Media Services has received first round of funding approval for a video platform solution (MediaCore).

- **Improvements to Workshops and Training**

  - Efforts are underway to aggregate all workshop/training efforts through the redesign of the CTLR website.
  - Productive collaboration with CTLR has resulted into successful programming focusing on themes we can build on rather than one-offs. Both the J-Term lecture series and DMT bootcamp were well attended. A spring semester Learning Institute is being planned for May 27th-28th focusing on the Learning Sciences.
  - Trying to expand CTLR faculty development programming to MIIS through video-conferencing.
  - Outreach efforts to departments/newly-hired faculty has not been accomplished. To successfully achieve these objectives a reorganization of the duties and areas of responsibility of the ATG members need to take place first. Unfortunately, progress has been slow.

Discovery & Access: Recent Accomplishments

- **Copyright Workshops** Terry Simpkins will be teaching two copyright workshops this J-Term . One will be for the Digital Media bootcamp and the other for Peter Lourie's class.
- **Streaming Video:** Subscribed to Kanopy, our first streaming video service (many documentaries, Criterion Collection films, etc.).
- **On-going Collection Management** We shifted some materials in the American Literature (PS) section, and withdrew or sent to main stacks some of the popular browsing materials.
- **Scanning Policy** We clarified our policy for scanning support here: http://mediawiki.middlebury.edu/wiki/LIS/Reserves_Information_for_Faculty#Electronic_Reserve
- **Print Approval Plan** We met with liaisons about various collections-related topics, including the print approval plan and the ebook patron-driven acquisitions (PDA) program. At that meeting, we agreed to scale back print approvals to about 50% of

current, and use some of that savings to fund eBook PDA requests, the costs of which have risen rapidly due to popularity and large publisher price increases.

- **Consortial Partners:** We are participating in a pilot program between NExpress and ConnectNY that allows us to expand our (unmediated) collection-sharing consortia, and also pave the way to migrate to a new, non-Innovative Interfaces, library system when the time comes for that.
- **Interlibrary Loan:** Began a pilot program called IDS (Information Delivery Services project: http://idsproject.org/index.aspx) , which is a group of libraries working collaboratively on innovative enhancements to Interlibrary Loan services and workflows. One immediate benefit was that it allowed us to automatically check item availability and status, something we had hitherto been doing manually.
- **Temporary Space Shifting** We successfully shifted collections neighboring the new videoconferencing room (DFL105) into temporary space in the Harmon Periodical area, and back again onto newly installed compact shelving.
- **Several Important Systems Upgrades:** specifically, ILLiad (our ILL platform) and ContentDM (one of our digital collections platform)

Research & Instruction: Recent Accomplishments

Workshops - Course-related research and technology workshops

Fall 2014	78*	The lower number for fall 2014 can perhaps be attributed to the fact that in fall 2013, a higher percentage of first-year seminars requested library instruction, and several of those asked for 2, 3 or even 4 workshops.
Fall 2013	105	

*Does not include Special Collections

Consultations - Research and technology consultations for students and faculty

Fall 2014	65 student	37 fac/staff	It is exciting to see an increase in faculty/staff consultations. Last year's MISO survey showed an increase in both the use of, and the satisfaction with, library liaison contact. With numbers like these, this upward trend seems likely to continue. Regarding student consultations: Since consultations often are requested as a follow-up to a workshop, it is not surprising that we provided fewer this fall than the year before.
Fall 2013	91 student	25 fac/staff	

Questions - Research and technology questions in person or by email, chat, or phone

Fall 2014	1,065	This is a minor change. If anything, we should be encouraged to see that the numbers dropped only 6.5%, since questions often are asked at the Research Desk as a follow-up to a workshop.
Fall 2013	1,139	

- **Faculty feedback on library instruction** At the end of the fall semester, we asked for faculty feedback on library workshops. 97% of responses (response rate 61%) showed that library instruction had a positive impact on the students' research abilities. Those numbers are slightly higher than the previous year, when 94% of responses (response rate 46%) showed a positive impact .

- **Fall first-year seminars** In fall 2014, we provided course-related workshops to 80% of first-year seminars, which is lower than the previous year's 91%. These numbers seem to fluctuate depending on the courses that are offered (see the next bullet point -- we're at 100% for spring 2015.)
- **Spring first-year seminars** I presented to spring FYSE faculty about library support for their classes. I was able to quote from the faculty feedback surveys for added impact. 100% of spring first-year seminars have requested library instruction!
- **Classroom assessment techniques** Liaisons have been reporting out enthusiastically on their experiments with classroom assessment techniques and active learning exercises in workshops to increase student engagement and help gauge effectiveness.
- **Armstrong Library** Planning and investigation for a potential renovation to the Armstrong Library continues. Wendy put together a document with evidence and suggestions, and that has been passed on to the administration. She's also begun consulting with faculty on their preferences, should we need to undertake a large-scale weeding project.
- **Library Video Tutorials** We added captions to our 3 newest video tutorials: "[5 Quick Tips: The Davis Family Library](#)," "[Primary vs Secondary Sources](#)," and "[How and Why to Cite](#)." (click the CC button to make captioning appear.)
- **Collection management** Librarians and their colleagues in Collection Management did some spot weeding on the lower level of the Davis Family Library in preparation for installation of compact shelving. Faculty were of course consulted.

- **Publicity and outreach** Candy Calling Cards publicizing the Research Desk ("Ask us!") were distributed to students in the library in the last week of October and the first week of November. Thanks to Circulation Staff for helping us to get the word out! Posters to welcome Febs, staffing Student Services Fair.
- **J-Term Workshop** Our fIrst-ever j-term workshop, ""Zotero and beyond: Power Research Tips for the Student Researcher," was a hit. Registration was maxed out in the first week! We are excited to be able to attribute some of the success to an enthusiastic collaborator, a Peer Writing Tutor who helped with the planning, publicity and execution.
- **Room scheduling for library workshops** Scheduling library workshops has become more complicated now that the LIB105 renovation has begun. We've now ironed out satisfactory procedures for finding alternative spaces for workshops and for assessing the impact after the year is over.

Special Collections & Archives: Recent Accomplishments

- **Researchers** In the fall semester through February 2015, over 800 faculty, students, alumni, and outside researchers visited Special Collections.
- **Workshops** In the fall semester through February 2015, we hosted 41 workshops.
- **Questions** We answered roughly 200 research requests in the fall and early spring through email and telephone.
- **DLA Special Collections** received two grants through the DLA. 1) Funding to digitize the anti-slavery scrapbooks of Helen Thoreau 2) Student assistant to help us edit, organize, and promote our digitized films.
- **Collections** Vermont Freedom to Marry chose to deposit their historic archives at Middlebury College; we acquired a 15th century medieval manuscript to support classes in HARC, RELI, and ENAM initially; we are building our zine collection to support classes in Environmental Studies and GSWS.

- **Athletic History Wall** Special Collections lent staff and student support to provide images and metadata.
- **College Archives** Working in Collaboration with the Alumni Office, we successfully transferred and integrated 12,000 alumni files from the basement of the Courthouse to the College Archives.
- **Space Planning** The unflappable Joseph Watson continues to coordinate and participate in space planning, including the shift in shelving impacted by the videoconferencing room (DFL105).

Library Administration: Recent Accomplishments

- **Library Data Project** We've made some progress in identifying data that we currently have that could be used in our efforts to understand trends in how our services and resources are being used by our students and faculty.
- **Community Relationship Management System** We completed a survey of how other schools manage data related to how faculty engage with library and academic technology services and resources.
- **Library Newsletter** We have a template, a set of topics, a schedule, and an editor lined up for this.
- **Library Mission, Vision, and Values** We have completed this project. The results can be found at http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/lib/about/lib-mission
- **MISO analysis** We have looked more closely at the results, and want to focus our efforts on understanding better three specific questions:

  - Dissatisfaction with Moodle
  - Dissatisfaction with support for audio/video creation
  - Dissatisfaction with input into library decision making

- **Open Access Working Group** We have formed the working group
- **E-portfolio for Faculty** We have completed phase one of this project, and are moving into phase two, where we will (a) clarify requirements and (b) identify technology solutions.
- **Science Challenge (with Steve Trombulak)** Working with Director of the Sciences Steve Trombulak , we launched a website to allow science faculty and others with a stake in the future of science at Middlebury to crowdsource ideas for what should be the science priorities in the coming years.
- **Top Ten Student Tech Skills** We're working with the Center for Careers and Internships to document the technical skills that employers are looking for, and where on campus and online students can acquire these skills. We've drafted a survey that is currently under review.
- **Librarian Advancement and Promotion Program (LAPP)** We are working with Human Resources to examine the feasibility of relaunching this program using the existing HR framework for doing in-band promotions, which would allow us to accomplish more or less the same thing as the current program, but to have that program no longer be separate from the overall HR policy.
- **Videoconferencing Facility** The renovations of DFL105 and the resulting shifts in collections and study spaces are underway, with an expected launch date of later this spring.

- **Armstrong Library Re-Envisioning** We are working with colleagues in the Sciences, the Registrar's Office, and Facilities to re-imagine the shape and services of Armstrong Library as part of a larger effort to address space challenges in BiHall. Wendy Shook drafted a report that describes how a re-envisioned program for Armstrong Library could fit on the current main floor.