

BUSWELL LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Year ending 30 June 2017

Highlights

- The library faculty developed and implemented the **information literacy component of the Christ at the Core first-year and advanced seminars**. This coming year we will implement the content for the capstone courses and at least one course for each undergraduate major.
- The **library faculty taught 96 class sessions**, reaching 1,860 students.
- We continue to make great strides in **improving access to collections**, improving cataloguing quality and completeness, and making e-resources more findable. We made major progress in populating the Archon and Portfolio databases (providing access to non-book resources), which are shared across Buswell, Wade, and the Billy Graham Center Archives.
- We implemented a **book-delivery service to faculty offices and to Wheaton students at a distance**.
- At the request of the Provost, we prepared a document outlining the cost of **converting from Dewey to Library of Congress classification**. We are ready to proceed with this project when funding becomes available.
- We hosted a **symposium on missionary and artist Liliias Trotter**, which included guest speakers from on and off campus, showing of a documentary film, and exhibit of primary-source materials on loan from Brian and Sally Oxley.
- We are thrilled to have welcomed **three new library faculty members** this past year to take the positions of those who have left us to advance their careers elsewhere.

Challenges

- Move forward with next steps in planning for a new or expanded building. As we await this eventuality, **the college must determine a near-term, temporary solution to the need for more stack space**. Buswell shelves are full in the main building and close to full at the Special Collections location.
- There are **significant, intractable problems with the HVAC system** in our existing building. Despite significant attention by the Facilities department, these problems continue.
- The addition of pay-per-view journal article delivery has vastly increased the scope of journal content that we can make available to our students and faculty. **The rate of growth is financially unsustainable, however, and we will likely need to reduce access to our faculty and students** in the coming years.
- One effect of the increasing technology and digitization is that more and more of our acquisitions budget is dedicated to subscriptions or other large commitments, sometimes extending across multiple-year contracts. **This reduces the flexibility of our budget and our ability to absorb annual changes in funding**.
- CARLI, the library consortium that funds our catalog, interlibrary loan, and other essential services, is partially funded by the state of Illinois. As **funding for public higher education in the state continues to experience sharp decreases**, it is unknown what the impact on CARLI will be in the coming year(s).