



Charting Strange Lands Again:  
A look back as we move  
forward

By  
Kate Seago  
University of Kentucky Libraries

# Looking Back

Beyond the Shelf  
Serving historic Kentuckiana through digital access

*Cataloging Thin Air*  
Planning & Cataloging the Beyond the Shelf Grant Digital Items

Presented by:  
Nancy Lewis & Kate Seago  
May 13, 2004

When Two Streams Meet

Joining Acquisitions and Federal Depository Processing

You've Flipped:  
the implications of e-journals as your primary format

By Kate Seago, University of Kentucky, Head, Acquisitions

From Multistaffing to Multitasking

Creating Efficient Workflows in Technical Services

Flipping journals :  
Landscape of Open Access

Kate Seago, Director of Acquisitions, University of Kentucky Libraries

Looking through the Prism:  
*changing from collection development to collection strategy*

By  
Kate Seago, Director of Acquisitions  
University of Kentucky Libraries

Adapting & Evolving:  
mapping new routes

Presented by:  
Kate Seago  
Head of Acquisitions  
University of Kentucky Libraries  
and  
May Beth Thomson  
Associate Dean for Collections and Technical Services  
University of Kentucky Libraries

No Perfect Flight Plan

Challenges of Space Planning for Technical Services Areas

# AGENDA

- Introduction
- Federal Documents
- Updating Spaces
- Collection Philosophy
- Acquisitions Workflow

# Introduction

- University of Kentucky is R1 land-grant public university with a mission for teaching, research and service
- University of Kentucky Libraries provide support for the university's mission and strategic priorities

# University of Kentucky

## Strategic Priorities

- Putting students first
- Taking care of our people
- Inspiring ingenuity
- Ensuring greater trust, transparency, and accountability
- Bringing together many people, one community

## Research Priorities

- Cancer research
- Cardiovascular health
- Diabetes & obesity
- DEI
- Energy
- Materials Science
- Neuroscience
- Substance Abuse

# University of Kentucky Libraries

- Libraries include Young, M.I. King Special Collection, Science & Engineering, Little Fine Arts, Medical Center, Education. The Law Library is under College of Law
- ARL, CRL, and ASERL Library
- Regional Depository Collection
- Approximately 50+ faculty and 100+ staff
- Collection budget around 10 million including endowments



# Federal Documents

- Sandee McAninch and I talked about integrating documents into the Acquisitions workflow in 2005 when the Federal Depository area was understaffed.
- Due to GPO's shift to digital and agreement of regionals to share responsibilities for the remaining print this responsibility moved back to Federal documents in Spring 2024.



# Updating Spaces

- I presented with Karen Nuckolls about spaces for technical services staff in 2008.
- UK Libraries identified workstation spaces as a priority in our current strategic plan.
- Decided on a standard workstation for faculty and staff.
- Began implementing the plan in Fall 2022 in Fine arts. Young first floor followed in Fall 2023



# New Young Workspace



# New Young Workspace

- Standard workstation space with more privacy
- Shelving for physical materials
- Cabinets for Young AV Collection
- Reduced footprint for materials retrieved from Storage
- Meeting spaces
- Opportunities to realign areas
  - Federal Docs moved closer to Cataloging
  - Acquisitions and ILL moved closer
- Retained shelving for gift processing and cataloging projects

# Changing our Collection Approach



# Collections & Acquisitions FY19

- Academic liaisons made decisions for adding resources to the collection
- Strength – the subject specialist was the decision maker
- Weaknesses – not all subjects were covered, resources were more interdisciplinary, budgets were not fitting needs

# Collections & Acquisitions FY19

- **Focus was on collection more than access and historic spend rather than new growth**
- Continually doing serials reviews and cancellations while relying on carry forward to balance the collection budget
- Acquisitions was managing well over 300 funds



# Pandemic Reset - FY20

- The pandemic wiped out our carry forward which was supporting recurring resources
- The Libraries agreed to the base collection budget same as FY19 and University gave the Libraries 3 years to reach that goal
- The UK Libraries reduce recurring expenses by 19% overall
- FY22 Budget was balanced without relying on carry forward

# New Budget Parameters

- Avoid relying on carry-forward for recurring expenses
- Spend down endowment carry-forward
- Cost of living increase on collection budget
- Consolidate the funds into larger subject areas – Fine Arts, Humanities, Social Science, Science & Engineering, Health Sciences



# Academic Liaisons Restructure

- The academic liaisons engaged intense conversations about their values, roles and structure.
- The result of this conversation led to collection development being removed as a “must” for every academic liaisons
- Added a Coordinator of Collection Strategies

# Academic Liaison Core Competencies

- Outreach and engagement
- Research services
- Scholarly communications
- Teaching and learning

# Academic Liaison Collection Role

- Serve as a member of the Collection Advisory Committee
- Add collection development to DOE beyond the core competencies
  - Fine arts
  - Rare books
- Continue to make purchase requests and facilitate users getting access

# Collection Strategies

- Shifting towards access for our users not always ownership
- Highlighting the core and unique collections
- Aligning with the university priorities
  - Student success
  - Research
- Aligning with our values

# Collection Strategies

- When do we own or subscribe and when do we access or purchase on demand?
- Identifying UK Libraries core areas:
  - Appalachian
  - Kentucky Newspapers
  - Federal Documents
- A resource for others in the state

# Collection Strategies - Data

- Collecting quantitative and qualitative data about how electronic and print collections are used
- Used usage data, ILL and Open access to decide not to renew Wiley package
- Using usage, denials and research areas to look at adding resources

# Collection Strategy - OA

- Open access has changed where Libraries spend their budget and why
  - Supporting OA initiatives
  - Read and Publish
  - Transformational Agreements
  - Subscribe to Open
- UK Libraries has opted to avoid transformational agreements generally



# Changes in FY24

- Created one fund for most firm orders
- Purchase requests were processed without going to the academic liaisons first
- New academic liaisons were not trained to use GOBI for ordering instead relied on purchase requests and email
- Each subject team had a budget line for purchases

# General Fund Guidelines

- **Orders that should use the KAA1 General Fund would include:**

- Course reserve requests
- Faculty and student requests for research materials for an immediate need that are under \$250
- Streaming requests to show a film for a class, for a class assignment or for an immediate research need
- Requests from academic liaisons to use KAA1 should contain specifics on course reserve or research request to show it fits general fund use

- **Orders that will not be ordered out of KAA1 General Fund, in general:**

- Orders that add materials to the collection for a future need or build on current collection strength
- Orders that are over \$250 and are not meeting an immediate need
- **Orders reviewed by Director of Acquisitions**
- Orders over \$250
- Multiple requests from same person or for same class

# Acquisitions Workflow -FY24

- Receive the request from the email, purchase request or GOBI select cart
- Check to make sure UK did not already own the item
- Verify availability and price
- Place the firm order with GOBI or appropriate vendor

# Results from FY24

## Went Well

- The Budget covered all requests that could be filled
- Filled in some long-term gaps
- Purchase form was manageable

## Could do better

- Purchase request had a lot of journal article or book chapter requests
- Acquisitions was often flipping between two systems
- Email list for requests was clunky

# Change for FY25

- Creating budget lines for streaming media PDA and alternative textbook collection
- Leveraging the advantages of the integration between Alma/Primo and Rialto/Oasis for firm orders
- Leveraging our GOBI Approval plans to collect in core areas

# Changes for FY25

- Creating a form for academic liaisons requests
- Review of large journal contracts to align them more with current research interests
- Continue to use data analysis to review EBA and other ebook collection offers



# Contact Information

Kate Seago  
Director of Acquisitions  
Young Library  
University of Kentucky  
[kseago@uky.edu](mailto:kseago@uky.edu)

