2019–2020 CARLI Collection Management Committee
Annual Report of Activities and Projects

Members

David Bell	(2018–2021)	Eastern Illinois University, Co-Chair
Daniel Blewett	(2017–2020)	College of DuPage, Co-Chair
Chad Buckley	(2017–2020)	Illinois State University
Keith Eiten	(2019–2022)	Wheaton College
Kelli Getz	(2018–2021)	DePaul University
Paolo Gujilde	(2018–2021)	Northwestern University
Lorene Kennard	(2019–2022)	University of St. Francis
Gretchen Schneider	(2016–2020)	Oakton Community College
Scott Thomson	(2019–2022)	Rush University

CARLI Board Liaison: Taran Ley, Southern Illinois University School of Medicine
CARLI Staff Liaisons: Elizabeth Clarage and Jennifer Masciadrelli

Meetings

The committee met regularly, generally once each month. The committee held one in-person meeting at DePaul University while all others were held by remote teleconferencing or conference calls. Subcommittees also met regularly via similar technology and reported their activities back to the full committee.

The committee as a whole discussed the CARLI Scholarly Communication webpage and determined that the topic has progressed greatly within the higher education community and that CARLI need not maintain an introductory page on this topic. This page was removed from the public CARLI website.

Subcommittees

The work of the committee has been parceled out among four subcommittees. Each worked on a project or ongoing task as determined by the consensus of the full committee membership. Each subcommittee has provided a report summarizing their activities for the last year. These reports are presented below.

Alma Analytics

The Collection Management Committee created a subcommittee to explore what is freely available on the internet on Alma Analytics that can be used to inform collection development decisions. Throughout fiscal year 2019-2020, the subcommittee compiled existing Alma Analytics training and resources by Ex Libris, a ProQuest Company, and higher education institutions including university educational systems and consortia. The compiled resources are freely available and easily accessible online. With guidance and assistance from CARLI staff, the subcommittee published the resulting project, a webpage, titled "Alma Analytics Training and Resources for Collection Development." The site can be accessed at https://www.carli.illinois.edu/products-services/collections-management/Alma_Analytics_Collection_Development

> ### Detailed Summary of Activities of the Alma Analytics Subcommittee
> In fiscal year 2018-2019, Collection Management Committee (CMC) had planned webinars focusing on statistical data in Ex Libris' Voyager and ILL software that could be used for collection development. However, the proposed migration to a new Integrated Library System, Ex Libris'

Alma, postponed the webinars and changed the focus of the project from Voyager statistical data to Alma Analytics. In response to the new ILS and of the CARLI Board's request to focus on Alma related projects for fiscal year 2019-2020, CMC, tasked this subcommittee to explore instead relevant information on Alma Analytics for libraries and librarians to use in compiling statistical reports as it relates to collection development and management.

Throughout the fiscal year, members of the subcommittee identified Alma Analytics training and resources that are freely available and easily accessible online. These resources include documentation and videos by Ex Libris, a ProQuest Company, and organizations such as Harvard University, California State University System, University System of Georgia, and University of Minnesota System. Each members of the subcommittee contributed to the list of resources by entering the name/title of the resource, URL, usefulness of the resource, and a short information (blurb) of the resource. Over forty resources were identified and categorized into relevant subsections: Introduction to Alma Analytics, Collection Analysis, Usage Statistics, Weeding, Out of the Box Reports, Creating Reports, Formatting Reports, Sharing Reports, Widgets, and Additional Training Resources.

The subcommittee decided that a webpage of these resources would be the most accessible method of dissemination to CARLI libraries. With guidance and assistance from the CARLI staff, the subcommittee published a webpage titled "Alma Analytics: Training and Resources for Collection Development" and can be access here: https://www.carli.illinois.edu/products-services/collections-management/Alma_Analytics_Collection_Development. The webpage identifies Alma Analytics resources under each subcategory.

For future directions of this project, the following are proposed:

1. Review links for relevancy and accuracy; Delete resources no longer needed and/or links are no longer available.
2. Add relevant resources including
   a. Content specific to consortia
   b. Interlibrary Loan Statistics
   c. I-Share Borrowing
3. Create and present relevant Alma Analytics webinars.

Collection Development Help - Consultant Directory
This subcommittee arrived at its present configuration by a circuitous route. Initially proposed with an entirely different focus (best practices for collecting scholarly monographs in print), the group eventually landed on something much broader in scope. The idea of mentoring or peer guidance remains but decided a more useful product would be a list of librarians in the state willing to share their experiential expertise in some aspect of librarianship. Examples might be managing a large moving/weeding project, dealing with collection aspects of the broad transition from print to digital content, or producing collection development policies for an institution or branch library.

As the project came into focus, Elizabeth Clarage shared that Michelle Nielsen Ott, current president of IACRL, had initiated a similar project, albeit with a much wider scope. This project is called the IACRL Directory of Experts. Its focus is on developing a directory for librarians in IACRL to network among themselves and find peers within the state willing to share advice on professional development.

With this in mind, this subcommittee has reached out to IACRL to propose a section of this directory devoted to listing librarians willing to serve as peer mentors on collection management projects and issues. We anticipate further development of this project in the coming year, along with further collaboration and coordination with IACRL as their directory takes shape.

Open Access Ebooks
The purpose of this ongoing project is to identify, evaluate, and ultimately add approved ebook collections to the statewide catalog. Subcommittee members seek out such collections and propose them for inclusion. Then subcommittee members independently evaluate each collection and these assessments are shared with the full committee membership. The Collection Management Committee then collectively decides whether to add each ebook collection based on established standards. Collections that are approved are then recommended to CARLI for inclusion in the statewide system. In this way, freely-available, high quality resources are more easily found by the users of Alma/Primo VE. In 2019-2020, the OA Ebooks committee evaluated and approved a handful of collections for future inclusion. The subcommittee also worked with interested CARLI staff on technical aspects of this project as it relates to the transition from Voyager to Alma/Primo VE. Due to this transition, no approved collections were added to the statewide system in the last year. Once the new system is up and running, and staff are again available to work on such projects, we anticipate that CARLI will resume adding new collections recommended by this group.

Weeding Ebooks
Why weed e-books? On first thought, it seems unnecessary: e-books never get worn, damaged, or lost, and they don't take up any of the expensive physical space in your building. Weeding e-books may not be on the mental to-do lists of many librarians. Most are recent publications that haven't had the time to become outdated; and e-books tend not to present themselves to our attention, sitting as they are in virtual space, only coming forward when we search in our discovery tools or go out looking for them for some purpose.

But all library sources, regardless of format, eventually become outdated or superseded. As virtual forms of library sources become more and more prevalent in our collections, they also must receive the kind of attention that our physical collections get. Providing our users with outdated information simply because of inattention is a lost opportunity for learning, not to mention a violation of Ranganathan's Fourth Law "Save the time of the reader."

The actual procedures for identifying and withdrawing e-books present some challenges that are not found in weeding of physical book collections. Usage data will have to be collected from systems beyond the ILS, directly from vendors, and these data may or may not be compliant with standard data gathering schemes. Due to the varying, not to mention capricious, licensing agreements that govern access to our e-books, it may not be possible to delete all traces of withdrawn e-books, but instead they may live on in our systems and catalogs, still there but suppressed from public view. If e-book titles are purchased in packages and not individually cataloged but accessed via the turning on of catalog record collections in knowledge bases, then we may have very little control over whether an individual title can even be withdrawn or suppressed.

The subcommittee recommends that the project continue in FY21 as it was not able to complete its work this past year.