



COLLECTION SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT

FY2019

Introduction

The Collection Services Department at the Boston University School of Law Fineman and Pappas Law Libraries continued to provide outstanding service and access to information during Fiscal Year 2019. The department collaborated with Reference and Access Services to begin work on a large collection shift, provided new services to enhance the discoverability of faculty scholarship online, investigated and tested new internal processes to improve efficiency, continued to enhance discoverability of library collections, and continued our work with a temporary archivist to organize the law school archives. As is typical for this department, we were able to accomplish all of this through significant teamwork and collaboration.

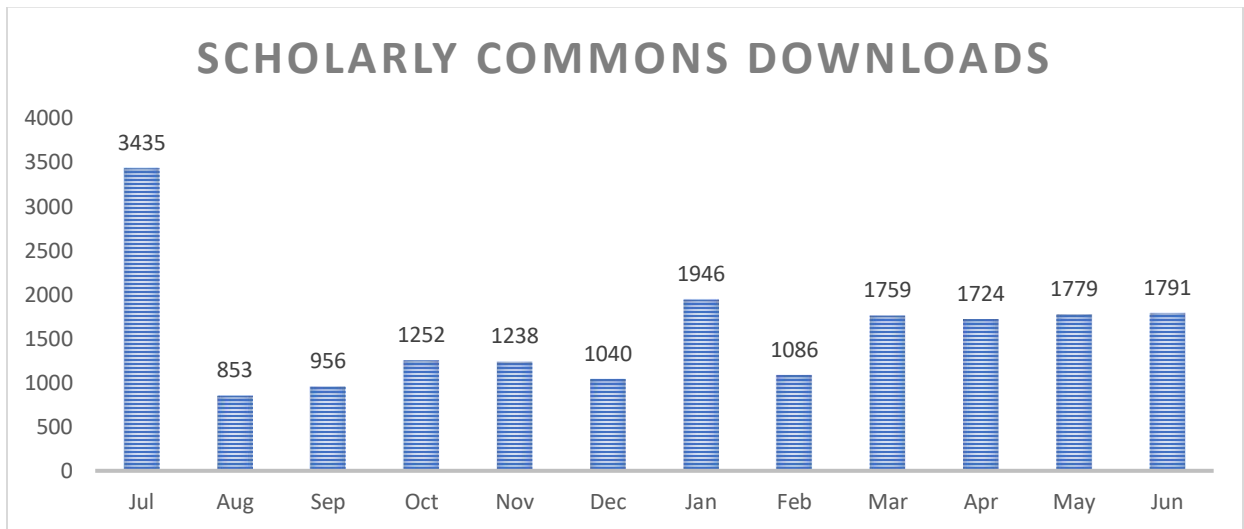
The Collection Services Department includes Anna Lawless-Collins, the Associate Director for Systems & Collection Services; Jennifer Robble, the Senior Information Resources Management Librarian; Mallory Kasinec, the Serials & Metadata Librarian (through February 2019); Kerrin Arnold, the Collections Technician; Allen LaRose, the Serials Control Technician; and Linda Boucher, the Senior Accounts Coordinator.

Major accomplishments

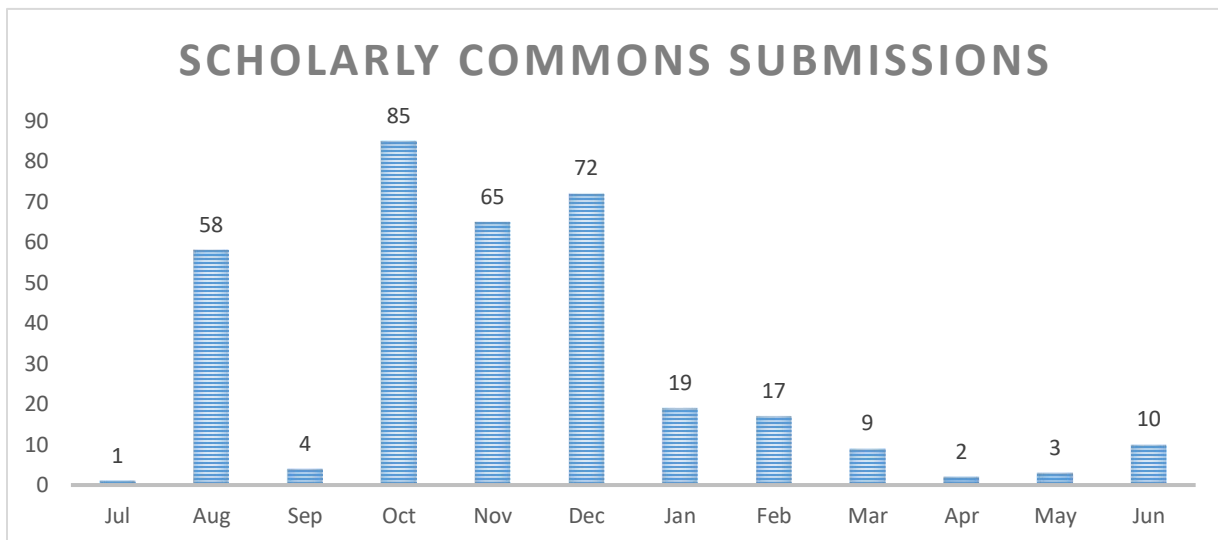
Scholarly Commons at Boston University School of Law

The law school-specific digital repository, Scholarly Commons at Boston University School of Law, complements Boston University's OpenBU repository. It provides a platform for our faculty scholarship to reach a global audience, as illustrated by the map below showing worldwide downloads during the year.





We continued to coordinate copyright permissions for older faculty works not posted on SSRN to ensure as complete a corpus of faculty work as possible. Mallory and Kerrin generated monthly statistics illustrating faculty scholarship downloads from various places. This year, we began to incorporate PlumX data to account for alt-metrics in addition to downloads from SSRN, HeinOnline, and Scholarly Commons. Jennifer made significant progress on the memorial site for Elizabeth Battelle Clark and plans to publish the site in Fiscal Year 2020 in conjunction with a memorial event to be held at the law school. We posted several works to a Shorter Works collection for materials like blog posts and editorials.



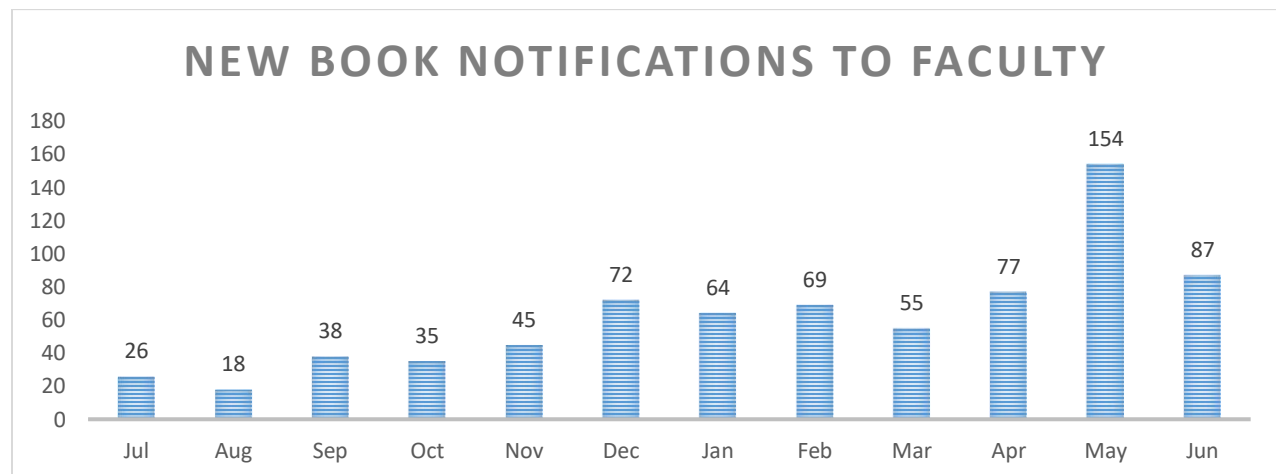
In conjunction with this work, Kerrin continued to maintain the faculty bibliography, uploading new articles and other works to showcase faculty scholarship.

Enhancing Faculty Scholarship Discoverability

In addition to the work we did on Scholarly Commons this year, the department worked with faculty and other stakeholders to enhance the discoverability of faculty scholarship online. In February, we learned that HeinOnline would be working with USNews to create a faculty scholarship impact rankings report in the future. To help facilitate this for our faculty, Jennifer and Anna worked with Faculty Services to create or update faculty author profiles in HeinOnline. Jennifer's close work with Faculty Services on this project added approximately 6,500 additional article citations to BU faculty publications accounted for in HeinOnline. Anna worked with Hein and ORCID to advocate for ORCID entries in HeinOnline and other scholarship platforms to help with author disambiguation and authority control. Outside of this work, we began to investigate the feasibility of creating Wikipedia pages for faculty at the law school. Jennifer spent significant time creating a Wikipedia page for Professor Wexler as a test and has submitted it for publication. As an alternative to creating individual pages for each faculty member, Jennifer worked with the reference department and library research assistants to add links to faculty scholarship in Scholarly Commons to existing Wikipedia pages on associated topics.

Outreach

Jennifer trained new Faculty Services staff on Scholarly Commons and worked closely with them on the HeinOnline profiles discussed above. Additionally, Kerrin sent 740 new book notifications and 1,148 electronic routing alerts in Fiscal Year 2019. We began to investigate a new workflow for notifying faculty of new books in their research areas and hope to make the process more efficient in the coming fiscal year.



Collection work

The focus of our collection work this year was collaboration and testing. Boston University is a beta tester for Rialto, a new materials purchasing platform that will integrate directly into Alma, our Integrated Library System. Kerrin and Linda have focused on testing specific components related to their work, while Anna and Jennifer tested and participated in all tracks. We are shaping the final product alongside libraries around the world and have worked closely with other libraries on campus to test Rialto and provide feedback. Anna also worked with the Mugar Memorial Library and the Theology Library to identify a database that will be of interest to patrons across the university and decided to purchase the Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive, a streaming video collection of primary source interviews with survivors of the Holocaust and witnesses to crimes against humanity. Anna worked with Student Affairs to implement SpacedRepetition by SeRious, a database and software program that uses the science of spaced repetition to facilitate the study of legal subjects and help our students prepare for the bar exam. In addition to these projects, Jennifer continued to coordinate a pilot project to make our large databases discoverable at the title level so patrons can easily find materials held in large databases from one search.

Collection realignment

We undertook a realignment of our physical materials in coordination with Access Services in an effort to streamline usage of our physical collection. This extensive, ongoing project will facilitate a full inventory of our collection and will ease discovery and usage. We worked with a temporary cataloger to address cataloging issues and changes to bibliographic records, holdings statements, and item records. The project has required close work with other library departments, including Access Services and Reference, as retention decisions and other questions arise. Mallory and Anna addressed cataloging issues as they arose in conjunction with the temporary cataloger, and Jennifer, Kerrin, and Allen have updated procedures and workflows to integrate necessary changes and efficiency improvements. The project has identified potential workflow changes for other acquisitions and cataloging procedures outside the immediate project and will improve service going forward.

Updated file storage locations and workflows

This winter, we learned that IS&T would be sunsetting the Audio Visual storage server on which we stored past exams and digital files. We acted quickly to develop a new file storage plan and move the materials from the server to new locations. We took this opportunity to develop improved workflows and accessibility for past exams and documents that are part of the library collection. We moved older exams

to a new WordPress site accessible only to the law community, and we moved files that are part of the library's collection into our integrated library system to take advantage of functionality within the system. This project was completed efficiently and with cooperation and teamwork from multiple departments within the library. Jennifer spearheaded the project alongside Access Services staff to ensure all viewpoints and needs were accounted for.

Bloomberg/BNA Transition

In the fall, we learned that Bloomberg, which owns all BNA content, would be making significant changes to the BNA content and delivery format, ceasing services and integrating some content into Bloomberg's platform. Mallory, Jennifer, and Linda worked on various cleanup and maintenance projects as we monitored the changes to our print and electronic subscriptions. Major aspects of this work included closing records for ceased publications and working with the Reference department to find alternatives as content shifted. This transition was complex and the changes continue to impact important information, and we have made it a priority to continue updating records as we learn more from Bloomberg.

Selected New Databases in FY 2019

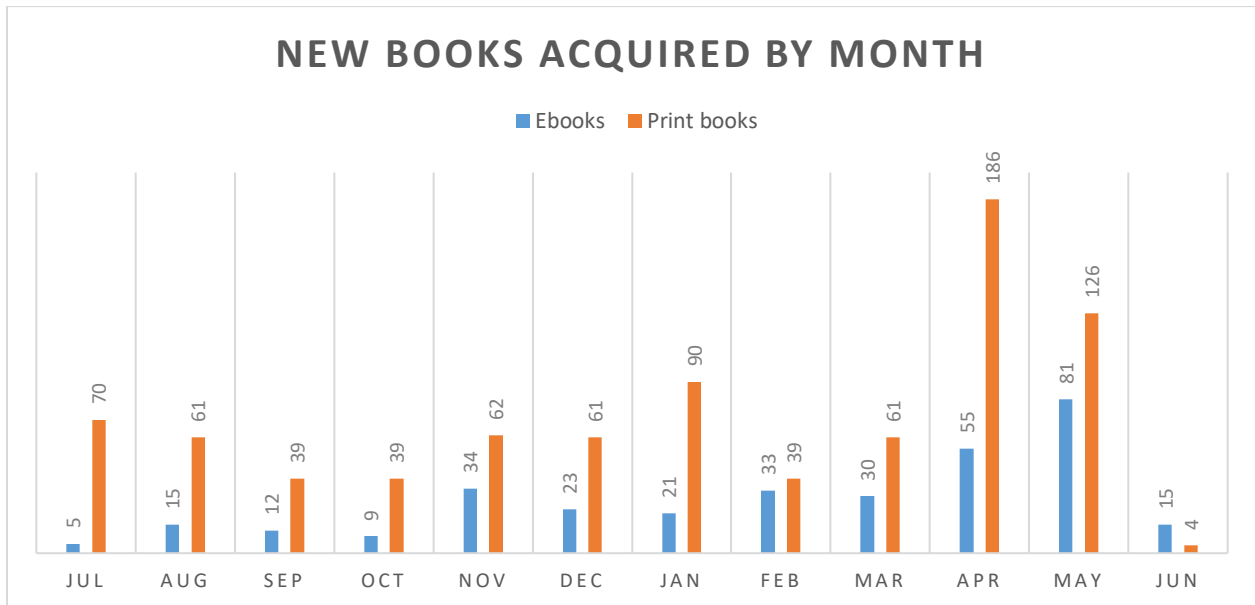
- Holocaust and the concentration camp trials: prosecution of Nazi war crimes
- Foreign law web archive
- Nazi looted art & assets
- Revolutionary war and early America: collections from the Massachusetts Historical Society (1721-1860)
- Center for International Environmental Law
- International Law Institute
- SpacedRepetition
- Political extremism & radicalism in the twentieth century
- PLI Plus Intellectual Property
- ARL Statistics
- GAO reports and comptroller general decisions
- Immigrant legal resource center
- Theodore Roosevelt papers, 1759-1993
- United States Office of Government Ethics: preventing conflicts of interest in the Executive Branch
- Oxford International Organizations
- CRS Reports
- Children's Bureau: an office of the Administration for Children & Families
- 9/11 Resource Guide
- United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs
- John F. Kennedy Assassination Collection
- ASEAN Judiciaries Portal
- Global Women's Leadership Project
- Shoah Foundation Visual History Archive
- Archives of sexuality & gender: LGBTQ history & culture since 1940

New Databases

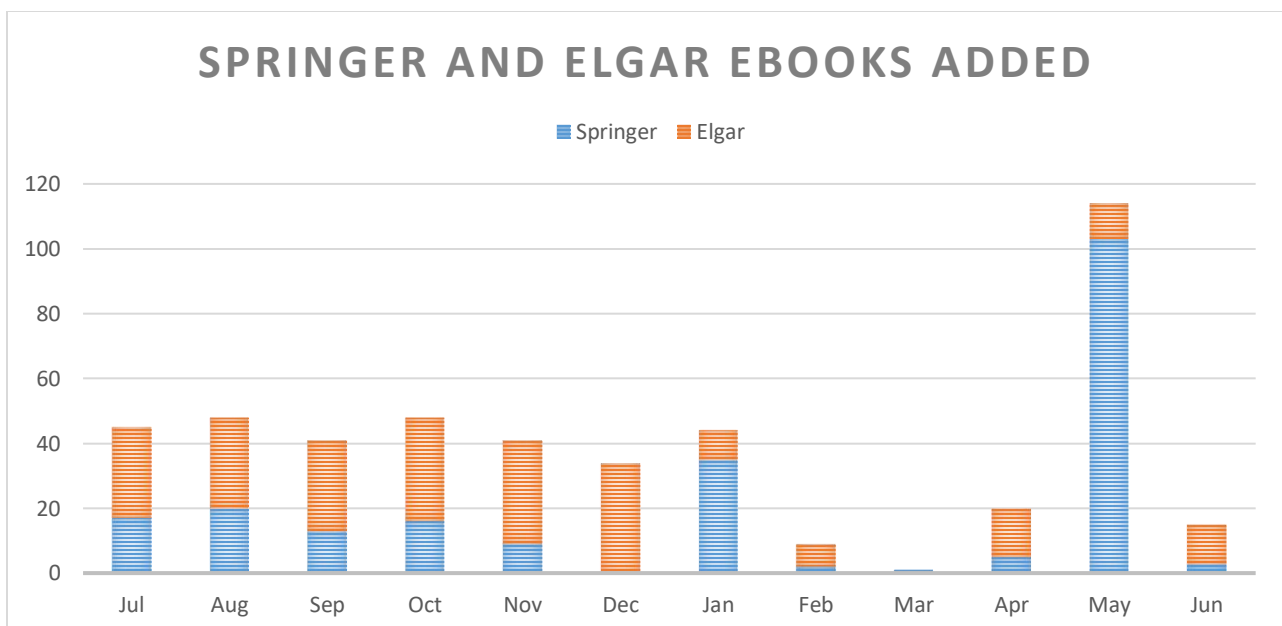
The library added several new databases this year. These included the Shoah Foundation's Visual History Archive and SpacedRepetition, discussed above. We also added a database of sexuality & gender composed of five archival modules, including: historical documents from 1940 to the present; primary source materials from key publications from 1940 to the present; documents discussing health crises, including the AIDS crisis; and a unique collection of gender and sexuality primary source materials from the 16th to 20th centuries. In addition, we negotiated a new model with Practising Law Institute that allowed us to provide access to PLI's intellectual property material for unlimited simultaneous users. The sidebar shows the majority of the new databases added this year to aid our patrons in their research.

Monographs

The library purchased 1,171 new print and electronic monographs this year. These included 333 ebooks on various platforms, 720 print books, 53 course reserve purchase requests, 37 Demand Driven Acquisitions purchases by patrons, 87 faculty requests, and 9 faculty publications.

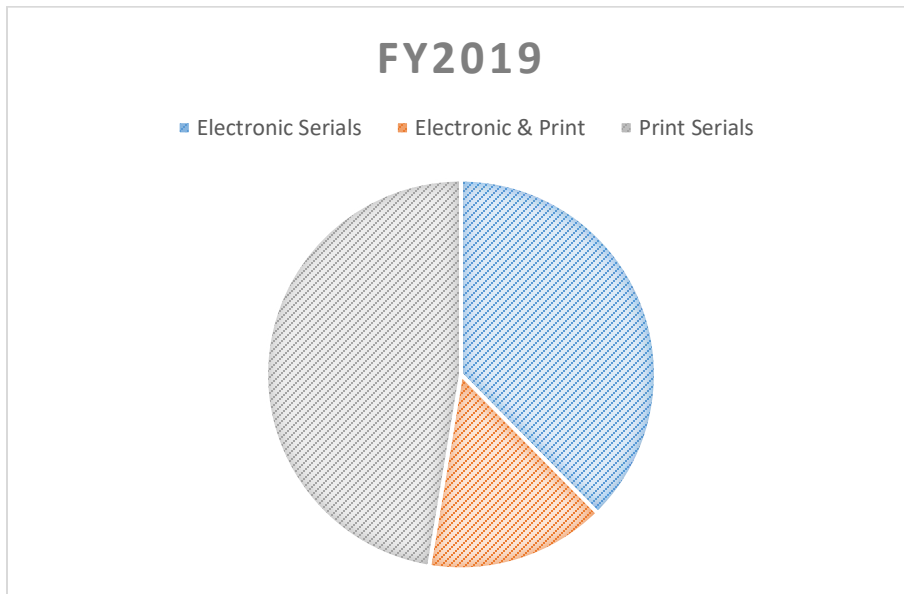


We also added several ElgarOnline subject collections and worked with the Mugar Memorial Library on joint ebook purchases from Springer and Palgrave.

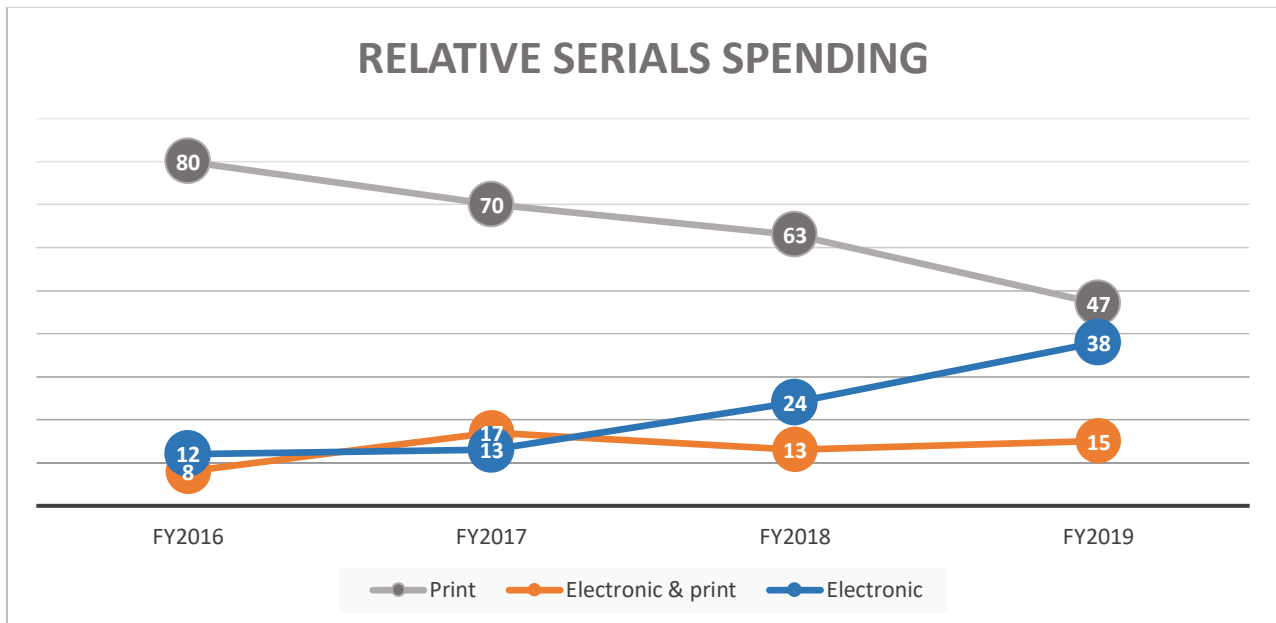


Serials

Over the course of the year, the library was able to save \$36,533.63 on serials that are no longer needed or are available elsewhere in the collection. This money went towards new database subscriptions and monograph purchases. These savings were largely undertaken as part of our annual review of subscriptions with Harrassowitz, our subscription agent. We added nine new physical subscriptions, one new print and electronic subscription, and we converted four titles from print to electronic access. We reduced 14 duplicative print titles to eight, saving \$2,023. We continued to work towards the University’s e-preferred purchasing and subscription model, reducing our print subscriptions where they were unneeded or duplicative, and increasing accessibility to electronic holdings.



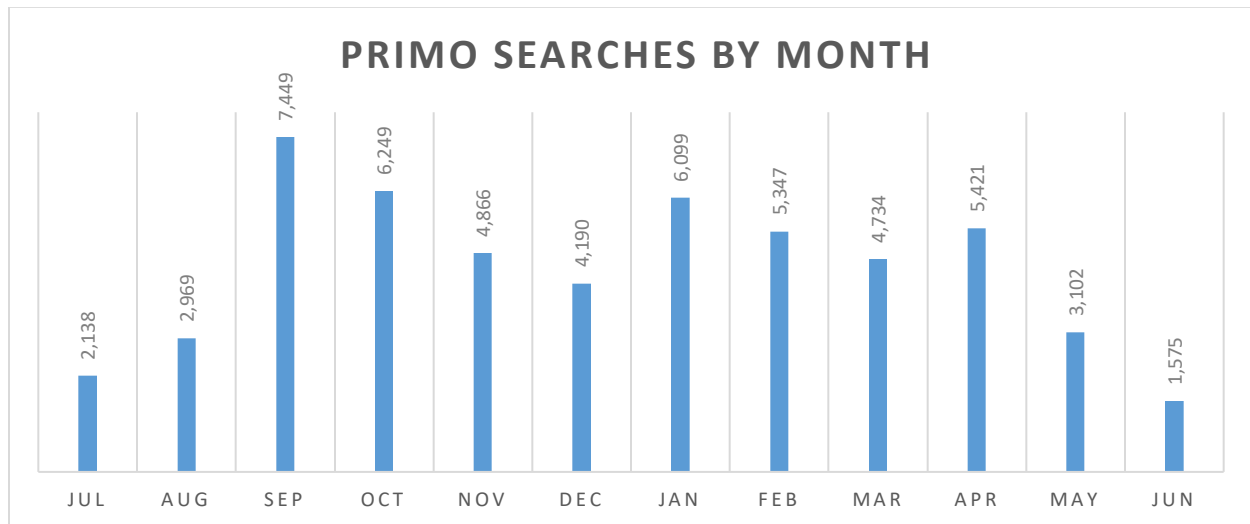
This result is in line with a larger trend to shift our serials collection spending from print materials to electronic. The line chart below shows the spending trend over the last four fiscal years, illustrating a dramatic drop in print spending and a rise in electronic spending, in line with University goals.



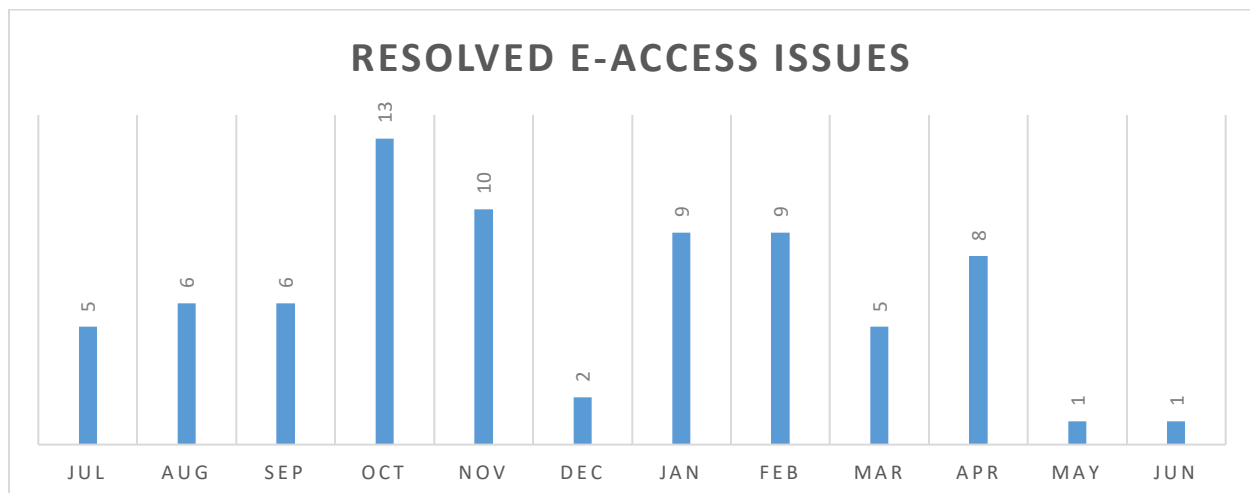
We also continued to provide excellent routing and alert services to our patrons, including routing 165 print titles and providing electronic routing support for 213 titles. We alert patrons through a variety of means, including sending custom alerts through our LibAnswers service and creating accounts for faculty to automatically receive tables of contents from important journals.

Systems

Boston University implemented Ex Libris's Alma as our integrated library system and Primo as our discovery layer in 2012 and both systems have continued to evolve. Jennifer manages monthly changes to both systems, notifying appropriate staff and working with Ex Libris to resolve any issues that arise in the systems.



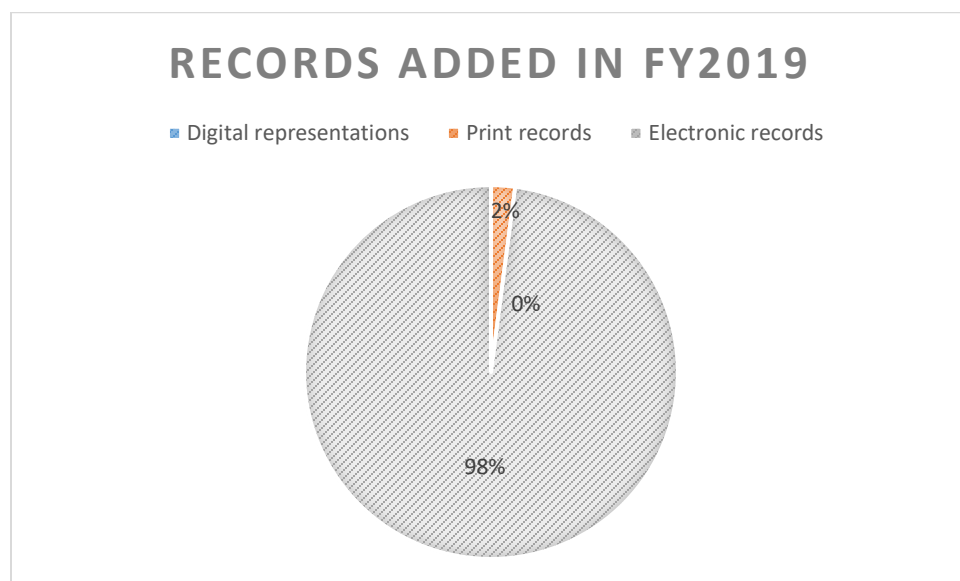
She also resolved patron electronic access issues and coordinated with vendors and University IS&T as complex issues arose on both sides. This year she coordinated a project verifying our IP ranges with vendors to ensure uninterrupted off-campus access through EZproxy.



This year, we participated in testing Rialto, a new monograph collection tool that will integrate with Alma and is designed to make monograph purchasing workflows more efficient. Kerrin is evaluating the recommendations and purchasing workflows, Linda is evaluating the purchasing workflow, and Anna is evaluating those along with the statistics and selection tools. Jennifer has also monitored the project and will become more involved as we move closer to the implementation date for the live product.

Metadata

We made several thousand print and electronic resources discoverable in our catalog this year through a combination of original cataloging, copy cataloging, and vendor-supplied records. We added a total of 72,049 records, comprised of 1,489 print records, 70,555 electronic records, and 5 digital records. When including records that are available in Alma's Community Zone, a centralized catalog where we can turn on titles we hold, our electronic records number increases to 75,986. Cataloging all these resources makes them findable in Primo and allows greater patron access to the information available in all our databases.



We continued a pilot project to make records from large databases discoverable at the title level, facilitating search within Primo without having to search each database individually. We hope to do more work on that project in the coming fiscal year.

Professional Development

The Collection Services staff continued to show a dedication to ongoing learning and development in Fiscal Year 2019. Anna served as Chair of the Academic Law Libraries Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL). She spoke on a panel at the AALL Innovation Bootcamp in April and had an article accepted for publication in the July/August 2019 issue of AALL Spectrum. She is an active member of the Law Librarians of New England (LLNE) and spoke on a panel with Jennifer Robble about hiring practices and conducting technical interviews in law libraries. She also is an active member of the Technical Services Special Interest Section and the Professional Engagement and Growth Special Interest Section of AALL. She attended the Spring LLNE Meeting, the NELLCO Symposium, and the AALL Annual Meeting.

Jennifer attended Association of Boston Law Libraries meetings; continued to be involved in the Special Interest Sections for Academic Libraries, Technical Services, Online Bibliographic Records, and Computer Services; completed a Knowledge Management course and proposed changes to the library's knowledge management systems; attended a SharePoint training; regularly attends Ex Libris webinars on Alma and Primo updates; and attends ILTA webinars. She worked with Anna on the presentation on technical interviews in law libraries that was part of the LLNE Fall Virtual Meeting. Jennifer was promoted to Senior Information Management Resources Librarian in 2018.

Mallory attended the Charleston Library Conference and the meeting of the American Association of Law Libraries in July.

Linda took a Library Juice Academy course on cataloging and metadata and Kerrin began to attend a graduate program in in pursuit of her Master of Science in Library and Information Science degree. Allen took part in Alma trainings provided by Ex Libris.