# Collection Development & Acquisitions

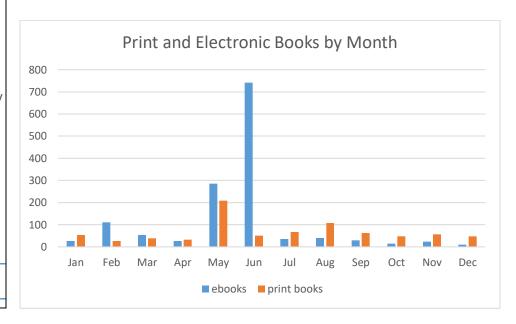
In FY15 the Fineman and Pappas Law Libraries continued to shift our collection away from print access

## New Databases & **Fbook Platforms**

- American Bar Association Law Library Periodicals Collection
- ElgarOnline Ebooks
- HeinOnline U.S. State Package (includes State Reports: A Historical Archive, State Attorney General Reports & Opinions, Session Laws Library, and Bar Journals Library)
- HeinOnline World Treaty Library
- National Consumer Law Center Digital **Publications Library**
- **US Constitutional Law**

toward electronic access points. This reduces redundancies in our collection and allows us to provide more resources to patrons at more convenience to them.

The Electronic Collection Development Committee continued to evaluate new and existing databases. We added several new databases, listed to the left, as well as the ElgarOnline ebook platform. ElgarOnline provides access to important law ebooks, with more titles added each month. We also added select electronic and print monographs. This year, we added a total of 786 print monographs and 1,396 ebooks. We continued to provide excellent faculty services, completing a total of 58 faculty requests this year. We also added four new ejournal and two electronic serial subscriptions.



In addition, the Selections Committee began conducting thorough reviews of all resources as they became due for renewal. These reviews began with supplemented monographs and will continue through the rest of the collection over the next fiscal year.

As part of this ongoing project, the Technical Services Department worked in conjunction with the Legal Information Librarians, the Library Director, the Associate Director, the Assistant Director for Research, Faculty Services and Educational Technology, and the Head of Access Services to conduct detailed reviews of various parts of our collection. The Collection Development Librarian, Information Resources Management Librarian, and Digital & Bibliographic Resources Librarian created various spreadsheets for review. This process included manually inputting information as well as working with our Integrated Library System's reporting software, Design Analytics, to create reports. We conducted reviews of our print supplemented monograph collection, our yearbooks, titles for which we own multiple copies, titles published by Sweet & Maxwell, and titles published by the National Consumer Law Center. Many of these reviews also went through the Selections Committee for discussion.

As a result of these review projects and more routine cancellations, reductions, and format changes, we were able to reduce serials spending by \$307,545.34. These cost savings will allow us to maintain a dynamic collection moving forward as we keep up with a changing patron base. In all, we reduced 591 titles in print.

The Collection Development Librarian continued to work with Yankee Book Peddler to refine our profile on GOBI, its collection development platform, and ensure we are meeting our collection goals. She also worked with the Boston Academic Law Library Collaborative to help maintain an active collection of important legal works for the Boston area law libraries.

For FY16, the Collection Development staff would like to continue to improve the GOBI platform, continue to evaluate the collection, and work with library staff to revise the collection development policy.

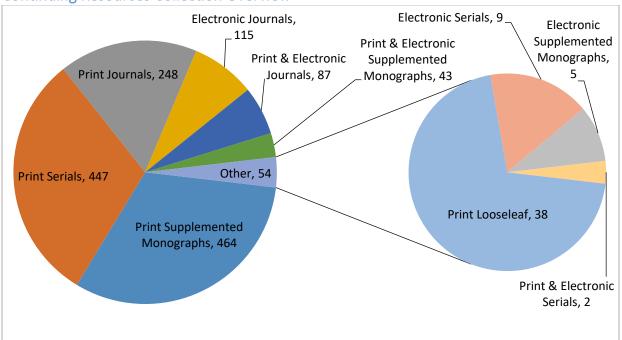
### **Professional Activities**

The Collection Development Librarian attended the Autumn and Spring meetings of the Law Librarians of New England as well as the Spring NELLCO Consortium meeting. She continued to work on social media for the Law Librarians of New England, posting on Facebook and Twitter for the group as well as editing the blog. She also contributes to the Law Librarians of New England newsletter.

## Continuing Resources

In FY 2015, we again provided extensive bibliographic control over our continuing print resources and have continually enhanced and focused our efforts on providing similar control over burgeoning continuing electronic resources - including harnessing and integrating open access resources into our electronic collections.





### **Subscription Management**

One of the most significant undertakings for the Continuing Resources staff has been overseeing the transition of a large number of the library's subscriptions to a new agent, Harrassowitz of Wiesbaden, Germany. In summer 2014, the Boston University Sourcing & Procurement department asked the university's libraries, including the law library, to consolidate as many subscriptions and continuations as possible with one billing/subscription agent. BU S&P believed this would ultimately help the BU Libraries with cost reduction. The agent chosen, after a long RFP process, was Harrassowitz. Considering the particulars of legal materials, the law library was given some leeway to transfer some, but not all of our subscriptions to Harrassowitz. As a result, we kept several orders of complex legal materials with Hein, YBP, LexisNexis and Thomson Reuters/West, but otherwise consolidated all orders from other agents like EBSCO, Manhattan, Swets and Gaunt to Harrassowitz.

The transition led to greater control and understanding over our electronic resource subscriptions and to closer collaboration with other libraries on campus as we work together to reduce duplicate orders. In total, Pappas Law Library transferred nearly 550 unique titles, in both print and electronic formats, to Harrassowitz from other agents. The Accounts Coordinator, Collection Development Librarian and Information Resources Management Librarian all assisted in recreating Alma order records to reflect our new agent.

### **Electronic Access Management**

As the library continues to expand its electronic collection, the Collection Services team has made efforts to better understand, anticipate and manage changes to electronic resources that may come in the form of publisher changes, platform changes, cessations and cancellations, among others.

The Collection Development Librarian, Digital & Bibliographic Resources Librarian and the Information Resources Management Librarian have established a procedure to monitor particular resources the library may have cancelled in print in reliance on an electronic, licensed version. The monitoring system will allow the librarians to discover whether the relied-upon electronic version ever disappears from a licensed database or platform and to determine if an alternative access point, including print, is available. This monitoring system also includes tracking the continued existence of free and open access online resources on governmental or law journal websites. Since 2014, the library has established monitoring on approximately 550 titles it has cancelled in print in reliance on electronic versions.

### **Order Record Management**

The transition to Alma provided technical services staff members greater control and understanding of the library's existing inventory, billing and invoicing, and the ability to claim missing or late serial components. It also gave the library the ability to apply differing order types to standing order continuations, providing staff a better grasp on materials that arrive on a subscription cycle versus a standing order. The Collection Development Librarian, Digital & Bibliographic Resources Librarian and the Information Resources Management Librarian worked through the complete lists of standing orders from agents Hein, YBP and Harrassowitz to reassign Alma order types to these types of orders.

### **FY2016 Projects**

A major initiative of FY2016 will be to automate and use Alma Analytics to capture statistics about continuing resource cancellations, reductions, cessations, format changes and title changes. For several years, these statistics were logged manually, but with the library's transition to Alma and its integrated querying platform, Analytics, there is the possibility to automate this process.

Another significant project focuses on compiling license details for specific orders into Alma. This will allow the library, including technical and access services staff, to more clearly understand perpetual access rights, interlibrary loan restrictions and order histories in a centralized location.

#### **Professional Activities**

Rebecca Martin serves as the co-chair of the Service Committee of the Law Librarians of New England and as a member of the Communications Committee of the Asian American Law Librarians Caucus of the American Association of Law Libraries. At the 2015 AALL Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, she will co-present posters on current awareness services at Pappas Law Library and on a legal book drive for public libraries run by LLNE.

Continuing Resources staff members include the Digital & Bibliographic Resources Librarian, Rebecca Martin, and Serials Technician, Allen LaRose.

## **Systems**

This year included a few special projects to manage our print holdings and better evaluate our electronic resources. The first project involved adding holdings statements in Primo for titles that BU and other local academic libraries have committed to maintaining in print, allowing the other libraries in the group to possibly cancel and/or withdraw their print holdings. With the Collection Development Librarian and the Digital & Bibliographic Resources Librarian, the Information Resources Management Librarian also developed Alma Analytics analyses that created the framework for the Collection Review spreadsheets, which were a major focus for Technical Services during Spring 2015.

This year the Electronic Collection Development Committee focused closely on cost per use data for our electronic resources. The Collection Development Librarian, Digital & Bibliographic Resources Librarian, and the Information Resources Management Librarian worked to compile baseline statistics for the Assistant Librarian for Administration, who then utilized data visualization tools to identify outlier resources that have been more seriously considered for cancellation.

As we continue to make both our electronic and print resources more discoverable, the Information Resources Management Librarian investigated WorldCat Discovery, which will replace OCLC's FirstSearch at the end of 2015. Following this investigation, the Information Resources Management Librarian proposed using WorldCat Discovery as a link between our local catalog, Primo, and interlibrary loan requests, because WorldCat Discovery has a request form that automatically integrates with our interlibrary loan software, WorldShare ILL. We can connect WorldCat Discovery to Primo by pulling WorldCat records into Primo via Third Node functionality in the Primo Back Office.

Additional Primo projects this year include sign-in functionality, the creation of a guest view for people who cannot sign in, and CSS updates. CSS updates were necessary for our views to continue being compatible with upgrades and to improve the user interface. The Information Resources Management Librarian also updated the access language for our username and password resources that display in Primo so it would be clear to users when they needed to come to the reference desk to be logged into a resource.

#### **Primo BULAW View Searches**



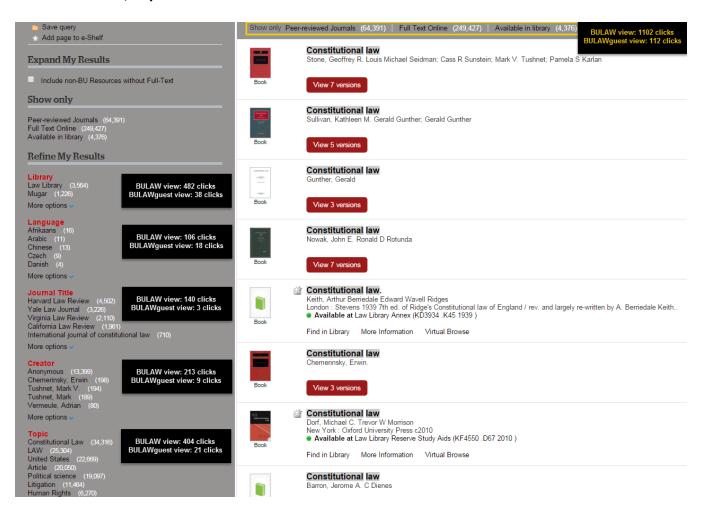
#### **Primo BULAW Guest View Searches**



Using a discovery layer like Primo, where articles, books, databases, and journals can all be found from the same search, highlights the importance of quality, up-to-date metadata. Good metadata allows records for different formats or editions of the same title to group together, taking up only one result slot that can be expanded, as opposed to two or more records populating the top results. Because this is important to a positive user experience, we took a closer look at metadata this year. First, we evaluated our subscription to MARC records created by a third-party vendor, Cassidy Cataloguing. We decided to continue our subscriptions to these records for the titles in some of our electronic collections because we do not have the staff time to update these records ourselves, and Cassidy has started moving to an "edition neutral" format for the Westlaw and Lexis treatise records, which improves how they appear in our catalog. Future related projects include turning our LoislawConnect treatise records into "edition neutral" records, and creating an overlay normalization rule that will allow us to protect local edits when we import updated records.

We have also historically obtained MARC records from OCLC, which released a new product, WorldShare Collection Manager. The Information Resources Management Librarian learned how to get our record sets and updates from this service, which are then imported into Alma. Because not all of our resources have MARC records provided by a third party that updates record sets as new titles and editions are added to our electronic resources, the Collection Development Librarian, Digital & Bibliographic Resources Librarian, and Information Resources Management Librarian are working to devise a process for learning about these updates, adding records to the catalog, identifying any overlap in our print collection, and notifying relevant stakeholders.

#### Primo Facet Clicks, July 2014 - June 2015



For both Primo, including the Primo Central Index, and Alma, the Information Resources Management Librarian was involved in prioritizing enhancement requests to send to the worldwide user groups to identify the most important features for Ex Libris to work on in both products. She also coordinated with others at the law library and other BU libraries to report system outages and communicate Ex Libris's responses to staff. With each monthly Alma release, the Information Resources Management Librarian sent appropriate staff members email updates about new functionality associated with the latest upgrade. One new feature she has been investigating with the Digital & Bibliographic Resources Librarian is Prediction Patterns, which would create the next year's worth of items for a particular serial title before they're received.

The Information Resources Management Librarian completed the Alma Administrator Certification training in July 2014. This program allowed her to learn a lot about the configuration settings in all of the Alma modules. She was able to put some of this knowledge to use as we integrated our new self-check machines with Alma. The increased exposure to Alma from the Certification training combined with knowledge of new features in the monthly releases has also helped the Information Resources Management Librarian as she continues to work with the Collection Development Librarian and the Digital & Bibliographic Resources Librarian to modify procedures to improve efficiency and communication of our holdings to users.

In addition to looking at specific procedures, we have also looked at general day-to-day operations. In order to make sure workflows are covered when a staff member is out of the office, the Information Resources Management Librarian is working with the Collection Development Librarian and the Digital & Bibliographic Resources Librarian to develop a chart that identifies each staff member's primary

## **Professional Activities**

Jennifer Robble is the Information Resources Management Librarian. Her professional activities this year include attending the October 2014 Association of Boston Law Librarians meeting. She also served on the Law Librarians of New England Service Committee, where she has created content for a web portal for public librarians who need to refer members of the public to law libraries. Her book review of Reinventing the Practice of Law was published in Law Library Journal and she will be co-presenting a poster outlining the library's electronic routing service at the American Association of Law Libraries 2015 Annual Meeting.

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responsibilities, as well as those individuals who will perform the task when the primary person is out.

Systems also continued supervising call number label processing and the Technical Services student employee. Our student was responsible not only for creating call number labels, but also for identifying our print overlap with the new titles added to HeinOnline each month in preparation for possible cancellation or withdrawal, ascertaining the electronic availability of our print supplemented monographs for our Law Print Supplemented Monographs review, and checking for new BNA resource centers and access to our databases on a monthly basis. FY15 was a busy year for Systems; the Information Resources Management Librarian looks forward to continuing to work with her colleagues in FY16 to continue our responsible stewardship of the library's resources and provide our users access to materials that further their academic and professional goals.