COLLECTION SERVICES
ANNUAL REPORT

FY2022

INTRODUCTION

The Collection Services Department at the Boston University School of Law Fineman and Pappas Law Libraries continued to deliver excellent and innovative service during Fiscal Year 2022. We continued to serve our remote and on-site patrons with their unique needs throughout the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. We also promoted faculty scholarship through Scholarly Commons; re-wrote our Collection Development Policy; worked on antiracism in our collection; reviewed licenses; made updates to our collections and metadata; improved workflows and collaboration within the library and across the law school; and conducted extensive outreach to patrons, all while performing our regular work with skill and dedication.

The Collection Services Department includes Anna Lawless-Collins, the Associate Director for Systems & Collection Services; Jennifer Robble, the Senior Information Resources Management Librarian; Becky Bearden, the Senior Serials & Metadata Librarian; Kerrin Arnold, the Metadata Librarian; 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 and provides a platform for our faculty scholarship to reach a global audience. The map below shows worldwide downloads during Fiscal Year 2022 including 140,790 downloads from 6,384 institutions in 202 countries. This is a 32% increase in total downloads over the last year.

We uploaded a total of 2,017 new works to Scholarly Commons. The chart below shows the number of downloads from Scholarly Commons during the year from all collections, including faculty scholarship, faculty monographs, and shorter works.

SCHOLARLY COMMONS DOWNLOADS

JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
7726	8640	10187	11138	11793	11179	12050	13209	14674	15088	13945	11164

Faculty profiles will be populated from Scholarly Commons as part of the new law school website. To ensure faculty profiles are correct and fully populated, Kerrin coordinated a project to load all data into Scholarly Commons, including data about articles for which we do not yet hold copyright permission to post. This was an all-hands-on-deck project and included assistance from the Reference librarians and Access Services department as well as most of the Collection Services department. As part of this project, we posted a total of 1,634 works to Scholarly Commons in time for the new website to go live. In conjunction with this work, Kerrin continued to maintain the faculty bibliography, uploading new articles and other works to showcase faculty scholarship. Kerrin worked closely with the Access Services department this year as we transitioned Scholarly Commons work to that department partway through the year.

COLLECTION UPDATES AND ANTIRACISM

We spent significant time this year continuing to make sure our materials are findable and have accurate metadata in our online catalog. We also continued a comprehensive project to make our collections antiracist and more equitable.

Our ongoing antiracism and equity project is made up of several facets. We continued to purchase most of our books from Bookshop.org, which supports local bookshops instead of online megastores. Many libraries have created antiracism LibGuides, and we continued a project to identify all materials of various types on each LibGuide to determine what we want to add to our own collection. We began a diversity audit of our collection by creating collection diversity analytics reports to help us identify areas of strength and weakness in our collection. This project has involved significant manual work in addition to the automated tools provided by our library system. We also continued a project to update our metadata going forward to correct racist and outdated subject headings and to add accessibility fields so all patrons are able to find books they can use in our collection. So far, we have changed "illegal alien" to "noncitizen" and we plan on several more updates in the future.

We convened a committee to review our collection development policy and, with the help of the Reference librarians, fully updated all three collection development policy documents this year. This included re-writing the external policy, adding more detail to the internal document used to help selectors, and a thorough review of the subject areas in which we collect. We were careful to weave antiracism throughout all three documents.

OUTREACH

The library sent 581 new book notifications and 539 electronic routing alerts in Fiscal Year 2022. These include several alerts sent manually. In addition to the new book notifications and electronic routing alerts, Kerrin and Jennifer also generated regular statistics reports illustrating faculty scholarship

downloads from various places, including altmetrics from PlumX. Kerrin worked with the Access Services department as they took over notifications and alerts in November 2021.

We also worked with other library staff on a hybrid LibraryFest this year. This involved significant work as both an online and an in-person event. LibraryFest was a success overall and we were able to educate students about ways in which the Collection Services department can support them.

IMPROVED WORKFLOWS & LIBRARY COLLABORATION

ACROSS THE LIBRARIES AND LAW SCHOOL

The library's Accessibility Task Force, chaired by Anna, finalized and posted the library's Accessibility Statement in time for the academic year to begin. Anna also convened a marketing committee to advertise library materials and services in a methodical fashion and to ensure that the community is aware of the work of Collection Services. Jennifer convened a Knowledge Management committee to review and evaluate how the library stores its information and make recommendations about how we should approach knowledge management and storage.

WITHIN COLLECTION SERVICES

Due to Kerrin's new role as the Metadata Librarian, several workflows shifted from Becky to Kerrin and from Kerrin to Allen. Allen began to assist with ordering, receiving, and activating books, while Kerrin took on more metadata work from Becky. These workflow changes included significant time and input from Becky, Kerrin, and Allen. Becky also significantly updated procedures on annual statistics, print withdrawals, mail, and multiple print and metadata workflows. Anna created a database licensing checklist to use when reviewing new databases and other library materials to ensure she is following general best practices and University guidelines. She met with the Office of the General Counsel and her counterpart at the University Libraries while developing this checklist to both gather information and share tools. These workflow changes have increased department efficiency and helped our work overall.

Selected New Databases in FY 2022

- New York Times Games
- Tribal Treaties database
- Pinkerton's National Detective Agency records
- American state papers, 1789-1838
- Westlaw Edge UK
- Bremer-Kovacs collection : historic documents related to the Administrative Procedure Act of 1946
- IP.com
- Air & Space Law
- Justia
- Military & Government database
- Initiative on Climate Risk and Resilience Law
- Crime, Punishment and Popular Culture, 1790-1920
- A forgotten history: the women who brought us Title IX
- Trends & Policy: U.S. Immigration
- Trends & Policy: U.S. Healthcare
- Trends & Policy: U.S. Environment
- American Federation of Labor records: The Samuel Gompers era, 1877-1937
- American politics in the early Cold War: Truman and Eisenhower administrations, 1945-1961
- Americans for Democratic Action Records, 1932-2011
- Socialist Party of America Records
- American politics and society from Kennedy to Watergate
- Creation of Israel: British Foreign Office correspondence on Palestine and Transjordan, 1940-1948
- Progressive era. Robert M. La Follette papers (1879-1924)
- Southern life and African American history, 1775-1915
- Southern Women and their families in the 19th and 20th centuries
- Students for a Democratic Society, Vietnam Veterans Against the War, and the anti-Vietnam War movement (1958-1981)
- Temperance and prohibition movement, 1830-1933
- Thomas A. Edison papers
- U.S. diplomatic post records, 1914-1945
- U.S. military intelligence reports, 1911-1944
- Women at work during World War II: Rosie the Riveter and the Women's Army Corps
- World War II. U.S. documents on planning, operations, intelligence, Axis war crimes, and refugees
- The Law Academy project

NEW DATABASES

The library added several new databases this year, collecting for law school curriculum strengths and adapting our collection to meet current researcher needs. This year that included adding new databases about the Black experience in America, databases about foreign relations policy, and databases about the history of the labor movement. To understand and provide historical context to our current moment, we added a database about the history of crime, punishment, and popular culture. We also added databases on healthcare, the environment, and immigration, and a database on intellectual property. We now have a total of 435 databases available. See the sidebar for a more complete listing of the databases we added this year.

MONOGRAPHS

The library purchased 145,914 new print and electronic monographs this year. These included 145,296 ebooks on various platforms, 618 print books, 62 course reserve purchase requests, 335 demand-driven acquisitions purchases by patron activity, 45 faculty requests, 6 student requests, and 11 faculty publications. The chart below shows the number of books the library ordered (as opposed to demand-driven books) this year.
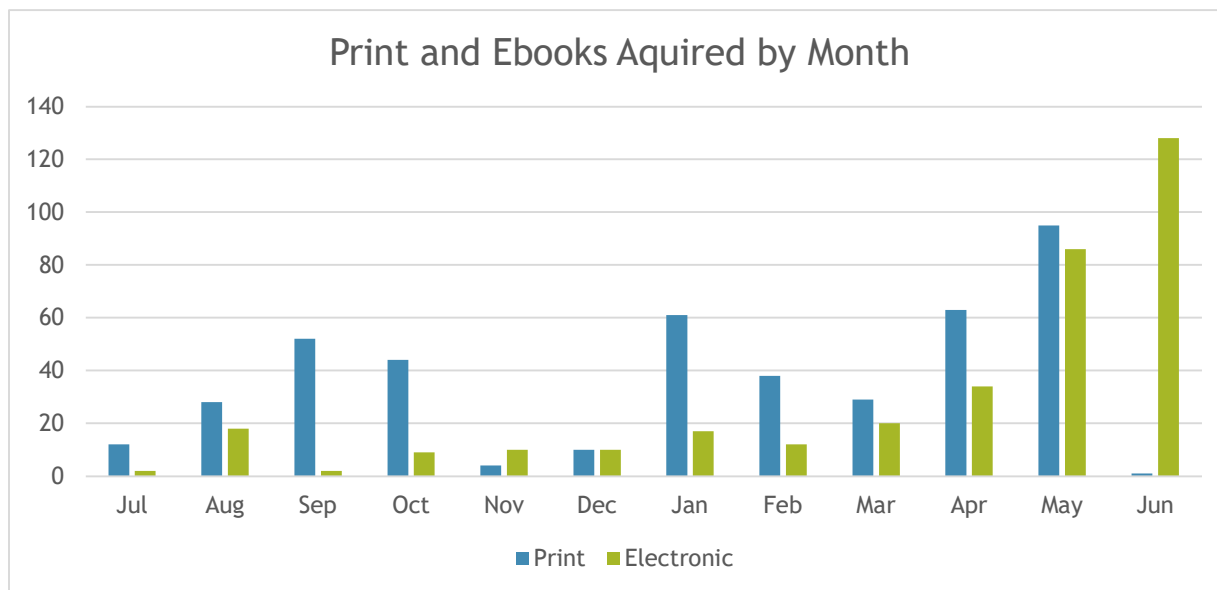
As with the databases discussed above, we regularly adapt our monograph purchasing to meet the needs of researchers while also collecting to support the law school curriculum. This year, we added: 81 books on constitutional law; 77 books on environmental law; 77 books on international law; 69 books on race and civil rights; 65 books on intellectual property; 22 books on taxation; 48 books on health law; 25 books on banking and financial law; 21 books on corporate law; 26 books on immigration law; 10 books on indigenous peoples; 26 books on women and gender; 5 books on disability and the law; 11 books on law enforcement and policing (including police brutality and electronic surveillance); 44 books on foreign and comparative law (including the Ukraine conflict); 26 books on employment law (including discrimination and remote work); 23 books on data protection; 14 books on LGBTQIA+ subjects; 11 books on COVID-19; 7 books on abortion; 6 books on gun control; and 4 books on equality (including universal income). This variety showcases the wide and timely research interests of the law school community.

SERIALS

Over the course of the year, the library was able to save $7,416 on serials that are no longer needed or are available elsewhere in the collection. This money went towards new database subscriptions and monograph purchases to better serve the needs of our community. These savings were largely realized as part of our annual review of subscriptions with Harrassowitz, our subscription agent. We continued to work towards the University's e-preferred purchasing and subscription model when appropriate for researcher needs, reducing our print subscriptions where they were unneeded or duplicative, and increasing accessibility to electronic holdings. We converted three titles from print to electronic access. We also reduced three duplicative print titles from two to three copies each to one copy each, saving $713.

FY22 SERIALS SPENDING

- Electronic
- Electronic & Print
- Print
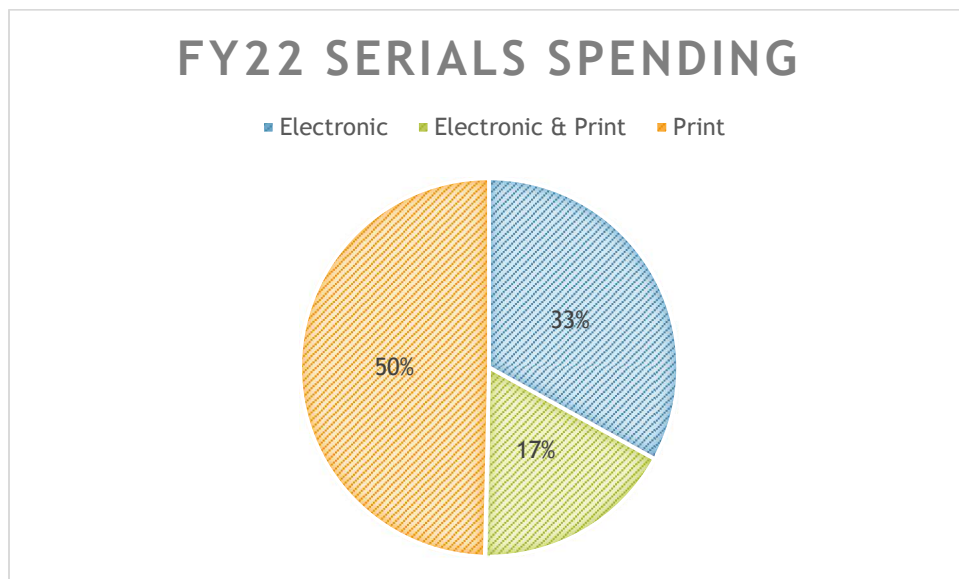
The library balances the University's e-preferred model with law school-specific research needs. The overall trend is toward greater spending on electronic resources and a smaller spend on print-only resources. This serves our community by allowing our researchers to access library materials from anywhere, not just within the physical library space; it also allows researchers to take advantage of many benefits of online tools, like hyperlinking within resources and keyword searching. Electronic access has continued to be particularly important due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. We were proud to be able to continue to provide high levels of service and access to materials while allowing everyone to remain as safe as possible. The line chart below shows the relative serials spending over the last seven years, since Ronald Wheeler began his tenure as director of the library.

RELATIVE SERIALS SPENDING

Print: 80 (FY2016), 70 (FY2017), 63 (FY2018), 47 (FY2019), 56 (FY 2020), 53 (FY2021), 50 (FY2022)

Electronic & Print: 8 (FY2016), 17 (FY2017), 13 (FY2018), 15 (FY2019), 20 (FY 2020), 13 (FY2021), 17 (FY2022)

Electronic: 12 (FY2016), 13 (FY2017), 24 (FY2018), 38 (FY2019), 24 (FY 2020), 34 (FY2021), 33 (FY2022)
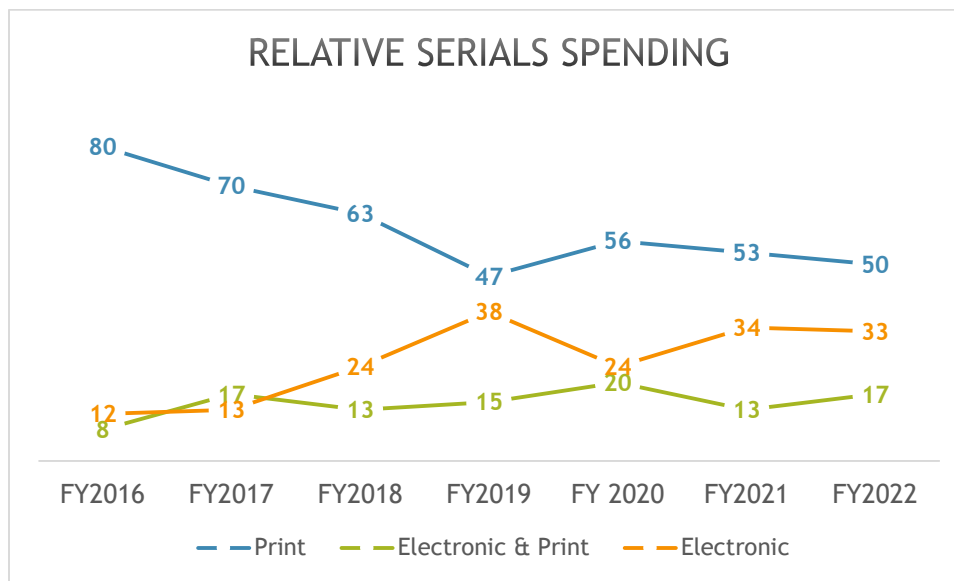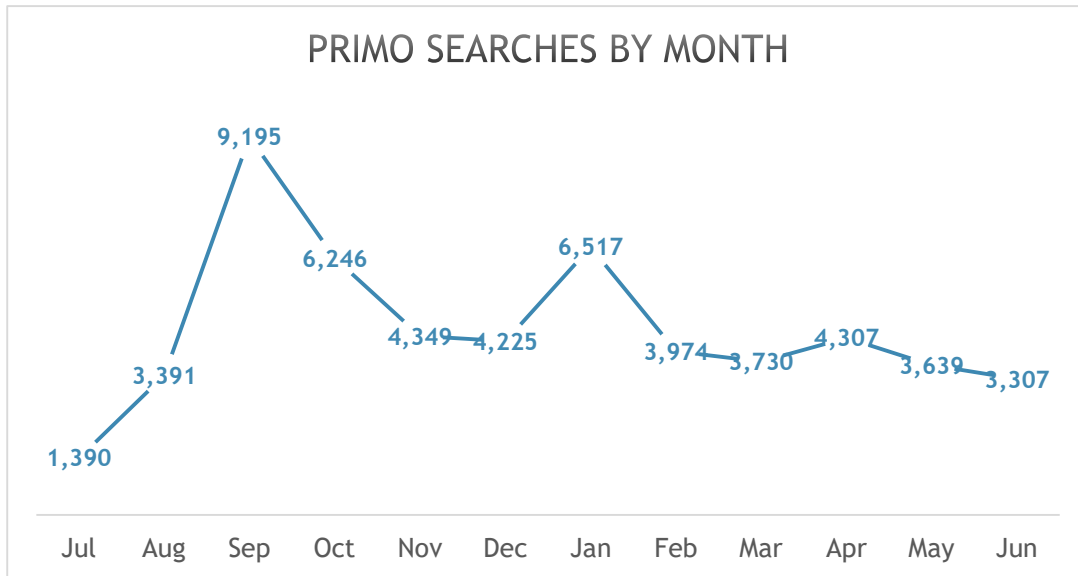
We provided routing, alerts, and office delivery service for 240 titles. We alert patrons through a variety of means, including sending custom alerts through our LibAnswers service and creating accounts for faculty to automatically receive tables of contents from important journals.

In addition to this work, we spent significant time on regular title and record upkeep for patron use. That includes creating new records as new editions and new titles come in, performing extensive record work and coordinating with Access Services when titles are cancelled, and ongoing regular receiving and processing. This year, that also included retention standardization for active serials and various record cleanup projects. These workflows are the backbone of the upkeep of our physical collection and ensure that we have accurate data and titles that patrons are able to find and use.

SYSTEMS

Boston University implemented Ex Libris's Alma as our integrated library system and Primo as our online catalog in 2012 and both systems have continued to evolve over the last ten years. Jennifer manages monthly changes to both systems, notifying appropriate staff and working with Ex Libris to resolve any issues that arise in the systems. Additionally, Jennifer served as Chair of the Alma Coordinating Committee across the entire library system this year.

PRIMO SEARCHES BY MONTH

Month	Searches
Jul	1,390
Aug	3,391
Sep	9,195
Oct	6,246
Nov	4,349
Dec	4,225
Jan	6,517
Feb	3,974
Mar	3,730
Apr	4,307
May	3,639
Jun	3,307

She also resolved patron electronic access issues and coordinated with vendors and University IS&T as complex issues arose on both sides. This year Jennifer resolved 81 e-access issues.

E-ACCESS ISSUES RESOLVED

Month	Issues
JUL	12
AUG	3
SEP	4
OCT	3
NOV	1
DEC	1
JAN	9
FEB	2
MAR	13
APR	13
MAY	10
JUN	10
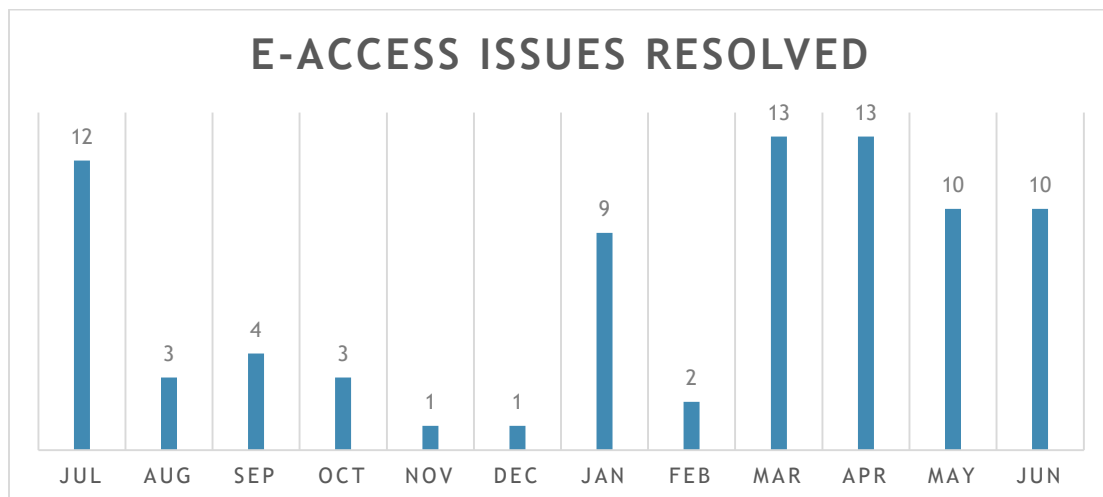
In addition to this work, Jennifer worked on: unwinding the HathiTrust Emergency Temporary Access that we had during the pandemic; testing Alma's integration with Boston University's new Student Information System; and updating the code for StackMap, the software the allows patrons to physically find materials in the library from the online catalog. Jennifer also worked closely with IS&T as they transitioned from Weblogin to Shibboleth authentication.

METADATA

We made several thousand additional 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 211,556 records, comprised of 615 print records, 210,857 electronic records, and 3 digital records. In addition to all that, we have made 6,647,013 titles available through Alma's Central Discovery Index. The material in the Central Discovery Index is largely historical primary source material that is difficult to access elsewhere. Cataloging all these resources makes them findable in our online catalog and allows greater patron access to the information available in all our databases. In addition to the new records we added, we updated 400,150 existing records to provide more accurate metadata through the year. Some of our metadata sources included OCLC, Cassidy Cataloging, Gale, Marcive, Woldshare Collection Manager, and records supplied directly from database vendors. Vendor-supplied records, OCLC, and Cassidy records made up the majority of the records we added during the fiscal year.

METADATA BY THE NUMBERS

- ➢ 601,474 total titles available through Alma
- ➢ 6,647,013 titles currently available through the Central Discovery Index
- ➢ 211,556 records added to Alma in Fiscal Year 2022

Becky and Kerrin began to meet weekly in September 2021 after Kerrin was promoted to the Metadata Librarian position. Becky, Jennifer, and Kerrin have worked on automating loads and receiving the highest quality records possible. These projects have included ordering and setting up delivery of records from Cassidy Cataloging, OCLC, and Worldshare Collection Manager while also creating a better workflow for deleted records from Worldshare Collection Manager when titles are removed from databases. They also managed two large vendor changes this year, as Wolters Kluwer Cheetah transitioned to VitalLaw and the Wolters Kluwer Online Study Aid Library transitioned to the Aspen Learning Library. Becky also participated in listening sessions with Wolters Kluwer, one of our largest vendors, about various issues we have had in our working relationship. Jennifer worked on a project to create individual titles from Justis, a database of foreign and international legal materials, to make that database more useful for vendors after Justis migrated to a new platform and merged with vLex.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Collection Services staff continued to show a dedication to ongoing learning and development in Fiscal Year 2022. All staff regularly seek out professional development opportunities, large and small, throughout the year, and in addition to the accomplishments described below we frequently attend webinars and smaller learning opportunities to help the library grow.

Anna was asked to serve as the Vice President/President Elect of the Law Librarians of New England (LLNE) this year. She was also the co-chair of the LLNE Task Force on Vendor Related Ethical Dilemmas with Nicholas Mignanelli of the Yale Law School Library. This year, that task force completed its work and its recommended ethical principles were adopted by the LLNE board. She also is serving a two-year term as co-chair of the NELLCO Acquisitions & Collection Development Interest Group. Her NELLCO work included chairing a task force on diversity, equity, and inclusion in library collections that ultimately produced a toolkit. She is also chairing a task force that is evaluating ALLStAR questionnaires related to library collections. She presented with Katharine Haldeman at the NELLCO Symposium on using Kanbanflow to manage interdepartmental projects and presented with Jennifer at the annual conference of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL) on unique uses for institutional repositories. She also participated in a AALL panel on the future of library collection development policies and took a AALL course on strategic thinking. She was asked to co-author an article on Asian American representation in library collections, which is forthcoming in Law Library Journal. She attended AALL, ER&L, LLNE, and NELLCO, and various webinars on strategic planning, accessibility, setting goals and expectations, decolonizing library collections, and negotiation.

Jennifer attended ER&L, ELUNA, ORALL, ELSUG, LD4, and ENUG. She also presented on our Elizabeth Battelle Clark collection in a AALL session about unique uses for institutional repositories. She served as technical support for the virtual fall LLNE meeting.

Becky completed her 2-year term as co-chair of the Vendor Supplied Records Advisory Working Group (VRAG). She was also elected Member-at-Large of the Library Systems & Resource Discovery Special Interest Section. Becky participated in the NELLCO task force on preservation, discovery, and access, co-authoring the section on discovery and presenting at the NELLCO Symposium on her work. She presented at a AALL webinar on documentation and attended ELUNA and NETSL. She completed an ALA course on management and attended various trainings and webinars, including one on preventing burnout in new hires and another on advice for first time managers. She also served as technical support for the virtual fall LLNE meeting. Finally, she served as a student ambassador for the North American Serials Interest Group.

Kerrin was promoted from Collections Technician to Metadata Librarian this year. She continued to attend a graduate program in pursuit of her Master of Science in Library and Information Science degree and attended several webinars throughout the year, including a webinar on decolonizing the library collection. She also attended the annual NETSL meeting.