Don't throw the baby out with the bathwater: Reducing your print-collections footprint
(or) Reshaping Collections & Library Space in Rolvaag Memorial Library

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ST·OLAF COLLEGE

context

- Four-year undergraduate college
- Liberal arts with growing programs in sciences
- 3,000 students and 300 full-time faculty
- Mission to support the curriculum
- Three libraries: Rolvaag Memorial Library, Halvorson Music Library, Hustad Science Library
- Three related archive/libraries on campus (NAHA, College Archives, and Kierkegaard Library)

motivations

- A belief that ongoing de-selection is part of good collection management and stewardship that will make the general collection "leaner", "cleaner", more useful.

- A belief that the Library best serves our community by becoming a shared, collaborative and innovative research space.
  - Leveraging institutional funds
    - funds for spaces for humans rather than storage

- A strong desire to preserve, and increase discoverability of culturally important materials
  - Strengthening
    - all collections (heritage/special collections and general collection offerings)
    - relationships between campus institutions
    - discovery and intersections between collections and materials
    - opportunities for innovation

underlying assumptions

– Given our mission, de-selection should be an ongoing part of the library's ecological life-cycle.

– Once we complete what is essentially a retrospective project, we should aim for a sustainable, relatively static physical collection size

– With careful planning and preparation, the majority of the day-to-day work can be performed by student employees.

initial research, groundwork & pilots

- Vault-valuation project (2009/2010): established baseline special collections + relationship with consultant

- WorldCat Collection Analyst: assessment of the general collections
  - General historical capture (to best of our ability)
  - Areas of strength and gaps
  - Comparisons with 16 Oberlin Libraries (benchmarks and aspirational benchmarks) + National Library of Norway

- "Rare" books project pull
  - OCLC unique & < 10 libraries hold pre-1800
  - OCLC unique & < 10 holds through 1940

C30 — Kristi gjenkomst og tusendaarsriget /

	A	B	C	D	E
1	OCLC Control Number		Title	Author(s)	LC Call Number
2	634089528	TWO LIBRARIES	The nature and destiny of man : a Christian interpretation /	Niebuhr, Reinhold. Lovin, Robin W.	BT701
3	504996384	TWO LIBRARIES	I ching (The book of changes) /	Yi jing. Blofeld, John,	PL2478
4	464122332	TWO LIBRARIES	Proceedings of the First Institute on the Church and Modern Culture /	Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Committee on allocation of funds for scholarly research.	BR115 C8 I5
5	219867072	TWO LIBRARIES	When it rains : Papago and Pima poetry = Mat hekid o ju: 'O 'odham Ha-Cegĭtodag /	Zepeda, Ofelia.	PM2174
6	123711588	TWO LIBRARIES	F.N.F. Biblia Novi Testamenti illustrata, in quibus emphases vocum ac mens dictorum genui	Calov, Abraham, Grotius, Hugo,	
7	71767428	TWO LIBRARIES	Le jeu de saint Nicholas /	Bodel, Jean, Jeanroy, Alfred,	PQ1346
8	70790088	TWO LIBRARIES	Hemlands-sånger /	Swedish Lutheran Publication Society.	BV501.L8
9	63065376	TWO LIBRARIES	Mugen naru shiawase /	Saionji, Masami. Saionji, Masami.	BJ1481
10	57911184	TWO LIBRARIES	En natt /	Meri, Veijo. Frodesen, Leiv.	PH355.M42
11	56072664	TWO LIBRARIES	The empathic process : a study of analytic and nonanalytic modes of person perception /	Millert, Olaf William.	BF575.E55
12	56063244	TWO LIBRARIES	Norsk salmesong : Elias Blix /	Eskeland, Lars,	PT8313
13	55006752	TWO LIBRARIES	May Allen's Christmas tree : a Christmas story for little folks.		PZ7.A1
14	54963336	TWO LIBRARIES	Dadou : gosse de Paris /	Trilby, T. Iessel, Manon.	PZ23.D35
15	54891228	TWO LIBRARIES	Ymse smaastykke /	Norske samlaget.	PT9046
16	54756612	TWO LIBRARIES	Ættarvende : Nesja-tye og Heljesane /	Tvedt, Jens,	PT9087
17	54402468	TWO LIBRARIES	Rett og rangt : visor og vers /	Bergo, Andres. Nelson, Knute,	PT9069.B49
18	51537672	TWO LIBRARIES	The Holy Bible : containing the Old and New Testaments /	Bible. American Bible Society.	BS185 1845
19	51297504	TWO LIBRARIES	Hamna-tjonet : forteljing /	Tvedt, Jens,	PT9087
20	50289804	TWO LIBRARIES	The teacher of English /	Divry, Demosthenes Constantopoulos,	PE1129.G7
21	49753680	TWO LIBRARIES	Namn og stader i Rogaland /	Særheim, Inge,	DL576.R65
22	48684960	TWO LIBRARIES	Keep my commandments /	Lenski, Gerhard Emmanuel, Augsburg Publishing House.	BX8074.C7
23	47846184	TWO LIBRARIES	Kristian Winterfeldt.	Parelius, Fredrik Arnoldus,	
24	46390224	TWO LIBRARIES	En missionsmenighed af Guds naade, et under i missionshistorien /	Broen, E. M.	BV2560
25	45474768	TWO LIBRARIES	Storjorden : Hattfjelldalens bebyggelse m.m. /	Ingebrigtsen, Johan Mathias,	DL596.H275
26	44481132	TWO LIBRARIES	Güldenes Schatz- Kästlein der Kinder Gottes, deren Schatz im Himmel ist : bestehend in aus	Bogatzky, Carl Heinrich von,	BV4834
27	43790100	TWO LIBRARIES	To äldgamle sange fornyede : nemlig, I. Tolvtal-visen (efter aftryk fra 1777) og II. Den gyldne	Throndsen, Knud,	PT9150.T53
28	43509816	TWO LIBRARIES	Telt-sange : for det aandelige felttog gjennem Amerikas skandinaviske settlementer for aar	Franson, F.	BV491.L9
29	43248720	TWO LIBRARIES	Breve fra Palästina og Ægypten /	Meyersohn, Theodore Carl, Lutheraneren.	BV2620
30	43113384	TWO LIBRARIES	Kristi gjenkomst og tusendaarsriget /	Wold, T. O.	BT885
31	42270576	TWO LIBRARIES	Psalmebog : samlet og ordnet, samt med et tillæg af betragtninger og bønner ledsaget /	Wexels, W. A.	BV491.L9
32	41976492	TWO LIBRARIES	Love songs and other poems /	Hilsen, Einar. Caspary, Bergliot. Hilsen, Einar.	PT9150.H55
33	41378748	TWO LIBRARIES	Berse paa Strondi; eit eivendingsspel.	Hoprekstad, Olav,	PT9072.H79
34	40452768	TWO LIBRARIES	Musical theory /	Curwen, John,	MT30.C95
35	40428300	TWO LIBRARIES	Joh. Christ. Aug. Heyse's Fremdwörterbuch /	Heyse, Johann Christian August, Böttger, Carl,	PF3582.A3
36	40401888	TWO LIBRARIES	Efterretning om den udenlandske nyere theologiske og pastorale literatur, meddeelt Fyens	Plum, Friedrich.	Z7751
37	40390620	TWO LIBRARIES	Et trekløver fra Norges kirke : livsbilleder af Gjertrud Egede, Berte Kanutte Aarflot og Henrie	Prytz, A. F. W. J.	BX8037

- 10,000+ NAHA items in the general collection
  - Historically inconsistent coding of NAHA items + resolution
  - 1,500+ are Nordic-American Imprints that have not been coded and segregated

- Worked with ARM/TS to normalize codes
- Used *Google Refine* to normalize publishers and place of publication for NAIs
- Relocated those items to special collections

Thanks, Sarah Beth Weeks!

"Rolvaag Big Weed"

- Began establishing criteria for the candidacy in the "big weed"
  - Monographs in Rolvaag's general collection (Science & Music excluded)
  - Not part of the collection designated for heritage protection & not owned by NAHA
  - Not published before 1940, or after 1996 (15 years)
  - No current order records in the ILS
  - Shows no use for life of ILS
  - Held by fewer than 100 other libraries in OCLC
  - Not captured to date in Hathi Trust

script for checking # of holding libraries in OCLC
Thanks, Sarah Johnston!


```perl
#!/usr/bin/perl

#############################################################
# Checks OCLC holdings by OCLC number using WorldCat Search API
# Counts total number of libraries up to API limit of 100
# API Documentation: http://www.oclc.org/developer/develop/web-services/worldcat-search-api/library-locations.en.html
# Created by Sarah Johnston, Last Updated: 3/7/2016
#############################################################

use LWP::Simple;
use utf8;
use JSON qw( decode_json );
use Encode qw< encode decode >;
use JSON::Parse 'valid_json';

# Open text file of OCLC numbers you want to check holdings for.  Each OCLC number should be on its own line.
open (FILE, "C:/weeding/oclc_nos.txt") or die("Unable to open file");

# Create file for library count
my $filename = "C:/weeding/oclc_response.txt";
open my $fh, ">>", $filename or die("Could not open file. $!");

while (my $line = <FILE>) {
        chomp($line);
        $oclcnum = $line;
        # OCLC WorldCat Search API.  Enter your zip code and WSKey where placeholders are.
        my $url = 'http://www.worldcat.org/webservices/catalog/content/libraries/' . $oclcnum . '?format=json&location=[zip code]&maximumLibraries=100&wskey=[your OCLC web services key]';
        my $content = get $url;
        my $json_bytes = encode('UTF-8', $content);

        die "Couldn't get $url" unless defined $content;

        # Parse the JSON file from the API response
        # Total number of libraries (up to 100) with holdings will be logged

        if (valid_json ($json_bytes)) {
        my $decoded = decode_json($json_bytes);
                        print $fh $oclcnum . "\t";
                        print $fh $decoded->{'OCLCnumber'} . "\t";
                        my @libraries = @{ $decoded->{'library'} };
                        print $fh scalar @libraries . "\n";
                        }
}
close $fh;
```

Stakeholder buy-in

- NAHA, College Archives & Kierkegaard
  - Co-researched documented historical agreements
  - Sharing discovery of practices in place, and of intentions
  - Consensus-driven creation of new documentation

- Multiple meetings of all concerned parties (including a rare-materials consultant)
  - Reporting on progress
  - Gather feedback
  - Solicit recommendations for next steps
  - Creation of Heritage Advisory Group

Stakeholder buy-in (continued)

– Approximately 6 months of education of LFC

– Conversations and education surrounding de-selection always included preservation aspect & simultaneous communication of preservation discoveries and plans

– De-selection policy approved by LFC 2011

– Decision on part of the LFC that *all monograph de-selection activities would be restricted to the decisions and actions of library staff*.

– De-selection work began in earnest.

Outcomes

- 50,000 monographs withdrawn (no one has noticed)
- 12,000 heritage items moved to special collections
- Helped create low-impact/no-impact plans for the withdrawal of print journals, VHS, reference materials, etc.
- Created available space for IT's staff of 30, student group study rooms, multi-function meeting rooms, and the new DiSCO.
- Creating available space to integrate a portion of the Science Library Collection
- Enhanced relationships with other Special Collections on campus and has created new opportunities for us to collaborate.
- Creating new space for a physically unified Special Collections Hub that will include NAHA, College Archives, Kierkegaard, and Rolvaag collections, and a shared, climate-controlled vault.
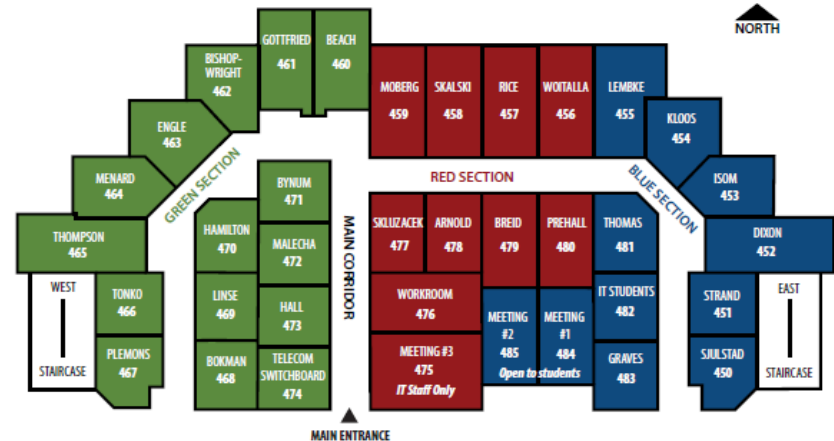- Better collections!

IT DEPARTMENT DIRECTORY

Open: 8am - 5pm
MONDAY - FRIDAY

ST. OLAF

IT HELPDESK ON 3rd FLOOR in RML353 - ACCESS FROM LIBRARY LOBBY

Name	Room	Name	Room
Arnold, Nolan Perry	RML478	Malecha, Heather	RML472
Beach, Dan	RML460	Menard, Jason	RML464
Bishop-Wright, Perrin	RML462	Moberg, Jennie	RML459
Bokman, Jeremy	RML468	Plemons, Ezra	RML467
Breid, Bob	RML479	Prehall, Andrew	RML480
Bynum, Phinehas	RML471	Rice, Craig	RML457
Dixon, Jeff	RML452	Sjulstad, Michael	RML450
Engle, Myron	RML463	Skalski, Tony	RML458
Gottfried, Ben	RML461	Skluzacek, Cathie	RML477
Graves, Rich	RML483	Strand, Michael	RML451
Hall, Whitney	RML473	Thomas, Marc	RML481
Hamilton, Doug	RML470	Thompson, Dana	RML465
Isom, Tim	RML453	Tonko, Sean	RML466
Kloos, Kelly	RML454	Woitalla, Wendy	RML456
Lembke, Roberta	RML455		
Linse, John	RML469		

IT OFFICE FLOOR PLAN: SECTION COLORS ON CARPET TILES AND OFFICE WALLS

Fram, fram … librarians

- Know
  - institution's deep history & personality
  - Mission (but be flexible in your adherence to mission if you discover treasure!)
  - Contents of your collection (don't be afraid to work with consultants)
  - Your goals (short term? Long term?)
- Engage your stakeholder's most appropriate representatives
  - BUT DON'T engage EVERY stakeholder!
  - Communicate "just enough" (trust your key stakeholders to help determine how much is enough)
- Decide what "valuable" means to you in different contexts.
- Don't be afraid to engage students in the process, and to make mistakes
- Think big. Think outside the box. Believe you'll make things better and achieve something amazing and perhaps, unexpected).

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