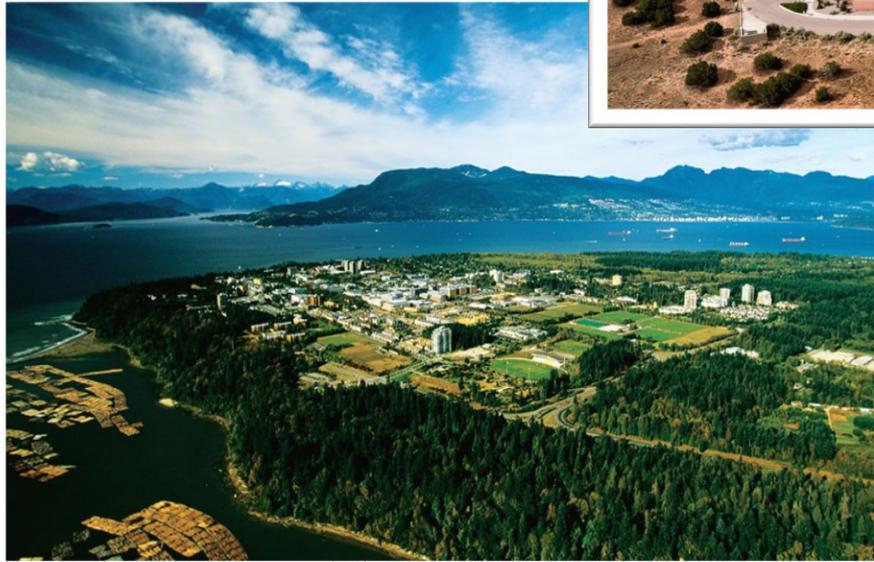# Re-envisioning **Cataloging & Classification** for an LGBT2QIA+ Community Library

Amber Dierking (she/her) & Avi Netzorg Woontner (they/them)

Wolf's Nikon1 : GSVU Library, flickr.
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Photograph by Jason S. Ordaz,
Institute of American Indian Arts

UBC Media Relations : UBC Arial View, flickr.
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Land
Acknowledgements

f introduction

- ▸ Oldest and largest community-run LGBT2QIA+ library in Western Canada
- ▸ Volunteer run & donation based
- ▸ Collections - fiction & nonfiction
- ▸ Using Koha ILS and OPAC

Project **Origins**

Physical relocation

After loosing its prior physical space, OOTS was saved by volunteers but scattered in boxes in garages across the city for 2 years before finding its new home
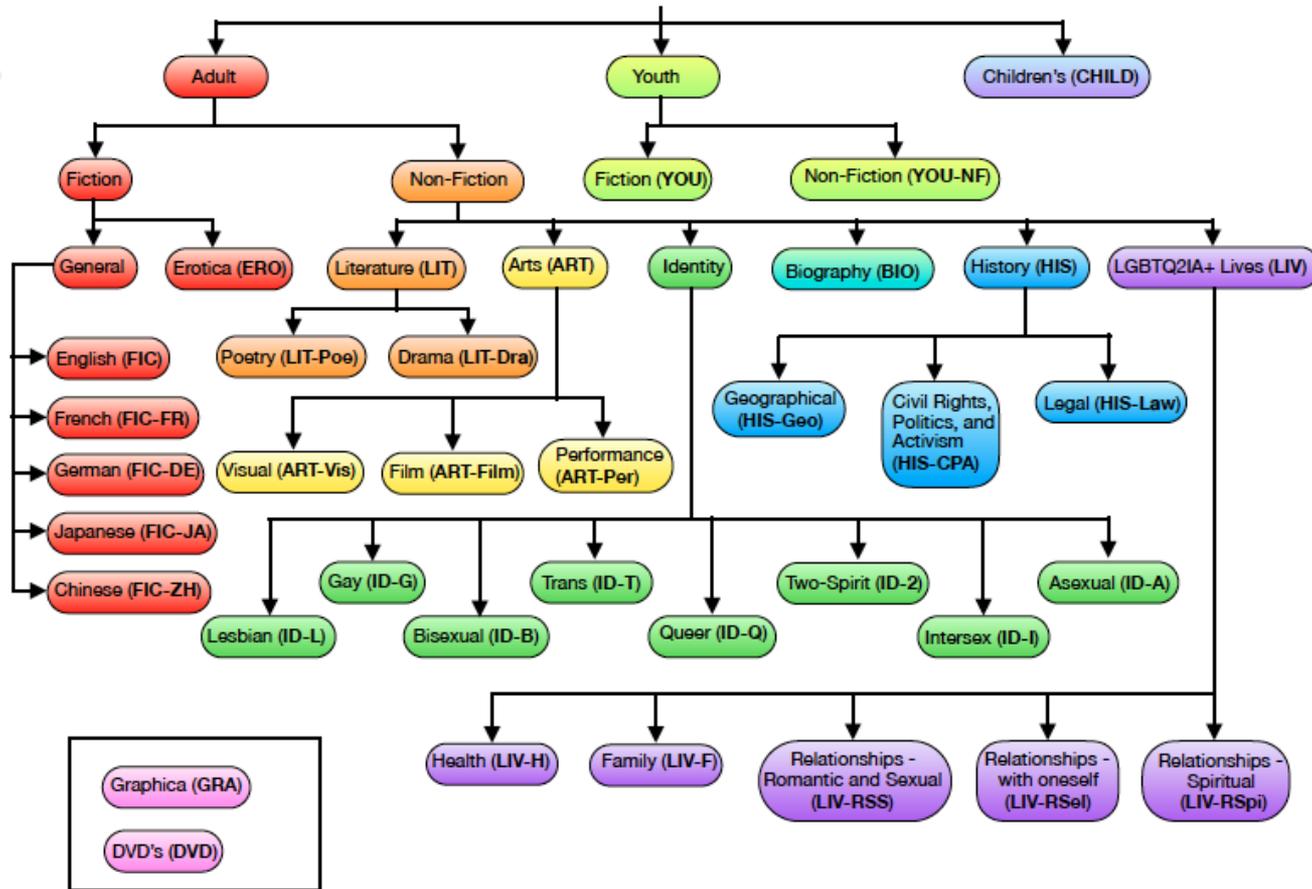
Collaborations with the UBC iSchool

Several students became volunteers. Between their familiarity with OOTS & growing library expertise, they identified specific needs & potential solutions

Project approvals

Enabled specific students to dedicate the sustained time and energy needed for such large projects

Out On The Shelves Library Classification System

Created Summer, 2018

OOTS Online Subject Access

"My goal is to improve the organizational systems of our library's Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC), and make sure we can continue to adapt to changes in the community and our collection"

	Subject Headings	Tagging
Option 1: "Simple"	Import bibliographic records only from approved institutions with shared missions.	Implementation of "suggested tags" function, minimal volunteer tag moderation for control of grammar and spelling.
Option 2: "Reasonable"	Using LCSH and imported records, establish guidelines to make sure headings related to LGBT2QIA+ topics are up to date and consistent. Re-catalogue existing records.	Require volunteer approval of all new tags.
Option 3: "Complex"	Creation of local subject headings for LGBT2QIA+ topics. Re-catalogue existing records.	Open tagging with minimal volunteer tag intervention for control of grammar and spelling.
Option 4: "Ambitious"	Creation of local subject headings for LGBT2QIA+ topics based on terminology in the OOTS tagging system.	Open tagging with minimal intervention. Programming to encourage more extensive use of tags, to support feasibility of local SH system.

Queers of color
    SN: Include separate headings for
    relevant identities
    Local
    RT Two-spirit people

Sex
    RT Cruising
    RT Kink

Sex work
    SN: Use for aspects of the sex
    industry including but not limited to
    stripping, pornography, and
    commercial sex.
    Local
    RT Sex workers
    NT Commercial sex

Sex workers
    RT Sex work
    RT Commercial sex

Straight men
    Local
    RT Straight women
    BT Straight people

    Local

Top surgery
    Local
    BT Gender-affirming surgery

Trans men
    Local
    BT Transgender people

Trans women
    Local
    BT Transgender people

Transgender people
    SN: Refers to people who identify
    with a gender that is different from
    their gender assigned at birth.
    BT Queer people
    RT Gender-nonconforming people
    NT Nonbinary people
    NT Trans men
    NT Trans women

Transitioning
    SN: Use for aspects of the process of
    transitioning to another gender, be it

Conclusion

These two projects were just the beginning, stay tuned to hear from Rio & Laura about current projects in progress at OOTS and plans for the future!

Further reading/More information:

- Bullard, Julia, Amber Dierking and Avi Grundner. 2020. "Centring LGBT2QIA+ Subjects in Knowledge Organization Systems." *Knowledge Organization* 47(5): 393-403. 23 references. DOI:10.5771/0943-7444-2020-5-393.

- Preprint available here: https://scholarworks.gvsu.edu/library_sp/68/

- OOTS website: https://outontheshelveslibrary.com/classification-system/

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