OCLC Research Update
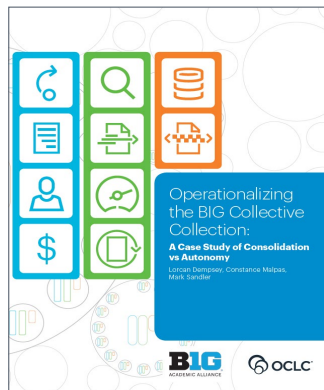
Report presents framework for operationalizing the BTAA collective collection

Prepared in collaboration with the Big Ten Academic Alliance (BTAA) Library Initiatives, the new report *Operationalizing the BIG Collective Collection: A Case Study of Consolidation vs Autonomy* by authors Lorcan Dempsey (Vice President of Membership and Research, OCLC), Constance Malpas, and Mark Sandler presents a framework for operationalizing the BTAA collective collection—a collection managed collaboratively across a network of libraries—and focuses specifically on the "purchased" or print collection. The authors define and explore key attributes of collective collections and present a series of recommendations designed to advance the BTAA libraries toward a more purposeful coordination of their collections. They describe four attributes of a more purposefully coordinated collective collection that can be an example for any library collaboration, and outline three broad areas where coordination is required to deliver the collective collection. The approach is broadly applicable in other consortium settings and provides lessons that any group of libraries can benefit from. Read the full report at oc.lc/btaareport.

New project to reach institutional stakeholders in research support

In research universities today, there is a growing need to provide an array of research support services such as research data management, research information management, open access repositories and monitoring, and much more.

Previously siloed campus units must increasingly work together to address complex institutional challenges and to support enterprise-wide services. Operating in this enterprise ecosystem is challenging, in great part because most stakeholders know little about the operations of other units, making it difficult to effectively engage, identify points of common interest, and collaborate to support research services.
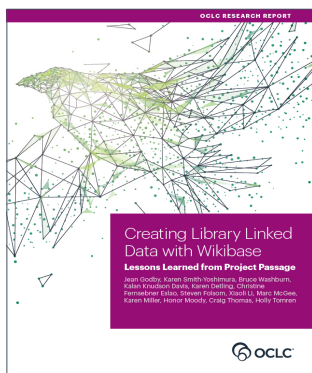
To help fill this gap, OCLC Research is beginning an effort to better understand the operations, goals, and pain points of university stakeholders in research support services to inform communications and partnership. During the next several months we will collect and synthesize information about the experiences of campus units that play a role in institutional research support.

Read more about the work that led to this new initiative and further details at oc.lc/stakeholders.

Because what is known must be shared.®

OCLC

Discover lessons learned from linked data prototype project

In the report *Creating Library Linked Data with Wikibase: Lessons Learned from Project Passage*, authors from OCLC® and the library community share details and lessons from the OCLC Research linked data Wikibase prototype. The prototype provided a sandbox in which librarians from 16 US institutions could experiment with creating linked data to describe resources—without requiring knowledge of the technical machinery of linked data. This report provides an overview of the context in which the prototype was developed, how the Wikibase platform was adapted for use by librarians, and eight use cases where pilot participants describe their experience of creating metadata for resources in various formats and languages using the Wikibase editing interface. The report details the key issues and findings, reflections, and areas for future research. Read at oc.lc/passage-report.

OCLC supports evolution of IIIF

As a member of the IIIF (International Image Interoperability Framework) Consortium, OCLC has been integrating IIIF standards in OCLC products and supporting the evolution of the standards by testing emerging IIIF specifications and features for the last three years. This includes evaluating the new IIIF Change Discovery API as a syndication and aggregation protocol, which involved creating a "IIIF Explorer" user interface prototype for discovery. This work surfaced metadata analysis and synthesis challenges associated with combining resource descriptions for a variety of factors.

Based on findings from this research, OCLC has launched a linked data pilot project focused on managing cultural heritage materials, working with three CONTENTdm customers: the Huntington Library, Art Museum and Botanical Gardens, the University of Minnesota, and the Cleveland Public Library. Learn more about this IIIF-related work at oc.lc/iiif-prototype.

Resource sharing consortium launches several projects

SHARES is the long-running resource sharing consortium for OCLC Research Library Partnership members, and currently encompasses nearly 100 libraries from 75 institutions in six countries. In addition to providing each other's patrons with privileged, expedited access to rich and varied collections, SHARES participants also collaboratively address collection-sharing challenges faced by every member library and by the community at large. The SHARES Executive Group recently completed a year-long Policy Rethink, which engaged all SHARES participants in a facilitated conversation around five themes:

- encourage evidence-based processes
- build in flexibility
- enhance access
- embrace local procedures that add value
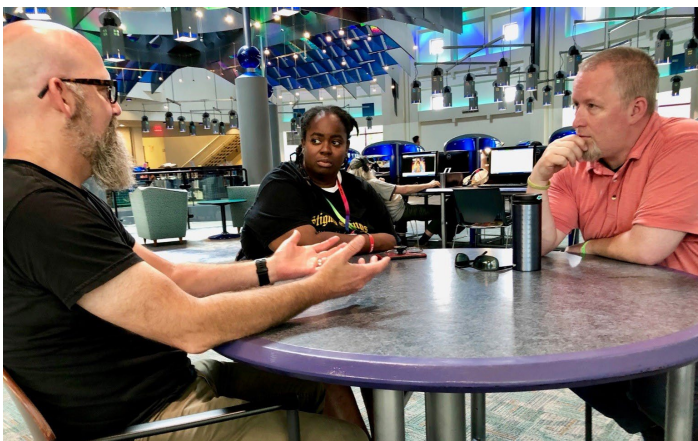- mitigate international sharing costs

The conversations launched several ongoing projects and resulted in significant changes in practice for many SHARES members. In the coming year, a slate of newly elected SHARES Executives will engage with member institutions in conversations and activities centered around four major topics. Read more on these new SHARES initiatives at oc.lc/sharesnews.

Coming soon: Community research agenda

OCLC has commissioned the development of a library community research agenda to chart engagement with data science, machine learning, and artificial intelligence. This agenda, authored by Thomas Padilla and to be released later this year, is the product of core challenges identified by library staff working primarily in the US and a group of external experts. Given the scale of impact presented by the use of data science, machine learning, and artificial intelligence, committing to interdependence is more important than ever. The agenda is a call to collective action with diverse collaborations among librarians, archivists, museum professionals, data scientists, and more. With investigations that span collections and research support, the scholarly record, the system-wide library, user studies, community catalysts, and data science, OCLC looks forward to partnering on efforts to come. Watch the OCLC Research website for more.

Resources for public libraries responding to the opioid crisis

OCLC and the Public Library Association will host a series of free webinars to share resources connected to the project Public Libraries Respond to the Opioid Crisis with Their Communities. The first webinar on 30 October (recording available after) will feature Denver Public Library and its Community Resource Program, which employs social workers and peer navigators with lived experience who provide supportive services. As part of this project, OCLC conducted research with eight public libraries and their partners about their response to the opioid crisis. The work surfaced major outcomes of the libraries' activities to address this issue, which will be highlighted in an upcoming report. The project is funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). Register for webinars and learn more at oc.lc/opioid-crisis.

Peer navigators from the Recovery Institute of Southwest Michigan meet at the Kalamazoo (MI) Public Library

WebJunction launches project to improve access to civil legal justice

WebJunction®, in partnership with the nonprofit Legal Services Corporation, has launched "Improving Access to Civil Legal Justice through Public Libraries." The project will result in a new online course for US public library staff who work in reference, adult services, or outreach positions on how to improve community members' access to civil legal information and services. The project will build awareness of the need for better access to civil legal justice. Resources and materials developed by the project will be shared broadly with the public library field. More at oc.lc/legal-justice.

OCLC to support IMLS, Knight Foundation initiatives

OCLC MENTOR ORGANIZATION FOR IMLS PROGRAMS

Under a cooperative agreement with IMLS, OCLC will mentor a cohort of ten school library grantees selected to participate in the Transforming School Library Practice category of IMLS' Accelerating Promising Practices for Small Libraries program. WebJunction will support the cohort with a facilitated online community of practice, in-person convenings, training and technical assistance, and more as the grantees transform their school library's practice.

As a strategic and dissemination partner, OCLC will support the IMLS National Leadership Grant project "Community Health and Wellness: Small and Rural Library Practices, Perspectives, and Programs," led by the University of Oklahoma, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and Wayne State University. In the partner role, WebJunction will disseminate project findings and any related resources and serve as a national advisor to the project team.

OCLC will also support a project led by Kent State University in partnership with the University of Washington. The IMLS-funded "Project VOICE (Value sensitive design of Outcomes Informing Community Engagement)" will guide library staff in developing outreach programs and services that meet the needs of families with young children from underserved communities. WebJunction will support development of online learning, serve on the advisory board, and disseminate the resulting tool kit and resources.
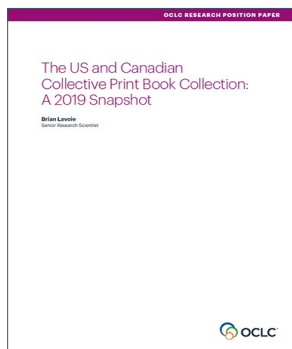
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON PARTNERS ON NEW KNIGHT FOUNDATION INITIATIVE

The University of Washington received $5 million from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation to create the Center for an Informed Public (CIP), which will study how misinformation and disinformation flow through information systems; how information translates into values, beliefs, and actions; and how researchers, educators, librarians, and policymakers can intervene in these processes to foster a more informed society. As a strategic partner, WebJunction will leverage its network, methods, and platform to support the CIP's mission.

Stay tuned for more information as these projects develop.

US/Canadian collective print book collection examined in new publication

In a new position paper, *The US and Canadian Collective Print Book Collection: A 2019 Snapshot*, Brian Lavoie traces the contours of the US and Canadian collective print book collection, which consists of 59.2 million distinct print book publications, based on 994.3 million holdings, and is growing. Collective collections are growing in importance as a source of intelligence about services that operate across collection boundaries, such as shared print management, group-scale discovery, and resource sharing. This position paper examines the US/Canadian collective print book collection for insight and trends and also includes a new rendering of the mega-regional map of US and Canadian Collective Print Book Collections. Learn more by downloading the brief report at oc.lc/uscanadian-collection.

Coming soon: Position paper places open access in the library context

Later this year, OCLC Research's Titia van der Werf will provide a look at the "shift to open" in a new position paper. The publication will describe the scope of "open," placing it within the larger trend of making public sector and scholarly information more easily and freely available and reusable in a digital environment. van der Werf will outline the potential impact to libraries that have a role in managing and providing access to open content. Watch the OCLC Research website for more information on this publication.

New publications from OCLC Research

EXPOSING STANDARDIZATION AND CONSISTENCY ISSUES IN REPOSITORY METADATA REQUIREMENTS FOR DATA DEPOSITION

In this article in *College & Research Libraries Journal*, OCLC Research's Ixchel M. Faniel and coauthors examine common and unique metadata requirements and their levels of description, determined by the data deposit forms of 20 repositories in three disciplines—archaeology, quantitative social science, and zoology. Read the article at oc.lc/metadata-standardization.

CONTEXT FROM THE DATA REUSER'S POINT OF VIEW

Faniel and coauthors make the case in this *Journal of Documentation* paper that both data producers and curators benefit from expanding context categories to better determine what information is vital to capture and manage during data collection to support data reuse. Read the paper at oc.lc/datareuse-context.

WIKICITE 2018–2019: CITATIONS FOR THE SUM OF ALL HUMAN KNOWLEDGE

This WikiCite 2018 conference overview coauthored by OCLC Research's Merrilee Proffitt examines the future of open bibliographic data and the impact that WikiCite achieved over the past year. Read the report at oc.lc/wikicite-report.

VIRTUOUS AND VICIOUS CIRCLES IN THE DATA LIFE-CYCLE

In this article published in the journal *Information Research*, Faniel and coauthors present a data life cycle model that illustrates how factors in one data life cycle phase impacts other phases, forming virtuous (positive) and vicious (negative) circles. This method comprehensively studies how data producers, sharers, curators, and reusers can better collaborate across phases. Read the article at oc.lc/data-lifecycle.

www.oclc.org/research

Because what is known must be shared.®

OCLC