



LIBRARIES

QUICK FACTS

- * The Five College library system comprises **14 CAMPUS LIBRARIES** and the Five College Library Repository Collection.
- * **21 PERCENT** of all our library borrowing is among our campuses.
- * In recent years, we've reduced duplicate purchases by **13 PERCENT**.
- * Our more than **10 MILLION** volumes would make us the 10th-largest library in the United States.
- * **10 MILLION+** volumes. . .
 - 4.7 MILLION** books
 - 1.8 MILLION** eBooks
 - 3.1 MILLION** journals
 - 440,000** film, video and music recordings/scores
- * Our campus libraries work together in **TEN ADVISORY GROUPS AND COMMITTEES**.
- * We held **13 JOINT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS** from 2014 to 2016.

EXPANDING COLLECTIONS

Books and other material at the **Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art** and the **Yiddish Book Center**, totaling almost 14,000 volumes, are now available through the Aleph integrated library catalog system.

The consortium libraries are founding members of the **Eastern Academic Scholars' Trust (EAST)**, a partnership of more than 60 campuses committed to maintaining access to infrequently

circulated materials. Participants agree to keep designated print copies of infrequently circulated materials, giving libraries greater flexibility with their collection planning.

IMPROVING EFFICIENCY

A variety of library efforts across the campuses have resulted in more accessible, streamlined services in everything from borrowing and billing to archiving. We continue to improve our installation of **Aleph**, but the consortium's joint library cataloging system from Ex Libris is now 11 years old and lacks some crucial features, so we are looking for options to upgrade and replace it. Smith, Mount Holyoke and Hampshire have created **Five College Compass: Digital Collections** to manage the digital portions of their holdings. They expect to accomplish more with pooled resources and have a system that is easily accessible to all three campuses. Compass is an important investment in a digital architecture that will support broad management, preservation and access to unique resources digitized and managed by our libraries, archives and eventually our museums. Other campuses may join Compass later. In support of digital-collection management on all five campuses, the librarians created a guide to digital preservation and have made it available through the Five College libraries' website.

INCREASING ACCESS AND SAVINGS

With the **Five College Library Repository Collection**, the campus libraries pioneered the concept of maintaining a shared collection of infrequently circulated materials. This has freed shelf space for new material and opens up library space for other uses, even as it keeps lesser-used materials readily available. Fifty-two colleges and universities pay annual dues to participate as affiliates of the repository collection.

The Five College Board of Directors decided in May 2014 to build and operate a Library Annex with a shelving capacity



Five College Library Annex groundbreaking

of 2.1–2.5 million volumes. The long-term purpose of the Library Annex is to house print materials for which there is no longer space on our campuses. Ground was broken in summer 2016, and the Annex opens in May 2017. It will be available to all five campuses; its initial use will be by Smith and for additional UMass contributions to the repository collection, which now exceeds the capacity of its present location.

Our libraries have joint subscriptions to two eBook services, both of which we're monitoring carefully to ensure that we're both meeting the needs of our patrons and keeping within our budget.

The libraries regularly negotiate with the subscription agency **EBSCO** for discounts for titles or databases held in common. The result is both lower prices and broader access to users from all five campuses.

PROVIDING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The **Innovative Learning Committee** brings together librarians to share strengths in the area of teaching and learning, supporting those who partner with faculty members in teaching research skills, digital scholarship and information literacy. The committee has established a repository for sharing lesson plans, teaching aids and presentations. Our librarians' participation in user-experience programs has strengthened their skills, and the **Professional Development Committee** hosts an annual Five College

library staff meeting that is both a showcase for innovation and accomplishments across the five libraries and an opportunity to gain access to professional development from outside experts.

PARTICIPATING IN THE CONSORTIUM

During 2014–15 and 2015–16, Five College libraries committees hosted 15 professional-development sessions, which were attended by dozens of library staff members.

Currently 67 staff members are participating on eight committees and two advisory groups:

- * Access Committee
- * Aleph Advisory Group
- * Archives and Special Collections Committee
- * Digital Stewardship Committee
- * Discovery Committee
- * Innovative Learning Committee
- * Professional Development Committee,
- * Repository Collection Advisory Group
- * Resource Management Committee
- * User Experience Committee

FIVE COLLEGE LIBRARIANS COUNCIL MEMBERS

- * Bryn Geffert, *Librarian of the College, Amherst College*
- * Jennifer Gunter King, *Director of the Library, Hampshire College*
- * Alex Wirth-Cauchon, *Chief Information Officer and Executive Director, LITS, Mount Holyoke College*
- * Susan Fliss, *Dean of Libraries, Smith College*
- * Simon Neame, *Dean of Libraries, University of Massachusetts Amherst*
- * Neal B. Abraham, *Executive Director, Five Colleges, Incorporated*