

To: ALL-SIS Coll Dev Committee (2012-13)
From: Lisa Junghahn (Ljunghahn@law.harvard.edu)
Re: Coll Dev Committee meeting – conference call (2013)
Date: July 8, 2013

Attendees:

- Helen Wohl
- Jane Woldow
- Lisa Junghahn
- Theo Belniak
- Eric Parker
- Svetlana Kochkina
- Jean Mattimone

Goals and Action

1. Prepare Toolkit

- a. Offer tips for helping guide folks through changing the character of the collection – something that would prevent collections staff from feeling like everything is ad hoc
 - i. Workflow
 1. Think about standing orders
 2. Consider bundled packages (frown)
 - ii. Recommended Process
 - iii. Best practices and Things to avoid
- b. Vermont tried a deliberate and methodical process – long and in clumps – but didn't want to just decimate. Wanted to keep unique content – online content – and wanted to be able to thoughtfully explain expenditures.

2. Prepare learning opportunities

- a. **Balance: When our libraries are all things to all people**
 - i. Academics looking more like law firms
 1. Letting go of print and moving away from just in time – to a more practical standard of providing what our patrons need today
 - a. So far, a lot has been cancelled and there have been very few complaints
 - b. More focus on monographs and less on expensive serials
 - c. Duplicates have been looked at
 - i. No more print and online – and mostly keeping online where online
 - ii. No more Hein & Oxford for the same items
 - d. Challenge is that faculty are a moving target

- i. One solution is setting up a temporary trial
 - ii. Honest & transparent: Faculty seem supportive when they learn about pricing and tradeoffs
 - e. Challenges to turning the subscriptions “off and on” which is not so simple – even if there is an idea to buy just in time and then cancel and buy again
 - f. Additional Challenges
 - i. Format issues
 - ii. Preservation questions
- 2. How does this mesh with the mission & purpose – different law schools may have different scope
 - a. Schools looking at pedagogical purpose
 - b. Schools may want to get materials on relevant subjects – especially for expensive things
- 3. Challenges may relate to the larger issue of the crisis in legal education
 - a. Millennials don’t want books
 - b. Others value book – including for longer term access
 - i. LRW instruction should acknowledge cost-benefit of the reporters and other print primary sources! (especially where price increases can be upwards of 400%)
- 4. What will be the character of law school library collections (with or without changes to ABA standards)
 - a. Review of responses to changes to ABA Ch. 6 show diverse attitudes with some schools sticking to print and others shedding quickly

3. Prepare articles

- a. Theo at Buffalo working on article that discusses history of ABA Chapter 6
 - i. The new standard is not specific enough to create changes?
 - ii. Trying to understand changes from 1970s = movement away from part time and evening = may have created the just in case philosophy
 - iii. Adequate library has again become reliable access
- b. Other ideas?

4. Learn trends

- a. What are other libraries doing, really? We know that many are canceling law review for Hein – but how many and what else?
- b. Gather links to results of surveys on collection use (ex.: NELLCO on state primary law)
- c. Prepare librarian survey to learn about trends
 - i. Share potential questions
 - ii. Disseminate
 - iii. Analyze

iv. Share

5. Gather Policies

- a. Gather collection development policies
<http://www.aallnet.org/sis/allsis/secure/Colldev/policies.asp>
- b. Change way policies are displayed to indicate time frame for changes – to determine trends in newer policies
- c. Policies that have been changed and added to the above site include:
 - i. Vermont Law School
 - ii. SMU Dedman School of Law
 - iii. Northwestern

6. Learn about collection consortia or partnerships

- a. Gather information on potential relationships
 - i. Example is BALLCO for Boston area law schools
 - ii. NELLCO
 - iii. LIPA

7. Work with other groups – especially the tech services folks (TS-SIS)