

## **Open Session with Faculty: Summary Notes**

April 21, 2015, 11am to noon, Webster Library, LB 203

### **How can we better support your research and teaching? What are we not doing that we could be doing?**

- Overhead scanners for books. Really like ILL and article delivery services, it is very effective and saves time and hassle. However, sometimes the ILL and article delivery scans are poor quality - especially for images.
- Do not like waiting in line, wastes time. Finds that the circulation lines are too long at Webster. Perhaps a different line-up for laptops.
- Improve signage to help locate items within the collection, especially since the collection is spread out across multiple floors- particularly confusing re: monograph collection
- Is it possible to obtain via interlibrary loans a second copy of a book already held in the library collection? Especially if there are holds. Sometimes a book is needed for class preparation, and one becomes engaged in recall “battles” with other users
- Is it possible to obtain via interlibrary loans a print copy of a book that the Library owns as an e-book? Sometimes it is desirable to have the print version.
- What are our priorities should money become available for doing whatever we want?
- Library should buy things that faculty can't afford on their own-- used metaphor of buying scores and put an emphasis on digital materials as being particularly important.
- Do we digitize old books like the University of Toronto does?
- UQAM provides support and better opportunities to create new academic journals. Faculty at UQAM are creating new journals regularly. Is that something Concordia Libraries could support?
- Express thanks for Library, been wonderful. A few questions, when I want to use online materials from other Universities—CREPUQ agreement is not extended to online materials—any plan to make online resources from other Universities accessible? How do I access online material from other libraries? Is there a plan to provide access to things like e-books from other libraries? Have had problems accessing online content related to foreign language material.

### **How can we better serve interdisciplinary needs and research?**

- The library should find new ways to make connections and links between different documents (e.g. books) as well as connections to the more granular parts of them (e.g. book chapters); to make it easier for faculty to browse amongst interrelated documents. Mentioned the concept of a “Network of books”. The library should support digital browsing of related books, articles etc. (paraphrase: “keywords come to me instead of me having to start with keywords”). Suggested word clouds or visual search tool. Indexing chapters and providing better access to them is important, since chapter could be classified differently than the book as a whole. This is especially relevant to anthologies which are often interdisciplinary books.

### **What do you expect from the Library?**

- What are the library's plans for e-books? What are we aiming for in terms of e-books versus print books? E-book interfaces are so variable, and there are problems with some. Stated that he understands why the printing function is limited on some, but notes that sometimes you can't even tell what the page number is and that it is hard to cite properly given this. In Fine Arts often the visuals are very important, which can be difficult with e-books. Suggested that we lobby e-book publishers and vendors for improved interfaces and better access to visuals. Digital interface can be cumbersome especially when you need to access large parts of a book.
- Uses Refworks and reserves but would like to have digital space that could be shared with team, such as lab members, committee and community groups etc., The digital space could be used by faculty to develop their own "digital library" that could be shared with colleagues and also give access to partners within the community that faculty are working with. Works a lot with other universities and groups – you have to re-create knowledge every time for new grad students etc. Even if outside partners did not have the rights, they would have an idea what to look for. For community groups that we work with it would be useful to give them access to our resources, best practices, "how to" sources---they cannot work with you much because they don't have this access.
- Regarding prospective graduate students who already have a faculty member, can we give them some level of library access?
- Students have course websites. Sites are designed in ways that students have direct access to library. For courses where students have to write multiple papers, can librarians be made available to provide some form of instruction or guidance to help with the paper?
- Library has its own views, what does the library want----if your budget was increased 30 percent what would you do?

#### **How are you using the Library**

- Twice per week by internet. Once a month physically simply to come in and study. Uses library as an office or a place to work. Finds library very crowded and hard to find a place. Library to him is mostly digital.