

Towards integrated physical & digital  
collection management/ **Jon Allen, Robin  
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*10<sup>th</sup> NAG Collection Development Seminar for  
Academic Librarians*



# Introduction

- Our background, collections & policies
- Our vision & approach
- Our model & principles
- Our skills, data & technologies
- Our collaborations
- Our journey

# Our background

- Founded 1965
- Research led
- Campuses in Canterbury and Medway with centres in Athens, Brussels, Paris, Rome and Tonbridge
- 18,500 students and 1,200 academic staff

# Our collections

	2011-12	2016-17
Library resources budget	£3,210,000	£3,740,000
# books	947,000	855,000
# e-books (000s)		310,000
# serials	41,000	155,000

# Our policies

Formed at a time when, and experiences where:

- Our focus was on physical collection management
- Digital was not a format of choice
- Evidence-based acquisitions, leasing and patron-driven acquisitions were not established procurement models

# Our vision

From August 2020, we will apply a holistic approach to managing our physical and digital library resources so that:

- Our collections continue to reflect our customers' education and research needs
- We maintain an appropriate balance between study and collection space within our libraries

# Our methodology

- Scoping to:
  - Review current workflows, benchmark against our peers and identify best practice
  - Establish a shared understanding of integrated physical and digital collection management
- Enabling to:
  - Enhance our data skills including data visualisation
  - Maximise our use of existing data, address the gaps and introduce data management planning
  - Identify technologies to source and store data
- Embedding to:
  - Transition integrated physical and digital collection management to business as usual
  - Move to a continuous collection management cycle

# Our model





# Our principles

- Flexible and responsive to education and research needs guiding the purchase mode and format type of a given resource
- Connected so teams understand the role the tasks they own play in the lifecycle and develop these within this context
- Evidenced with the data requirements for each stage understood from the outset
- Documented with key decisions at each stage of the lifecycle recorded

# Our skills

Bringing together existing data champions and owners to explore sources of guidance and support to develop a:

- Community of champions and experts around data for integrated digital and physical collection management
- Shared understanding of data competencies and skills integrated digital and physical collection management requires
- Data competencies and skills development and training programme

# Our data

Explore the questions we are trying to answer through data and create:

- Data catalogue entries for metrics we can use to meet academic Schools' requirements (and our own) around integrated digital and physical collection management
- Requirements for additional metrics we need
- Data management plans for collections data
- Annual academic School dashboards to support collection engagement and Periodic Programme Reviews

# Our technologies

Automate as far as possible the provision of data required on an ongoing basis and capture our:

- Non-functional requirements for existing and new technologies to support integrated digital and physical collection management
- Recommendations for adoption and development of existing technologies
- Assessment of the marketplace for new technologies

# Our collaborations

- Drill Hall Library
- Canterbury Christ Church University & the University of Greenwich
- European partners
- Technology partners
- UK higher education and research libraries

# Our journey

Our teams are:

- Already undertaking some great work individually
- Keen to collaborate and to work together to address the skills, data and technology gaps to unblock progress
- Increasingly engaged through our collaborations with a wider network helping them to identify and implement best practice

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