



University of
Massachusetts
Amherst

Collection development: It's for everyone

Item Type	Presentation
Authors	Pearman, Alice;Wixson, Christin
DOI	https://doi.org/10.7275/jn1h-jh05
Download date	2026-06-17 13:02:21
Link to Item	https://hdl.handle.net/20.500.14394/778

Collection Development: It's for Everyone

Alice Pearman | Collection Management Librarian
Christin Wixson | Instruction Librarian

Lamson Library
Plymouth State University

A little about PSU



- Primarily residential campus
- 3,800 undergraduates; 927 graduate students
- Two doctoral programs; 45 major disciplines
- Skiing is popular
- Five faculty librarians; five library staff

A little about this presentation

- This is a monograph-focused presentation
- Alice is a Collection Management Librarian, but does a lot of instruction
- Christin is an Instruction Librarian, but does a lot of collection development
- We both identify as white, cis-gendered females

Why do we assess collections?

Collection evaluation managed correctly can identify gaps in the collection, provide a picture of the historical depth and currency of the collection and provide a focus to collection issues (Agee, 2005). (From Borin and Yi 2011)



We have questions

- Do we have a strong collection in this discipline?
- Where are we not meeting demand?
- What gets used the most? The least?
- Are there user groups, voices, or perspectives not represented in our collections?

We have questions

- Do we have a strong collection in this discipline?
- Where are we not meeting demand?
- What gets used the most? The least?
- Are there user groups, voices, or perspectives not represented in our collections?

Where are we not meeting demand?

- Assessment methods
 - Citation analysis
 - ILL analysis
 - List-checking
 - User surveys

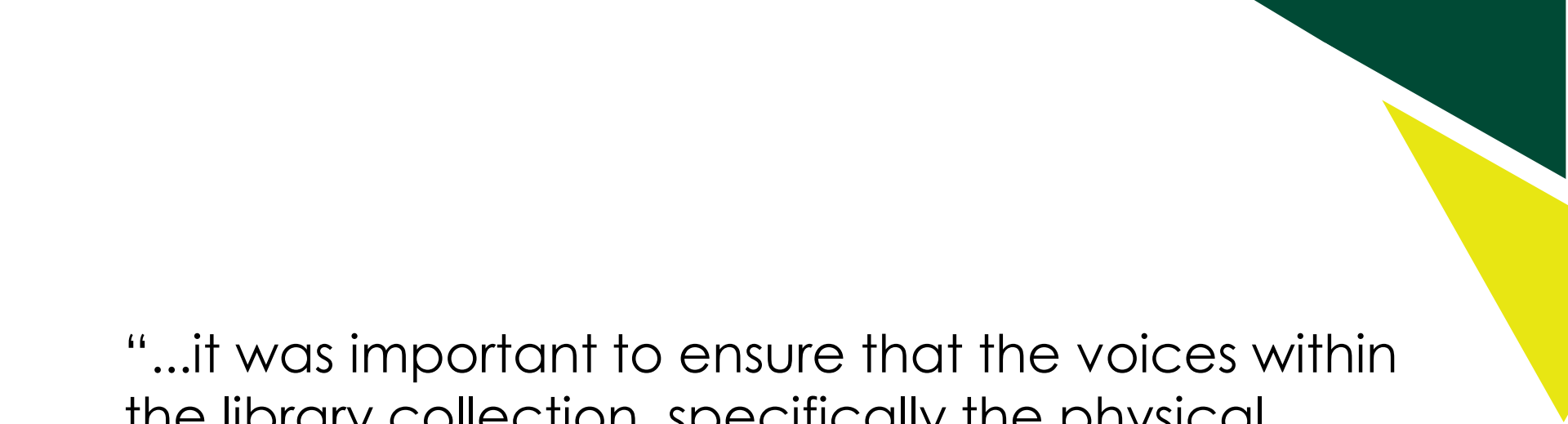
Assessment = Development

- Where are we not meeting demand?
 - Citation analysis & ILL analysis =
 - If students aren't finding what they need in the library, should we collect more in this subject area?
 - List-checking =
 - Should we incorporate these lists (awards, authoritative lists, etc.) into our collection development strategy?
 - User surveys =
 - Have we overlooked certain faculty needs and priorities?



Are there user groups, voices, or perspectives not represented?

- The perspective behind this question can vary:
 - Do we have books about these people/this region/this culture?
 - Are the books about these people/this region/this culture written by people who represent those voices?
 - Do the voices in our collection represent the distribution of people in our communities?



“...it was important to ensure that the voices within the library collection, specifically the physical collection, were representative of the society the students will continue to interact with after they leave Augustana College.”

- Emerson and Lehman, 2022

Diversity in the ALA Policy Manual

B.3.3 Combating Prejudice, Stereotyping, and Discrimination (Old Number 60.3)

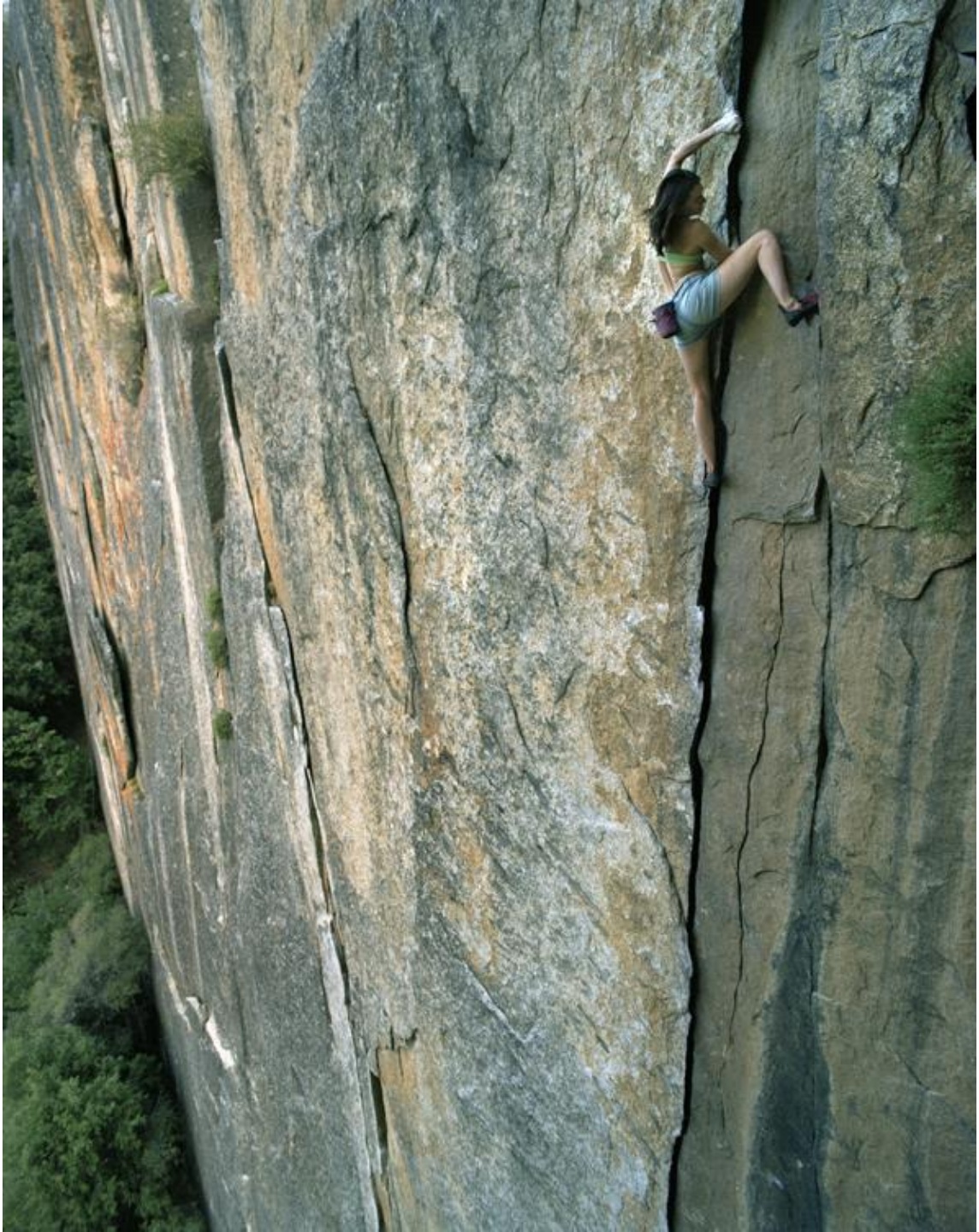
The American Library Association actively commits its programs and resources to those efforts that combat prejudice, stereotyping, and discrimination against individuals and groups in the library profession and in library user populations on the basis of race, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, creed, color, religious background, national origin, language of origin or disability.

Are there user groups, voices, or perspectives not represented?

- Assessment method lit review
 - I found a couple focused on location of publication
 - Method: Data mine MARC records
 - Many studies focus on gender, ethnicity, and sexual orientation
 - Method: Research each author for self-identifying information

Gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation

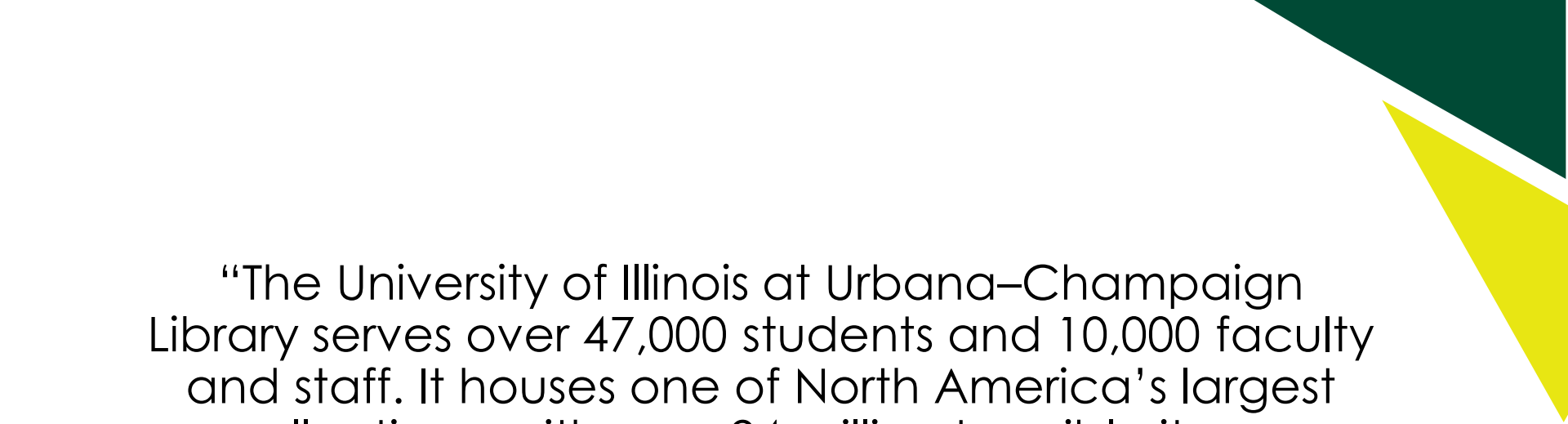
- Researchers use a variety of methods to capture a random sample, but the amount of effort required is still enormous:
 - 1,080 hours spent evaluating 6,465 items (Emerson and Lehman, 2022)
 - Stone evaluated 831 playscripts (2020)
 - England evaluated 461 items out of a random sample of 2,053 recent acquisitions (2023)



The overwhelming conclusion?

- Their collections are not as diverse as they would prefer them to be.
- Collecting for diversity in voices will require looking outside our current collection development methods.
- We need to be more creative.
- We need to be more thoughtful.





“The University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign Library serves over 47,000 students and 10,000 faculty and staff. It houses one of North America’s largest collections, with over 24 million tangible items. **Forty-five subject bibliographers** (aka selectors) are responsible for covering the research and teaching needs of specific disciplines.”

~Lynn Wiley and George Gottschalk in
Transforming Acquisitions and Collection Services





Information Diet

“Developing a diverse collection requires... considering resources from self-published, independent, small, and local producers.”

~ALA Statement on [Diverse Collections](#)



La Profe

@lorgia_pena



One of the most exhausting tasks when starting a new academic position is the having to order the totality of books I teach since university libraries fully ignore Black Latinx knowledge and literature. Exhausting.

6:07 PM · Jan 24, 2022



What unconventional book review and recommendation sources do you use?

menti.com
enter code: 8237 7429



Scholarship as Conversation

[menti.com](https://www.menti.com) 8237 7429

ONE

Library Research Infrastructure for Humanistic and Social Scientific Scholarship in the Twentieth Century

ANDREW ABBOTT

I have two major aims in this chapter. The first is empirical. I want to recover the practices, communities, and institutions of library researchers and their libraries in the twentieth century. There is at present almost no synthetic writing about this topic, and I aim to fill that gap. This empirical investigation points to a second, more theoretical one. There turns out to be a longstanding debate between librarians and disciplinary scholars over

Privacy

16th May 2023 at 3:35pm

See also: [Collection of Personal Data](#), [Cybersecurity](#), [Surveillance](#), [Dark Design](#), [Zoom](#), [Apple](#), [Terms of Service](#), [Student Privacy](#), [Geolocation](#), [Facial Recognition](#), [Tracking Devices](#), [Cookies](#), [Workplace Surveillance & Employee Monitoring](#), [Tor Browser](#), [Rights of Privacy & Publicity](#), [VPNs](#)

Books

- The Battle for Your Brain (2023) ~Nita Farahany
- A Guide to Using the Anonymous Web in Libraries and Information Organizations: Enhancing Patron Privacy and Information Access (2022) ~Brady D. Lund
- Data Cartels: The Companies That Control and Monopolize Our Information (2022) ~Sarah Lamdan, on order
- Seek and Hide: The Tangled History of the Right to Privacy (2022) ~Amy Gajda
- Why Privacy Matters (2021) ~Neil Richards
- Industry Unbound: The Inside Story of Privacy, Data, and Corporate Power (2021) ~Ari Ezra Waldman
- Privacy Is Hard And Seven Other Myths: Achieving Privacy Through Careful Design (2021) ~Jaak-Henk Hoepman, QA76.9.A25 H626
- I Have Nothing To Hide: And 20 Other Myths About Surveillance And Privacy (2021) ~Heidi Boghosian, TK7882.E2 B64

- Title
- Author
- Year
- Publisher
- Price
- Review Source
- Subject Area
- Date Added

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Title	Author	Publisher	Year	Price	Subject	Recommendation	Date Added
2	A Knock at Midnight: A Story of Hope, Justice, and Freedom	Brittany Barnett	Crown (Penguin)	2020	17	CJ	Jen Kamoroski	7/1/2022
3	The Gatherings: Reimagining Indigenous-Settler Relations	Shirley Hager	University of Toronto	2021	25	HI	New England Book Award	9/15/2022
4	Constitutional Culture: New England and the Struggle Against Arbitrary Rule In the Restoration Empire.	Adrian Chastain W	University of Pennsylv	2023	45	HI	GOBI Local List	10/1/2022
5	Kill It with Fire: Manage Aging Computer Systems (and Future Proof Modern Ones)	Marianne Bellotti	No Starch Press	2021	20	CS	twitter	10/30/2022
6	Verified: How to Think Straight, Get Duped Less, and Make Better Decisions about What to Believe Online	Mike Caulfield	University of Chicago P	2023	14	CM	Robin DeRosa	11/17/2022
7	English / Wish You Were Here: Two Plays	Sanaz Toossi	Theatre Communicati	2023	18	MTD	Pulitzer Prize winner	12/12/2022
8	Hilma af Klint: A Biography	Julia Voss	University of Chicago P	2022	35	AR	Matt Cheney	1/1/2023
9	Ducks: Two Years in the Oil Sands	Kate Beaton	Drawn & Quarterly	2022	40	EN	twitter	3/1/2023
10	The Vortex: A True Story of History's Deadliest Storm, an Unspeakable War, and Liberation	Scott Carney	Ecco (Harper Collins)	2022	19	ASC	Andrew Carnegie Medal	3/14/2023
11	Neurodiversity Studies: A New Critical Paradigm	Hanna Rosqvist	Routledge	2022	53	BI	ITAKOM conference	3/27/2023
12	Spirituality and mental health across cultures	Alexander Moreira	Oxford Universit Press	2021	70	CN	Choice Outstanding 2022	4/1/2023
13	Just get on the pill : the uneven burden of reproductive politics, Reproductive justice: a new vision for the twenty-first century	Krystale Littlejohn	University of California	2021	25	SO	Choice June 2022	4/3/2023
14	Beyond Measure: The Hidden History of Measurement from Cubits to Quantum Constants	James Vincent	W W Norton	2022	33	ASC	https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/in	5/1/2023
15	Ignorance: A Global History	Peter Burke	Oxford Universit Press	2023	30	SO	GOBI Core Titles (January	5/8/2023
16	War and Colonization in the Early American Northeast	Christoph Strobel	Routledge	2023	45	HI	Syllabus 172	5/8/2023
17	Weathering: The Extraordinary Stress of Ordinary Life in an Unjust Society	Arline Geronimus	Little, Brown Spark	2023	30	HE	Kirkus	5/22/2023



Citational Practice



P. Gabrielle Foreman
@profgabrielle

...

I want to talk about indexing and [#CiteBlackWomen](#). Finishing a book? INDEXING can erase or *highlight* emerging + the most established scholars. We had to point to where [@marthasjones_](#), Frances Smith Foster, Carla Peterson and [@dgburgher](#) should appear and hadn't fully or at all.

6:33 AM · Nov 12, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

57 Retweets 14 Quote Tweets 237 Likes



P. Gabrielle Foreman @profgabrielle · Nov 12, 2020

...

Replying to [@profgabrielle](#)

The *practices* of indexing almost erased Frances Foster's contribution to this volume there. She had been cited by half the contributors but mostly in their endnotes—which were not as closely indexed. Not any more. 🙄 We have to pay attention and advocate to [#CiteBlackWomen](#). ➡

2

5

55



“[Citation is] ...a rather successful reproductive technology, a way of reproducing the world around certain bodies”
~[Sara Ahmed](#)

Photo Credits

- Slide 2: Rounds Hall on Plymouth State University campus, courtesy Plymouth State University
- Slide 6: [Crowd raising hands during performance](#) by Rahul Pandit
- Slide 10: [ABC](#) by Dawn Hudson
- Slide 16: [Steph Davis free soloing Outer Limits](#), by Uphill123 [CC BY](#)
- Slide 19: [Apples & Oranges: They Don't Compare](#) by TheBusyBrain [CC BY](#)
- Slide 20: [Man using binoculars in between stack of books](#) by Andrea Piacquadio
- Slide 21: [Green leaves on white surface](#) by Heather Barnes
- Slide 24: [Speech bubbles at Erg](#) by Marc Wathieu [CC BY-NC-ND](#)
- Slide 25: [Brown wooden shelf with books](#) by Trnava University
- Slide 26: [Cognitive Bias Codex](#) by John Manogian III
- Slide 29: [White and brown book on brown woven surface](#) by Gulfer Ergin

References & Resources

bit.ly/3pSny9F