

# Wesleyan University Library Annual Report 2012-13

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## **Introduction**

Wesleyan University Library continues to evolve to meet the challenges of a dynamic scholarly and research publication landscape. Over 80% of our acquisitions spending this past year was for materials in electronic form. The vast majority of our journals are now online, as are most of our reference titles. Scholarly e-books are beginning to be more accessible and acceptable to students and faculty. Legal and technical limitations have so far restricted the usefulness of electronic books, but publishers are working hard to overcome them.

Ironically, the acquisition and management of resources is far more complex now than in the old days of print—and getting more so every year. With electronic formats there is a proliferation of pricing models, consortial deals, and platforms that pose significant challenges to our efforts to provide cost-effective access to the materials needed by Wesleyan students and faculty. We are fortunate to have library staff with the vision and the dedication to embrace these developments with an enthusiastic but critical eye.

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## **Staffing**

The library had the usual number of staff departures and arrivals this past year. It is always bittersweet to lose valued colleagues—we miss their comradeship and expertise but are happy for them as they begin a new chapter in their lives. And we wholeheartedly welcome new colleagues to our ranks with their unique experiences and perspectives.

The changes started early last year. Kathy Stefanowicz retired in July 2012 after 21 years as Interlibrary Loan Assistant. Lisa Pinette stepped into the position. To replace Lisa as Access Services Assistant, we hired Jasmine Cardi in

January 2013—just in time for the February blizzard!

Margery May, who served in a variety of roles in her 43 years of service to Wesleyan, retired as Acquisitions Administrator in October, 2012. Trevor West and Liz Mainella assumed her essential duties for the rest of the year.

Margery's position was transformed into a Monographic Acquisitions Librarian/Coordinator of Collection Development, to address the complex issues facing the library as we shift from print to electronic books. Aaron Sandoval was hired into the position in August 2013.

Andrew Klein, Science Librarian since 2008, left Wesleyan for 3M in St. Paul, Minnesota in November 2012. Melissa Behney, who had been working in a term position for the weeding project, was named Science Librarian in April 2013 and has been busily cultivating strong working relationships with NSM faculty, graduate students and undergraduates.

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## **Collections**

The transformation of our holdings from physical to electronic formats continues to accelerate, but the library's collection will be of mixed format for some years to come. We are fortunate to have strong partnerships with Trinity College and Connecticut College in the CTW Consortium, as well as the Oberlin Group, NERL (Northeast Research Libraries Consortium), and many others. Together we are working to develop best practices and to manage these resources as effectively as possible in a rapidly-changing environment.

The weeding project and upcoming move of the Art Library has had the unintended consequence of increasing the collection space needs of Special Collections & Archives. The World Music

Archives' shelf space shortage is also becoming critical. The library will be doing a comprehensive evaluation of collection and study space needs in the coming year.

### **Weeding project**

The library's weeding project continued throughout the year, with the objective of creating 60,000 volumes of space on our shelves for new acquisitions and for the Art Library, which is scheduled to move in the summer of 2014. Many faculty members reviewed and marked for retention long lists of books in their subject areas; we thank them for their expert assistance in this difficult and time-consuming work. By dint of their work and the work of library staff, the library is on track to meet our target by the end of December 2013.

Susanne Javorski and Pat Tully are involved in the planning of a functional, attractive new space for the Art Library. In the spring, a library task force proposed five options for a new Art Library space—these options are the basis for discussions leading to a final decision to be made by the Provost in late 2013.

The library plans to institute an ongoing weeding process after the project is complete. As more books and other materials become available in a useable, stable electronic format, the library will be able to selectively withdraw print books while still providing access to their content. The resulting shelf space will be needed for our unique and important collections in Special Collections & Archives and in the World Music Archives, as well as for new print books. Any additional space gained will be used to create innovative, flexible study spaces.

### **World Music Archives / Scores & Recordings**

The cataloging and processing of the unique collections in the World Music Archives (WMA) is ongoing. This year, Rebecca McCallum completed updating the cataloging of the Babubhai Raja and the Jon Higgins collections of Indian music, to

make them more easily discoverable by Wesleyan and outside students and researchers.

Music Professor Mark Slobin donated to the WMA his audio field work for the American Cantorate project, conducted during the 1980s. The recordings were digitized and made available on WesScholar, Wesleyan's online archive.

### **Special Collections & Archives**

Jennifer Hadley and student workers completed a project to digitize the Special Collections & Archives (SC&A) collection, 'Student Papers About Middletown.' These undergraduate and graduate papers are now freely accessible to the Middletown as well as the Wesleyan community via WesScholar.

SC&A intern Owen Thompson digitized photographs related to the Van Vleck Observatory and its associated telescopes and scientific apparatus, and also piloted a digitization project to make widely accessible our very heavily-used images of Wesleyan buildings.

New SC&A collections include:

- Bill Barron Papers
- Center for the Arts/Jean Shaw Records
- Estren WESU Records
- Paul Haake Papers
- Thomas Korn Collection
- Frederick Slocum Collection
- Vassar Wesleyan in Paris Program Records
- Biff and Jean Shaw – children's book collection
- Barry and JoAnne Scott- Civil War-era patriotic envelopes
- Jolie Stahl and Robert Dannin, parents of Isadora Dannin '14 – Magnum Photos photography books
- William Glick, photography books
- Former Associate Provost Sheila Tobias – selected items from her collection of feminist books and other women's studies materials.

## **Space / Facilities**

In the fall, Wesleyan alumni Christopher Lindholst '97 and Arshad Chowdhury '98 donated two MetroNap EnergyPods, one for Olin and one for the Science Library. The EnergyPods are designed to facilitate short, refreshing naps for students and others working long hours. The pods have been very well received and are popular with students.

The Art Library was fitted with improved ceiling lighting in the summer of 2013, and new weather-stripping installed.

With input from students, Science Library Assistant Linda Hurteau and Science Librarian Andrew Klein selected 14 'puzzle'-style chairs to replace the most badly-battered chairs on the first floor of the Science Library.

Library Office Assistant Jessie Steele worked with W. B. Mason to select replacement furniture for the Develin Room on the second floor of Olin. The room is heavily used by the library, Academic Affairs, and other groups for meetings and presentations, and the new furniture enhances the comfort and the ambience of the room.

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## **Reference / Instruction**

### **Reference Services**

Personal research sessions (PRSs), in which a student meets with a librarian to identify resources for a specific assignment, continue to be popular. Librarians are exploring alternative methods to assist students in finding information; this year many librarians created course-specific resource pages that students can access anytime. Olin Reference instituted a text reference service to supplement existing research assistance in person, via email, phone and IM.

To publicize library services to new students, reference librarians Diane Klare, Kendall Hobbs, and Erhard Konerding participated in Residential

Life's Resource Fair for RAs and in the Academic Forum during first-year orientation.

The library continued its Personal Librarian program for a third year, pairing each new student with a librarian and providing a link to contact them through the student's portfolio. Despite aggressive marketing of the program in a variety of ways—blog posts, a library reception, WesHaul participation, and advertising in each first-year residence hall—the program never took off, and we made the decision to discontinue it at the end of the spring semester.

### **Special Collections & Archives**

Special Collections & Archives conducted 50 class instruction sessions during the academic year, and conducted several more during the summer session. In addition they offered almost 50 personal research sessions (PRSs) with students working on specific projects. Five courses used Special Collections & Archives material extensively:

*Studies in Visual Biography* (FILM 103), taught by Jessica Helfand and Adam Levy.

*Sophomore Seminar: War and National (Re)Formation* (HIST 159), taught by Demetrius Eudell. This class used materials from the Richard Dietrich collection of Americana, the first time this material has been approved for use by a class.

*Creative Criticism and Inquiry: Writing Documentary Nonfiction and Poetry* (WRCT 267) taught by Kate Thorpe. The success of this class led to the development of SC&A Creative Fellowships, funded by the Friends of the Wesleyan Library.

*The Italian Renaissance* (HIST 121), taught by Laurie Nussdorfer, in which each student researched a selected book as an artifact as well as a text.

*Middletown History*, taught by Ron Schatz.

In the aftermath of the February 2013 blizzard, Special Collections & Archives opened additional

hours in the evening and on weekends for classes needing additional time to access the collections.

### **Science Library**

Science Librarian Andrew Klein worked with Dean of Div. III Ishita Mukerji to develop and offer MB&B 102 – Science Information Literacy in the fall of 2012. After Andrew's departure in November, Diane Klare and Melissa Behney finished teaching the class. This is a model of library instruction that we will pursue in the coming year.

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## **Library Processes and Systems**

### **Serials / Electronic Resources**

*E-Books:* Acquiring scholarly electronic books is substantially more complex than acquiring electronic journal content. Most e-books can be acquired in a variety of ways that change regularly and unpredictably. Evaluating these to determine how best to provide access to e-books is quite the challenge! This past year the CTW Consortium (Connecticut College, Trinity College and Wesleyan University) implemented phase 2 of its consortial e-book purchase-on-demand program with vendors YBP and EBL. The objective of the program is to maximize the cost-effectiveness of acquiring access to electronic books across the consortium.

*Subscriptions:* The Wesleyan University Library was able to cancel over \$59,000 in subscriptions this year by analyzing usage statistics and cancelling underutilized resources. One example is the negotiation of a multi-year agreement with Elsevier Publishers for their extensive journal and database holdings. Acquisitions & Electronic Resources Librarian Helen Aiello successfully concluded this difficult negotiation and as a result the library realized substantial savings through the cancellation of little-used journal titles.

The library used these savings to acquire access to new resources requested by faculty members, including:

*American Song:* a streaming music service.

*Data Planet:* a repository of statistical data sets.

*SCOPUS:* an abstract and citation database.

*Silent Films Online:* a streaming video service of over 250 silent films.

*Sage Premium Journal Package:* providing access to 594 additional Sage journals.

*Ethnographic Video Online:* a collection of films on human culture and behavior.

*Historical Black Newspapers:* 3 additional titles—Atlanta Daily World (1931-2003); Cleveland Call & Post (1934-1991); and the Los Angeles Sentinel (1934-2005).

*Patai's Chemistry of Functional Groups (1996-2013):* a fully-searchable, comprehensive work in functional group chemistry.

*Taylor & Francis Social Science and Humanities Journal Collection,* providing access to 1,025 T&F e-journals.

*Digital Sanborn Maps – Connecticut edition.*

*JSTOR Archive collections:* Archive XI and XII plus Jewish Studies Collection.

### **Cataloging**

Sally Grucan, Head of Cataloging, began preparing the department for the implementation of RDA, a new conceptual model that will result in major changes to cataloging standards, coding and workflow. All members of the department participated in RDA workshops this year.

Rebecca McCallum and Sally Grucan began developing campus-wide metadata guidelines, to be used by faculty who are creating collections of digital objects. The standards will be accessible through the Wesleyan Digital Scholarship website.

Dale Lee has reorganized and reclassified the DVD collection.

Cataloging Assistant Linnea Benton was on parental leave in the winter of 2013; in her absence Jody Schenker assumed most of Linnea's duties in addition to her own.

### **Preservation / Materials Processing**

Pearlina Jackson and her students in Materials Processing began a project to re-label collections recently moved into storage so they can be retrieved and accurately re-shelved.

Michaëlle Biddle and Conservation Lab students evaluated for repair, conservation or replacement print books that were selected to be retained in the weeding project. On average, 15% of the books marked to retain needed repair or replacement.

### **Olin Circulation**

Before hiring Jasmine Cardi as the Interlibrary Loan/Reference Assistant in January 2013, the position was changed to provide additional Interlibrary Loan coverage in the evening. The day after the February blizzard, Randy Wilson, with great difficulty, trekked through the snow to open Olin Library to students looking for a place to study. Randy and a number of other staff went above and beyond the call of duty to keep the libraries open as the campus dug out from the storm.

### **Interlibrary Loan**

The ILL department made a number of system changes to maximize the number of articles sent and received electronically—saving staff time and reducing the time it takes to receive requested articles. The Get-It-Now service was implemented in March, allowing for instant delivery of some articles—a great enhancement of our already-excellent ILL services.

### **Reserves**

Electronic books are an increasingly popular choice for reserves. In response to this demand, Access Services Coordinator Kathleen Cataldi and Reserves Assistant Scott Antonio developed policies for placing electronic books on reserve.

### **World Music Archives / Scores & Recordings**

In August 2012, consultant George Blood evaluated Scores & Recording sound archiving workflow. As a result the department implemented several changes to improve the quality of sound archiving and make it more efficient.

Cataloging Librarian Rebecca McCallum worked extensively this year with Scores & Recordings staff to streamline their cataloging processes.

### **Systems/Emerging Technologies**

In the fall, the library evaluated several new search platforms (called 'web-scale discovery tools') and selected Summon for implementation at Wesleyan. Using Summon (*aka* Library OneSearch) a user can do a single search across the most of the library's print and electronic holdings, as well as within many scholarly resources freely available on the Web. Search results can be easily narrowed down by publication date, subject, format or other criteria. Lori Stethers, Systems/Emerging Technologies Librarian, led the implementation in the spring and summer, and the system premiered in August 2013.

The launch of Library OneSearch required a re-design of the library's web site. Lori Stethers spearheaded the re-design with ITS, Diane Klare, Kendall Hobbs and input from other librarians and library staff. The new site went live in August 2013.

The library agreed to serve as the test site for a new printing/scanning/copying system, Ricoh's Pharos. Lori worked with ITS and Ricoh to implement the system and it came up in April 2013. Despite some problems, the system worked

well through the end of the spring semester and through the summer.

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## **Collaboration**

### **ARTstor / Shared Shelf**

Susanne Javorski and the rest of the Visual Resource Working Group evaluated several commercial alternatives to the Media Database for collections of digital images. After careful consideration ARTstor's Shared Shelf system was selected. The major advantage of Shared Shelf is that it allows Wesleyan's images to be searched simultaneously with ARTstor's large image database.

### **Special Collections & Archives**

Leith Johnson started a recurring post, "Pick of the Week," in the Special Collections & Archives blog, each featuring an item in the Archives.

Suzy Taraba and Leith Johnson assisted Honor Keeler, Repatriation Coordinator and Visiting Assistant Professor of Anthropology, with her work to maintain Wesleyan's compliance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA).

### **CTW Consortium**

The CTW Consortium (consisting of Connecticut College, Trinity College, and Wesleyan University) continued to collaborate on a variety of projects. Lorraine Huddy, CTW Librarian for Collaborative Projects, spearheaded the implementation of a new shared e-book program with book vendors YBP and EBL. In this program, e-books are made accessible to all three schools in CTW, but are purchased only after two uses.

In October 2012, the CTW Directors approved a Memorandum of Agreement for Final Copies. The agreement specifies that before withdrawing the last copy of a book from the combined CTW collections, each library will be consulted about

whether the book should be retained. The intent of the agreement is to ensure that print versions of books are preserved and continue to be accessible to our users.

Several resources were acquired as consortial purchases at a discount from the single-institution price, including:

*Roper Poll*

*EBSCO eBooks Academic Collection*

*Oxford University Press Reference Resources*

*Palgrave's International Historical Statistics*

### **Friends of the Wesleyan Library**

Scores & Recordings/Special Collections & Archives Assistant Jennifer Hadley continued to ably serve as the coordinator of the Friends of the Wesleyan Library. Jennifer, with assistance from the Friends Board and volunteers, organized two book sales, the annual Constitution Day lecture (partnering with University Relations), and several open houses at Special Collections & Archives. The Friends also co-sponsored two film screenings by the Center for Film Studies (one of which was also co-sponsored by the One Book, One Middletown program), and co-sponsored with the Davison Art Center a panel on arts and social action.

### **Preservation**

Michaëlle Biddle continued her extraordinary work supporting the preservation of Islamic manuscripts in Nigeria, teaching a two-week advanced paper conservation course in Kaduna sponsored by the Nigerian Centre for Regional Integration and Development.

## **Presentations and Exhibitions**

### **Selected Presentations and Events**

During Reunion/Commencement, Alec McLane and Leith Johnson conducted a very well-received WesSeminar on a 1970 recording of a Grateful Dead concert on Foss Hill. Suzy Taraba, with DAC Curator Clare Rogan, did a WesSeminar on the "Artists Take Action: Protest Posters Today" exhibition.

Special Collections held two open houses, one in conjunction with Russell Library's Emancipation Proclamation commemoration, and the other with the DAC's "Artists Take Action" exhibition.

Leith Johnson spoke at two A(T)Rs, one on copyright in one's personal collections and the other on WesScholar. Helen Aiello, Kendall Hobbs, Lorraine Huddy and Diane Klare spoke at an A(T)R on e-books.

Suzy Taraba gave a talk on what an archivist does for History Department's *In the Archives* series, presented on alumni-donated materials to the University Relations Major Gifts team, and spoke to the Reaccreditation Team visitors about SC&A programs and collections. With Joyce Topshe, she gave a campus tour for Reaccreditation Team visitors.

### **Exhibitions**

*Saved from Europe: The Kallir Collection of Austrian and German Literature* (Special Collections & Archives, fall 2012)

*Gardening Books Display* (Science Library exhibit case, Linda Hurteau)

*John Cage Writes* (Special Collections & Archives, winter 2012/13)

*Recent Acquisitions: Book Jacket Display* (Olin ground floor exhibition case, Elizabeth Mainella and Jessie Steele)

*Nuclear Disarmament Awareness Display* (Spring 2013, Science Library lobby, Ryan Pruett '15 and Linda Hurteau)

*Artists Take Action: Migration Now* (Special Collections & Archives, May 2013)

*Letter from Italy, 1944* (at Russell Library, Suzy Taraba guest curator)

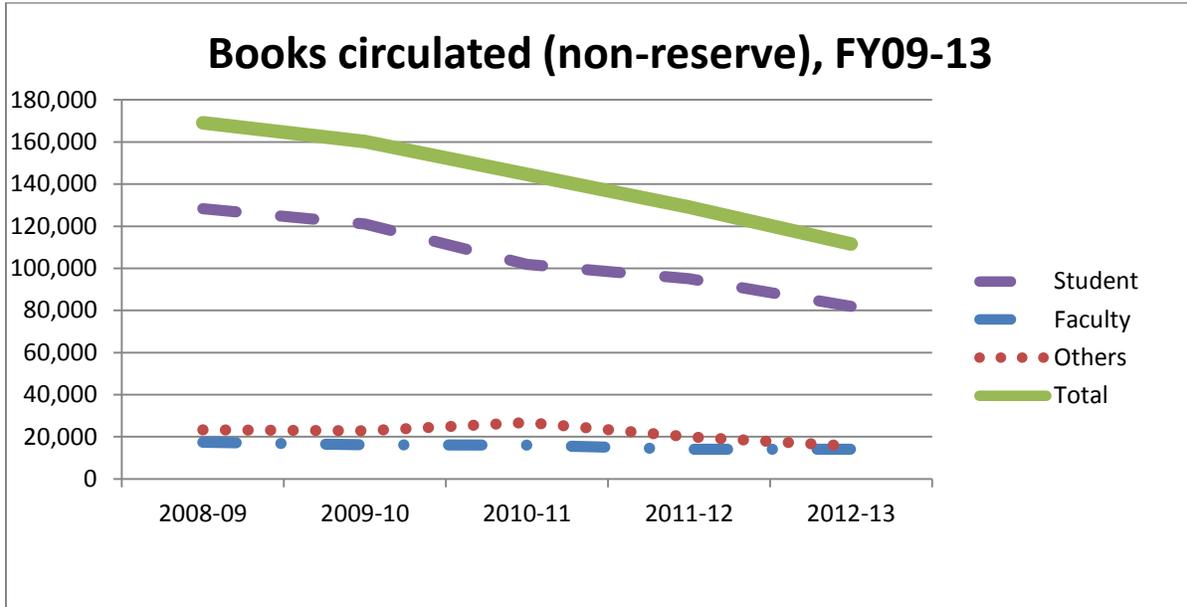
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## **Conclusion**

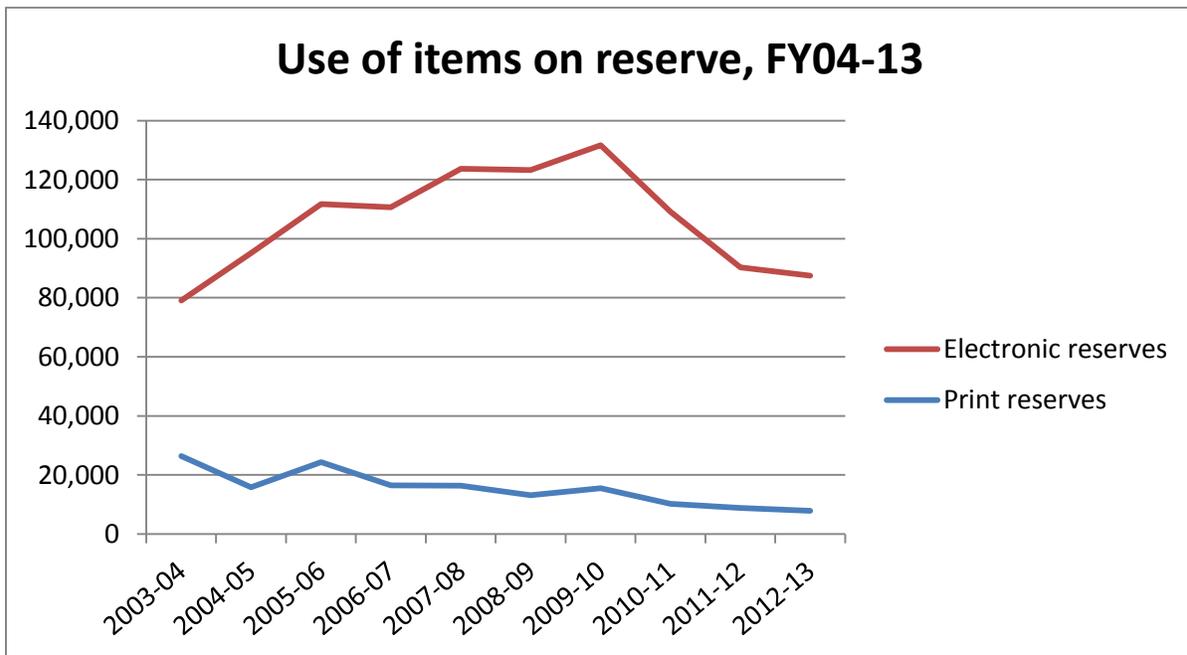
Advances in scholarship, pedagogy, and research are ongoing and can sometimes pose daunting challenges to the library as we work to support the work of Wesleyan students and faculty. To meet these challenges, the library has embraced new systems and technologies such as Library OneSearch and demand-driven acquisition of e-books. As powerful as these new systems are, however, the most important factor in the library's ability to fulfill its mission is people--the library staff, student workers and librarians who work here. Their expertise, experience and dedication to Wesleyan are inspiring and empowering. They work with students and faculty as individuals to provide each with the content and guidance they need. Without the commitment, creativity and drive of the people in the library, the systems, resources and services would be of far less value to Wesleyan in the fulfillment of its mission. My thanks to all of them!

--Patricia Tully, Wesleyan University Librarian

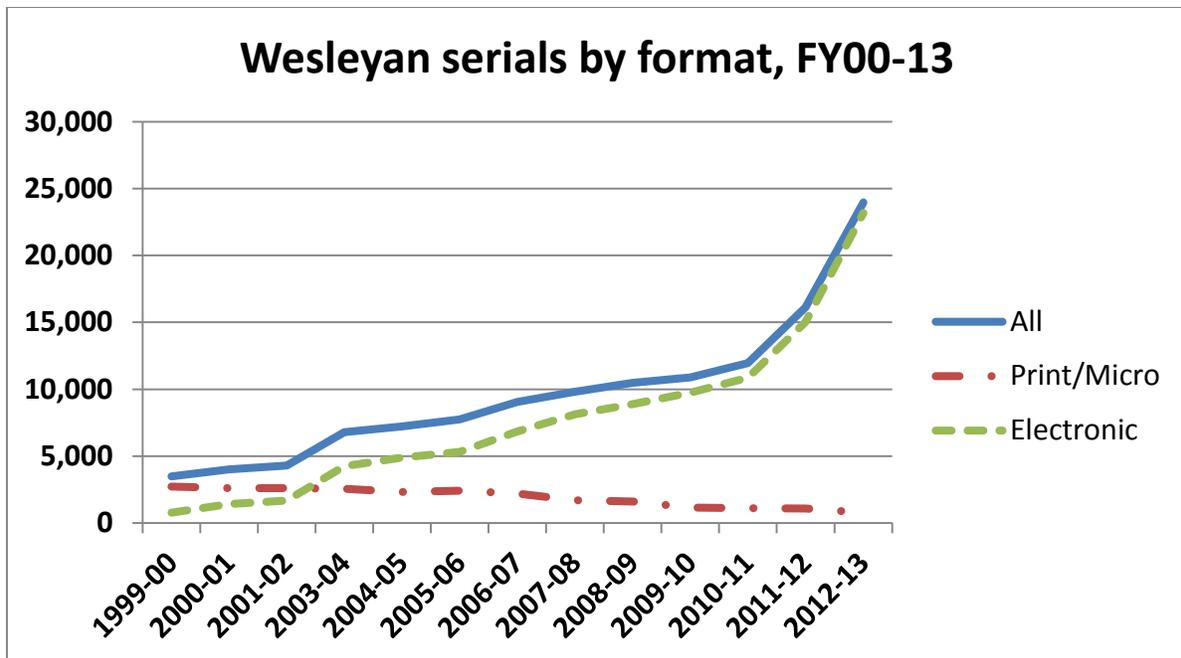
# Wesleyan University Library Annual Report 2012-13 - Statistics



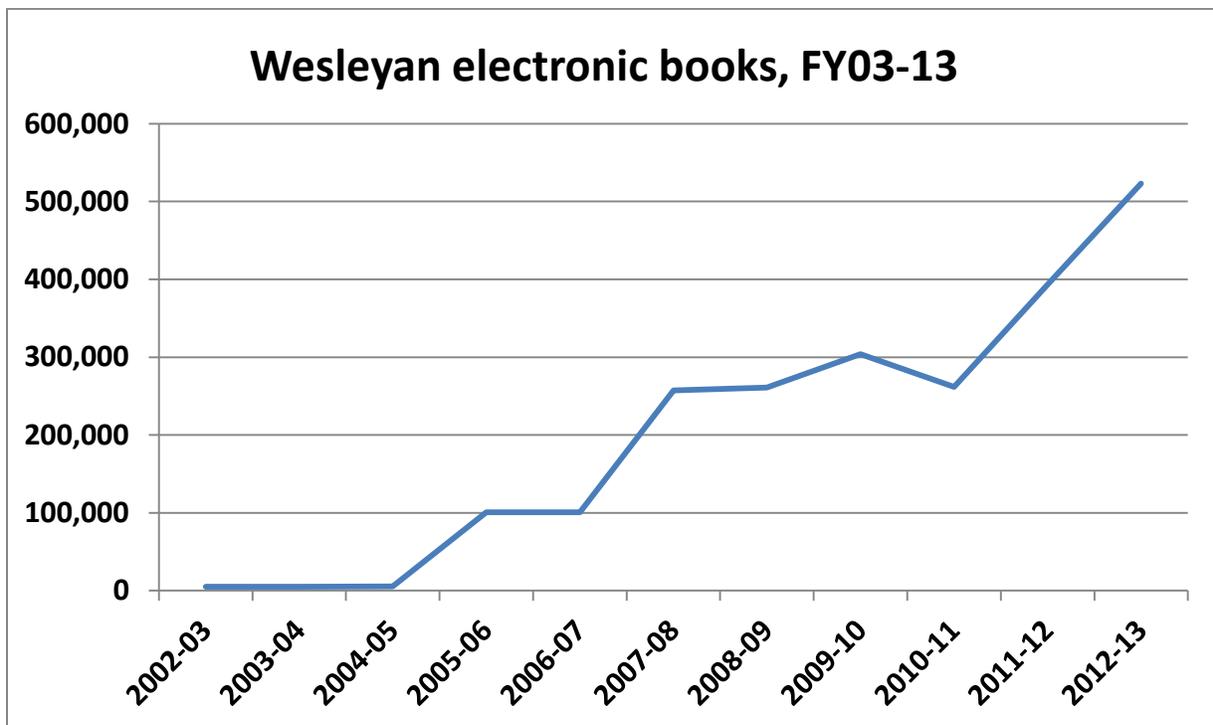
The circulation of print books continues to decline for all categories of library user, although the total circulation for 2012-13 was still well over 100,000. The decline is accelerating, however—in 2008-09 the number of total circulations was 8% less than the previous year, while in 2012-13 there were 13.6% fewer circulations than in 2011-12.



The use of both print and electronic reserves continues to decline, possibly because more faculty are linking their course materials in Moodle or WesFiles.

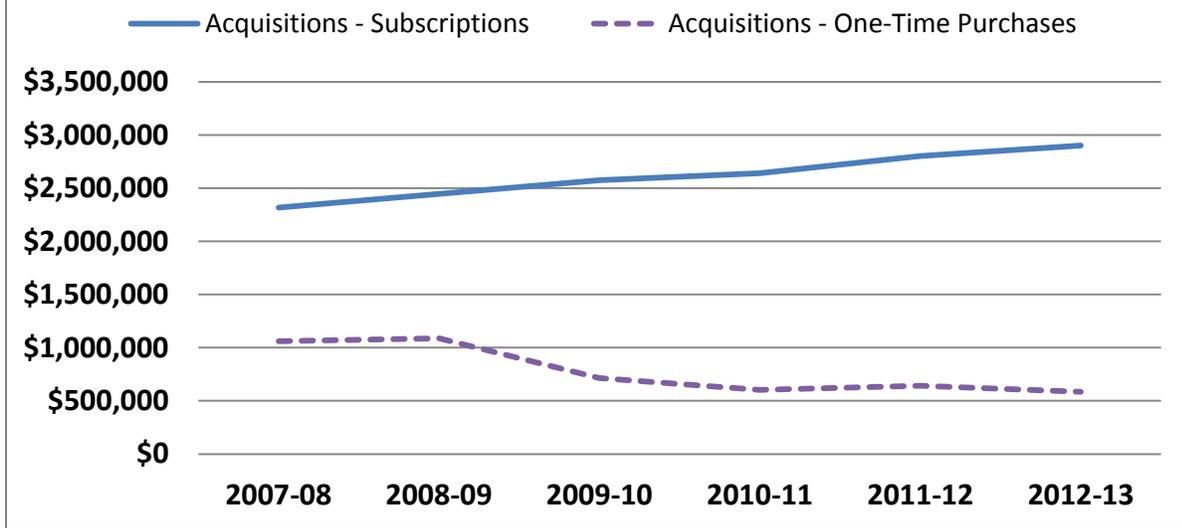


It has been ten years since the number of Wesleyan’s electronic subscription surpassed the number of print and microform subscriptions. As of the end of FY13, subscription titles in electronic format accounted for 96.7% of all Wesleyan’s subscription titles. (This includes journals, indexes, databases, reference titles and other resources we pay for through a subscription.)



The library acquires most electronic books as part of large packages, which accounts for the huge annual increases in titles in the past few years.

## Acquisitions expenditures, FY08-13



Most vendors of electronic material offer access to their content as some kind of subscription, whatever the original form of the content—journal articles, books, video or audio recordings, data or images. This accounts for the increasing percentage of content that the library pays for as an ongoing subscription, not a one time purchase (for example, a print book purchase).