

# The Collection Has Left the Building: *Now What?*

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University of British Columbia Library

Designing Libraries VII

# The trends are unmistakable...

Circulation has steadily declined

- SCS index: ~42% of what's bought is never borrowed
- other information sources proliferating
- PDA, just-in-time services

Day coming when most retrospective print titles will have digital surrogates

Used, active space valued by campus and city planners

Space  
reclamation is a  
priority for 82% of  
academic libraries  
and 59% of public  
libraries

*ProQuest Surveys  
2016-17*

# Faculty attitudes have rapidly changed

Ithaka Study 2011

*What to Withdraw? Print Collection Management in the Wake of Digitization*

Roger C. Schonfeld

“Assuming that electronic collections of journals are proven to work well and readily accessible, I would be happy to see hard-copy collections discarded and replaced entirely by electronic collections”

- 2003 and 2006 - 20% of respondents agreed strongly with this statement
- 2006 - 2009 - 37% percent strongly agreed and another 27% moderately agreed

# UBC Study 2014

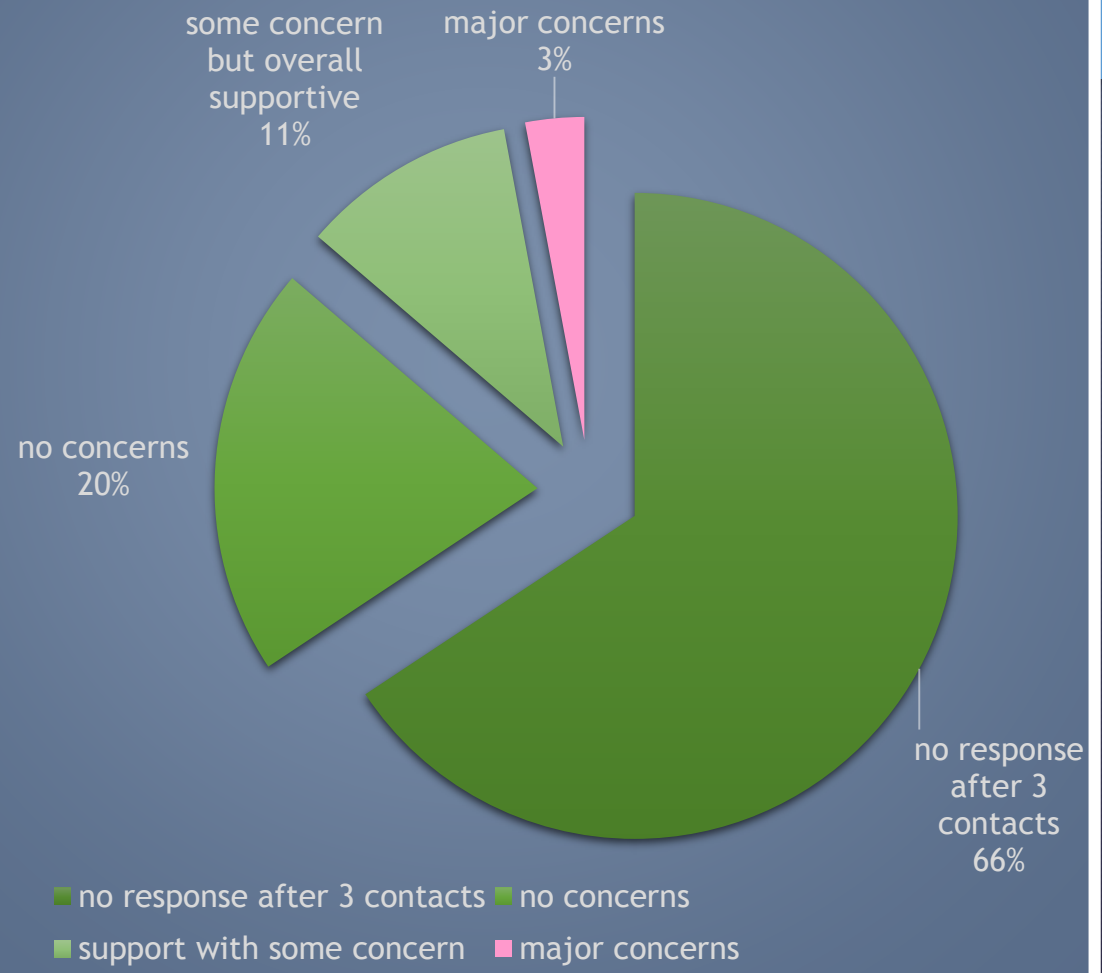
- 102 departments contacted
- 67 did not respond after 3 contacts. We interpreted this as not having concerns about the direction.

### Of the remainder

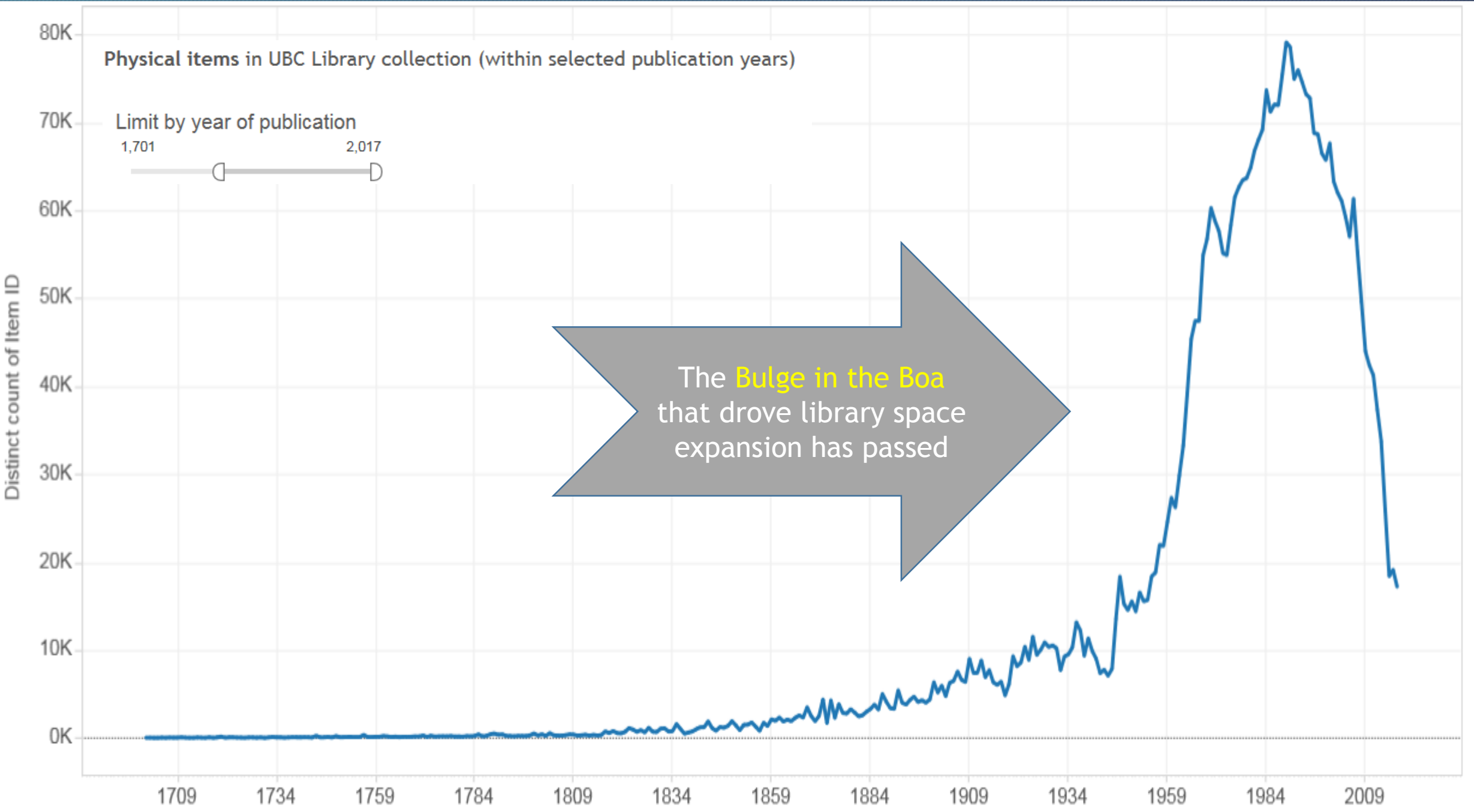
- some expressed no concerns
- others had questions or concerns but were overall supportive

Only 3 departments expressed major concerns

## Campus Wide Faculty Poll on Collection Storage



Physical items in UBC Library collection (within selected publication years)



The **Bulge in the Boa** that drove library space expansion has passed

# Talking About The Collection

## *Traditionally*

- Browsable
- Quantity
- Individual title selection
- Cataloguing
- Local accessibility
- Information provision
- Selecting from publishers
- Local search interfaces
- Collection repair
- Organization

## *Today*

- Discoverable
- Uniqueness
- Group or automated 'buys' including PDA
- Metadata
- Network discovery
- Knowledge production
- Being a publisher
- SEO
- Preservation
- Promotion

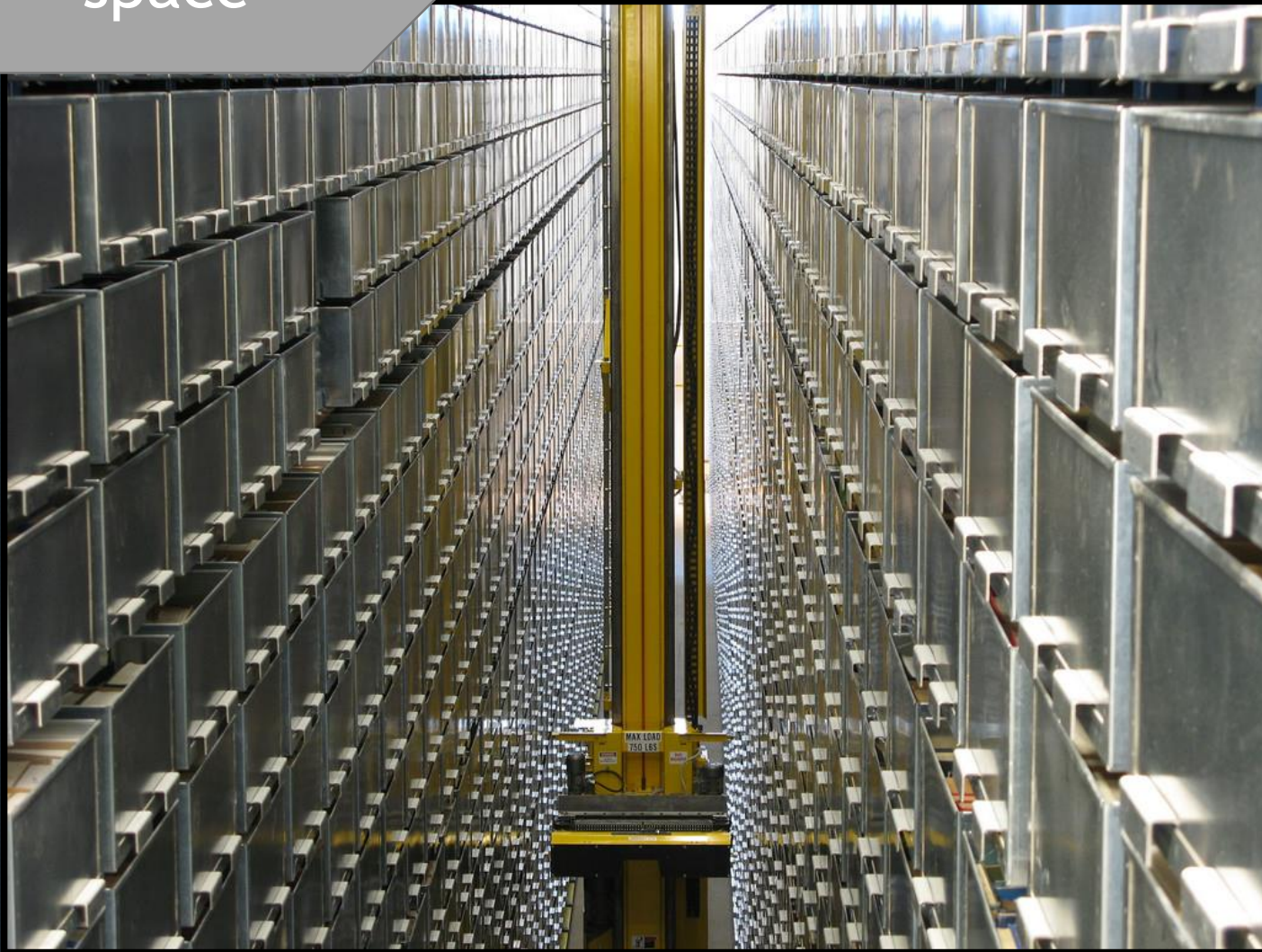
# This requires a fundamental rethinking of how we...

- manage a print collection now mainly in storage
- interface with the 'collective collection' made possible by shared print
- curate the print that remains in public space

# Strategies for Legacy Print



## Clearing space



## UBC Library ASRS opened 2005

1.6M volume robotic system in our  
busiest building

Just in time access to:

- mid-use collections
- working collections for some disciplines & specialties
- Special Collections and Archives
- journal backfiles - though we would *not* make this same decision today

## Extending collection life



## UBC Library PARC opened 2015

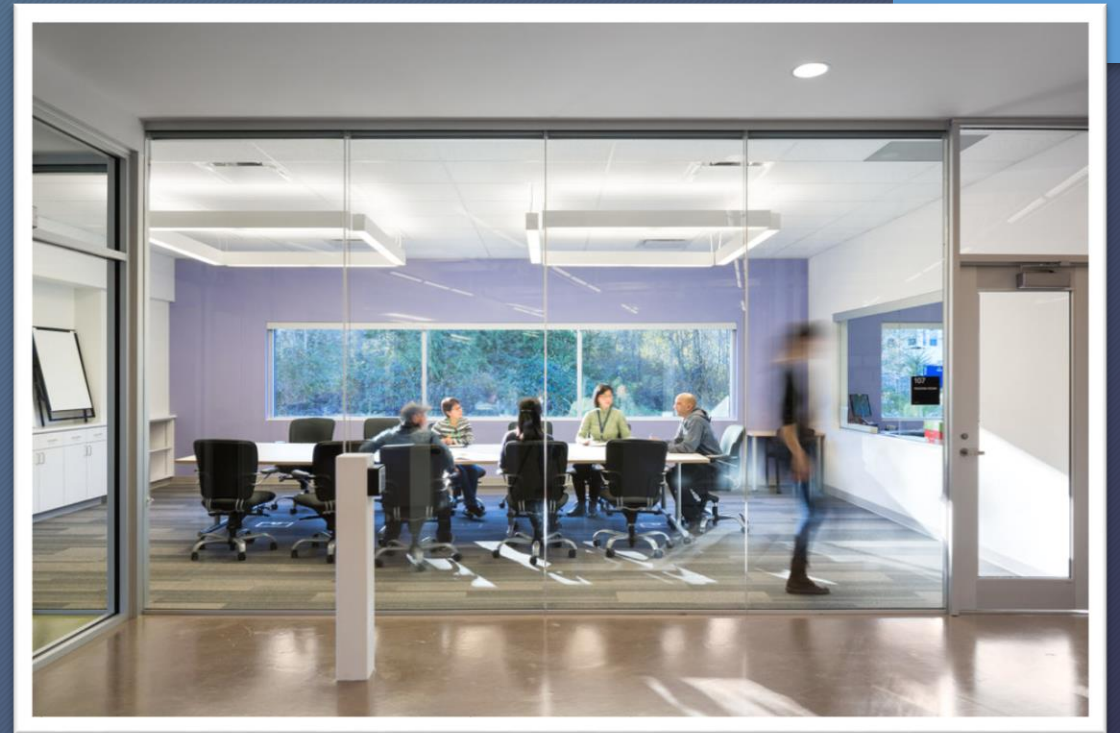
Built at the edge of  
campus for:

- low-no-use items
- journal backfiles
- last copies of e-  
available
- items with a shared  
print retention  
commitment

Preservation for  
the ages



And as a basis for  
teaching

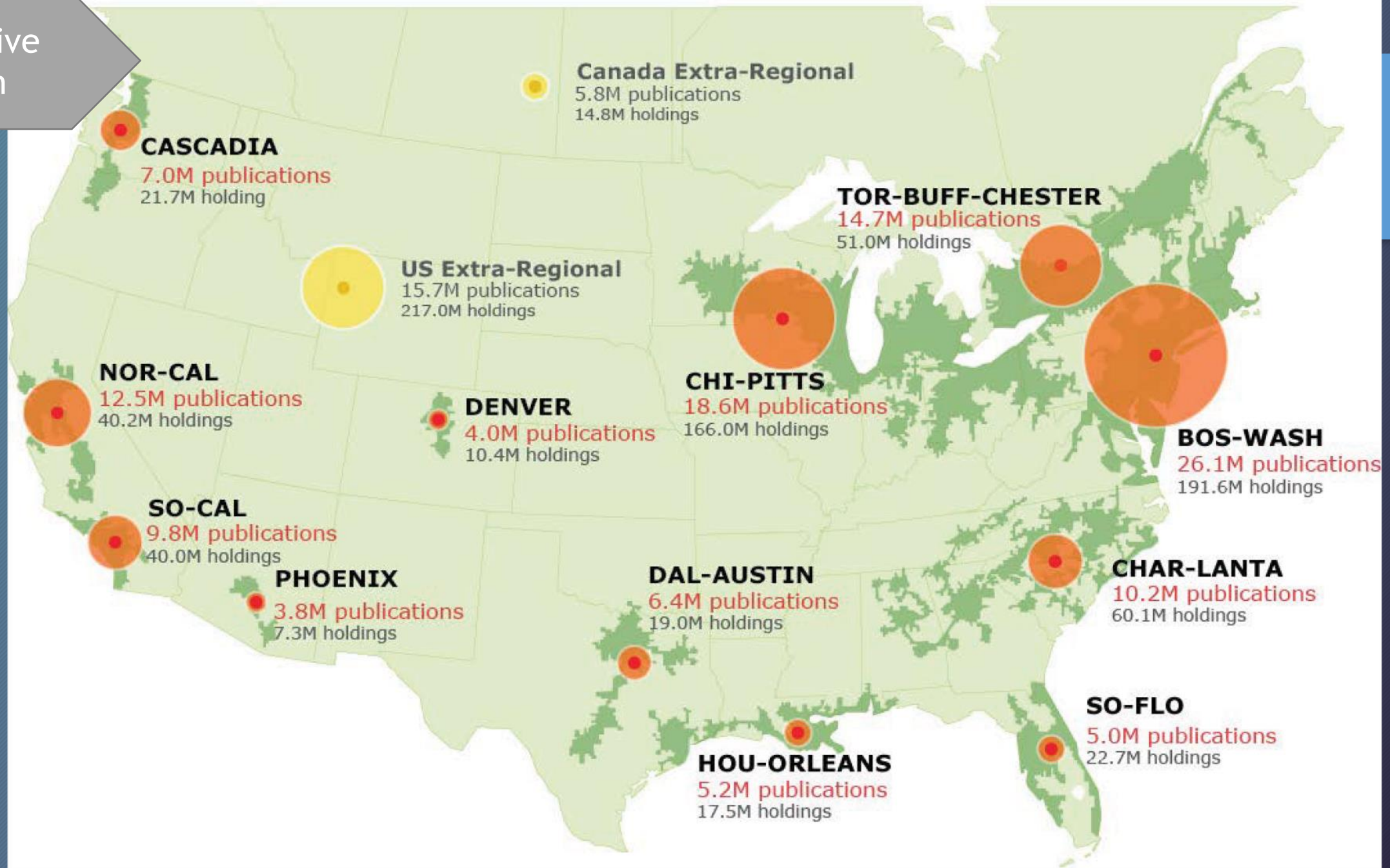


No library is  
an Island

Libraries have realized for more than a decade that coordinating print collections across multiple institutions will be a precondition for the long-term management of the cultural record

THE EASTERN ACADEMIC SCHOLARS' TRUST (EAST):  
A LARGE-SCALE SHARED PRINT COLLECTION  
SERVING NORTHEASTERN ACADEMIC LIBRARIES  
A Proposal to the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation's  
Scholarly Communications and Information Technology Program

# The Collective Collection



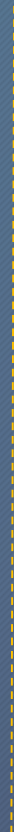
# Print is gaining new life as part of massive shared print and digital archives



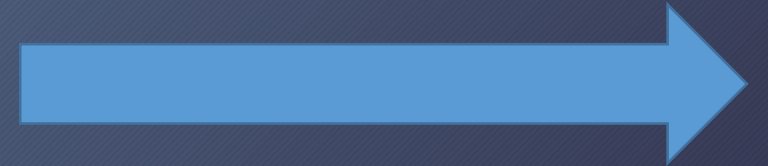
First use  
on campus



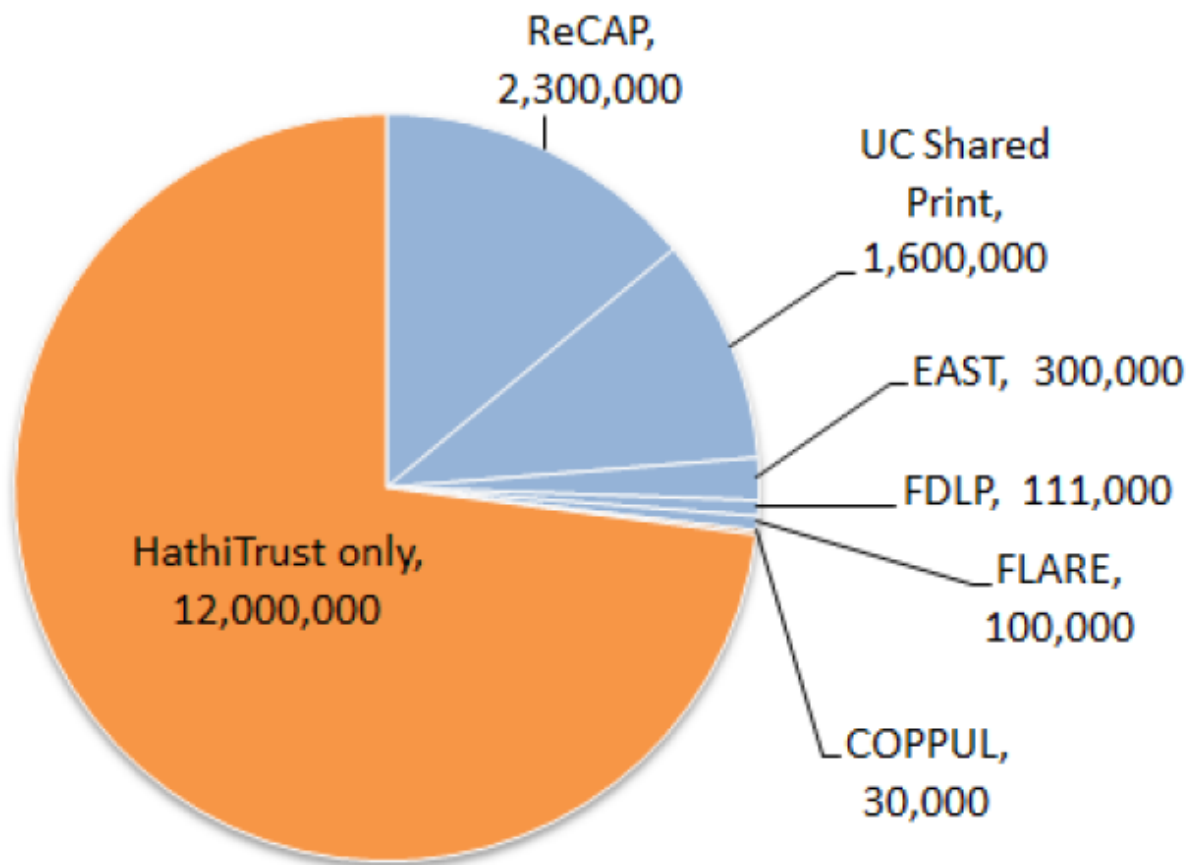
End of life  
on campus



Beginning of  
shared print

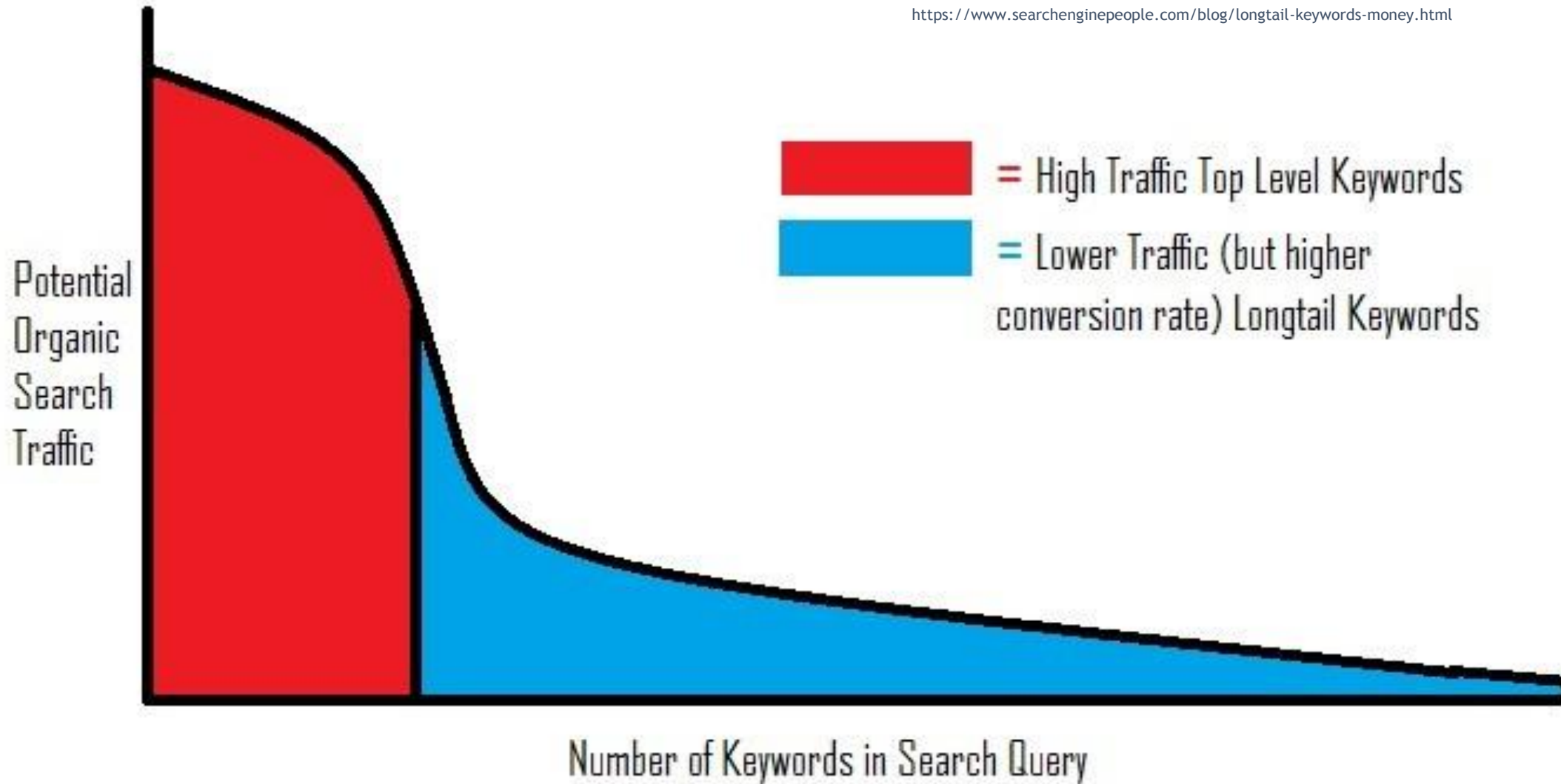


Perpetual digital life



About 25% of the proposed 16.6 million volumes were already committed to another shared print program

As of June 2014: more than 60% of the retrospective print collections held in ARL libraries were duplicated in the shared digital repository



Long Tail: becoming a crowded space. How are libraries adapting?



Print workflows  
in this new  
ecosystem

# Move from local to network-first

Even in the absence of digitization program your library can...

## Connect shared print initiatives

- Hathi, work underway in US & Canada
- retention agreements a place to start, do your share

## Enrich metadata

- from basic Recon (inward focus) to full text searchable (outward looking)
- not 're-cataloguing' but enabling network discovery and reuse (T of C or index scanning)

## Reconceive "ILL" as "fulfilment centre"

- with better systems for findability, digital delivery, low-cost accounting

## Regionally build deeper and broader collections, including public libraries

- uniqueness studies show it's not too late

What about the  
smaller public  
print collection  
that remains?



## 2014 UBC study

### What our faculty said

Keep public space available for:

- what's highly used
- the core canon
- the most current
- collections that are complex to find-read-view

What also appealed to them (and us)

*Collections' Community-Building Potential*

# I. Collections as Community Conduits

Richard Ovenden, Bodley's Librarian

Libraries have always invested in space and programming for our unique collections



But today, an added imperative to engage communities in meaningful ways



All images on this page taken from Richard Ovenden, *Outside In: Research Libraries and Research Collections as Community Conduits*, Keynote for Jisc-CNI Leaders Conference, July 2018

[https://www.slideshare.net/JISC/outside-in-research-libraries-and-research-collections-as-community-conduits?utm\\_source=slideshow02&utm\\_medium=ssemail&utm\\_campaign=share\\_slideshow\\_loggedout](https://www.slideshare.net/JISC/outside-in-research-libraries-and-research-collections-as-community-conduits?utm_source=slideshow02&utm_medium=ssemail&utm_campaign=share_slideshow_loggedout)

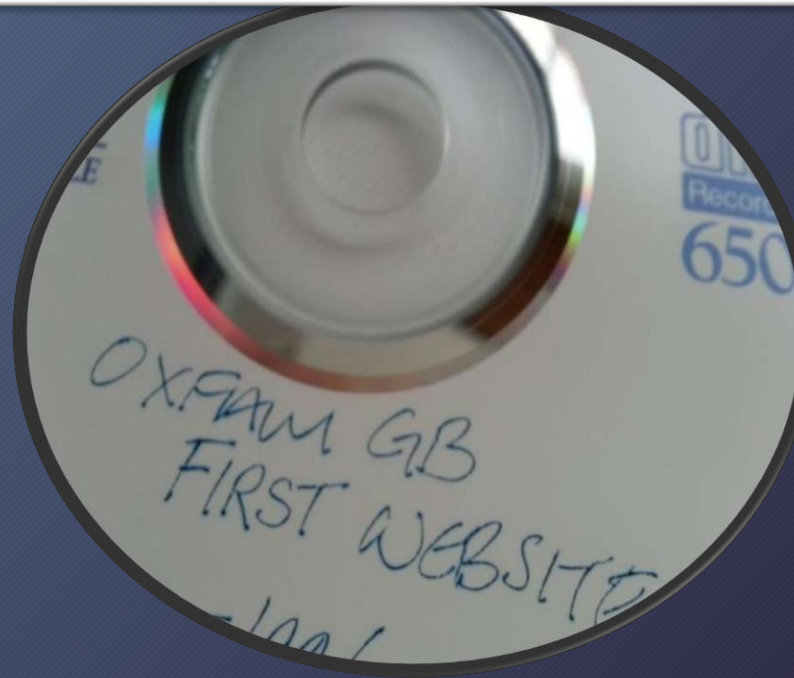


**Scribes of the Cairo Geniza**

Thanks to the incredible #genizascribes, we finished sorting more than 30,000 Cairo Geniza Fragments. As of June 11, 2018 we are a few weeks away from launching the transcription interface (fragments!)

Help us unlock the mysteries of the Cairo Geniza!

[Learn more](#) [Get started](#)



Relationships being forged through shared curatorial, cultural or other community interest

All images on this page taken from Richard Ovenden, *Outside In: Research Libraries and Research Collections as Community Conduits*, Keynote for Jisc-CNI Leaders Conference, July 2018



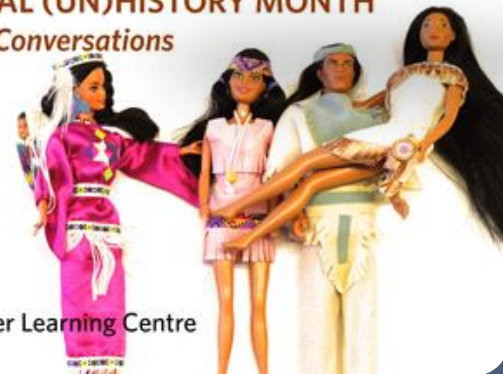
# Aboriginal (Un)History Month: Honouring our Journeys



ikebarberlearningcentre.ubc.ca/aboriginal-un



## ABORIGINAL (UN)HISTORY MONTH Cultivating Conversations



29  
Barber Learning Centre

ne Indigitization Tool Kit for First Nations Community Digitization Projects



## ABORIGINAL (UN)HISTORY MONTH UBC Indigenous Scholars: Engaging Indigenous Knowledge(s)

JUNE 2013

Aboriginal (Un)History Month celebrates Aboriginal scholarship, creativity and intellectual traditions. In highlighting some of the work of UBC Indigenous scholars we aim to educate and invite dialogue about (inter)relationships, representation and recognition. All activities listed run the entire month of June.

### UBC INDIGENOUS SCHOLARS' INSTALLATION

- Place, Belonging and Promise: Indigenizing the International Academy
- Being Well Being: The Institute for Aboriginal Health's Teaching and Learning Garden
- Year of Indigenous Education
- Living Our Indigenous Languages
- Truth and Reconciliation in Canada
- Raven in the Library @ Xwi7xwa



Located in the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, level 2

### ABORIGINAL LITERATURE

Check out some Aboriginal literature in Education, Koerner, Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, Xwi7xwa and Woodward libraries.



### UBC LIBRARY EXHIBITS

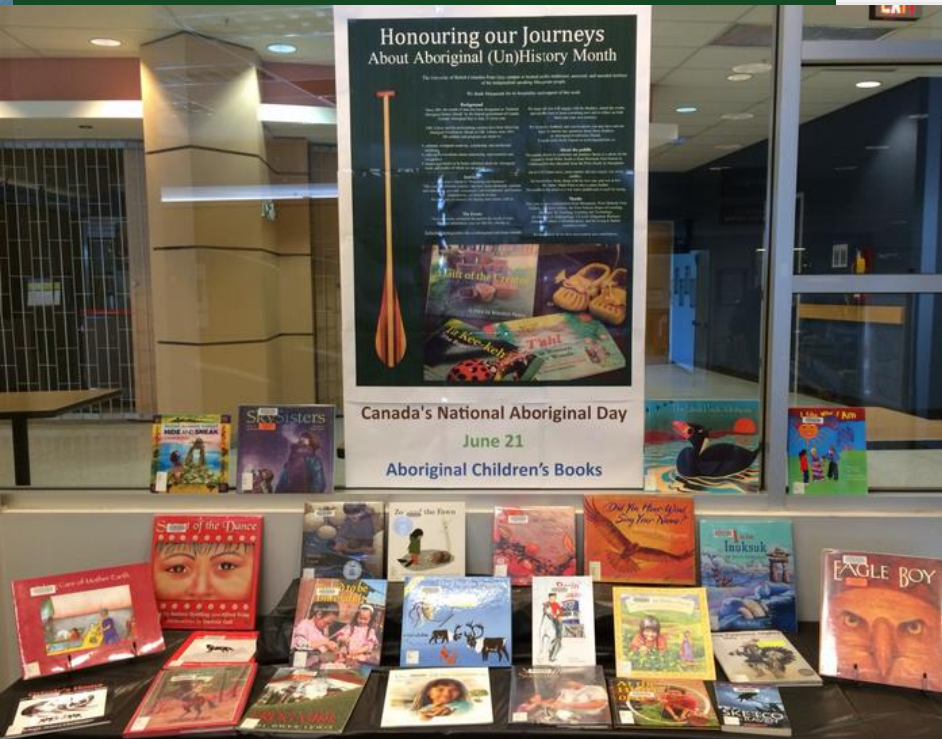
July 13, 1894. Indigenous cultures in Asia exhibit (Asian Library)

Iron Pulpit: Missionary Printing Presses in British Columbia exhibit (Rare Books and Special Collections, Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, level 1)

### ONLINE RESOURCES

- Aboriginal Business Education and Resources from the Small Business Accelerator program (sba-bc.ca)
- Aboriginal Law research guide (libguides.library.ubc.ca/aboriginallaw)
- Delgamuukw Resources guide - Aboriginal Land and Title case (libguides.library.ubc.ca/delgamuukw)
- Delgamuukw Trial Transcripts (digitalcollections.library.ubc.ca)
- Mungo Martin and UBC's Early Totem Pole Collection (library.ubc.ca/archives/aboriginal)

Visit our website for more information and a complete schedule.



a place of mind  
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
Library

CONNECT WITH UBC LIBRARY  
library.ubc.ca



## II. Engaging the Whole Student

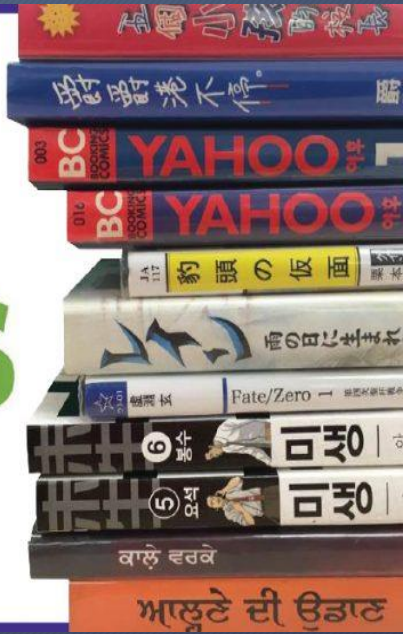
Popular fiction, topical or seasonal selections unrelated to curriculum

### Co-curation

- asked students to recommend items to their peers
- 81% of suggestions were for items Library already owns

Re-merchandizing older acquisitions

great  
reads  
...at your leisure



### III. Showcases for new knowledge creation

Brian Mathews &  
Leigh Ann Soistmann

*Encoding Space (2016)*

Re-conceptualizing  
libraries as showrooms,  
studios, salons, and  
boutiques

In construction at UBC: a space for launching new research & creative works



# Today's collections

Continue to inform

But are also about

- interaction
- inclusion
- co-creation
- relationships
- societal impact

...empowering  
connections and  
conversations in an  
entirely new way.

*-Karen Calhoun*

# Thank you

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