

# CLASSICS LIBRARY

## ANNUAL REPORT, July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014

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### **I Unit Narrative**

The Classics Library has continued to strive to be a valuable resource for students and scholars from any department on campus, and to scholars from around the world. The goal is to be a place where efficient scholarship in classical and medieval sources is the norm, because of the convenient access to a focused portion of the University Library's collection, to a wide range of electronic resources, and to the assistance of skilled information professionals.

As the Acting Classics Librarian, I have been busy with collection development, having added over 780 titles to the collection this year. I have also handled the bulk of the 60 reference questions our patrons asked during the year.

Drawing heavily on the skills she acquired while working in the Main Stacks, Kim has continued to work hard maintaining our collections. She has actively sought and fixed numerous errors in the catalog, making sure those records precisely match what is located on our shelves.

With cataloger, Diana Eynon, devoting more time to the Music Library and with Kim and I redirecting our efforts to reducing the footprint of the Classics Library's holdings, we have placed a brief hiatus on the cataloging and digitization of the Dittenberger-Vahlen pamphlet collection. We hope to resume work on this long-term project later in the new fiscal year.

In the meantime, beginning in November, in accordance with the recommendations made by the Main Library Humanities Hub Planning Team, we have ramped up our efforts to reduce the size of our physical collections with an eye toward relocating sometime in the future. In fact, Kim and I selected and processed over 8,100 items (out of the 40,000 we had looked at) for Oak Street or the Main Stacks last year. This has provided us with an excellent opportunity to make our collections available to an even wider audience of scholars, and we have worked closely with CMS to retrieve items from the latest Google Books list. We have provided Google with almost 1,800 items so far, and we have also identified several other pre-1923 items that DCC has been digitizing for us before sending them to Oak Street. This allows us to keep our Tumblr of recently digitized items (<http://illinoisclassics.tumblr.com/>) up-to-date even though our other digitization project is on hold. I provided the Classics Department with our criteria for selecting items to be moved to Oak Street, and they have not only approved it, but have even suggested some candidates for relocation.

In the beginning of the spring semester, we hosted the GRK/LAT 595 Classical Civilization class that the Classics Department teaches every couple of years. This is

always an enjoyable session, since it is co-taught by several of the faculty (who are always involved in the lesson planning) and allows us to meet all of the new graduate students and introduce them to the library's print and electronic resources.

The Seminar Room (411) was utilized by faculty throughout the fall and spring semesters. Because of its proximity to supplementary material used in the classes, the department now uses this room for all of its seminars, or at least, the ones that are small enough to be accommodated.

The library has also continued to participate in the IPM (Integrated Pest Management) program of the Preservation Unit and continues to track the temperature and humidity in room 419.

In conclusion, the following is a list of the goals for FY 14 and brief remarks on progress towards meeting them.

[FY 14 Goal: Continue the transfer of volumes to remote storage, including all print holdings duplicated in JSTOR.]—met, ongoing, and scope expanded with almost 8,100 items having been sent to Oak Street and the Main Stacks (see narrative above).

[FY 14 Goal: Continue digitizing and cataloging the Dittenberger-Vahlen collection.]—met, ongoing, but with a brief hiatus (see narrative above).

[FY 14 Goal: Organize our collection of International Photographic Archive of Papyri (IPAP) materials and create a finding aid for the collection.]—All items have been added to a database and Kim has created a finding aid which we have already successfully used in a reference consultation.

Goals for FY 15:

Continue the transfer of volumes to remote storage, including older items that have been digitized, redundant or superseded editions, and duplicates.

Identify and digitize unique images in the Classics Department's lantern slide collection before relocating them to the Archives.

Resume digitizing and cataloging the Dittenberger-Vahlen collection.

## **II Statistical Profile**

### **1. Facilities**

- a. User seating
  - i. Tables:

ii. Carrels	8
iii. Public work stations	2
iv. Index tables	0
v. Group study room	0
vi. Informal	3

## 2. Personnel

- a. Caroline Szylowicz, Mark Wardecker (Faculty)
- b. Kim Lerch (CS Staff)
- c. \$9,467 Student wage allocation for 3 student workers.

## 3. User Services

- a. Gate Count
  - i. Actual 9,322
- b. Circulation
  - i. Initial 4,375
  - Renewal 7,352
  - ii. Reserves Though we still place materials on our reserve shelves for most of the courses taught by Classics faculty members, we have ceased to keep track of how frequently these materials are checked out, since the items are almost always used in the Classics Library.

## Manual Circulation Statistics

The Classics Library has continued keeping stats for manual circulation, often for photocopying nearby. Monthly totals of daily counts are available upon request. Totals for the year are:

Faculty	45
Students	47
Permit holders	0
ILL/DD	0
Reserve	0
Binding	168
Special	10
Total	270

## Reference

Directional/Hours	1
Finding Specific Materials	20
Policies and Services	1

Other	2
Ready Reference	2
Research Assistance	24
Technical Issues	5
Unspecified	4
Total	59

**Number of Hours open to the public per week**

Summer II 2013	40
Fall 2013	56
Spring 2014	56
Summer I 2014	40