

International and Area Studies Library
Unit Annual Report
2014-15

Submitted by Steve Witt, Head

I Unit Narrative

Through the accomplishments of faculty, dedicated staff, and assistants, IAS made significant contributions to the Library and campus over the past year. Given the breadth of IAS' activities and its wide interdisciplinary coverage, it is impossible to include each of the individual contributions that make up the whole of IAS' accomplishments over the past year. This annual report provides highlights of activities and unit wide goals that exemplify our overall achievements.

Major activities and accomplishments of the unit in FY15 (July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015);

Over the past year, the International and Area Studies (IAS) library focused on achieving the goals set out for the 2015 fiscal year. Four of the major accomplishments were to 1) fill the position of Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies Librarian; 2) institutionalize the work of the International Teaching and Engagement Committee (iTEC); 3) further develop International Reference Services that capitalize and promote the expertise within IAS and the Library; 4) pilot the International Buy Trip Program.

User Services and Instruction:

International Reference

The International Reference Service, which consists of all IAS librarians and is coordinated by Joe Lenkart, International Reference Librarian, made productive contributions to the overall mission of the Library. IAS librarians and staff contributed heavily to the Reference Hub and VR Desk, providing 20 hours of expertise to the Hub each semester. Outside of the Reference Hub, IAS provided specialized and in-depth reference services. For the Fiscal Year 2015, IAS logged 1,674 within Desk Tracker. IAS' average READ scale for reference was 4.4. This reference work is often intensive and requires a substantial commitment on the part of subject specialists and reference librarians in IAS (see table 1).

Table 1: Reference Transactions by Time

Length of Reference Transaction	Total in FY 2015
30 minutes to 1 hour	313
1 hour to 3 hours	182
More than 3 hours	47

Slavic Reference Service

Within IAS, the Slavic Reference Service (SRS) addressed a preponderance of reference inquiries: 622 email, 520 ILL, and 395 in-person requests. Moreover, institutions with more than 100 requests included the Department of State, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Ohio State University, Saint Louis University, University of Chicago, University of Florida, University of North Carolina, University of Notre Dame, and the University of Wisconsin-

Madison. In addition, the SRS provided 75 instruction sessions to researchers. As the outward facing service of the University Library, SRS provides strong local, regional, and international coverage for area studies scholars.

Summer Research Laboratories

IAS hosted another successful summer of research laboratories and visiting scholar activities. As noted in FY 2014's unit report, IAS has been working to expand the research beyond the well-established Summer Research Lab (SRL) with a focus on Slavic studies. Working with leaders from the Title VI NRCs and administrators in the Library, LAS, and International and Area Studies, the IAS Library seeks to establish Illinois as an international destination for summer research, workshop, and networking opportunities.

This year's SRL hosted a total of 51 scholars. In addition, Middle East and North African Studies Librarian, Laila Hussein hosted independent scholars from Saudi Arabia and Turkey to continue the summer lab focus on the Middle East established in FY 2014. This year, the Center for Global Studies provided funding to three community college faculty to research at Illinois to support Global Studies curricular development on the community college level.

Working in collaboration with the College of Education's Office of International Programs, IAS also provided tours, workshops on scholarly communications, and research support for 100 Chinese scholars and students who visited the campus for short-term study abroad programs. IAS plans to work with the College of Education again in the Summer of 2016 and is in the process of developing an independent short-term program for early-career researchers and scholars to visit the Illinois campus for a research focused seminar. IAS hopes to work in collaboration with the Mortenson Center on this program.

Public Engagement, Instruction, and iTEC.

Individually, the IAS faculty contribute considerably to the Library and Campus instruction and public engagement missions through their work as subject liaisons. These individual activities represent a major portion of IAS' work and are evident in the annual faculty performance reviews of IAS' faculty. As a unit, IAS has attempted to add to this important work through collaborative activities that aim to promote international and area studies as disciplines and instruct students, faculty, and the public in the ways in which the library's human and material resources contribute to expanding our knowledge of the world, cultures, and languages. Through these activities, IAS strives to deepen the campus' engagement in global and international affairs to provide a better understanding of key global phenomena and foster important cultural knowledge required to success in a pluralistic and diverse world.

The faculty and staff at IASL created the International and Area Studies Teaching and Engagement Committee at the beginning of the academic year 2014-2015. This committee has been very active in fostering the educational mission of the University Library with a special focus on international matters. To ensure that the work of iTEC has a library wide impact and purview, Librarians and staff from throughout the library were invited to join the group. Current members include: Atoma Batoma, Steve Witt (IAS), Lisa Renee Kemplin (IAS), Cindy Ingold (SHEEL), Susan Schnuer (Mortenson), Qian Jin (CAM), Lisa Hinchliffe (Public Services), Mara Thaker (IAS) & chair, fall 2014), Antonio Sotomayor (IAS & chair, spring 2015 to present)

Our discussion series named Chai-Wai have been popular and an excellent venue to engage different audiences. What follows are some of the highlights of last year's activities.

Chai Wais: The Chai Wai (Hindi for "tea or something like that") is a brand new event series at the International and Area Studies Library at UIUC that aims to create periodical semi-moderated discussion forums on campus for international issues of current importance. Each event will host approximately 3-4 speakers and will be informed and guided by a moderator. Audience members are encouraged to ask questions and share stories. IASL hosted four Chai-Wais, 1. "Global Movement: Migrants, Immigrants and Refugees" on October 14, 2014 with an attendance of 47; 2. "Gender-based Violence in the Global South: South Asia and Beyond" on November 5, 2014 with an attendance of 45; 3. "Russian-Ukrainian Conflict" on February 13, 2015 with an attendance: 104; 4. "The Future of the European Union: A Shared Vision?" on March 12, 2015 with an attendance of 49. A total of 245 people attended the four Chai-Wais in last year.

IASL was also engaged in Campus' International Week. We organized a panel discussion of Library and

campus experts on the international impact of the Library. The event was entitled “Embracing Internationalization at the University Library: Global Impact of Collections, Services, and Expertise” and hosted at the Main Library on April 10, 2015 and counted with the university’s Associate Vice-Provost for International Affairs and Global Strategies, Dr. Reitumetse Obakeng Mabokela who addressed the audience. Attendance at this event was 37. After the panel discussion, IASL hosted a reception with a Brazilian band and 43 people attended.

In order to market international and area studies beyond the walls of the university, iTEC ran a pilot of Google Adwords Pilot with a special grant. Another marketing initiative was the design and production of an IASL brochure.

With the technical support of James Whitacre, GIS Specialist, we developed a map to visualize the international impact of the library. The Glocal Connections map became open to the public and library faculty and staff were able to pinpoint where they have traveled internationally in the last year.

Finally, a team from iTEC attended the 7th Annual Public Engagement Symposium in order to highlight the activities and mission of iTEC.

International Buying Trip Program:

With the support of Dean Wilkin, the International and Area Studies Library began piloting a funding program to support travel for a limited number of international buying trips in fiscal year 2015. Funds will be allocated throughout the fiscal year, and applications were reviewed upon receipt by the following library faculty who serve in an advisory capacity to the Head of IAS to provide support and oversight for the administration and assessment of the program: Mara Thacker, South Asian Studies Librarian; Yoo-Seong Song, Korean Studies Librarian; Lynn Wiley, Head of Acquisitions; Paula Carns, Head of LLL, and Marek Sroka, interim Head of HPNL.

Funding is aimed at deepening the Library’s International and Area Studies collections (i.e., those that support African, Asian, European, Global, Latin American, Middle Eastern, and Slavic and/or Eurasian Studies broadly defined) with an emphasis on the acquisition of unique, emergent, and fugitive materials that can’t be purchased easily through standard channels. Applicants are required to submit a rationale for funding that describes the significance of the buying trip and its potential impact. Further, each application must outline plans to facilitate acquisitions, cataloging, and curation of materials acquired as a result of the buying trip.

Funding in FY 2015 supported the following trips:

Mara Thacker – South Asia
 Atoma Batoma – West Africa
 Shuyong Jiang – Taiwan
 Yoo-Seong Song – Korea and China
 Antonio Sotomayor – Cuba (this fall)
 Kit Condill – Turkey and Armenia (Funded by REEEC but associated as part of buying trip program)

During FY 2016, this program will continue. The advisory group will work with the Head of IAS to evaluate and assess the impacts of the program during its first year with the aim of establishing this as a permanent IAS program to support the development of strong and distinctive international collections.

Major Challenges :

Staffing

One of the continuing challenges for the IAS is integrating new faculty to the Library. Over fifty-percent of IAS’ faculty are untenured and another 20% are new to Area Studies Librarianship. In August of 2014, Larry Miller, the Slavic Bibliographer retired, creating a large gap to fill in support for Slavic and East European Studies collections. Fortunately, the library conducted a successful search for a replacement, and Kit Condill became the new Russian,

East European, and Eurasian Studies Librarian. The tenure track status of IAS faculty presents challenges in training, mentorship, and maintaining new services. To help overcome these challenges, the IAS staff meets regularly to share ideas and collaborate on service and collection activities. Training and mentoring a young faculty will be an ongoing priority within IAS.

Budgets

IAS, like other units in the Library were tasked to plan for major budget challenges in the years to head. This work presented a challenge to IAS, which is still in the growth phase as a new library unit and attempting to add services to its already strong collections and staffing. Pending budget cuts that could impact the delivery of new services are a concern to IAS faculty. This will be a major emphasis at the unit works through cuts from the current year and plans for potential cuts in the future. The unit's priority will be on maintaining a high level of service while increasing its ability to create efficiencies through collaboration.

Selected Unit and/or Faculty/Staff contributions to Library-wide programs

As noted in the introduction, each of IAS' faculty and staff contributed greatly to the Library's mission and the accomplishments of IAS during the past year. The preceding sections capture some of the areas of emphasis but fail to capture the breadth and depth of the work carried out as liaisons to Area Centers and departments; research accomplishments; service to the library, campus, national and international organizations. The following section provides a brief snapshot of some of these activities and accomplishments.

Instruction and User Services:

- In July and August 2014 Mara Thacker and Lynne Rudasill worked together to redesign the IASL webpage based on several rounds of usability testing and surveys. The new and improved webpage went live in September 2014.
- Yoo-Seong Song partnered with the Korean Student Association (KSA) on campus for the first time to reach out to Korean international students. In addition to providing detailed instruction on how to conduct research using library resources, we also covered resources specifically related to the Korean studies since many Korean international students are engaged in research dealing with historical and contemporary issues of the Korean peninsula.
- The Slavic Reference Service unveiled the Research Toolbox for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies Scholars and published an interactive guide titled "Violence in Twentieth Century Russia and Eurasia: Experience, Affect, Memory, and Legacies."
- Joe Lenkart, collaborated with the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies by conducting a training webinar for the association's members on February 18th, 2015. This webinar addressed transliteration systems, research resources and technologies.
- IAS Librarians and GA's partnered with Reference and Information Services to support instruction sessions for graduate students in the ESL program.

Highlights from Collection Management

South Asian Studies:

Mara Thacker undertook a buying trip to India and Bangladesh in February 2015 and along with acquiring some rarely held titles pertaining to politics and architecture, also established contact with a new vendor to help build the South Asian comic collection. She also acquired comics from Bangladesh that are not held anywhere else in the United States and made helpful contacts with librarians and publishers in Dhaka.

Slavic and East European Studies:

- Joe Lenkart and Kit Condill assisted Rare Book & Manuscript Library with the purchase of 14 rare

- Soviet samizdat titles from the Masha & Jacques Sayag Collection of Russian Samizdat in Paris.
- Purchase of Brill's *Armenian Sources* (over 900 primary-source and secondary-source materials in Armenian, Russian, and Western languages on 5,732 microfiche);
- Acquisition of Turkish graphic novels & related scholarly works

Latin American and Caribbean Studies

- Purchase of microfilm collection of Brazilian ephemera, Brazil's Popular Groups, 1966-1986 (\$3,200), and a biography of the Archbishop of Bogotá, Colombia from 1646 (with RBML funds, \$ 9,500).
- Growth of Latin American and Caribbean sport collection through the acquisition of the Argentinean magazine *Mundo Deportivo* (1949-1959, issues 1-523) with support from IASL, AUL COLL, APL, HPNL
- Support for growing international comic collection we purchased the Argentinean comic *FIERRO A FIERRO: historietas para sobrevivientes* (N. 1-100, 1984-1992)

Middle East and North African Studies:

- Purchase two years of one of an important and one of the oldest newspaper from Egypt (al-Muayyd).
- Develop our collection and purchase more scholar works by minorities (Shia, Abadi) and also ethnic groups like Kurds and Barbers. Ordered very special Turkish collection about women that is not in any other university in the USA.

East Asian Studies:

Yoo Seong Song acquired over 250 North Korean graphic novels in April. Most research libraries seek ways to acquire North Korean materials but fail to do so. We were fortunate to acquire this graphic novel set, and we now have the largest North Korean graphic novel set in the United States. We are now exploring options to advertise this collection and also digitize some of these graphic novels. Many scholars in international relations, East Asian Studies, linguistics, children's literature, and anthropology are currently studying graphic novels in different regions, and our collection will be very valuable to researchers and students in these fields.

Steve Witt received a grant from the North American Coordinating Council on Japanese Library Resources' Multi-Volume Sets Program (NCC MVS) 2014-2015 which supported the purchase of the 105 reel microfilm set *Gunze chōsonze shiryō maikuro-ban shūsei*, which was not held in North America.

Shuyong Jian traveled to Taiwan to pursue partnerships to support collection development and the potential creation of a new collection program.

Digital Content Creation:

- Kit Condill supervised IAS hourly Sabrina Jaszi on selecting materials for retrospective digital acquisitions from the Rudomino State Library for Foreign Literature in Moscow, and on completing OCR on the main, Cyrillic-script portion of our digital copy of the Uzbek national bibliography.

Diversity

- Lisa Renee Kemplen led IAS wide diversity training efforts and organized training to aid in communication and collaboration within the unit
- Laila Hussein served on the Library's Diversity Committee

Public Engagement and Service

- Atoma Batoma and Antonio Sotomayor organized a library exhibit on personal names which was, as it were, a window on the multitude of the cultural and linguistic traditions behind the Library's collections

- Atoma Batoma hosted the African Librarians Council meeting that I organized in April 2015
- Laila Hussein was elected member of the executive committee of the Middle East Microfilm Project – CRL
- Laila Hussein was invited to chair the Near East South Asia committee in the International Committee – ALA
- Lynne Rudasill completed her term as Chair of the IFLA Professional Committee

Progress made on Unit Annual Goals for FY15 (as enumerated in the FY14 Unit Annual Report):

- (Ongoing) IAS Wide Service Goals:
 - Develop uniformity with excellent customer service at all levels, especially through training
 - Fully develop an attitude of welcome, making all of our users feel at home in the IASL
- (Ongoing) Partner with Archives and Special Collections to develop greater access to and knowledge of Area Studies materials held within these collections.
- (Ongoing) Implement and assess International Buying Trip program.
- (Complete and in IAS Division) Define within the Area Studies Division and EC the role of Area Studies Librarians in the Library.
- (Ongoing) Develop International Reference Service through work to expand the Slavic Reference model
 - Develop resources and training to support IASL librarians integrated services into International Reference
- (Complete) Implement Blackboard Online workshop and consultation project
- (Ongoing) Support Summer Lab Program
- (Ongoing) Seek grant and foundation funding to support expansion of services
- (Ongoing) Develop new collections focused upon web-archiving of NGOs, INGOs, and IGOs focused upon climate change and sustainability
- (Ongoing) Reference and Serials Collection Organization
 - Develop timeline for LC conversion and integration of collection
 - Organize serials to insure coverage of user needs
- (Complete) Work with acquisitions and cataloging to integrate CJK work into their units
- (Ongoing) Continue to develop IAS website and social media presence
- (Ongoing) Further Support for Teaching and Instruction through integration with departments and new partnerships with Study Abroad, the ESL Program, and International Student and Scholar Services
- (Complete with Russia Ongoing with China) Develop international agreements in strategic areas such as China and Russia
- (Complete) Continue to process backlog items and develop new systems to minimize future problems
- (Ongoing) Mentor and integrate new faculty in IAS

Unit Annual Goals for FY15.

- (New) Implement and support new International Buying Trips program
- (New) Develop new summer international leadership and early-scholars programs in collaboration with Mortenson Center and other units
- (Ongoing) IAS Wide Service Goals:
 - Develop uniformity with excellent customer service at all levels, especially through training
 - Fully develop an attitude of welcome, making all of our users feel at home in the IASL
- (Ongoing) Further integrate IAS' teaching and engagement work with Library through iTEC
- (Ongoing) Partner with Archives and Special Collections to develop greater access to and knowledge of Area Studies materials held within these collections.
- (Ongoing) Implement and assess International Buying Trip program.

- (Ongoing) Develop International Reference Service through work to expand the Slavic Reference model
- (Ongoing) Support Summer Lab Program
- (Ongoing) Seek grant and foundation funding to support expansion of services
- (Ongoing) Develop new collections focused upon web-archiving of NGOs, INGOs, and IGOs focused upon climate change and sustainability
- (Ongoing) Reference and Serials Collection Organization
 - Develop timeline for LC conversion and integration of collection
 - Organize serials to insure coverage of user needs
- (Ongoing) Continue to develop IAS website and social media presence
- (Ongoing) Further Support for Teaching and Instruction through integration with departments and new partnerships with Study Abroad, the ESL Program, and International Student and Scholar Services
- (Ongoing) Mentor and integrate new faculty in IAS

Number of GAs (FTE and Head Count) employed during FY15;

1.33 FTE with a head count of 5 graduate assistants

Funding source for the unit's GAs (e.g., state funds, grant funds, endowment funds); and

4 graduate assistant received state fund and 1 was funding by the Center for African Studies Title VI NRC Grant

Major responsibilities assigned to the GAs in the unit, and an overview of the contributions made (or projects completed) by GAs during the fiscal year.

As with other departmental libraries at Illinois, IAS graduates play a vital role in supporting the overall service infrastructure and outreach initiatives. Working in close collaboration with the International Reference Librarian and IAS subject specialists, graduate assistants successfully completed three strategic projects outlined in the departmental needs assessment survey. These projects required vernacular language skills and the ability to work with research resources from Peru, Bolivia, and Africa. The completed projects are: National Bibliography Guide to Peru (Compiled by Quetzalii Barrientos), National Bibliography Guide to Bolivia (Compiled by Alonso Avila and Robert Sarwark), and Africana Collections and Services Design Project (Sabrina Jaszi, Katrina Spencer, and Robert Sarwark). These resources were designed to meet the needs of incoming teaching faculty at area studies centers and affiliated departments. More importantly, these projects unveiled hidden collections and resources, and introduced research resources from these regions to UIUC academic communities.

In addition, IAS graduate students and Sabrina Jaszi collaborated with Steve Witt (Head, IAS) on the World Sustainable Development Web Archive project. This project aims to archive non-governmental environmental organizations from around the world. Steve Witt continues to provide leadership for this ongoing project, which will showcase this resource as a special collection for scholars to utilize in related fields.

IAS GAs were also responsible for service desk coverage and supervision of student assistants during evening (4-7) and weekend hours. In addition, they worked on or completed the following projects:

- IASL social media maintenance- ongoing
- Compiling and maintaining IAS reference and usage statistics- ongoing
- Developing content for "Glocal Notes" blog- ongoing
- Represent IAS at campus-wide events such as Taste of Nevada and the Study Abroad Fair- ongoing
- IAS Wiki maintenance- going
- Creating IASL marketing materials including bookmarks, displays, flyers, and bulletin boards- ongoing

- Checking catalog for duplication of gift books- completed
- Developing general and specialized guides to national bibliographies, research databases, etc. in consultation with the Slavic Reference Service- ongoing
- Helping the Slavic Reference Service fill ILL requests- ongoing

II Statistical Profile

1. Facilities

- User seating counts (if applicable)

Fall Stats:

Chairs-668
 Laptops-2120
 Computer-267
 Bookeye Scanner-206
 Microform Readers-103
 Flatbed Scanner-206
 Printer-9
 TOTAL- 3385

Spring Stats:

Chairs-735
 Laptops-1494
 Computer-276
 Bookeye Scanner-248
 Microform Readers-62
 Flatbed Scanner-21
 Printer-6
 TOTAL- 2842

- Number of hours open to the public per week (if applicable)
 - Summer II 2014—380 hrs.
 - Fall 2014—876 hrs.
 - Spring 2015—957 hrs.
 - Summer I 2015—152 hrs.
 TOTAL: 2365 hrs.

2. Personnel

Academic Staff (11.25 FTE)	FTE
Antonio Sotomayor, Assistant Professor and Latin American and Caribbean Studies Librarian (Faculty)	1
Christopher Condill, Visiting Slavic Acquisitions Specialist (Visiting Academic Professional)	1
Joseph Lenkart, Assistant Professor and International Reference Librarian, (Faculty)	1
Shuyong Jiang, Associate Professor and Chinese Studies Librarian (Faculty)	1

Atoma Batoma, Associate Professor and African Studies Librarian (Faculty)	1
Laila Hussein, Assistant Professor and Middle East and North African Studies Librarian (Faculty)	1
Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies Librarian (Vacant – Search complete with Christopher Condill assuming post in August 2015)	1
Yoo-Seong Song, Associate Professor and Korean Studies Librarian (Faculty)	.25
Lynne Rudasill, Associate Professor and Global Studies Librarian (Faculty)	1
Mara Thacker, Assistant Professor and South Asian Studies Librarian (Faculty)	1
Steve Witt, Associate Professor and Head and Interim Japanese Studies Librarian (Faculty)	1
Civil Service Staff (2 FTE)	
Jan Adamczyk, Slavic Reference Research Associate, (Senior Library Specialist) (50%)	.5
Lisa Renee Kemplin, IAS Office Manager (Library Operations Assistant)	1
Xiaoping Qi (Senior Library Specialist) (50%)	.5
Academic, Graduate, & Undergraduate Hourlies	
Graduate Assistants	
Katrina Spencer (African Studies Grant Funded)	.25
Robert Sarward	.25
Sveta (International Reference Service)	.33
Alonso Avila	.25
Quetzalli Barrientos	.25
FY 15 Wage Budget: \$87,326	
FY 15 FTE Academic Hourlies: .5	
FY 15 FTE Graduate Hourlies: 1.75	
FY 15 FTE Undergraduate Hourlies: 1.25	

3. User Services

- Gate Count (as reported during FY15 Sweeps Week).
 - Units that maintain continuous gate or head counts may substitute actual numbers instead of the Sweeps Week sample.

Fall Sweeps Week 2014-642
Spring Sweeps 2015-870
Total Annual Extrapolation-24,184
- Circulation (from Voyager circulation reports)
 - Initial and renewal.
 - Manual (if applicable) – Report using the web form at: <https://illinois.edu/fb/sec/1804189>
 - Other (if available)
Charge 108, Renewal 29, Discharge 105*
IAS does not have a circulating collection with only a small new arrivals shelf that circulates
- Reference interactions (from DeskTracker)
 - Units that maintain continuous reference statistics may substitute actual numbers instead of the Sweeps Week sample.
- Presentations (from the Instructional Statistics database)
 - Number of presentations to groups

- Number of participants in group presentations
1247

4. Other statistics (optional)

Units may report any additional data that is collected within the unit and is illustrative of its activities in FY15. Examples might include website analytics, training sessions provided within the Library, LibGuides usage, tallies of materials processed or transferred, and so on.

III Appendices (optional)

Units may

- append additional material that illustrates the year's accomplishments, such as program flyers or assessment results;
- cite relevant Web pages, reports, or other documents that provide a richer description of the year's activities.