

**International and Area Studies Library:
2017 Unit Annual Report
Steve Witt, Associate Professor & Head**

I Unit Narrative

The International and Area Studies library continued to support the campus' global and international missions through support for global and area studies scholarship; expanded services for users through enhanced access to experts, engagement programs, improved access to resources; support for diversity programs that focus on intercultural dialog and global perspectives; and leadership that leverages IASL' expertise, collections, and partnerships to support the library's and campus' globalization efforts. Together, IAS faculty and staff contributed to internationalizing the university library and supporting wider campus goals toward global leadership in teaching, research, and engagement through both cooperative and individual efforts. It is impossible to include each of the contributions that make up the whole of IAS' accomplishments over the past year. This annual report focuses mainly on unit wide activities and outcomes that uniquely support the library's strategic goals and contribute to the intellectual life of the University.

Major activities and accomplishments of the unit in FY16 (July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017);

Over the past year, the International and Area Studies (IAS) library focused on achieving the goals set out for the 2017 academic year. Major areas of focus were an assessment of IAS' space use and recommendations for reconfiguration to provide enhance user service space; further expansion of the Summer Research Lab to include lab activities focused on community college faculty from minority serving institutions; continued work on the International Teaching and Engagement Committee (iTEC) to broaden the library's international and diversity focused engagements; furthering the International Reference Services to support interdisciplinary campus research groups through in-depth and personalized services; strengthening the library's international collections, networks, and expertise through International IAS Field Work Program.

Major challenges faced by the unit during that period:

Like other units in the Library, IAS' major challenge was to adjust its staffing model and expectations in response to the campus' ongoing State budget problems. IAS reduced its hourly wage budget once again. Through this cut, IAS was forced to cut the hours of graduate hourly employees that provide subject area knowledge and linguistic expertise. Through the leadership of Lisa Renee Kemplin, many of these hours were replaced with undergraduate student workers, who have been able to maintain IAS' hours by staffing the information desk and keeping the facility open on evenings and weekends. Compared to similar units within the Library, IAS continues to operate with unparalleled efficiency in terms of Staff support per FTE faculty. This is accomplished largely with the support of student assistant positions and heavy reliance on Title VI NRC grant funding.

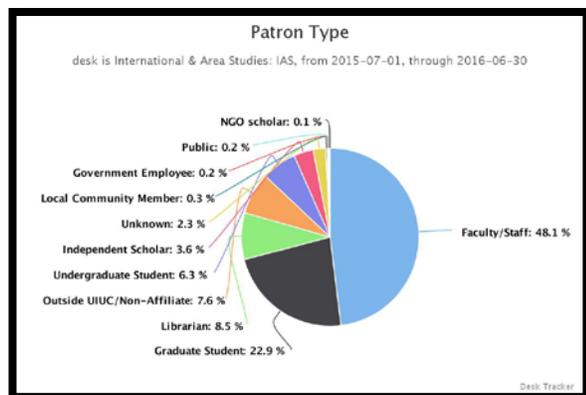
Significant Changes to unit operations, service, profile, or service programs:

IAS' service programs for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies (REEES) were significantly enhanced through a generous gift Professor Emeritus Laurence Miller. IAS received a major gift to create the Ralph Fischer Endowment to support REEES, which was celebrated by a campus wide ceremony to name two university scholars within IAS, professors Christopher Condill and Joseph Lenkart. Support through this fund will enhance the ability of IAS to support collections and services in this area.

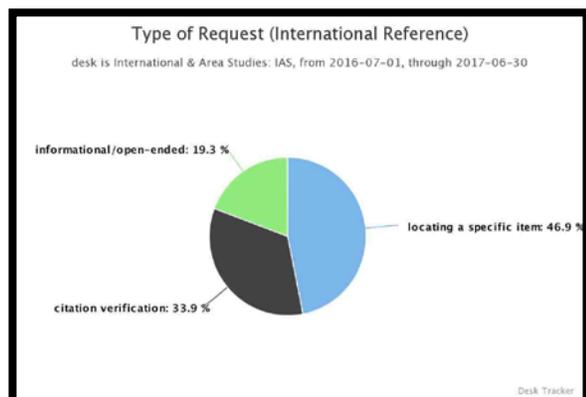
Contributions to library wide programs:

International Reference Services: Coordination of Reference and Instructional Service

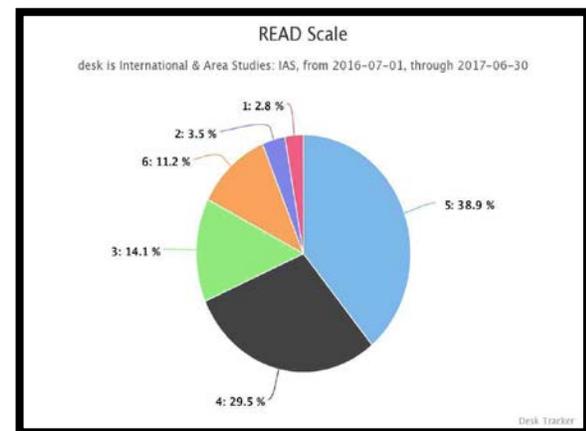
Assistant Professor Joseph Lenkart, International Reference Librarian, provides leadership and support for IAS' reference services. There are two components to International Reference Services within IASL: IAS subject specialists and the Slavic Reference Service (SRS). Through these service components, IASL directly supports the interdisciplinary work of students, faculty, visiting scholars, and staff from across campus, including the area studies centers, affiliated departments, and the annual Summer Research Laboratory program. IASL supports these academic communities by providing year-round research assistance and promoting area studies collections at the University Library. In addition, IAS faculty contribute hours to the Main Library Reference Hub,



For the period July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017, IASL has provided 66 instruction sessions and successfully entered 1187 reference transactions in Desk Tracker.¹ Moreover, further analysis of IASL's reference transactions revealed the following: Faculty (54.0%) and Graduate Students (17.3%) continue to be IASL's primary patron groups. Furthermore, an analysis of the READ scale (see below) for the stated period confirms the role-played by IASL in advancing area and subject studies scholarship at the University of Illinois, and supporting resourcing by working with interlibrary loan departments from around the world (see Question Type). For further details on IAS' reference statistics, including a break down by regional focus and usage of online resources see attached statistical reports.



In addition to providing specialized reference service, SRS worked with the Russian, East European, and Eurasian Center (REEEC) on a successful Title VIII grant application. Joseph Lenkart, International Reference Librarian, will serve as the principal investigator of the grant in partnership with the Director of REEEC. The Title VIII grant will support SRS by funding a nine month Research Associate position and a 33% graduate assistantship. Moreover, SRS conducted an online dissertation workshop for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies. This workshop is the result of multi-institutional collaboration led by the International Reference Librarian. SRS, Library of Congress, Princeton University, Yale University, and the Slavonic Library at the National Library of Finland collaborated on the workshop program. SRS reference team developed the workshop program. Larry Miller (Professor Emeritus) and Christopher Condill (Assistant Professor and Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies Librarian) represented the University of Illinois Library. 31 doctoral students participated in this workshop. Senior Library Specialist Jan Adamczyk and International Reference Librarian also organized a training workshop for emerging scholars at the 55th Central Slavic Conference.



IAS Faculty also report further innovative user

¹ These statistics might change after transactions from the interim periods are entered into Desk Tracker.

service initiatives. Yoo-Seong supported an international experiential learning program called “Global Marketing & Consulting Program” in which several universities participate. The membership includes UIUC, the University of Georgia, Ulsan National Institute of Science & Technology (UNIST), and Ulsan University. Yoo-Seong Song is a research faculty advisor to the program, and provides in-depth research consultation on East Asian businesses and economies. Following up on international field work, Atoma Batoma, facilitated contact between the U of I College of Education and the Togolese Education officials who were exploring the possibility of collaboration/partnership in the areas of language teaching and education methodology.

Contributions to Diversity Activities:

A core mission of IAS is to deepen intercultural interests and sensitivity of students, faculty, staff, and the larger community through outreach and engagement efforts. Work to support diversity and intercultural understanding directly supports the library’s efforts as articulated in the *Framework for Strategic Action* to “promote a vibrant and dynamic organizational culture and structure.” This is a major component of IAS’ work and is expressed through the iTEC committee’s work (see below). IAS’ specific contributions to diversity activities on campus included:

Diversity Activities in IAS 2016-17

- Orientations for International Students on Campus;
- October 7, 4-5pm, IAS 321-49 participants—West African Drumming Demonstration
- October 14, 1-2:30, Alumni Center-25 participants--International Perspectives on Censorship
- 1/25 Chai Wai Navigating Global Challenges under the New US Regime-51 attendees
- 3/9 Chai Wai on Global Health in Sierra Leone-19 attendees
- 3/9 -Music and Conflict: A Discussion with Nili Belkind and Ted Swedenburg Speakers: Nili Belkind, Postdoctoral Research Associate with the Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities and Ted Swedenburg, Professor of Anthropology at the University of Arkansas
- 4/5 The Art of Mr. Ng’s Brushwork-34 attendees
- 4/13 Fisher Celebration and Scholar Ceremony-65 attendees
- 4/14 Celebration of Poetry and Translation-37 attendees
- 4/27 Searching for Putin: An Exploration of Sources and Perspectives-67 attendees

Looking to the future, IAS will host further activities that promote intercultural dialogue. IAS with support from University Librarian and Office of the Chancellor signed an agreement with the Central Library of Taiwan to host a Taiwan Resource Center for Chinese Studies. This Center will provide resources to support cultural and academic exchange within the library focused on Chinese culture (Jiang and Witt)

Public Engagement:

IAS’ International Teaching and Engagement Committee (iTEC) focuses the units efforts in public engagement and works to develop collaborative partnerships with faculty and units throughout the library and campus to leverage the library’s extensive international expertise and collections toward developing global competencies and a deeper understanding of global phenomena that impacts our lives.

Last year, iTEC was chaired by Lynne Rudasill and included 10 members from IAS and other library units.

In addition, Mara Thacker, South Asian Studies Librarian, co-chaired the Public Engagement and Outreach working group and did an environmental scan of Library’s engagement activities resulting in a report that was submitted at the AUL for User Services to help shape future direction of engagement activities and policies.

Collection Management

International Fieldwork Program:

With the support of Dean Wilkin, the International and Area Studies Library continued this important program to support travel for a limited number of international buying trips in fiscal year 2017. Funds were 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; Yoo-Seong Song; Lynn Wiley; Paula Carns; and Marek Sroka.

This program supports directly the library's goals to capitalize on the University's international leadership to strengthen the research library ecosystem. Funding is aimed at achieving multiple impacts. First, the program works to deepen the Library's International and Area Studies collections across all disciplines (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. Second, the program seeks to support the university's globalization efforts by working extend and strengthen the University's partnerships and relationship with research institutes, national libraries, and universities around the world. This program led directly to:

- the establishment in 2017 of the Taiwan Research Center for China Studies (Jiang);
- the further development of the Latin American Sport Collection – with some 3,600 volumes, not counting the 1,600+ issues of the recently acquired magazine *El Gráfico* (1947-1988) and others (Sotomayor);
- expansion of Illinois' North Korean collection (Song);
- new academic partnerships in Togo that will enable pre-services teachers of French to study abroad in West Africa (Batoma);
- library engagement with the Japan Illini Alumni Club in Tokyo (Witt);
- develop of new collection focus on modern Greek studies (Rudasill)

Digital Content Creation

IAS contributes heavily to digital content creation initiatives within the library with activities that range from those listed below to the work of Assistant Professor Laila Hussain, Middle East and North African Studies Librarian, as a member of the Board of the British Library's important Endangered Archives Programme, which aims to digitize and make available humanity's documentary heritage.

- With the support of a LARRP/CRL grant of \$18,025, transcribed 18th century Peruvian/Spanish letters, encoded using TEI, annotated a selected bibliography, and wrote essays for the Conde de Montemar Letters site (Sotomayor).
- American Bibliography of Slavic and East European Studies (ABSEES) – led by Irene Kolchinsky, ABSEES provides authorities access to research in field of Slavic and East European Studies through its EBSCO database. In 2017, ABSEES indexed nearly 6,000 records;
- Worked with Library IT to develop a full-text-searchable database of the national bibliographic publications of Uzbekistan, 1917-2009, based on raw files provided by the Uzbek National Book Chamber (Condill);
- At the request of the US Department of State through the Embassy, of Togo, IAS facilitated the organization of a workshop on preservation and digitization at the National Library of Togo. The workshop was given by Kyle Rimkus, a preservation librarian at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (Batoma and Witt);
- Collaborated with area studies librarians at the Ohio State University by providing South Asia content in a LibGuide to be used as a textbook for a course on World Geography (Thacker)

Unit Annual Goals for FY18.

Each goal is aligned with specific items within the *Framework for Strategic Action*.

- Further evaluate IAS' space needs and organize room 309 to support user services while launching the Taiwan Research Center for China Studies (3b, d);
- Develop Capacity for Research Data Service Management (1c, d, e; 4d);
- Support for new study abroad orientation courses in LAS, ACES; Business, Engineering, and Education – (2b, d; 4c);
- Cooperate with centers to have them hold their events in library spaces. These could also include research workshops and reading groups – (2b, d; 1a; 3c; 4c);
- Utilize Visiting Scholars that are coming to campus for research by having them give a talk in IAS (3c; 4c);

- Coordinated support for Undergraduate Research Initiatives;
- Follow-up and begin to implement suggestions from International Reference focused advisory group to develop short and long term service objectives to be led by International Reference Librarian in collaboration with IAS faculty and staff – see attached report (1a; 2a, b; 4b; 4c);
- Organize IAS wide professional development program focused on collection development and management (4d; e);
- Continue diversity initiatives through iTEC and other programming (3c);
- Expand work with advancement to build upon recent major gifts to support IAS and area studies collections with the specific goal of institutionalizing funding for the International Buying Trip Program (4c).

What the unit needs to support these specific goals and your overall mission

In IAS will need facilities support to fully furnish Room 309 as a dynamic space for users to collaborate, engage in research, and host small events to support area studies research groups. IAS is working with campus users to assess space needs and will present a formal request to the Dean's office for support.

Graduate Assistants:

Number of GAs (FTE and Head Count) employed during FY17;

2.5 FTE and 9 Graduate Assistants

Funding sources

Library / State Funds: .50 (2 GA's)
 Title VI NRC Funding: 1.50 (6 GA's)
 CRL Grant Program: .25 (1 GA)

Responsibilities:

IASL graduate assistants are critical to maintaining the daily operations of the department. In this capacity, IASL graduate assistants Erin Shores and Hannah Diny have supported the department on a number of fronts. These include maintaining IASL's social media and outreach initiatives, generating assessment reports for the department, and supporting research services and critical projects identified by their supervisor.

Project to Improve Accessibility to National Bibliographies: Working under the supervision of the International Reference Librarian, Erin and Hannah completed a pilot project aimed at improving access to current national bibliographies. Since national bibliographies are an important source for scholars, IASL graduate assistants first surveyed the holdings at the University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign) for a selective list of countries. After completing the initial phase, Erin and Hannah then reviewed the status of current national bibliographies for these countries. They identified available formats (ex. Searchable databases, full-text) for every one of the selected national bibliographies on that list. Working in close partnership with the E-Serials Bibliographic Control Specialist, the project team improved the accessibility of 34 national bibliographic titles at the University Library. In addition to improving accessibility, IASL graduate assistants saw firsthand that national bibliographies are excellent sources for collection development and providing expert reference assistance in area studies.

Guide to Area Studies Collections: In order to assist IASL circulation staff, students, faculty, and visiting scholars, Erin Shores and Hannah Diny collaborated with the International Reference Librarian to work on this guide project. This guide to area studies materials features interdisciplinary collections (selective) held at the University Library. This guide will be completed end of August 2017.

Research Contribution: Erin Shores presented her research paper, "An International Analysis of Library Relief Strategies," at BOBCATSSS Conference in Tampere, Finland. BOBCATSSS (Budapest, Oslo, Barcelona, Copenhagen, Amsterdam, Tampere, Stuttgart, Szombathely and Sheffield) is an international annual library and information science symposium managed by library and information students. To date, with the assistance of International Reference Librarian, three graduate assistants have successfully presented at BOBCATSSS.

II Statistical Profile

<p>User Seating Counts:</p> <p><u>2016 Fall Stats</u></p> <p>Chairs- 359 Laptops- 1,244 Computer- 108 Bookeye Scanner- 135 Microform Readers- 55 Flatbed Scanner- 2 Printer- 6 User Seating Total – 1,909</p>	<p><u>2017 Spring Stats</u></p> <p>Chairs- 420 Laptops- 1,113 Computer- 88 Bookeye Scanner- 148 Microform Readers- 86 Flatbed Scanner- 2 Printer- 2 User Seating Total – 1,859</p>
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Number of hours open to public per week:

2016 Summer II- 403
2016 Interim- 80
2016 Fall - 894
2017 Spring- 966
2017 Summer I- 152
2017 Summer II- 399
2017 Interim- 80
TOTAL HOURS: 2,974

Personnel:

List by name, faculty, AP, CS, AH, GA, GH, SA

Faculty: 8.5

Kit Condill, Assistant Professor, Russian East European and Eurasian Studies Librarian – 100%
Laila Hussein Moustafa, Assistant Professor, Middle East and North African Studies Librarian – 100%
Shuyong Jiang, Associate Professor, Chinese Studies Librarian– 100%
Joe Lenkart, Assistant Professor, International Reference Librarian – 100%
Lynne Rudasill, Professor, Global Studies Librarian – 100%
Yoo-Seong Song, Associate Professor, Korean Studies Librarian - 25%
Antonio Sotomayor, Assistant Professor, Latin American and Caribbean Studies Librarian – 100%
Marek Sroka, Associate Professor, East European Studies Librarian – 25%
Mara Thacker, Assistant Professor, South Asian Studies and Global Popular Culture Librarian – 100%
Steve Witt – Associate Professor, International and Area Studies Librarian, and Head- 100%

Civil Service: 1.9

Jan Adamczyk, Senior Library Specialist (50%)
Xiaoping Qi, Senior Library Specialist (40%)
Lisa Renee Kemplin, Library Operations Assistant (100%)

Academic Hourly: 1.5

.25FTE - with funding from Title VI NRC Grant)
ABSEES 1.25 FTE – Cost-Recover funding

3. User Services

Most of the following data has been generated by the Office of User Services and will be available at G:\StatsForAnnualReport2016.

- Gate Count: July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 – 53154
- Circulation (from Voyager circulation reports)
 - IAS does not have a circulating collection
- Reference interactions (from DeskTracker)
 - 1187
- Presentations (from the Instructional Statistics database)
 - Number of presentations to groups: 66
 - Number of participants in group presentations: 1,106

1. Other statistics (optional)

See Attached

IAS Fall and Spring Statistical Reports

III Appendices (optional)
