Meeting Notes for LDLT, February 11, 2019

A discussion was planned on the Report of Task Force on Best Practices in the Recruitment and Hiring of Academics. Unfortunately the follow-up LHR document CUL Recruitment Information for Hiring Managers, Search Committees and Chairs had not been distributed as planned before the meeting; therefore, after a few preliminary comments, LDLT members were invited to discuss this at a later meeting instead.

Discussion/Update on Progress Toward AppStream (with Pete Magnus)

Background - CIT is changing the funding model for it's Lab support, including those in Uris and Mann Libraries and focus on using Application streaming services to support course software needs.

In response, the Library put together a task force consisting of Jenn Colt, Susan Kendrick, Devin Sanera and Sara E. Wright to come up with use cases in the Library where App streaming could be helpful. Their report was published December 7, 2018. The conclusion of the report is "In short, App Stream seems to work well in controlled situations where students are taking a course with discrete software needs (Windows-friendly programs only). It allows students to access a suite of powerful software from anywhere regardless of what computer they are using. Where App Stream appears to fall short are the exceptions such as students requiring extensions for completing coursework after the semester is over; students not taking a specific class but wanting access to special software; alumni and visiting researchers looking to use specific software. As CIT representatives put it, "do not think of App Stream as a virtual lab."

CIT is continuing to work on developing the service and getting a handle on the business plan and a reliable cost model. It's currently in pilot mode and as such it has a pilot pricing plan. https://confluence.cornell.edu/display/CLOUD/Apps+on+Demand+-+Pilot+Funding+Model Four CIT staff are dedicated to the service, Kris Barth, Lori Beebe, Dan Klinger and Marty Sullivan. Donna Taber is the Service Owner and Kris Barth is the Service Manager. (Chris Manly is also involved to a certain extent)

One of their current projects is in Bradfield Hall - they are looking at emulating the software available in the lab for use elsewhere on or off campus. One of the apps of particular interest is ArcGIS. They plan to have the site up and running by February 19th so they can test the functionality. They plan to have the "lab" up and running for the Fall 2019 semester. Kris is open to having a few Library staff get access to the lab so they can also test the functionality. I have a few names in mind to share with him.

Here is a link to information on some of the progress they have made https://confluence.cornell.edu/display/CLOUD/Apps+on+Demand+-+Fall+2018+Informational+Update

Some of the limitations of the service is the lack of available software at this time, namely the Adobe apps and Microsoft Office, due to licensing issues. Data management is also problematic since some of the software requires the user to move data into the environment for functionality, but then the user must remember to move the data out of the environment before logging out to ensure no loss of data.

Currently, the Apps on Demand service is not something the Library should be pursuing as the service is more focused on classroom support and the limitations on some of the available software and functionality.

A summary of the service from Kris Barth:
Apps on Demand is Cornell's implementation of Amazon's AppStream 2.0, which allows users to access desktop applications through their HTML5-capable web browsers. This for-fee service's main goal is to provide specialized software necessary for each course without requiring each student to purchase the application. (There is no cost to students using the service for a class.)

Service Strengths or Value to Faculty and Students:
Access from any Windows, Mac, Linux, or Chrome computer (no mobile devices), anywhere, anytime
Only an internet connection and HTML 5 Web Browser needed
Virtual Computer Lab
Compatible with most Windows software/applications
Convenient and easy to access
Allows Students and Faculty to be more flexible (work differently, teach differently, when and where you want)
(Previous discussion or reading only work can now be hands on)
Everyone using the same, consistent platform and having a consistent experience
Saves time (no installing and configuring software for users)
Allows for better collaboration
Connects Google Drive and One Drive
Based on Amazon AppStream 2.0 technology

Used previously in the following areas of study:
Mechanics of Engineering Materials
Government, Intro to Probability and Applied Statistics
Information Science – Special Topics
Research Methods in Human Development

Used for:
Classwork
Assignments
Projects
Teaching Prep
Teaching Instruction
Group Projects
Hands on learning

Unit Updates

Law Library:

- Micaela Carignano has joined the Law Library as Faculty & Circulation Services Assistant.

Olin-Uris/Annex:

- Wikipedia Art + Feminism Edit-athon; 8 March (International Women's Day); 702-703 Olin; This is an ongoing collaboration between CUL and the Johnson Museum, with support from Wikimedia Foundation; the goal is to improve and expand coverage of women artists in Wikipedia. For more information on how to become involved contact Susette Newberry.
- O/U RLS is working out processes and procedures for LibAnswers, with Rob Kotaska taking the lead.
- Annex staff are working to do as much advance preparation as possible prior to the FAL move back to campus.
- Cocktail Lounge work continues and remains on schedule.

HLM:

- Marcie Farwell has accepted the position of Gordon and Marjorie Osborne Textile Industry Curator beginning March 1.
- Sara Palmer is leaving Catherwood Library RLS for an Analyst position for the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance on February 12.

Mann/Vet:

- Worth 1000 Words: The How & Why of Scientific Illustration exhibit opened in the gallery last Thursday and will be up until the end of March
- Erica Johns was invited to represent RDAP (Research Data Access & Preservation) at a workshop being held in conjunction with the CNI Spring meeting
- Search for the Teaching & Learning Librarian is underway
- Vet public computing is now being supported through CUL Desktop Services

FAL:

- Mui Ho Library Project
  - On or around May 18th the FAL materials in the Annex temporary location will be closed off to the public. Staff from the Library Annex will be processing he collection for the move into Mui Ho Library. A team is working on proper message that will appear in the OPAC letting people know that this material will not be accessible for up maybe till the FAL staff is in Mui Ho (July 22nd).
  - FAL material in the permanent Annex will be accessible to all library patrons throughout the move, e.g. CU, borrow direct and ILL.
  - On June 10th Myers will begin moving books out of the temporary Annex location into Mui Ho Library.
  - Materials in B56 will be moved last, approximately July 15th.
  - FAL staff members will be moved approximately July 22nd.
  - Design of the service has been completed. A meeting has been set up with FAL staff members for review.
  - Zsuzsa Koltay will be working with Elise Gold (Director of Communications College of AAP) and will put together a plan in all matters to educate the public on the various facets of the project.

- Jennifer Sawyer will represent CUL on a planning committee with AAP for the dedication of the Mui Ho Library on September 5, 2019.

The Engineering Library:

- Looking forward to the hiring of head position
- Hollister Hall renovation underway.