

## **MBLWHOI Library Joint User Committee Report 2007-2008**

### **1.0 Committee Agenda**

The Joint User Committee (JUC), comprised of representatives from the Woods Hole scientific community's major supporting institutions (MBL, WHOI, and USGS), met throughout the year. The JUC continues to focus on long-range planning for the Library's collections, facilities, budget shortfalls and services, and the support of open access while monitoring the impact of these initiatives.

The committee spent time on implementation of the new federal law requiring NIH funded researchers to make their peer-reviewed journal articles publicly accessible within twelve months of publication. Along with this discussion was the updating of the form letter that would guide Woods Hole researchers to place their publications in the open access venue.

#### Recommendations:

Develop a guideline for researchers to follow the NIH Public Access Mandate using the MBLWHOI Library's Authors guidelines for publication in the public domain.

The committee also discussed how we can encourage all summer and visitors that use the Woods Hole facilities to make sure they cite these institutions in their publications.

#### Recommendations:

1. Send a letter at the time of registration or room/lab assignments urging investigators to include their MBL or WHOI affiliation in their address along with their home institutions.
2. Include the grant number in our Bib application program that harvests publication data so that large projects under Woods Hole proposals could also be tracked.

The committee requested that MBL find space that would be dedicated to video conferencing and telephone services.

### **2.0 Woods Hole Open Access Server (WHOAS): a Digital Institutional Repository**

The Woods Hole Open Access Server (WHOAS) has been archiving the scientific literature, technical reports and theses produced by the Woods Hole scientific community. As the concept of open access becomes more firmly rooted in scientific publishing, WHOAS gives our researchers the opportunity to ensure perpetual open access to their scientific output. WHOAS now contains 1798 unique records. WHOI is funding the purchase of a new larger server for WHOAS. This will enable the repository to grow and accept larger types of files, such as audio files.

Recommendation:

Have the library investigate purchasing a back up server for this device vs a contract with an outside source for back up service.

### **3.0 Rare Books Room and MBL Archives**

Generous donors enabled the library to restore and preserve twenty-seven damaged rare books, including a number of volumes of the *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London* from the 1700s. Digitization of the rare books as part of the Biodiversity Heritage Library is ongoing, with over 6000 volumes now available online. The files may be accessed through the BHL website ([www.biodiversitylibrary.org](http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org)) or via links on [www.mblwhoilibrary.org](http://www.mblwhoilibrary.org). The gentle scanning process resulted in no damage to the books.

Document collections from MBL scientists are continuing to be added to the archives. The collection from Dr. John W. Saunders, Jr., noted embryologist, was processed and made available to researchers.

Recommendation:

As part of the BHL project, try and have all the Rare Books scanned for preservation and conservation purposes.

### **4.0 Facilities**

The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners conducted an environmental monitoring study in 2007 of the Rare Books Room, stacks, and Library Services Center at Falmouth Technology Park. Results of this study indicate temperature and humidity levels and fluctuations continue to exceed preservation standards in the Rare Books Room. Elevated temperatures and large changes in humidity were also detected in the stacks and, to a lesser extent, at the Library Services Center.

Recommendation:

Correct the air handling in the Rare Books to make sure the temperature and moisture levels are at constant levels that preserves the books.

## **5.0 Anticipated 2008 Needs**

Scientific research is now firmly dependent upon online databases. As a result, it has become clear that work beyond the scope of the Library subscriptions becomes much less visible. Currently the Library's subscription to the Web of Science begins in 1988.

Recommendation:

Web of Science backfiles are available in increments of 5 years.  
Purchase the backfiles for the years 1978-1987 at a cost of \$30,000.

## **6.0 Library Information**

### **6.1 Staff and Volunteers**

Rosemary Davis resigned as the Institutional Archivist for WHOI in February and Elena Iourieva was hired temporarily in the main library to support the BHL project.

*MBL, Rare Books & Special Collections Volunteers:* Millie Huettner, David Shepro, and Virginia Reynolds. Ann Weissmann began working on the 2009 exhibit in the MBL Rare Books:

*Virtual Herbarium Project:* As of July 22, 2008 there are 2,241 Algae specimens and 3,357 Vascular Plant specimens in the Herbarium database because of the continued help of Dick Backus, Joe DeVeer, Paul Freyheit, Nancy McDonald, Pam Polloni, and Arlene Rogers.

*WHOI Data Library and Archives (DLA) Volunteers:* Dick Backus, Nat Corwin, Dick Edwards, Lewis Hadleman, Lewis Nassikas, Frank Taylor, and Beverly Woods. Both Dick Edwards and Beverly Woods died in 2007. We are grateful for the many years of dedicated service they gave to the DLA

### **6.2 Library Instruction**

The library hosted the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> sessions of Biomedical Informatics for the National Library of Medicine. There were sixty students from twenty states and five foreign countries, and twenty-seven faculty members. The course continues to evolve as a unique training opportunity for Physicians, Librarians and Public Health officials in the field of Medical Informatics. Library staff gave lectures, tours, orientations and provided instruction to the Woods Hole Scientific Community.

### **6.3 Biodiversity Heritage Library (BHL)**

In 2007, the library began a digitization project with the Biodiversity Heritage Libraries ([www.biodiversitylibrary.org](http://www.biodiversitylibrary.org)). The library staff began by examining the library collection for pre-1923 books in certain call number ranges that were most likely to include Biodiversity Information. Books and journals were sent to the Boston Public Library where they were scanned by the Internet Archive ([www.archive.org](http://www.archive.org)). By the end of 2007, 6,100 volumes were scanned and publicly. The number of scanned pages is approaching six million for just the MBLWHOI Library alone.

The Natural History Museum in London and MBLWHOI library staff worked to develop a tools for all the libraries that identifies duplicate records so that only one library sends the book or journal to be scanned. This project has helped to achieve the library's long term goal of barcoding the serials for greater control of the database and inventory.

### **6.4 Ellison Grant for the study of the Biology of Aging**

The Library received a \$2 million grant to develop informatics tools to aid research on the biology of aging. Existing data from resources such as GenBank, EOL, uBio and PubMed will be utilized to develop these tools to address questions across species and ecosystems. Neil Sarkar is leading this effort in the library.

### **6.5 Serials and Databases**

The library continued the effort to maintain collections in spite of publishers increasing costs. Maintaining our current level of subscriptions to support the scientific efforts in Woods Hole is a high priority for the library. Advantage is taken of our consortium memberships and support Open Access initiatives. As a member of the BHL negotiations have been ongoing with small publishers to digitize some of the Library's print journals.

### **6.6 Special Collections/Preservation**

DLA staff worked with Scripps Institution of Oceanography on a testbed project DIGARCH dealing with long-term preservation of digital data. One cruise was staged, quality checked and "published" with complete set of metadata. A Controlled Vocabulary Dictionary was created with a record for every authorized metadata value in the project as well as values for many other WHOI vessels, vehicles, media and data formats, instruments and equipment (including model numbers and manufacturer). The project wrapped up with an abstract and poster presented at the fall meeting of AGU.

DLA staff are making WHOI cruise data available online to researchers. The database has simple search capabilities and can be browsed by ship and year. 699 floppy disks of cruise data have been migrated to CDROM, plus several disks of source code and executables.

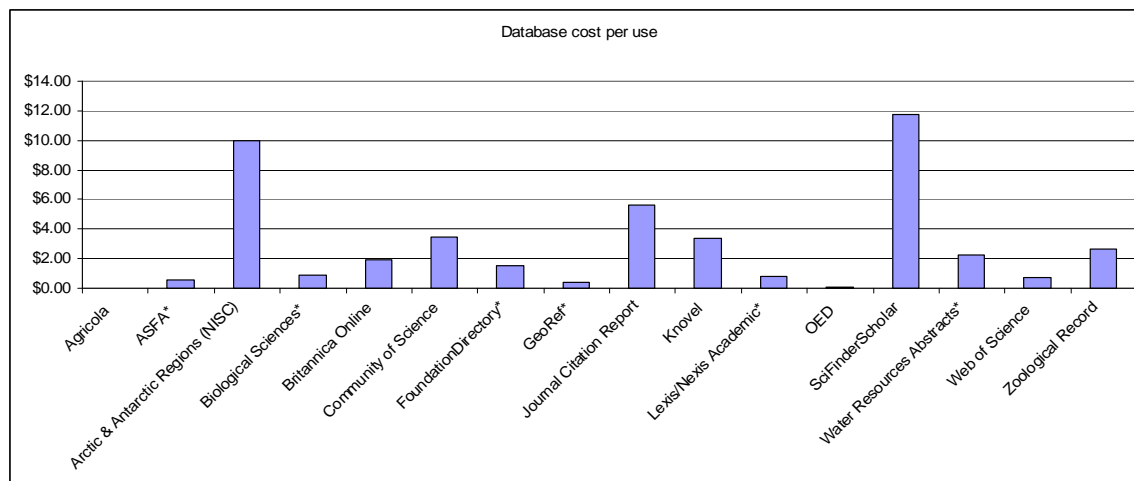
## 6.7 Consortia Activities

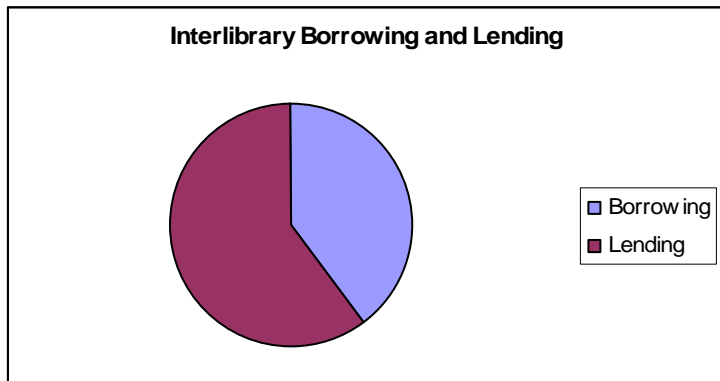
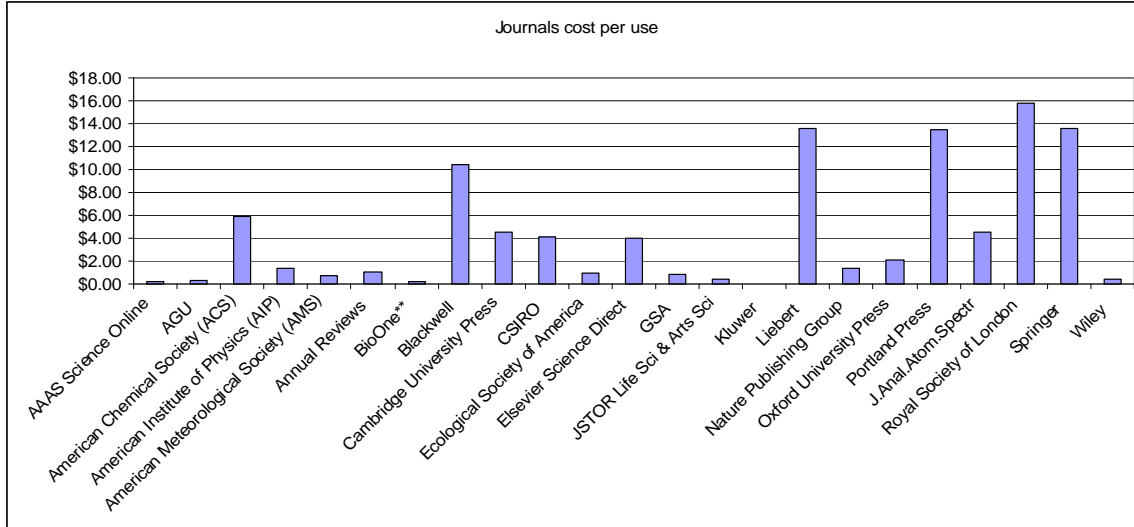
In 2007, the Boston Library Consortium (BLC) also began digitizing their collections using the Northeast Scanning Center at the Boston Public Library. Each library in the BLC pledged to use a small portion of their acquisitions budget for this project. The MBLWHOI Library is using this as an opportunity to digitize important early oceanography works in the collection that do not fall under the scope of biodiversity. Also, early embryology text, photos and notebooks are being scanned as part of the “Embryo Project”, a project funded by NSF at Arizona State University with the MBLWHOI Library as a partner.

## 6.8 Statistical Snapshot

	2005	2006	2007
<b>Current Serials</b>			
▪ Print titles	289	116	116
▪ Electronic titles	1318	1879	1879
▪ Gifts/Exchange titles	90	120	32
<b>Databases</b>	146	148	148
<b>Items Added to Collections**</b>	341	600	1280
<b>Library Patrons</b>			
▪ Library Researchers	123	163	156
▪ Company/non-profit Affiliates	7	7	10
▪ Active patrons (12/31)	3022	2303	2987
<b>Interlibrary Borrowing</b>	2323	2460	2206
<b>Interlibrary Lending to Others</b>	3326	2888	3353
<b>Books Circulated &amp; Renewed</b>	4883	3136	3980
<b>Budget</b>	\$2166596	\$2308559	2356855

\*\* Includes archival materials, books, CDs, DVDs, & videos.





For lending items, 46% were to consortium partners and 54% were to non-partner libraries.

Respectfully submitted by the MBLWHOI Library Joint User Committee 2007-8

David Shepro, MBL, *Chairperson*  
 Peter Smith, MBL  
 Ann Stuart, UNC Chapel Hill & MBL  
 Rob Thieler, USGS  
 John Waterbury, WHOI  
 John Farrington WHOI  
 John Hobbie, MBL

*ex officio members:*  
 Catherine Norton, MBLWHOI Library Director  
 Lisa Raymond, Manager of the DLA  
 Jennifer Walton, Coordinator of Library Services

John Dacey, WHOI