



Update from the Executive Director

January 2022

Hello Everyone,

“How many books does it take to make a place feel like home?” That’s the question asked by the title of the cover article of the Real Estate section of the December 21, 2021, issue of the *New York Times*.

The article describes “the tactile connection to books and the need for places of refuge in the home,” an association to the home library which I suspect will resonate with many of us, especially in this current shared experience of the pandemic, when so many of us are spending much more time at home than at any other time in recent memory. “It is when books are displayed en masse that they really work wonders. Covering the walls of a room, piled up to the ceiling and exuding the breath of generations, they nourish the senses, slay boredom and relieve distress,” says author Julie Lasky.



Reid Byers, author of *The Private Library: The History of the Architecture and Furnishing of the Domestic Bookroom*, is credited with creating the term “book-wrapt,” which Lasky interprets as, “to be surrounded by books is to be held rapt in an enchanted circle and to experience the rapture of being transported to other worlds.”

or some of us, the image of a home library – perhaps even a home in which every room is part of the library! -- may conjure that sense of refuge and relief from stress. For others of us, the thought of an electronic device, filled to the brim of digital memory with books waiting to be read and further able to access and download multitudes more, fills that same sense of comfort and serenity. I suspect that for many of us, a personal library that is a combination of both print and electronic is the mode of the day!

No matter the format – physical or electronic – your colleagues at FLVC continually strive to ensure that students and faculty who use your library collections can locate and access every possible resource to meet their information needs. This month’s issue of the FLVC Library Services Update describes ongoing work across FLVC to accomplish that goal.

As we move forward into a new year, I hope that each of you will find times and places to immerse yourself in the feeling of being book-wrapt.

Elijah

To download materials from past MCLS and Executive Committee meetings, go to [FALSC.org](https://falsc.org).

The next MCLS Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for January 20, 2022. The next MCLS meeting is scheduled for March 3 – 4, 2022. Both meetings will be held virtually

Library Support and Training

Brian Erb: Director of Library Support and Training

New Service for All Library Staff!



FLVC is happy to announce that it has joined forces with several other large library consortia in the US to offer free, online professional development workshops to all FLVC libraries. Called the Professional Development Alliance (PDA), library staff affiliated with FLVC will have access to over 80 online sessions a year on a wide variety of topics. This alliance emerged last year in the midst of the global pandemic as a way for library consortia to collaborate and expand the available pool of professional development

opportunities for staff at their member institutions.

PDA offerings include registration information and will direct participants to the host consortium to register. Events will be held using the host's preferred delivery platform.

We've set up a [Professional Development Alliance Libguide](#) listing all sessions that are currently available. In addition, we will be adding all offerings to the new FLVC-Library Services Master Calendar.

FLVC is also committed to "hosting" several free webinars during the year. If you have a topic you would like to see and/or are interested in presenting, please contact Melissa Sykes-Silvers at msykes@flvc.org.

FLVC Master Calendar

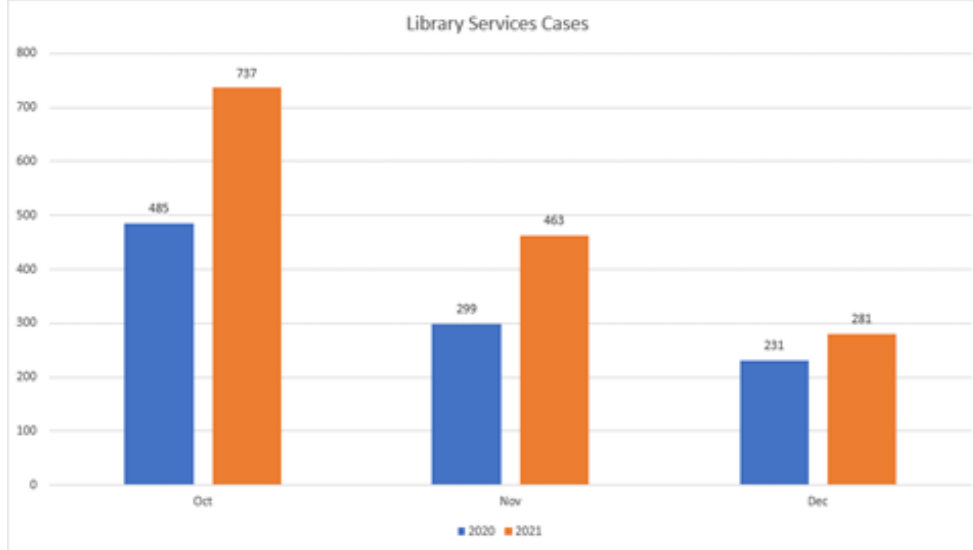
In an effort to keep all library staff up-to-date on all meetings, open office hours, workshops, and other happenings with FLVC, we have decided to publish a Master Calendar (<https://falsc.libcal.com>) listing these events. Links to the calendar can be found on the FLVC website (<https://libraries.flvc.org>), the FLVC Libguides page (<https://falsc.libguides.com>), and on the Alma/Primo VE Resource Guide (<https://falsc.libguides.com/AlmaPrimoVE>). We will strive to keep it up-to-date as much as possible. If there is something that should be listed on the calendar, please contact Dave Whisenant at dwhisenant@flvc.org.

OpenAthens

Four schools (USF, FSU, New College, and Florida Poly) are still working on their vendor templates and vendor outreach. All four have elected to delay their implementation until after the spring semester.

Library Services/Help Desk Cases

In the last few months of 2021, we've seen an increase in cases over those same months of 2020.



Integrated Library Services

Ellen Bishop: Director of Integrated Library Services



New Integrated Library Services Staff

We are pleased to announce that Hisham Makki has joined the Integrated Library Services unit as the Assistant Director of Data Quality. Hisham has spent many years as a librarian, including having an extensive IT background. He has worked for the Library of Congress in the Cairo Overseas Office and most recently as the Systems Manager at the Rogers Public Library in Arkansas. We are excited to have Hisham on our team. Please join us in welcoming him to FLVC!

What's New with Alma and Primo VE

The **January Release** is now on Production, as of January 9, 2022. The January release has been on the sandbox environments since December 19, 2021. **Release Notes for January 2022** are available on the Knowledge Center.

- [Primo VE January 2022 Release Notes](#)
- [Alma January 2022 Release Notes](#)

Important Reminder: Automatic Sandbox Refresh

The premium sandboxes will be updated in February according to Alma's premium sandbox refresh policy. The data and configurations in the premium sandboxes are refreshed by Ex Libris from production twice a year, on the Sunday after the February and August Alma release on the production environments. **The next automatic refresh will be February 13, 2022.**

Be aware: We have no control over the automatic refresh. FLVC cannot request a refresh before February, nor can we request a later date. When data and configuration is changed, we cannot ask to put the environments back to an original or current production state. In the same vein, if you have configuration and scenarios setup for testing, they will be wiped out during the refresh from production.

Open Office Hours Continue

- Alma Acquisitions and Serials: Fridays between 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. ET
- Alma eResources Open Office Hours: Mondays from 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. ET
- Resource Sharing Standing Committee: Third Wednesday of the month from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. ET
- Technical Services Standing Committee: Wednesdays from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. ET
- User Interfaces Standing Committee - Primo: First and third Monday of the month from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. ET

Administrative Roles For Library Staff

The first FLVC Administrator Role training was on December 8 for the User Administrator Role, which authorizes the management of Alma users. We are now scheduling additional sessions on other administrative roles to be offered in January and February 2022. Any institution interested in having staff with administrator privileges must designate one staff member as the Library Role Administrator (LRA). This person will be responsible overseeing all administrative access to Alma and Primo VE for their institution. Other qualified staff can be given various administrative roles, but only under the direction of the LRA. Find your LRA here: [Alma/Primo VE LibGuide](#).

All library staff who receive Administrative Roles must complete the Alma and Primo VE Certification Programs and attend all training sessions offered by FLVC. Information about [Administrative Access to Alma and Primo VE](#) can be found on the Alma/Primo VE Resource LibGuide.

FIU's Wolfsonian Library Migration to Alma/Primo VE

FLVC is working with FIU and the Wolfsonian Museum Library to migrate their library collection and digital collections into Alma and Primo VE. We expect the project to be completed by the of May 2022.

RapidILL Holdings Updates Continue

Work continues with setting up holdings updates for RapidILL in Alma. Contacts at all participating SUS libraries have been reached and implementation work is at varying stages for each. Three libraries, Florida Gulf Coast University, University of North Florida, and Florida State University had holdings successfully uploaded and indexed at RapidILL. Some tweaks are being made to perfect or adjust aspects of the ongoing process for these three schools. Additional schools are in the works and close to being fully implemented.

UBorrow Dashboard

FLVC has added Borrowing and Lending Statistics Reports which can be viewed from each institution's Alma Analytics. The reports can be limited by date range, with data starting from Alma/Primo Go-Live on July 13, 2021. More details can be found on the [Alma Resource Sharing Guide](#).

Orphan Bibs Clean Up

FLVC is starting a project to clean up "orphan" bibliographic records in Alma that have no inventory. In Alma, these records have no holdings, items, or portfolios attached. According to Ex Libris, orphan bibliographic records are seen after an implementation. The records are causing problems with UBorrow. They appear in Primo with an annotation to "check for available services" and have a UBorrow link when logged in. The records can be IZ-only bibs or can be linked to the NZ or to the CZ. Some of the records are migrated, but others were created in Alma.

FLVC is working with each institution to first, suppress the records, then we are requesting that each institution review their set to determine which, if any, of the records should be deleted, remain suppressed or be unsuppressed after items or portfolios are attached. Institutions will need to

evaluate what to do with migrated order records and migrated course reserve records.

Digitization

FLVC has set up Digital Fulfillment for testing in the sandbox for FSU and UCF. This allows patrons to request physical items to be scanned and sent to them via email.

Office Delivery

FLVC has set up Office Delivery for FSU and UCF. This service allows certain user groups that have registered with the library to have items delivered to their home (distance learners) or office.

Library Loan Counts Dashboard

FLVC has added the Library and Loan Counts Dashboard which can be viewed from each institution's Alma Analytics. The dashboard will allow you to easily enter a date range to find loan counts by Item Policy, User Group, Material Type, or Library/Location (for date ranges beginning after 7/13/2021). More details on this and other reports can be found on the [Alma Fulfillment Resource Guide](#).

EOD Configuration Nearing Completion

Alma EOD (Embedded Order Data) record loading configuration is complete for most institutions. EOD enables manual or automated loading of bibliographic records along with PO lines and inventory into Alma from vendor-provided marc records (similar to EOCR or acqorders record loading in Aleph). For more details about configuring Alma EOD, please see the presentation "Using Embedded Order Data (EOD) in Alma" on the [FLVC Acquisitions and Serials Training Videos LibGuide](#).

Joint Use Enhancements

FLVC has set up the new Joint Use Enhancement for UCF and has used parts of its functionality to make USF items viewable to NCF patrons in NCF's catalog. More information about the enhancement can be found [here](#).

Merging and Cleanup of Alma Libraries

FLVC has been working with many institutions to clean up errant libraries that were mistakenly created during migration as well as merging libraries that were separate in Aleph (sublibraries) that make more sense to be grouped under one main library in Alma.

Data Quality Workgroup

Data Quality continues to work with librarians to create profiles for loading e-resource MARC records, and we are creating load profiles for loading MARC records centrally. In addition, we have been working with librarians to batch delete MARC and Patron records.

Our current work is focusing on creating a procedure in which we can download certain vendor MARC records and process them automatically on our Linux server, as we did with Aleph. Our tests have been successful so far, and we are looking forward to scheduling batch loads to run automatically for these records.

Electronic Resources

Rachel Erb: Director of E-Resources

Personnel Update 2022

The E-Resources Collections and Acquisitions Specialist (formerly known as the E-Resources Coordinator) has been posted and the deadline for prospective applicants is January 22. Please feel free to contact us for more information about the position. This is a great opportunity for anyone interested in statewide library services work.

Statewide Collection 2022

We are in the process of paying most invoices associated with the statewide collection. There are a few that are pending due to contracts are in progress.

We are in the process of negotiating a new contract with EBSCO, Lexis Nexis, and Elsevier. We completed negotiating a new contract with ProQuest and it is currently being routed for signatures. It has been a busy year updating our contracts and, although we previously reported that we would also work on a new contract with Gale in 2021, contact negotiations with Gale will begin in the upcoming months.

Group Licensing 2022

Thank you again for another successful group licensing season! We are still working on several agreements, and we will continue to pay invoices throughout this month. Please note that the order forms associated with EBSCO and ProQuest will be signed once the contracts are fully executed.

Digital Services and OER

Rebel Cummings-Sauls: Director of Digital Services and Open Education Resources (OER)

Personnel

I am pleased to announce that our position opening has been updated to a remote location.
Program Manager, Digital Services/OER
Job ID: 49837

Apply at:

https://jobs.omni.fsu.edu/psc/sprdhr_er/EMPLOYEE/HRMS/c/HRS_HRAM_FL.HRS_CG_SEARCH_FL.GBL?Page=HRS_APP_JBPST_FL&Action=U&FOCUS=Applicant&SiteId=1&JobOpeningId=49837&PostingSeq=1

I encourage any qualified candidates to apply. Please let me know if you have any questions. I look forward to receiving applications for this wonderful opportunity.

Excel to MODS

Some of you may not be aware of a tool that we provide for the help in creating MODS files. The tool is called Excel to MODS Transformer Service. As the name suggests it takes an Excel spreadsheet and converts to a MODS file that can then be used in packages being loaded into FL-Islandora. The spreadsheet to use is a metadata template that we created which you download to fill in with your information for the items that you are trying to create a MODS file. After requesting a login to the Excel to MODS Transformer Service, you would login and upload your completed excel file. You would then click the transform button and voila the MODS Transformer Service will create a downloadable zip file containing a MODS file in xml for each line in the spreadsheet. Those that have used the Excel to MODS Transformer Service have reported it to be useful. Give it a whirl, for you too might find it to be useful. For more information please see our LibGuide here: <https://falsc.libguides.com/FL-Islandora/Metadata>.

Grants

Looking for ways to fund digitization or support digital collections? These are a few external opportunities that may be a good option for your next project:

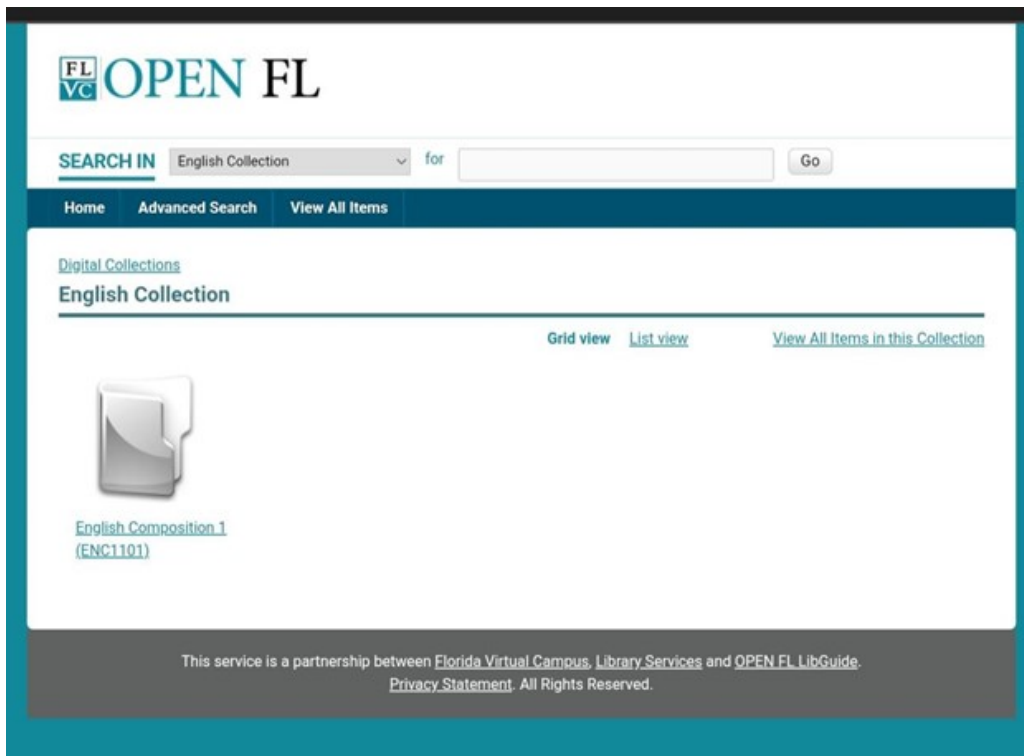
[National Endowment for the Arts](#)
[National Endowment for the Humanities](#)
[National Film Preservation Foundation](#)
[Institute of Museum and Library Services](#)

If you're not ready to start a new project, consider volunteering to learn more about the process.

Open Education Resources

OPEN FL Collections, ENC 1101

Through collaboration with our Textbook Affordability and Open Educational Resources Steering Committee, we are happy to announce our first OPEN FL Curated Collection focused around Resources that support ENC 1101. Please browse selected titles to see what content may fit best for your local institutions. Feel free to let us know what you think and if we can make any improvements.



OER Tool

This month we would like to highlight an OER resource called LibreTexts. LibreTexts is an open textbook initiative whose main objective is to decrease the burden of textbook costs to college students while increasing the availability, usage, and educational value of open textbooks. LibreTexts currently includes 12 disciplines ranging from biology to workforce and they continue to grow in order to give students the best free resources possible. LibreTexts has reported more than 250 million pageviews and over \$30 million dollars saved to students. What a great accomplishment! Since then they have been awarded a \$5 million federal award to further their goal. They hope to save at least \$50 million in textbook costs to students in the next 3 years. If you would like to learn more about LibreTexts and their disciplines please check out our [Libguide](#) and also head over to the [LibreTexts](#) website.

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