

# **Bodleian Social Science Library: Committee on Library Provision and Strategy**

**2.00pm, Friday 16 February 2018**

**Large Discussion Room, Social Science Library  
Manor Road Building**

## **MINUTES**

### **1. Introductions and apologies**

#### **Present:**

*Academic members:* Fran Bennett (Social Policy and Intervention, Chair), Jessie Blackburn (Socio-Legal Studies), Killian Mullan (Sociology). *Student members:* Ryan Bell (Sociology), Friederike Haberstrohe (Politics), Kim Horner (Migration and Forced Migration), Javier Perezsandoval (Politics), Julia Vassileva (International Relations). *Library members:* Aimee Burlakova (St Antony's College Library), Louise Clarke (Head of Social Sciences Libraries), Jo Gardner (Bodleian Social Science Librarian, Minutes), Angelina Gibson (Social Sciences Libraries), John Southall (Social Science Library).

#### **Apologies received:**

*Academic members:* Alpa Parmar (Criminology), James Forder (Economics), Louise Fawcett (Politics and International Relations). *Student members:* Xiyu Bao (Economics), Rachel Parlour (Geography), Kate Samuelson (Social Policy and Intervention). *Library members:* Sarah Rhodes (Social Science Library).

### **2. Minutes of the last meeting and matters arising**

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without corrections.

#### **2.1 Compulsory library induction sessions for PPE students (agenda item 2.2)**

JG reported that library inductions for undergraduates are co-ordinated by the colleges. These inductions are technically compulsory, although the level of emphasis each college gives will vary. The SSL will record attendance at each session from now on, and feed this back to the colleges for information.

#### **2.2 Survey to assess the demand for extended opening hours (agenda item 6)**

JG reported that the SSL would run a survey during 6<sup>th</sup> Week of Hilary Term (Sunday 18 – Saturday 24 February 2018) to gather information on how readers feel about the library opening hours, and

reiterated that this does not necessarily mean that the SSL will be able to extend library opening hours in the near future.

### **2.3 Textbooks for PPE Economics courses**

JG reported that core textbooks have been identified for four PPE papers: Introductory Economics, Quantitative Economics, Macroeconomics and Microeconomics. The SSL will purchase more copies of heavily-used core textbooks and investigate the availability of e-book versions once staff have finished processing current Hilary Term reading lists. The 'High Demand Collection' has also been adjusted to enable students to take these books out of the SSL for up to three hours at a time.

## **3. Report from the Social Science Librarian, Jo Gardner**

### **3.1 Minor works and ergonomic equipment**

JG reported that 18 new desk top sockets will be installed in the Phase 1 reading room, and the Large Discussion Room and East Graduate Study Room will be repainted. Work will take place during the Easter and Summer vacations, and associated costs will be covered by the Bodleian Libraries Minor Works fund.

The following ergonomic equipment will be installed in the SSL by the end of Hilary Term 2018: Three height-adjustable desks, four ergonomic chairs and a video magnifier. The associated costs will be covered by the Bodleian Libraries Accessibility Equipment fund.

### **3.2 Social Sciences Open Access Day**

A Social Sciences Divisional-wide event is being planned for Thursday 14 June 2018, in the Manor Road Building Seminar Room G. The event will focus on the benefits and challenges of Open Access. The day will fall within a wider programme of activities for 'Open Access Oxford Week', 11 – 15 June 2018.

### **3.3 Online Reading Lists pilot project**

Subject to IT Board funding approval, a social sciences pilot will take place with the Law Faculty and Bodleian Law Library for Michaelmas Term 2018. The system will enable students to access their reading lists in a digital environment, with direct links to full-text resources and catalogue availability data. If the pilot is successful this reading lists system will be made available to more departments for the 2019-20 academic year. JB stated she already uses an online reading list management system at another UK university, and this is well received by students and tutors. She asked if the Oxford online reading lists will be integrated with the University Virtual Learning

Environment (VLE). LC replied that for the pilot access will be via the supplier's own user interface, and integration with the new VLE will follow.

#### **4. Subject Consultants' Reports**

JS (Data Access and Management, Economics, Sociology, Social Policy and Intervention) reported that one-to-one research support consultations are still popular, although he is receiving comparatively few requests for Sociology. He continues to deliver regular iSkills courses on data management and research practice, and provides assistance to researchers who need to access archived social sciences datasets. The Bodleian Data Library website provides further information. Eikon, a financial market intelligence database that replaces Thomson Reuters' previous products 'Datastream' and 'Thomson One', is now available for all current University members. Due to licencing restrictions it is accessed via a single terminal in the SSL Data Area.

JG (Politics and International Relations, Criminology, Socio-Legal Studies) reported that the Economist Online is now available, which provides full access to every issue published since July 1997. The cost of this new subscription is shared between Politics and International Relations, Economics and Business Studies. LC noted that the large amount of advertising on the economist.com website is distracting. This issue has been raised with the supplier.

JG has also helped to produce the new Bodleian Libraries LibGuide for newspapers, and welcomed 12 new Reuters Institute Fellows at the beginning of term. Five fellows returned to her for one-to-one research support consultations, and JG reminded the committee that these are available to all students and researchers in her subject areas.

JG reported for SR (International Development, Forced Migration, African and Commonwealth Studies), who has completed subject-specific research skills training sessions for her 6 cohorts. A total of 48 students attended. Special Collections staff have nearly finished archiving the Internally Displaced Persons Project donation from the Brookings Institution, and it will be publicised when completed. SR is also involved in preparations for the next SCOLMA (UK Library and Archives Group on Africa) conference, which will take place in Birmingham on 10 September 2018.

AG (Slavonic and Eurasian Studies) has organised a free trial of the Cold War Eastern Europe digital archive from Taylor and Francis. This includes more than 6,800 UK Foreign Office files from 1953-1960, and it can be accessed via SOLO and OxLIP+ until 30 March 2018.

## **5. Bodleian Libraries and Curators Report, Louise Clarke**

### **5.1 Bodleian Libraries Update for Hilary Term 2018**

The Committee received the Update, and LC drew attention to the implementation of a new SOLO User Interface at <http://solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk>. Bodleian Libraries staff are working with an external design agency to lead some insightful User Experience testing. The new interface will be clearer and more adaptable to smaller devices, and the BETA version will be released in April 2018. KM asked if the e-shelf feature would still be available.

**After meeting note:** JG confirmed that the e-shelf feature would be retained, although it will be rebranded.

## **6. Comments from Student Representatives**

RB reported that feedback from Sociology students was positive.

KH reported that she had taken part in the User Experience testing for the new SOLO interface and was enthusiastic about the outcome.

## **7. Comments from Staff Representatives**

None noted.

## **8. Items for Divisional CLiPS and Curators**

LC will forward the positive feedback about online reading lists and the new SOLO interface to the Social Sciences Divisional CLiPS, the parent committee for the SSL CLiPS.

## **9. Any other business**

None noted.

## **10. Date of next meeting**

Friday 25 May 2018, 2pm.