ALCTS Technical Services Heads of Large Research Libraries
New York University
June 2007

Budget
We continue to enjoy 7% increases in the materials budget, but for the first time in years, we will have no money left over for special end-of-year purchases, and may have to use restricted funds to finish off the year.

Strategic Planning
We have just completed another round of strategic planning that will take us through 2012. Four of the goals focus on developing our organizational culture so that we can better provide the services and resources that our community expects. The Technical Services Department is taking a close look at our organizational culture and is working closely with the University's Office of Learning and Development to identify improvements that can be made in how we do our business.

Personnel
Meg Manahan, our Collections Librarian for Licensed Electronic Resources has accepted the position of Head of Acquisitions. In keeping with one of our organizational goals the position will report to both the Director of Technical Services and Director of Collections and Research Services. In acknowledgement of the need to routinize the handling of e-resources and make use of skills and staffing already in place in Acquisitions, Meg's former position will move from Collectons to TSD.

Process Improvement
A study of YBP shelfready services has led us to consider PromptCat as an alternative to the YBP-provided records. It is hard to match our very cost-effective in-house labelling process, so we are still in the exploratory stages. Regardless of what path we take, we will be doing more cataloging upon receipt and remove selector review from the approval process. We have signed on to the 6-month pilot with Harrasowitz of using their MarcNow cataloging records, and just beginning the assessment.

Offsite Storage
--even though we **still** don't have a permanent facility, we are sending off about 100,000 volumes annually to a temporary site
--we have finished the first pass through the stacks of all single-volume monographs that have not circulated in 5 years; now we are on a pass of monographs that have circulated once in 5 years. We are beginning to send off multivolume sets and adding contents notes when appropriate.

Faculty Digital Archive
Faculty are beginning to use the dSpace repository services, and tech services is beginning discussions with some faculty about improving and regularizing the metadata.

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