



UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Spring 2021 *newsletter*



In this issue

- Do's and Don'ts of Copyright
- Library Snapshot
- Facebook, Instagram and Beyond Google
- Library Research in a Pandemic
- How Things Changed & Stayed the Same

“LIBRARIES are a CORNERSTONE OF DEMOCRACY—where INFORMATION IS FREE and EQUALLY available to everyone.”

*~Dr. Carla Hayden,
Librarian of Congress*



Do's & Don'ts of Copyright

As faculty members it is an important part of our job to avoid Copyright violations. Here are a few helpful facts to help make decisions easier about copyright.

Do's

- Do know that copyright is confusing and the library is here for you.
- Do know that anything published after 1977, the copyright lasts for the life of the author plus 70 years.
- Do know that even if something is under copyright you may still be able to use it under Fair Use. A lot of things fall under Fair Use in education. Please fill out the **Fair Use Form** in order to determine if your item falls under Fair Use.

Don'ts

- Don't worry about using anything published before 1924, it is in the public domain.
- Don't post the recording, entire book, video, entire journal issue, etc. in your online class, even if it is over the whole of the class
- Don't be afraid to ask for help if you are not sure.

To learn more about copyright please contact:
Shelley Harrell: sharrell@apu.edu

[Click here more information](#)

Library Snapshot

library mission by the numbers

1,991 questions answered in four months

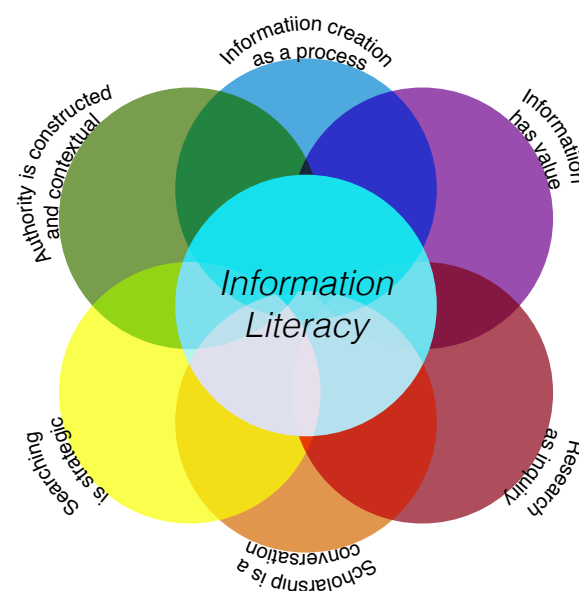
74% of questions were reference or research related, with an 8% increase, requiring librarian level assistance.

390 Average questions answered per day
a 24% increase from 19-20 school year

Follow and Like us to get the latest library news and updates. Click on the Instagram and Facebook icons to check it out.

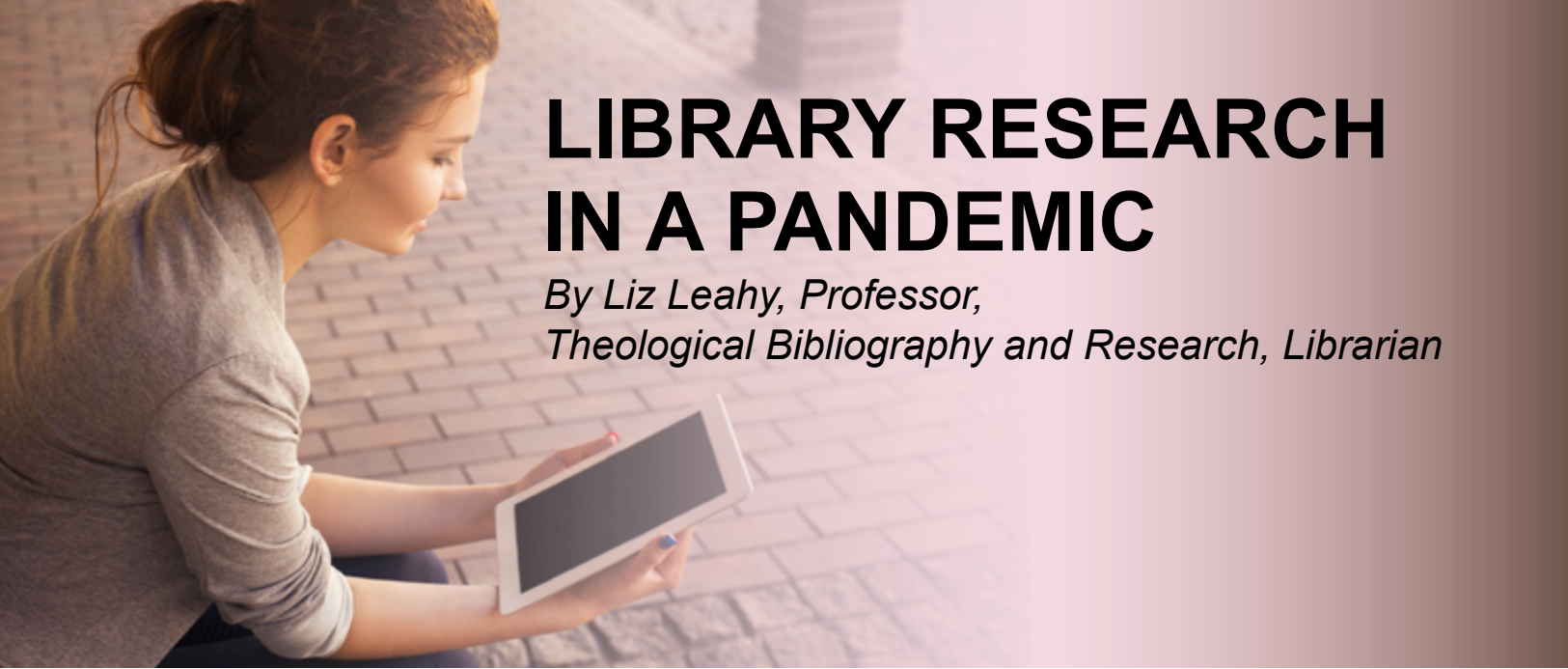


BEYOND GOOGLE



Foundations of Information Literacy & Research

Developed by a team of APU librarians, *Beyond Google: Foundations of Information Literacy*, teaches you to think critically in finding appropriate resources, identify how information is produced and valued, conduct quality research activities, and participate ethically in a community of learning. Students, faculty, and staff can enroll for free and earn a module or course certificate. Faculty are also encouraged to integrate this into their online courses. [Access Beyond Google here.](#)



LIBRARY RESEARCH IN A PANDEMIC

By Liz Leahy, Professor,
Theological Bibliography and Research, Librarian

Over the course of this past year, there have been many changes due to COVID-19 related to instruction. Faculty and students might be teaching/learning from a bedroom, living room, or kitchen table.

Learning new skills in resources such as Canvas and Zoom enable education to continue. But what happens to library research and reference services when the libraries are closed to the public?

The University Libraries faculty and staff have experienced many changes this year as well. While we have a small core group of staff and faculty who come to campus regularly to keep items circulating, Link+ and Inter-Library Loan accessible, and acquiring and cataloging resources, the majority of research instruction is conducted remotely and involve meeting with classes or conducting one-on-one Zoom appointments with students and faculty on a daily basis. Research practices and instruction may have changed but it is definitely as busy as ever – some days even busier!

The majority of research instruction has involved online class meetings and conducting daily individual Zoom sessions with students and faculty.

research

instruction

I asked my colleagues to describe some of the changes that they have seen this year and received these observations. Librarians who serve as subject specialists are ordering more e-books and making other electronic resources available in their disciplines. While some disciplines have relied heavily on e-books for some time, others, particularly in the humanities and theological studies, have had some catching up to do. When e-books are not available, scanning within copyright guidelines have made our collections accessible.

Virtual resources and tools such as [Libguides](#) have been created or expanded. One example is the [Stamps Virtual Theological Library](#), created by Steve Jung and Sharon Ralston, which has had over 21,000 visits since March 2020. Library faculty are joining classes for guest lectures via Zoom and may visit multiple classes a week, with research materials developed

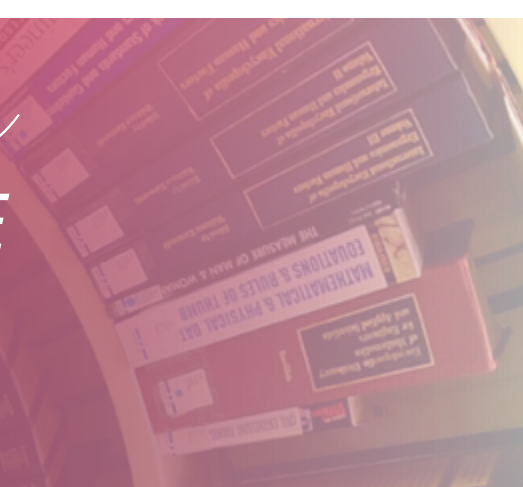
for each class.

Research appointments happen via Zoom and email – often lasting up to or more than an hour on Zoom. A new chat widget has been added throughout the library website and databases, so if a question comes up when one is searching, a librarian can jump in and respond. Monday through Friday there are typically two or three librarians online at a time to answer questions and one librarian is available on Saturdays.

APU University Libraries also participate in a 24/7 library reference service in partnership with schools across North America and the United Kingdom.

We all look forward to when we can offer research services face-to-face again – but until that time, the University Libraries faculty and staff are working hard to provide the best possible research support to the APU community.

*“One must spend time in
GATHERING KNOWLEDGE
to GIVE IT OUT richly.”
~Edmund Clarence Stedman*



HOW THINGS CHANGED

& STAYED THE SAME

What does a post-Covid library world look like? As we transition into the possibility of reopening many parts of the country and coming back to campus, we have to ask what this past year taught us about human behavior and the ability to transition into a new world. How have certain aspects thrived while others have suffered and how do we both prepare and progress?

University Libraries is a staple on and off campus, a fundamental resource for scholarship and information literacy. With Covid, libraries, like many others, had to quickly transition to online. Areas most effected were in-person service, self service, study use, and circulation. But how can in-person services be replaced with online? With online resources and services, the library had essentially and perhaps unknowingly, been preparing for a physical shut down for years. That is, the depth of digital service has made the library well prepared for a Covid world. But what do the challenges look like now and how can we prepare for a post-Covid world?

eBooks and Online Resources

Overwhelmingly, the reliance of online resources has prevailed. The library has long offered and prioritized online resource including databases and eBooks. But the challenges now more prevalent include the growing funds needed to maintain and purchase resources, lack of availability of eBooks, and educating users.

Employee and Student Safety

With the exception of moving books, libraries generally are safe places to work. But now, the top priority in safety applies to capacity and physical distancing. One of the most challenging aspect puts a new perspective on the Christians' call to be a good neighbor. Keeping your distance challenges the library to have to police and maneuver spaces that once welcomed hundreds and also ensure employees and students remain healthy.

Reference and Research Instruction

One of the biggest challenges has been reference instruction. Tools like chat, email, and video were already in place as extra tools, but now dominate. Although Zoom and chat are adequate, there is also frustration felt with both students and librarians in the length of time needed to instruct effectively. In-person service in many aspects is irreplaceable. For example, if a student asks for a course reserve, they could easily be referred to the service desk, whereas now, it requires follow-up. Other challenges comparable to converting to online classes includes inequity in access, lack of diversity in learning preference, technical issues, and time, where online appointments, in comparison, easily takes two to three times as long.

By Jennifer Blair, Head of User Services, Librarian,
Assistant Professor

In-Person Service and Equitable Access

Equity of access is a founding principle of libraries. Unfortunately, due to Covid, the library as well as other services have had to restrict access, adding to challenges for those that rely on spaces for study, Wifi, and computers. The shift towards virtual service consequentially adds to the digital divide for those that rely on in-person service, especially low income and commuters. Post-Covid brings hope that equity will return.

Copyright and Fair Use

A Covid world presents challenges in providing access to resources essential for study and scholarship. Those challenges prompt faculty to find a way to share information with their students. But what is meant to be a commendable effort to help can be harmful. Challenges include distribution of materials without permission or lack of knowledge of fair use. The library is the resource in educating users on copyright, but capacity for students to access materials and faculty to distribute them legally continues to persist.

Information Literacy and Instruction

It is not uncommon for incoming students to have had little experience with libraries, especially if their high school did not have a school library, librarian, or limited access to one, an unfortunately typical occurrence. The consequences are students not having information literacy skills, or the ability to find, evaluate, and use or communicate information. Teaching information literacy is at the heart of libraries. Librarians regularly instruct in classes, chat with students and meet with them one-on-one. But the challenges during Covid has been reaching students that need help.

Librarians also work collaboratively as subject specialists to instruct students in information literacy and research methods. But transition to online instruction presents challenges in adjusting instructional methods that suit the online platform and best allow students to learn.

Time Management

Even with a shut down, the library still goes on and is still 'open,' serving the same students and carrying out the same services. But how are you going to do this effectively with the complexities of less people and higher demand? The challenge is adjusting expectations for wait times for both services and communication for all aspects from general inquiries to reference help.

What may change post-Covid is the capacity of users to utilize online resources and services more frequently and with better ease. What this year has taught us is that users are adaptable. For the library, it has taught us we are also adaptable, but our priorities in meeting user needs will continually change.

[Click here for resources](#)

*A post-Covid
world gives
priority
to online
resources,
equitable
access to
services,
and
information
literacy to
users.*