END OF FUNDING PERIOD REPORT
LAUC Statewide Grants, Research & Professional Development Committee

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TITLE OF PROJECT:

Time Period of Grant: Spring 2016
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Original Abstract as Submitted:

My justification for attending and participating in this conference has a significant history and relevance to my current work. The theme of these conference is three fold: How libraries support personal development; how libraries support training, how libraries develop their staff. Metropolitan or public libraries worldwide have learned a lot from the structure of academic libraries and the increasing number of examples worldwide that have adopted a joint-use environment as the expectations for wider collaboration has been sought as library users rely upon different resources for different purposes. Higher education has outlined different strategies, including distance education for students to enroll in degree programs, take classes and the MOOCs now universally recognized offer new emphases of using new technologies with exposure to campuses around the world. The role that cultural diversity plays in a heavily Islamic country such as Qatar with a strong focus on higher education and intellectual competitiveness will be a driving point of interest to me.

My own library is engaged in serious work as part of the campus strategic planning exercises and the research conducted for this paper contributed to many timely learning options that are relevant to this work. The opportunities to visit this "pearl" in the Persian Gulf where education and libraries have such a prominent role will contribute to a better understanding of the region, new forms of higher education and a chance to visit one of the newest facilities of a national library that has opened in recent years, the Qatar National Library. As a bibliographer, how this library has developed strong multi-lingual collections over the last few years will also be of great interest.

Academic and Public Libraries: Synergies That Build and Strengthen Relationships

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Proposal for paper to be presented at the MetLib 2016 Qatar Conference
23-28 April 2016
Doha, Qatar

Increasingly educational institutions rely upon different library communities, technologies, partnerships, and a range of human and specialized resources to provide and reinforce information and other literacies for a diverse population of users. Students of all ages have competing demands on their time, abilities and resources and come to use multiple libraries depending on the convenience, specific needs and availability to meet their requirements for study spaces, information sources, Internet connectivity and assistance. This paper explores the growing relationships between school and academic libraries with public or metropolitan libraries to meet the diverse needs students today require. The collaborations between academic and public libraries are blurring as more libraries share spaces and properties, distance education is more common, MOOCs are constantly evolving and online resources proliferate requiring high speed connectivity and WiFi access for much academic work. This partnership has been referred to as "joint use" or "joint tenancy" and known to bring both benefits and challenges to their communities.

Traditional library services include the provision for public access, safety, quiet spaces, reasonable accommodation for those with special needs, hosting exhibitions and cultural events, adequate collections, available technologies, connectivity, and increasingly, nourishment with a café culture, plus the environmental factors that reinforce lifelong learning. Public libraries have a greater share of responding to the needs of underserved populations such as the homeless, illiterate, and technologically challenged. Up until recent years, most public libraries did not compete with nor claim to service the research needs of academic/student users, especially those at the post-secondary levels. With the additional call for serving the home-schooled, distant and mobile academic users public libraries have additional demands placed upon them. Today, that has changed as public libraries appear to provide neighborhood or convenient study space and efficient access to the Internet via high-speed networks that many individuals are unable to support. This paper shows how models of stronger collaborations between public and academic libraries reinforce service plans and bridge collection gaps to make overall library services more efficient and relevant. We suggest how each of the three themes of this conference are intertwined to support personal development, training and staff development of library employees.

Examples of how universities such as San Jose State University and the San Jose Public Library (California) share facilities or on a smaller scale how community college libraries and local libraries such as College of the Desert and Palm Desert Public Library (California) serve a mixed community of users will be used to explain how these opportunities can stimulate synergies, combine strengths and provide access to users who are enrolled in different forms of higher education. How these dual libraries function, maintain separate identifies yet combine their services, resources and staffs when optimal is the focus of this paper. There are operational, financial and staffing challenges in this blend of new relationships that effect collection development and resource sharing, equitable space and access to technologies, opening hours, and staffing expertise. The US experience central to this paper can be generalized internationally, resonating with both industrialized and developing nations.

I. ACCOMPLISHMENTS and EVALUATION
- Describe what was achieved during the time period of the grant.

This meeting was a combination formal international conference and study tour because each day allowed for several visits to libraries, museums and historical sites in the region. For most attendees, this was the first professional visit to the region and the number of visits was impressive and offered a chance to see development in Qatar and how that is reflected throughout the Persian Gulf region. It was a very meaningful professional experience as we learned about professional training. The real focus of the trip was to be briefed on the final stages of completion for the Qatar National Library due to open within the year. This huge joint use library brings together the entire country in preserving its national heritage, and offers researchers, students and the public a place to learn, enjoy recreational reading and conduct personal, and a range of research needs. Meetings with world class architects and others associated with the planning efforts in the Qatar Foundation were enlightening.

- What aspects were completed as proposed? If your study could not be completed as proposed, explain how your plans were altered.

The paper was presented and set the stage for some background about the status of joint use libraries throughout the world. The presentation and paper are attached with this document.

- Did the project accomplish what it intended? Did it make a difference?
  - Include any relevant quantitative data, if applicable (e.g. How many individuals have benefited from this project? In what way? This may include various output measures such as circulation, reference transactions, program attendance, survey responses, etc. as appropriate.)

I believe the paper contributed to the understanding of many in the region who were unfamiliar with the history of joint-use libraries. The many examples we spoke about were truly of interest to them. There were many questions about why joint-use is not more common today. However this them will be more fully developed and explored at the IFLA Metlib Open Program in Columbus in August 2016.

  - Include any anecdotes, if applicable.
- What would you do differently next time, if anything?
- What advice do you have for others applying for LAUC research grants?

II. IS YOUR PROJECT COMPLETED?   Yes_x_   No__
If No, what is needed to complete the project? Is more time needed? Or more funds?

III. FINANCIAL STATEMENT
Please explain how the funds received were spent.   Attach your original budget and indicate how well your estimates matched with actual expenditures. Receipts are not necessary.
   There was a $600 registration fee that was basically an all-inclusive fee for the week and my award covered that, for which I am very grateful. In addition, I incurred the costs of 6 nights of hotel lodging and roundtrip airfare from Orange County, CA to Doha, Qatar.

IV. SHARING YOUR PRODUCT/RESULTS
What are your plans for disseminating the results of your work? If it will be a web page or product, or published article or book, when will it be available to the public? Include citations/URLs if known.

I have shared the experience with colleagues both at UCI and more broadly within the IFLA community. Since I am not a central member of the IFLA Metropolitan Libraries Section, it was important to note how many take-aways there were and how relevant many of the library services are to academic libraries. The values for services are the same and the spirit of innovation is found in both library sectors however the key elements is how quickly public libraries can implement and also cancel things when they are no longer needed. The meeting took me out of my comfort zone and forced me to think more broadly about large public libraries, national libraries and even school libraries. I am very grateful for this experience.

V. NOTE
Information included in this report may be reprinted or posted on the web for dissemination to UCOP, other UC Libraries, and future potential LAUC grant applicants.