Welcome from the Library Director

I’m pleased to present this summary of our latest achievements. Our highlights include welcoming new staff, redesigning our website, implementing a new search tool, expanding our training services, and building partnerships with regional libraries. These accomplishments are described more fully below, for they are the more visible results from a productive year. What isn’t as visible, though, is the work we’ve done to improve how we get things done. Together, we’ve worked to improve our culture by creating an environment where “courageous conversations” require less and less courage as speaking up becomes the new norm. We’ve smiled more than we’ve frowned, laughed more than we cried, and had more uptime than down.

On behalf of the Library staff, thank you for your support, feedback, and interest. Avanti!

New Services

Website Redesign and Launch
Towards the end of the year, the University Library was proud to launch our new website. Featuring a mobile-friendly interface and a modern design, the website also showcases our new web-scale discovery system, allowing the KAUST community to search across all of the Library’s resources in a single search (see “Summon comes to KAUST”).

Our professional outreach in this area:

- Jose I. Martin Cuesta, "Discover yourself - Making your online information searchable." At MENA-IUG 2015 Conference, November 2015 - Presentation
- Kenneth Mitchell, Mohamed Baessa, Daryl Grenz, "Balancing Preservation, Access and Curation Issues with Digital Resources." At SLA Arabian Gulf Chapter, April 2016 - Session organizer and moderator
- Molly Tamarkin, "Regional Pan-Arab Consultation on Open Access to Scientific Information and Research." At UNESCO conference in Cairo, Sept 2015 – Invited speaker and Saudi delegate
- Molly Tamarkin, "Implementing Open Access & Repository Tools." At Lebanese Library Association Annual Conference, May 2016 - Keynote speaker

New Partners

Increased Local Cooperation
As part of its role in progressing librarianship with the Kingdom, KAUST University Library has sought to increase local cooperation, welcoming visits from King Abdulaziz University, King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Center, King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology, and University of Business and Technology (UBT). Such meetings have underpinned further discussions on topics such as consortial purchasing, shared staff development activities and interlibrary loans.

Our professional outreach in this area:

- Janardhanan Vijayakumar, "International Strategic Library Partnerships." At SLA Arabian Gulf Chapter, April 2016 - Session organizer and moderator
- Molly Tamarkin, "Regional Pan-Arab Consultation on Open Access to Scientific Information and Research." At UNESCO conference in Cairo, Sept 2015 – Invited speaker and Saudi delegate
- Molly Tamarkin, "Implementing Open Access & Repository Tools." At Lebanese Library Association Annual Conference, May 2016 - Keynote speaker

New Tools

Summon comes to KAUST
In June 2016 KAUST University Library launched a new web-scale discovery service. Summon provides a comprehensive search of our print and e-books, e-journal articles, e-book chapters, conference proceedings, repository collections, dissertations, presentations, and even our own Libguides.

External Engagement

Examples of our external engagement appear throughout this report. Additional examples are below:

- Kenneth Mitchell, Molly Tamarkin, Mohamed Baessa, "Between a Microscope and a Museum: The Tension Between Content and Context in Digital Collections." At CNI Fall Meeting, December 2015 - Presentation
- Kenneth Mitchell, Mohamed Baessa, Daryl Grenz, "Balancing Preservation, Access and Curation Issues with Digital Resources." At SLA Arabian Gulf Chapter, April 2016 - Presentation
- Christopher Graves, "When Library and Archival Science Methods Converge and Diverge: KAUST’s Multi-Disciplinary Approach to the Management of its Audiovisual Heritage." At International Federation of Library Associations, July 2015 - Presentation
- Christopher Graves, authored 3-part series on Records Management and Information Governance for Ontario Library Association, November 2015

Open Access Week Success
KAUST University Library conducted its Open Access Week from 12 to 14 October, the highlight of which was the Keynote Speech of Brewster Kahle (Founder & Digital Librarian, Internet Archive). Brewster addressed KAUST Faculty and students on the topic “The Universal Access to All Knowledge”.

Our professional outreach in this area:

- Janardhanan Vijayakumar & Molly Tamarkin, "Open Access, Library Subscriptions, and Article Processing Charges." At 8th International Conference on Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Libraries, May 2016 – Presentation
- Mohamed Baessa, "Digital Repositorian’s Vision Sets New Standards for Open Access in the Gulf Region." March 2016 - Interview with Michelle Ponto

PlumX Goes Live
Last year we announced that we were implementing PlumX analytics to our Research Repository. In October 2015 PlumX went live providing metrics on usage, citations, mentions, and social media references. PlumX widgets appear for all items in our repository as well as providing metrics for departments, programs, and authors.

Our professional outreach in this area:

- Janardhanan Vijayakumar, "University Ranking and Research Impact Measures." At International Workshop on Quality of Research Writing and Research Impact Measures at Gitam University, January 2016 - Presentation

Staff Appointments

During 2015-16, the Library filled a number of positions:

- Garry Hall (Special Projects Lead)
- Jacquelyne Waldron (Library Services Assistant)
- Jayamika Shah (Office Coordinator)
- Jose Martin Cuesta (Systems Specialist)
- Kenneth Mitchell – who changed role from Special Projects Lead to Systems & Digital Services Manager
- Nofu AlSulaimani (Library Services Assistant)