



VIVA
Annual
Highlights



2020-2021

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Director's Note

Anne C. Osterman

At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, I had only hoped to maintain current programming during these difficult times. Instead, the Committees, Task Forces, and Working Groups not only kept existing services running, they collaborated on exciting, new initiatives for the VIVA consortium. From negotiating advances in Open Access deals to starting a new resource sharing service to diversifying the offerings of the Open & Affordable Course Content program, it seems that each area of VIVA's work grew in a way that was important to its member libraries.



The consortium also deepened its commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion across its services and collections, and the sense of community among library directors truly seemed to grow through personal sharing in regular calls.

I am incredibly grateful to the VIVA Office staff for their steady dedication to the work of the consortium throughout the past year, and we would certainly be nowhere without our member library volunteers.



Collections Committee



The Collections Committee is responsible for reviewing and recommending the acquisition or renewal of products within VIVA's shared collections. In FY21 this involved the negotiation of around 40 agreements for products totaling just under \$16 million, approximately half from Central Funds and half from member cost shares and local subscriptions.

Highlights

CARES Act Streaming Media

Thanks to funds from the CARES Act, supplemented by one-time Central Funds, VIVA acquired streaming media for all of the public institutions to support online and remote education during the pandemic: Academic Video Online, the Docuseek2 Essential Collection, and three SAGE Video collections in Counseling & Psychotherapy, Criminology & Criminal Justice, and Nursing.

Partnership for Shared Book Collections

VIVA joined the PSBC, a federation of monograph shared print programs in North America. Member library representatives currently represent VIVA on the Best Practices for Policy and Strategy, Best Practices for Shared Print Data, Communications and Advocacy, and Return on Investment working groups.

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Collections

Thanks to funds from SCHEV's Fund for Excellence and Innovation, supplemented by one-time Central and Pooled Funds, VIVA acquired for all of the public institutions two collections from Gale: Indigenous Peoples of North America and a custom collection of 57 EDI-focused ebooks, and for all public and private institutions two collections from Readex: African Americans and Reconstruction, 1865–1883 and African Americans and Jim Crow, 1883–1922.

\$900,000
from CARES
Act &
SCHEV Grant
Funds expanded
shared
collections in
FY21.

Collections Committee

Highlights continued

Budget Support During Difficult Times

VIVA negotiated down scheduled increases, and occasionally achieved contract reductions, in response to member library budget shortfalls. Although VIVA itself was largely spared, the Collections Committee developed prioritized cancellations for around \$1,000,000 in shared content. The collaborative spirit of the member libraries shone through in their willingness to pitch in when some libraries had to drop cost shares due to financial crisis at their institutions.

VIVA has a new focus on supporting small publishers and increasing collection bibliodiversity.

Support for Small Publishers Task Force

The Task Force engaged in extensive discussions with distributors, publishers, and book sellers to develop a number of initiatives, including the acquisition of the HistoryMakers Digital Archive, an important small publisher of African American video oral histories, and the outline for a shared print approval plan based on Small Press Distribution and Independent Publisher Group content.

Open Access Task Force

In addition to careful review and discussion that informed the ACM and Wiley Open Access deals, among other offers considered, the Task Force developed Umbrella Values, Value Metric tool criteria, updates to the VIVA Model for Publisher Contracts, and more as ways to build decision-making infrastructure for Open Access deals for VIVA going forward.

EDI Update of the Value Metric Tool

A working group partnered to add EDI values to the existing collection assessment tool, focusing on three areas: Accessibility, Content, and Engagement. Informed by conversations with publishers, accessibility experts, and an EDI group within a member library, there were numerous adjustments and additions proposed for the tool.

Collections Committee

Highlights continued

Wiley Read and Publish Deal

VIVA negotiated a new, expanded Open Access deal with Wiley for 2022–2024 that is estimated to cover 70% of VIVA publishing in the first year, growing to 90% in the third year.

ACM Read and Publish Deal

VIVA negotiated a consortial version of the ACM OPEN model that enables Open Access publishing at no cost for all participating VIVA institutions. The model accommodates a wide range of institutions with pricing derived from actual publishing costs and an acceleration of the ACM OPEN model to an early, full flip.

Collections Forum

The Collections Forum was held virtually on Friday, May 21, 2021 and was organized around the theme of “Building Adaptable and Versatile Collections.” Denise Pan, Associate Dean for Collections & Content at the University of Washington Libraries, was the keynote speaker, and additional sessions included the topics of supporting remote learning during a pandemic, championing a disability studies collection, supporting Open Access from the library’s budget, and enabling access to Open Access monographs.





Open and Affordable Course Content Committee

The Open & Affordable Course Content Committee is responsible for overseeing and recommending consortial programs, training, and operations that support the adoption of open and affordable course content at VIVA member libraries. This includes reviewing and recommending the acquisition or renewal of products, providing direction for the VIVA Open Grants program, supporting VIVA's Open Education Network System Membership, overseeing affordable course content initiatives, and allocating the annual budget of \$360,000.

Highlights

VIVA Course Mapping Project

The VIVA Course Mapping Project supports the discovery of OER aligned to high enrollment courses in Virginia. The first phase of the project has involved curating and mapping OER to high enrollment transfer courses as identified by the Transfer Virginia initiative. During the pandemic, the Course Mapping Project Task Force also developed highly successful discipline-specific virtual faculty review sprints, which further ensure that these resources are evaluated by those who may adopt them for their courses.

Curriculum Driven Acquisitions Program

The Curriculum Driven Acquisitions program moved from pilot to program this year. The goal of the program is to reduce the cost of course materials for Virginia students by matching titles on bookstore lists to ebooks available for purchase or already held in VIVA shared e-book collections. The ebooks purchased are added to the participating library's permanent collections. All books matched to bookstore lists are acquired with unlimited user access models.

OEN Coordinating Committee

The OEN Coordinating Committee continued to expand its support of library leaders during the pandemic by holding virtual office hours and supporting asynchronous workshop options. In 2021, 121 faculty attended 11 virtual workshops. The total number of OER adoptions through this program in Virginia to date includes 195 open resources, benefitting 30,576 students, with an estimated cost avoidance of \$3,600,000.

To date, there have been 195 OER adoptions through the OEN program with an estimated student cost avoidance of **\$3.6 million.**

Open and Affordable Course Content Committee

Highlights continued

VIVA Open Grants

Since program inception, the VIVA Open Grant program has received more than \$2.5 million in requests for funding. It has awarded just over \$748,000 in grants across a wide variety of subjects, disciplines, and institutions, and anticipates \$18,000,000 in student cost avoidance over the next five years. This year, the grant program included in the call for proposals that grants should impact educational equity and student outcomes in traditionally underserved communities, an important step in prioritizing the EDI goals of the Committee.

Virginia Course Materials Survey

The Virginia Course Materials Survey Task Force has developed, and will be deploying this fall, a statewide student survey to examine how course material costs impact educational equity in Virginia and what materials students find most beneficial to their learning.

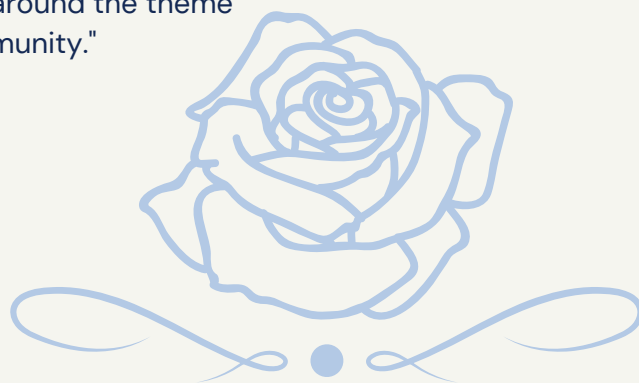
Open and Affordable Community Forum

The Open and Affordable Community Forum was held virtually on September 25, 2020. Dr. Amy Collier, Associate Provost for Digital Learning at Middlebury College, gave the keynote presentation around the theme of "Creating a Caring Community."

Adopt Grants

This past year, VIVA Open Grants allocated a portion of funding specifically for VIVA Open Adopt Grants. These grants focus on supporting faculty in adopting a pre-existing open educational resource for a recurring course. The lower barrier to entry in application process enables these grants to reach a wider array of VIVA institutions and instructors that may not have considered open resources before.

VIVA has
awarded \$748K
in grants
resulting in a
student cost
avoidance of
\$18 million
over five years.



Outreach Committee



The Outreach Committee promotes and publicizes VIVA's resources, programs, and services by developing internal and external communication strategies around the state. The Committee encourages deep collaboration by building awareness and community among the member libraries through the sharing of local information and stories and provides support for the Annual VIVA Member Meeting and Community Forum.

Highlights

VIVA Member Spotlights

The committee's Featured Member Library program shifted its focus this past year to highlight how VIVA Libraries responded to the pandemic. Stories included what creative solutions different institutions employed to being suddenly remote, or as they transitioned back to campus, and how the consortium or library community supported them during this time. These snapshots helped institutions to learn from one another and helped VIVA Central to tell the broader story of the shifts in library services across the state.

Liaison Initiative

The Outreach Committee's Liaison program, designed to support the promotion and dissemination of VIVA initiatives, was shifted in light of consortial priorities during the pandemic to address the most urgent needs of members. This included adding communication support to the following areas: COVID-19 VIVA Libraries Reopening and Teleworking; COVID-19 VIVA Teaching and Learning Resources; COVID-19 Faculty Research Resources; and COVID-19 VIVA Budgets and Negotiations. This pivot was an important way to ensure the Outreach Committee was helping to meet the most pressing needs of the consortium during the crisis.

Land and Enslaved People Recognition Statement

The Outreach Committee drafted a land and enslaved people recognition statement to be read at the beginning of VIVA events. This statement is meant to recognize and honor both the ancestral lands of Virginia's indigenous groups as well as the enslaved people whose labor was stolen to build the wealth of Virginia.

VIVA drafted a
Land and
Enslaved
People
Recognition
Statement to be
read at VIVA
events.

Outreach Committee

Highlights continued

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

In addition to a standing agenda item that focuses broadly on what the Outreach Committee can do to foster equitable, diverse, and inclusive environments in the consortium, the committee also updated their communication template to ensure outreach efforts thought through the following questions: Are we magnifying voices that are often diminished? Are we creating communication structures that support a diversity of voices? Are we considering targeted outreach measures to traditionally underrepresented groups? Additionally, the Outreach Committee compiled a page of VIVA Member Institution Anti-Racism Resources to further magnify the anti-racist efforts of its member libraries.

Outreach Events Committee

After a successful virtual VIVA Users' Group meeting in the fall, the Outreach Committee realized the benefits of having an in-person and virtual meeting option for the consortium. The committee decided that, once it is safe to do so, it would continue to host an in-person Member Meeting at VLA, focused primarily on VIVA business and updates from programs of note, and to also host a virtual VIVA Community Forum in the spring, which would have broader programming and focus. To develop, organize, and support these two events, an Outreach Events Planning Committee was formed.





Resource Sharing Committee

The Resource Sharing Committee develops and recommends policies and operations related to borrowing, copying, and archiving of individually-owned resources at VIVA institutions and promotes resource sharing among VIVA members. There have been over two million loans among VIVA members since the program began in 1995.

Highlights

COVID-19 Resource Delivery Task Force

As VIVA schools closed their libraries during the pandemic, the VIVA ILL Community worked closely together to support each other. An excellent example of this was the COVID-19 Resource Delivery Task Force, which supported the community in determining safe materials handling best practices, shared ILL telework strategies, and communicated operating and staffing statuses to other institutions during the crisis. They also held regular community calls and served as an extraordinary resource for their colleagues across the state navigating the sudden shifts due to the pandemic.

RapidILL

This past year, many institutions had to make difficult cancellation decisions due to financial challenges. To mitigate the loss of content on students and researchers, the Committee investigated and recommended the acquisition of RapidILL to support faster delivery of resources across the Commonwealth. The service provides automatic processing, routing, and load leveling, and gives free access to resources through additional pods, or groups of libraries outside of Virginia.

The Resource
Sharing
Community
supported
members during
the COVID-19
pandemic.

Resource Sharing Committee

Highlights continued

CDL Task Force

The Committee's 2019 Community Needs Analysis, as well as the emergence of COVID-19 and the switch to virtual instruction in Virginia, led to a call for statewide guidance on the practice of Controlled Digital Lending (CDL), and the Committee collaborated with the VIVA Collections Committee to create a Joint CDL Task Force. This Task Force has created a framework that summarizes the needs CDL addresses for VIVA libraries, examines the legal basis for these practices, and provides examples of best practices. The Task Force has also created a web page of resources that includes CDL FAQs, a review of available CDL Mechanisms, CDL Talking Points to facilitate conversations at member institutions, and CDL Workflow examples.

ILL Community Forum

This past year, the ILL Community Forum, VIVA's longest-standing yearly event, quickly shifted to virtual. The COVID-19 Resource Delivery Task Force gave the keynote talk "Lessons Learned During COVID-19." The Forum Planning Committee worked hard and successfully translated a traditionally interactive in-person day to a robust online program that met the community where they were.

Community Calls

Throughout the year, the Committee hosted a series of community calls to respond to the current resource sharing needs across the state. These calls have explored ILL training needs within the state and the impact of Big Deal breaks on the ILL community.



Steering Committee



The Steering Committee provides leadership for VIVA and reports to the Library Advisory Committee (LAC) of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV).

Highlights

VIVA Anti-Racism Webinar Series

Following the LAC/VIVA Statement Against Racism and Commitment to Taking Anti-Racist Actions, VIVA formed a new Anti-Racism Webinar Series Task Force. The first webinar of the series, focused on the topic of leadership, was held on February 25th, and there were 236 attendees. Elaine Westbrooks, Vice Provost of University Libraries and University Librarian at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, gave the keynote talk, and there was a panel of librarians from VIVA libraries: David Heilbrun, George Mason University; Lisa Payne, John Tyler Community College; and Yasmeen Shorish, James Madison University. The work of the task force also included creating a document that can be used to support in-depth, local discussions.

Support During COVID-19

In addition to the committee work described above, VIVA hosted regular calls for Library Deans and Directors as well as Library Operations personnel to support the exchange of ideas and best practices during the pandemic.

As part of a commitment to taking action, VIVA has developed an anti-racist webinar series.



These highlights would not have been possible without the efforts of VIVA members.
Thank you for your contributions.



Acknowledgements

[Collections Committee](#)

[Open and Affordable Course Content Committee](#)

[Outreach Committee](#)

[Resource Sharing Committee](#)

[Steering Committee](#)

[VIVA Central Staff](#)

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