

# Are We Serving Our Faculty? Comparing STRS Faculty Citations and Library Holdings, 2006-2012

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## **Are We Serving Our Faculty?**

While many recent studies have compared faculty citations with library holdings, no recent study exists (1970!) which analyzes Religious Studies and Theology collections exclusively in this context.

What are faculty citing in their monographs? Did the library own the cited items? What citation patterns emerge from the data?

The results of this study will have implications for storage/weeding decisions, approval plans for collections, consortial collection development, and interlibrary loan.

### Religion Research poses Unique Challenges

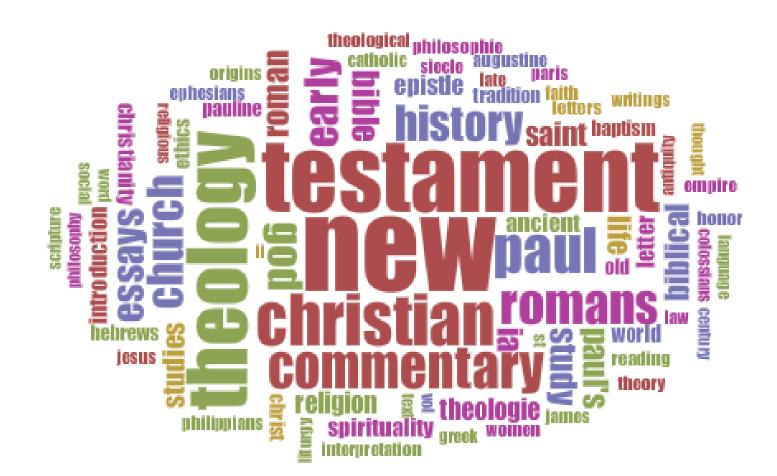
- Large chronological range of citations in all fields of religion: (ancient, medieval, modern)
- Many languages, ancient and modern
- Multiple editions of works from ancient manuscript to modern critical editions and translations
- The edition can be as important as the text
- Scholars do the majority of their publishing in articles
- Monographs are heavily skewed toward Biblical Studies
- Commentary genre makes up a large chunk of published monographs in religion. These tend to have very extensive bibliographies, and the text itself usually includes a mix of translation and secondary research.

### **Methodology**

- 22 monographs: Biblical Studies Old Testament (3), Biblical Studies New Testament (8), Church History (6), Religious Studies (3), and Theology (2)
- 13 authors (single authors with one exception)
- The citations in the bibliography of each monograph was entered into an Excel spreadsheet
- Each citation was checked against library holdings

## **Quick Snapshot**

100 Most Frequently Used Words in the Titles



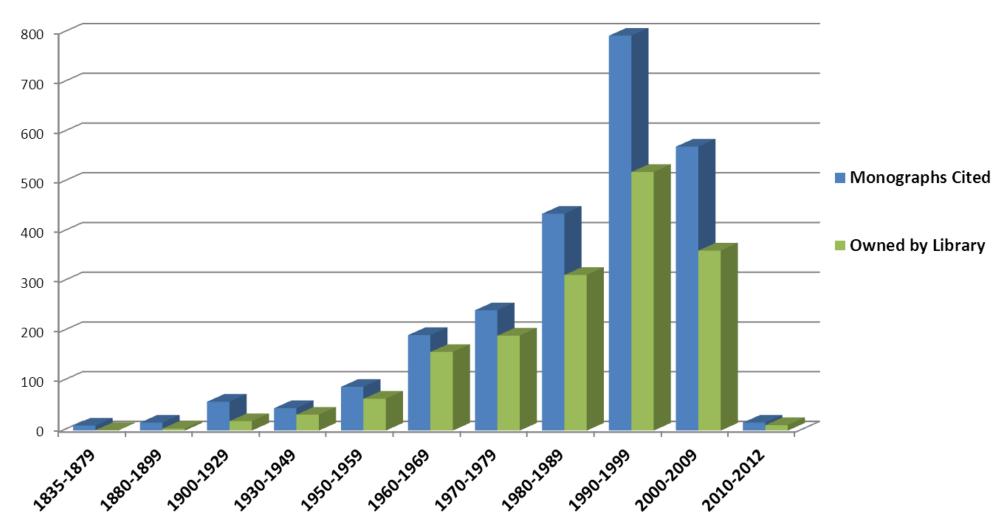
**Top 10 Title Words and Frequency** 

New (215), Testament (193), Theology (152), Christian (124), Paul (104), Commentary (92), Romans (83), History (80), Church (79), Early (78), God (73)

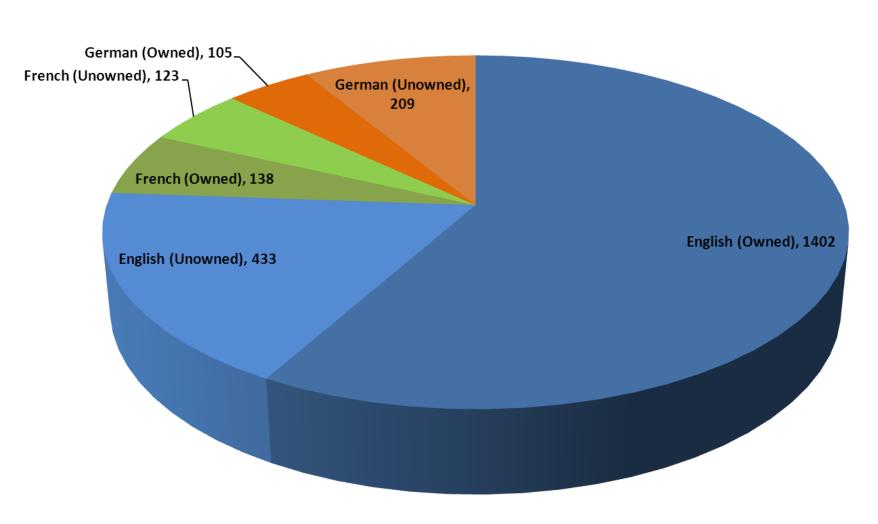
### **Data and Preliminary Results**

- Citations to monographs: 2,735
- Total unique monographs cited: 2,468
- Journal article citations: 1,100
- Number of journals cited: 350
- Average # of times each work was cited: 1.11
- Range of publication dates of cited works: 1835-2012
- Mean publication date of cited works: 1985
- Median publication date of cited works: 1992
- Mode publication date of cited works: 1994
- Each monograph averaged 124 citations • Cited monographs owned by Library: 1675 (67.87%)
- Cited works were in English: 74.6%; German a distant second

## **Monographs Held by Library by Date**



### **Monographs Owned by Language**



## **Conclusions**

- · We are meeting the needs of our faculty but there are deficits: monographs in other languages (especially German and French) were not in our collection; titles identified as core titles but were not in the collection (missing, stolen?)
- · In many cases, our library owned a different edition or translation of a title monograph (% of ownership will be higher)
- Festschriften are often cited by the Religious Studies faculty

### **Further Research**

- Compare results with WRLC holdings using GreenGlass
- Compare % of owned monographs with approval plan and firm order acquisition
- Use AntConc or R (RStudio) to further text mine data

### References

Kayongo, Jessica, and Clarence Helm (2012). Relevance of Library Collections for Graduate Student Research: A Citation Analysis Study of Doctoral Dissertations at Notre Dame. College & Research Libraries 73.1: 47-67.

Kellsey, Charlene, and Jennifer Knievel (2012). Overlap between Humanities Faculty Citation and Library Monograph Collections, 2004–2009. College & Research Libraries 73.6: 569-583.