

Testimony on Technology submitted to Denise Hersey & Maria Avery on 4/8/22

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Hi Denise and Maria,

I'd be happy to share what I've experienced in the last nineteen years in my position at Middlebury College. It is a short testimony. The Middlebury College Library has in my experience never really lacked anything with regard to your statement:

"whether Vermont libraries have sufficient access to basic technological resources, cyber-security resources, high-speed Internet, electronic catalogs, interlibrary loan and other interoperable systems, and appropriate hardware and software".

My position puts me right in the middle of most of the systems/resources listed in the quote above. I'm very hands-on with the library systems and the related interoperable systems.

Even though we have steadily had reduced budgets since the 2009 economic downturn, we have been able to purchase / license various systems, move many of our library systems "to the cloud" or other vendor-hosted solutions, and add/update services. We've expanded services while reducing staffing. Nevertheless, we were well positioned to provide ample support to Middlebury's globally far-flung components both before and during the COVID lockdowns.

Library Systems the Midd Library currently uses:

- Innovative Interface's Sierra (the ILS a.k.a. the electronic catalog -- vendor-hosted)
- EBSCO Discovery Service (vendor-hosted)
- LibGuides (and a whole suite of LibApps from SpringShare vendor-hosted)
- Website is part of the main Drupal site with many library-specific integrations. (I bear no responsibility for its design.)
- EZproxy for e-resource authentication (2 self-hosted instances)

- Docutek ERes (electronic reserves) (self-hosted)
- ILLiad (interlibrary loan) (self-hosted)

None of the curricular tech / learning management systems are included here. That's a different department.

All that said, I am not a person who creates or administers budgets. However, I will say that, at least to this point, the College has been well able to support its mission with the level of library resourcing described above. You may want to contact the Middlebury Library Dean of Libraries or leadership group to discuss budgets. I am happy to provide their contact information if you need it.

In addition, because you state that all this is will be matter of public record, I'll state that everything I've written is my professional opinion and does not contains any confidential information.