



Winthrop University

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– Carrie Volk Johnston, systems librarian, Ida Jane Dacus Library

About Winthrop University

Nationally recognized for its quality and value, Winthrop prides itself on preparing students to live, learn, and lead for a lifetime. Founded in 1886 with just 21 students gathering in a single borrowed room in Columbia, S.C., Winthrop has grown into a comprehensive university of more than 6,000 students studying arts and sciences, education, business administration, and visual and performing arts. In 1895, the school moved to its current home in Rock Hill, about 20 minutes from Charlotte, and its tree-lined campus and neo-Georgian buildings have earned the university a listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

After outgrowing its first library, Winthrop built the Dacus Library in 1969, which it named after Ida Jane Dacus, the school's first librarian, and the first South Carolinian to receive professional training in library studies. A \$1 million renovation project in 2012 completely refurbished the main level of the 60-year-old building, added study rooms and computers, and updated technology services. Today, Dacus offers students and faculty access to the most up-to-date publications in their disciplines, including over 20,000 electronic journals, full-text databases, e-books, and more than 100 databases. The library has circulating laptops and wireless access for those using their own laptops, tablets and smart phones. The



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library website allows students to read many materials online – in the library, in a dorm room, or pretty much anywhere else.

Xerox BookCentre completely replace copiers at Dacus Library

As renovations neared completion, Winthrop's Systems Librarian, Carrie Volk Johnston, learned from her Xerox representative about its partnership with Scannx and how its self-service book scanning kiosks were perfectly suited to libraries and academic institutions. With its intuitive touchscreen display and large book-edge scanning bed, the solution is both easy to use and flexible.

At first, Johnston thought the BookCentre would be a good fit for the library archives, where the patented beveled-edge scanner design would allow them to scan delicate materials without pressing them flat onto the glass, damaging spines in the process. But as she looked into all its different features, she realized it was something they needed for students, faculty, and staff. "When I heard about the functions of these scanners, I realized it gives us a lot more options," she said.

Midway into the academic year, Johnston replaced the three library copiers with two Xerox BookCentre 7130 kiosks.

"It was a soft start," she said. "I didn't make an announcement or anything. And I never had to instruct a student in how to use them. When they asked for a copier or scanner, we just said 'Yes. There it is. You can scan to print, e-mail, flash drive, your iPad; whatever you want.' And they said, 'Oh. Cool.' We literally point them to the scanners and we don't hear from them again until they are walking out the door saying thank you."

That was certainly not the case with copiers, or with the old desktop scanners the library used before. "Copiers jam, and people are overwhelmed looking at this huge piece of equipment," said Johnston. "This is a very simple interface. You choose what you want and it walks you through the steps. It's very self-explanatory for the



CASE STUDY

user. I haven't had to touch them in a while and that's a good thing. It's certainly nice not to have to change the toner or deal with the fifth paper jam of the day."

Some libraries might be reluctant to completely replace copy machines with a new technology, but Johnston was convinced it was the right way to go. "It was all or nothing – pull the plug," she said. "People fall back on what they are comfortable with. I think it's easier to say, yes we have a copier, here it is, and you can do whatever you want." And she hasn't regretted the decision. The copiers "are not coming back," she said. And she won't be replacing the flatbed scanner that recently broke, either. "It was more trouble than it was worth."

Students Embrace Xerox BookCentre As A Greener Option

Having an easy-to-use, multi-function device was Johnston's first priority. But the scan-to-cloud technology of the BookCentre means documents and photos can be shared digitally, reducing the high-volume paper use of printing and copying.

"Having something that simple can mean a lessening of paper," she said, which fits in perfectly with Winthrop's 'Going Green' initiative. "The dean was really happy about that."

So are the students. A recent article by Frances Parrish in Winthrop's student newspaper, the *Johnsonian*, was headlined "Library gets greener equipment." Quoting Dean of Library Services Mark Herring, Parrish reports that students used 40,000 pages copying and printing during the 3 1/2 month fall semester, before the scanners were installed. At the time of the article, the library didn't review the scanner logs to determine the impact the BookCentre had on printing, but the *Johnsonian* reported that "Herring has already noticed a decrease in printing quota since acquiring the scanners."

Some of that decrease is likely driven by practical economics. Winthrop uses a pay-as-you-go system for printing, charging 4 cents per page for black and white and 35 cents per page for color, with a limit of 25 pages at any given time. The Xerox



CASE STUDY

BookCentre is integrated with the university's print services system, so students must log in before they can use the scanner. Scanning is free, but once they scan their materials, students have a choice: pay to print it, or choose a free option like saving it to a USB drive, e-mail, or Google Drive.

Unleashing The Potential Of The Xerox BookCentre

Johnston's first priority was a trouble-free solution that worked with Winthrop's network and print services, but she is particularly excited that the BookCentre can integrate with major Inter Library Loan systems including OCLC Article Exchange, ILLiad and Odyssey.

"At the time, we wanted to see what the usage was going to be, and I wanted it to work out of the box in our environment," said Johnston. "But that was a huge factor in my purchasing the product. You have to have multi-use devices these days. It's a much bigger value for your money." Already, the Inter Library Loan staff is beginning to use the BookCentre to e-mail scanned materials.

For now, though, she is happy with how easy the transition was from copy machines to full-service scanners. "In terms of set up, it was very straightforward, right out of the box," she said. "It did exactly what they told us it would do. It's given the users multiple options without having to sit down at a computer. It's been very hands off in terms of assistance with patrons. And the tech support has been wonderful. Their support in terms of making the product operate the way we need it to was great."