

A LITTLE HISTORY...

In 2003 the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, the US agency focusing on alcohol research, de-funded ETOH, its alcohol science bibliographic database. This left the alcohol research community without a comprehensive compilation of the research literature. Substance Abuse Librarians and Information Specialists (SALIS) fought to retain the database without success.

Concerned with the loss of ETOH as well as other addiction libraries and databases, SALIS' international advocacy group took on the task of monitoring this emerging trend, and asking the question-what should we do?

ADVOCACY GROUP ACTIVITIES

On-going monitoring of disappearing resources: to date over 65 specialist addictions libraries and databases worldwide have been closed, leaving the field without key collections essential for current and historical research.

Alerted the field to the fact that many of the alcohol and drug specialist libraries were being closed or downsized with collections being discarded, and sought their views..

Through

- Editorials and correspondence in *Addiction*
- Presentations – from 2004 onwards to the present given at Kettil Bruun Society; International Society of Addiction Journal Editors; International Confederation of Alcohol, Tobacco and other Drug (ATOD) Research Associations, Society for the Study of Addiction
- Meetings and discussions with SALIS' then equivalent organisation in Europe the European Association of Libraries and Information Services on Addictions

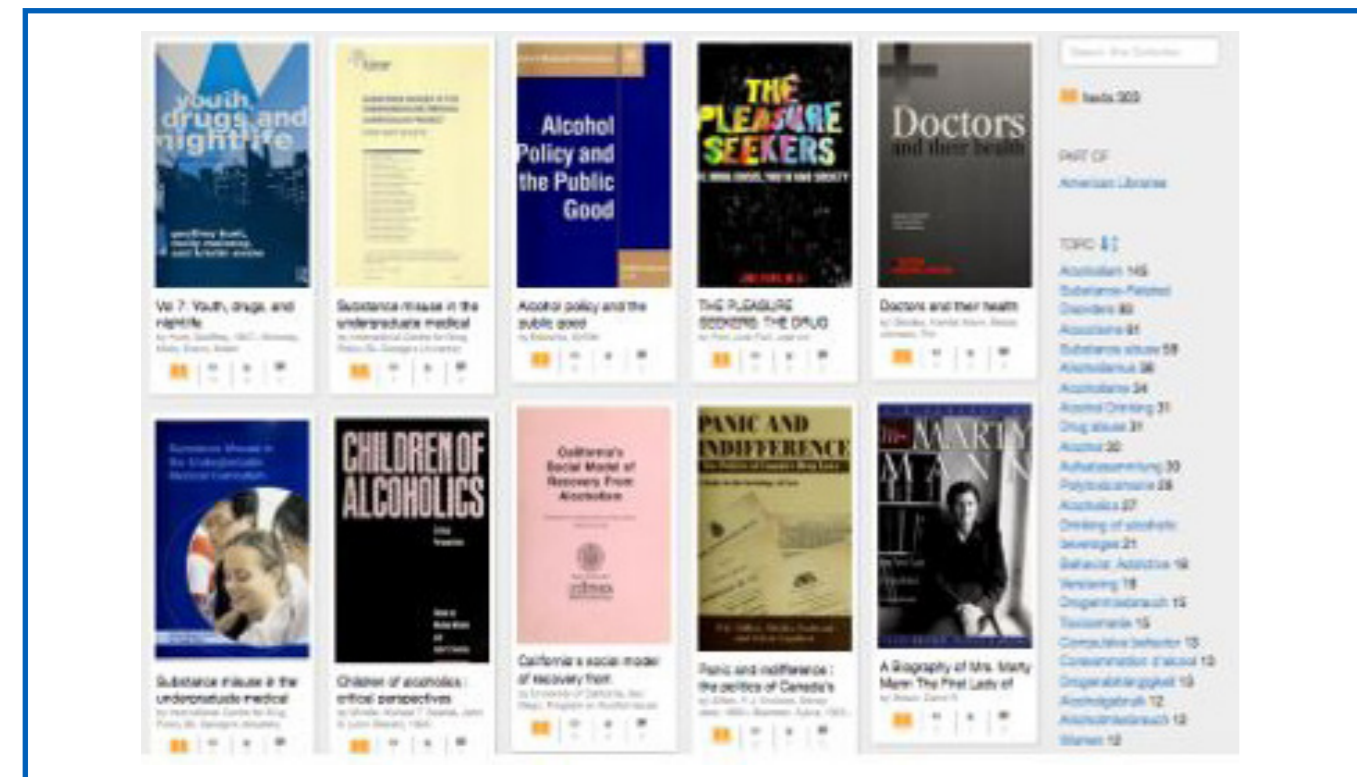
Summary of views

- Needs of future researchers and historians must be borne in mind when considering archiving or disposing of what might be considered ephemeral information, but which in a decade or two might be vital for evaluating the success, or otherwise, of current policy decisions, and studying the epidemiology of substance use/addictions.
- Failing to preserve the field's literature, means that there is a risk of being unable to track trends, outcomes, policy decisions, changes in attitudes, and, more generally, to build on past experience.
- Books, documents, papers, and grey literature are vital to every aspect of the alcohol, tobacco and other drug (ATOD) field of study, and comprise an 'essential building blocks in the future development of addiction science research' (Holder, 2006).

The views and impact upon the research communities led SALIS to conclude that there is and was, a pressing need to digitize to prevent the loss of seminal key works, reports and grey literature and make them accessible to everyone.

MAKING IT HAPPEN

SALIS' research across the sector led to decision to establish a digital collection. Knowledge of the Internet Archive (IA), a non-profit digital library, and their motto "building libraries together" led SALIS to become a partner with the IA and begin to create The SALIS Collection. The SALIS-IA Digitization Project, known as "Digs", is building an Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs (ATOD) collection covering legal, illegal drugs, alcohol, tobacco, use and misuse of chemicals, education & prevention, health aspects, and policy matters, that is international in its scope, and freely accessible to all with an internet connection. SALIS contracted with the Internet Archive in 2014 to create this digital archive, and the SALIS Collection was born.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In addition to many generous individuals who have contributed in multiple ways to the SALIS COLLECTION, SALIS also extends sincere thanks to the following funding partners:

Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation, MN, USA
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 Vereniging voor Alcohol en andere Drugproblemen (VAD), Brussels, Belgium

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KEY AIMS OF THE COLLECTION

- Preserve the literature of the ATOD field (key seminal full-text books, reports, documents, grey literature) in digital format.
- Continue to build The SALIS Collection at the Internet Archive, ensuring its scope and content are representative of the key print literature.
- Make the ATOD book/document digital library available to the:
 - academic community
 - treatment and prevention communities
 - general public with options to:
 - browse the full text
 - borrow digital copies for up to two weeks
 - download documents for which copyright has been released

WORKING PROCESSES

Advocacy Group took on the role of project management and established processes for working together through face to face meetings, telephone conference calls, SKYPE and emails

Management

- The Advocacy Group formed the Project Digitization Team (Digs Team) which, under the Project Director, holds responsibility for: Workflow and trouble-shooting; Guidance and cataloguing standards; promotion and dissemination; fundraising; uploading documents by assigned team members.
- Fundraising – via bids to grant awarding organisations; crowdfunding; donations in kind such as collections of documents.
- Dissemination and promotion of the collection – done via journal articles, presentations at conferences; social media.

Collection Development

- Collection development policy developed and shared with SALIS members who assist with identifying and locating resources for inclusion.
- Recommendations are sought from key individuals, researchers and organisations.
- Project Database for SALIS members to track the books, documents contributed/uploaded to the collection.
- Networking with key libraries, research organisations and professional bodies to obtain documents.
- Sharing resources already in other IA collections – these can be tagged as part of the SALIS Collection such as The Addiction Research Foundation (ARF) of Ontario.

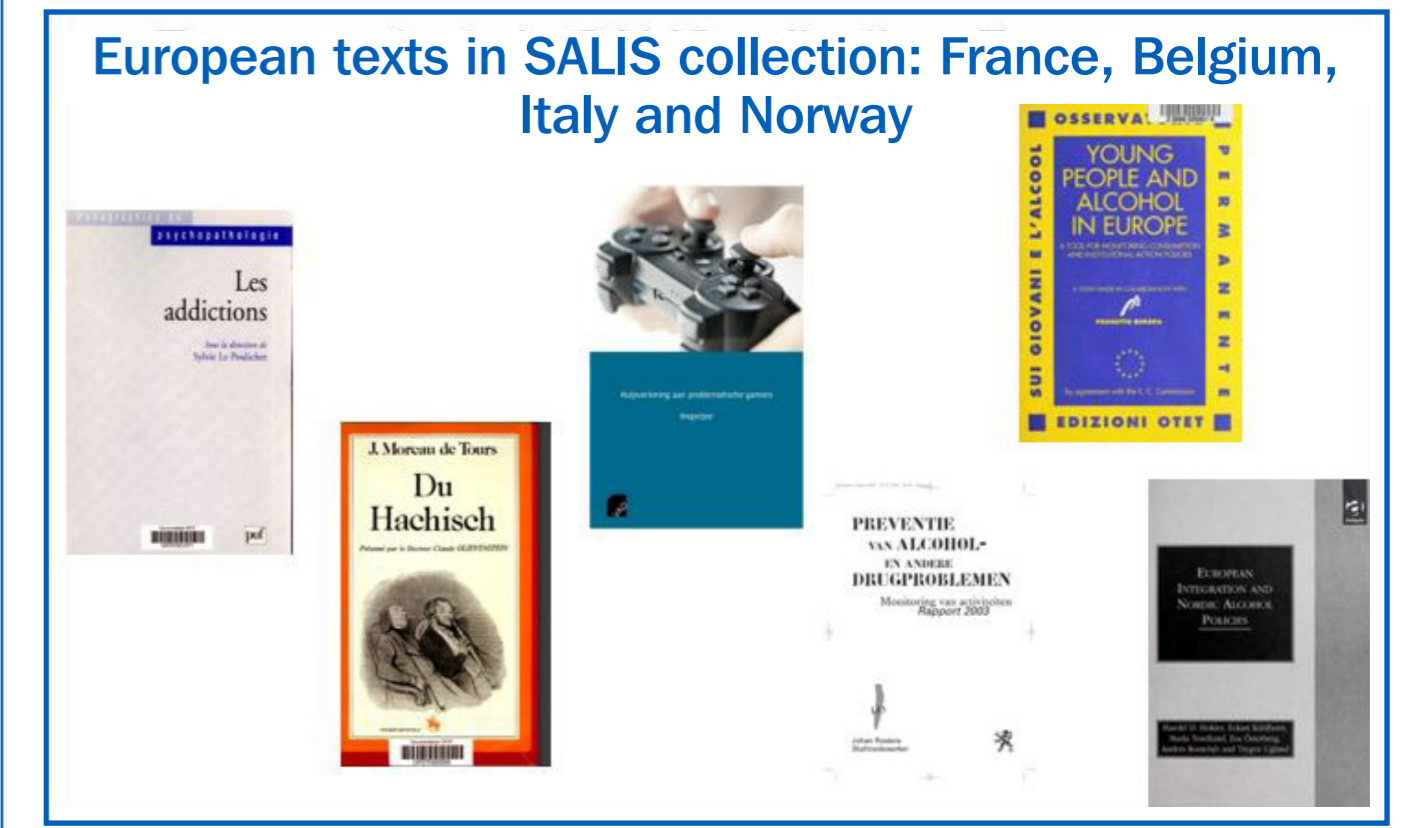
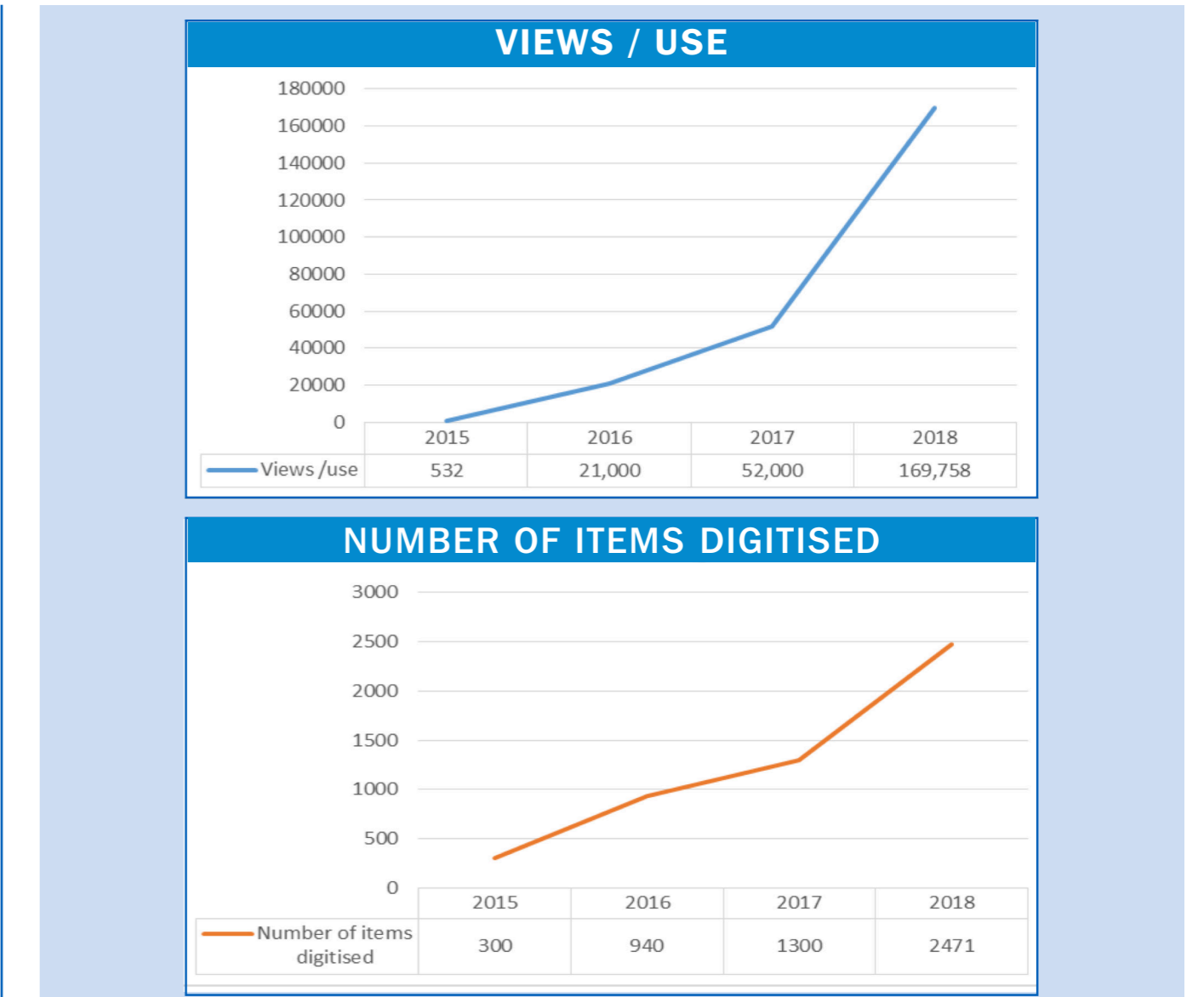
Evaluation / monitoring and standards

- ▶ Guidance – on how to upload, or submit documents for digitisation, including training for SALIS members on a periodic basis.
- ▶ Cataloguing/metadata standards for data entry.
- ▶ Periodic audits of the holdings' records to ensure standards are adhered to and that copyright is respected.
- ▶ Targets for growth of collection are set for each year.
- ▶ Collection Development Policy – periodically review subject areas and geographic sources to ensure balance and diversity - for example the 'Opioid Crisis'
- ▶ Project Director liaises with IA to ensure quality standards are met and any issues are resolved.
- ▶ Outcome measures include loans, downloads and viewing figures of the collection

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RESULTS

Books/document donations from the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Institute (ADAI), NIAAA Library, CAMH library, Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation Library, Prevention Research Center Library, Drug Policy Alliance, Joel and Maria Fort Foundation, St. George's, University of London, Substance Misuse Management Good Practice (SMMGP), Observatoire Français des Drogues et des Toxicomanies (OFDT), Vereniging voor Alcohol en andere Drugproblemen (VAD), Alcohol Research Group Library, and many individuals committed to this project.

GOING FORWARD

- ▶ Expand Scope: More books on drugs of abuse
- ▶ Continue fundraising through Crowd Funding, writing bids etc.
- ▶ Build on current partnerships with key bodies such as the Society for the Study of Addiction and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism
- ▶ Collection goal is 3000 items by Dec 2019

CONCLUSION

The internet has created a paradigm shift in the way information is published, searched and retrieved, affecting the perceived value of libraries and librarians. In this uncertain environment, access to the historical and current literature of the ATOD field must not be compromised, vital to every aspect of the alcohol, tobacco and other drug (ATOD) comprise 'essential building blocks in the future development of addiction science' (Holder 2006). Digital repositories are now a key part of the ATOD information landscape and this is where the information management and expertise of librarians is required.

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