Building changes:
With thanks to Dorothy Meaney, the circulation desk is now subdivided into two parts, with a gap in the middle. This permits staff to get out from behind the desk quickly and easily to assist patrons and direct them to other resources. TTS will be relocating the Library Technology Services (LTS) unit into the second floor offices previously occupied by Tisch’s LITS staff. LTS was previously in two rooms on level 1 (near the lockers and group study). LTS includes the TTS staff that maintain and develop our catalog and other enterprise services, as well as web developers for library needs.

Iron Mountain Storage:
In my last director’s report, I described the new shelving option being offered by Iron Mountain. Unfortunately, the company did not obtain enough commitments from libraries to fill their pilot project in their specified time frame and the project has been postponed.

GSAS Program Development:
The GSAS has been encouraging departments to develop new programs. With each proposal, the collections department in Tisch considers the impact on the library and our ability to support such a program with existing resources. We are in conversation with Dean Cook’s office to think about the challenges of serving remote students for online courses in disciplines where print resources are still a significant source of content for the field.

New Scanner
The library has purchased an Atiz Book Scanner this year. A few staff received training in January. The new scanner enables us to do higher quality scanning projects in-house, especially in cases where outsourcing to a vendor is problematic (e.g. short timeframes, material too delicate or risky to transport, etc.).

Staffing Changes
There has been a healthy amount of turnover in the last 12 months. Staff departing (for new positions or to retire) have included Regina Raboin, Laurie Sabol, Laura Walters, and Evan Simpson. Two new research and instruction librarians began in December: Nicole Nawalaniec (Sciences) from St. Lawrence University and Dianne Brown (Social Sciences) from Lesley University. Last week, Andrea Schuler started as our digital collections librarian, coming to us from MIT. We are still searching for our research data collections librarian and soon will launch a new search for the head of research and instruction post vacated by Evan Simpson. Dorothy Meaney has been promoted to Associate Director.

Our most exciting news, however, is the opportunity to bring in two new staff to support our digital repository infrastructure and growing demand for digital scholarship support for faculty and graduate students especially. The metadata specialist position will lead our outreach efforts to support faculty and students, providing consultations as well as implementing data models and creating metadata for various projects. The software engineer position will report to Paul Bergen’s Educational Technology Services unit in TTS and provide software development work for our Fedora repository and affiliated services. Paul currently has one developer to work on this infrastructure for the entire university. To ensure that the priorities of AS&E are addressed, the new position will be funded by AS&E and have a dotted line report to Alicia Morris in Tisch Library. Paul and I have developed an MOU to document the oversight and terms of the new hire.