The group held an open forum to discuss progress so far. A copy of the invitation is attached, below.

Some points raised in the discussion were: the needs of Special Collections, the importance of assisting users in identifying publication types, and the differing needs of first- and second-year undergraduates vs. more advanced researchers. The point was made that even advanced researchers need guidance in where to begin.

Respectfully submitted,
B. Juhl

An Invitation from the **Discovery Analysis Task Force**
(Beth Juhl, chair, Michelle Gibeault, Mary Gilbertson, Phillip J. Jones, Kathleen Lehman, Martha Parker, Necia Parker-Gibson, and Sherryl Robinson)

Your comments and suggestions are needed. We invite you to a discussion on 12/17/14 at 9am in room **104** to discuss our work so far.

Specifically, we invite your input regarding the following list we are developing concerning **top needs or gaps** in our current discovery services and search tools. This working list, in alphabetical order, is:

- ArticleFinder / DOI search more visible (known item searching)
- contextual help: help with identifying source type
- contextual help: help with identifying the best resources for a topic
- did you mean: type ahead suggestions and spellcheck
- embed chat / ask a librarian more places
- facets / better limiting by type of resource / pub date / and other criteria
- Find it! Panel easier to understand
- improve discovery of digital collections in search tools
- improve discovery of manuscript collections / index finding aids in search tools
- improve visibility of WorldCat / allow option to search local holdings and WorldCat together
- index LibGuides content and recommend guides based on certain searches
- join HathiTrust for better discovery of digitized publications
- local holdings easily identifiable / ranked higher
- mobile interface
- one search box / don't make me choose / quick / easy
- overall, improve discovery of nonstandard publication formats (manuscripts, theses, audio, etc.)
- reduce complexity / allow user to add complexity if needed
- suggest basic reference sources for topics
If you cannot attend, please feel free to forward your comments to any member of the committee.

Some more background on our work:

For the last two weeks, our group has been working on elements of our charge:

- Complete a comprehensive survey of current discovery methods
- Identify other opportunities for discovery
- Review the Amigos Library Services by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission white paper on Discovery

Our committee has conducted a quick needs / gap analysis looking at discovery tools already in place; these included:

- Article Finder / DOI Lookup
- Digital Collections site / search functionality
- E-Resources A-Z List (Serials Solutions)
- Find it! and Find More!
- LbGuides
- Library catalog
- Main web page search boxes
- Special Collections site / Manuscript search and browse
- WorldCat

We also discussed services and instruction as discovery media but decided that these would augment, shape, and be altered by any discovery tools we might choose to add; rather than being discovery solutions to their own end.

The second needs / gap analysis was conducted by examining different collections and formats and how easily those can be discovered with current tools. The result showed that local manuscript holdings, digital collections, and special formats such as conference proceedings or reference handbooks and dictionaries are not well-represented by the main search boxes on our home page.

Taking this information together, the group developed the above list of top needs that are not currently being addressed by discovery tools already in place.