



A peek into the future: Controlled Digital Lending in libraries

Judith Fraenkel, September 2022



Digital Innovations

“Digital innovations are more of a human science than computer science”

Lettie Y. Conrad

Taken from:

<https://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/2021/07/14/title-digital-transformation-requires-cultural-evolution/>



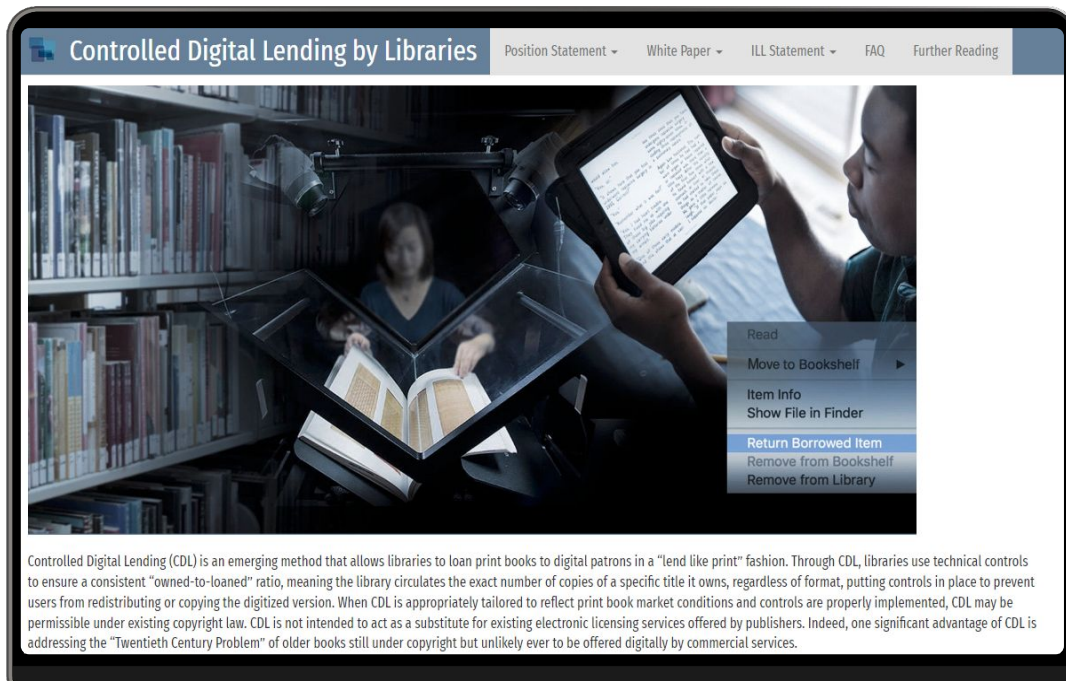
What is Controlled Digital Lending?

Controlled Digital Lending enables a library to circulate a digitized title in place of a physical one in a controlled manner. Principles:

- “owned-to-loaned” ratio
 - Circulate exact number of copies of a specific title the library owns
 - Prevent users from redistributing
- Mimic restraints on physical material – for example, one reader at a time



Controlled Digital Lending



Controlled Digital Lending (CDL) is an emerging method that allows libraries to loan print books to digital patrons in a "lend like print" fashion. Through CDL, libraries use technical controls to ensure a consistent "owned-to-loaned" ratio, meaning the library circulates the exact number of copies of a specific title it owns, regardless of format, putting controls in place to prevent users from redistributing or copying the digitized version. When CDL is appropriately tailored to reflect print book market conditions and controls are properly implemented, CDL may be permissible under existing copyright law. CDL is not intended to act as a substitute for existing electronic licensing services offered by publishers. Indeed, one significant advantage of CDL is addressing the "Twentieth Century Problem" of older books still under copyright but unlikely ever to be offered digitally by commercial services.

<https://controldigitallending.org/>

IFLA Statement



International
Federation of
Library
Associations and Institutions

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IFLA releases a statement on Controlled Digital Lending

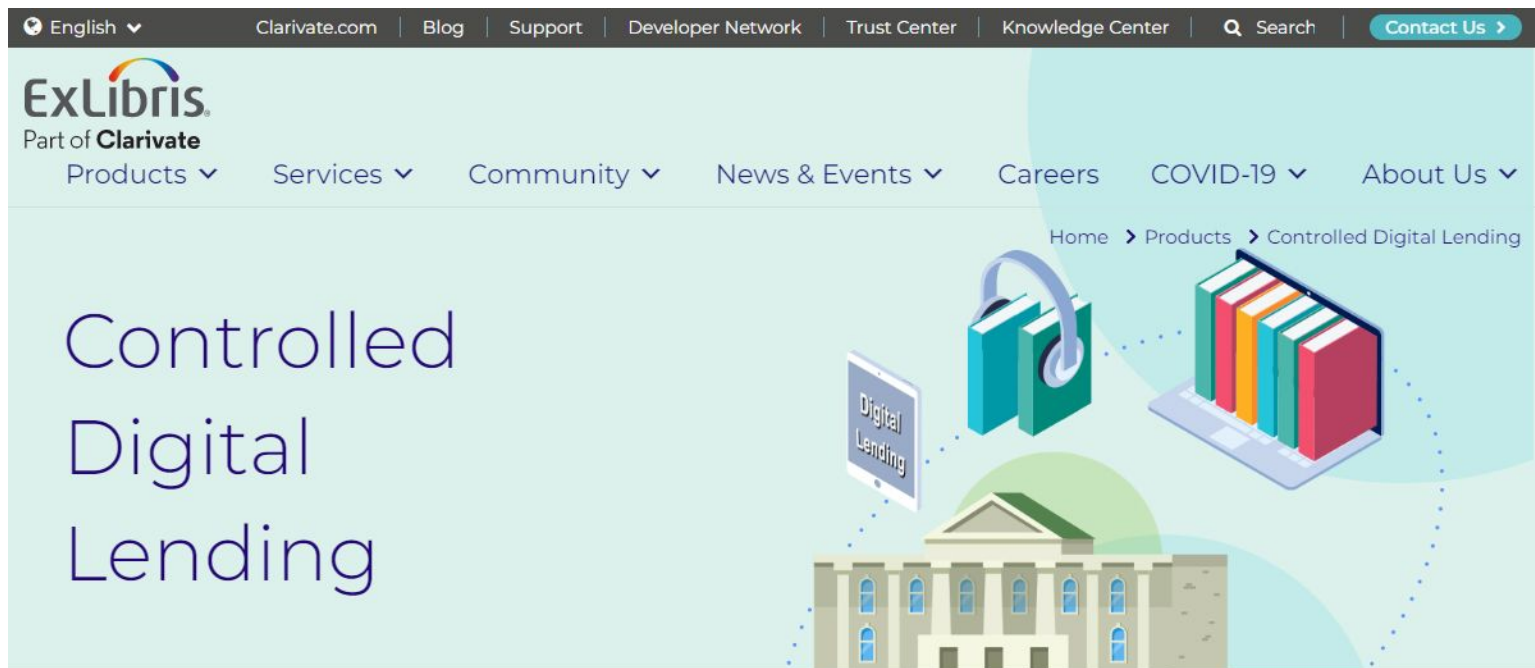
16 June 2021

CDL – Why do academic libraries need it?

- Make it possible for libraries to fulfill their “vital function in society” by providing easy online **access to learning & research** material
- **Digital aides** for readers with print disabilities, research efficiency needs and more
- The “Twentieth Century Problem” - older books still under copyright but **unlikely ever to be offered digitally** by commercial services
- **Additional:**
 - Quick lending turnaround
 - Print conservation
 - Ecological awareness – saving shipments for resource sharing



CDL as a Service



Controlled Digital Lending (CDL) is a developing practice which allows libraries to lend a digital copy of a physical resource in a “lend like print” manner—that is, in the same way in which they lend the physical resource itself. CDL can give libraries and patrons the option of accessing materials in a more flexible manner.

CDL Focus Areas



Course Resources – Alma D

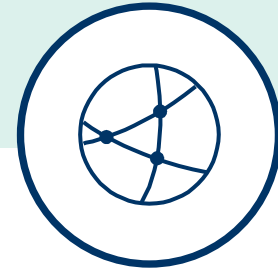
- Short term access
- Patron waitlist management

Available
Now!



General Circulation – Alma

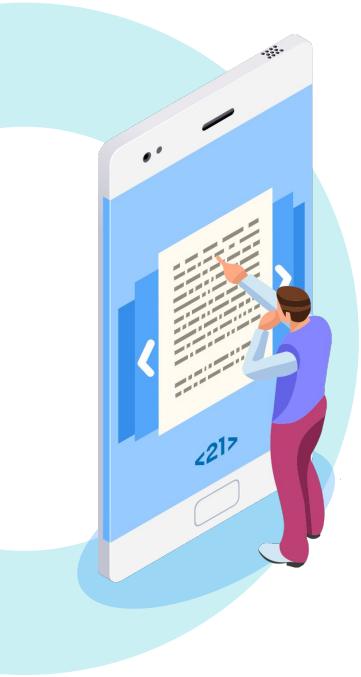
- Long term lending
- Sync digital / physical fulfillment



Inter Library Loan (ILL) – Rapido

- Consortia
- Single institutions
- ISO ILL for CDL conformance

CDL for Course Resources



- Limit number of **concurrent users** according to number of items on shelf
- Limit viewing session to X hours
- Enable **patron waitlist** for digital resources
- Any viewer, any discovery layer – Primo, Leganto etc

Long-term Loans – Roadmap Plans

- Long term loans with CDL copy
- Integrate with physical circulation / fulfilment flows (including Terms of Use)
- Sync physical and digital fulfillment, maintaining own-to-loan ratio
- Leverage Alma as a unified resource management system



Resource Sharing – Roadmap Plans

- Enable libraries to share CDL resources
- Ensuring the physical copy cannot be circulated until the CDL copy is “returned” and maintaining the own-to-loan ratio
- Offering patrons visibility upon discovery of CDL available options
- Conformance with ILL CDL



CDL General Areas of Work



Copyright

- Own-to-loan ratio
- Prevent redistribution
- Exempt specific user groups from CDL
- Other: Advanced copyright statement management; Watermarks



Fulfillment

- Limit session period
- Waiting list
- Any viewer, any discovery layer – Primo, Leganto etc.
- Other: Closed captions / subtitles for patron accessibility



Administration

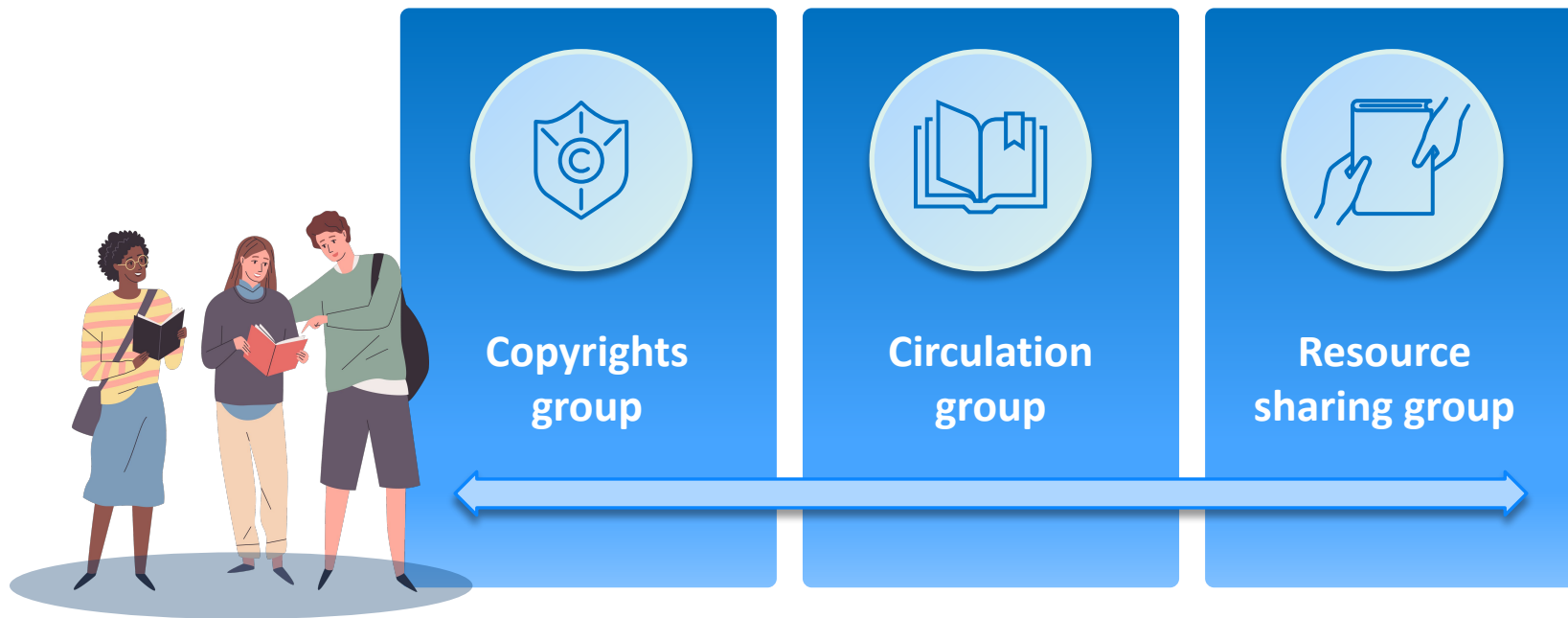
- Waitlist control
- Analytics:
 - Average waiting time per resource
 - Early returns

CDL – You can't do it on your own..

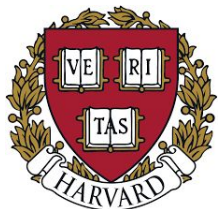


Community driven approach

The Ex Libris community formed The CDL Advisory Group, providing advice, user stories, workflows and shared experiences on the various areas related to CDL mainly focused on three areas relevant for Controlled Digital Lending:



The CDL Advisory Group



But who really wants CDL?

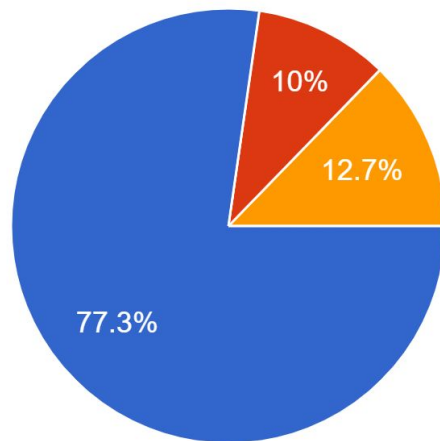
- Together with the Advisory Group we launched a survey with very interesting results and broad participation
- 94 institutions provided responses



CDL Survey

Is your institution interested in controlled digital lending?

110 responses

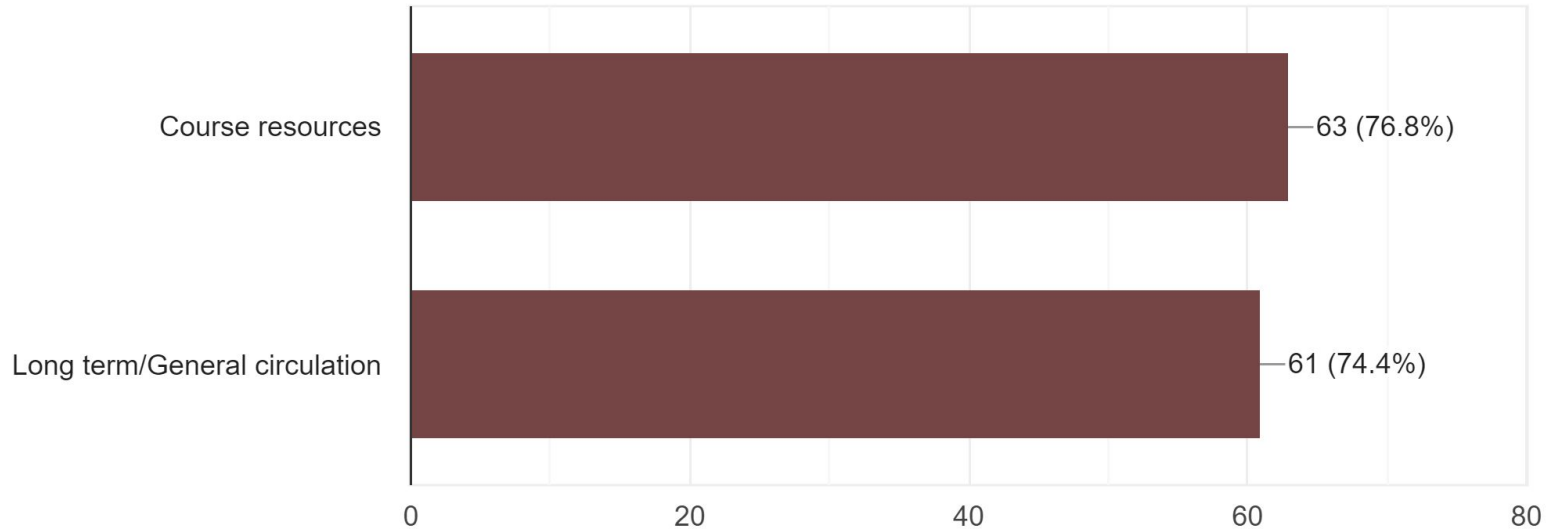


- Yes
- No
- We have already implemented a CDL solution

CDL and Library Usage

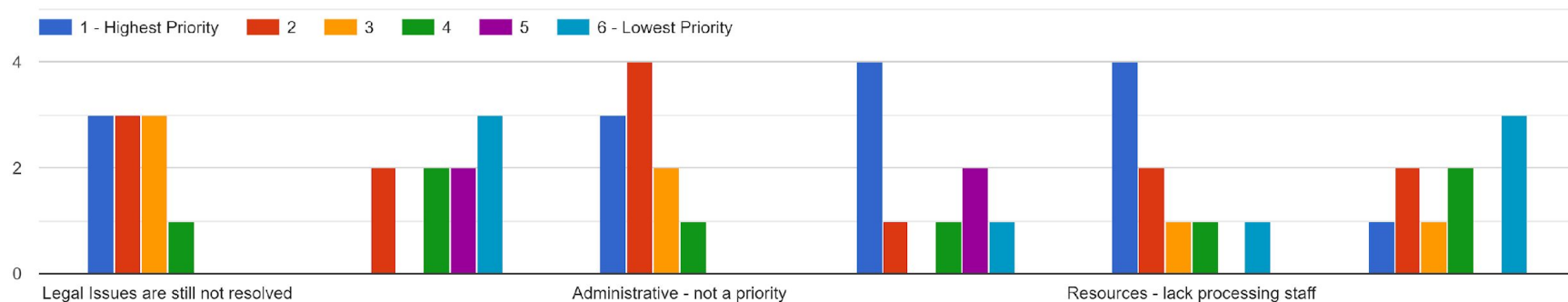
Please indicate for which use cases you would like to apply CDL

82 responses



CDL – Decision Making

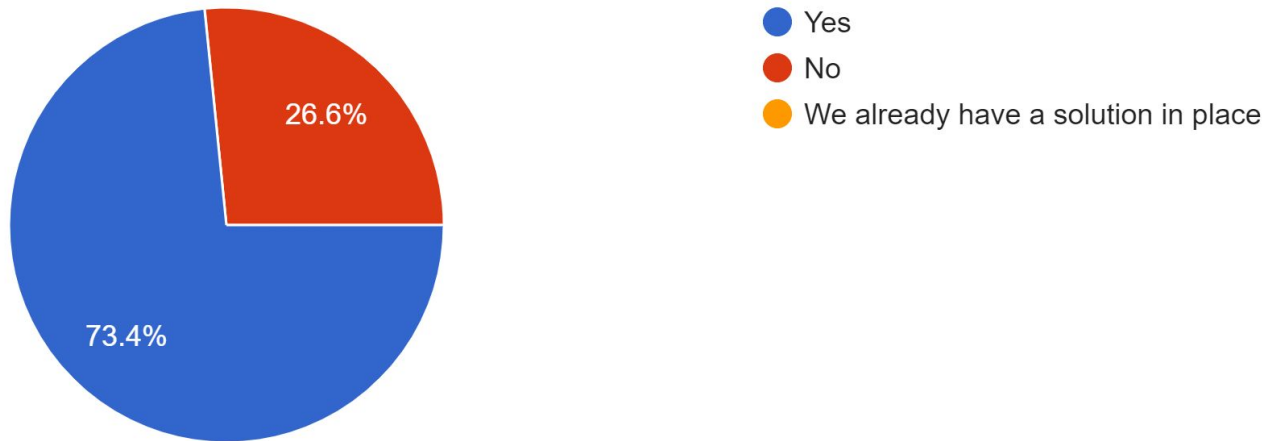
Please rank in order of priority in deciding to implement a controlled digital solution for course reserves or general circulation at this time.



CDL and Resource Sharing

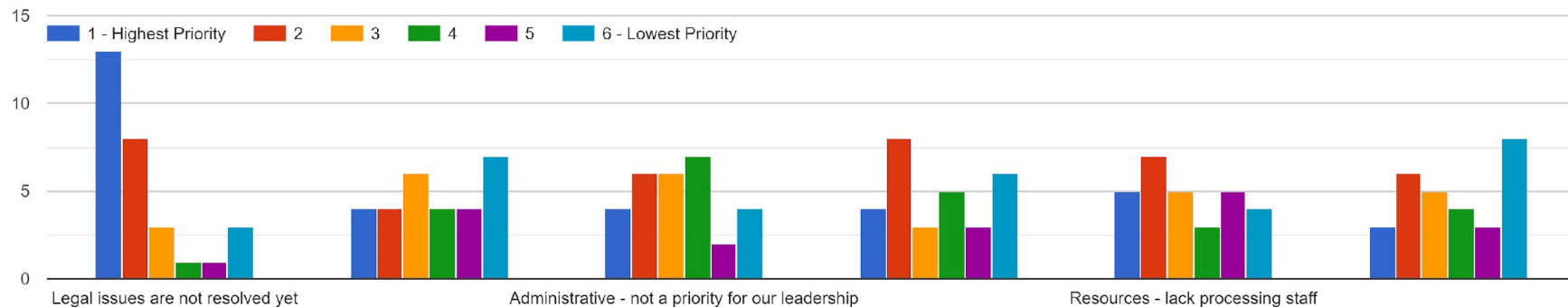
Is your institution interested in implementing CDL flows for inter-library loans (ILL)?

109 responses



CDL – Decision Making

Please rank in order of priority in deciding to implement a controlled digital solution for inter-library lending at this time.



What is happening now?

Working with a group of development partners





If you would like more information or
to discuss my presentation, please contact us at
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