

Patron-Selected E-books: New Opportunities in Collection Development

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Overview

- [E-books at the University of Alberta
- [Patron-Selected Acquisitions (PSA) project
- [E-book User Survey results summary
- [Future Directions

E-books at the University of Alberta Libraries

Prior to 2004:

- [COPPUL group purchase of NetLibrary collection
- [E-book collections
- [Very limited title-by-title selection

Patron-Selected Acquisition (PSA) Project

University of Alberta Libraries

- [Purchase based on use
- [Ease of acquisition model
- [COPPUL-wide access possible at a reasonable cost
- [Already using NetLibrary

NetLibrary E-books

- [More than 106,000 titles across all subject areas
 - more than 3,400 publicly accessible
- [From over 450 publishers
- [46% of titles published since 2002
- [90% of content being added is front list
- [Was the only e-book vendor offering a patron-selected acquisition option

PSA Process

- [Collection profile development
- [Deposit account to fund selected titles
- [PSA records loaded in catalogue
- [In-house & Consortia guidelines during PSA
- [Two-click selections [.]
- [PSA records removed from catalogue
- [Selected e-book records loaded in catalogue

PSA Summary

	2005	2004
Project records	6,384	11,625
Total list price	\$489,000 US	\$622,811 US
Titles purchased	673	1,029
Total expenditure	\$81,190 US	\$94,546 US
Average book cost	\$120 US	\$91 US
Selection time	~ 6 weeks	~ 9 weeks
Additional titles accessed once	871	1347

PSA Purchases - NL Subjects

	2005	2004
Business, Economics and Management	18%	24%
Medicine	15%	6%
Technology, Engineering and Manufacturing	9%	1%
Social Sciences: General	8%	19%
Education	7%	5%

PSA Purchases

- [Purchases made in all profile subject areas
- [Subjects purchased have correlation to the % of representation in the profile
- [Slightly higher selections in: Medicine, Technology, Education, Chemistry
- [Selections made across all publication years found in the profile

PSA Purchases

	2005	2004
consortia-available titles	302	924
consortia-restricted titles	371	108
Total	673	1029

	2005	2004
Duplication with print	43%	49%

PSA Collection Use

Time period	User Registrations	%
March 2000 - Aug 22, 2004	667	29
During PSA 2004	435	19
During PSA 2005	684	30
Other	519	22
Total (Jan 2006)	2312	100%

	Accesses per book (average) Fall term 2005
PSA 2005 Collection	7.75 times
PSA 2004 Collection	3.75 times

E-book User Survey

- [Only user feedback about e-books was from reference desks reporting user problems
- [April 2005 user survey (after PSA 2004 but prior to PSA 2005)
- [e-mail invitation sent to UofA registered NetLibrary users to participate in a web-based survey
- [864 users in final list / 185 responses for a 21% response rate

E-book User Survey

Who responded?	%
Graduate Students	45%
Undergraduates	37%
Faculty	8%
Staff	7%
Other	4%

Department	%
Arts	38%
Education	15%
Science	10%
Engineering	10%
Medicine	7%
Agriculture	4%
Business	4%
FSJ	3%

E-book User Survey

How did you get to the NetLibrary book collection?

via a search in the library catalogue	63%
via the library's web page listing of e-book collections	17%
I don't remember	12%
via the library's GetIt! service	7%
other	1%

E-book User Survey

How have you used NetLibrary e-books? (check all that apply)

browsed one or more e-books	73%
read more than one chapter of a single e-book	49%
searched for a word or phrase across entire collection	31%
read less than one chapter of a single e-book	31%
copied text into a report or assignment for a citation or quotation	28%
searched for a word or phrase in a single e-book	19%

E-book User Survey

Have you had any difficulties using NetLibrary e-books?

No	60%
Yes	40%

Are there specific purposes where you view an e-book as the preferred format over a print version?

Yes	63%
No	37%

E-book User Survey

Should the library continue to purchase additional NetLibrary e-book titles?

Yes	76%
No	7%
Some reservations	17%

Rate your overall satisfaction with the selection of NetLibrary e-book titles.

very pleased/ pleased	44%
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Rate your overall satisfaction with using the NetLibrary e-book system.

very pleased/ pleased	62%
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E-book User Survey

Where are you most likely to be when using the library's electronic resources?

at home	55%
my on-campus office	25%
a campus computer lab	7%
my off-campus workplace	6%
a campus library	5%
other	2%

Benefits of the PSA project

- [Purchase of titles that were 100% used
- [Customizing content while allowing users to select
- [Adding large numbers of titles in a short amount of time
- [Reduced workload for selectors
- [Exploring and meeting user demand
- [Discovering what users want from ebooks

Staff Feedback

- [Change in how selection is done
- [Display in catalogue
- [Subject coverage
- [Duplication of content
- [Interface issues
- [Budget
- [How does staff feedback match with our usage evaluation?

Guidelines for the Selection of Electronic Books

- [Grew out of the debate surrounding duplication of electronic and print monographs
- [Books for which both formats preferred
- [Books for which electronic format preferred
- [Books for which print format preferred

E-book purchase models: pros and cons

- [Aggregators (NetLibrary, ebrary, EBL)
- [Reference books direct from publisher – ie: Elsevier, Oxford, Gale
- [Monograph vendors' online ordering system (YBP, Blackwell)
- [Consortial options

Is there room for the PSA model?

- [Pros/Cons
- [Targeted spending
- [Guaranteed usage
- [Value for collections dollars

Will we do it again?

Maybe!

- [Make a determination each year
- [Many new models, choices, ways to spend e-book dollars
- [New areas of focus

Where do we go from here?

- [Yearly revision of Guidelines
- [Building a critical mass of e-book content
- [Determining best models
- [User driven purchases
- [Targeting reserve books
- [Continued assessment
- [Making e-book purchasing an integrated part of what we do

Questions?

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