E-books: Selecting, Workflows, and Discovering

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What Not Covering Today

- Readers
- Textbooks (specifically)
- Licensing
- Digital Rights Management
- User Interfaces
History

- Project Gutenberg – 1971, Michael Hart
  - Manually typed from print
- Full-Text Content started entering libraries early 1990s
- By 1990s we had our first readers
- Google Books
Almost there, almost there...
What are E-books?

A. Book
B. Database
C. Serial
D. All of the Above
No, really what are they?

- Digitized print book (A)
- Born digital monograph (A)
- Multimedia reference resource static OR continually updated (A, C)
- Collection of e-books (static or regularly updated) (D)
- And more...
E-book preference?

- E-reader use on rise - fiction
- Search functionality and navigation are critical
  - Entire resource searchable, no sequencing, no indexes
- 24/7 access is important
Deciding to “do” e-books

- Why do you want to provide e-books?
- What benefits are in it for your users?
- Are your patrons ready?
Communicate!

- Get everyone in the room to talk about possibilities, decisions, consequences, changes...
  - Systems
  - IT
  - Catalogers
  - Acquisitions
  - Administration
  - Anyone else that might be involved...
Access Philosophy

How do you want users to access?

- Does your library believe everything should be in catalog?
- Do you think multiple portals are okay?
  - If so, which portals?
- Is there content you want primarily print or electronic?

Selection Considerations

- Publisher/vendor relationship
- MUPO vs. SUPO
- Interface / mobile
- Ownership vs. Subscription
- Format of e-book
- And all of the recent announcements
  - Overdrive and HarperCollins
Acquisitions Considerations

- Pricing models
  - Subscription
  - One-time payment

- Budget structure
  - New or existing accounts?

- Fund structure
  - Single e-book fund
  - Dispersed by dept.
  - By format

- System codes
Variety makes it fun!

- E-book collections (*Database?*)
  - One-time purchase
  - Subscription with continual updates (*Serial?*)

- Individual title purchased/leased (*Book?*)
  - One-time purchase (aggregators/publishers)
  - Subscription with continual updates (serial/standing orders)
Acquisitions Workflow

- Create order
  - Assign Codes
- Assign funds
- Assign ongoing fees
Cataloging Considerations

- Batch records from vendor
- Specific metadata needs
- Include how & where to access in record
  - Specific mobile devices that can be used
- Where to create access
- How to code format?
  - Continuing Resource
  - Book
  - Electronic Resource
Standards

- PCC's Provider-Neutral E-Monograph MARC Record Guide

- PCC’s MARC Record Guide for Monograph Aggregator Vendors
Systems Considerations

- New codes?
  - Cataloging, Acquisitions, Stats, Findability...
- Loading vendor records?
  - Load tables
  - Field mapping
  - Scheduling updates
- Storing owned copy
- Access
  - IP & Proxy
E-book Management
Did someone say ERM?

- Updates
  - To content
  - To Records
- Maintain links
- Maintain access
  - Web interface
  - Reader Apps
- Licenses
- Some ERMs are integrating e-books...
Patron Driven Acquisition

- Provide access to many resources, but only pay for those that are used
- Transparent to user, don’t even know if and when their click “purchases” the item
- Aggregators & Book vendors
St. Catherine University

- Private, Catholic University
- Undergraduate College for Women
- 5,328 students
  - 3,830 undergraduate
  - 1,498 graduate
- 261 faculty
- Association, Bachelor, Masters, Doctoral
- Two Campuses: St. Paul, Minneapolis
- Part of 8 library consortium (CLIC)
NetLibrary collection
Credo Reference
  - Cataloger updates records in ILS when notified
Oxford Reference
  - Package and individual titles
  - Cataloger updates records in ILS when notified
Multiple Reference packages
  - Sage Encyclopedia, Cambridge Histories
Current e-book philosophy

- Reference materials in e-format when possible
- Minimize vendors/interfaces
- Funds/Accounts are varied
- Catalog all that is possible
  - No batch records right now
  - Vendor neutral records
- Additional access through web page/database page
Vendor Selection

- Has the content
- Response and turn around time
- Purchasing model
  - One-time fee
  - Annual access fees
  - Annual subscription cost
- Searchability
Selection for bigger ticket items done collectively

Reference resources by Reference & Collection Development librarian

Non-reference resources – content by selectors, format decision by selector and Collection Development librarian

OASIS, Coutt’s online collection development tool
Current Workflow - Acquisitions

- Creates order in ILS
  - Fund codes

- Initiates order with vendor/publisher
  - Coutts – MyiLibrary
  - Publisher
  - Regional Consortia (MINITEX)

- License

- Provides information to Electronic Resources Librarian
Electronic Resources Librarian

- Creates access
  - Proxy
  - e-book webpage
  - Reference Universe

- Integrates into Knowledgebase when possible**

- Gives information to Cataloging Librarian
Current Workflow - Cataloging

- Full cataloging
  - Uses or creates vendor neutral bibliographic records
  - Provides custom information as necessary
  - Adds proxy information to URL field
- Updates records for collections
  - Three times a year to ensure current resources reflected in catalog
Coutts, MyiLibrary, and CLIC

- Consortial arrangement with Coutts
- E-books purchased through OASIS with MUPO accessible to all users of 8 institutions
- Currently the plan is for each library to select titles individually and not as a group (or package).
Future at St. Kate’s

- Begin to expand access to non-reference materials this Fall
- Pilot project in patron driven acquisition
  - Medical discipline(s)
- Primarily use MyiLibrary for e-book purchasing


Brunning, D. (2010). At the only edge that means anything / how we understand what we do. Against the Grain, 22(4), 62.


