eBooks Speed Dating: Who’s in the Driver Seat Going Forward?

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Abstract
Probably more than any technology, digital formats have changed the nature of libraries, expanding opportunities for technology advancements and affecting user behaviors. Many lessons have been learned with how eBooks are acquired, licensed by libraries and used worldwide. Libraries are shifting their focus on collections and management, becoming more aware of their community’s mobility, opportunity to read and seek information from many locales, modes and devices. A known and growing commodity, eBooks will only increase their presence and availability.

Keywords
eBooks, acquisitions, e-resources, textbooks, collection management

Disciplines
Collection Development and Management | Library and Information Science

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2017 Charleston Conference

November 8, 2017
• Introduction

• Speed Dating Rounds
  • Round #1: 1-1:15pm
  • Round #2: 1:15-1:30pm
  • Round #3: 1:30-1:45pm

• Conclusion & Group Sharing
Meet your Moderator 🏷

Julia Gelfand  
Applied Sciences & Engineering Librarian  
University of California, Irvine
Welcome to eBook Speed Dating ❤️

• **Rationale** – when we are dating we are always seeking the best match or product – always cruising, always looking, always figuring something out

• **The Image**: Collections are going more digital

• **What if?** Implications for libraries are critical
  • Space being reassigned for other purposes
  • Costs increasing – differential between print & eBook means buying less books
  • Libraries seeking options to stretch resources – DDA, packages, etc
  • Licensing is challenging
  • Library usage is often unknown & takes time to accrue
  • Often requires format duplication
  • Resource sharing difficult
Long Term Consequences Uncertain

• What does this all suggest going forward?
• What about reading in the digital age – more, less, how?
• Will technical support in acquisitions & processing be easier & less cumbersome?
• What about the reader’s experience?
• How do libraries plan?
• Where will we be in another 10 years? What will collection include?
• Will we still be speed-dating trying to find solutions to ever-changing environments?
3 Tries: Acquisitions, Platforms, Strategies

- Go see if you can find something that matches up
  - How I judge the choices:
  - Is this what I want?
  - Can I read it anywhere, anytime the way I want?
  - Does it last forever?
  - Can I borrow, lend, reuse it?
  - Can I afford it?

- What else do I need to know when I select my date?
Meet your Matchmakers 😊

Lisa Mackinder, Head of Acquisitions and Collections Services, Ohio University

Jackie Ricords, E-Resources Director, IGI Global

Jill Morris, Associate Director, PALCI (Pennsylvania Academic Library Consortium)

Jeremy Garskof, Director of Technical Services, Gettysburg College
Acquisitions Pros and Cons Moderator

Lisa Mackinder
Head of Acquisitions and Collections Services
Ohio University
Acquisitions Pros and Cons Discussion Starters

- **Decisions, decisions**
  - What’s the focus of your collection?
    - Scholarly vs trade vs popular
    - Fiction vs non-fiction
    - Does this differ from your print collection?
  - Building a permanent or ephemeral collection?
    - Access vs ownership vs leasing
    - Perpetual access & archiving
  - Format duplication?
    - Duplicate e & p holdings in your own collection?
    - Duplicate across your network of libraries?

- **Licensing**
  - Use permissions & restrictions
  - Sharing: scholarly, ILL

- **Homework, e-book style**
  - Price comparison, e to p
  - Simultaneous user preference
  - Providers, vendors, platforms
Platform and Publishers Moderator

Jackie Ricords
E-Resources Director
IGI Global
• Our discussion will include publisher and aggregator platforms—looking for common ground in serving users
• Cost of publishing e-books
• Purchasing options
• User experience and needs
  • Concurrent readers
  • Mobile device optimization
• Role of DRM
• Common requests from librarians to publishers
Shifting Collections Strategies

Moderators

Jill Morris
Associate Director
PALCI (The Pennsylvania Academic Library Consortium, Inc.)

Jeremy Garskof
Director of Technical Services
Gettysburg College
Shifting Collections Strategies Discussion Starters

Jeremy:
- What do you like or dislike about the current e-book marketplace?
- What are your preferred models and what would you like to see aggregators/publishers develop?
- Do we really know how much an e-book costs?
- When do you buy and when to lease e-books?
- Have e-books changed your CD policies, e.g., do you now lease or purchase textbooks or course adopted texts?

Jill:
- Collaborative eBook Collections v. Local: Who, What, When, Why, How?
- Data Empowers our Decisions: EBA, DDA, Subscription
- Resource Sharing in the eBook Environment:
  - What’s the impact? Do we care? How can we adjust our strategy?
eBook Speed Dating Rules ❤️

• **The bell**: When Julia rings the bell you have 2 minutes to find your first group! Anytime you hear the bell ring please change to a new group.

• **In each speed dating round please**:  
  • Introduce yourself  
  • Ask a question or make a comment  
  • Get to know each other, hear some new perspectives, participate and collaborate

• **Use the chocolate with notes in the front of the room**:  
  • Write your preferred way of connecting on three of them (email, LinkedIn, Facebook, etc.)  
  • Share the chocolate with three fellow participants as a way to say “I like your ideas and would like to stay in touch and have further conversation.”
Conclusion & Group Sharing
Thank you for participating!

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