

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT

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Summary

To support research we need to consider the information universe from the perspective of our users was the theme of Marguerite's discussion of CDM practice in the US and the innovations which we can learn from. The impact it has / will have on our profession, collaboration and resource sharing were some of the issues discussed afterwards.

PRESENTATION:

One of the main things I realised during and after returning from the USA, is that we are living in very exciting times. Come to think about it – it would have been very boring if our work still only involved books! But, in the time of books, librarians had the monopoly to information access – which is not the case anymore. Therefore if we are going to ignore the challenges of this dynamic environment – and if we are not willing to keep on learning – the librarian will not be needed anymore in the academic community in the very near future. In this session I am going to discuss collection development and our role to insure that our users find and access the information they need from the library.

I will very briefly kick off with a little bit of theory on collection development. There after I will discuss issues regarding collection development I learned from my host institution, UC Davis. I will then continue by discussing collaboration – this I will do by using the CDL as an excellent example of how it can be done and how the university libraries can benefit from it.

A collection development presentation will not be completed without referring to data management and curation – as research data became a very important part of our collections. The session will then conclude by group discussions on the impact of trends in collection management on libraries as well as what we think the future will look like.

The heart of a library is its collections – and most, if not all our activities involve our collections – information specialists are building them and teaching our users to use them – Technical services make it accessible and Inter-lending make it available for the world. Our collections are even the main aspect in our strategies and planning for the future!

There are several ways to measure the quality of our collections, but, if our users cannot easily find and access it – it is useless! There are several processes involved in collection development.

Most libraries have a collection development policy – which makes the whole collection building and management process so much easier for everybody involved. As an academic library, our researchers are the main user group of our collection. Researchers need to have access to the kinds of material which are important to them and the best library and information services are those which provide the most comprehensive access.

But – it isn't that easy anymore – with an overload of information and shrinking budgets – there's no way that a library can collect everything that is available. The other side of the coin is that users do not only come to take out books in the library – they want the physical space in the library to study and collaborate.

As I mentioned earlier, books are not our only information source anymore – researchers want to access reports, blogs, informal communication – they want to see the evidence of research – even if it isn't in print, like artefacts and paintings. It also became the libraries responsibility to preserve special collections and archives and make it available for researchers of the future.

All these problems or challenges ask for librarians to think in more innovative ways to make information resources available for our users. We need to think of creative ways to find information; we need to explore new methodologies and make use of the benefits provided by technology and the networked society.

As I mentioned earlier today, I spent my 6 weeks internship at UCDavis. To give you a little bit of background - Davis is a college town with close relationships within the Davis community. Early years it played a key role in agriculture of the region. It was however this emphasis on agriculture that attracted the attention of the University of California in 1906 when the "Davis farm" became part of the College of Agriculture. After several changes in the university and the town since 1906, Davis is now one of 10 campuses of the world's pre-eminent public university system, the University of California. In fact, over 30 000 people of the town's population of 50 000 are affiliated with the University. Teaching and research stretches across all disciplines and currently 32 290 students are enrolled.

UC Davis is widely known for their specialties in agriculture, viticulture and enology, the biological sciences as well as veterinary medicine. The library collects at a worldwide level and in all languages in the areas of Viticulture and Enology.

Collecting emphases is on acquiring materials, in all formats, primarily in English, but Western language materials (Spanish, French, German and Italian), as well as Slavic and Asian language resources are also formally and consistently acquired to develop collections that serve both instructional and research needs.

The government information collection at the University of California, Davis, is a multidisciplinary research collection. It encompasses materials from federal, state, international intergovernmental, foreign, and local and regional government agencies. The Library has been a selective federal depository since 1953 and a selective California State depository in 1946 and became a complete depository in 1963. Statistical data is emphasized in all collecting areas and Foreign policy materials are collected as extensively as possible.

The Map Collection is an extensive research-level collection of maps, including sheet maps, rolled wall maps, micro-format maps, maps in electronic format, and a supporting collection of guides, gazetteers and atlases.

The Special Collections Department houses the Richard and Christine Blanchard Rare Book Collection, with special strength in agriculture, American and British literature, apiculture, botany, British history, entomology, religion, viticulture/enology, and zoology. One major focus of the Special Collection Department is the history and culture of California's Central Valley and surrounding regions.

The Special Collections Department provides administrative support for the Michael and Margaret B. Harrison Western Research Center, with a collection of approximately 25 000 volumes on the history and development of the Trans-Mississippi West. The Harrison collection is particularly strong in the history and culture of the American Indians in the Western United States, as well as in Western and Native American art. Another major focus of the department is the agricultural, food and biological sciences.

Bibliographers, all of whom combine this function with public services and other assignments, do selection of materials for the Library's collections. Most bibliographers select for more than one subject area. Each department or school at Davis has a faculty library representative who works with the library's bibliographer.

The head of each of these departments is a Collection Development Coordinator, with responsibility for administration of collection development activities and funds within the department. These departments report administratively to the Assistant University Librarian for Research Services and Collections, who has overall responsibility for collection development.

The Principal forum for discussion and recommendation on collections issues is the Collection Development Council, which includes coordinators and representatives from technical services units plus members of the library's senior management group.

The subject bibliographers conduct collection maintenance with the assistance of access services staff, and the preservation unit. During inventories, targeted collections are scrutinized for lost items and items in need of repair, replacement, or removal from the collection. The department of Access Services is responsible for

the stack collections and brings problem items to the attention of subject specialists. Collection maintenance is performed with the following in mind: availability of a more current edition, condition of the item, and relevance to the scope and needs of UC Davis academic programs. Items withdrawn or declared missing from the collection are deleted from the library's electronic database, Harvest Library Catalog, the CDL's Melvyl® Union Catalog, and eliminated from the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) statistical count for volumes held.

The entire budget amount is distributed to each of the subject department heads, including the Head of Special Collections. In addition, the Serials Acquisitions Head divides the dollars associated with the CDL ejournal packages, databases, ebook packages according to the percentage of coverage for each broad discipline. Each of these groupings has a dollar amount to cover its share of the total package. For example, ScienceDirect journals have physical sciences and engineering collection budget paying approximately 57% of the total cost to UC Davis.

The library accepts all unsolicited gifts with the understanding that these materials will be used in the best interest of the university. When duplication, absence of research support, questionable durability or other factors prevent the addition of donated materials to the library's collections, gifts may be offered for exchange or sale, notably through the Library Associates Book Sale. The Library does not provide itemized lists of specific items and is not permitted to assign or endorse values of donated materials.

A large portion of the lower-used materials is stored in the Northern Regional Library Facility (NRLF) and a Library Annex about 2 miles off-campus.

Due to space constraints, print serials are kept from five to fifteen years, and monographs are no more than five to ten years old.

Criteria used for sending titles to NRLF vary by discipline: humanities/social sciences use different criteria than the health sciences. For example, age of the title and publisher country makes a difference to health sciences. So, we do not have a "formal" weeding policy, but policies that are dependent on the library building circumstance. For example, Physical Sciences & Engineering Library are faced with a "book in and book out" situation. That is they have run out of shelving space, so they need to withdraw titles or send to NRLF.

They also rely on the discipline grouping for the costs to each group. For single ebook titles which are NOT part of packages, each subject grouping pays the cost. The challenge now is how to handle the variety of delivery options for ebooks: publisher platform or aggregator platform (e.g. EBL or ebrary) when we are using YBP and other approval plan vendors.

The whole time I was at UC Davis, there were things I thought they are quite behind us – such as e-theses and dissertations as well as institutional repositories. Only

when I visited the CDL I realised how well these things are indeed handled here in California.

There are 10 University of California campuses. The libraries of these universities work excellent together on many ways and especially on collection development. At present, the greatest emphasis is on resource sharing and cooperation among UC libraries and Stanford. Since 1976, Davis has participated with these libraries in the Shared Collections and Access Program (formerly Shared Purchase Program) for coordination and sharing of major purchases. Efforts are currently in progress to ensure continuance of a last copy of print periodicals needed within the system, and to coordinate in various other ways the collections of the UC libraries. The *California Digital Library* plays an important role in this collaboration effort.

So, what is CDL and what role does it play?

- Shared Cataloging: The Shared Cataloging Program (SCP), based at UC San Diego, provides and maintains catalog records for materials licensed by CDL on behalf of the UC libraries.
- Shared Print: Activities and projects to collaboratively acquire, share and manage the UC libraries' shared physical collections.
- Mass Digitization: Large-scale digitization of the UC libraries' book collections conducted in partnership with external organizations such as Google and the Internet Archive.
- Digital Special Collections: Access to digital collections of primary source materials drawn from California libraries, archives, and museums, including OAC, Calisphere, and UC Shared Images.
- Licensed Resources: Electronic journals, databases, ebooks and other e-resources licensed by CDL on behalf of and in coordination with the ten UC campuses.

By sharing some common costs, the campus libraries are better able to serve local research, curriculum, social, and civic needs.

Current holdings at the Northern Regional Library Facility (NRLF) in Richmond and the Southern Regional Library Facility (SRLF) at UCLA total about 10 million volumes. By sharing facilities, libraries are able to economically accommodate low-use print materials off-site and thus devote a greater portion of their local shelving space to new, current, and high-use ones. In addition, a shared preservation repository is being built to store and manage digital information for the long term.

The Melvyl Catalog serves as the main access point to the collective UC library materials, integrating the holdings information of the UC libraries as if they were part of a single collection. Other services include Request, which streamlines interlibrary loans, and UC-eLinks, which enables libraries to link from a citation to the full text of an item.

The UC libraries act as a single entity in developing a shared collection of licensed digital materials, which significantly reduces the license cost and administrative overhead. The shared collection enables the UC libraries to provide persistent access to electronic journal titles and database holdings, and also allows a reduction in print holdings where electronic equivalents exist.

The UC libraries collaborate in the development of online collections by digitally reformatting local print and other analog holdings. By adhering to standards and supplying a range of enabling services (such as brokering or subsidizing data and metadata creation, supplying data creation tools, and offering aggregation and portal services), the UC libraries continue to lower the cost of developing collections such as the Online Archive of California (OAC), and Calisphere.

Through the UC's eScholarship program, the UC libraries provide leadership that facilitates innovation in scholarly communication. The program includes disciplinary-based archives of working papers and research results, support tools for submission, expanded peer review and access, and new scholarly products, such as working papers series and peer-reviewed digital journals.

Through their collaborative efforts, the UC libraries have developed numerous methods and applications that have gone on to become industry standards, including Z39.50, UC-eLinks, Encoded Archival Descriptions (EAD), the Data Documentation Initiative (DDI), and the Metadata Encoding and Transmission Scheme (METS).

As I mentioned earlier, librarians need to play an important role in data curation and data management. *"...if librarians are going to be relevant in the age of Google and Google Scholar, they need to move beyond the document and facilitate access to the increasing amounts of data being made available on the web. ..."* (Stuart, 2010)

eScience and research data are becoming more important in today's research environments. A recent study however found that the majority of research data produced by academic institutions in Canada is not being properly or systematically archived in repositories. I think the case in South Africa is even worse. This suggests that a more concerted effort is needed to bring together experts at academic institutions to initiate data management projects.

But what is data management and data curation?

Data management is a process of ensuring the accuracy, accessibility, security and storage of data and digital files; its archival aspect is often called data curation. In fulfilling their curatorial and preservation responsibilities, academic libraries can take more responsibility for coordinating data management and be part of making this data available for analysis and study.

...data curation is the active and on-going management of data through its lifecycle of interest and usefulness to scholarship, science, and education; curation activities

enable data discovery and retrieval, maintain quality, add value, and provide for re-use over time...” (Choudury, 2010).

When analysing the definitions of data management as well as data curation, one realises that librarians can play an important role here

Because CDL is responsible for data management activities of UCDavis, and I only visited it for one day, I didn't learn much from them. Sunette, however was very fortunate to visit Purdue university – and they investigated this issue in detail – although it is still not very clear for them too, how the data management processes are going to be implemented in the library.

Scott Brandt (techman@purdue.edu) is the leader at Purdue in this data curation investigation. According to them, they managed to understand what needed to be done quite good. Although they do not have any solutions of how to handle the data yet, they did put together a very good toolkit that could be used to gather the initial data through interviews. This can be viewed at <http://www.DataCurationProfiles.org>

Purdue University Library suggests that one first needs to understand the stages researchers are going through with data. Negotiation (data curation) is the next step – and here the library can play an important part. Then we need to “ingest” the data by making it available somewhere.

These data can be put into Institutional Repositories, but it would seldom be put there on its own. Normally it is part of a research article. They investigated 300 highly ranked peer reviewed journals and determined that only 10 of those journals recommended that data be added as a supplemental. Most journals only suggested or mentioned that it could be added and then there were others that did not want supplemental data at all.

New developments in collection management and the research community will definitely impact on the work of information specialists, technical services, such as cataloguers and on people providing interlibrary loans.

We face a lot of challenges – however, no matter how we're going to handle them – one thing is sure – the library of the future will look different than the one we grew up with.

DISCUSSION

1. The impact of Collection development and management trends on information specialists can be summarised as follows:

- 1.1 Collaboration, communication and partnerships are important on a variety of areas, such as:

- Different departments and units
- Faculty
- Profession
- Industry
- Other libraries / institutes
- International

1.2 We are responsible to provide access to all information

1.3 ALL formats of material need to be incorporated in our collections – these include amongst others non-traditional collections, such as collecting grey literature, social network communication, artefacts, etc.

1.4 Special collections and university archives become more important collections to preserve for the future, as well as the preservation of objects (in collections)

1.5 Librarians have a definite role to play in research data curation and data management.

2. The impact of Collection development and management trends on technical services can be summarised as follows:

New collection development and management trends will definitely impact on the cataloguing profession. Cataloguers have skills that can be applied to new challenges in data curation, management and organising. It is however important to further enhance and developing these skills by attending additional courses and training – especially in areas such as IT and metadata.

The challenges of the future cataloguing profession will be to provide access to a variety of non-traditional information resources.

New developments in collection development and management, such as acquisition of shelve-ready material, easier administration processes, as well as shared resources and collaboration between different institutions, will definitely impact on the activities and functions of cataloguers.

New roles, skills and partnerships are needed.

Developments in technology have a huge impact on technical services.

3. The impact of Collection development and management trends on Inter-library loans:

Due to the fact that it is now more about access than actual holdings, ILL staff will play an important role in discovering “difficult-to find” material and

resources. Skills to discover all kinds of information have to be improved. Turn - around time become more important as user demands increase.

Collaboration between ILL staff and librarians are important for collection development and maintenance. ILL staff can play an important role in “patron-driven” acquisitions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. All different departments in the library need to collaborate better and discuss issues regarding collection development and management
2. E-books became an important part of our collection – UPLS needs an e-book policy and procedure. All parties involved need to know all aspects involved in the acquisition, marketing and use of e-books.
3. Skills development is necessary – especially for new roles and challenges in data curation and management.