A PLACE AT THE TABLE: HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARIANS AND CONSORTIAL E-BOOK DDA SELECTION, PURCHASING, AND MANAGEMENT

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Objectives:

The USMAI Library Consortium consists of the 16 libraries from Maryland's diverse public universities and colleges, including a research university, a distance education university, a liberal arts college, professional schools in law and the health sciences, HBCU institutions, and two system centers. A pilot was implemented to explore the feasibility of a joint demand driven acquisition (DDA) e-book model.

Methods:

A committee of ten—including the collection manager from the health sciences library and a health sciences librarian from one of the system centers—convened to design and manage the pilot. The consortium leadership provided a budget of $100,000, and the committee selected a broad profile, focusing on the subject areas offered at the system centers, which offer several interdisciplinary and inter-institutional courses. Having a consortium-wide program provided greater equity in access to resources across institutions. Because the committee decided to pilot a novel consortial DDA model that limited the lending of each purchased book rather than providing a price multiplier, initially only a small number of publishers were willing to participate. A simple questionnaire was devised to measure participation by campus.

Results:

The pilot went live in August 2013 with an initial load of 6560 titles into USMAI's shared catalog. The original model was to pay for 6 short term loans and purchase the book at print list price on the 7th. A purchase entitled the consortium to 14 short term loans per year with an additional copy being purchased at print list price on the 15th. Over the course of the year the committee removed certain titles from publishers who demanded exorbitant increases in the cost of short term loans and added others. Currently the shared DDA collection contains 25,077 titles. An analysis of usage shows that the users of all libraries in the system have benefited from the program, and funding for the pilot was approved for a second year.

Conclusions:

A consortial e-book DDA program can be a cost-effective way of equitably increasing access to a greater number of resources for library users. As e-book models for libraries continue to evolve it is vital that libraries work with publishers to design systems that are mutually beneficial. It is our hope that other consortia will adopt this type of model so that it will continue to be viable in the marketplace.

ADDITIONAL DATA FROM USMAI LIBRARIES' E-BOOK DDDA PILOT PROJECT
August 1, 2013 – May 20, 2015

Usage of Health-Related Books

LC Subject	No. of Browses & Loans	Percentage of Total
General Medicine —R	470	0.89%
Public Aspects of Medicine-RA	861	1.62%
Pathology-RB	4	0.00%
Internal Medicine-RC	100	0.19%
Surgery-RD	20	0.01%
Otorhinolaryngology-RF	7	0.00%
Gynecology & Obstetrics -RG	62	0.12%
Pediatrics-RJ	870	1.63%
Pharmacology/Therapeutics-RM	211	0.40%
Pharmacy-RS	53	0.01%
Nursing-RT	405	0.76%
Other Systems of Medicine-RZ	30	0.01%
Total	**3093**	**5.64%**

Usage by Status

Campus	Undergraduate	Graduate	Faculty	Staff	Unknown*
Bowie State University	1503	610	90	14	12
Center for Environmental Studies	0	0	25	3	0
Coppin State University	429	258	44	4	5
Frostburg State University	559	76	91	13	6
Morgan State University	1221	796	63	124	7
Salisbury University	2695	479	448	32	36
St. Mary's College	1518	31	185	25	6
Towson University	4016	1293	689	136	29
University of Baltimore	816	620	223	132	9
University of Baltimore Law Library	3	130	26	49	1
University of Maryland Baltimore County	2611	1506	652	254	21
University of Maryland College Park	8749	8632	2053	839	142
University of Maryland Eastern Shore	742	132	827	161	12
University of Maryland Health Sciences & Human Services Library	79	1071	268	256	6
University of Maryland Law Library	1	125	26	27	0
University of Maryland University College	2109	1757	315	54	71
Totals	**27051**	**17516**	**6025**	**2123**	**363**

Questions?

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* Users voluntarily enter this information in a short survey prior to accessing an e-Book. These numbers represent those that choose not to fill it out.