A Model for Collaborative Evaluation and Selection of Electronic Resources

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Agenda

• The Environment
• Electronic Resources Committee (ERC)
• ERC Strengths
• ERC Accomplishments
• Future Directions
The Environment (1997)

- Isolated pockets of knowledge
- Interdepartmental communication lacking
- Proliferation/complexity of digital formats
- Multiple access methods - no standards
- Difficulty managing licenses
- High materials costs
The Model (ERC)

• Electronic Resources Committee (ERC)
  – Strategic planning initiative (1997-8)
  – Established 1998
  – New position: Electronic Resources Coordinator
  – Library goal: One-Stop-Shopping
The Model (ERC) #2

• Committee charge
  – Copyright/licensing oversight
  – Approve e-resources selection
  – Determine access methods, authentication
  – Track future needs
  – Web design, content feedback
The Model (ERC) #3

• Current ERC composition
  – Electronic Resources Coordinator
  – Head, Collection Development
  – Clinical Liaison/Online Services Librarian
  – Senior Reference Librarian
  – Assistant Director, Outreach Services
  – Assistant Director, Instructional Services
  – Internetworking Specialist, OIT
The Model (ERC) #4

- Electronic Resources Coordinator
  - Electronic purchase oversight
  - Negotiates, tracks licenses
  - Vendor point of contact
  - Co-manages E-resources budget
  - Runs ERC
  - Investigates new technologies
  - Manages Library web pages
  - Reference, instruction, orientations
ERC Strengths

• Communication

• Collaboration
  – Distributed collection development
  – Thorough e-resources evaluation
  – Technical ramifications discussed

• Control
ERC Strengths #2

• Patron impact
  – Faster response to purchase suggestions
  – Increased faculty dialogue
  – Improved patron communication
  – Improved access to E-Resources
ERC Strengths #3

• Forum for issue discussion
  – cataloging electronic resources
  – delivery via library web page or OPAC
  – electronic journals
  – electronic reserves
  – document delivery
  – desktop configurations
ERC Accomplishments

• Committee products
  – Electronic products approved, implemented
  – Policy: Web & IP authentication preferred
  – ERC Product Tracking Form
  – Collection Development Policy
  – Web-link Criteria Policy for Library web pages
ERC Accomplishments #2

• ERC Patron Survey
  – Intent: Feedback/education
  – Web-based
  – Respondents -152/3000
  – Comments
    • Electronic Full Text Journals
    • Remote Access
Future Directions of ERC

• Increase electronic holdings/publications
• Creative thinking regarding future needs
  – Access issues
    • docking ports, proxy servers, web referral pages
    • distance learning needs
  – Continue Strategic Planning
• Re-engineer Collection Development
Conclusion

• More productive collaboration

• Fiscal responsibility

• One-Stop-Shopping
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Presentation and supporting documentation available

http://www.gwumc.edu/library/mla99/

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