How Many Copies Do We Need?

Collaborative Collection Development in the OhioLINK Consortium

Why the Interest?
- Word is getting out
- Interest is high
- Technology is there
- Money & staff are tight
- Adversity breeds innovation!

Why OhioLINK?
It was the mid-80s…
- OhioLINK was born because:
  - Too many books
  - No place to put them
  - No new buildings
  - Not enough money
Who belongs to OhioLINK?

- 90 members
- 16 public universities
- 23 community/technical colleges
- 50 private colleges
- State Library

What do we share?

- 600,000+ Users (faculty, staff, students)
- 46 million Catalog Records
- 4,500 Simultaneous Users
- 140 Electronic Databases
- 12,000 E-journals
- 25,000 E-books
- 14,000 E-Theses & Dissertations
- Thousands of images, videos, and sounds

Regional Depositories

- Northwest: 650,000 items stored
- Northeast: 550,000 items stored
- Southeast: 350,000 items stored
- Ohio State: 1,100,000 items stored
- Southwest: 1,000,000 items stored
- Southwest: 1,000,000 items stored
- Northeast: 550,000 items stored

Northeastern Ohio Book Depository

Circulation of Materials

- 46 million items to pick from
- Patron initiated
- Requests item online
- 120 pick up sites
- 48 hour delivery
- 4 renewals up to 15 weeks
Materials Delivered Around State
- 2007: 751,000 items
- Since 1992: 7,285,000

Who does the work?

The Heart of OhioLINK
The Committees

Collection Building Task Force
Abridged History
- 1997 Discussion began
- 1998 Wrote statewide RFP
- 1998 Selected vendor—YBP
- 1999 Began receiving books

“Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm (or coffee).”

---Ralph Waldo Emerson
We meet often….
- 5,560 + Meetings
- 31,100 + Cups of coffee
- 18,433 + Muffins
- 20,800 + Lunches
- 4,000,000 Frequent driver miles
- 65,000 Hours of singing to the radio
- 8,000 Lunch upgrades

Folks, It Ain’t Easy!
- Cooperation takes work
- New relationships need to be developed
- Not all wanted to change
- Processes & procedures can become entrenched
- Old habits die hard

Cooperation takes more work!
- It’s easy to write an approval plan
- Coordinated plans take more work
- It’s easy to order a new book
- It’s harder to find a similar replacement

Value of making the effort…
- Better use of funds
- What could you buy if you didn’t by this dup?
- What is *not* purchased?
- Where is duplication needed?

What was our biggest problem?

Politics
- Cooperative collection management is like a presidential year—full of politics.
- Fear of change
- Loss of autonomy
- Passive resistance, inertia and indifference
- Trust: Questioning the quality or reliability of the partners
- In short, people are the biggest barrier.
Advantages of Cooperating

- More diversified collections
- Economic incentives
- Know your colleagues better
- Know your collections better

OhioLINK’s Current Tools for CCD

- YBP’s Gobi
- GobiTween
- “Not Bought” Lists
- Peer reports
- Subject Groups
- Cooperative projects
- Road Shows

Tools: GobiTween in OhioLINK

- Can make an informed purchase decision
- Know actual purchases
- Know potential purchases
- Can review approval plan receipts
- Know how many copies expected in the state

Tools: Peer & Management Reports

- Compare ourselves
  - Inside consortium
  - Outside consortium
- Accreditation
- New programs

Tools: Gobi “Not Bought in Ohio”

- Select a time frame
- Run GOBI list
- Evaluate results
- Year end spending
- Extra funds

Tools: Subject Group Listservs

- Purpose: To facilitate CCD & resource sharing
- 28 listservs
- Grassroots level
- Make buying decisions
Tools: Cooperative Projects
- Religion, Art, Math, Engineering, Computer Science, Music etc.
- Share approval plan profiles
- Coordinate standing orders
- Digital rights on videos

Tools: Road Shows
- Taking the show on the road…
  - Consortial-wide meetings
  - Summit meeting Director level
  - Vendor driven training sessions

What’s the value of working with a consortial vendor?
- Force consortial agenda
- Clout—get what you want
- Big & small—favorable discount
- Share ideas & expertise
- New business $$$

Was it Hard to Change Vendors?
Yes

But… Change is Good
- New excitement about work
- New responsibilities
- New processes & procedures
- New efficiencies
- New ways of looking at things
- Save money

OhioLINK New Trends
“Unnecessary-Duplication”

Collection Assessment 2008

- Selling CCD without data
- Need info to make informed decisions
- Questions: What do we want to know?
- Commercial products
- OCLC Research

Questions: Collection Analysis Information Needed

- Is our OhioLINK collection getting more diverse?
- Is duplication of titles increasing or decreasing?
- What does the complete overall OhioLINK collection look like?
- What books didn’t we purchase?
- Does the 80/20 rule apply?

OhioLINK-OCLC Research Project

- Met with OCLC Research
- Planned the information to gather
- Tested data gathering
- Wrote procedures
- Advertised, promoted & encouraged participation

OCLC Research Project

- Project Goal
  - Collect, analyze and compare book circulation data from all OhioLINK libraries
  - Use OCLC #, ISBN or LCCN to link circulation records to WorldCat bib records

Data To Be Collected

- Dawn of Time
- One year
- Future plans?
OCLC—OhioLINK Preliminary Data

- 81 institutions participated
- 33,000,000 records received
- 47,000,000 circ transactions

Early Results? Ta-Dah!

Most Held
- Libraries: 68
- Copies: 109
- Circulations: 99

Most Copies
- Libraries: 12
- Copies: 9,542
- Circulations: 9

The National union catalog, pre-1956 imprints

Most Circulated
- Libraries: 6
- Copies: 92
- Circulations: 6,023

Hot Subjects
- Computer Science (QA 75-76)
- Women, Feminism, Life Skills, Life Style (HQ 1101-2044)
- Medicine: Special Subjects (R 690-920)
- Buddhism (BQ)
- Nursing (RT)
- Broadcasting (PN 1990-1992)
How to use data collected???

- Educate selectors
- Set guidelines for unnecessary duplication
- Influence purchasing decisions
- Change behaviors
- Refine approval plans
- Weed & move collections

Small Steps....

It only takes 2 to cooperate
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