And They Were There: Reports of Meetings — 30th Annual Charleston Conference. Patron-Driven Acquisition of Monographs: Results and Implications

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We've Come So Far, Who Knew! One Librarian's Experience With E-Books and Beyond — Presented by James Mouw (University of Chicago)

Reported by: LouAnn Blocker (Augusta State University, Reese Library) <lblocker1@aug.edu>

At the University of Chicago, they are still uncertain about patron acceptance of eBooks (many faculty still prefer print,) but a recent survey they conducted of graduate and professional students indicated that this group would like more eBooks. Mouw shared statistics of eBook collections compared with their print counterparts in NetLibrary and Oxford Scholarship Online, which gave good ideas on analyzing collection use. Many hits to eBooks come from MARC records, highlighting the importance of having those collections in the library catalog. He stressed the future importance of having library holdings hooked to Google searches. They have added Hathi Trust titles to their catalog.

They have a pilot PDA program where any patron can initiate a request, with payment through subject selectors’ discretionary funds. He sees the issue with PDA as a balance between building collections and spending money wisely.

Issues in eBook acquisition mentioned were: you aren’t always notified at the same time when print and an e-versions of books are available; ILL is still a big question; e-readers are still “consumer models,” not “library models;” and buying versus leasing content. The session was succinct and gave all the content advertised.

Open Researcher and Contributor Identification (ORCID)
— Presented by David Kochalko (ORCID/Thomson Reuters)

Note: See interview with this speaker, on the topic of ORCID, in Against the Grain, v.22#5, Nov. 2010 issue.

Reported by: Ramune K. Kubilius (Northwestern University, Galter Health Sciences Library) <rkubilius@northwestern.edu>

Will the non-profit ORCID initiative (www.orcid.org) lead to an author disambiguation solution? About two dozen attendees listened to (and later questioned) Kochalko as he presented steps taken so far. ORCID has members in 25 countries and a board of directors, both representing various stakeholder sectors; others can engage, too. Communication is underway with NISO and other id registry initiatives. Evident needs: Profiles and communities; research impact studies; refinement in collection development; bibliometric research. Challenges: variant names; unique “common name” problems in each country; and third party uploaded data? What will be the provenance, controls?

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