

American Library Association Annual Conference
Chicago
July 11-12, 2009
Luann DeGreve

Saturday, July 11, 2009

Wiley-Blackwell/CARLI Breakfast

This presentation/meeting provided useful information on the current Blackwell and Wiley contract terms. It also provided information regarding a merged proposal for the resources moving forward. The state institutions response to the proposal was similar to Benedictine's issues. Overall this was helpful as subscription renewal time is here.

Outsourcing Collection Development: Collaboration Is the Key

Speakers: Kathleen Sullivan, Cory Tucker, Reeta Sinha

This session was not truly about outsourcing collection development. Rather, it was about taking full advantage of the services offered by vendors. For example, YBP is able to help institutions build new collections in particular subjects. They can make suggestions for filling in backfiles. They can also help with suggesting titles if an institution has a large pool of funds left at the end of the year. The key to this is for collection development specialist to think about what they want in their library rather than what they do not want. The session provided some food for thought as Benedictine needs to build new collections in a couple of subject areas.

What Do You Get with Meta-Search in WorldCat Local

Speakers: OCLC personnel

This session was an overview of the programming behind WorldCat Local's meta-search capabilities. This presentation built upon a presentation I attended at the IOUG annual meeting. This may be something Benedictine would be interested in considering more this year.

Collection Development 2.0: The Changing Administration of Collection Development

Speakers: Rick Anderson, Martha White, Jonathan Nabe

This session really did not live up to the concept of "The Changing Administration of Collection Development". The presenters basically discussed what has been happening for years at small institutions. The public library presenter had some interesting ideas which may be able to be incorporated into things done at Benedictine, but general these were random thoughts not related to collection development. For example, displays of materials by color work well. Some public libraries have open shelves for patrons to pick up their materials on hold. Some public libraries also change patrons if they do not pick up their materials on hold. A couple of things related to collection development included having late night weeding parties with food and a stock turnover formula. The stock turnover formula is a method used to show how often items in a give area circulate.

The formula is:

Number of circulations of items in a call number range ÷ Total number of items in the call number range = stock turnover

Sunday, July 12, 2009

Collection Development: Decision Making with Data

Speakers: Robert Holley, Miriam Tuliao, Marcia Mardis

The academic speaker provided a condensed version of a collection development course. There was nothing new presented. He did not provide anything related to making decisions with data. At the end of his presentation, I was so disgusted that I left and went to talk to vendors in the exhibit hall.

Documenting Tragedy: Special Collections on the Front Line and on the Front Page

Speakers: Jennifer Paustenbaugh, Tamara Kennelly, Edward Galvin, Steven Escar Smith, and Aaron Purcell

This was an interesting session of presentations exploring how three academic institutions built special collections around tragedies that affected their campuses: the Virginia Tech shootings, the PanAm103 disaster, and the Texas A&M bonfire tragedy. In all cases, the libraries were already integrated into the university culture as the place to deposit university records. This made it much easier to build the collections. The Virginia Tech presentation additionally discussing partnering with faculty on campus to set up a grid for the collection and identification of items left at the spontaneous shrines. The Syracuse presentation focused on how the collection was used and expanded over time. The university set up scholarships in memory of the students who died in the disaster. Each year the recipients of the scholarships are required to research the person behind the scholarship and participate in a service at the memorial. The Texas A&M presentation discussed working with the media during and after the tragedy.