

APPENDIX E: EBOOKS INSTITUTION SURVEY SUMMARY

1A. How long has your library been using ebooks?

Most have been using ebooks for 1-2 years.

- 9 months - 1 year (4)
- 2 years (3)
- 6 months (2)
- over 10 years (1)

1A. Which vendor(s) are you using?

- NetLibrary (7)
- ItKnowledge (3)
- WE have databases that contain ebook content (2)
- No answer (2)
- Bell&Howell/Chadwyck-Healey (1)
- Columbia Earthscape (1)
- CRC Press (1)
- IEEE proceedings (1)
- IntelLex Corporation (1)
- National Academy Press Titles (1)
- OECD (1)
- Rocket (1)
- SoftBook (1)
- We create own content (1)

2A. How many ebooks have you bought?

The range for the number of ebooks titles bought is 835 to 100,000 (EEBO). Most bought under 20,000; 4 under 5,000.

Number of titles

- 835
- 1900 + 50 reader device titles
- 2120
- 3900
- 11,000
- 13,600
- 20,000
- Over 21,000
- 100,000
- not provided (1)

2B. In which subject areas?

Most (7) bought ebooks in a variety to subject areas; some have a collection of computer and technology books and one has ebooks only in the social sciences.

Various areas/broad range (7)

Computer and IT (3)

Social sciences (1)

2C. Have you bought year by year access or perpetual access?

It was split evenly between Annual/year by year licenses and perpetual licenses with 3 not responding. Some institutions had different licenses for different resources.

Annual access/year by year (5)

Perpetual license (5)

Not answered (3)

3A. Are you purchasing and lending portable reading devices?

Most (8) had not purchased portable reading devices; of those two institutions were considering it for the future.

No (8)

Yes (2)

No but considering it (2)

3B. If so, which ones, and how is it working?

For the two institutions that were offering portable reading devices it was working well.

4. How are you creating records in your catalog for the ebooks?

In most cases the institutions get the MARC record directly from the vendor or through OCLC.

Getting marc (either from vendor or OCLC) (8)

Yes creating records either getting MARC or creating from scratch (1)

Student workers put in URL (1)

Other ways (1)

5. What kinds of publicity have you done?

Most common method of publicity was a link or announcement item on the library web (6); writing articles for faculty or campus newsletters second was most used method (4); creating flyers, sending target emails and including it in bibliographic instruction followed (2 each). Other things only mentioned by one institution: word of mouth, promote through library liaison program, talks, local media. And one said they had no special outreach.

On web site (6)

Article in faculty-student newspaper and other places (4)

Email (2)

Flyers (2)

Bibliographic instruction (2)

Word of mouth (1)

None (1)

Promote through library liaison program (1)

Talks (1)

Local media (1)

6. How has the acquisition of ebooks affected your purchases of titles in print? Have you consciously decided to stop buying print for some categories or subjects (reserves, computer books, etc.)?

All stated that acquisition of ebooks has had little to no impact on their purchases of titles in print. Those who added comments felt that the role of ebooks was not to replace print but to serve as a duplicate copy or to be used for e-reserves.

Comments:

- Purchasing netlibrary to supplement, using to expand e-reserves
- All ebooks have print versions

- ebooks supplement print title purchases; they will eliminate purchase of duplicate titles; in the future will get all computer books this way
- For high use, we buy the second copy in ebook format; will buy reserves in ebook format, but not to replace paper
- Would consider in future just buying ebook as long as have permanent access to ebook.

7. What has been the response from faculty? From students? From library staff? How did you collect the information?

Most institutions have not set up any formal feedback mechanism (7); many noted that it was too early in the process to gather patron's feelings. Of those who have gathered feedback, it was gathered through surveys. Anecdotal evidence indicates that patrons like having the online access, especially the 24x7 aspect. One institution did a survey of patrons checking out reading devices and found 81% would use reader again and 78% said had no difficulties

- Too early to tell (7)
- Most like the having online access; like 24x7 access (2)
- Students and staff like portable devices (1)
- Some faculty are freaked out by the bigger picture implications of ebooks vs print.(1)
- Mixed responses (like 24x7 access but don't want to give up print) (1)
- Survey of patrons checking out readers – 81% would use reader again, 78% said had no difficulties (1)

8. Have you purchased titles through a consortium, on your own, or both?

Most institutions purchased titles both through a consortium and on their own.

Both (7)

On own (2)

Through consortium (1)

9. Have procedures in your normal acquisition or processing operation required changes to accommodate the purchase of ebooks?

It was split evenly as to whether there has been a procedure change or not. For those that said yes some of their comments include; netlibrary purchases are now patron driven, currently one person does all tasks related to ebooks, there have been modification in the Acquisitions and Serials dept positions to deal with electronic resource purchases; and one noted that they now have to involve a lot more people in the process than traditional purchasing.

Yes (5)

No (5)

10. Do you have concerns about resource sharing (ILL) and ebooks?

Most (6) did not express concern about Ill, several noting that it was too early to tell, though.

Yes (4)

No (6)(too early)

11. What role do you see for free ebooks (Project Gutenberg, UVA E-Text Project)? Are they being cataloged at your library?

None of the institutions catalog free ebooks resource, many provide links to them on a web page.

We link to them (4)

Not yet cataloged (9)

NOTE: On-Line books page at Upenn – “best-known” free ebooks site at PENN

12. What are your plans for working with e-information vendors like Ebrary and Questia?

None of the institutions were currently working with Ebrary or Questia; several noted that they were taking the “wait and see” mentality.

None (10)

13. What do you see as the future of ebooks in your organization? What is the next step?

- Cataloging records needed (3)
- Ebooks will play an increasingly important role because of ease of access, searchability, value added services such as citation linking (2)
- Print will always be important; Users continue to prefer print (2)
- Ebook not panacea for book storage issue
- Some titles will be used a lot (e.g reference, computer and tech titles)
- Ebook will be made available in xml so that we can have diversity of display options
- Ebooks use will focus on e-reserves
- Need to involve more selectors/subject specialists
- It would be ideal if Netlibrary were part of their “approval plan/vendor catalog”
- Monitor usage so we can understand it better
- Ebooks represent a supplement to purchasing print monographs; ebooks will take over if they become available faster than print version
- Ebooks will become better integrated into instruction than print monographs
- Continue to acquire books, monitor usage and industry trends
- Need to develop and refine policies for acquiring electronic titles and develop mechanisms ensuring preservation.
- We have formed a group to monitor developments and assist reference/bibliographers in their assessment of ebooks
- Over time ebooks will become more important (most students seem to be using them now for reference not for extended reading)

14. Is there anything else you would like to add?

- We need to consider how we will promote ebooks and educate users
- Technology is still not quite there
- **Can we see the data collected from this survey?**
- Wireless or lighter laptops could be the future
- Print has many right and powers that ebooks don't. We like ebooks but we must not allow ourselves to be locked into technology or legal/social paradigms that impair our ability to support open research, teaching, and public discourse of our community. We will favor vendors who support open process of scholarship and long-term preservation so we will not rush into ebooks.