Collection Development

Geoscience Librarianship 101
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Subjects in the Geosciences

➢ Interdisciplinary in nature

➢ Geosciences broad in scope: earth sciences, climate, geology, geophysics, geochemistry, mineralogy, paleontology, seismology, etc.

➢ Geoscientists need access to a wide range of resources: Biology, Ecology, Physics, Chemistry, Engineering, Math, etc.

➢ Regional needs & special emphases
Who selects geosciences materials?

Other areas?
Which ones?
Collection Development Policy:

What is it?
➢ Maintains a record
➢ Defines Intent
  (user populations, strengths)
➢ Communicates
  ➢ Resource allocations, growth
  ➢ Policies on access, selection, gifts, and weeding
  ➢ Institution, administration & user priorities and expectations

Tip: Best if kept up to date & available for review
Parts of a Collection Development Policy:

1. History and Overview of the Collection

2. Academic Departments and Programs Supported
   a) Undergraduate
   b) Graduate & Professional Schools
   c) Institutes, Interdisciplinary Programs, etc.
   d) Course Reserves

3. Selection Guidelines
   a) Print
   b) Digital Collections
   c) Media
   d) Languages Collected
   e) Chronological Focus
   f) Geographical Focus
   g) Imprint Dates Collected
   h) Distinctive & Special Collections
Parts of a Collection Development Policy:

4. **Collection Strategies**
   a) Consortia and Collaborative Collecting with Other Institutions
   b) Selection for Offsite
   c) Deaccessioning
   d) Digitization & Preservation
What DOES your Library have?

Know what you have to work with

➢ Budget?

➢ Contracts/Commitments & Consortial deals,

➢ Assessing the collection:
  ➢ Browse the stacks (digital, offsite)
  ➢ Subject coverage, department needs
  ➢ Unique strengths
  ➢ Overlap/crossover with other collections in library?

➢ Review your approval plan/profile

➢ Collection Analysis tools
Cost of Geoscience Literature

- Varies widely: from Free - $$$
- Exchanges - subscriptions
- Falls under STEM literature - moderately expensive... as far as science goes
- Strong not-for-profit publishers
- Societies, government agencies, foreign publications
Sources for Publications:

➢ Commercial publishers (Wiley, Elsevier, Springer, Cambridge... to name a few)
➢ Government agencies (USGS)
➢ Societies (GSA, The Geological Society, AGU, etc.)
➢ Open Access publications; Repositories
Tip: Turn away stats - see what users are trying to access but never purchased or subscribed

TIP: Don’t forget about: Inter Library Loan; usually easy and convenient for users; you don’t have to buy everything
De-selection - AKA - Weeding

➢ Geosciences materials generally have a long shelf life

➢ Communicate with Stakeholders

➢ Discards:
  ➢ Exchange networks, GeoNet, donations, Better World Books
  ➢ Book Sales
  ➢ Recycle

Be aware: Institutional policies, state regulations
Management & Access issues:
- Costs & contracts
- Managing access
- Technological problems
- Physical formats for digital storage
- Digital preservation (LOCKSS, CLOCKSS, Internet Archive, Hathi Trust, Repositories, Digital Libraries)

Impacts:
- Space, services, technology
- Users - training, communication

Marketing - posters, newsletters, emails, blog posts, vendor swag
Collection Assessment

Why?
➢ Ensure value of subscriptions, purchases, use
➢ Negotiation tool
➢ Cancelation decisions

How?
➢ Use, statistics (COUNTER); Cost per use calculations
➢ Turn away stats
➢ Overlap analysis (e-journals) (Intota Assessment)
➢ USUS

Red Flags:
✧ Higher than average price increases
✧ High cost per use (compare to similar resources)
✧ Decreasing usage, high % unused titles
### E-book subscription assessment example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Subscription A</th>
<th>Subscription B</th>
<th>Subscription C</th>
<th>Subscription D</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2013 Cost</strong></td>
<td>$50,000.00</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
<td>$15,000.00</td>
<td>$60,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>No. of titles</strong></td>
<td>80,000</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>11,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>No. of titles loaned</strong></td>
<td>34,000</td>
<td>2,100</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>No. of loans</strong></td>
<td>2,500,00</td>
<td>11,900</td>
<td>22,000</td>
<td>6,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>% of titles without use after purchase</strong></td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average cost of e-book</strong></td>
<td>$0.60</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td>$140.00</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cost per use</strong></td>
<td>$0.20</td>
<td>$0.20</td>
<td>$0.75</td>
<td>$9.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*This analysis was conducted using confidential cost data. The numbers above were recalculated to reflect findings.*
Federal Documents (USGS + other agencies)
Geological Survey Docs
(Governments, States)
Professional society publications
Field Trip Guidebooks
Maps, data sets, other sources...

Does anyone Archive PDFs or Websites that may be ephemeral?
Other Publications & Access

In-house Publications:

- Theses/Dissertations
- Digital field records, data sets, images
- Technical Series, Reports
- Newsletters
- Yearbooks, Annual reports

Partners: archives, repository

- Access, Metadata
Continuing Education

➢ Take classes, read, go on a field trip
➢ Talk to users: Students, Researchers & Faculty
➢ Talk to your Colleagues
➢ Within institution & external peers
➢ GSIS & GeoNet are great!
Geoscience Collection Development

Discussion:

➢ What Collection Development Issues do you find most challenging?

➢ How do you keep your collections current & relevant?

➢ Anyone doing systematic collection assessment?

➢ Collaborative Collection Development?

➢ Other Topics?