



ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
Paul V. Galvin Library

MAKING THE CUT:

Collaborative Decision Making in Collection Management



HELLO!

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1. BACKGROUND



Why our collection management strategy had to change.



NEED FOR A CHANGE

- Budget cuts
- Revision of Collection Management Policy
- Changing institutional needs

Status quo was no longer possible.



What happens if we **do not purchase something?**

ACCESS VS OWNERSHIP

ACCESS

Is this a resource where access would suffice?

OWN

Is there a compelling reason we need to own the resource?

“



*The successful library of the future
will consist of a delicate balance
between materials that are owned
and those that are accessed.*

(Kane, 1997)

NOT ALL ACCESS IS EQUAL

Need to prioritize by creating a hierarchy of access to information to maximize the use of limited funds.



2. PROCESS



How our collection management strategy changed.



DECISION TREE

Make a complex decision more manageable and less abstract.



OUR PROCESS BEFORE

Have a group
discussion if cuts
were necessary

OUR PROCESS AFTER



Collection Assessment

*** 1. Resource name:**

*** 2. Is resource X a required resource which is unique?**

- ☐ Required and unique
- ☐ Required but not unique
- ☐ Not required but unique
- ☐ not required and not unique

Collection Assessment

3. What is the anticipated usage level for this resource?

- ☐ Heavy/moderate usage by faculty and students
- ☐ Heavy/moderate usage by students only
- ☐ Heavy/moderate usage by faculty only
- ☐ Low usage by both groups

Collection Assessment

4. Is this resource important for faculty research or class preparation; or student learning or engagement?

☐ YES

☐ NO

Collection Assessment

5. Is access sufficient? Ownership/subscription not required

☐ YES

☐ NO

SAMPLE OF DECISION DEFINITIONS

Access 3

Pursue most cost effective access to resource X. Access priority location 3

Purchase 1

Subscribe to or purchase resource X. Purchase priority location 1

Access 17

Pursue most cost effective access to a resource which meets need. Access priority location 17

EXAMPLE RESULTS (total fabrication)

	Humanities Librarian	Art Librarian	Chemistry Librarian
JSTOR	Purchase 1	Purchase 3	Access 1
Ulrich's	Purchase 8	Access 3	Access 4
CQ Researcher	Purchase 2	Access 18	Access 12

3. IMPACT



Impact of the change and lessons learned.



CLEARER COMMUNICATION

Clearer communication
leads to more informed
decision making.



BUILT IN FLEXIBILITY

Rankings saved time and effort.



LESSONS LEARNED

- Everyone needs to be onboard
- Clarify
- Roll with the punches



THANKS!

ANY QUESTIONS?

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CREDITS

- Dave Green and Carlos Melian, for the ideas, leadership, and inspiration
- Kane, L. T. (1997). Access vs. ownership: do we have to make a choice?. *College & Research Libraries*, 58(1), 58-66.
- Presentation template by [SlidesCarnival](#)