Springing for Student Textbooks? Exploring New Directions for Library Collections

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Setting
Current Collection

• eBooks available through:
  – AccessMedicine (McGraw-Hill) unlimited users
  – ClinicalKey (Elsevier) unlimited users
  – EBSCO & R2Library – mostly 1 concurrent user titles
The Project
College of Nursing (CON)

• Established relationship between the CON and the Library
Data Collection

- Survey was adapted from research done at University of Illinois at Chicago on information-seeking behavior and online resources (DeGroote, et al., 2014).
- Qualtrics
- E-mail distribution to full-time CON faculty
Survey Question Overview

#1-5 Database Use

#14-16 eBooks & APCs

#6-13 Journal Use

#17-19 Demographics
Responses

• Collected over a 2-week period
• Initial distribution and two reminders
• Sent to 91 faculty, 28 completed for response rate of 30.7%
Respondent Demographics

Number of Respondents

Years of Teaching Experience

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Experience</th>
<th>Number of Respondents</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than 2</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 to 5</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 to 10</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 to 15</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>16 to 20</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 to 25</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 or more</td>
<td>2</td>
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Non-Textbook Question Highlights

50% were likely to use SciHub or similar free website to locate research

PubMed is the database they begin research with the most

Only 7.14% have previously published Open Access
Several databases to which the library subscribes provide students with access to required textbooks (e.g., AccessMedicine contains Lange’s Basic & Clinical Pharmacology). Please answer true/false to the following statements:
I believe the library should expand access to resources that include student textbooks.

89.29% True

10.71% False
The availability of a student textbook in a library database would make it more likely that I would recommend it as an assigned textbook.

I would recommend an alternative to my current textbook if it were available to students in a library database.
I would support a student fee to support the licensing of resources that include student textbooks in lieu of individual students purchasing required textbooks.
I would welcome the inclusion of a librarian on curricular committees.
Conclusions

- Interest and support of the program
- Library e-Resources are being used
- Opportunity for further librarian involvement
Lessons Learned
Looking to the Future

- Pilot e-textbook program with the College of Nursing
- Curriculum committee inclusion
Looking to the Future

Distribute the survey to the other five colleges

Explore options related to Open Educational Resources (OER)
References


Thank you!