University of Iowa Libraries Staff Publications

4-19-2002

Issues and challenges of remote access electronic resources

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Issues and Challenges of Remote Access Electronic Resources

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Introduction

"Now, here, you see, it takes all the running you can do, to keep in the same place. If you want to get somewhere else, you must run at least twice as fast as that!"

White Queen, <u>Through the Looking Glass</u>

Remote Access Resources vs. Traditional, Tangible Resources

- Library doesn't *own* titles or issues
- Nothing physically received
- Dynamic
- Subject to volatile nature of web
- Accessible from anywhere

Selection

- Compare with other electronic products and with print
- Compare with other remote access products
- Price
  - May require negotiation
  - May be based on FTE students or amount of access

Technological Needs Assessment

- Must occur BEFORE purchase
- IP or password access?
- Do individual users have to register?
- Campus wide or building wide access?
- Restrictions on off campus use?

Collaboration & Partnerships

- Among selectors
- Across traditional functional boundaries
- Between different libraries in same system
- Between libraries in a region

Licensing

- Occurs before order finalized
- Reviewing license takes specialized training
  - Model licenses are being designed
  - Need to stay current with law
  - May have different criteria for "clickable" licenses
  - May need to go through the institution's legal department

Specific Licensing Issues

- Definition of site & authorized user
- What jurisdiction's laws are used?
- Are there indemnification clauses?
- What are our contractual obligations?
- Term of access
- What rights are offered?

Ordering

- Often very fast turn around
- Publisher or subscription agent?
- Order may be initiated outside of Acquisitions Dept.

Notification of Access

- Make sure vendor notifies staff when accessible
- Notify selectors who can publicize it
- Notify catalogers to add to OPAC
- Notify additional people locally
- Notify consortial partners

Web Pages – Database - OPAC

"Scholars dispute and the case is still before the courts."

Horace, Epistles

Web Pages

- Subject specialists add to pages
- Brief description created by people not trained in cataloging without controlled vocabulary
- Duplication of work between pages
- Some professors indicate preference for list

Separate Database

- Dynamic web pages
- Cross disciplinary items only added once
- May mean double entry of everything in OPAC
- Coordination between OPAC and separate database cumbersome

OPAC

- Tested, uniform access mechanism
- Controlled vocabulary and authority control
- All library resources integrated
- Historically not for ephemeral materials
- Minimal records can be used in OPAC
- Supports hook to holdings

Cataloging

- AACR2 and MARC in process of changing
- Single or separate records?
- Balance national standards with local needs
- Possibilities restricted by ILS capabilities
- Stay current with Dublin Core, CORC, etc.
- Different levels of cataloging/access

Electronic Journal Management Services

- TDNet, JournalWebCite, Serials Solutions
- Single product to search
- Variable amounts of control over output
- Include aggregator titles, holdings etc.
- SFX is being used this way at Iowa

E-Journals: Electronic Only Purchase

- Belief these should be/are cheaper to produce
- Save shelf space and save bindery expenses
- Gain technology and maintenance costs
- Other issues to consider
  - Will you disenfranchise technologically poor?
  - Will you retain after payments stop?
  - Can you order electronic only?

E-Journals: Free with Print

- Recognition of existence
- Must have license approved as usual
- Registration with publisher
- Common pricing model
- May stop being free
- If the publisher changes may not retain access

E-Journals: Completely Free

- High amount of maintenance
- Who will select them?
- Will library include free full text in catalog?
- Some free journals have been very stable

Size of Purchases

- One purchase can often be hundreds of titles
  - Aggregators
  - Intermediaries
  - Publishers' packages
- Coping
  - Streamline tasks
  - Take advantage of shared cataloging
  - Consider batch loading

Tracking Access

- Use simple system
- Information to track
  - Where order is in order process
  - Renewal information
  - Usage limitations
  - What can be accessed and for how long
  - Technical support contact
  - Information needed for selection decisions

Maintenance

- Restoring lost access
- URL checking
- Make sure content is being updated
- May want to update local holdings
- May want a non-person specific email address

Statistics

- ARL, annual reports, selectors needs
- Usage statistics
  - Not always available from publishers
  - Not consistent between publishers
  - Important to get what you can

Archiving & Preservation

- Local archive
- International, permanent archive
  - Is it still a library responsibility?
  - Free materials - what should be preserved?
  - Continually updated resources – how often to archive?
  - First and/or definitive publication must be clear
- Digital preservation of other materials

Conclusion

"Destiny may be digital, but we will be a long time reaching this destiny, and this long transitional period will call for careful management."

Clifford Lynch, "The New context for bibliographic control in the new millennium"