Budgets on my mind

Changing Budget Allocations to Meet Teaching and Research Needs

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UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
Overview

Intro & UW Context

Trend Analysis from Survey Data

Compare/Contrast with UW

Conclusion & Next Steps
University of Washington
Survey trend analysis
Collections Budget Allocation Practices
About the Survey 1/2

Preliminary version of this survey was administered

• January 2018 with ALCTS Chief Collection Development Officers at Large Research Libraries (CCDO)

Adapted from Penn State University Libraries

• Charleston 2013: Creating a New Collections Allocation Model for These Changing Times: Challenges, Opportunities, and Data by Gregory A. Crawford and Lisa German
Survey submitted and approved for exempt determination by UW Human Subjects IRB Review
Invitations distributed via email lists and contacts
Accepted responses: June 20 to July 31, 2018
Participation from 91 libraries
Survey instrument: 20 questions, mostly multiple choice & check boxes
Institutional Demographics

- 89 or 98% Academic Libraries (2 public libraries)
- ⅔ offer Doctoral Degrees | 30% offer less than 24 PhDs

2 Public Libraries

6 Community Colleges
Current Collections Budget Allocation Practices

Trends from Survey Participants

- About half of respondents are currently using historical allocation patterns
- More than third allocate budgets based on individual subject funds
- Majority allocate 70-90% of budget to serials/ongoing costs
Allocating for New Serial and Programs

![Bar chart: How do you create funds for new serials?]

- From cancellations of existing subscriptions: 70%
- Allocation off the top: 20%
- Other: 10%
- From repurposing of monograph funds within a subject/college/school allocation: 0%

![Bar chart: How do you allocate funds for new/emerging needs?]

- Off the top as a separate budget line: 40%
- Included in subject/college/school budgets: 35%
- Other: 25%
- None: 0%
Context and Motivations for Changes

Trends from Survey Participants

• Nearly 60% participate in new program planning or utilize a cost share strategy
• 66% made any changes to allocations in the last 5 years
• About half are making changes now or in near future
Compare and Contrast

Case Study: University of Washington
UW Context

- ~80% overall collections budget allocated to serials and ongoing costs
- Currently allocate to ~70 subject funds
- Allocation based on historical percentages not changed in 20 years
- Multi-year budget review process started in November 2017

We are not alone!
What Did We Learn… and What Next?

• There is no answer
• There are many answers

So... What?
• Bring this home
• Budgets and Strategic Planning
• Budgets and Organizational Change
• and... Tolstoy
Thank you! Questions?

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