Data Driven Acquisition

Alma Analytics in the Use of a New Library Acquisition Model

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אוניברסיטת בן-גוריון בנגב
Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Ben Gurion University of the Negev

\ Main campus in the city of Beer Sheva in the Negev desert

\ About 20,000 students in 6 faculties

\ In addition to pure research the university is also focused on applied research – collaborations with institutions and companies

The Zalman Aranne central library

\ Serves the entire student body

\ Collections in all research areas

\ Knowledge center for residents of the Negev – open for visitors

Agenda

\ Changes

\ Work process

\ Challenges and solutions

\ Developing the model

\ Future goals and conclusion

2020 – Changes

\ The threat of **budget cuts**

\ The library is asked to **show efficiency** and present a plan or a model

\ Purchasing **more e-resources**

\ Implementing **Alma**

A working group is formed to research the possibilities.

The working group

\ **Library director**

\ **Head of technical services**

    \ Has knowledge of the purchasing process

    \ In charge of implementing and maintaining Alma

\ **Faculty representative**

    \ Perspective of the user

    \ We needed the faculty members cooperation

\ **Librarian** with the knowledge of usage statistics

The working process

\ Consulting with colleagues

\ Literature reading

\ Discussion meeting on possible actions

    \ Pros and cons of each possibility

    \ Do we have the data?

    \ Acceptance by staff and faculty

Discussing the possibilities – option 1

Deciding on a **core collection**

\ A relative concept

\ What is the right measure? (Q, IF, no. of faculty publications)

\ Consult faculty – Subjective opinions that may differ

\ Survey research fields – It may frequently change and what about interdisciplinary research?

\ It takes time

Discussing the possibilities – option 2

Usage data from Alma

\\ Objective numeric data

\\ Accessible – data is automatically harvested to Alma

\\ Fast – reports produced from Alma

\\ A good starting point for discussion – Although both options compliment each other

Challenges

\ Different types of resources – a model for all types?

\ Learning the Alma analytics module

  \ How to build a report

  \ The meanings of the numbers – how they relate to the COUNTER reports, calculations

\ Learning about COUNTER reports

  \ What do the numbers represent?

  \ Moving to COUNTER 5 – adapt technically

Challenges

\ There is not enough data

    \ Not all vendors provide usage data

    \ Vendors do not supply COUNTER reports

    \ Technical difficulties

\ Inter library loan as an alternative

Challenges – the solutions

\ Different types of resources – a model for all types?

Focus on single journals subscriptions for the first year

\ There is not enough data

Maintenance work

Go to the vendor for full reports

Limitation – vendors that do not provide data

\ Inter library loan as an alternative

Cost calculated and set as a reference

2020 – First formula

cost per use > ill cost

Title	Cost	Usage	Cost per use	Ill cost
Journal A	2,500$	100	25$	10$

2020 – First formula

Usage report from Alma Analytics

Title	ISSN	Platform (from COUNTER report)	Usage JR1	Cost	Cost Per Use
Cold Spring Harbor perspectives in biology.	1943-0264	Highwire Press	131.00	3,699.54	28.24
Cold Spring Harbor protocols.	1559-6095; 1940-3402	Highwire Press	501.00	4,942.08	9.86
Comparative critical studies.	1750-0109; 1744-1854	Edinburgh University Press	2.00	266.41	133.21
Comparative education review.	1545-701X; 0010-4086	University of Chicago Press Journals	104.00	397.80	3.52
Comparative literature.	1945-8517; 0010-4124	Silverchair	21.00	222.30	10.59
Comparative politics.	2151-6227; 0010-4159	ingentaconnect	3.00	237.73	79.24

cost per use > ill cost

2020 – First formula

\ Add the input of professionals:

    Subject librarians

    Faculty members

\ Inter library loan as alternative depends on the usage count

    \ Reciprocity principle

    \ Copyrights

\ Good basis for discussion that resulted in cancelations of subscriptions

2021 – Considering overlapping

\ Single journal subscription overlap with journal packages

\ We are actually paying for embargo year's usage

Single journal subscription	1990-2020
Package subscription	1990-2018

\ Updated formula:

cost per use of embargoed year of publication > ill cost

2021 –
Considering overlapping

Report from Alma Analytics

\ Journal requests by year of

  publication report JR5 (TR_J4)

\ Fiscal year 2020

\ Total usage – 93

\ Usage of embargoed year of

  publication 2019-2020 - 22

Normalized Title	Origin EISSN	Year Of Publication	JR5 - Journal Usage Counter Year Of Publication
public culture	1527-8018	1990	2
		1992	1
		1993	2
		1998	3
		1999	1
		2000	4
		2002	9
		2003	6
		2004	7
		2005	1
		2008	2
		2010	2
		2011	1
		2012	1
		2013	1
		2014	2
		2015	12
		2016	4
		2017	5
		2018	5
		2019	9
		2020	13

2021 – Considering overlapping

	Title	Cost	Usage	Cost per use $	Ill cost $
Formula 1	Journal A	800$	93	**8.6**	10
Formula 2	Journal A	800$	22 Embargoed yop	**36.4**	10

cost per use of embargoed year of publication > ill cost

2022 – Expanding the model to journal packages

\\Usage data for all journals in one single package

Journals that have high usage ➡️ Single journal subscription

Journals that have low usage ➡️ Inter library loan

2022 – Expanding the model to journal packages

Mathematics journals package - Example

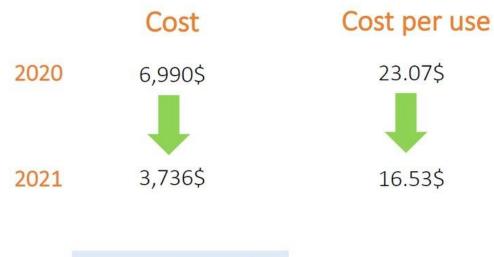| Title	Usage
Journal A	18
Journal B	43
Journal C	3
Journal D	1
Journal E	4
Journal F	22
Journal G	2
Journal H	9
Journal I	1
Journal J	1
Journal K	1
Journal L	198

2022 – Expanding the model to journal packages

Mathematics journals package - Example

\ 7 journals purchased through single subscriptions

　\ 4 journals with high usage

　\ 3 journals at the mathematics department's request

	Cost	Cost per use
2020	6,990$	23.07$
2021	3,736$	16.53$

Savings = 3,254$

Future goals

\ Rapid ill – how to set a new reference?

\ Expanding the model to different resources

\ Large packages

    \ Different resources in one package

    \ Overlapping in more than one package

\ Application in consortium purchased resources

\ Core collection

Conclusion

\ From high expectations to complex reality

    \ Vendors

    \ System

    \ Library materials

    \ Faculty cooperation

\ Ongoing process

Thank You

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