Collaborative Collections Management

White Rose GreenGlass Project

Collection Management: Share the experience @ Edinburgh
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Initial vision to develop a regional shared print (book) collection

Pressures on space, budgets, issues with collection growth, changes in use from library as book store to library as study space.

**Repurposing space** - reduce footprint of print collections to meet increased study space demand

**Opportunities to reduce costs** - libraries need to direct funds towards high-use materials, or towards unique research resources, rather than spending budgets acquiring and storing low-use collections that are duplicated elsewhere.
Project Approach

Identifying and managing down low-use or duplicate titles

White Rose Libraries would investigate options for joint storage

Identify a means for effective access to jointly-managed materials within a short timeframe

With space freed up for higher value collections, the Libraries would aim to strengthen and further develop local areas of specialism

Using analytics to guide evidence-based acquisition of specialist materials
SCS / OCLC GreenGlass

Use GreenGlass to:
Identify collection overlap
Undertake retention modelling
Collections analysis - strengths & weaknesses comparison

Data upload Spring 2016
Project Scope

- Circulating Print Monographs
- Reference Books
- Government Documents
- Music Scores
- Juvenile Titles
- Audio-visual materials
- Special Collections
- Ebooks

- Serials
- Microfilm/fiche
- Lost or withdrawn items
- Theses and Dissertations
- Maps

Challenges in identifying a conclusive and accurate set of records
Numbers of bibliographic records

Leeds  
1,189,295

York  
484,043

Sheffield  
705,132

SCS OCLC validated or obtained OCLC numbers for the 2 million plus bib records sent by WRL.

Performed WorldCat holdings lookups at global, UK and regional levels and against WRL comparator groupings.

Compiled bibliographic, circulation, item and matching results data into an individual WRL roll-up and summary for each WRL.

Compiled the data into a WRL group-wide database.
Overlap was significantly less than anticipated (15% of smallest collection - York - held in 3 libraries)

Investigation into the results

Better understanding of how GreenGlass performs matching
Comparison of data results from GreenGlass with those from Copac Collection Management Tool

Tools work / match records differently, but produce similar results

Manual checking of selected records

= JISC funded project

Findings would be of use across the UK library community, and would help inform work around the NBK, and discussions about shared collection management at a regional level and beyond.
Recommendations

Important to understand our metadata, the impact of low quality or variable metadata, exactly what we export to external databases / tools & how collections overlap tools function

Understand what these tools can / can’t do before building these into workflows, and how we shape their development for future use

- guidance and best practice for libraries exporting data to external catalogues
- understanding around how collection analysis tools work
- understanding around how metadata quality effects record matching
- to improve the quality of UK metadata in catalogue records
- better understanding of collaborative collection management initiatives elsewhere
- to contribute to the future development of collection analysis tools
Understanding the Results

Better understanding of the matching process, and the metadata quality issues

Degree of under-reporting of overlap, but still a fair reflection of the differences between our collections - we do hold many unique titles

Understanding our collections in context of GreenGlass results - less overlap than anticipated. Why?

Implications of poor quality metadata, both at institutional and community level

Importance of collaboration in retention commitments
Data Refresh 2018

All 3 WR libraries have recently sent a new upload of their data

Slightly ‘cleaner’ data load - certain collections have been excluded which are not relevant for retention modelling - gift collections with obligations to retain, AV material

Better understanding of GreenGlass and what it will be used for allowed us to make informed decision about what to include. Defined ‘Special Categories’ for exclusion

Metadata improvements

Enhancements to GreenGlass - for example, ability to query by “possible duplicate” and “multi-edition title” status, improved call number/ shelf mark searching.
Next steps

Analyse the overlap results, with better understanding of the matching process, and the uniqueness of our collections

Concentrate on the overlapping titles rather than the non-overlapping (what are these titles, how heavily are they used? etc)

Investigate retention modelling, potential criteria and implications

Collection analysis / categorisation: Profile and strengths - identify gaps in important collections?

Investigate using GreenGlass to identify superseded editions

Wider community collaboration: number of WR colleagues involved in the JISC / NBK community data groups. GreenGlass user group
Thank you!