Six Libraries, One Collection: The Central Iowa Collaborative Collections Initiative

Christopher Cox, Dean of Library Services
University of Northern Iowa

Member Facts
- Formed in 2013
- Original members included five private colleges in Iowa:
  - Central College
  - Drake University
  - Grand View University
  - Grinnell College
  - Simpson College
- University of Northern Iowa joined in 2014
- Membership characteristics:
  - Small, private libraries (FTE = 1388 – 4400)
  - Comprehensive university (FTE = 12,000)
- Combined Holdings: Approximately 2 million volumes

Guiding Principles of Collaboration
1. To responsibly reduce print collection size by reducing duplication
2. To create and maintain a distributed, shared collection
3. To coordinate acquisitions to develop shared collections and leverage existing collections
4. To establish an environment where experimentation and collaboration flourish

Memorandum of Understanding
- Patterned after Michigan Shared Print Initiative
- Included Guiding Principles and two addenda:
  - Acquisitions Addendum
    - Maximum 2 holdings per title
    - Common vendor
    - MARC 583
    - Ebook records added to individual catalogs
    - Publication range October 2015 – September 2016
  - ILL Delivery Addendum
    - 72 hour turnaround expected
    - Haw resulted in increase in sharing between libraries
    - Example: UNI borrowed 96 items from CI-CCI libraries (average delivery time 2.5 days) and lent 116 items (average delivery time 3 days) between July 1, 2016 and January 31, 2017.

Shared Retention

- STEP #1: Sustained Collection Services hired to analyze group bibliographic records and circulation history
- Initial focus on identification of retention titles
- Identified 526,526 unique title records

- STEP #2: Retention/Withdrawal Scenario
  - Published before 1991
  - Zero (0) recorded use since 2005
  - Held by 1 non-CI-CCI library in Iowa
  - Retain 1 holding within the group

- STEP #3: Retention Verification Project
  - Each institution agreed to verify the items on their lists were on the shelf
  - Timeline for completion was 4-6 weeks

Retain 1 holding within the group

Verification By the Numbers
- TOTAL TITLES: 149,694
  - Verified on Shelf Round 1: 139,927 (96.5% - Only 2600 titles unvalidated)
- TOTAL TITLES: 160,966
  - Verified on Shelf Round 1: 143,294 (98.2% - Only 2600 titles unvalidated)

Collaborative Collection Development
- Common vendor for acquisitions
- FIRE Savings
  - Approximately 90 purchases deferred
  - Total savings: $1380
- FY17 Savings
  - Approximately 90 purchases deferred
  - Total savings: $1380

Resource Sharing
- Delivery of materials between libraries
- Survey to identify preferred vendors, purchase models, and materials budgets
- Sample of Cross-Collaborative Print and Electronic Materials (PDA/DDA) communications protocol
- Experience with shared print, PDA/DDA/print-on-demand
- RFP – YBP/GOBI chosen 2015
- Included 988 Ebooks in 16 subject categories
- Publication range October 2015 – September 2016
- Included 988 Ebooks in 16 subject categories
- Ebook records added to individual catalogs
- Oxford collaborated with GOBI for purchases
- Publication range October 2015 – September 2016

Lessons Learned
- Advantages:
  - Close geographical proximity
  - Member have strong commitment to project goals
  - Governance by consensus, regular communication
  - No project manager or shared budget
  - Small FTE prohibitive for collaborative purchases

References