Meeting the Challenge of Focused Collection Development at a Federal Regional Depository

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The University of Kentucky (UK) is participating as a Center of Excellence (COE) for the Works Progress Administration (WPA) and the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) in the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries‘ (ASERL) Collaborative Federal Depository Program (CFDP). This collaborative effort is designed to distribute collection development for all Federal agencies across the entire Southeast.

We will describe how all depositories are working together to ensure that there are at least two complete collections for each federal agency somewhere in the Southeast, and how UK has focused its depository collection development efforts on non-COE agencies.
Goals of the CFDP

• Create “Centers of Excellence” at depositories to ensure multiple, complete retrospective collections by agency

• Collections will be supported by subject matter experts, able to provide sophisticated, in-depth reference services

• Work within USC Title 44, including respect for the Regional depository library model
So, What is a COE?

The ASERL Center of Excellence (COE) model promotes the development of a complete collection of a single federal agency’s publications in at least two separate depositories in the southeastern United States.

For example, the American Folklife Center is being collected comprehensively by both Northern Kentucky University and the Tennessee State Library and Archives, and Congressional hearings are being collected by both the Univ. of Florida and the Univ. of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.
COE Responsibilities

• Inventory and evaluate holdings
• Catalog each item
• Create a bibliography of all known titles, owned and not owned
• Add records to the ASERL COE database
• Fill gaps to ensure comprehensive collection
• Make materials available
• Digitize
• Promote the use of the collection
ASERL COE Database

• COE’s must add cataloging records to the ASERL COE database
• Records include both owned and not owned titles for each COE
• Other ASERL libraries can add records for COE agencies, compare collections, analyze differences
What the ASERL COE Database Does

• Owned vs. Available Gap Report--compares what we own to other libraries’ holdings for WPA; tells us what we can acquire elsewhere

• Owned vs. Universe Gap Report--compares what we own to all known titles for WPA; tells us what we are missing

• Holdings condition report--compares condition of our WPA titles to condition of those same titles owned by other libraries
ASERL Shared Disposition Database

• Goal is to share withdrawn materials throughout the Southeast in an easy to use database; promotes the building of COE collections
• Developed at the University of Florida
• Regional, Selective, COE (can be either Regional or Selective) each participate at different points in 45-day offer cycle
• Also allows depositories to advertise their needs
Focusing Collection Development at a Regional Depository

• Identify agencies collected by other COEs in the Southeast that our institution no longer needs to collect retrospectively, and:
  --borrow materials from COE via ILL or link to digital copies of publications at COE from these agencies as necessary
  --edit offers submitted to ASERL Disposition Database by other depositories in our state to eliminate any offers from these agencies in order to reduce number of offers we have to review

• Continue to collect agencies important to UK even if there is another COE in the Southeast, e.g., US Geological Survey

• Continue to collect agencies for which there is not a COE in the Southeast
Consulting with UK Libraries’ Collections Advisory Committee (CAC)

Data included:

- Sudoc stem
- Circulation statistics
- ILL statistics
- COE institution
- Publication status
- Comments
Consulting with UK Libraries’ Collections Advisory Committee (cont.)

Agencies identified for continued local development to be reviewed periodically to assess:

• Continued local value of tangible format
• Cost vs. benefit of continued development efforts

- Emergency Conservation Work Agency (Y 3.Em 3) [dead--UT/K]
- Congressional Budget Office (Y 10 [5]) [alive--Wm. & Mary]
  ---important to Martin School of Public Policy?

Federal Government agencies that have been adopted by someone else in ASERL as a Center of Excellence that are recommended for continuing retrospective collection development based on UK’s needs and strength of program are:

- Agricultural Research Service (A 77 [17]) [alive--Va. Tech--this is an agency we have already approved as one of our USDA COEs]
- International Trade Administration (C 61 [1]) [alive--Duke]
  --used by Patterson School of Diplomacy & Int’l. Commerce
- Military History Center (D 114 [13]) [alive--Duke]
  --used by History Dept.
- Naval Historical Center (D 221 [3]) [alive--Duke]
  --used by History Dept.
- Fish and Wildlife Service (E 49 [2]) [alive--Clemson]
  --topic is important to Kentucky citizens
- International Trade Commission (ITC [3]) [alive--Duke]
  --used by Patterson School of Diplomacy & Int’l. Commerce
Evaluating Process and Results

Data collected:

• Offers/needs matches claimed from COE agencies selected for continued development represented 36% of both the 2012 and 2013 total items claimed

• Offers ignored from COE agencies NOT selected for continued development (104 SuDoc stems) represented 8% of 2012 total offers and 22% of 2013 total offers (these agencies have been eliminated from our needs list, so needs matches never occur for them), an increase of almost 150% over 2012; increasing the number we ignore saves us time

• No offers/needs matches claimed for 42% of COE agencies selected for continued development in 2012; decreased to 32% in 2013, i.e., we acquired more materials in 2013 from the 19 COE agencies that we have elected to continue collecting than we did in 2012

Measuring:

• Resource costs of continued development
• Resource savings of ceased development
• ROI for continued development in specific agencies
Additional Observations

- Needs list match process through ASERL Disposition Database costs or saves additional resources according to collection decisions.

- Agency-specific statistics will inform future Federal Depository Unit recommendations and CAC decisions.
Aligning with UK Libraries’ Strategic Plan

✓ Objective 5.2 Share and promote the Libraries’ expertise and resources through engagement in dynamic community and state partnerships
  ✓ Strategy 5.2.5 Engage in collaborative resource sharing with our consortia partners

✓ Objective 5.3 Build partnerships and collaborations to leverage and augment library expertise
  ✓ Strategy 5.3.2 Support inter-institutional initiatives that help UK build a strong local, state, national, and international presence
Transforming the Library
Defining and Removing On-Campus Barriers to a Preferred End-State

An Unsustainable Present State
- Proprietary collections arms race
- Acquisitions focused on collection building
- No alternatives to journal publishers
- Focused on “commodity” circulation and reference activity
- Space tied up in low-demand activities

Keys to Inclusive and Orderly Migration
- Preserving Access and Service Quality
- Rightsizing Proprietary Print Collections
- Open Scholarship Support
- Evolving Library Service Mix
- Redeploying Staff and Space

The Digital Information Services Future
- Collaborative collections and digital access
- Acquisitions informed by usage data
- Incentives for and promotion of open access models
- Trading up to unique student and researcher support services
- Space used for collaborative learning
Thank you!

Questions?

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