ProQuest Central Review Methodology

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Chair, ProQuest Central Review Working Group
Background

• Working group created by the CDMC (Collection Development Management Committee)
• Includes CDMC members and other librarians based on subject expertise from all three campuses
• ProQuest Central is the largest A&I database for review and was the first assigned (yes, more to come!)
Getting Started

• Marlene Van Ballegooie and Klara Maidenberg gathered overlap data for title lists that included alternative holdings.
• Each group member had to review the spreadsheets and cross check the catalogue and subscriptions to determine the unique titles.
• Also noted any Open Access availability for journals.
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Sample: CBCA Complete Spreadsheet
Defining Unique

A= Truly unique with no embargo
B= Truly unique but with embargo on current issues
C= Unique in that full-text of current issues available only here
D= Unique in that some portion of backfiles is only available here
Methodology

- Uniqueness
- Use
- Relevance and scholarly value
- Functions and features

Content provided by Klara Maidenberg
Methodology

Uniqueness

Use

Relevance and scholarly value

Functions and features

Discovered that only about 2,000 FT titles out of 21,000 are unique to this product

Content provided by Klara Maidenberg
Methodology

- Uniqueness
- Use
- Relevance and scholarly value
- Functions and features

Retrieved usage reports (JR1) for the unique titles.

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Methodology

Uniqueness + low use + low scholarly value = not worth keeping
Unique + (high use or potential important title) = needs to be retained but from another source

Content provided by Klara Maidenberg
Methodology

Uniqueness

Use

Relevance and scholarly value

Functions and features

Unique + low use = not worth keeping
Unique + high use = needs to be retained, but from another source
Methodology

Uniqueness

Use

Relevance and scholarly value

Functions and features

Some databases offer unique format, specialized thesauri, or interface features, which had to be considered separately from uniqueness or use.
Conclusions

• Met with Caitlin and Weijing in December to share conclusions
• They notified ProQuest in the new year
• Working group completed final summary and list of recommendations for proceeding with future A&I reviews
• CDMC Communications group, formed by Caitlin, began work on communicating this decision
Put your minds together!

Appoint a recorder and reporter.
Read the scenario. Discuss how your might respond to the user.

Consider:
1. What information do you need in order to respond fully? Where might you find it?
2. Who needs to be involved in, or aware of the correspondence?

ProQuest Central review documentation: https://connect.library.utoronto.ca/x/SRjtAQ