

1. In the SLIM theory of information transfer, collection development falls in what stage?

Collection development falls in the dissemination phase, after creation has occurred. It can also be argued that since weeding is part of the collection development process, collection development encompasses the destruction phase as well.

2. In a brief paragraph, state the strengths and weaknesses of the Greer/Hale community analysis system.

Community analysis considers users that are not currently part of the library system and seeks to draw them in with materials that are relevant to their needs (use studies generally cannot do this). This should increase the number of users coming in to the library and should better serve a wider variety of tax paying patrons. However, the risk in using community analysis is that the library will not correctly assess its community (perhaps because the library is using incorrect or outdated census data), and will buy unwanted materials that sit unused. This is why, when using community analysis, it is important to do as Greer and Hale suggest -- actually go out into the community and observe/take part in it. Another more subtle weakness with the community analysis method is that that it relies somewhat on stereotyping user groups and users in the community who are a typical part of the dominant culture or visible sub-cultures will not be provided for.

3. In a brief paragraph, state the strengths and weaknesses of use studies.

A prescriptive method, like a use study, can be stronger than a descriptive method, like community analysis, because it can provide current library readers with what they are actually interested in viewing/reading, rather than offering them what the library thinks they might like to or should read. Use studies (of circulation, ILL, and in-house) can help librarians identify and fill gaps in the collection, as well as aiding in bolstering popular areas. In addition, looking at usage statistics gives first priority to maintaining and satisfying known patrons of the collection and helps the library save money by not investing in materials that won't be used. The disadvantage to relying on use statistics exclusively is that no one can know the true value on a single use (for instance, if Einstein uses a book once and no one else ever checks it out, does that mean the library shouldn't have purchased it?) and use studies can miss out on community needs that are not being met by the collection. In most cases, it is best to use a combination of community analysis and use studies.

4. According to my lecture, and the "It Begins with a Question" required reading- (see the syllabus for the URL), when faced with a challenge from a parent that falls in your area of responsibility, you should notify your supervisor, and then, when you meet with the parent, you should begin by doing what?

According to your lecture, you should begin by complimenting the parent on being involved in his or her child's life and then let the parent know that you value his or her concern and take it seriously.

5. What is meant by MUSTIE? What is it associated with?

According to the Crew method, MUSTIE stands for: Misleading, Ugly, Superseded (that is, if a newer edition has been released), Trivial, Irrelevant, Elsewhere. These criteria are combined with how old an item is and how often it is used to determine if it should be weeded or not. Although useful for many types of libraries, these criteria are most helpful for academic libraries.

6. Stanley Slote's analysis of weeding led to the development of the 'shelf-time' method. Briefly, Slote says weeding should be based on what criterion? [i.e. What does he mean by the 'shelf-time' method?]

Shelf time refers to how long materials sit on the shelf without getting checked out or used in-house. Stanley Slote covers three types of shelf-time weeding strategies in his chapter "Weeding Methods Used in Libraries": using book cards, marking spines, or computer printouts. Slote finds fault with all three strategies, but concedes that the computer method could be effective if "librarians and library computer programmers accept three things: the belief that shelf-time period is the best predictor of future use of a book; the advantages in using a computed cut-point, to preserve a predictable amount of future use; and the need to record the dates of in-library use of books and to use these dates in creating cut-off dates for weeding" (p.39).

7. What is project COUNTER, and why has it received support?

Project COUNTER (a backronym for Counting Online Use of NeTworked Electronic Resources) is an initiative by a not-for-profit group to standardize use statistics so that there is one internationally agreed upon way to count a "use" of an item in a library. Libraries and vendors realize that without consistent measurement of usage from library to library, it is impossible to compare data with one another or to have meaningful discussions about how to apply use statistics.

8. What is citation analysis, and how is it applied to collection evaluation?

Citation analysis is looking at how many times a book, journal, or article is cited by other articles to determine authority and scholarliness. It is presumed that a journal like Science will have a high citation rate by researchers because it is important and respected in its field. Libraries seeking to collect authorities in certain fields will want to collect books and journals that are highly cited. The downside to this method, according to Thomas Nisunger's article "Use of the Checklist Method for Content Evaluation of Full Text Databases," is that some articles or journals receive high citations simply because they are more available, not because they are more credible.

9. According to Smith and Langenberg's "Indexed Collection Budget Allocations" a public library that sees itself as having a demand driven collection should consider what 2 factors in determining budget for each part of the collection?

A. Arro Smith uses the average circulation for a section (such as fiction) and the average cost per item of that same section to determine the section's budget. That is, his/her director has created a Bibliographic Index to calculate the percentage of the budget needed to purchase the correct number of items per section. Therefore, if you wanted to divide up your budget to purchase 50% fiction and 50% non, and the average fiction book cost \$10 and the average nonfiction book \$20, with a total budget of \$100 then you would go $[50\%(10)x] + [50\%(20)x]=100$ for a total of 6.6, meaning that one could purchase 6-7 fiction books and 6-7 nonfiction books.

10. Briefly describe what an approval plan is, and the role of the profile. Why do some libraries use approval plans?

An approval plan is when a vendor creates a blanket or standing order for a customer and the customer has the option after delivery to return any items that are unwanted within a certain amount of days without having to pay for them. Some libraries also set up customized profiles and vendors use these profiles to automatically send the library books that match their interests. Typically these profiles are used in conjunction with an approval plan system. Libraries might choose to use approval plans because of a limited technical services budget or because they do not feel that their needs merit a dedicated on staff selector. A small medical library with a staff of one, for instance, might only want to purchase from select vendors anyhow, and so an approval plan with a profile would be a good tool.

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11. What is a fund allocation formula?

Speaker Garrett Trott gave us an example of a fund allocation formula. Corban College, where Mr. Trott works, decides before purchasing materials to allocate specific dollar amounts for specific purposes based on class enrollment. Therefore, courses with twice as many enrolled students have twice the number of library books purchased in that subject area. The formula used by A. Arro Smith (see question 9) is also an example of an allocation formula.

12. McMullen's article about aggregator serials databases mentions the importance of embargos. In the Collection Development world, what is an embargo?

An embargo is when an article has been published but it is not available electronically for a set period of time, typically 6 months or 1 year. It is usually the journals that place the embargo and not the database distributors (like Ebsco). This is done to supposedly protect copyright, although in reality the immediate effect it has is of draining relevance from timely materials so that patrons almost always receive outdated information (in my opinion).

13. What do Bradford's research and Greiner's brief mention say about contemporary use of print reference materials in academic libraries?

Bradford's study shows that less than 10% of the reference materials in his academic library were used even once and that this is in line with national trends. In contrast, a dictionary that was out and easily available to students was highly used. Greiner suggested that perhaps libraries should just circulate reference in with the general collection instead of putting it away in a space that students are afraid to enter and use.

14. Greiner sez: "Whether a library should use a collection-based evaluation or demand-based evaluation depends on the mission of the library." Explain.

If the mission of the library is to support the general public, then it should have a large element of demand-based evaluation. If the mission of the library is to collect everything in the known universe on the topic of snails, then it should probably use collection-based evaluation. This seems fairly obvious since the focus of a public library is to support the public and the focus of an academic limpet library is to collect stuff about snails.

15. Fill in the blank. "Books are for **USE**."

16. "For every reader, **her** book."

17. "For every **book** its reader."

18. "Save the **time** of the reader."

19. "A **library** is a growing organism."