Ebook Working Group Meeting
January 27, 2015 9:15am-4pm
WSU Vancouver Library conference room

Present: Serin Anderson (chair), Jim Bunnelle, Linda DiBiase, Kathi Fountain, Tom Larsen, Sara Seely, Nancy Sprague, Annie Downey (Assessment Team, Chair), Janet Lerch (YBP), Dan Miller (YBP), Neil Sorensen (ProQuest).

Welcome and introductions

Updates from YBP
- Alma updates (Dan Miller): Focus has been on making the acquisitions process and electronic invoicing Alma compatible. GOBI API connectivity with Alma is a new feature being tested at Whitman and Willamette, which will simplify the acquisition process and eliminate batch processing. The GOBI API can be set up quickly, but there's currently a 2-3 week queue to implement.
- eSeries in GOBI (Janet Lerch): Orders can now be placed through GOBI for a group of 51 standing order series from five publishers. An eSeries Standing Order Service FAQ is available.
- Additional GOBI updates (Janet Lerch): YBP is working on a mobile feature for GOBI. New option under Search to "Add Titles by ISBN" allows user to enter lists of ISBNs. Peer Comparison Titles feature comes with GOBI subscription to allow comparisons with selected libraries or peer groups.

Updates from ProQuest (Neil Sorensen)
- ebrary records: Neil reported that limited progress has been made in discussions between ProQuest and Ex Libris on MARC records. He will work on getting an ETA for when something will happen. Kevin Sayer (co-founder of ebrary) will be meeting with Kathi and may be able to help get this process moving.

- Merged platform: A beta version will be presented at ALA and a working demo should be available soon. New name will be unveiled soon: ProQuest Ebooks Central.

- Authentication questions: ProQuest is not taking away any options at this point. Sign-in is not popular; IP authentication is preferred, but there are issues with Non-Linear Lending. One option is for Non-Linear Lending titles to have an extra login which is triggered after 5 minutes of browsing, while subscription titles would continue to have no login requirements. Concerns were raised about whether links would be changing with the new platform. Neil checked on this and reported that smart re-directs would be used, so links would not need to be changed with the new merged platform.

- Different models/multiplier: Marc Fawwaz, Publisher Relations and Consortia Manager, has been investigating ways to keep the project sustainable. Options include working on lowering the multiplier, in conjunction with a potential decrease in

the STL trigger number, and counting STL payments towards titles for purchase at the end of the year, if additional funds are available. Concerns were raised that our multiplier is very high compared to others.

- Title removal/schedule and notification: Generally titles are removed twice a year, in July and December/January. Kathi will request a list of deleted ebrary titles from Neil and post it on the Alliance's webpage for Academic Complete.

- Alison's departure and changes for support: They're currently interviewing and hope that Alison's replacement will be hired and in place within 2 weeks. In the meantime, Sharon Palchek is providing support.

- Admin access to ebrary parent channel: Kathi now has access.

- Kathi will check on the number of Alliance libraries with ebrary records loaded.

Assessment (Annie Downey, Assessment Chair)
- Report and discussion about next steps: The Assessment Team is focusing primarily on short-term assessments to meet Council's goals and will also plan for a future long-term assessment. Annie presented their Ebook Short-term Assessment Proposal and the group discussed priorities for assessment. A key question to address was "How can we make a better set of core titles?" There was interest in comparing 3-5 of the top and bottom institutions based on cost per use to help identify best practices. Annie will compile the results of this discussion, share them with the Assessment Team, then review the plan with the Ebook Working Group before they conduct the assessment.

- Survey - plans for adding/changing content and timeline for rollout: Major revisions were made to the survey. Kathi will send out a draft for review on Survey Monkey soon; then survey will be distributed with a 2-week deadline.

Ebook Article for *Against the Grain*
- Linda reported on an opportunity to draft a piece on Ebook deselection for *Against the Grain*. Jim volunteered to help Linda write this. The draft is due by early March.

Alliance communication plan
- Kathi reviewed communication options for the Ebook Working Group. A number of revisions were recommended, including considering eliminating the DDA Liaisons and MARC Records groups.

Walk-in policy update
- Waiting on Shared Content Team to coalesce and follow-up on approval of this policy.

Current model: evaluate and discuss various options for ongoing maintenance of the DDA.
- Budget update: YBP invoices look fine so far (roughly 48% left at this point). When Alison's replacement arrives, Kathi will send an updated report.

- Lowering price cap: We discussed lowering the price cap from $250 at the beginning of the next fiscal year. Kathi will create reports with titles above $200, above $175, and above $150 for us to review, sorted by LC classification, for analysis by subject areas. Kathi discovered that there are currently 760 titles over the price cap which should be removed soon and will pull usage data on those titles. It would be helpful to do two reviews each year (during the summer and at winter break) to regularly check for books that are over the price cap. We may also want to ask for alerts on price increases.

- Cycle of additions: We're almost back to the total number of titles we had last summer before the removal of 5000 titles and need to find ways to keep the number of titles in the pool at a manageable level. We'll continue to consider options for deselection of titles on an annual basis.

- Changing multiplier: We reviewed several scenarios for changing the multiplier and STL trigger. Kathi will discuss options with Neil, starting with lowering the multiplier to 3 and adjusting the STL trigger to 10.

Project Muse update/discussion
- Any interest or questions for vendor: "Cautious interest" was expressed, particularly in increasing representation of University presses. We decided that an Evidence-Based Acquisitions model was worth exploring. Kathi will talk with Doug Storm and gather information on baseline costs, multipliers, etc. She'll also check on how many Alliance libraries currently have access to Project Muse. We'll continue to investigate other broad-based Evidence-Based Acquisitions programs.

Membership changes
- Loss of Joanne and Bob: To recruit new members we decided to put out a call for two openings; preferably someone with technical services experience, as well as someone with public services experience. These new members could begin as soon as possible.

- Chair nomination process and potential interest from WG members: Current working group members were encouraged to consider volunteering to be chair. The chair will also be a member of the Shared Content Team.

Annual Report
- Serin volunteered to begin drafting sections of the report and other team members offered to help.

Meeting adjourned at 4pm.