

Collection Management Initiative Quarterly Status Report

December 3, 2002

Phase II: the Study Concluded

September 30, 2002 marked the successful conclusion of Phase II of the Mellon grant. Phase II was initiated October 1, 2001, and extended for a year during which some 300 print journals from UC campus libraries were relocated to remote storage. During the study, use data was collected for both print journals located in storage and their digital counterparts. Library staff counted and recorded use data for 300 control titles located in campus libraries and reported this data to the CMI staff. CMI staff collected digital use data from the approximately sixteen vendors represented in the study. Use data for the number of requests from users to bring CMI journals back to campus from storage was also recorded.

Print and digital use data covering the first nine months of the study are now available on the CMI website. Print use data is available for the fourth quarter, and we anticipate that digital data for the final quarter will be available by January 2003. You can view the usage data on the CMI website at <http://www.ucop.edu/cmi/data.html>

Revision of usage data counts

During the study, CMI staff reviewed the methodology of counting access to digital journal articles. Initially CMI reported the use data in a way that combined abstract and full text article use, the belief being that this would provide a comparable figure across publishers for all digital use. However, there were concerns that this might inadvertently overstate use for some publishers. Preliminary statistical analysis by CMI added weight to this concern.

CMI staff have now revised the reported digital use data for the study titles. When publishers distinguish between abstract and full text use, CMI only counts the full text use, omitting the abstract use from the statistics. When publishers make no distinction between full text and abstract use, staff will use the one figure they provide. Data on the CMI website reflects these changes in counting methodology. For additional background on the revision of use counts, please see http://www.ucop.edu/cmi/data_usage_notes.html

User Preference Survey

In August 2002 after reviewing proposals from several organizations, the Collection Management Initiative staff selected the Social Science Survey Center located on the Santa Barbara campus (<http://survey.ucsb.edu/contacts>) to conduct a University-wide user preference survey of faculty, students and staff. A separate survey is planned for librarians.

The user preference survey was developed jointly by the CMI Oakland project team and the UCSB Social Science Survey Center. A final draft was distributed widely to various advisory groups including, the CMI Research Advisory Committee, the University Librarians, CMI liaisons and the CMI Operations Advisory Committee. Comments and suggestions are currently being reviewed by the CMI team.

For the final survey, scheduled to be distributed during Winter Quarter 2003, faculty and staff will be contacted initially by mail and will have the option to respond by completing either a printed survey form or a Web-based survey. Students will be contacted by email and will most likely respond via the Web, although a print option will likely be available.

Research Advisory Committee

On September 11, 2002, the Research Advisory Committee met in Oakland for the second time. The Committee reviewed the user preference survey planning documents, discussed preliminary analyses drawn from usage data collected during the first two quarters, and reviewed ongoing special studies including a compilation of journal titles characteristics and campus metrics. Notes from the RAC meeting are available at <http://www.ucop.edu/cmi/staff/rac.html>

Steering Committee

The CMI Steering Committee met on October 22 via telephone conference call. The Committee reviewed plans for the user preference survey, preliminary analysis of usage data and in particular the revision of the counting methodology.

'No Cost' Extension Granted

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation recently granted a request from Brian Schottlaender, Principal Investigator of the Collection Management Initiative, to extend the project until December 31, 2003 at no additional cost to the Foundation.

Presentations

Brian Schottlaender spoke to two groups during the American Library Association Annual Conference in June 2002, the Chief Collection Development Officers of Large Research Libraries and the Directors of Technical Services of Large Research Libraries Discussion Group, providing an update of the usage data.

In June, Cecily Johns gave a presentation to the ALA LAMA Storage Discussion Group and to the Special Libraries Association Annual Conference. In November she presented an overview of the CMI project at the Center for Research Libraries Aberdeen Woods Conference.