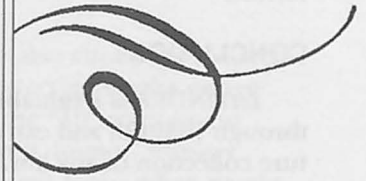# THE WELL-READ LIBRARIAN: ELECTRONIC DATABASE COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

by Marissa Priddis

E-RESOURCE COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

Electronic Collections Development.
http://www.library.yale.edu/~okerson/ecd.html

Though several years old, this website (hosted by Yale University) offers links to policy documents regarding electronic collection development as created by various academic libraries.

Kovacs, Diane K and Robinson, Kara L. *The Kovacs Guide to Electronic Library Collection Development: Essential Core Subject Collections, Selection Criteria, and Guidelines*. New York: Neal-Schuman Publishers. 2004.

This title, based on Kovacs' previous *Building Electronic Library Collections*, covers how to build an electronic library, from selection to evaluation to purchasing. Kovacs breaks down selection by subject area, and offers guidelines for electronic library collection development.

Lee, Stuart D. *Electronic Collection Development: A Practical Guide*. New York: Neal-Schuman Publishers. 2002.

This book provides a practical guide to librarians for dealing with various electronic media. The book is divided into sections, including electronic books and journals, development of electronic resources, what to buy and more.

Simpson, Carol, et al. "An Embarrassment of Riches: Choosing an Online Periodical Database." *Book Report*. 20, no. 1 (2001): 50-53.

Offers a comparison of online periodical databases, as of May 2001. Discusses several of the top periodical databases, including reviews of cost, drawbacks, coverage and provides recommendations for purchase.

E-RESOURCE PROMOTION AND EDUCATION

Evans, Jean. "Staff First." *Library Journal/Net Connect*. 129 (2004): 10-11.

Discusses the need for libraries to educate all library staff about databases to which the library subscribes.

Once staff members know, understand and like the databases, they will take their knowledge to their patrons, thus increasing library usage.

Jenson, Jill D. "It's the Information Age, So Where's the Information?" *College Teaching*. 52, no. 3 (2004): 107-112.

Focuses on students who struggle with successful library database usage and what librarians can do to rectify it. The author discusses reasons for the lack of "computer literacy", as well as "library literacy", and offers practical solutions for assisting students in electronic research.

Wilson, A. Paula. "Take It To the Street." *Library Journal/Net Connect*. 129 (2004): 12-14.

Contains various promotional ideas for electronic resources in libraries to boost return on their database investment. Discusses target audiences, promotional techniques, database accessibility and integrating databases into library OPACs.

FEDERATED SEARCHING

Fiehn, Barbara. "Federated Searching: A Viable Alternative to Web Surfing!" *MultiMedia & Internet@Schools*. 11, no 2 (2004): 29-31.

Defines and differentiates between the terminologies associated with single-search interface technology, discusses the automation systems that offer federated searching, and the advantages and disadvantages of the technology.

Hane, Paula J. "The Truth About Federated Searching." *Information Today*. 20, no. 9 (2003): 24.

Discusses five of the most common misconceptions about federating searching in libraries, such as "federated search engines leave no stone unturned" or "relevancy rankings are totally relevant".

Solomon, Marc. "A Confederacy of Databases." *Searcher*. 12, no. 7 (2004): 24-30.

Discusses both the advantages and disadvantages of federated searching. Compares various vendors who

offer federated searching, and defines what federated searching can and cannot do.

TRACKING E-USAGE

Shepherd, Peter. "Keeping Count." *Library Journal*. 128, no.2 (2003): 46-49.

Shepherd details Project COUNTER (Counting Online Usage of NeTworked Electronic Resources), designed to give librarians a tool to measure e-usage accurately in increasing e-resource-reliant libraries.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Marissa Priddis (theloudlibrarian@yahoo.com) is the Assistant Director and Head of Adult Services at the Alexandrian Public Library in Mount Vernon.