

Evaluation of Current Collection Practices Via Patron-Driven Acquisition: a Case Study



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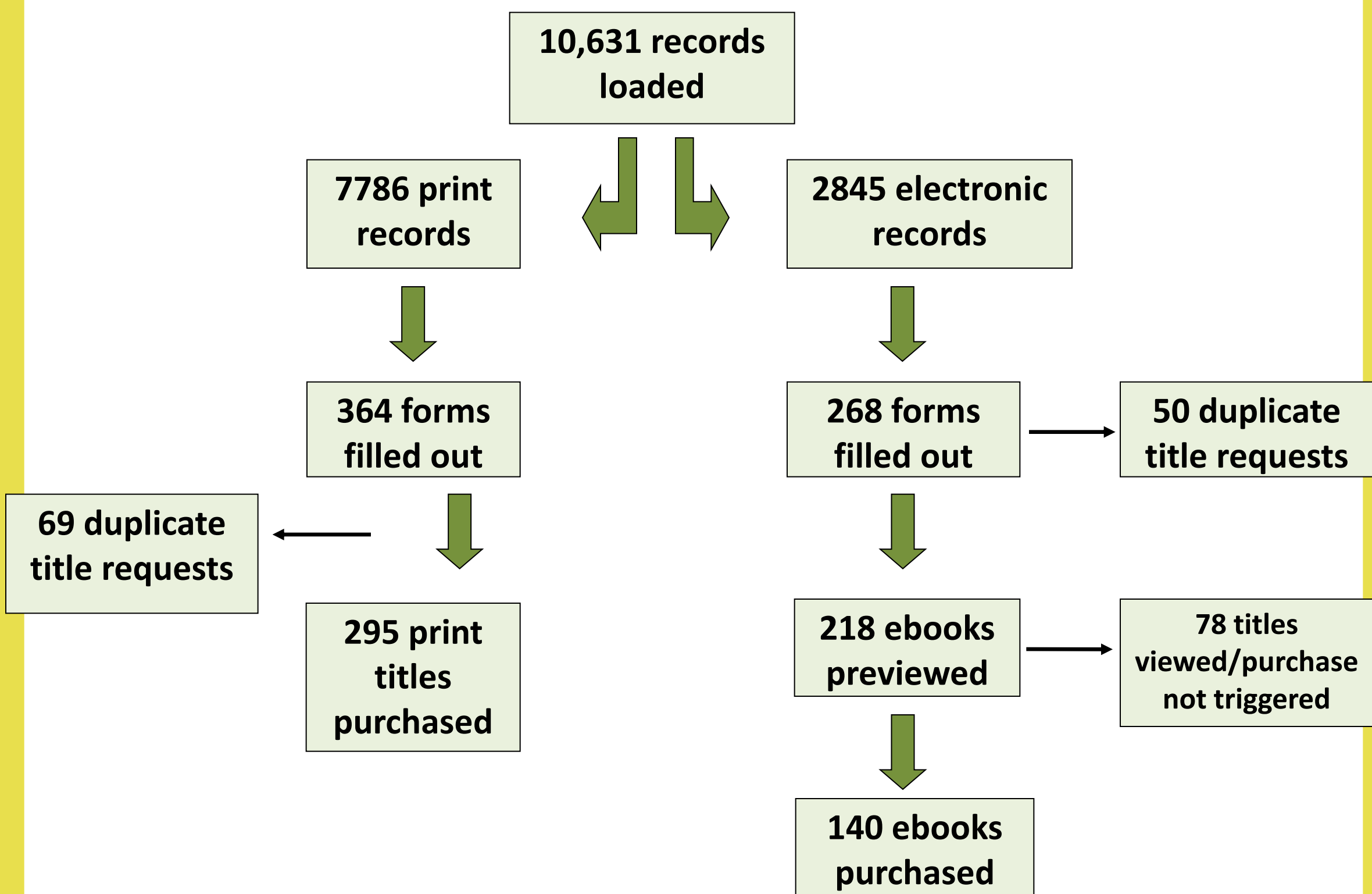
Objectives

To undertake a unique patron-driven acquisition project that would aid in the *evaluation* of current collection development procedures.

Methods

- The pilot project ran from Nov. 2011 to March 2012.
- ~10,500 temporary records were loaded into the library catalogue (7500 print and 2500 electronic via ebrary).
- Records were for items profiled in our GOBI subject plans but not selected for purchase (ie. retrospective file)
- A link embedded in the catalogue records prompted patrons to fill out a request form
- Access to ebooks was immediate, but orders had to be placed by library staff for print book requests
- Automatic holds on print books were placed for requesters
- Patrons were sent a follow-up survey via email

Results



Print Circulation Statistics to October 26, 2012

23 circs – 1 title	6 circs – 14 titles
14 circs – 1 title	5 circs – 23 titles
10 circs – 4 titles	4 circs – 24 titles
9 circs – 4 titles	3 circs – 45 titles
8 circs – 6 titles	2 circs – 37 titles
7 circs – 5 titles	1 circ – 38 titles

0 circs – 78 titles
= 28.0%

More Results

YBP Specified Format

Format	Print n=225	Electronic n=92	Combined n=317
Textbook	110 (48.9)	29 (31.5)	139 (43.8)
Collection	41 (18.2)	37 (40.2)	78 (24.6)
Anthology	19 (8.4)	0	19 (6.0)
Reprint	12 (5.3)	2 (2.2)	14 (4.4)
Conference monograph	9 (4.0)	3 (3.3)	12 (3.8)
Translation	5 (2.2)	2 (2.2)	7 (2.2)

Who Placed the Orders

Status	Print n=353	Electronic n=231	Combined n=584
Undergraduate student (~29,100)	139 (39.4)	82 (35.5)	221 (37.8)
Graduate student (~5900)	129 (36.5)	101 (43.7)	230 (39.4)
Faculty	43 (12.2)	30 (13.0)	73 (12.5)
Staff	42 (11.9)	18 (7.8)	60 (10.3)

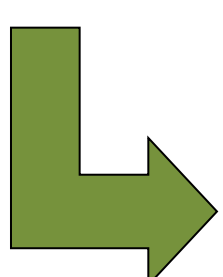
Follow-Up Survey Responses – 14% Response Rate

1. What is your status?			Response Percent	Response Count
Undergraduate student			26.8%	19
Graduate student			36.6%	26
Faculty			15.5%	11
Staff			21.1%	15
answered question				71
skipped question				0

4. Did you end up using the book you ordered?			Response Percent	Response Count
Yes			66.2%	47
No			23.9%	17
Don't remember			9.9%	7
answered question				71
skipped question				0

Follow-Up Survey Results

5. Were you pleased with the service?			Response Percent	Response Count
Yes			76.1%	51
No			23.9%	16



Status	Yes	No
Faculty	8	2
Graduate Student	21	3
Staff	12	2
Undergraduate	10	9

6. Is this a service you would like to see continued by the library?			Response Percent	Response Count
Yes			97.0%	65
No			3.0%	2

Discussion

- Approval plans seem to be working adequately. Funds allocated to the project were not fully expended. Upon reviewing titles purchased, many were for textbooks which the U of Alberta Libraries do not typically collect.
- Subject selectors were asked to review the titles purchased in their areas for assessment of personal selection practices – No perceived need for change.
- Identification of a couple of gaps in the collection.
- Question to address in future: How can we better meet the needs of our graduate students?

Challenges

- Timelines due to project delays
- Limits on available titles
- Print delivery took longer than expected
- Greater staff resources required for print orders
- Evaluation

Benefits

- Filled in gaps in the collection
- Contributed to the library of record
- Satisfied users – responding to needs and demands