



Midwinter Online Conference 2024

Questions from Session 1: Telling your library stories with data: Using statistics to create statistical narratives

Q1: Did you get any pushback from faculty or admin about the volume of weeding? We did a huge weeding project over the last 3 years and we were a bit scared for faculty to find out just how many volumes we were weeding because sometimes they just want books, even if those books are terribly outdated.

Weeding always makes librarians and faculty reactive. Amazingly we didn't get too much pushback about the physical items. We did try to talk to all departments about what was happening. The faculty seem more reactive to weeding the electronic databases these days.

Q2: Your data is from 2020 to 2015. Is this correct? Do you collect data every academic year? - thanks.

I collect data divided by fiscal years. From July - June.

Q3: Do you involve faculty members in the process of weeding?

Sometimes we do yes. We don't have any formal way to go about this though.

Q4: Can you say something about the back-shifting part of the project? Who did the work, what time of year, and how long did it take?

It was a HUGE undertaking after the weeding took place. We had a team of folks who worked on shifting the collection for more accessibility the entire year of 2020 and I think I finally finished December of 2020. I sent out emails to all staff showing the progress and I included photos of messy tight yukky areas and then showed it off once it was shifted and beautiful!!

Q5: Experimenting with a shift to patron-driven acquisition at our community college using Ex libris...any experience with analytics in PDA?

No, I have not worked with PDA.

Q6: Can you speak more on the metrics you used for weeding? Did you pull circulation stats for subject areas? Did each subject liaison determine their own metrics for their areas.

We relied on the CREW method: <https://www.tsl.texas.gov/ld/pubs/crew/index.html>. Loosely relied on it. Some areas the metrics change depending on the subject and our curriculum needs

Resources shared in chat by attendees:

- https://csuepress.columbusstate.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=4433&context=bibliography_faculty
- Communications and Weeding:
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1AVOmyNuTXA3ITSKmkYQz_3fmSb1dvC-iz4j_r_ihWD4/edit#gid=377349536