benefit are cases that offer opportunities for scalability and adaptability. There are similarities among all the initiatives presented, but one powerful theme is that libraries are positioned to lead the charge to uniting diverse campus communities around a common goal.

 Hopefully this exploration of library-led initiatives facilitating access to course materials will foster a new wave of similar projects dedicated to providing cost savings to students and to expanding the creation and utilization of open access educational resources.—Julie Gaida (juliegaida@pacificu.edu), Pacific University

Reference


Do textbooks have a place in academic libraries? Nearly all of the nine chapters in this text begins by addressing this question. Long-standing concerns about the acquisition and inclusion of print textbooks in the library's collection, including cost, frequency of replacement, etc., are cited in many of the case studies presented here. What is interesting is that this diverse group of institutions, representing both small and large private and public universities, all reached the same conclusion: the textbook reserve program aids in student recruitment, retention, and success.

The introduction, written by Diaz, explains that questions regarding the following aspects of a textbook reserve program are both asked and answered in the text: contribution to campus recruitment and retention efforts; assisting with library outreach to students and faculty; effects on library staffing and workflows; working with the campus bookstore; budgeting for a long-term program; and analyzing textbook circulation data (viii–ix).

How well does this book address each of these areas? Impact on retention is explored in more detail than recruitment. It is still a challenge for libraries to make the case that programs such as these directly contribute to retention, but at the very least these studies demonstrate highly effective ways of considering institutional priorities and provide examples of how they have successfully connected programs such as these to student recruitment and retention.

Outreach to students and faculty is a key part of introducing textbook programs. Managing student expectations is noted in more than one study. The first chapter, “Basically Everything I Need, I Know the Library Has It: A Case Study of SUNY Canton’s Textbook Program,” alludes to the fact that students very easily misconstrue the library’s textbook reserve program as one that will have their texts for all their courses. The discussion of marketing and communication as a critical piece of the implementation process is a strength of this text. None of the libraries claim that their programs supplant the need for students purchasing their own texts for their courses. The case studies illustrate that the program acts as a stop-gap for students who would otherwise be unable to purchase textbooks due to high costs and gives these students a chance at academic success.

It is clear from the studies in this book that a textbook reserve program is not one that should be introduced lightly. The impact on staffing and workflows detailed in these studies can be significant. Selection, acquisition, cataloging, processing, communication, and marketing require time and personnel. Some institutions target specific audiences while others provide general access to large-enrollment undergrad classes. The scope of the service plays a significant role in the library’s commitment. Creative solutions are described to mitigate supply and demand problems, including self-service reserve rooms and pager systems.

Most of the chapters detail their library’s experience with a textbook reserve program from its inception, including examples of how the program was funded, how the library identified the resources needed, how materials were designated in catalogs and discovery layers, how the program itself was delivered, and how success was assessed. Ease of discovery and timeliness of acquisition and cataloging of materials were identified as a critical means to success. More than one case study noted that if students checked the library catalog once for their materials and they were not there, they would not check again (84). The campus bookstore becomes an essential partner in this initiative as they are key to identifying the texts themselves. Some case studies reported success in utilizing the campus bookstore for purchasing textbook copies, while others moved away from the bookstores as a supplier due to issues pertaining to timeliness of delivery.

Of particular interest to library administrators will be the variety of ways that textbook reserve programs were funded. The most frequently mentioned collaborations were with student unions and governments. Most libraries did not develop a budget derived strictly from library funds; rather, these programs were made possible from funding supplied or supplemented by these partners. It was encouraging to read that even for the programs that started off with modest budgets, success was still achievable.

This how-to manual for librarians provides valuable information on how libraries can use marketing to increase usage and better serve patrons. While it discusses electronic resource (e-resource) examples and issues, the true focus is on larger concepts that apply to marketing any type of library resource. It provides a valuable reference for librarians seeking to implement a marketing plan. The second edition has new examples of marketing plans from real institutions. The authors’ stated goals are to “give colleagues the specific means of developing, implementing, and assessing marketing plans for e-resource collection management,” and to improve awareness of the value of e-resources among library users (xvi). They succeed in providing content that will help library practitioners of all levels of experience in marketing e-resources.

The first six chapters, grouped as part 1, discuss concepts, practicalities, and assessments of marketing plans. Several of these chapters include recommended reading lists. The authors contend that essential questions must be considered before haphazard marketing is attempted and that all marketing activities should take place within the structure of a marketing plan that addresses nine vital components. The book guides the reader through creating a comprehensive marketing plan. Chapter 1 is introductory and discusses concepts that should underlie all marketing attempts. One central theme, which is reinforced throughout the book, is that e-resources marketing must be integrated into all workings of a library. Staff, librarians, and assistants all should be involved in marketing, which must be integrated into the whole e-resources lifecycle. The next two chapters define the nine components, describe their recommended sequence in the marketing cycle, and present examples of each component with evidence to support them through a literature review. These chapters also include a valuable library-specific list of questions to guide readers through completing each element of a SWOT analysis. Chapter 1 recommends how to formally write a marketing plan for the library or its administration. Chapters 5 and 6 address assessment and revision of each plan component, but include asides on assessment of the library website and of existing e-resources collections. These essential, valuable discussions might fit better in earlier chapters that address the evaluation of the library’s strengths and weaknesses since these assessments are not necessarily linked to particular marketing plans. The text emphasizes the importance of measuring marketing outcomes against clearly defined goals, and provides a number of suggestions that will help libraries meet assessment requirements of parent institutions or funding organizations.

The nine components are at the heart of the book and define how Kennedy and LaGuardia discuss both theory and implementation of marketing. They are presented as roughly chronological steps that can be applied to develop any marketing plan, from an overall library communications...