BLACK GOLD
COOPERATIVE LIBRARY SYSTEM

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Collection Development User Group
Discussion Notes
September 11, 2024

FY24/25 Chairperson selected – Eric Lashley

Discussion Notes

How to work together as a Cooperative to manage patron holds.
- We do not have a best practice to coordinate this effort at this time.
- Do libraries purchase the newest and most popular?
- Are purchases made based on patrons' suggestions?

What criteria are BG libraries using to make acquisition decisions?
- LOM - Top 50 holds list?
- SM – Top 50 holds, NYT, Reese Witherspoon. Purchase 5 to 1, holds to holdings; and 3 to 1 for authors like Grisham and Patterson.
- SP – doesn't purchase based on holds since their patrons don't tend to use the holds feature
- SP -- has McNaughton leased collection – reservable only for SP patrons
- LOM – no PO the first few months of the FY so only Amazon purchases can be made during this time
- PR – purchases best-selling authors from NYT

What is the most # of copies a library would consider purchasing for the most popular titles?

PR – DVD's are out-circulating Adult non-fiction

What is the system that libraries use to pre-purchase upcoming titles?
- Eric has used Author Express at previous library (Teresa will research this for Koha)
- Inform vendors to automatically send specific authors
- Teresa will provide list of URL's for various resources to upcoming and popular titles

If at least one library purchases a title 3 months in advance and/or we enter dummy records in order to allow holds to be placed even if an item is not available yet. This is a helpful tool to determine how many copies a library might want to purchase.

What kinds of titles are on hold?

Fill rate is too low – only 44% ---

- NOTE: BG has since analyzed historic #'s and the Koha reported #'s and determined that the numbers reported were inaccurate. The report had an error in logic. The actual fill rate is 83%. Black Gold will report fill rate every month in the circ reports going forward.

How can we get faster turns on the newest/best sellers?

- Stop auto renewals. Selena mentioned that years ago we did not allow auto renewals at all. But, one of the past members had wanted it so the other libraries agreed.
- Set up a new item type with shorter circ rules
    - 1 week instead of 3
    - No auto renewals
    - When would the item go back to normal circ rules?
    - How would this be maintained in Koha? - Manually?
    - BG can research options
- Make the title not holdable
    - How long would it stay in this status?
    - When would the item go back to normal circ rules?
    - How would this be maintained in Koha? - Manually?
    - BG can research options
- Move holds off of hold shelves faster
    - Set up a new system of communication where text notifications can be answered—if a patron no longer wants the item, they can "Opt out" or say "no". Unique has a feature to do this—BG will research this.
    - How many books are not picked up, but just go back to the shelves or to the next person on hold?
    - What is the average # of days a book is on the hold shelf before being picked up?
    - Holds do not expire out of Koha automatically?
- Can we have a different length of check out period per library?
- Can we have different hold times for each library?

Black Gold will set up an ad hoc user group specifically for OverDrive Purchases.

Black Gold has established a group email for members of the Collection Development User Group collectiondevelopment@blackgold.org   Members are invited to use this email to communicate with the group throughout the year between meetings.

The next Collection Development Group meeting will be virtual and held on December 11, 2024