Leisure Reading: Validating selection decisions and identifying reader preferences

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Engel Collection Purpose

Broaden interests and horizons of medical students

Selection Process

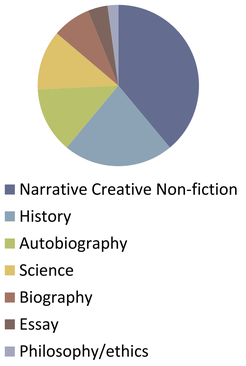
- Initially a single librarian.
- 2004 Resource Selection Committee
- Varied viewpoints
- Different biases as leadership changed
- Popular titles identified by librarians
- NY Times, Amazon, etc. reviews

Genres

16 genres pre-2010

- 7 continued, 1 new
- 7 dropped
- Low usage
  - Photography, Travel, Music/Art, Religion
- High usage
  - Fiction, Political.
  - How-to (in recent years)

7 Genres 2010-2013



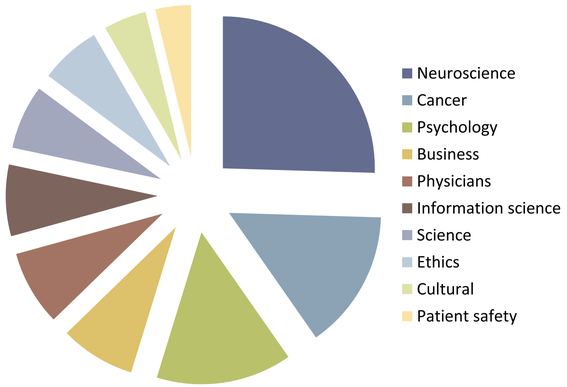
Why Study the Collection?

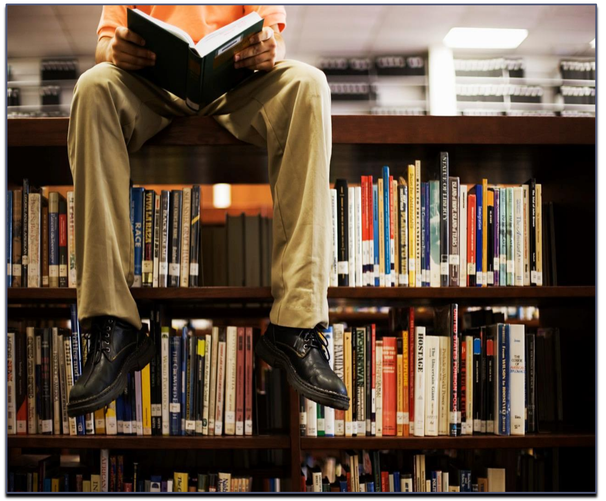
- Focus on data driven acquisitions
- Emphasis on patron driven needs/preferences
- Fewer funds for non-medical texts
- Alignment with user needs, interests

Study Method

- Circulation and publication data
- High/low usage and publication dates .
- 1 genre, analyzed primary topic

Top 10 Topics





Conclusions

- Fewer genres & topics recently selected
  - Older ones out of scope
- Selection aligned with user preferences
- No impact if multiple campus copies
- Focus on Duke Medicine ease of access
- Reconsider selecting fiction
- Stop collecting self-help titles

Next Steps

- Survey users
- Correlate with NY Times best sellers lists