



Weeding! Yikes! Rethinking Library Space!

Richard A. Peterson, AHIP; Elizabeth Berney; Virginia R. M. Carden, AHIP; Karen Grigg, AHIP; Beverly Murphy, AHIP; Hattie Vines, AHIP
Duke Medical Center Library & Archives; Duke University, Durham, NC

Why?

- ★ Need to reallocate 6,500 square feet of Library stacks space
- ★ Second major weeding project in last 3 years to free up space
- ★ Space traditionally used for print collection questioned due to
 - ⤵ Decreased use of print collection
 - ⤵ Increased purchase and usage of electronic materials
 - ⤵ Availability of offsite storage for print materials

How?

- ★ Establish planning task force to develop and oversee process, monitor progress, and answer questions
- ★ Run reports and mark special collections
- ★ Analyze remaining collection
- ★ Validate weeding decisions
- ★ Update OPAC and OCLC holdings
- ★ Transfer items selected for storage to Library Service Center
- ★ Send discarded items to recycling center

Weeding Criteria

Books

- ★ Publication date
- ★ Circulation history
- ★ Relevance to Duke Medicine specialties
- ★ Availability at local consortium libraries, NLM, or LC
- ★ Guidelines for multiple editions, study guides, multi-volume sets
- ★ Series indexed in Medline
- ★ Part of special collections
- ★ Physical condition
- ★ Historical value

Journals

- ★ Publication year
- ★ Perpetual access to online backfiles
- ★ Business model for backfile pricing
- ★ NN/LM print retention program

Space: The Final Frontier Proactivity Creates Opportunities!

- ★ More thoughtful approach to rethinking space
- ★ Viable print collection that is easier to access
- ★ Integration into new SOM Learning Center
- ★ Partnerships
- ★ Justification for expanded electronic collections
- ★ Model for other libraries