



The Whole is Greater than the Sum of its Parts: Collection Growth Reports & Informed Decision-Making

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Collection space is an issue within the library. The assessment librarian examined statistics from various resources that are typically collected in the library, but not normally looked at as a whole. These Collection Growth Reports will help library staff to make evidence-based purchasing and weeding decisions.

Design

What was examined?

- Cataloguing statistics by LC classification (2012 + 2013)
- YBP Expenditures (electronic & print) by LC classification (2012/13 + 2013/14)
- Circulation statistics by LC classification (2012/13)
- PDA/DDA statistics (2012 pilot +)
- List of 2 or less circulations in 20 years (as of Sept 2014)
- List of NO circulation in 20 years (as of May 2014)

Separate Reports Made for Separate Floors

- 3rd floor (N-QR)
- 4th floor (H-L)
- 5th floor (A-G)

1st floor (T-Z) recently completed major weeding project (2012- removed 30% of collection prior to renovations) & were left out of this project. Music (M) was not included in this study but will be added at a later date.

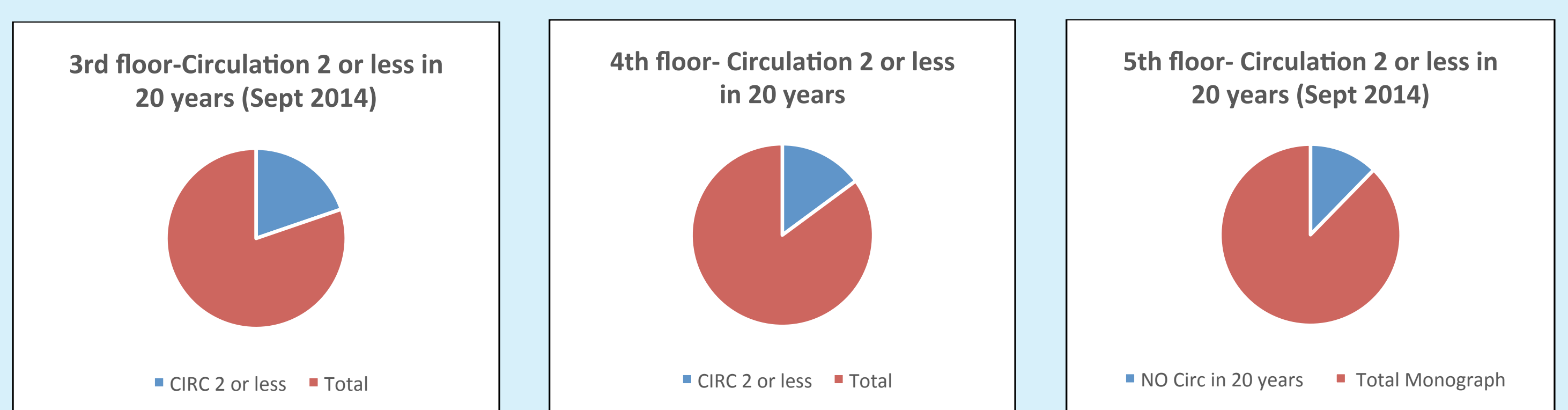
Findings

- Sometimes LC call #s that had high collection growth in the past 2 years were also the ones with the highest circulation, but not always.
- Many high growth areas had low percentage of electronic purchasing in the last 2 years.
- Others had increased their percentage of e-purchasing in the last fiscal year

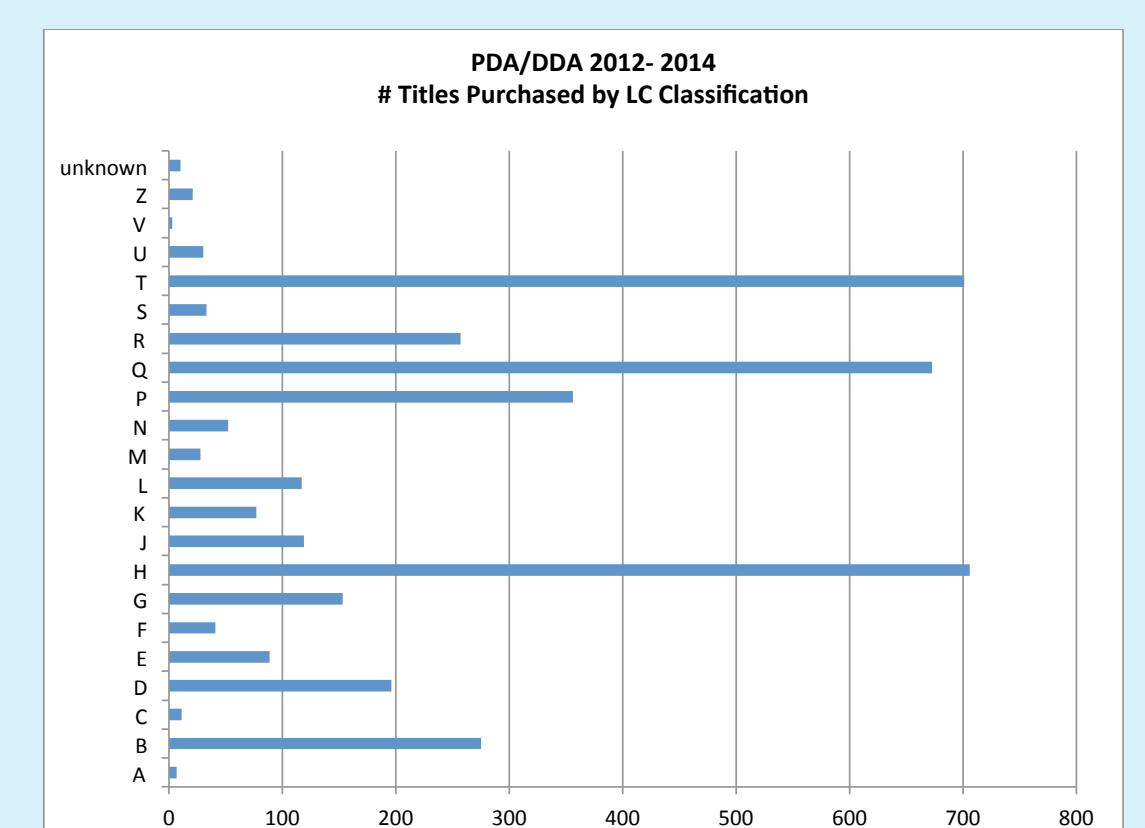
Top Subjects- Low to No Circulation in 20 years:

- PQ (French Literature)
- PR (English Literature)
- PS (American Literature)
- HD (Economic History by Subject)
- B-BD (Philosophy)
- N (Visual Arts in General)
- BL-BX (Religion, Theory)
- DC-DH (History, European)
- PG (Other Literature)

Circulated 2 or less times in last 20 years



Top Subjects- High Collection Growth + High Circulation	% Electronic Purchased 2013-14
P (Philology, Linguistics)	13%
PS (American Literature)	23%
HQ (Family, Marriage)	8%
HC (Economic History by Region)	52%
HV (Social Work, Social Problems, Criminology)	10%
BF (Individual Psychology)	6%
D (History, General)	6%



Implications

- Some subject areas are more associated with patrons “needing” the print than others. PDA challenges that notion.
- Weeding- Low/No circulation spots- great starting point
- Purchase more electronic- Look into electronic purchasing of titles that traditionally may have more print purchasing

Conclusions

The results were shared with the Head of Collection Development who communicated with individual subject specialists to make recommendations- either to weed, to purchase more electronic, or a combination of both depending on the LC classification. Having data from various sources can create a bigger picture that helps library staff to make more informed purchasing and weeding decisions.