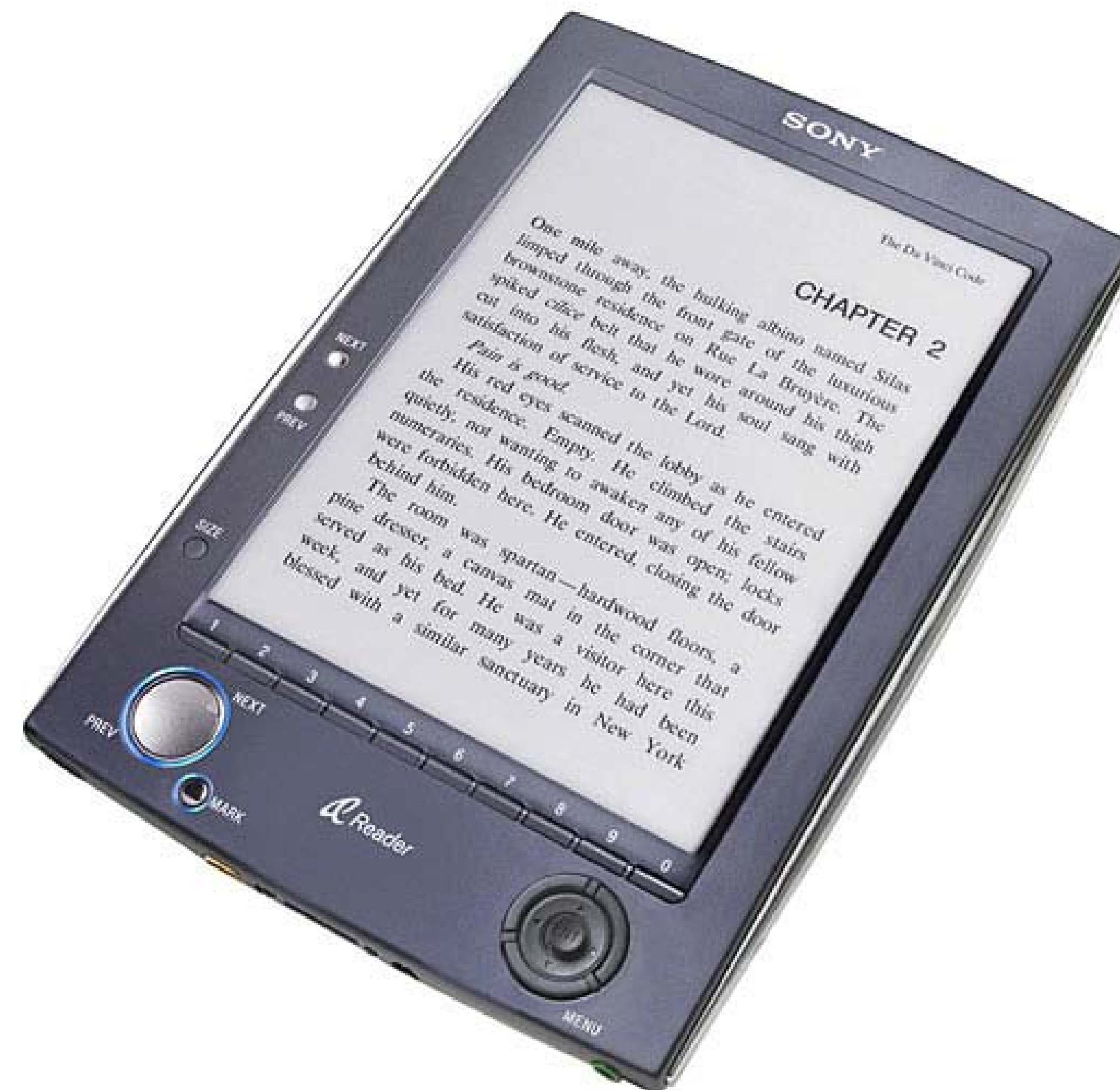# Major EReaders on the US Market

Amazon Kindle DX

FEATURES: 9.7" display; Audio; "Whispernet"; 4 GB memory; 15 formats supported (Kindle AZW and TOPAZ), TXT, PDF (in conversion), Audible, Audible Enhanced (AAX), MP3, unprotected MOBI, PRC natively, html, DOC, JPEG, GIF, PNG, BMP through conversion

PROS: Easy to use. Basic web browser for text-centric sites and email. Keyboard available for notetaking. Uploaded dictionary. No glare or backlight. Experimental "Read to me" feature. Support for RSS feeds and periodicals subscriptions.

CONS: All EBooks uploaded to Kindle must be purchased from AMZ. No sharing or uploading from other sources allowed. **Not ADA compliant for the visually impaired as letters on keyboard not raised.**

ARE LIBRARIES USING IT?: Yes

Sony Ereader PRS-505 or PRS-300

PRS-505 FEATURES: 6" display; 256 MB memory (160 books), 12 formats supported: BBeB (LRF/LRX), PDF, ePUB, TXT, RTF, JPG, BMP, GIF, PNG, MP3, AAC

PRS-300 FEATURES: 5" display; 440 MB, 7 formats supported: PDF, TXT, RTF, LRF, ePUB, DOC

PROS: Easy access to open source or free EBooks. Can upload Ebooks from any source as well as SONY. PRS-300 the least expensive of the major EReaders at $199.

CONS: No wireless connectivity. Must be connected to USB cable to a computer.   Less memory storage than Kindle. PRS-505 being phased out in US; still #1 EReader in Europe. No support for RSS feeds/periodicals.

ARE LIBRARIES USING IT?: Yes

Barnes & Noble Nook

FEATURES: 6" display; 2 GB memory; 9 formats supported: PDF, ePUB, eReader, PDF, JPG, GIF, PNG, BMP, MP3

PROS: Easy access to open source or free EBooks as well as B&N store. Can loan EBooks from one device to another, or to a mobile application.

CONS: Slow touchscreen. Some EBook titles are not loanable (this feature can be restricted by the publishers).   Shortest battery life (10 days without wireless hookup, vs 14 days for Kindle and Sony)

ARE LIBRARIES USING IT?: Too soon to tell

EBook/EReader Studies at Saint Cloud State University

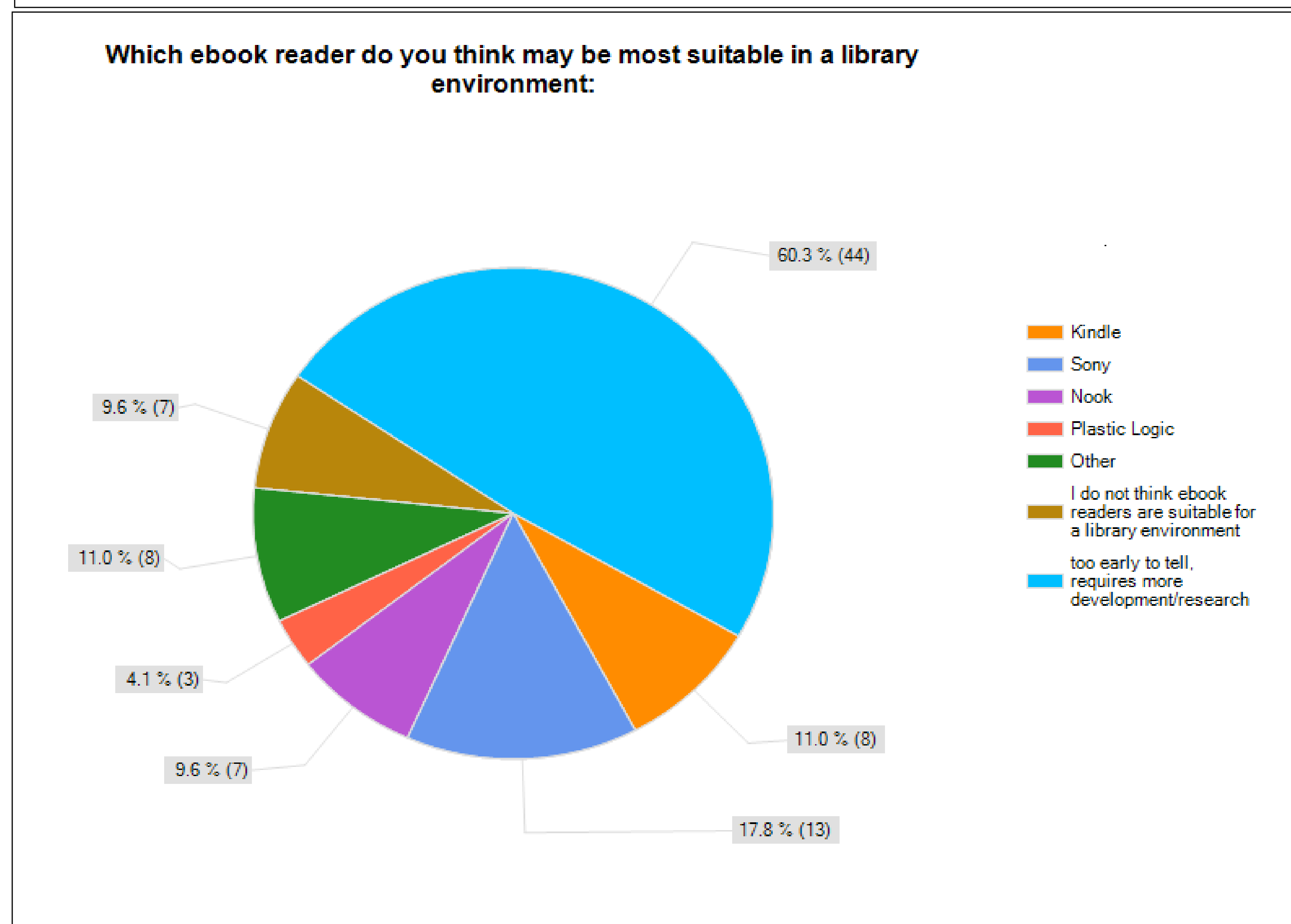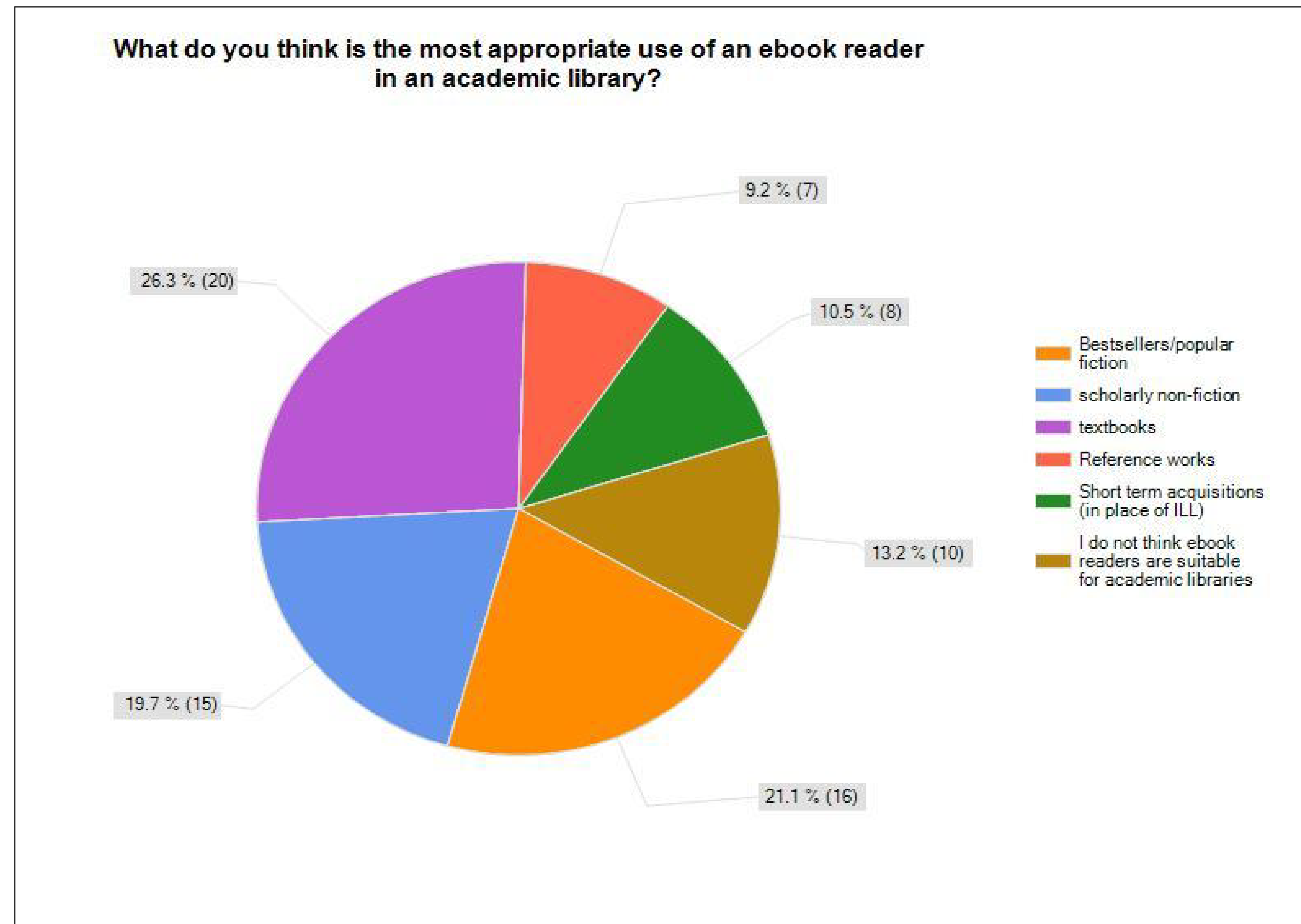## Survey: How are academic libraries currently using EBooks and EReaders?

110 academic librarians from around the world participated in the survey

92.7% currently acquire or plan to use EBooks for their collections

36.8% currently use or plan to use EReaders at their libraries

76.9% have had no demand from students or faculty for the library to provide EReaders

60.3% do not know which EReader model would be suitable for a library environment

What do you think is the most appropriate use of an ebook reader in an academic library?

- 9.2 % (7)
- 10.5 % (8)
- 13.2 % (10)
- 21.1 % (16)
- 19.7 % (15)
- 26.3 % (20)

Legend:
- Bestsellers/popular fiction
- scholarly non-fiction
- textbooks
- Reference works
- Short term acquisitions (in place of ILL)
- I do not think ebook readers are suitable for academic libraries

Which ebook reader do you think may be most suitable in a library environment:

- 60.3 % (44)
- 11.0 % (8)
- 17.8 % (13)
- 9.6 % (7)
- 4.1 % (3)
- 11.0 % (8)
- 9.6 % (7)

Legend:
- Kindle
- Sony
- Nook
- Plastic Logic
- Other
- I do not think ebook readers are suitable for a library environment
- too early to tell, requires more development/research

How do SCSU students perceive their EReading experience as compared to their print reading experience?

"Reading from an Ipod is the equivalent of trying to stay warm outside with a Kleenex." – Clint, Sophomore

"Maybe because we are grown up reading the printed book that is why when I was reading the e-book, I couldn't concentrate enough as when I read the printed book."
-- Jacob, Freshman

"I just don't like reading on a computer screen; I always get lost and forget where I am. So I am personally against checking out the e-books." – Tyler, Freshman

"The reading experience for my E-Book was pretty interesting…It helped me psychologically too because usually just looking at the thickness of a book kills my appetite for reading." – Meron, Sophomore

"All of the technology that goes inside one of these [Ereaders} is amazing but, if one thing goes wrong then I can be completely out of touch with that book and all the information that came along with it."
-- Chris, Freshman