4-19-2023

Quality as a Component of Value: Using Resources for College Libraries to Assess Course Assigned Texts

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QUALITY AS A COMPONENT OF VALUE: USING RCL TO ASSESS COURSE ASSIGNED TEXTS

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OUTLINE

Background

Collection Assessments

E-Textbook Program

Assessment Beyond Cost per Use

RCL for E-Textbooks

INTRODUCTION
& BACKGROUND

- Illinois State University
  - Public 4-year institution
  - 21,000 students, 18,000 undergraduates
  - Focus on student success & affordability

- Subject-Specific Collection Assessments
  - ProQuest Book Analysis component

COLLECTION ASSESSMENTS – BBAS SECTION

Section 7: Areas of Strength & Weakness

7A: Bowker Analysis

LC Classification	Core Titles in Library	Core Titles NOT in Library	Total # Core Titles	% of Core Titles Held
QA 1-74 Mathematics (General)	135	76	211	64.0%
QA 77-149 Mathematics (Popular Works). Arithmetic. Elementary Education.	36	18	54	66.7%
QA 150-299 Algebra	157	174	331	47.4%
QA 300-433 Mathematical Analysis (Calculus, etc.)	44	80	124	35.5%
QA 440-799 Geometry, Trigonometry	47	54	101	46.5%
QA 800-939 Analytical Mechanics	11	18	29	37.9%
Total:	430	420	850	50.6%

The Library-wide average percentage of core titles held is 48.1%.

E-TEXTBOOK PROJECT

- Initial idea came from a confluence of factors
  - The pandemic
  - New librarians
  - CARLI Counts program
- Spring 2021 eTextbook pilot

7 Weeks Out ———————— Analysis

5 Weeks Out ——————— Selection

4 Weeks Out ——————— Processing

2 Weeks Out ——————— Finalization

WORKFLOW TIMELINE
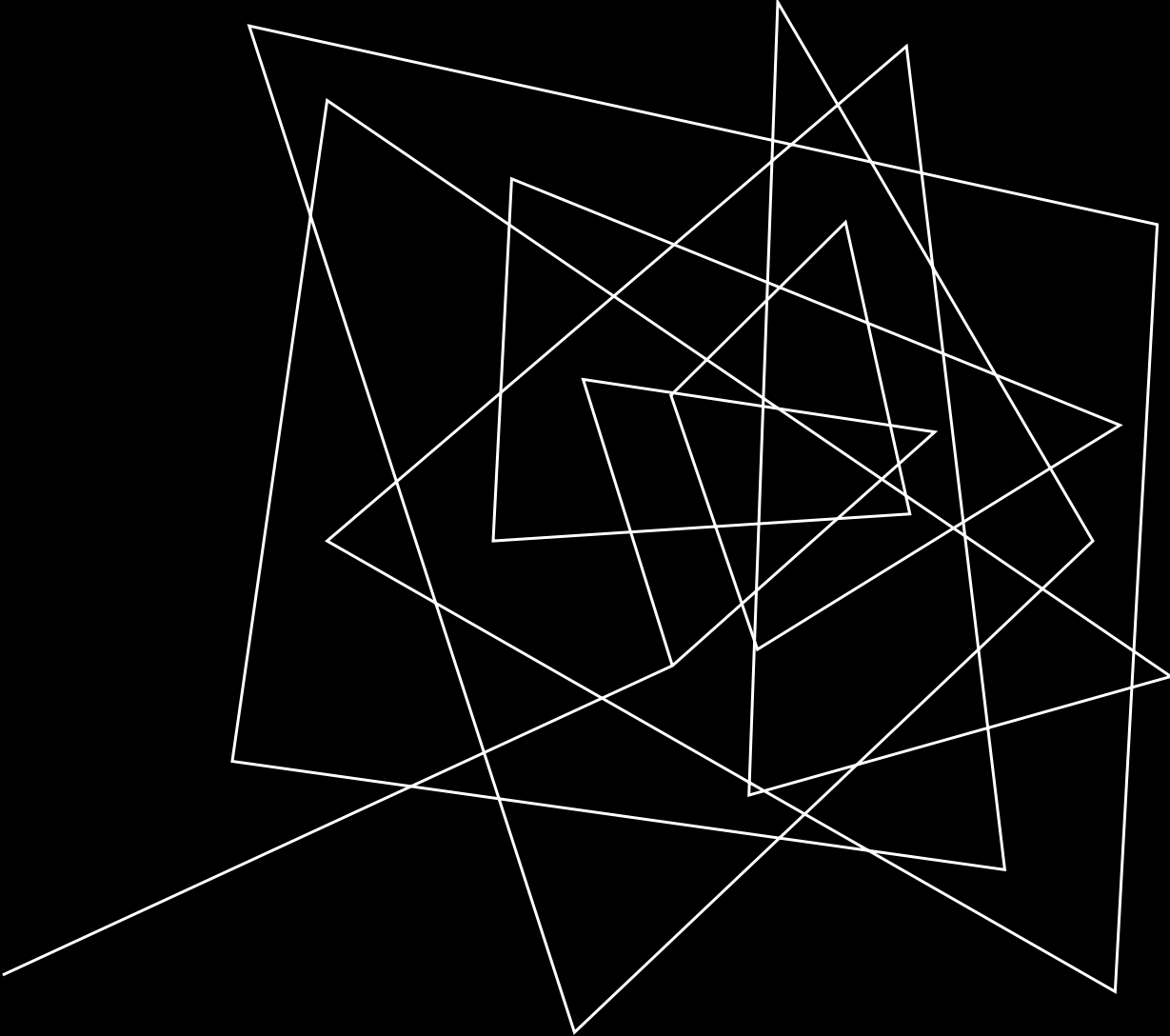
ASSESSING
COLLECTIONS FOR
QUALITY

SEARCHING RCL

ISBN/UPC/EAN Bulk Search

Copy and paste (Maximum of 1000 ISBNs/UPCs/EANs)

Clear ISBNs   Search Bulk

ISBN/UPC/EAN File Search

Upload a CSV file (Maximum of 1000 ISBNs/UPCs/EANs)

Choose File | No file chosen

Clear   Search File
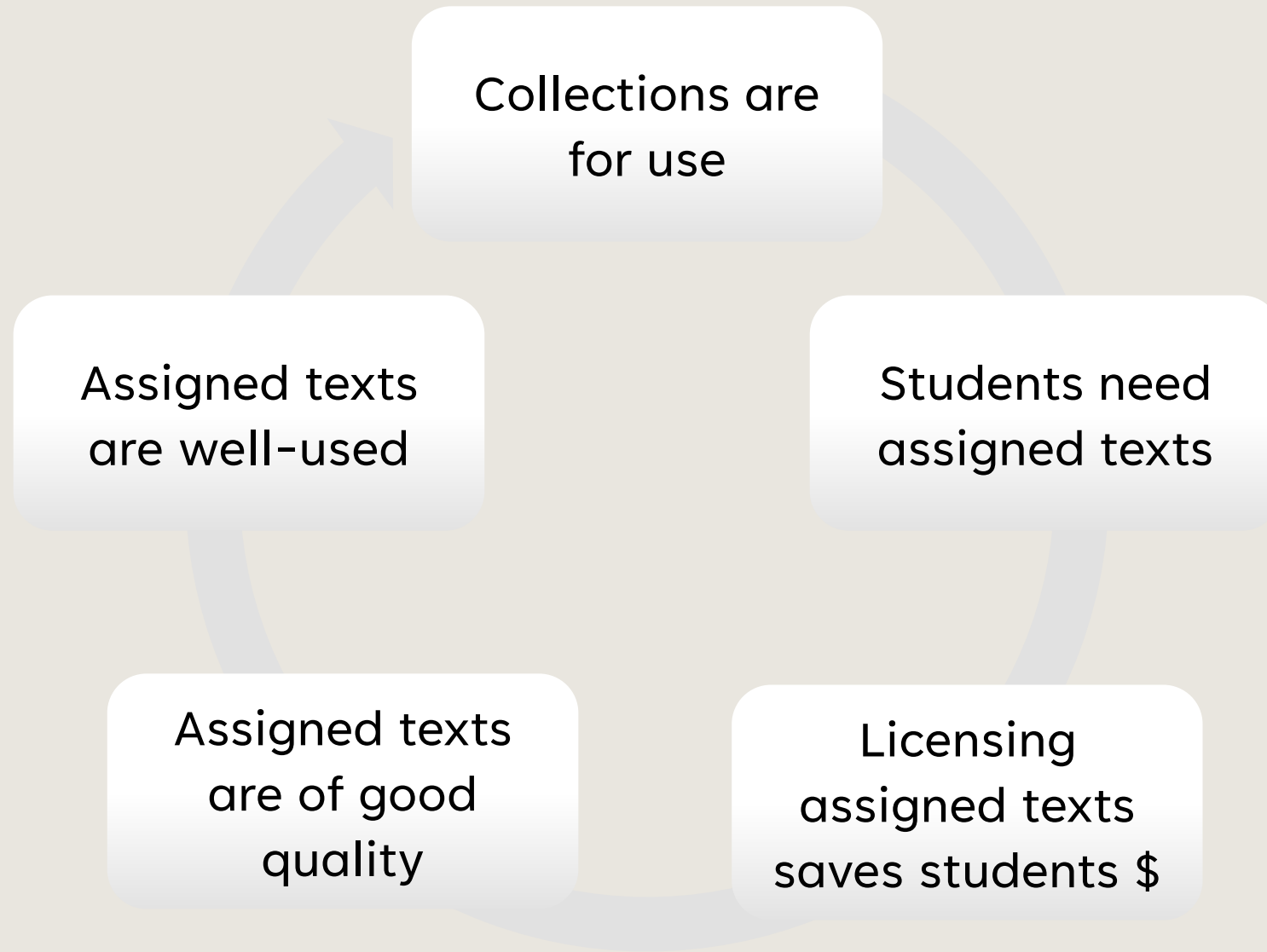
COURSE ASSIGNED E-BOOKS OUTPERFORM DEMAND DRIVEN ACQUISITIONS DURING SAME PERIOD

- Library licensed etextbooks: 13% included in RCL and 1% have Outstanding Academic Text designation

- All assigned texts at ISU: 13% included in RCL, with 0.4% designated as Outstanding Academic Texts

- Demand Driven Acquisition: 7% included in RCL and 0.6% designated as Outstanding Academic Texts.

TIME TO RECONSIDER THAT TEXTBOOK POLICY?

Collections are for use

Students need assigned texts

Licensing assigned texts saves students $

Assigned texts are of good quality

Assigned texts are well-used

MEET THE ETEXTBOOK TEAM

Mallory Jallas
Student Success

Rachel Park
Electronic Resources

Anne Shelley
Scholarly Communication

Julie Murphy
Collection Assessment

Rachel Scott
Associate Dean

REPORTING

- **Assessing the Value of Course-Assigned E-Books.** *Collection Management* 47, no. 4 (2022): 253–71. https://doi.org/10.1080/01462679.2022.2068465.

- **Exploring Faculty Perspectives on Text Selection and Textbook Affordability.** *College & Research Libraries* 84, no. 2 (2023): 180–202. https://doi.org/10.5860/crl.84.2.180.

- **Incorporating Student Voices: Assessing Library Collections to Support Student Success.** Poster Presentation at the 2021 Charleston Conference. https://ir.library.illinoisstate.edu/fpml/148/

- **Library-Provided e-Textbooks Boost Student Success: Summer 2021 Campus Report.** https://ir.library.illinoisstate.edu/mlp/30/.

- **On the Same Team: Technical Services and Student Success Tackle Textbook Affordability. ACRL 2023 Presentation.** https://www.ala.org/acrl/sites/ala.org.acrl/files/content/conferences/confsandpreconfs/2023/OntheSameTeam1.pdf

- **Supporting an Inclusive and Equitable Classroom: Student Perspectives on a Textbook Affordability Initiative.** Under review.

- **Workflow and Timelines for the eTextbook Project:** https://ir.library.illinoisstate.edu/mlp/32/

THANK YOU

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