


Thank you for joining us today.


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Developing Library Collections
for Today's Young Adults

will begin at 1 p.m. CST. Until then, enjoy the silence!

Today's presenter:



Amy Pattee
Associate Professor
Graduate School of Library and Information Science
Simmons College




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Developing Library Collections
for Today's Young Adults

Tuesday, February 4
1 p.m. CST



Rebecca Vnuk
Booklist editor,
Reference and Collection Management
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Developing Library
Collections for Today's
Young Adults

Amy Pattee
Associate Professor
Graduate School of Library and Information Science
Simmons College
Boston, MA

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Developing Library Collections for Today's
Young Adults



Great library
collections for
young adults
are:

- **Relevant**
- **Up-to-date**
- **Accessible**
- **Useful**

(CCAC North Library, 2008)

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Developing Library Collections for Today's
Young Adults

Three Key Tasks:

- Regular monitoring
- Continuous review
- Thoughtful development




(Ter Haar, 2010)

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Monitoring the Collection

Questions to Ask:



- Who is using the library's YA collection?
- What books, DVDs, CDs, magazines, audiobooks or computer games are library patrons borrowing?
- What are the most popular titles and formats?
- Is there any pattern to book or material borrowing in the YA collection?

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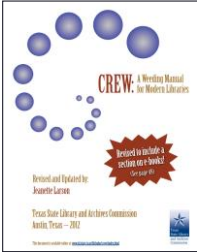
Monitoring the Collection

| Question | Finding the Answer |
|--|---|
| What are library patrons borrowing? | Circulation statistics by collection and item type |
| What are the most popular titles and formats? | Circulation statistics by collection, item type, and frequency |
| Is there any pattern to YA material borrowing? | Circulation statistics by collection, item type, frequency and date |

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Reviewing the Collection

The CREW Method:
Continuous Review, Evaluation, and Weeding



Why CREW?

- Space considerations
- Access considerations
- Safety considerations

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Reviewing the Collection

Initial Evaluation of the Whole Collection:
What do you have and how is it used?

Circulation statistics to collect:

- Circulation per capita: total circulation of the YA collection / population
- Turnover rate: total circulation of the YA collection / number of items in the YA collection
- Use factor: ratio of circulation to holdings (e.g., graphic novels comprise 30% of the collection and account for 25% of the circulation)

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Reviewing the Collection

What These Statistics Tell Us:

| Statistic | Meaning |
|------------------------------|---|
| Circulation per capita (CPC) | High CPC = high use Low CPC = low use *compare to adult and children's CPC |
| Turnover Rate (TR) | High TR = in specific topical areas suggests a need for more material Periodic High TR = suggests intermittent need (school project) |
| Use Factor (UF) | Comparative UF = interest in collection High UF (high circ. %; low collection %) = need for more material |

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Reviewing the Collection

Initial Evaluation of the Whole Collection
(Part 2):
What do you have and how is it used?

Collection measures to collect:

- Total Composition: total number of items and total number of unique titles in the YA collection
- Subject/Format Composition: total number of items and total number of unique titles in subject areas and format collections (e.g., DVDs, graphic novels)
- Age: average age (in terms of publication date) of all items in the collection in total, by subject and format

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Reviewing the Collection


What These Statistics Tell Us:

| Statistic | Meaning |
|----------------------------|--|
| Total Composition | High or low incidence of duplicate copies |
| Subject/Format Composition | Proportion of fiction to nonfiction Proportion of formats to formats Proportion of titles across subject areas |
| Age | Average age of the whole collection Average age of subject and format collections |

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Weeding the Collection

Where Do I Begin?



- Weeding calendar (weed a subject area or section of the alphabet each month)
- High need (weed the oldest section of the collection first)

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Weeding the Collection

Step-by-Step:

- Select area to weed
- Determine weeding criteria
 - Professional standards for age and condition (X/X/MUSTIE)
 - Bibliographic standards (guides, catalogs, and awards selection)
 - Local needs and expectations
- Check all items against criteria
- Get rid of old material and purchase updates or replacements

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Weeding Criteria

Professional Standards for Age and Condition: X/X/MUSTIE


X = years since publication (item age)
X = years since last circulation (item use)
M = Misleading
U = Ugly
S = Superseded
T = Trivial
I = Irrelevant
E = Elsewhere

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Weeding Criteria

Standards for Age:

Resources Describing Standards for Age (by DDC):



- Baumbach, D. and Miller, L. (2006), *Less is More: A Practical Guide to Weeding School Library Collections*




- Larson, J. and TSLA (2012), *CREW: A Weeding Manual for Modern Libraries*
- Pattee, A. (2013), *Developing Library Collections for Today's Young Adults*

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Weeding Criteria

Bibliographic Standards (Catalogs, Awards, Local Considerations):

Resources Listing Notable Titles:



- H.W. Wilson's *Senior High Core Collection* and *Middle and Jr. High Core Collection*



- ALA's Book and Media Awards for Youth
- Local curricula and required reading
- Annual summer reading lists

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Selecting Material

Selecting New and “Old” Material:

Materials Selection

New Titles

Retrospective Titles

- Newly published fiction and nonfiction
- Updated editions of weeded titles

- Replacement titles
- Award winners
- “Classic” titles

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Selecting Material

(Very) Broad Criteria for Selection:

Young Adult Librarians Should Seek Material That Is:

1. Reflective of library's mission, goals and objectives
2. Relevant and responsive
3. Accessible
4. Timely
5. Complementary
6. Reflective of quality standards for material in the same format or topical area

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Selecting Material

Library Guidelines:

1. Institution type (e.g., school, public “headquarters” library, public branch, special collections)
2. Collection perspective (e.g., collection centered, user centered, curriculum centered)
3. Collection development policy
4. Shelving and organization of the library's collection
5. Staff responsibility for selection (per #4)

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Selecting Material

General Advice for Most Libraries:

1. Select material that reflects what users want, need, and have used in the recent past (hint: look at circulation statistics)
2. Select material in formats that reflect the interests and needs of users
3. Consider the organization of the library's collection of formatted and topical material: should format and topical collections be re-organized?

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Selecting Material

Electronic Resources and New Challenges

E-books:

CHALLENGE: Invisible on shelves, hard to find in OPACs and poorly described and cataloged in e-book interfaces

SOLUTION: Publicize new YA e-books on library's web site, linking cover image directly to e-book record for easy checkout



(The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, 2014)

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Selecting Material

Electronic Resources and New Challenges

Technological Tools:

CHALLENGE: Teens—particularly those in under-resourced communities—lack consistent access to technological tools

SOLUTION: Consider technological tools (computers, laptops, tablets) and connectivity (Wi-Fi and off-site access) elements of the library's collection for young people



(Ivoss, 2005)

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Collection Development Resources

Weeding Information and Guidelines:

Online:

- Larson, J. and Texas State Library and Archives Commission (2012). *CREW: A Weeding Manual for Modern Libraries*. Retrieved from: <https://www.tsl.texas.gov/sites/default/files/public/tslac/ld/ld/pubs/crow/crewmethod12.pdf>
- Vnuk, R. (2012, Feb. – 2013, Nov.). Weeding tips [article series]. *Booklist Online*. Retrieved from: <http://booklistonline.com>
- Kelly, M. and Hibner, M. (2013). *Awful Library Books*. Retrieved from: <http://awfullibrarybooks.net> [see the "Will Weed for Food" page for useful instructional slides]

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Collection Development Resources

Selecting Material for Young Adults:

Books and Media:

- YALSA (2014). *Book Awards and Booklists for Libraries*. Retrieved from: <http://www.ala.org/yalsa/bookawards/booklists/members>
- YALSA (2014). *The Hub: Your Connection to Teen Reads*. Retrieved from: <http://www.yalsa.ala.org/thehub/>
- YABC (1998-2014). *Young Adult Books Central*. Retrieved from: <http://www.yabookscentral.com/>

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Collection Development Resources

Weeding Information and Guidelines:

In Print:

- Baumbach, D.J. and Miller, L.L. (2006). *Less is More: A Practical Guide to Weeding School Library Collections*. Chicago: ALA.
- Doll, C. and Barron, P.P. (2002). *Managing and Analyzing Your Collection: A Practical Guide for Small Libraries and School Media Centers*. Chicago: ALA.
- Pattee, A. (2013). *Developing Library Collections for Today's Young Adults*. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press.

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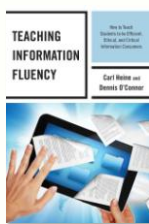
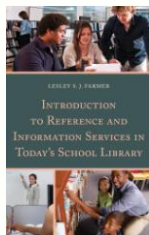
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Ter Haar, K. (2010). *Untitled* [Digital image]. Retrieved from: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/8489692@N03/5021019816/in/photolist>

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Use code **RLWEBINAR214**—good until April 1st—for 25% off of all titles mentioned during this webinar!



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Special thanks to today's presenter!



Amy Pattee

Associate Professor

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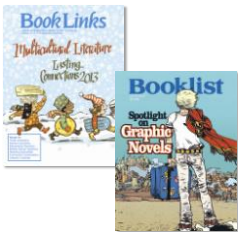
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