NSLA RE-IMAGINING LIBRARIES PROJECT 7
(COLLABORATIVE COLLECTIONS) UPDATE

Background

This paper is to provide a brief update on the National & State Libraries Australasia (NSLA) Re-imagining Libraries Project 7 (Collaborative Collections). Noelle Nelson (project manager) will speak to this paper at the LAAC meeting.

The Project 7 Collaborative Collections project is looking to identify models for collaborative collection development for both current collections (retrospective) and future acquisitions (prospective) in the formats of eResources, serials and monographs.

The Project Group has initially focused on developing a set of principles for collaborative collecting within the NSLA libraries, developing a costed model for a national set of e-resources and developing a project plan for serials and guidelines for cancellations.

The Project Group has developed the following documents that may be of interest to other sectors, which were endorsed by NSLA at its 9-10 March 2010 meeting:

- National set of principles for collaborative collections (Attachment A); and
- Criteria for cancelling, keeping or relocating serials subscriptions (Attachment B).

This project is being led by the State Library of New South Wales and the State Library of Queensland.

Recommendation

That the Committee notes the report.

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Attachment A

**NSLA Re-imagining Libraries**

**Project 7, Collaborative Collections Principles**

1. Provide access to the widest possible range of resources – onsite and online 24/7.

2. Develop a national core set of e-resources for all Australian citizens regardless of location within Australia [whether at home, work or school].

3. Provide access to a range of resources via collaborative collecting and shared delivery mechanisms to build efficiencies and eliminate unnecessary duplication.

4. Maximise development and access to our unique Heritage collections – onsite and online 24/7 through efficiencies in non-heritage collections.

5. Provide a comprehensive set of collections guidelines for print and online resources with an agreed approach to retention and disposal.

6. Acknowledge and pursue repatriation opportunities which will build stronger and more complete collections.

7. Acknowledge the legal deposit roles of the NLA and state libraries for Australian and state material respectively.

8. Work within existing legislative frameworks applicable to each participating library.

9. Develop a MOU agreement for creating access, and developing and managing collection responsibilities.

10. Align to key principles of level one Levels of Engagement endorsed by NSLA - *All Libraries acting as One Library*

   a. Plan together, or on behalf of all

   b. Policies aligned in every Library

   c. Central systems and discovery service.

Attachment B

Criteria for cancelling, keeping or relocating serial subscriptions (Work Package 5)

These criteria relate to serials in paper format in NSLA reference collections. They do not relate to serials in ‘Research Level subjects, statiana, or other unique heritage content; or to material that has been acquired with restrictions on disposal. The criteria operate in the context of each library’s overall collection budget. Issues of value for money and cancellation decisions may depend on a combination of the criteria.

A serial title should be considered for cancellation if:
1. it is outside the scope of the library’s collection development policy
2. there is a more appropriate title available, particularly if there is an acceptable but less expensive alternative
3. it has low use, particularly relative to high cost, when considering
   • usage statistics such as retrieval, reshelving or interlibrary loan statistics
   • whether the title is displayed or routed
4. a currently duplicated title is required only in a single copy
5. comparable or similar information can be sourced online
6. it is in poor condition or missing a majority of issues
7. the online format is available and if
   • the title is available without an embargo or licensing restrictions on new or current content, or if not, if the library can meet client requirements within the restrictions
   • the online version is complete including images and charts, reviews, letters and index
   • the possibility of loss of access to the back-set if the online format ceases to be available (for example, if an aggregator loses the rights to ‘the publication) is deemed to be acceptable
   • there is no preference for access to the hard copy (for current browsing)
   • the title is a paper indexing and abstracting service
8. it is held at a NSLA Library and the title can be copied/loaned.

In cases where a title is cancelled and identified for disposal, where practical it will be offered for repatriation to the NSLA holding library or libraries with the object of making a complete set to support client service.


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1 In this document, Research Level refers to an extensive collection consistent with the Australian Conspectus definition.