EPSL Engineering and Physical Sciences Library

"Would You Move, Please?"

Weeding Science Reference Collection

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Objectives

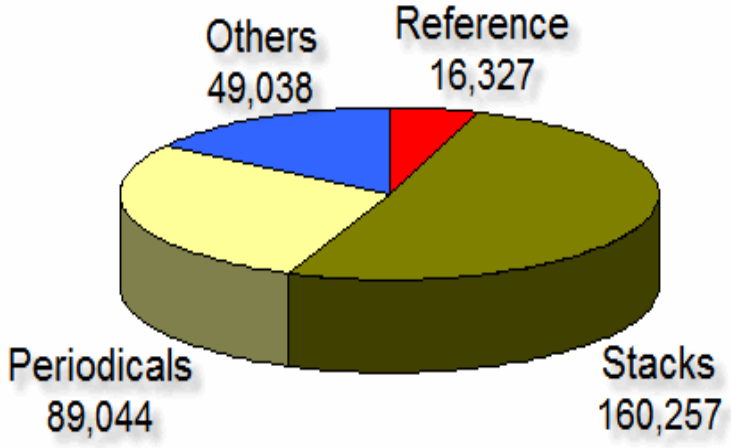
- The Library
- Problem and Solutions
- The Weeding Process
- A Look Around Us And Future Trends
- Questions/ Answers

Overview of EPSL

- History
  http://www.lib.umd.edu/ENGIN/history.html
- EPSL staff
  - Reference
  - Circulation
  - Students
- Pictures
  http://www.flickr.com/photos/7976207@N03/sets/72157602529974246/show/

- Collection size

  314,666 items



http://www.itd.umd.edu/LIMS3/REPORTS/index.html

The Problem

- Crowded print reference collection

"Poorly weeded collections are not the sign of poor budgets but of poor librarianship."
(Johnson, 2003).

- Low use
- Lots of indexes and abstracts

Our Goal

Remove the clutter from our reference collection....

Our Solution

- Most of the indexes/abstracts are online.
  See: Print/electronic equivalent table
  http://www.lib.umd.edu/ENGIN/Kworking/printequivalent.html
- Move print holdings of indexes and abstracts, patent & trademark publications, etc. outside the reference area
- Reference area is in prime location
  Re-purpose the space.

"BEFORE" statistics

- **16,327** items according to the Ad Hoc Monthly Statistics Reports

Provided by the USMAI Consortium of Libraries

http://www.itd.umd.edu/LIMS3/REPORTS/index.html

- **17,707** items counted manually
- 333 boxes of ANSI Standards

~ 1,380 items difference between manual and the report count

The Weeding Process

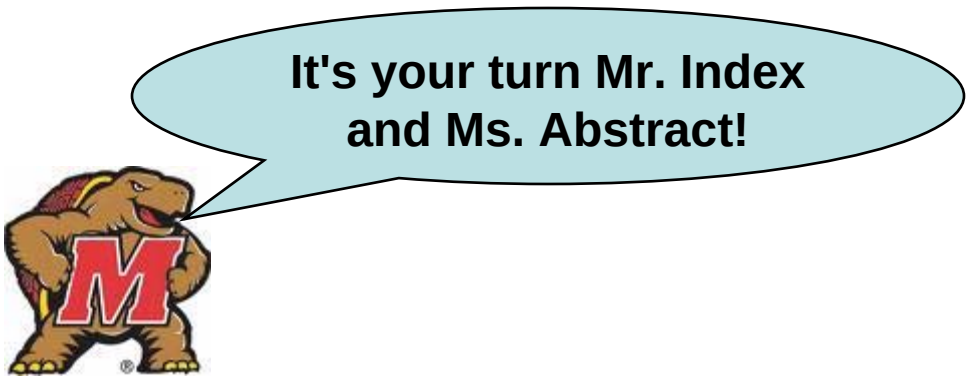
Step 1: **Shelf-read and clean up**

- Removed items in poor condition
- Removed 2nd copies
- Removed earlier editions or superseded items
- Removed items with no barcodes

The Weeding Process

Step 2: **Serials Publications**

- Created spreadsheet with multivolume sets
- Regular meetings with librarians
- Final decisions taken



	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1	**Librarian**	**Call Number**	**Title**	**Print**	**Total Print volumes**	**Total Shelves**	**Online**	**Subject Specialist final decision**	**Notes**
2		AS36 .R284	Selected Rand Abstracts	1980-1991	6	1	1998-present	3rd floor	E-Journal
3	Bob	G575 .P61 - G575	Polar and glaciological abstracts	1974-2003	17	1		3rd floor	
4	Bob	GC1 .U334 - GC1	Underwater information bulletin	1971-1983	9	1	1995-present	3rd floor	E-Journal
5	Bob	GF1 .E555	The environment index	1972-1987	16	2		3rd floor	
6		HA1 .I56	Statistical theory and method abstracts	1959-2001	56	5		HBK	
7	Bob	HE1.C7	Current literature in traffic and transportation	1968-2002	18	1	TRIS: 1960-present	3rd floor	TRIS? INSPEC?
8	Bob	HE2704.F4	Railroad research bulletin	1974-1981	9	1	TRIS: 1960-present	3rd floor	TRIS? INSPEC?
9	Bob	HE5614.2 .H5 - HI	Highway safety literature	1977-1985	12	1	TRIS: 1960-present	3rd floor	TRIS? INSPEC?
10		Q158.5 .W95	World transindex	1977-1986	54	3		HBK	
11		Q175 .I51	International abstracts in operations research	1962-2006	46	3		3rd floor	Latest 2 years in REF
12	Nevenka	QA1 .A517	American mathematical society abstracts	1980-present	37	2		3rd floor	Latest 2 years in REF
13	Nevenka	QA1.M76	Mathematical reviews	1940-present	414	31	1864-present	3rd floor	Mathscinet
14	Nevenka	QA1 .Z384	Zentralblatt fur mathematik und ihre grenzgebi	1931-1995	129	12	1868-present	3rd floor	http://www.emis.de/
15	Nevenka	QA76 .C5854	Computing reviews (ACM)	1960-present	73	3		HBK	Latest 2 years in REF
16	Nevenka	QA76.Q31	Computer Literature Index Annual Cumulation	1980-2002	25	2		HBK	
17	Nevenka	QA276.A1C87	Current Index to Statistics	1975-1999	25	2	1975-present	HBK	http://www.statindex.org/
18	Nevenka	QA901..J87	Journal of fluid mechanics	1956-2004			1956-present	Off-site	Archives purchased, E-journals
19	Bob	QB1 .A797	Astronomischer Jahresbericht	1900-1968	56	3	1899-1968	Ask Amanda but see notes and attached papers	not listed through Research Port, http://www.ari.uni-heidelberg.de/publikationen/ajb/ Available for free. NEED to be listed in Research Port
20	Bob	QB1 .A798	Astronomy and astrophysics abstracts	1969-2000	91	7	1969-2000	Same as above	http://www.ari.uni-heidelberg.de/publikationen/aaa/
21	Nedelina	QC1.C87	Current physics index	1975-2003	48	3	Coverage varies: 1893-present	HBK	SCITATION/SPIN
22	Nedelina	QC1.P68	Physikalische Berichte	1920-1978	66	14		HBK	

The Weeding Process

Step 3: **The move**

- In house
- Storage

"A necessary evil for which there are no obvious alternatives"
(Hazen, 2000)

Cons
- Inconvenience for users
- Splits collections
- Limits browsability

Pros
- Alternative to withdrawal
- Online access

"AFTER" statistics

BEFORE March 2007

- **17,707** items counted manually
- **333** boxes of ANSI Standards

AFTER October 2007

- **14,330** items counted manually
- **307** boxes of ANSI Standards

We removed
3,377 items + 26 boxes
from the reference area
within 7 months.

Recent News

- **District of Columbia Public Library**
  withdrawal of books
- **Sandia Labs Library closing**
- **Guide to Reference**
  12th Edition Online (2008), no print
  http://ala.org/ala/editions2/guidetoreference.htm
- **University of California Merced Library**
  http://ucmercedlibrary.info/
  - Not what research libraries are, but what they will be

The Digital Era

- **Higher Education**
  - The students, faculty and ….librarians
  - Information literacy
  - New Scholarship
- **Emerging Technologies in next 5 years**
  - User-Created Content and Social Networking
  - Mobile Phones and Virtual Worlds
  - New Scholarship
  - Massively Multiplayer Educational Gaming

"The Horizon Report", 2007 Edition
http://www.nmc.org/horizon

Major Initiatives

- **Portico** www.portico.org/

  Permanent archive of electronic journals

- **North American Storage Trust**
  www.oclc.org/programs/ourwork/collectivecoll/sharedprint/nast.htm

  Low-use collections in shared physical space

Today's Players

- **Publishers' sites as search engines**
- **SciTopia –** www.Scitopia.org
- **Gallica –** www.gallica.fr
- **Google – Scholar, Patent Search, Book Search**
- **Government databases – Medline, Agricola**
- **Academic Live Search (Microsoft)**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Google Book Search
industrial arts index
Search Books
Industrial Arts Index By H.W. Wilson Company
Digitized by Google
Industrial Arts Index
A Cumulative Index to Engineering and Trade
January, 1918—December, 191
gallica
Présentation
Découverte
Recherche
Dossiers
Liste des derniers documents numérisés
Le Petit Journal
Découvrez la Presse quotidienne dans Gallica
Tout savoir sur Gallica : consultez la charte
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Academic results
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and academic books. Learn more.
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Drugs & Supp
Medical E
Current Health News
Sleep Apnea Treatment Improves Depression
Cervical Cancer Survivors Prone to Other Cancers
Diet, Lifestyle Impact a Woman's Odds of Conceiving
More news
New on MedlinePlus: images of skin
VisualDxHealth. Check out an exam
Pictures on the melanoma page.

We Talked, You Listened!

Now let's try the other way around!

Selected Readings

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