Assessing the Diversity of the E-collection of the William H. Hannon Library

Marie Kennedy
Loyola Marymount University, marie.kennedy@lmu.edu

Marisa Ramirez
Loyola Marymount University, mramir32@lmu.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.lmu.edu/librarian_pubs

Part of the Library and Information Science Commons

Recommended Citation
The American Library Association’s 1982 statement on Diversity in Collection Development reminds librarians of our professional responsibility “to select and support the access to materials on all subjects that meet, as closely as possible, the needs, interests, and abilities of all persons in the community the library serves. This includes materials that reflect political, economic, religious, social, minority, and sexual issues.”

INTRODUCTION

The American Library Association’s 1982 statement on Diversity in Collection Development reminds librarians of our professional responsibility “to select and support the access to materials on all subjects that meet, as closely as possible, the needs, interests, and abilities of all persons in the community the library serves. This includes materials that reflect political, economic, religious, social, minority, and sexual issues.”

PURPOSE

• Ensure that our materials collection aligns with professional ethics, institutional vision, and meets the research needs of our diverse campus

• Determine if online databases are adequately “bridging disciplines” and “representing diverse topics and perspectives”

• Ensure collections are deliberately and positively contributing to an inclusive campus climate

METHODS

Identify categories of concern
Construct keyword search strings
Student recruitment and engagement

FINDINGS

• 119 of 170 databases are ABOVE AVERAGE in the number of search results across all categories.

• 26 of the databases returned keyword search results that were above average in all six categories.

CONCLUSIONS

• Increased acquisition of: Gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender LGBTQ+; Women’s Studies; and Disability

• Find more opportunities to partner with students in the library’s assessment projects!

LIMITATIONS, FUTURE RESEARCH

• Unequal number of keyword searches per category

• Keyword search strings not exhaustive

• Depth of categories is uneven

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This project is the result of an Inclusive Excellence Grant, from the Loyola Marymount University’s University Intercultural Council. Our work was supported by the Administration of the William H. Hannon Library.

This project was designed and completed by the best working group around:
• Aisha Conner-Gaten, Instructional Design Librarian
• Javier Garibay, Librarian-in-Residence
• Jamie Hazlitt, Librarian for Collection Development and Evaluation
• Marie Kennedy, Serials & Electronic Resources Librarian
• Marisa Ramirez, Archives & Special Collections Processing Assistant