Problems and Countermeasures of the Imported Electronic Journals in Chinese Colleges and Universities

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Abstract. With continuous introduction of electronic journals, journal acquisition in colleges and universities is facing new problems and challenges, especially in selecting between E-journals and print journals, how to choose the print edition, reconstruction of periodicals collection, cataloging of E-journals and quality of periodical staff, etc.

Introduction

In recent years, many key Chinese universities introduced more than 20 kinds of full-text E-journal database such as Science Direct onsite, IEL and Kluwer Online through group alliance. The group will continue to introduce a number of full text databases as ACS, World Scientific, John Willey and other famous full-text E-journal database. There has been an unprecedented increase in the number of Foreign Periodicals in University Libraries. Greatly facilitate the reader's literature retrieval and access to the latest information. Under the circumstance of universities merging, enrollment expanding and increased funding for documentation resources, hitherto unknown opportunities have appeared. However, opportunities and challenges coexist. Periodical purchasing work is facing new problems, which are: How to combine the traditional periodical purchasing with the purchasing of E-journals? How to allocate the funds for print and E-journals acquisition? How to reconstruct the periodicals collection? How to organize and reveal E-journals to readers? To solve the above problems in this paper we put forward some discussions and suggestions.

Problems in the Imported E-journals

As we know, E-journals have their own advantages, for instance: Short publishing cycle and fast information access, large amount of information storage and 24-hour access, multi-angle retrieval and accurate and quick query. Easy to share resource and save resource collection space, E-journals are easily to manage, etc.

The Problems of Introducing Electronic journals are shown in the following figure.

There are mainly two ways of importing E-journals: Database entry mode. It includes full subscription of E-journals from learning society (such as Springer, Kluwer online, IEL, APS, AIP, Elsevier, IOP, ACM, John, Willey, etc.). Abstract database and Full - text journal database (such as: ABI, ARL, ASTP, ASE, BSP, etc.). The full text of the E-journal databases established a mirror site.
domestic or foreign, so authorized users could get the access to these E-journal databases through campus network IP. But databases require different purchase obligations. For instance, some require purchasing a certain number of paper journals, and some databases offer deals for paper journals (such as Springer, etc.). The second form is: Every institution of higher learning in the process of ordering Paper Periodicals, Some paper journals are accompanied by E-journals. These E-journals are free of charge, or bundled with paper journals. Some E-journals are transformed from paper journals. The face of complex and diverse order, It is difficult for the purchasing staff to grasp the strategy of coordinating the ordering of the electronic periodicals and paper periodicals.

Some periodicals have both digital and print editions. In order to save budget, some colleges and universities purchase E-journals and cancel the print edition. This will make the museum's long-term collection of the characteristics of the collection gradually lost. Some important core journals are lack of collection in domestic universities. The domestic university periodical literature resource layout after many years of cooperation and coordination will work not completed.

The demand of teaching and scientific research to the periodical literature has changed greatly, since the reform of national education system, the development of discipline construction, the rise of new disciplines and the merging of colleges and Universities. The variety and quantity of journals can’t meet the needs of readers, and the special subject to periodical demand, etc. The layout of periodicals must be readjusted and planned. The utilization rate of existing paper periodicals must be re counted. The variety of journals must be re certified by school experts.

Although the imported E-journals provides a convenient condition for readers to search, read and get the full text, with the increasing number of E-journals, Various types of E-journals are distributed into different databases, Scattered in the total collect resources. Many colleges and universities are unable to take into account the work of E-journals cataloging. Cause the reader to query all the databases for a periodical. The reader is helpless in the face of a large number of E-journals. Some famous universities, such as Tsinghua University, Peking University, Xi'an Jiao Tong University and Huazhong University of Science and Technology, etc., have cataloged E-journals into OPAC and built up E-journal using guide system. Therefore, the E-journals and paper journals are both demonstrated in front of readers. But it is more difficult to maintain the information in the E-journal collection and navigation system. Because the E-journals, periodicals, and publication, in the commercial database, E-journals are constantly entering and exiting. So that some of the collection information has not been timely updated and maintained which lead to dead links increase among existing E-journals. In the management system, the new periodical navigation module is used to reveal the periodical resources. Discovery system introduction, the integration of electronic periodical and paper periodical resources, faster access to the required Journal literature.

Due to difference of the importing mode, access mode and price structure between E-journals and paper journals, acquisition staffs are facing new challenges. In the process of participating in the joint imported E-journals, the purchasing staff obviously exposed the difficulties and obstacles. Such as the existence of barriers to English agreement (technical terms do not understand, the agreement format can’t understand, poor English skills, etc.). Do not understand the access mode and technical specification of E-journals (Do not understand the concept of access patterns, do not understand IP and proxy servers, the concept of illegal use of electronic resources, access control, etc.). Do not understand the characteristics and differences of various types of E-journal databases (What is the difference between the E-journals provided by the press and the society and the commercial database). Do not understand the price structure of the publisher or database. Do not know how to determine the proportion of E-journals and paper journals. The imported E-journal is not progressing smoothly.

**Thinking and Countermeasures**

The first thing to do is to perform print journals’ usage survey, especially foreign language journals’. First, the current press by the use of very high frequency, high frequency, low frequency classification, second, will be issued to the journals of colleges and universities, departments, so that teachers choose the journals they need, and, these journals were SCI, EI included statistics.
Then, the paper makes a comprehensive statistical data to determine the important journals and periodicals in Colleges and Universities. Only in this way can we know which journals are of high quality and high frequency, what are the general Periodicals. Need to adjust the types of journals, you can do a comprehensive consideration and reasonable adjustment. In addition, it is necessary to understand the publishing house of each periodical. When participating in the imported E-journals, According to the existing statistical data, quickly determine whether the procurement of relevant E-journals meet the requirements of the procurement contract. Tsinghua University, Xi'an Jiao Tong University and Huazhong University of Science and Technology have made much effort on the imported E-journals and gained much positive effect on reprogramming the layout of E-journals collection.

As some Full-text E-journals collected in some commercial databases are partially overlapping, Colleges and universities should make a comparison and statistical analysis of the varieties in the E-journal databases, so as to avoid unnecessary repetition. In addition, it is necessary to check the existing E-journals with the existing paper periodicals and analyze the repeated Paper Periodicals. In the process of adjusting the print periodicals categories, we should take into account the cost / benefit factors of the journal and the database of different types of electronic journals according to the distribution of the disciplines. As a consequence strategically select among repetitive print journals. Each university should pay special attention to adjust the varieties of paper periodicals, Caution should be taken in the varieties of rare Periodicals. To the overall situation, and coordinated development, should be avoided as far as possible rare paper journals were lost. For electronic journals that are included by commercial databases, are subject to change at any time due to the absence of independent copyright. So, the collection of journals in Colleges and universities can’t rely entirely on the protection of these databases. Paper journals with high utilization rate should be kept in order to stabilize the continuity of the core journals. The E-journal, which is published by the society, will be able to decide whether or not to make a decision in the light of the circumstances of the contract, if the price of the corresponding paper periodical is too high.

Nowadays E-journals collection in Colleges and universities has exceeded paper journals collection. There are more than tens of thousands of varieties of E-journals, if these E-journals are not listed in a timely manner, it will become the bottleneck of the effective use of electronic resources. Xi'an Jiao Tong University, Tsinghua University, Peking University for the E-journals and paper journals organization and Revelation of the journal navigation system gradually improve. To achieve the full text of the journal, so that readers use electronic resources more convenient. In CALIS unified planning, unified deployment, as soon as possible the imported various types of electronic cataloguing rules and Marc, the combined bibliographic database of electronic resources construction, maintenance of various types of electronic bibliographic information and information collection.

While academic libraries introduce electronic resources, they should pay more attention to acquisition staff’s comprehensive quality cultivation. It includes computer skills training to improve work efficiency, network knowledge and information knowledge in order to cope with the development of the current situation. Foreign language ability training to improve the ability of writing is required, which includes reading and speaking training of a foreign language. CALIS regional center should regularly conduct interviews, cataloging, information consulting and other business training for local university librarians. In particular, the imported full text E-journals and the reconstruction of the collection of journals, the training of E-journal cataloging, the use of virtual consulting and training of electronic resources, personalized service and document delivery services. Improve the overall business level and service level of University libraries.

Conclusion
The continuous and effective imported E-journals comprise an important part of the construction of literature resources in Colleges and universities. Analysis of the problems in the imported journals and research on the management and utilization of periodicals, are conducive to improve the efficiency of the resources of the literature resources, and it helps to optimize the subject structure of the journals, and orm a systematic literature system.
References


