

LIASA Conference 2005:

Pre- and post-Conference workshops on e-books in libraries

Workshop dates: 26 September and 30 September 2005

Themes

The content of the workshop has already been tested in the United Kingdom and Ireland and, in a modified form, in Cape Town in December 2004. Comments from participants about its usefulness have been very positive.

Evaluating e-books (26 September)

1. Exploration of types of e-book publishing and a publishing chronology
2. Advantages and disadvantages of e-books in the library
3. Implications for Information Literacy
4. Developing and testing evaluation criteria for the range of e-books currently being made available to libraries, resource centres and information services.

Participants will be able to understand the meaning of the term 'e-book', appreciate the advantages (and disadvantages) of the medium, appreciate the nature and content of e-books, and recognise, and learn to evaluate, the range of e-books available: for example, reference, monograph, fiction, textbook, Participants will become familiar with a range of e-book publishers and aggregators, as well as the range of readers and reader software commonly used.

Managing e-book collections (30 September)

1. Exploration of types of e-book publishing and a publishing chronology
2. Collection management principles for e-books
3. Collection Development Policies (CDP) for e-books

Participants will be able to appreciate the nature and content of e-books. The workshop will provide opportunities to understand bibliographical control of the medium, and find out how to locate and access e-books. Participants will be able to appreciate the collection management issues surrounding selection, acquisition and provision of e-books (including licensing, archiving, hardware and infrastructure issues, evaluation of use, and access), and understand the value and content of a CDP. Finally, the workshop will offer an opportunity to explore the different methods of the promoting e-book collections.

Structure of Workshops

Each workshop will open with a similar introductory session, followed by a series of practical exercises, some of which will involve hands-on exploration and evaluation of online e-books. Some small-group work will encourage participants to explore issues relating to the development and management of e-book collections in their own libraries. Responses will be discussed in the light of recent research and development into the management of e-book collections in libraries.

Presenters

The contributors to the Workshop will include, from the United Kingdom, Chris Armstrong of Information Automation Limited and Ray Lonsdale of the Department of Information Studies, University of Wales, Aberystwyth, and Professor Peter G. Underwood of the Centre for Information Literacy, University of Cape Town.

Audience

Senior management of libraries, resource centres and information services, and those in the publishing industry, using, or intending to use, electronic media.

Costs

A charge per delegate of R650, inclusive of refreshments, a light lunch and course materials.

Detailed schedule

26 September	Times
Evaluating e-books	
Introduction Definitions Publishing Chronology	09:30 – 10:00
Coffee	10:00 – 10:15
Exploration of e-books Objective: Advantages / Disadvantages and skills required	10:15 – 11:45

Times	30 September
Managing e-books	
09:30 – 10:00	Introduction Definitions Publishing Chronology
10:00 – 10:15	Coffee
10:15 – 11:15	Exploration of e-books Objective: Management issues

Plenary discussion of pros & cons of e-books	11:45 – 12:15
Lunch	12:15 – 13:15
Information Literacy and e-books	13:15 – 13:45
Developing evaluation criteria for e-books	13:45 – 15:00 Groups: 45min Plenary: 30min
Coffee	15:00 – 15:15
Evaluating e-books	15:15 – 16:30

11:15 – 11:30	Introduction to Collection Management
11:30 – 13:00	Collection Management exercise
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:30	Plenary on Collection Management
15:00 – 15:15	Coffee (during session)
15:30 – 16:30	Collection Development Policies

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