Building Partnerships: A Model for Collaborative Textbook Purchasing

Objective

This poster describes a collaborative effort between the School of Pharmacy (SOP) and the Health Sciences and Human Services Library (HS/HSL) to explore a new model in textbook provision.

Background

The project resulted from a fortuitous confluence of events.

The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs of the SOP was grappling with the implications of the University System of Maryland Board of Regents' Policy on Textbook Affordability Measures and the new campus president's desire to promote interprofessional initiatives.

The leadership of the HS/HSL was looking for funding partners to help augment its budget in an effort to provide requested resources to the campus.

Methods

Working with the Library's liaison to the SOP, the Associate Dean's office took the lead, identifying two potential eBook packages and polling faculty members on the current and potential use of the included texts in their classes.

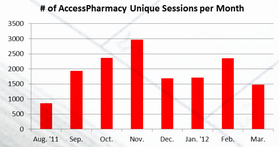
A working committee consisting of the Associate Dean and Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs from the SOP, and the Executive Director, Head of Collection Management, and Liaison to the SOP from the HS/HSL was formed.

The committee decided to conduct a trial of McGraw-Hill's Access Pharmacy to see if it met the needs of the SOP's faculty and students.

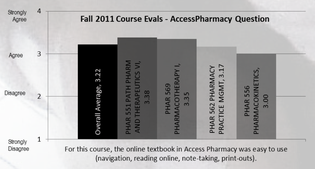
Results

The trial of Access Pharmacy was greeted with much enthusiasm by School of Pharmacy students and faculty, and the decision was made to move ahead with a one-year pilot in which the database will be provided to the entire campus.

Toward the end of the pilot, usage will be reviewed and other potential partners identified.



Figures



Fall 2011 Student Comments

I think that having the course textbook on Access Pharmacy was great! Personally, I utilized the online version for all of the required reading assignments.

I thought it was good, and I preferred using this method than purchasing a textbook.

I used Access Pharmacy multiple times and found it very easy to navigate and use. It was immensely helpful.

I wish each chapter can be view in one page. It's annoying to flip pages over the web browser.

I wish we could print more than 1 section at a time.

I very much appreciate AccessPharmacy and hope that we are able to maintain our subscription!

It is greatly appreciated to have the book available for free online. It's very user friendly!

Conclusions

Usage statistics and student feedback indicate the pilot has been a tremendous success. The Library and the SOP have committed to continue their collaboration and search for additional opportunities.

UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND
Health Sciences and Human Services Library

C. Steven Douglas, AHIP *[Head, Collection Management]*
Yunting Fu *[L iaison & Outreach Services Librarian]*
M.J. Tooey, AHIP, FMLA *[Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs and Executive Director]*
Health Sciences and Human Services Library University of Maryland
+ Lisa Lebovitz, JD | University of Maryland School of Pharmacy