Introduction

Within academic libraries, we looked at the issue of copyright and licensing eMaterials. The group came to this topic because copyright and licensing addresses a critical challenge in the field of library science, but was one of which we did not have a working understanding. We used Mendeley to share and annotate relevant articles.

The Problem

Limited budgets require libraries to negotiate with publishers and aggregators in order to obtain a depth and range of affordable eMaterials (eBooks, eJournals and databases). Providers want to make as much money as possible, which leads to tension between the former and libraries, whose mission is to provide as much information as possible. In the past twenty years, libraries have moved from purchasing to licensing in order to save money (Cross 2012, 206). Furthermore, only a portion of these budgets goes towards eMaterials, which necessitates understanding of licensing options and creating new solutions in order to purchase or lease eMaterials.

Copyright Laws Regarding Libraries

Copyright Law Sections 107-110 allows the following exceptions for Libraries: Fair use, first sale, face-to-face instruction and teaching, and providing copies for private, noncommercial use. (Cross 2012, 200). Section 108 is what allows libraries to ‘lend’ copyright materials.

Conflicts with eMaterials

A. The preservation and maintenance of eMaterials
B. Perpetual access to eMaterials within databases
C. Increased demand for more eResources
D. Limited access to eMaterials

Responses from Libraries

A. Digitization (which is costly) allows archivists to preserve the work without worrying about physical decay (Maurya, 2011, 229).
B. Working closely with legal teams to ensure needs are reflected in agreements.
C. Creating consortiums with different institutions in order to acquire resources while managing the cost.
D. Many universities have developed creative means to get around the licensing limitations ex. Demand Driven Acquisitions (DDA), Consortial DDA, DDA Limited Access Model, Perpetual Access Model

(Machovec 2013, 5-6)

References


