

Technical Services and Public Services: Collaborative Decision Making

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Hunter Library

ALA Midwinter 2017
ALCTS Special Interest Group



A Little History

Electronic Resources Group – early, informal group. Focused specifically on electronic resources.

Expansion of responsibilities in 2011; committee membership formalized; membership specified.

Name changed to reflect expanded charge: Collections Advisory Committee

Committee Membership

**Head of
Technical Services
(Chair)**

**Collection
Development**

**Research &
Instruction
Services**

Acquisitions

**Research &
Instruction
Services**

**Electronic
Resources**

**Research &
Instruction
Services**

**Standing
Appointments**

**Staggered 3-year
Appointments**

Main Committee Responsibilities & Oversight



Budget & Prioritization

Yearly continuing resources budget; special funding, EOY funds, and expensive one-time purchases; review and prioritization of requested resources

Policy

Fund shifts, subcollections, material or resource categories

Collection Review

Cancellation projects, consortial resources, annual prioritization

Increasing transparency

Buy-in from outside of the committee, shared understanding of reasoning behind or need for decisions

Sharing expertise

Subject knowledge, perspectives, technical knowledge

Identifying barriers

Hot-button issues, specific departmental or individual concerns, technological impediments

Facilitate understanding of big picture

Grow individuals to think beyond their subjects, balance across the whole of the collection

Distribute workload and decision making

Many hands make light work, not one person is making all of the decisions

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