1998

ATG Annual Report Survey

Editor

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Dear Against the Grain Reader:

It's time for ATG's Annual Information Survey of Library Operations and ATG Survey Contest. The survey is designed to provide our readers with library information that is unavailable anywhere else, and the results will be published in our third Annual Report issue next February. However, we need your input in order for this project to be successful. To participate, please complete and mail this form as soon as possible, but no later than December 15, 1998.

In addition, all returned surveys will be entered into a drawing from which two winners will be randomly selected. All survey respondents are eligible. The winners will receive 1) a subscription to ATG, 2) a paid registration to the 1998 Charleston Conference. If you prefer to submit your survey electronically, please visit the ATG homepage at <http://www.against-the-grain.com>. Thank you for your help.

Sincerely
Barry Lee, Research Editor

1) What functions has your library been outsourcing?
   [ ] cataloging  [ ] approval planning  [ ] acquisitions
   [ ] other: please specify ________________________________

2) Has your library been downsized in the past two years?
   [ ] yes [ ] no  If yes, please supply some specifics:
   [ ] professional staff decrease
   [ ] paraprofessional staff decrease
   [ ] teams implementation
   [ ] merge with cataloging
   [ ] other: please specify ________________________________

3) What have the effects been? Tell us in a few sentences.
   [ ] positive  [ ] negative
   [ ] other ________________________________

4) Has your materials budget [ ] increased  [ ] decreased?
   approximate percentage ________________________________

5) Has your materials budget for books
   [ ] increased  [ ] decreased?
   approximate percentage ________________________________

6) Has your materials budget for journals
   [ ] increased  [ ] decreased?
   approximate percentage ________________________________

7) Has your materials budget for electronic resources
   [ ] increased  [ ] decreased?
   approximate percentage ________________________________

8) What percentage of your total materials budget this year (1998/99) is going to
   - books
   - electronic serials
   - online resources (gateways)
   - CD-ROMs
   - other: please specify ________________________________

9) Does your library use a subscription agency? [ ] yes [ ] no

10) Have you switched subscription agencies within the past five years? [ ] yes [ ] no

11) Do you have a homepage? [ ] yes [ ] no

12) How does your Department use the Internet for acquisitions/
    collection development operations?
    ________________________________

13) Does your library use commercial document delivery to
    meet ILLs? [ ] yes [ ] no
    Please specify percentage of total operating budget or actual
    dollars budgeted to document delivery __________________

14) Please rate your library’s document delivery operation.
    [ ] very effective  [ ] not very effective

15) Do you use ILLs as a concrete factor in collection purchasing
    decisions, i.e., do you purchase books and journals based on
    ILL statistics? [ ] yes [ ] no

16) Does your library provide training for your Library Technical
    Assistants? [ ] yes [ ] no

16a) What type of training?
    [ ] in-house classes by existing staff
    [ ] continuing education in-house
    (with experts from outside the library)
    [ ] satellite transmissions
    [ ] fund travel to conferences, workshops, etc.
    [ ] fund credit courses
    [ ] other: please specify ________________________________
17) How are you dealing with more resources and more demands?
[ ] absorbing the work into current workflow
[ ] provide essential services only
[ ] teacher end user to do research on his/her own
[ ] send user to another library
[ ] other (please specify) ____________________________

18) Have you implemented paperback only approval plans, i.e., do you get paperbacks on approval instead of hardcover?
[ ] yes [ ] no
[ ] do not have approval plan

19) Have you implemented paperback only for firm orders?
[ ] yes [ ] no

20) Have you canceled paper subscriptions in favor of electronic subscriptions to journals?
[ ] yes [ ] no

21) If your answer to 20 above is yes, how are you dealing with the issue of archiving the information?
[ ] some other library will worry about this
[ ] will keep electronic information in whatever format we acquire it
[ ] are keeping paper for the present
[ ] other: please specify ________________________________

22) Do you have workstations in your work area?
[ ] yes [ ] no
If yes, please describe ________________________________

23) Does your institution offer distance education?
[ ] yes [ ] no
If yes, where ________________________________

23a) How does the library support distance education?
Please elaborate ________________________________

24) Is your library merged with your computer center?
[ ] yes [ ] no

25) What type of librarian are you? (Select only one.)
[ ] special [ ] public
[ ] academic [ ] government
[ ] reference [ ] technical services
[ ] other ________________________________

26) What library publications do you read?
[X] Against the Grain [ ] Library Journal
[ ] Choice [ ] Special Libraries
[ ] C & RL [ ] Information Technology in Libraries
[ ] Internet World [ ] Publishers Weekly
[ ] Wired [ ] Library Acquisitions: Practice and Theory
[ ] Other ________________________________

27) How many years have you been a librarian? _________

28) What are the top five things that you are most concerned about in our industry as we approach the 21st century?
1. ____________________________________________
2. ____________________________________________
3. ____________________________________________
4. ____________________________________________
5. ____________________________________________

Please complete and mail back your survey to: Low Country Target Mailing, Inc., 3430 Buffalo Ave., N. Charleston, SC 29418 or fax 914-473-0631 as soon as possible but no later than December 15, 1998. If you prefer to submit electronically, please visit the ATG homepage at <http://www.against-the-grain.com>. Thank you very much!