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Editor
maintain lists of subscription titles in each of our large electronic journal packages. As we look at other publisher packages, we can easily pull the current subscriptions we hold published by this publisher. However, this system should last only until the library implements a full ERMS when all the information on any resources can be found in one place.

And Even More Integration

Supporting efforts to create electronic journal archival software and archive mechanisms, Indiana University Libraries is a partner in the LOCKSS Alliance (LOTS OF COPIES KEEP STUFF SAFE). LOCKSS is software that “allows libraries to collect, store and maintain electronic copies they purchase,” according to LOCKSS director Vicky Reich. At Indiana University, collection managers select the titles the library will archive once they are available in LOCKSS. Serials Acquisitions staff then verify that the library has rights to “cache” the title. Caching the title occurs when the libraries’ LOCKSS system retrieves the issue from the publisher when it is published. For example, a free humanities title is available for caching and is selected; serials staff add the title to Libraries’ A-Z list of electronic journals. Thus, the libraries “acquire” the title as well as “cache” it. If the library subscribes to the electronic journal, then the library has the right to “cache” it, or archive it where the library can deliver it to users should the publisher’s Website go down or the libraries’ access to the journal be interrupted. Currently, over one hundred titles have been selected and are actively cached for Indiana Library. As more titles are added to LOCKSS, the library will expand the number of titles archived. Although the libraries are still in the experimental stages of archiving electronic journals in LOCKSS, I anticipate that Serials Acquisitions staff will be involved in processing selections for LOCKSS in the same way they process a new subscription for print or electronic journals. Once an ERMS is fully implemented, LOCKSS cached title decisions will, no doubt, be documented within the electronic resources records where the information will be available to all staff.

Integration: The Key to Success

At Indiana University Libraries, integration of print and electronic journal management has been the key to developing the staff expertise needed to manage electronic journals, particularly publisher packages. With the additional responsibility for A-Z lists, linking software, access problem resolution, and archiving activities, Serials Acquisitions will oversee the entire lifecycle of an electronic journal as it makes the transition from a print to an electronic environment and moves on to its final resting place, the archive.

Other Resources

ERMS (Electronic Resource Management Systems):

Duranceau, Ellen. “Electronic Resource Management Systems Part II: Offerings from Serial Vendors and Serial Data Vendors,” Against the Grain v.17#3 (June 2005): p. 59. Note from the Table of Contents: “In the Sept. 2004 issue, Ellen reported on the ERMS offerings of the major ILS vendors, and promised to follow with a second article covering the ERMS tools offered by other kinds of companies, primarily serials vendors or serial data vendors. Here is Part II.”

LOCKSS (Lots of Copies Keep Stuff Safe) Electronic Journal Archiving System:
