Demand-Driven Acquisition Supports Library Users with the Primary Sources They Need

Increasing access to digital resources using a sustainable approach with ProQuest

The University of Turku is the third-largest university in Finland open to staff, students and members of the public. Celebrating over 100 years of education, the University’s multidisciplinary research strengths include bio future; digital futures; cultural memory and social change; children, young people and learning; drug development and diagnostics; and sea and maritime studies. The library faced the challenge of improving access to primary sources, to ensure better research, teaching and learning outcomes.
Providing long-term access to primary sources: Increasing access to digital resources using a sustainable approach with ProQuest

One Library Team Managing Access of Six Million Resources to Students, Faculties and the Public

The University of Turku Library is a legal deposit library since 1919 (the second most extensive in Finland after the National Library) and an EU Documentation Centre since 1972. It serves the public, over 20,000 students, about 3,400 staff members, and seven faculties - the largest being the Faculty of Humanities and the Faculty of Science and Technology.

Library patrons have online access to an impressive collection including:

- 550,000+ digital books
- 29,000+ e-journals
- 1,300,000+ print books
- 33,000+ print journals
- 4,200,000+ ephemera resources
- 16,400+ maps

Select Access and Build Model

The Select Access and Build model was designed to help libraries find the right balance between providing access to an extensive range of content and owning content in perpetuity. By instantly opening up access to a broad selection of resources the model allowed the library to meet the immediate user needs across various departments. However, the model also includes an ownership component which offers the library the ability to purchase content in perpetuity each year which it will then own outright once the model agreement ends. The Select Access and Build model makes it possible for libraries to provide access to a wide selection of resources while still retaining the ability to purchase content in perpetuity.

The University of Turku Library provides a wide range of resources for a multidisciplinary community of staff, students and members of the public. Prioritizing the acquisition of digital content is central to the University’s Library strategy, and in particular, consistent access to high-quality primary sources is essential in supporting research innovation.
"We have had DDA books for many years and we thought it would be a good idea to try this model for databases. Now we can follow the statistics and see which databases are most used before we decide about the acquisitions. The strategy of our library is to acquire primarily e-resources rather than printed materials and has been so for many years already."

Prior to partnering on primary sources, ProQuest and the University of Turku have worked together to provide resources to library users for about 15 years.

"It is great that we have this large amount of resources"  
(University of Turku Faculty Member)

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