a structured outline, a brief table of contents, and followed by an extensive bibliography. This reviewer will return to these essays many times for clarification, leads, explanations, ideas, and especially for the organization of a topic.—Robert S. Taylor, School of Information Studies, Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York.

ABSTRACTS

The following abstracts are based on those prepared by the ERIC Clearinghouse of Information Resources, School of Education, Syracuse University.

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The statistics that are presented are based on a 1 percent systematic sample of the OCLC online union catalog as of January 1980. Detailed data were collected on the use of fields, subfields, indicators in bibliographic records, and on the co-occurrence of fields within bibliographic records. The sample used for the study was obtained by extracting all records with an OCLC control number ending in 44. For each category of this report, the statistics are grouped by format: monographs, serials, audiovisuals, sound recordings, music scores, maps, manuscripts, and cumulative bibliographic files. These statistics should be useful for estimating file growth, selecting subsets of records for local catalogs, and for designing bibliographic record databases.


Analysis of data collected from 3,000 academic libraries by the 1977 Library General Information Surveys reveals that library operating budgets, institutional enrollment, and library circulation are the best predictors of reference and directional transactions. Fifty-five percent of the transactions at reference service points are directional, while the remainder are reference transactions; university libraries report significantly higher numbers of transactions than either four-year or two-year colleges, and publicly controlled colleges report greater numbers than private institutions. Similarly, reference and directional transactions vary with the total operating budget, collection and staff size, and enrollment. The picture is complicated, however, by intervariable relationships, e.g., university libraries tend to have larger operating budgets, staff, and collections. Under these conditions, regression analysis is a better procedure to predict the number of reference and directional transactions.

$0.83; PC not available from EDRS.

Intended to aid fellow department chairpersons in developing adequate library resources and to suggest ways of motivating departments in their use, this paper proffers suggestions based on the author's experience as a librarian and academic department chairman. It is suggested that (1) guidelines established by the library profession and accrediting agencies can be useful in establishing standards for the acquisition of materials for curriculum collections; (2) available selection aids include book reviews, publishers' advertisements, author reputations, and the professional judgment of the chairperson augmented by opinions of the library staff or faculty committee; (3) central library collections appear to offer more advantages for faculty than department libraries; (4) the chairperson should encourage and develop faculty and student usage of library resources; and (5) graduate trained librarians can assist the chairperson by acting as information brokers between collections and the department through library instruction and workshops, or through course-related or subject-specific library instruction directly connected with the department curriculum. The chairperson is encouraged to initiate such activities as a means of enhancing the quality of departmental instruction.

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Wolf, Edwin, II. At the Instance of Benjamin Franklin: A Brief History of the Library Company. Philadelphia: The Library Company of Philadelphia, 1981. 55p. (This history is based upon an article in V. XV of the Encyclopedia of Library and Information Science (1975) and is printed here in an expanded and illustrated version.)