Changing the Way a Health Sciences Library Thinks About Popular Reading Collections
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A popular reading collection containing health sciences related leisure reading titles was created in July of 2011 at William E. Laupus Health Sciences Library.

The library set out to determine how the new collection was utilized through the analysis of the books’ circulation statistics and a review of the collection’s cost-to-benefit ratio.

In-house uses and renewals were not included in the data collection.

Forty reports were run, assessing the Popular Reading collection in multiple areas.

The Popular Reading Collection had the highest amount of checkouts in FY 2011-2012.

The month of July had the highest number of checkouts for 2 fiscal year periods.

The cost per checkout for the collection is $4.76.

Circulation statistics were analyzed in multiple areas to establish the role that this book type has within the overall collection.

Reports were compiled using the SirsiDynix Symphony ILS examining the fiscal years from 2011 to June 2014.

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Total number of checkouts each fiscal year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Total Number of Checkouts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 11-12</td>
<td>247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 12-13</td>
<td>166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 13-14</td>
<td>178</td>
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</tbody>
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Total number of checkouts: 571

Total cost of the collection: $2718.54*

*Cost of annual subscription to Prevention ($27.97/year) and Health ($23.97/year) magazines not included in total cost.

Top checkouts over data collection period

1. The Happiness Project: Or, Why I Spent a Year Trying to Sing in the Morning, Clean My Closets, Fight Right, Read Aristotle, and Generally Have More Fun / by Gretchen Rublin.
2. Cutting for Stone: A Novel / by Abraham Verghese
3. Bonk: The Curious Coupling of Science and Sex / by Mary Roach
4. Baby Catcher: Chronicles of a Modern Midwife / by Peggy Vincent
5. Year of Wonders: A Novel of the Plague / by Geraldine Brooks
6. The House of God / by Samuel Shem
7. The Checklist Manifesto: How to Get Things Right / by Atul Gawande
8. The Omnivore’s Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals / by Michael Pollan
9. The Checklist Manifesto: How to Get Things Right / by Atul Gawande
10. The House of God / by Samuel Shem

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6. The House of God / by Samuel Shem
7. The Checklist Manifesto: How to Get Things Right / by Atul Gawande
8. The Omnivore’s Dilemma: A Natural History of Four Meals / by Michael Pollan
9. The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat and Other Clinical Tales / by Oliver Sacks
10. Look Me in the Eye: My Life with Asperger’s / by John Elder Robison

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