RLUK Redefining the Research Library Model

Workshop on the Concept of the Library Collection: 1 November 2012

Location: SOAS

Purpose: To consider the issues raised in a series of short and provocative papers – to be circulated in advance - on key questions relating to the future of library collections, commissioned as part of a programme of work under RLUK's 'Redefining the Research Library Model' strategic strand to provide support for research libraries individually and collectively in their attempts to develop strategies and plans that respond effectively to rapidly-changing research, HE and information environments.

Outline programme

10.00	Arrival, Coffee.
10.30	Introduction: nature and purpose of the workshop: Mark Brown and Michael Jubb
10.40	Four short presentations of the issues raised in the pre-circulated papers
	John MacColl: Collections and the Archive Layer
	Frances Boyle: Collections Were Us: Vignettes from a postmodernist library
	Sandra Bracegirdle: "Books to the ceiling, Books to the sky, My pile of books is a mile high" (Arnold Lobel): what do we do with all the unused books in the modern Research Library?
	Michael Emly: "With a little help from my friends" – a community-based future for print collections
11.20	Discussion of key points raised by the papers
11.30	Three short presentations of the issues raised in the pre-circulated papers
	Nick Woolley: "Developing sustainable economies for accessible collections: extending demand driven ebook acquisition to interlending services."
	Daryl Yang: 'Transition Complete?' What's next for UKRR.
	Richard Ovenden: 'Pointers, pixels, and pieces: collections as services'
12.00	Discussion of key points raised by the papers
12.10	Two break-out groups phase one: each seeking to identify, in relation to a first set of key issues, three features of the current content policies and strategies of their library that they would like to change
12.50	Rapid report back from break-out groups
13.00	Lunch
13.30	Two break-out groups phase two; each seeking to identify, in relation to a second set of key issues, three features of the current content policies and strategies of their library that they would like to change
14.10	Rapid report back from break-out groups

14.20	Plenary discussion: what barriers to change have been identified, and how might they be overcome?
14.50	Break
15.10	Final plenary: what are the key actions that need to be taken at national and local levels, and who should or will take responsibility for them
15.45	Wrap-up: what are the take-home messages? John MacColl
16.00	Depart