Mission-Focused Collections: Rebirth of the 'Seminarbibliothek' as an E-Book Collection

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Comments
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Abstract
German universities built over the years highly specialized book collections for use by faculty and graduate students. The German term, “Seminarbibliothek,” is often applied to these types of collections, although examples can be found in universities across Europe. The purpose of this paper is to examine a similar type of collection using e-books in veterinary science and to compare this collection to the standard subject classified e-book collections. The study looks at how such a collection might be formed and defined and what possible effects this might have on the use of collections of this type.

Keywords
e-book collections, seminarbibliothek, veterinary science collections

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Individuals collect rare books for a variety of reasons. As we just mentioned, some are after it for the fun — the thrill of the chase and the satisfaction of nabbing a pristine copy. Book collectors will tell you theirs is one of the most enjoyable and rewarding hobbies. What's better than a collection of books to serve as a conversation starter when guests arrive? Beyond that, a book collection is wonderful for posterity. Many collectors collect with future generations in mind. Whether their aim is to pass down their collection to family members or bequeath it to a community organization, Collection Management addresses issues that collection development librarians and library administrators face everyday, including: developing effective acquisition techniques, factoring user expectations into acquisition plans, working with vendors to develop affordable services, acquiring, moving, and managing materials off-site, collecting and preserving rare books and other artifacts, preserving historical materials, using multimedia as a collection tool, creating unique digital collections, maintaining a separate identity.

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