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Massachusetts
Amherst

The Last Book Your Library Will Ever Buy: Codas, Afterwards and Epilogues


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Authors	O'Malley, Elena
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The Last Book Your Library Will Ever Buy: Cudas, Afterwards, and Epilogues

Description: We have difficulty imagining the ending of academic institutions, but economic environments such as the enrollment cliff require us to look at and even prepare for this situation. In this candid discussion, I will propose that our profession urgently needs to address this need: development of best practices from multiple perspectives to close, merge, or acquire a library in the event the parent institution ceases to exist in its current incarnation. Much like estate planning, it is a topic few wish to address when things are going well, but these discussions are best held before they become urgent. Let us gather and develop resources for these situations, even as we may hope to never need them. Let us consider the legacy of a library.

Presenter: Elena O'Malley, Emerson College Iwasaki Library

Editable Googledoc bibliography:

 ACRL/NEC 2024 presentation: The Last Book Your Library Will Ever Buy: Cudas, Afterwar...
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cZk1hHpeoN6WgjDqUdhOpRU2cm5e_9Dov2piBRAtp3c/edit?usp=sharing

Legacy Leavers considerations

- Collections of books, collections of services & people
- Consortial agreements
- Disaster planning: what's in your Go/Bug out bag, what's in your "if you are watching this video"?
- Transferability of online content
- Transfer of physical resources
- Triage priorities

Legacy Keepers considerations

- Inheritance: restricted funds
- External obligations
- Budget proposal for admin: moving expenses, new licenses - ongoing, reports for de-duplication/rarity, replace bound journals with online backfile - ongoing or perpetual access
- Requests for content from legacy leavers: prepare a list, get it in the hands of admin (legal review)
- Transferring in faculty and students: orientation

Archives and Records Management considerations

- Alumni relations
- Institutional records
 - Board books and Trustee proceedings
 - Financial records
 - Transcripts

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- Oral histories
- Special collections - deeds of gift
- The art