Recalibrating the Stream: Getting Back to "Normal in Video Acquisitions"

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Getting Back to “Normal” in Video Acquisitions

ALD/ACRL-WA and ACRL-OR Joint Fall Summit 2021

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Background/Context

- Portland State University
- Approx. 24,000 total enrollment

March 2020-September 2021: fully remote instruction due to COVID-19

- Fall 2021: Return to (some) face to face courses
- Approx 50/50: Ratio of student credit hours in person/remote

Questions to ponder:

- How do we keep up with demand?
- How do we manage our users’ expectations?
- Can we make this more sustainable, budget-wise, and staff-time-wise?

   After almost 2 years of remote....

   Can we put the toothpaste back into the tube?

Loftis, Elsa. Toothpaste, November 3, 2021. Image by the author
Streaming Media Landscape: It can be rocky!

- Types of purchasing
- Licensing periods/continuity of access
- Hosting considerations
- Disparate costs
- Accessibility

Streaming Media Landscape at Portland State

Subscription streaming packages

- Films on Demand
- Academic Video Online
- Docuseek2
- Swank
- Medici.tv
- Psychotherapy.net
- Silent Film Online
- Ethnographic Video Online
- World Newsreel Online

Firm orders (title by title)

- Kanopy
- Direct from distributors
Spending distribution across streaming providers, FY21
Benefits

- Meets students at their point of need (on and off campus)
- Immediate, on demand
- In some cases, streaming is the only way to provide certain content

Challenges

- Expensive
- Ephemeral (licenses end, some content fall out of rights)
- Entitlements can be hard to track
- Loss of many films to “obsolete” formats

Changes...and coming to a policy

At PSU:

● Reduction in support for streaming film, budgetarily

Faculty:

● Group decision on new criteria for streaming title by title and package deals
● Outreach to departmental faculty for a (hopefully) shared understanding
● LibGuide: https://guides.library.pdx.edu/usingfilm
What’s next?

Changes in vendor offerings?
Better negotiating power for libraries?
A revival of the physical format...???

Questions from before:
How do we manage user expectations?
Keep up with demand?
Find more sustainable ways of offering this kind of resource? ....Discuss!

Thank you! You can contact me at: eloftis@pdx.edu