

EVERY READER HER OR HIS BOOK: AN E-BOOK ADVOCACY STATEMENT FROM THE DUKE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

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When S. R. Ranganathan wrote "*The Five Laws of Library Science*" in 1931, he could not have known that the values he espoused would remain relevant eighty years later. His Second Law, "Every reader [her or] his book," continues to resonate in today's age of emerging e-books, reminding us that libraries have a responsibility to ensure that researchers have access to the book of their choice in support of their research needs and activities.



The library recognizes that the format of the book, along with the content, plays an important role in the research process. The Duke University Libraries are committed to advocating for optimal e-book functionality in every phase of the research process. The guiding principle behind this E-Book Advocacy Statement is that e-books should have the following functionalities as an essential part of research support. E-books should:

CONCEPTUALIZATION & DISCOVERY

"E-books should be easily identified in the library catalog or in the search interface preferred by the researcher..."

- Be easily identified in the library catalog or in the search interface preferred by the researcher, with records linking effortlessly to the Duke copy.
- Allow previews of significant portions of content on campus without triggering a "check out".
- Add efficiencies by including hyperlinks between content within the text (footnotes, end notes, bibliography) and hyperlinks to resources outside the text (author's biography, bibliography, reviews), while being transparent about scope and criteria for hyperlinking.
- Allow access to and use of metadata and full-text as data to be processed by software via an API, to enable text-mining, analytics, "culturomics" and other kinds of "non-consumptive" research across large bodies of e-texts.
- Include help pages and a link to contact the Duke University Libraries.

READING

- Accommodate personal preferences in research, teaching, and learning by allowing reading of a desired e-book title on the device preferred by the researcher.
- Allow annotating, highlighting, and bookmarking of the text and the downloading or saving of reader annotations in an open format to allow sharing of comments and notes.
- Aid in the sequential reading of a logical argument by providing orientation to the layout of the e-book.
- Provide intuitive navigation to facilitate browsing within an e-book.

- Allow for easy printing of substantial portions of the e-book, including a reasonably priced POD (Print on Demand) copy.
- Anticipate and provide source-specific and discipline-specific formats; for example, historical sources will be reproduced as an exact copy to simulate interactions with the original object.
- Be downloadable for reading off-line (portable format).

THEORY FORMATION



“E-books should support the researcher’s need to model a topic across a number of texts or corpora... by allowing simultaneous use of several e-books by one user.”

- Support the researcher’s need to compare arguments from multiple sources at the same time by allowing simultaneous use of several e-books by one user.
- Support the researcher’s need to model a topic across a number of texts or textual corpora.

DOCUMENTING & SYNTHESIZING

- Allow copying/pasting of passages into other documents with a durable URL to the original source.
- Provide sophisticated searching to locate known items or related concepts enabling the synthesis of theory and evidence base.
- Allow preserving the “personal copy” by facilitating export of all annotations, highlights (excerpts), and bookmarks with durable URL to the original sources.

COLLABORATION

- Create no barriers to sharing documentation by overly restrictive license terms and DRM (Digital Rights Management) software.
- Support communication and knowledge transfer between members of international collaborative research teams.
- Support dissemination of preliminary research outcomes to the scholarly community.
- Support sharing of materials with students during teaching.

PUBLISHING & DISSEMINATING

- Be available to readers at the same time that equivalent print publications, if produced, are made available.
- Be available for ingest in Institutional Repositories as authors’ copyrights permit.

The Duke University Libraries are committed to the following activities as e-book advocates within a research support framework. The Libraries:

ACCESS

- Respect the act of reading an e-book as a private act and give the researcher a sense of control over the library copy of the e-book “in hand” on the researcher’s device.
- Be transparent about collection of user data and allow researchers to opt out of all tracking.
- Incorporate results from e-learning research to provide for needs of a diverse user audience.
- Provide functionalities of the “library e-book copy” that will be comparable to functionalities of the “personal e-book copy”.
- Seek to acquire and license e-books so that they can be loaned (document delivery) between libraries like print books.
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STEWARDSHIP & PARTNERSHIP

- Actively work to understand our researchers’ use of e-books and the influence of this format on learning and research.
- Continue to learn about publishing models and the impact these models have on scholarship.
- Look for both immediate and long term e-book access solutions, inclusive of preservation strategies.
- Engage in national and international partnerships to ensure that there is access to both retrospective and current e-books.
- Partner with publishers, vendors, consortia, and others to ensure the functionalities described above are realized and that they will evolve continually to support our vision.

DUKE E-BOOK ADVOCACY MODEL



<http://library.duke.edu/ebookstrategy/>



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