

Title

E-books: an account of the student experience

Abstract and brief outline**Abstract**

As e-books change, so does the experience for users of scholarship in electronic format. Georgia Tech Library's web usability working group underwent an e-book study in early Spring 2007 to gain insight into user expectations and perceptions of increasingly popular e-book platforms. The results led to an e-book reader study that followed in Summer 2007, which focused on students' perceptions of a sampling of available readers used for e-book display and navigation. Presenters provide an overview of available e-book platforms and readers and describe and analyze the results of both usability studies. Also discussed is the impact of the findings on hardware purchases and licensing of eBook resources at Georgia Tech Library.

Outline**I. Overview of the changing world of e-books**

A. E-book environment in general – perspectives outside of libraries

B. E-book environment in libraries - New platforms, buying, licensing and pricing models, new ways to develop collections and what this means for libraries

II. Previous ebook study**III. Overview of ebook readers****IV. Usability Study Details**

A. Purpose

B. Methodology

C. Results

D. Our experiences with testing

V. GA Tech Library's approach to e-books**VI. Wrap-up & Questions****Level indicator**

Intermediate

Brief biographical information

Bonnie Tijerina is the Electronic Resources Coordinator in the Collection Development Department at Georgia Institute of Technology's Library & Information Center. At the library, she is the chair of the E-book Working Group and a member of the Web Usability Working Group. She is an ALA Emerging Leader and has presented at several conferences on areas related to electronic books, assessment of electronic resources, and collection development including Charleston Conference, ALA Annual Conference, SLA and ACRL Conference. In addition, Bonnie is the creator and coordinator for the Electronic Resources & Libraries (ER&L) Conference, a forum for information professionals to explore ideas, trends, and technologies related to electronic resources and digital services.

Heather Jeffcoat King is the Web Program Manager at Georgia Institute of Technology's Library & Information Center. She is responsible for the management of the Georgia Tech Library's website, as well as front end design, usability and site maintenance. She has presented at MALTA (Metro Atlanta Library Technology Association) on the history of usability at the Georgia Tech Library. She has co-authored an article in OCLC Systems and Services discussing this topic. She serves as chair of the Library's Web Usability Working Group.

Julie Griffin Speer is Digital Initiatives Librarian at Georgia Institute of Technology's Library & Information Center. She has presented on topics related to Georgia Tech's institutional repository service, SMARTech (Scholarly Materials and Research at Georgia Tech), at ARL/ACRL Institute on Scholarly Communication and the International Conference on Open Repositories. She serves on the Library's Web Usability Working Group.

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