E-BOOKS IN ACADEMIA: E-BOOK ADOPTION AND USE AT PRATT SILS

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LIS 630: RESEARCH METHODS WITH PROF. IRENE LOPATOVSKA

SILS STUDENT SHOWCASE
MAY 10, 2013

SURVEY

Method

- **Survey released in November 2012 via SILS-Announce**
- **69 total SILS respondents**

Results

Usage

The great majority, 86%, have used an e-reader

> **Most commonly owned and used device is the laptop (32 own and use, 12 use daily or a few times a week)**

E-readers and e-books in general are more commonly used for leisure reading than academic

Important features

Convenience is the most important feature for both e-readers (63%) and e-books (43%)

What is an "e-book"?

Some confusion over the definitions of "e-book" and "e-reader," especially seen in free-text responses

Interest in e-books through Pratt

62% of those who answered these questions would be very or somewhat likely to use e-books if available through Pratt Institute Libraries, but students are more divided on whether they would borrow an e-reader

FOCUS GROUPS

Method

- **Two semi-structured focus groups with 9 SILS students conducted in November 2012, each group led by 2 researchers**
- **Participants completed demographic surveys prior to focus group**
- **Open-ended, emotional and provocative questions pertaining to subject**

Results

Usage

Unlike survey, most participants use e-readers for academic purposes

What is an "e-book"?

Varying definitions of the term "e-book"

Print vs. e-book

Email PDF forms to take notes

Greater preference for hard copy for longer readings

Interest in e-books through Pratt

Some interest in using e-books were they offered through Pratt Institute Libraries

INTERVIEWS

Method

- **Semi-structured interviews with 10 SILS students**
- **Qualitative analysis of results**

Results

Usage

Supports survey results on common usage of e-books and e-readers

Important features

Also supports survey on common reasons to use e-books (convenience, access)

-- Further detail about reasons to use e-books and how they are used

Print vs. e-book

As with focus groups, print is preferred over e-resources for searching keywords and highlighting

What is an "e-book"?

Definition of e-book is variable

Interest in e-books through Pratt

High interest in e-books being offered at Pratt Institute Libraries