

Does the Library Have This Book?

Evaluating our Patron Driven Acquisitions plan for Nursing

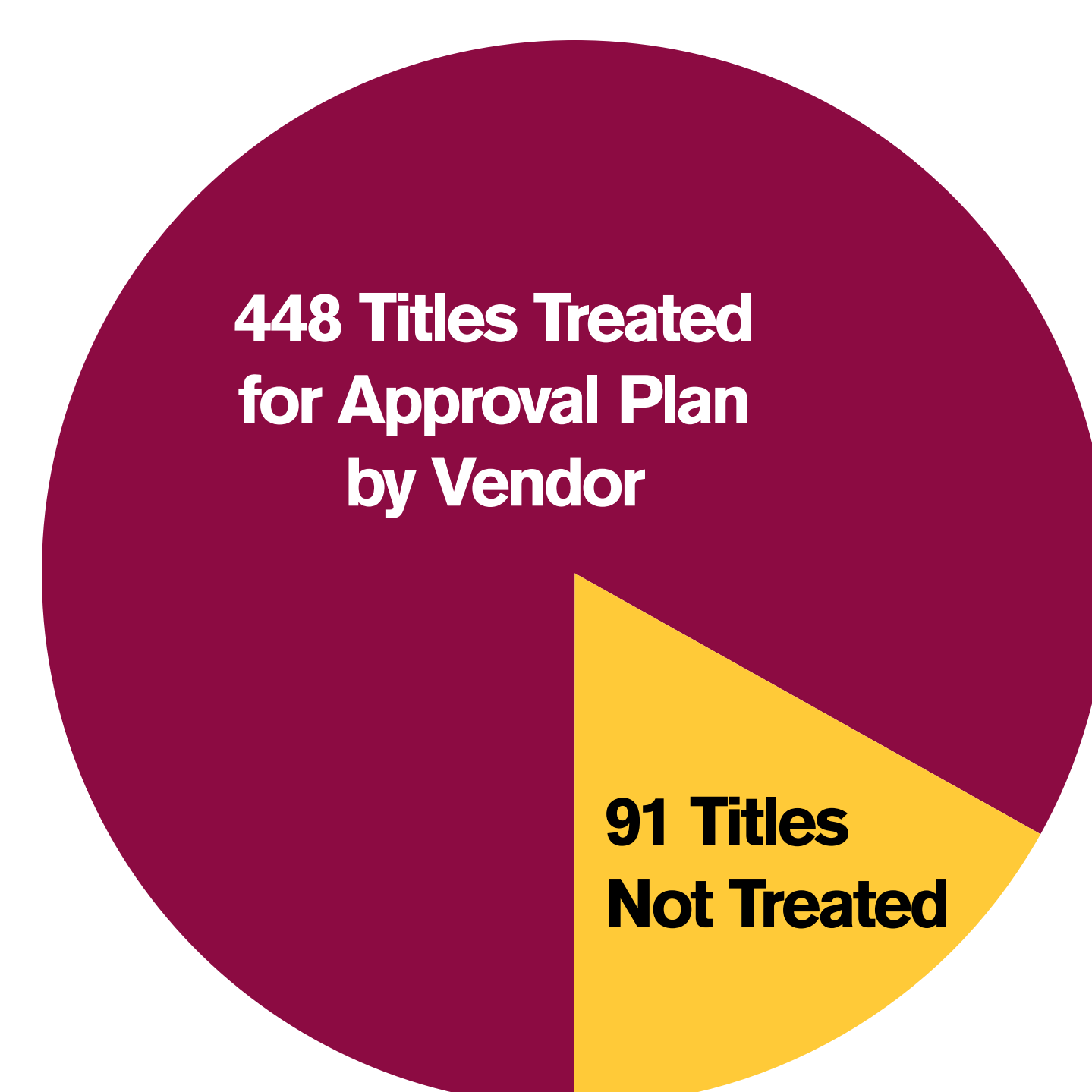
Sydni Abrahamsen, MLIS, AHIP, and Kevin Pardon, MLIS, AHIP

Introduction

Patron Driven Acquisition (PDA) is a growing method of collection development in academic libraries that follows a Just-In-Time model versus the more traditional Just-In-Case model. At Arizona State University we implemented a PDA plan in 2009. Neither author was involved in the creation of the initial PDA profiles, nor any changes that have taken place since.

We wondered:

- Is our current PDA plan working adequately for subject areas in the Health Sciences, specifically nursing?
- And if not, how can we improve our collections practices?



Methods

We analyzed our PDA plan using the Doody's Core Titles List for Nursing. Using Doody's allowed us to generate a starting list of key titles in the field of nursing to examine. We took each individual title within the Doody's list and searched for it within our PDA Plan vendor platform Coutt's OASIS. First, we noted if a given book was marked for approval and whether our PDA profile was applied to that title. If a given book was run against our specific PDA profiles we noted whether the title was included for patron selection or if it was excluded and why.

Results

The entire 2014 Doody's Core Titles List for Nursing contains 539 unique titles. We found that 448 of these titles were treated for approval by our vendor, meaning they were matched against our institutional approval plan profiles. Of these 448, 345 failed to meet our profile guidelines. See the graphic on the right for a breakdown of the numbers and reasons. In addition, 8 newly-published titles are listed as "title for consideration," meaning they have not yet been evaluated for patron selection. The remaining 95 titles were chosen for patron selection in our vendor's system, but only 26 were clearly loaded into the catalog. For the other 70 "patron select" titles, it is unclear whether a record made it into the catalog. Only 5 titles were ordered by patron selection.

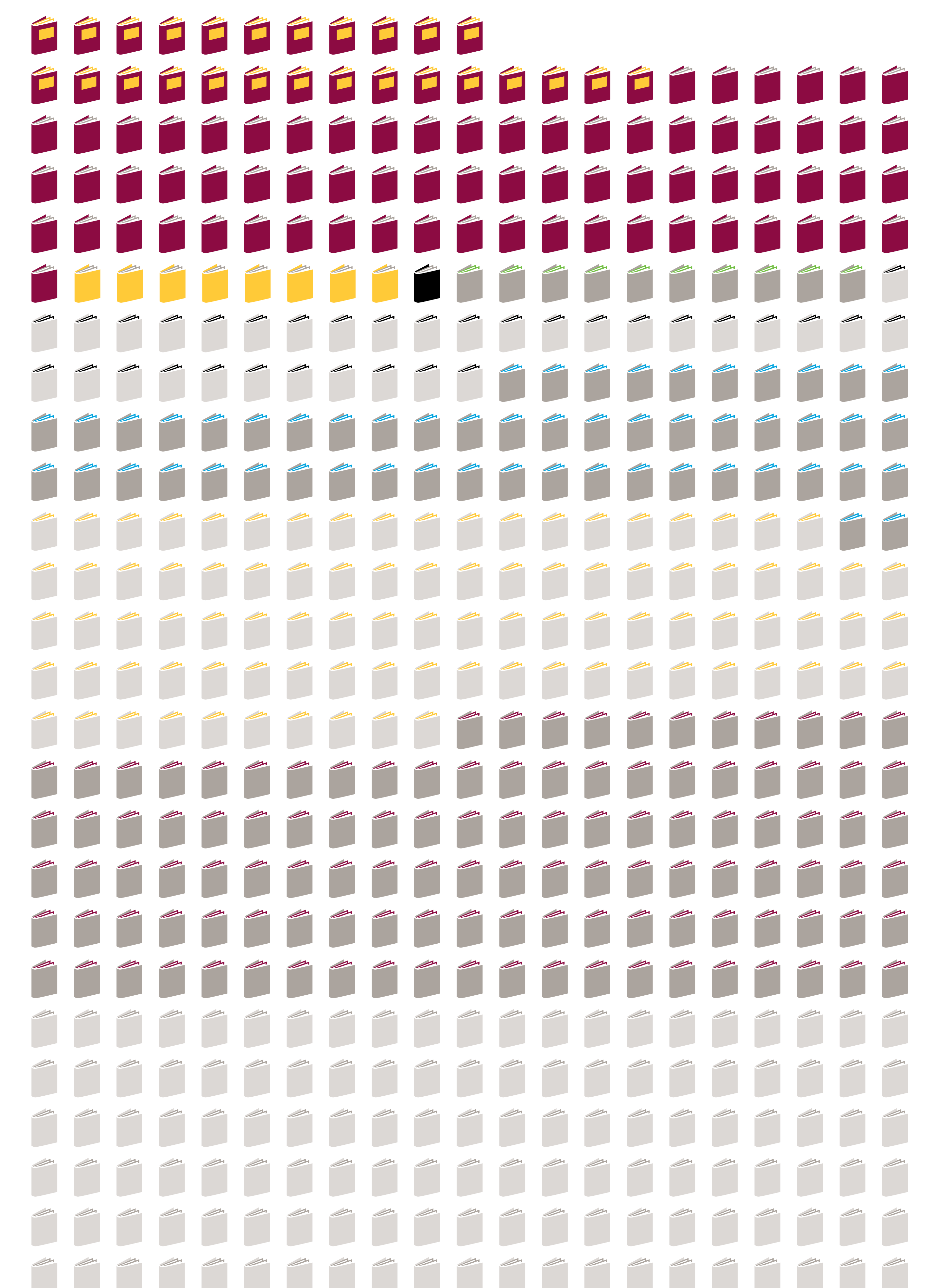
15% of Nursing "Essential Purchase Titles" Classified for Patron Selection

Discussion & Recommendations

An alarmingly low number of the total Doody's Nursing list were ultimately loaded into our catalog as a part of our PDA plan. One reason for this may be the fact that our plan prioritizes ebooks and university presses. To ensure that more nursing titles make it through to the catalog for potential selection, we plan to make some changes to our profile to include more publishers, sub-imprints, and book types. If implementing or maintaining a PDA plan it is vital to:

- Consistently review, and update your PDA plan profiles
- Periodically evaluate results of your PDA plan - Is your plan working as expected? Are titles you would expect to make it into your plan being excluded for some reason?
- Create alternative buying procedures for essential titles that do not fit the PDA model.

Nursing Subject Patron Driven Acquisition Results based on Acquisition Plan Profiles and Doody's Core Titles



Not Included in Patron Driven Acquisition List:

- Library of Congress (LC) subject classification not included
- Not applied to Coutt's algorithm
- Publication pre-dates start of plan
- Price over profile price cap (\$300)
- Publisher not on approved list
- Book type did not meet criteria
- Subject Sub-Classification not included
- Title for Consideration

Included in Patron Driven Acquisition List:

- Chosen for Patron Selection, status unconfirmed
- Chosen for Patron Selection, status confirmed