



## **SEECing a Solution**

**A recipe for the selection and evaluation of  
electronic content**



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# Collection Management

## How do we allocate our budget?

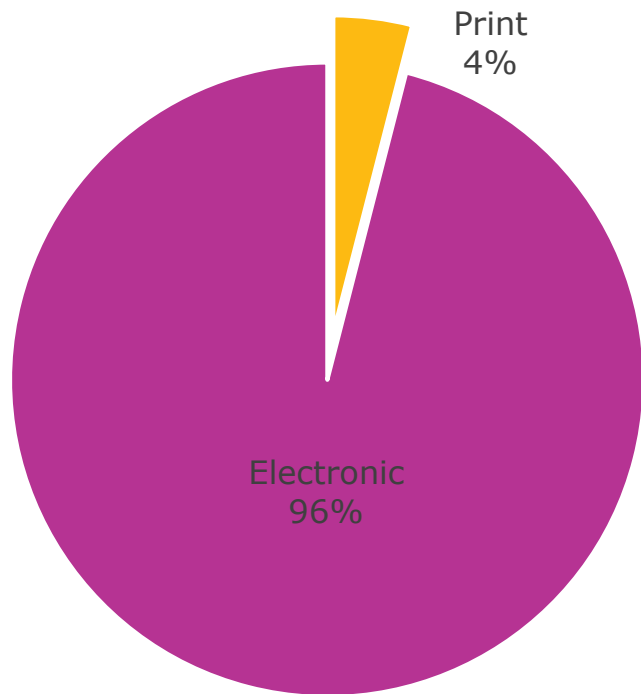
- Texts
- Print Collections
- Electronic Book
- Databases
- Journals



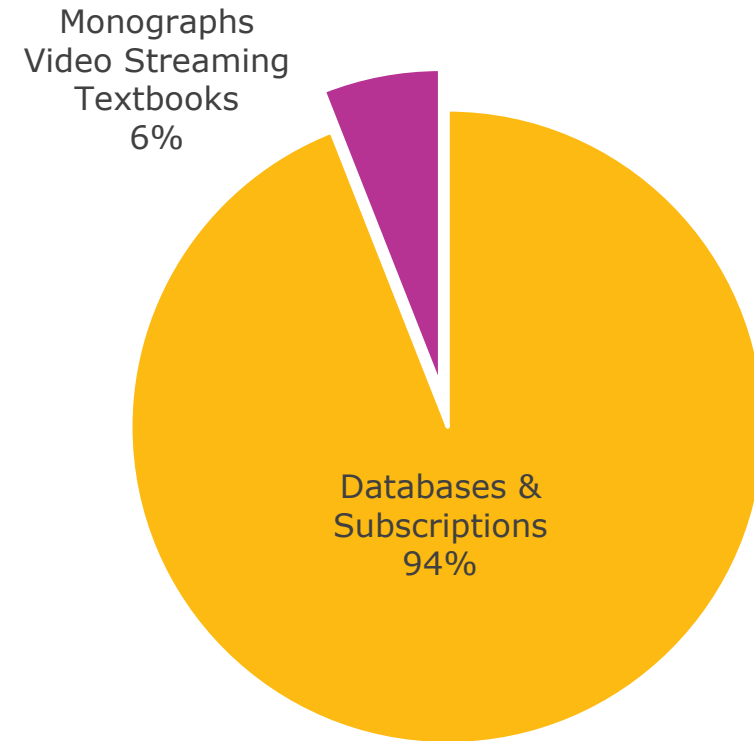


# Some Fun Facts

Format Spend Ratio



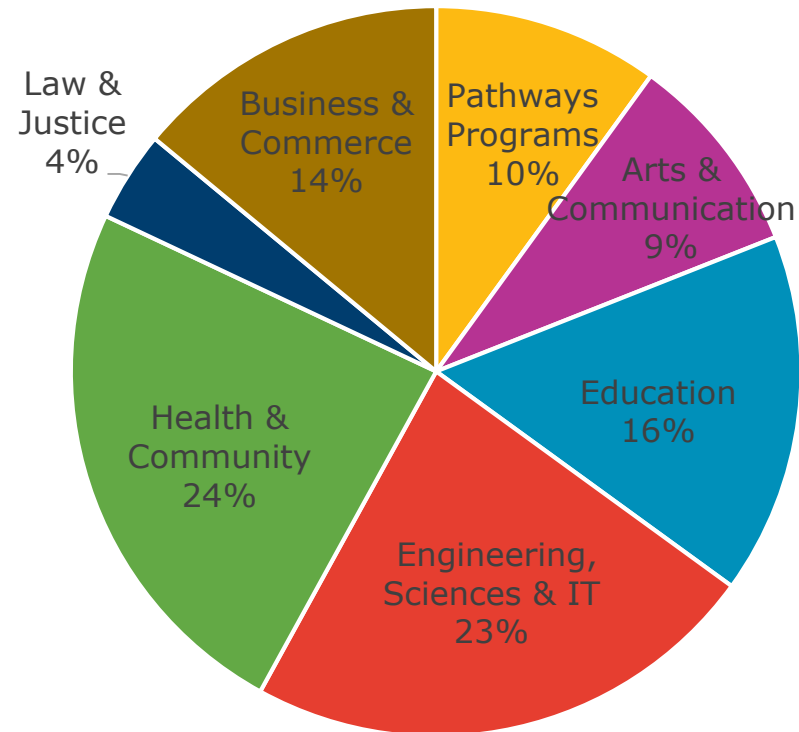
Content Spend Ratio



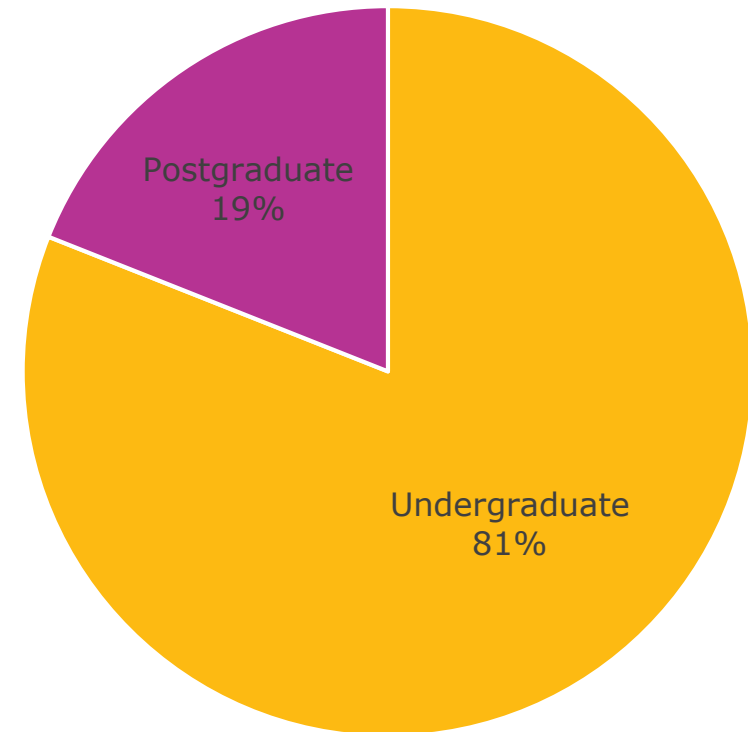


# More Fun Facts

Student FTE by Discipline



Students by Level of Study





# How do we make decisions?



Accessibility

Currency

Duplication

Accreditation

Reporting

Need

Format

Coursework

Cost

Analytics

Technical Support

Research priorities

And so much more...

## **Ingredients**

- **Content Coverage**
- **Cost**
- **Support/Reporting**
- **Delivery**
- **Content importance to success**
- **Consultation**
- **Accessibility/Functionality**





# Content coverage

**Does the content fill a unique research need and is it necessary for our education goals?**



- Uniqueness
- Completeness
- Duplication
- Accuracy
- Quality
- Currency





## Cost

### **Is the cost worth the benefit and/or potential outcomes?**

- Overall cost
- Cost per usage
- Open Access availability
- Inter-Library loan options
- Individual commercial purchase options





# Support / Reporting

## Can I gain feedback about performance and support if required?

- Usage data available
- Technical support and system notification processes
- Availability of bib records
- Coverage in Primo Index





# Content Delivery

**Are the means of delivery suitable and effective?**

- IP Access
- SSO Compliant
- Acceptable number of concurrent users
- Perpetual access
- Embargo period



## How does this resource contribute to the success of the organisation?

- Student success
- Researcher success
- Teaching and learning
- Institutional reputation





# Consultation

## How do stakeholders value this resource?

- Liaison Librarians
- Research Librarians
- Academic staff
- Other stakeholders





## Accessibility / Functionality

**Does it allow me to achieve my intended goals?**

- Appearance
- Navigation
- Range of Formats
- Ability to change formats
- Support Information





## Method

1. Assemble ingredients
2. Consult
3. Weigh options
4. Assess and evaluate in institutional oven until done





## Result

Evidence based collection decisions

- Reproducible
- Consistent
- Transparent
- Communicable
- Defensible







# An Example

## Content Importance

Database	Student Success	Researcher Success	Teaching & Learning	Institutional Reputation	Uniqueness	Currency	Accuracy	Completeness	Duplication	Overall Rating
Insert Name Here	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
Weighting (1 - Low, 2 - Medium, 3 - High)	3	3	3	2	3	2	2	1	2	
Score	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>45</b>

### Columns B-E

Success/Reputation	Rating
Not essential	1
Good to have	2
Essential for accreditation or standing	3

### Columns F - I

Quality	Rating
Disagree	1
Agree	2
Vehemently Agree	3

### Column J

Duplication	Rating
Lots of Duplications	1
Some Duplication	2
No Duplication	3

### Column K

Overall Rating	Rating
20 - 30	1
31 - 49	2
50 - 60	3

### Definitions

Student Success	Access required for UG student study
Researcher Success	Access required for Researcher/PG study
Teaching & Learning	Access required for coursework
Institutional Reputation	Access as deemed important by external parties
Uniqueness	Is similar content available via alternate resources
Currency	Is content up to date
Accuracy	Is the content correct, is it peer reviewed
Completeness	Is there additional cost for historical content
Duplication	Is this content accessible in other USQ subscriptions



# An Example

## ELECTRONIC RESOURCE REVIEW OUTCOME

Insert Name Here

Review Parameter	Review Parameter Weighting (1 - Low, 2 - Medium, 3 - High)	Overall Review Parameter Score	Final Review Parameter Score (B x C)
Cost per Usage	3	3	9
ILL Supply Cost Difference	3	1	3
Content Importance	3	3	9
Functionality and Accessibility	3	2	6
Delivery Model	3	2	6
Reporting	2	1	2
Vendor Supply / Support	1	1	1
Licence Terms	2	2	4
<b>Overall Score</b>			<b>40</b>

Outcome	Score
Recommend for Renewal / Purchase	50 - 72
<b>Liaise with stakeholders regarding Renewal / Purchase</b>	<b>25 - 49</b>
Recommend not to Renew/Purchase	0 - 24



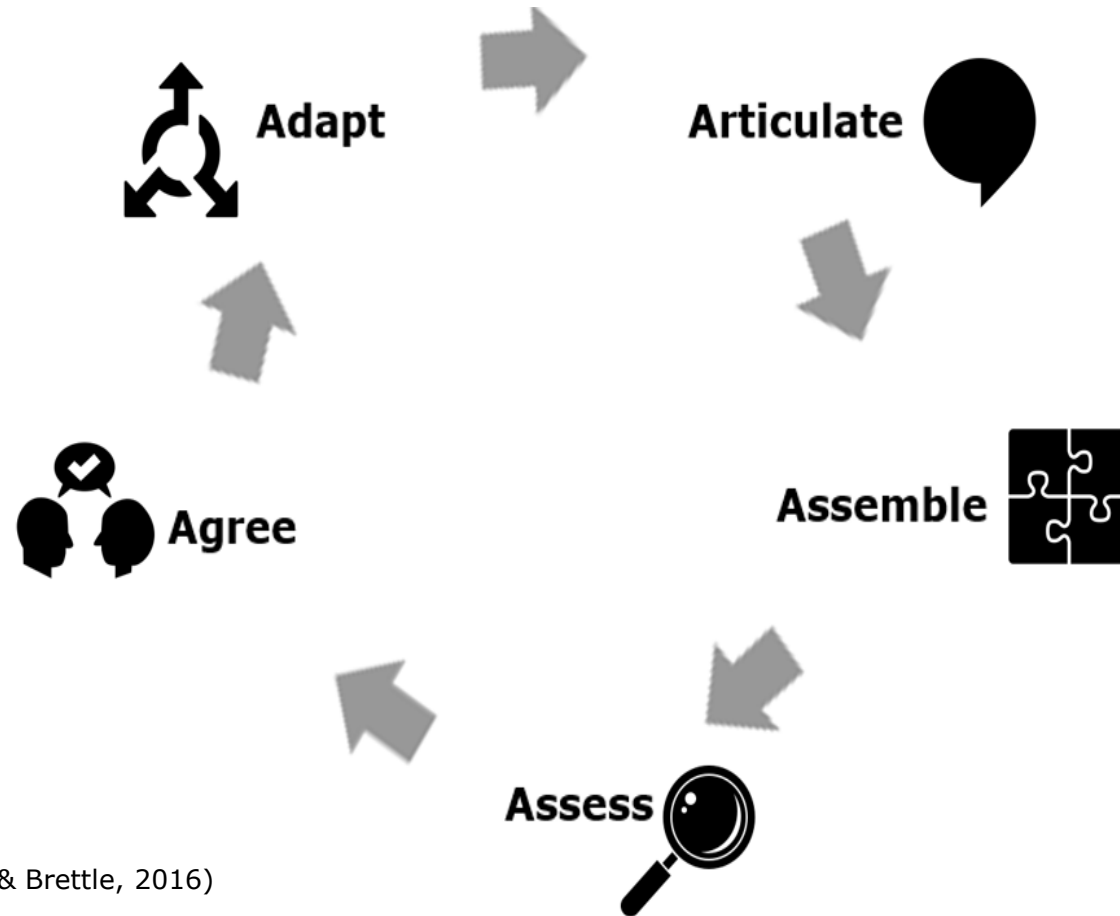
## Why is this useful?



- Framework for evaluation
- Allows us to weigh up options and consider variables
- Provides evidence for:
  - Comparison
  - Reporting
  - Decision making



## Evidence-based approach



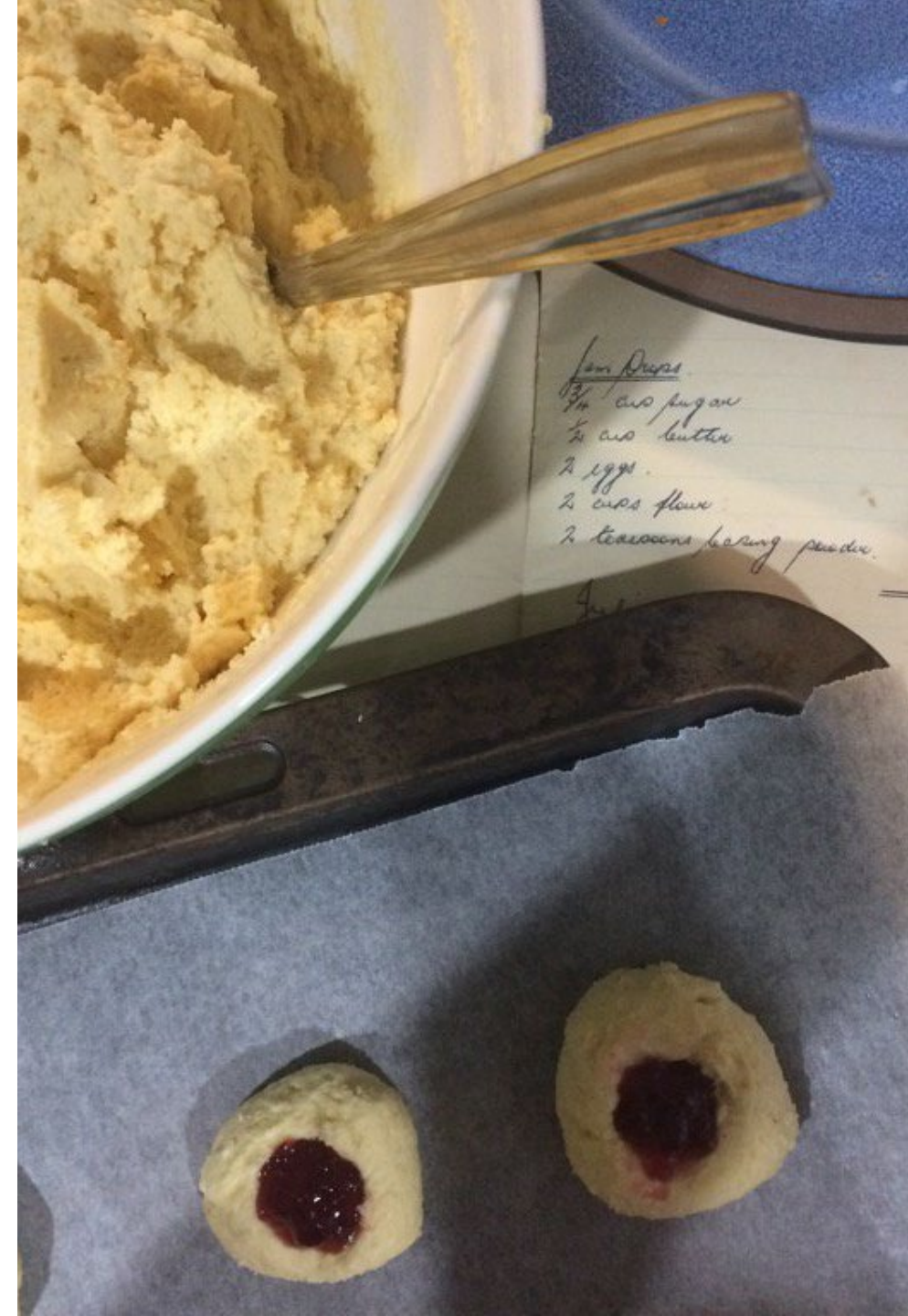
(Koufogiannakis & Brettle, 2016)





## Articulate (What is it what we are trying to achieve overall?)

How do I improve the USQ Library evaluation process for the purchase or renewal of our databases to ensure a transparent, reproducible, consistent, communicable and defensible decision?





## Assemble (what evidence do we need)

Use the SEEC Tool as a framework to gather data

- Local evidence
- Research evidence
- Professional knowledge

Create a databank of evaluations





## Assess and Agree (Do we like this and will we use it again?)

- Evaluate the outcomes of the tool compared to previous decision making methods
- Agreement about continued use and proposed improvements





# Adapt (Tweak the process)

Refining the tool:

- Updating elements
- Adjusting weighting
- Defining terms
- Defining parameters







## Articulate (Share the outcome)

### Share information with:

- Library staff
- Academic staff
- Organisational leadership

### Next steps:

- Define the next question





## Top Tips

1. There is no perfect solution
2. Give yourself time
3. Be flexible and adaptable





# References

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