Strategies for Advancing Hidden Collections Webinar 6
Closing the loop: Project Assessment and Leveraging Goals for Future Planning
Speaker: Ellen Ryan
February 15, 2017

Notes and Chat History, Signs of Trouble

Notes
What are some problems you have encountered when working on projects?

staff turnover and staff issues (illnesses, vacations, etc.)

Not everyone has the same work ethic..

Time constraints

Time commitments are greater than anticipated

IT issues

Lack of communication, broken communication

Records more fragile than anticipated

Changing goals in other institutional departments and unexpected projects

Unrealistic expectations (administrative, departmental, individual)

Changing policies - social media

Unexpected budget expenses

Initial estimates way off - budget and timing

Shipping and supply issues

Staff and volunteers lack necessary skills (e.g., reading cursive)

Chat History Ellen Ryan:What are some problems you have encountered when working on projects?
  Naomi Steinberger:staff turnover
  Michelle Schabowski:Not everyone has the same work ethic...
  Christine Walde:time constraints
  Allison Young:IT issues; technology did not work out as marketed, and it's drastically slowing down the work.

Naomi Steinberger:need to close the library building for a construction policy
Jessica Shaykett:time commitment is greater than anticipated
Naomi Steinberger:construction project
Jessica Holada:Team members having different expectations and different understandings.
Sachiko Iwabuchi:The books from New Zealand didn't come in time to Japan when the grant proposal stated to aquired a large nunber of titles from Australia and New Zealand.
Sachiko Iwabuchi:(When I was work ing in Japan)
American Baptist Historical Society/Priscilla Eppinger:Records are more fragile than anticipated and require careful handling and extra preservation.
Ricki Moskowitz:other departments changing goals, their roles, etc. without discussion
Purdue Archives:Administration having unrealistic expectations
Wofford College:Key individuals leave the institution prior to project completion
Katharine Rapkin:issues with outside vendors
Naomi Steinberger:change in institutional policy regarding use of social media to publicize the project
Christine Walde:unforeseeable budget expenses
University of Chicago:Estimates of titles needing original cataloging (based on random sampling) proved to be way off.
Purdue Archives:Broken communication streams
Ricki Moskowitz:sometimes there are matters out of anyone's control. for example, illness
Allison Young:Not all (volunteer) staff can read cursive on old records
Sachiko Iwabuchi:It was a postal issue. I didn't know how long it would take to acquire books from New Zealand,
Purdue Archives:Change of organization's priorities due new, more pressing projects.
Sachiko Iwabuchi:I only used domestic vendors, but domestic vendors (vendors in Japan) had no relationship the publishers over there.