Cooking the Books: Developing an "Academic" Cookbook Collection

Whitney Kemble
Historical & Cultural Studies Librarian,
University of Toronto Scarborough Library

Includes historical and contemporary cookbooks that reflect the diasporic cuisines of Scarborough, as well as some foundational cookbooks to support diverse food studies at UTSC.

Development
Faculty recommendations
Vendor profile selections
Donations
Catalogues & trade publications
Social Media

Budget allocated: $1300/year 2015-18
Spending to date: ~$3100 (126 books)

Content
Main geographic regions and cuisines included so far: South Asian, Chinese, Canadian, US.

Non-English language pilot: 7 Chinese books
Areas to develop: West Indian, Filipino

Access & Assessment
Moved to separate shelves 2016
Online & irl promotion

Collecting stats on circulation, in-library use, course reserves, assignment requirements, etc.

Course Integration
Foods That Changed the World
Asian Foods & Global Cities
Gender in the Kitchen
History of Global Foodways
History of Empire & Foods
Culinary Ethnography
Cuisine & Culture Across Global Asia

Circulation Statistics

Total Charges
38/126 books borrowed, 30% of collection

Borrowers by patron class

- Students (65.91%)
- Faculty (11.36%)
- Lib staff (9.09%)
- ILL (4.55%)
- Campus staff (9.09%)

Year
2016-17
2017-18