

Technology Now

Timely Topics for Academic Medical Centers

a product of the AAMC's Group on Information Resources (GIR)

January 2011

E-Readers (are also called by their brand names)

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Technology: E-Reader	University Pilots	Advantages/ Disadvantages	Brands	Strategic Considerations	Resource Links
<p>A device used to display e-books/digital media equivalent of a printed book.</p> <p>E-reader technology offered the promise of delivering a large number of digitized documents on a lightweight device with a long battery life, and a display that mimicked the reflective qualities of actual paper.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case Western • Princeton • Penn State • University of Washington 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Easy download + Storage + Search + Annotate + Personal + Battery life + Durability + Paper savings + Wireless - Evolving standards - Title selection - Image quality - Cost - Single-function - Classroom adoption 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sony • Bookeen • Pocketbook • HanLin • RADIUS • Hanvon • Amazon Kindle • COOL-ER • ViewSonic • txtr reader • NUUTbook • Iriver • Apple 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Digital rights management system • Intellectual property/ copyright • Longevity • Standards • Greater expense for multifunctional device (e.g., iPad) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. EDUCAUSE-7 Things You Should Know About eReaders http://net.educause.edu/ir/library/pdf/ELI7058.pdf 2. New Media Consortium & EDUCAUSE Learning Initiatives, Electronic Books http://wp.nmc.org/horizon2010/chapters/electronic-books/#0 3. Ebook Readers and General Characteristics http://wiki.mobileread.com/wiki/E-book_Reader_Matrix



From the Princeton pilot

- "If, through the use of e-readers, we can cut down that printing by even 1 percent, we will have more than made up for what was spent on this pilot,"
- the question is whether 'liberating' students from a fixed reading location will help their reading habits. whether transportability and ease of access to the reading material result in the students doing more of the required reading;
- Kindles in the classroom were very clumsy, particularly when the entire class was trying to get to the same location in the text for group discussions. In the focus group discussions, some participants mentioned that not being able to compare documents easily, to flip through them or skim for review later in the semester, made their retention worse than usual. They cited the lack of flexibility and speed of navigation within readings as a major factor in this, as well as the inability to compare documents.



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