

# Move Over E-Readers, Here Come the Tablets!

## Implementing a Program to Suit Your Special Library

Donna Beck, MLIS, Engineering Librarian, Carnegie Mellon University  
[donnab@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:donnab@andrew.cmu.edu) or [UL-ipad-lendingtoyou@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:UL-ipad-lendingtoyou@andrew.cmu.edu)

### “iPad 2 Lending to You” project

#### Setting

##### Carnegie Mellon University

- ↳ Enrollment of 12,000+ students, including master’s and doctoral.
- ↳ Known for global research and innovation.
- ↳ One of the 10 most international student bodies, by percentage, among four-year U.S. institutions.

##### Sorrells Engineering & Science Library

- ↳ Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania campus.
- ↳ Average 20,000 visits/month during fall & spring semesters.
- ↳ Part of 4 other library locations, including the central building, that are the Carnegie Mellon University Libraries.

#### Objectives

- ↳ Analyze products that fit the Libraries’ mission: Advance research, creative inquiry, teaching and learning.
- ↳ Allow students to explore new technologies.
- ↳ Offer a new means to deliver information.
- ↳ Gain better understanding of mobile device applications (apps).



#### Pilot Lending Program

- ↳ Began: late spring semester 2012.
- ↳ Start of spring 2013 semester: added 10 additional iPads (3<sup>rd</sup> generation), with University Libraries funding.
- ↳ Majority of users: borrowed for entire 7 days loan period.
- ↳ 101 pre-loaded apps: 34 purchased.
- ↳ **600+ checkouts**: since program start.
- ↳ **46% undergrad; 39% grad; 8% staff; 6% faculty**





#### Funding

*Berkman*

Faculty Development Fund

- ↳ internal faculty grants program award \$9,330.00

#### Expenditures

10 iPad 2 Wi-Fi (32GB) refurbished		\$4,990.00
10 smart covers		\$326.91
10 pocket laptop cases		\$130.35
34 apps, 10 copies	iTunes Store Volume Purchase Program	\$2,100.00
1 charge/sync system for multiple devices		\$570.16

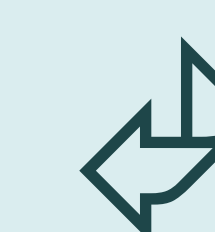
#### Start-up Checklist

- ✓ Produce catalog item record and barcode/label the devices.
- ✓ Register each iPad with IP network.
- ✓ Establish check-out policies.
- ✓ Compose a Lending contract with approval of legal counsel and Libraries Council.
- ✓ Create a backup, via iTunes on both PC and Library server. Backup saves preset apps, bookmarks, and settings. Update apps monthly by creating a new backup.
- ✓ Announce via poster in Library: “Limited iPads now available. First come, First served.”
- ✓ Design a web guide.  
<http://guides.library.cmu.edu/iPad>

#### Considerations

- ↳ Avoid turning into a Rent-A-Center. Strategize: consider what you are loaning out and why you are loaning.
- ↳ Sci-tech librarians can capitalize on their knowledge of tech trends by being leaders in supporting new innovations.
- ↳ Choose pre-loaded apps designed for iPad—refrain from those more suited for mobile phone.
- ↳ Explore ways to move away from luck-based loaning via a reservation system.

Preloaded apps listed on guide.



#### Collaborations

##### iPad(s) borrowed for 2012-13 events:

- ➔ Undergraduate Research Symposium: “Meeting of the Minds.”
- ➔ Mechanical Engineering Senior Design Expo.
- ➔ School of Art Senior Art Exhibition.
- ➔ Job Fairs – show off portfolios during interviews
- ➔ Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day – used NASA app.
- ➔ Strong Women, Strong Girls chapter field trip.

##### Survey feedback - Doing more than playing



▮ Took laser scans of objects away from a computer that was plugged into a laser scanner. Because of iPad, was able to see the data in real-time as manipulated items that were scanning.

▮ Tested an app that a group from Human -Computer Interaction class made for iPad.

▮ Did homework, accessed files in Dropbox, read PDFs of textbook so heavy backpack not carried.

▮ Designed apps but never used them...no budget to buy iPad...with loaner program would be able to keep current when classmates talk about new apps and can test out designs on iPad browser.

##### ➔ Charge & sync station

Griffin MultiDock for 10 iPads  
+ 1 cabinet door 30mm lock.  
Connect to computer with USB cable.

##### ➔ Color-coded smart covers

- ↳ **Green:** 2-hr in-Library use only
- ↳ **Red:** iPad 2 (1 week checkout)
- ↳ **Brown:** iPad 3rd generation (1 week checkout)