DLESE: USING SEARCH LOGS TO ASSESS A DIGITAL LIBRARY COLLECTION

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DLESE, the Digital Library for Earth Systems Education, is a discipline-oriented collection in the National Sciences Digital Library. DLESE is designed to support teaching and learning in the geosciences at all educational levels from kindergarten through postgraduate education. Geoscience resources such as lesson plans, scientific data and visualization tools, virtual field trips and discipline-specific, content-rich web sites are contributed by the community. A subset of the sites, the DLESE Reviewed Collection, is examined and evaluated. In this poster, we will describe DLESE and how it works. In many ways, digital collections are analogous to physical collections and once a collection is formed, it requires assessment. What can you learn from usage statistics for a digital library that can help with collection building? How do usage statistics contribute to the assessment of a digital collection? We will describe the process of assessing the complete collection by reviewing and analyzing search logs and null results.