**UBC library Collections Report 2011**

**Budget 2011-2012**

The collections budget for the 2011-2012 year, making up 41% of the Library’s total budget, is $13.1 million. There were no increases from the previous year. The library is not receiving funding to increase our purchasing power and the library is not even receiving enough funding to maintain the current receipt of online resources.

**Expenditures for Science and Engineering 2010 -2011**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| LIBRARY | Print Serials | Mono-graphs | One-Time Electronic | Serial  Electronic | Total Electronic | GPOF Total | Shared Costs Monos | Shared Costs Electronic |
| Science/Engineering | $178,689 | $62,183 | $14,616 | $886,948 | $901,564 | **$1,142,436** | $2,150 |  |
| Consortia/bundle purchases |  |  |  | $1,625,000 | $1,625,000 | **$1,625,000** |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sub Total | $178,689 | $62,183 | $ 14,616 | $2,511,948 | $2,526,564 | **$2,767,436** | $2,150 | 0 |

\*Shared= departmental/faculty partnerships

Total cost 2009-2010= $2,768,375

**Why has the buying power of the library’s budget decreased?**

This is the result of several issues. One issue is currency fluctuation. Many of the resources we purchase come from outside of Canada and are primarily US based. When currency and exchange rates change, this can result in resource costs increasing. In addition, the inflation rate on average can be as high as 5% ($600,000 on $13.1 million) a year. Many library materials have price increases beyond the inflation rate every year, making it even more difficult to find ongoing funds for these materials. Academic journals from commercial publishers are an example of this.

**Some of the top journals UBC researchers publish in and use:**

Cost Difference from 2004 – 2011 (increase 52.85%)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Journal** | **2004 cost** | **2011 cost** |
| Cell | $881.00 | $9,246.23 |
| Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications | $3,552.60 | $7,443.00 |
| Social Science & Medicine | $3,919.00 | $5,854.00 |
| Neuron | $881.00 | $1,414.00 |
| Journal of Biological Chemistry | $2,060.00 | $3,284.00 |
| Nature | $4,110.00 | $5,580.00 |
| Science | $2,405.00 | $16,867.00 |
| Canadian Medical Association Journal | $233.47 | $810.00 |
| Physical Review Letters | $796.00 | $3,987.50 |
| A few more examples:  **Elsevier** - proposed 4.25% increase for next 4 years;  additional cost from 2011-2014 $1,689,785 to $1,995,884 USD (does not include HST or currency exchange). Approximately an increase of $80,000 a year for this one package.    **Springer Journals** proposed a 3% increase from 2010 to 2012  Additional cost $45,228    **Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)** 2009/2010 cost - $11,795 | 2011 cost - $17,500    **Total UBC Library e-resource costs:**   * 2004 - $6,395,363.00 | 2011 - $8,740,621.00 * An increase of 36.67%   **Examples of some of the Library’s investment in Sciences Digital Transformation for the past 3 years**.  Converting analog print and microfilm to digital. (costs are in additional to annual costs for maintenance)   * *Journal of Fluid* mechanics backfiles **$16,000** * *Science Journal* backfiles **$925,000** | | |

**Can the Library use endowments to purchase more materials?**

96% of the library’s collection expenditure is from the operating budget. Endowments count for only a small percentage of the budget. The economic downturn in 2008 has hurt the annual return on the endowment income.

**How is the library reducing collection expenses?**

Due to this reduced buying power, the Library’s collection strategy has to be very focused. The library will review all collecting practices. This will mean:

* Avoiding duplication in content
* Reviewing serials, monographs and database for overlapping and redundant content
* Reducing the number of serial subscriptions and standing orders each year that no longer support the research, teaching and curriculum
* Transitioning from print to online and dropping print serial subscriptions when reasonable
* New contract for the supply of e-books and English language monographs, higher % discounts (18%). Serial contract issued in 2011, lowering bulk purchase subscription costs up to 3%.
* Relying more on ILL, document deliver, pay per view and patron driven acquisitions

### What does this mean for our patrons?

The Library is forced to reduce our purchases and be very careful about our collection development. We will review all journal subscriptions with the goal of canceling print wherever practical in favor of stable online access, review duplicate print subscriptions with the goal of reducing to a single subscription, review inactive subscriptions to determine whether they should be renewed or canceled, and investigate options to collaborate with academic departments and their reading rooms.

### What are the challenges for maintaining a sustainable collections budget?

Each year the library continues to purchase new materials. Finding funding for new materials, including items such as special collections, data collections, and digital and print monographs, is more difficult as the focus tends to be on highly-used continuing resources such as serials and databases. The library also gets asked to support new curriculum areas and research, requiring a significant investment in new materials. The Library will need to develop partnerships with Faculties and Departments in the future in order to sustain the current access to materials.

Maintaining digital access to e-resources that support university research and curriculum is also extremely important, and costly. The prices for serials and databases continue to increase beyond the standard inflation rate. Currency exchange rates continue to fluctuate and are often unpredictable, leading to differences between projected and real expenditures.

UBC Library is also dedicated to preserving access to and acquisition of unique library materials. These are the resources that make our library special, offering access to material not held anywhere else in the world.

Of great importance to creating a sustainable budget is demonstrating the value and investment of the collections to the university.

Summary of constraints for a sustainable library Collections budget:

* Continued price increases for serials and databases beyond standard inflation rates. We do our best to negotiate increase caps but particularly with journals we are less successful.
* Fluctuating and sometimes unpredictable currency exchange
* Licensing costs based on University’s research intensity metric (Elsevier)
* Requests to support new curriculum areas and research
* Preserving access and acquisition to unique library materials
* Maintaining digital access to e-resources that support university research and curriculum
* Funding for new materials-licensed digital infrastructure development, special collections, data collections, monographs (digital and print)
* Demonstrating the value and investment of collections to the University Administration, Faculties and Departments

For more information see <http://collections.library.ubc.ca/>

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