Library Liaison Advisory Group
Winter Quarter 2009

Sciences
Tuesday 2/10/09, 9-10:30am

Minutes

Attending - Gareth Eaton, Kim Newman, Rebecca Powell, Jennifer Hoffman, Joe Kraus, Michael Levine-Clark, Carrie Forbes, Chris Brown, Esther Gil, Erin Meyer (recording), Peggy Keeran, Jenny Bowers

   o Lends to member institutions, including DU. Faculty can search records in Prospector or through our website (www.library.du.edu -> Other libraries -> More)
   o Will buy up to $2000 of material for every user that requests, in areas of
     ▪ Non US/Canadian dissertations
     ▪ Primary Source material
     ▪ International periodicals (newspapers). For papers, they must already own at least one issue. Mostly microfilm, some print and digital.
     ▪ Purchase requests for CRL are made through our Interlibrary Loan form.
   o Will buy large microfilm sets on institution request (decided by yearly vote)

2. Database Use Discussion
   o Peggy Keeran
     ▪ Librarians would like to know what databases you are using and how. We have use data, but want to know, for example, if you are using databases in an intensive way or if it’s for a special audience (e.g. are non-native speakers using Tellmemore to learn English?). Should we add additional simultaneous users to popular resources like Oxford Art Online or Oxford Dictionary of National Biography? Do you have a preferred interface/database for content available in multiple platforms (e.g. MLA)?
   o Michael Levine-Clark
     ▪ We are not getting the usual increase in our materials budget and will have to tap into other areas of budget to cover inflationary increases for journals and databases this year. We won’t be forced to make cuts this year, but will next year if this situation continues. This year, we cannot add any new databases without making cuts.
     ▪ We look at use data but want more focus group information as we start thinking about possible cuts. We don’t want to cancel things if one person is using intensively, or if fills a need for a particular segment of audience. We might cancel a database and subscribe to an individual journal if people are only using the database for access to that one journal.
     ▪ Some things are off the table, for example those on database list that show an archive fee, meaning we’ve paid a lot up front and made a commitment and won’t cancel.
   o Kim Newman
     ▪ ICEE folks can’t live without IEEE Explore
     ▪ Come to ECEE faculty meetings to discuss
o Gareth Eaton – Joe came to department and has our feedback
o Corinne Lengsfeld sent in a list of what MME faculty said they used
  ▪ Pubmed and Compendex
  ▪ Medline
  ▪ Web of Science
  ▪ Science Direct
  ▪ Faculty and students don’t know they are using a database when they link in from somewhere else. Academic Search Complete $116,000 per year.

o Rebecca Powell
  ▪ WOS
  ▪ Georef
  ▪ Geobase
  ▪ ASC

o Reference USA
o Can we get Scopus?
  ▪ Michael Levine-Clark - Very expensive, competitor to WOS, nice features, might get in future. We’d want to add in addition to WOS.

o Jennifer
  ▪ Sent a list to Joe and PK of current favorites.
  ▪ New requests for individual journals Nature Materials and Nature Physics
  ▪ WOS hands down most important

o Michael Levine-Clark - If database has large archive cost, you can assume we won’t cancel. We’ve invested in this and are committed to it. Even if we were to cancel it is because we have 1900 to cancelation date. “Archive fee“ on spreadsheet means a one-time up-front fee. We are buying it. Other is this year, hosting fee. If we had to cancel one with an archive cost, we’d get the tapes of the content.

• Kim - ACM – computer science people using this, she’d assume. Joe, yes, relatively cheap.
• Joe Kraus- Biological abstracts $24,000, covers more bio literature than MedLine.
• Peggy Keeran – We might have popup or message to tell users when they click through to a database that we are thinking of canceling, but users get to them in different ways.
  o Kim – let faculty know databases on list not in immediate danger.
  o Peggy – Except if we want to add anything, then we have to cut. We’ll send list of things we are going to cut and what we are planning to add.

• Kim Neuman- Engineering village – links are not all working
• Michael - Subscriptions inflate at about 7%/year; monographs increase at about 3%. DU used to fund this increase and extra for new subscriptions. With our reserves, we can cover inflation next year, but can’t add anything new. If this goes beyond one year we will have to cut.
• Jennifer – best to send a list of least used and have faculty look at that
• Kim- ENGnetBASE, CHEMnetBASE ? These are CRC publications provided electronically. Records in PEAK catalog for these so you might find them in a search and then link out. Some delay between print publication and electronic availability.
• Joe Kraus- Biological Abstracts just abstracting databases. BioOne is full text of many small societies.
• Michael - CSA – sometimes cheaper to buy all (even things you don’t need) than to pick and choose.
• Michael - we’ll send a list of things we are considering cutting based on use stats and our understanding.
Resource not everyone may know: Knovel – 1,000 electronic engineering and chemistry books, all findable in PEAK.

Star rankings of databases - our ranking, giving 4 stars to those “core to the discipline” then interdisciplinary (alphabetical list within each star category)

Options for making things easier for your students
- Instruction - We can teach a research class for you
- Research Guides - There are some general. We can create ones specific to your classes. These lead students to print and electronic resources. You can embed these in Blackboard.

Jennifer – grad students learn from peers, faculty, librarians how to do research, what sources to use.

Research Center – can sit one-on-one with grads and help them with research. By appointment or walk in.

Lexis Nexis Academic – perceived as business but interdisciplinary (local reviews of art galleries)

“360 search” to search across databases. Still has problems – slow getting results. Chris looking at new ways to do this that are better.

Health Reference Center – one of the few databases that is middle ground. Not overwhelming for undergrads to see both some scholarly and “articles they can understand.”

Jennifer – good to have 2 weeks at least if asked to gather feedback from other faculty.