

Library Acquisitions



Michelle Armstrong - Education Council 3/6/2020

FY20

Due to subscriptions inflation, the library started FY20 with a approximately \$235,000 shortfall in the Library acquisitions budget

Nearly 100% of the \$3.2 million acquisitions budget is now required to pay for annual subscriptions consisting of e-journal, databases, and e-resources content,

No appropriated funds available to purchase books, e-books, streaming media, and other one-time purchases

Anticipated FY21 inflation for existing subscriptions will add another \$100,000-\$150,000 to the shortfall

No flexibility to acquire different types of content such as streaming media licenses

What happened?

INFLATION: Since 2010, library subscription prices have **increased an average 6% per year**

LOSS OF PURCHASING POWER: Although the Library's budget has increased, the total number of subscriptions purchased has dropped 14%. (...and No Books.)

INCREASING NEEDS: While the university has added 10 doctoral degrees since 2010, funding for new materials to support new degrees & research is very rare.

One degree program is being supported with \$30,000 in acquisitions funding from the department but includes no annual inflation increase. Current journal prices now more than the allocated funds.
\$30,000 vs. \$38,000

More and more programs want **online and streaming content = licensed content**

Acquisitions Budget vs. Subscription Costs

FY16 - FY20

Library Acquisitions

Appropriated Budget

11.79% cumulative increase*

FY16 - FY20

Subscriptions Costs

18.84% cumulative increase

**Actual cumulative increase for the appropriated budget is 7.95%. Amounts in the budget books include the transfer of permanent salary savings from two positions.*

Why are e-journals so expensive?

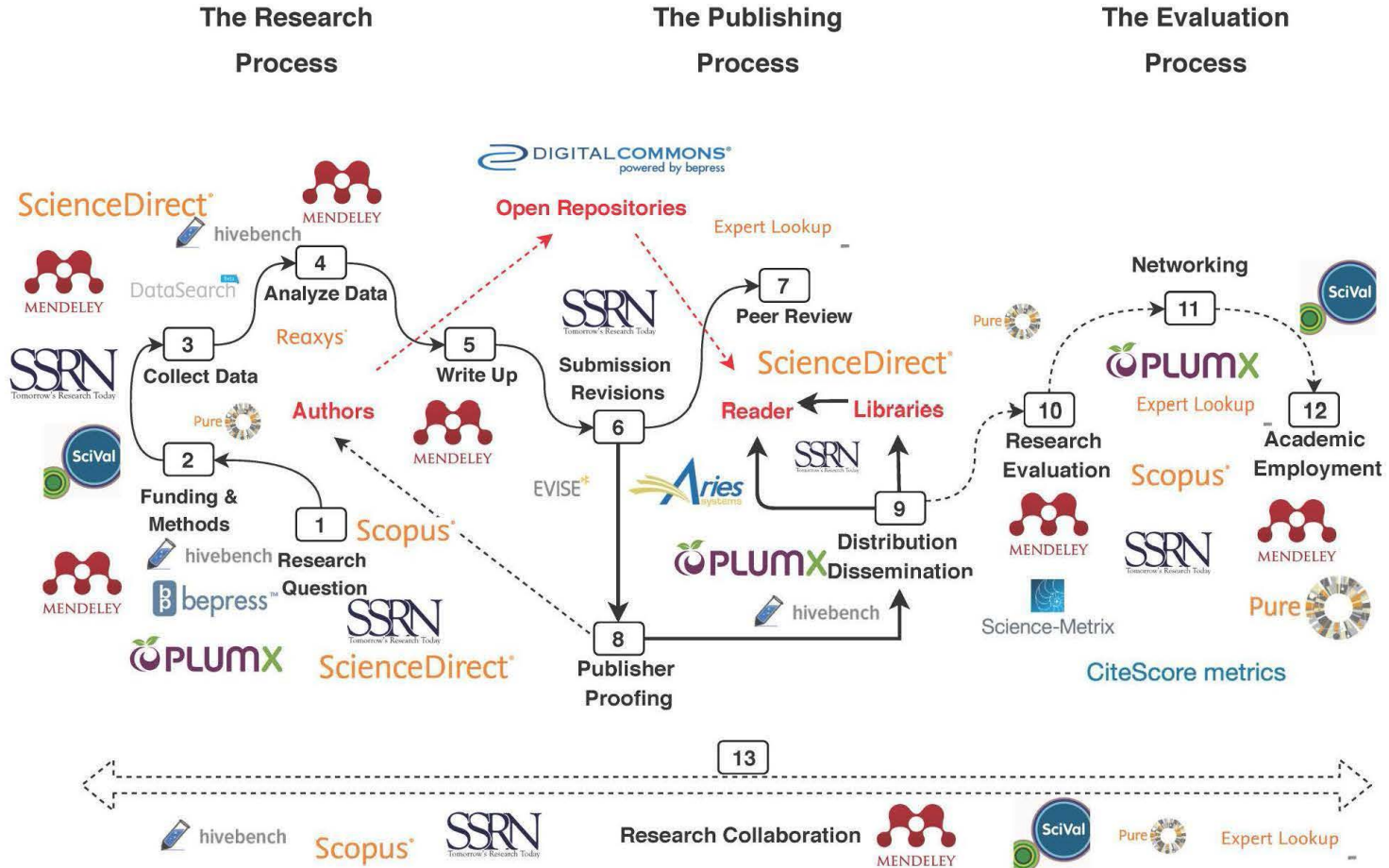
Many publishers are “**sole source**”: to purchase critical research journals on your behalf, there is only one publisher available

Many publishers **base their subscription costs on the number of students** at an institution; as the University’s student population grows, the cost to maintain existing journal subscriptions grows

Some publishers **base their subscription costs on Carnegie Classification**; as Boise State’s Carnegie status has risen, so has the cost of retaining existing subscriptions

Publishers are increasingly in control of the scholarly infrastructure.

The Academic Knowledge Research Production Process



National Trends

Five Year Journal Price Increase History (2015 - 2019)

This report shows price fluctuations over the last five years for typical library lists invoiced in U.S. dollars. Data for each library type is based on a merged list of titles ordered by representative libraries purchasing in U.S. dollars.

Library Type	% of Total Titles	% of Total Expenditure	2015			2016			2017			2018			2019			% Increase 15-19
			Avg. Title Price	Avg. Title Price	% Increase	Avg. Title Price	Avg. Title Price	% Increase	Avg. Title Price	Avg. Title Price	% Increase	Avg. Title Price	Avg. Title Price	% Increase	Avg. Title Price	Avg. Title Price	% Increase	
ARL																		
US Titles	38.0%	31.8%	\$1,065.33	\$1,126.88	5.78%	\$1,186.74	5.31%	\$1,257.90	6.00%	\$1,328.75	5.63%	24.73%						
Non-US Titles	62.0%	68.2%	\$1,390.41	\$1,466.10	5.44%	\$1,545.96	5.45%	\$1,625.87	5.17%	\$1,721.77	5.90%	23.83%						
Total Titles	100.0%	100.0%	\$1,269.61	\$1,340.05	5.55%	\$1,412.48	5.41%	\$1,489.13	5.43%	\$1,575.72	5.81%	24.11%						
College & University																		
US Titles	37.5%	32.2%	\$1,167.01	\$1,235.80	5.89%	\$1,300.53	5.24%	\$1,382.28	6.29%	\$1,460.81	5.68%	25.18%						
Non-US Titles	62.5%	67.8%	\$1,436.98	\$1,516.39	5.53%	\$1,598.02	5.38%	\$1,678.30	5.02%	\$1,777.03	5.88%	23.66%						
Total Titles	100.0%	100.0%	\$1,340.68	\$1,416.31	5.64%	\$1,491.90	5.34%	\$1,572.70	5.42%	\$1,664.23	5.82%	24.13%						

From [https://www.ebscohost.com/promoMaterials/Five Year Journal Price Increase History EBSCO 2015-2019.pdf](https://www.ebscohost.com/promoMaterials/Five-Year-Journal-Price-Increase-History-EBSCO-2015-2019.pdf)

Over the past six years, Albertsons Library has mitigated rising costs by:

Negotiating with vendors and publishers, and working with **consortial groups** when possible, for low annual inflation increases and lowest possible prices.

Working with university administration to **increase base appropriated budget** funding. Some years the university has provided one-time funds to mitigate collection budget pressures.

Worked with departments to **review specific subscriptions**, usually in exchange for adding another resource.

Working with departments and other campus groups to **share costs for specific resources**.

Used \$100,000 McCain endowment funds to make one-time purchases (books, e-books, streaming media).

Dismantled large journal packages and subscribed to individual titles. Reduces costs, maintains the most used titles, and reduces projected inflation.

Fall 2019

- Reduced costs \$110,000 through cancelling low-use subscriptions, dropping print where we have electronic, selecting single year contracts, and canceling databases where OA options are readily available
- Broke up the Taylor and Francis subscription reducing the overall contract by \$120,000
 - Deselection rubric included: usage, subscription cost, potential ILL costs, and cost per use
 - Reduced T&F journals from 3047 titles to 74 titles
 - 74 journals costs \$100,000

FY21

Although we eliminated the FY20 shortfall, with the 2% reduction, we estimate a \$148,196 deficit starting in July.

Regardless of the state budget, without changes to our acquisition practices, we will never be free of the collections deficit.

Therefore, beginning in FY21 the Library will be reviewing:

- Multi-year packages ending in Dec. 2020
- One-year packages with large costs
- Packages with problematic license language prohibited by OGC
- When determined to be the best option, eliminate subscriptions that we cannot maintain

Philosophy for Collection Reviews to Reduce Expenditures

1. Usage will be considered in several different ways, but will not be the only factor when considering cancellations.
2. All disciplines and subject areas will be reviewed - no area will be exempt.
3. Access will be prioritized over ownership.
4. Interlibrary loan will serve as a way to acquire materials not held by the library.
5. Feedback about collections decisions will be solicited from the campus community.

Expected Timeline

March 2020	Collections Council decides on packages for review
Late March/early April 2020	Prepare title evaluation lists
April 2020	Collections Council releases the list of titles under review for University feedback
June 2020	Rubric criteria evaluated and finalized
July 31, 2020	Liaison's response to evaluation rubric due
August 30, 2020	University feedback is due
September 2020	Collections Council prepares the final cancellations list
September 15, 2020	Final cancellations lists prepared by Acquisitions and Collections, given to Serials to process, and posted to the web

Also in FY21:

- Liaisons work with departments and Faculty Senate Ad Hoc committee to communicate with the campus and increase understanding of access options
- Partner with groups across campus to explore Open Access (OA) and Open Education Resource (OER) initiatives
- Borrow materials for you through Interlibrary Loan if we don't own them
- Provide discovery and access to Open Access journals, books, content, and government documents through our catalog WorldCat Discovery as we are able
- Support the work of the Collections Task Force to investigate new access options
- Help researchers get serious about Open Access by exploring publishing in OA journals and using their influence on boards and as reviewers to push for change

Questions?

