

Scholarly Publishing Committee – Oct. 20, 2008

Meeting Minutes

Present: Adrienne Christiansen, Dave Collins, James Dawes, Angi Faiks, Martin Gunderson, Brian Longley, Johan Oberg, Janet Sietmann, Chad Topaz, Eric Wiertelak, Terri Fishel (Chair), Johan Oberg.

1. Welcome, introductions, and review of the charge

The charge will be found attached with additional documentation that was shared at the meeting. Terri shared a copy of the traditional chart that demonstrates escalating journal prices, but emphasized that change in scholarly communication is much more than just addressing costs. Changes in technology are enabling new publishing patterns and opportunities to change the traditional model. Eric talked about his journal, the [Journal for Undergraduate Neuroscience Education](#), which is peer reviewed and is the only journal for neuroscience education for undergraduates. The journal is completely open access and membership in the society has increased by 12-18%. We have a number of peer-reviewed journals in the Digital Commons which are open access and we will be discussing as an additional agenda item.

2. Open Access Day, Oct. 14 (information may be found at <http://openaccessday.org/>)

Terri presented an overview of the organization for the first Open Access Day which focused on students. Janet Sietmann and Ron Joslin helped to coordinate the early evening event which included pizza and a televised video conference. We had approximately 25 students attend.

3. Textbook Concerns - A group of students are interested in having a discussion with faculty about the high costs of textbooks. The students had suggested a panel that would include faculty. It was suggested that the students should talk to individual faculty, and/or request time during a department meeting. Another suggestion was to do a Mac Weekly feature with tips for faculty.

4. Session for Arts and Humanities on Scholarly Communication Changes – we did one for the sciences and social sciences last Fall. The group suggested that library liaisons should work with their departments rather than try to set up a separate gathering.

5. Editorial Board. We are hoping that this group can also provide us with some guidance on some policies issues related to our digital collections.

a. **Selected Works:** discussion on policies for Selected Works pages (see attached) – who to include, when to take someone's page down, and maintenance questions. Frequency of updates, how and who. It was agreed that adjunct faculty, emeriti professors should be included. Some visiting faculty have extended time at Mac, and they should be included as well. Any faculty member with voting rights should be included in Selected Works.

b. Digital Commons Honors paper question: students who request to have materials removed and students who request to have items added. – **This issue did not get addressed and was deferred to the next meeting.**

6. Date for next meeting – not set due to running out of time.

Adjourned at 4 p.m.

Accompanying materials:

Scholarly Publishing Committee

Purpose: The Scholarly Publishing Committee works with the Library, Media, and Web Services by serving as the Editorial Board for the DigitalCommons. In addition the committee provides advice related to policies that support digital and traditional scholarship including copyright for classroom teaching as well as for publishing, author rights, and advising on areas related to adding content and publications to the DigitalCommons and other digital services.

Membership: Four faculty, one student, a representative from the Center for Scholarship and Teaching, and a representative from College Relations, Library Director, Director of Media Services, Director of Web Services, and Associate Library Directors. The Library Director serves as chair.

Terms of appointment: Faculty and staff representatives have two year terms of office with terms arranged so that there is a continuing member on the committee. Students have a one year term. All can be reappointed.

Frequency of meetings: Twice a semester.

2008-09 faculty members: Eric Wiertelak, Martin Gunderson, Jim Dawes, and Chad Topaz.



Scholarly Communication

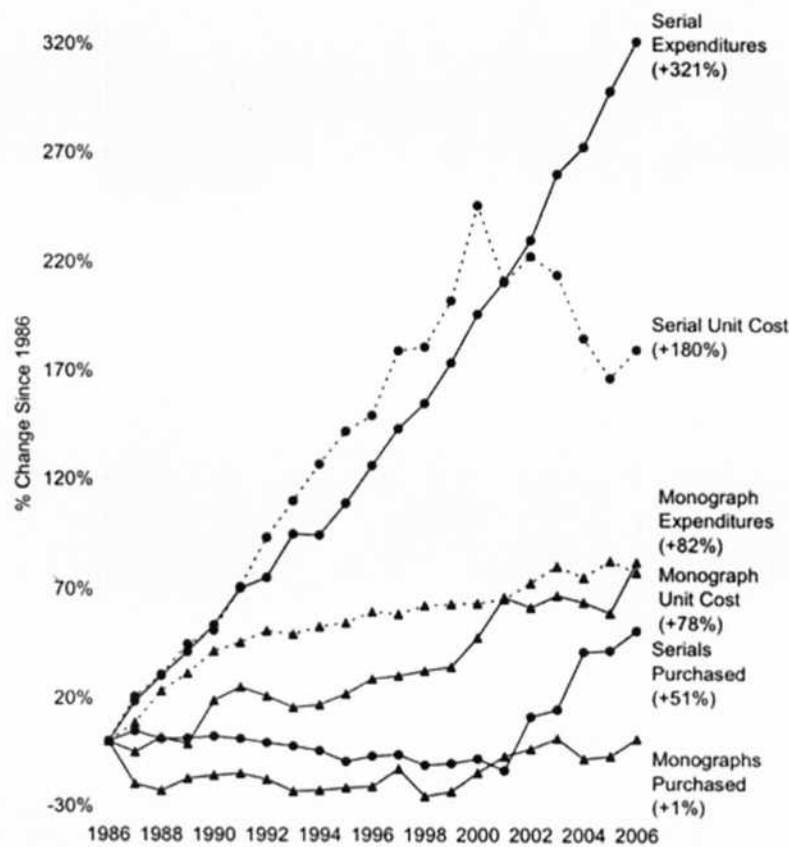
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THE COST OF JOURNALS

Issues at a Glance

- Between 1986 and 2006, journal expenditures of North American research libraries increased by a staggering 321% as libraries expanded access to journals by licensing bundles of journals (e.g., Science Direct) from different publishers (e.g., Elsevier). At the same time, the average journal cost increased by 180% while the U.S. Consumer Price Index rose by 84%. In other words, journal costs have outstripped inflation by a factor of more than two.

Graph 2
**Monograph and Serial Expenditures
 in ARL Libraries, 1986-2006***



Source: ARL Statistics 2005-06, Association of Research Libraries, Washington, D.C.

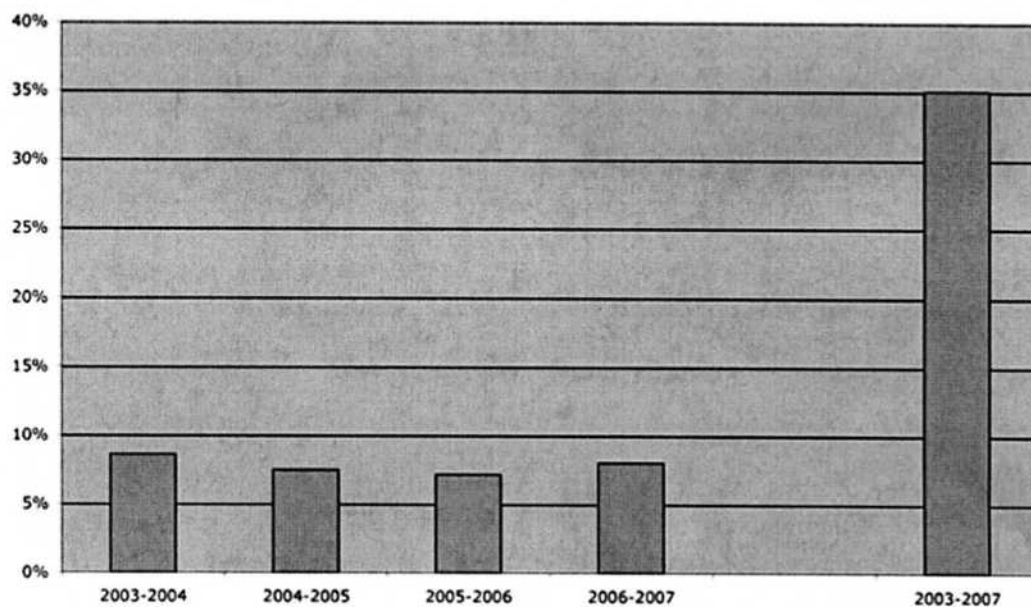
*Includes electronic resources from 1999-2000 onward.

- While many university libraries face flat or reduced budgets, large commercial publishers of academic journals continue to enjoy profits. For example, John Wiley & Sons reported record revenue in 2006 and 2007. Profits rose 7% in 2006 and 18% in 2007, the latter in part due to its acquisition of Blackwell Publishing ([John Wiley & Sons, Inc. 2007 Annual Report](#)).
- The merger of Wiley and Blackwell is the most recent important instance of the trend toward consolidation of control over the publishing of scholarly journals. Wiley acquired Blackwell for \$572 million, bringing together the more than 800 journals Blackwell publishes with the more than 450 Wiley publishes. In August 2007, Wiley Blackwell gained publishing rights to all journals of the American Anthropological Association.

Effect at UIC

Commercial publishers sustain their profits by raising journal prices. For instance, UIC's primary serials vendor is EBSCO, and it supplies journals from a wide range of publishers. Prices for EBSCO-supplied journals rose 35% between 2003 and 2007. In contrast, the producer price index for book publishers rose 15% between 2003 and 2007, and the consumer price index rose 13% between 2003 and 2007.

UIC Journal Price Increases, 2003-2007



Source: EBSCONET Historical Price Analysis, 2003-2007, UIC 5-year subscriptions

Find Out More

- **Periodicals Price Survey:** Library Journal publishes this annual overview of journal price trends. The most recent installment is [Lee C. Van Orsdel & Kathleen Born, "Serial Wars," Library Journal, Apr. 15, 2007.](#)
- **Sticker Shock:** This entertaining comparison of journal prices to different consumer products places the cost of scholarly journals in perspective.
- **Ulrich's Periodicals Directory:** Find out how much your favorite journals cost. (Look at the "institutional" cost. Note: frequently there is an additional cost for electronic access.)

Selected Works – Issues for Discussion - DRAFT

Background

Selected Works was implemented in January 2008 to replace the Faculty Publications Database that was developed in-house more than six years ago. The Faculty Publications database was created to address a particular need we had to track faculty publications for the College Archives. Once established, the Faculty Publications Database was linked from the campus Directory page, and provided individual pages on each current faculty member with the list of their publications. The current link from the Directory web page now connects searchers to the Selected Works pages that have replaced that database. (See <http://www2.macalester.edu/facultypubs/>)

The database was originally conceived as a means of keeping an annual record of faculty journal articles and book publications for the College Archives. It grew into including public performances and art exhibits as well. Other campus units expressed interest in the project based on their individual needs:

- **CST** – a means of helping to compile the list of faculty publications that was produced for the annual celebration of faculty scholarship, co-sponsored with the library
- **College Relations** – a means of identifying faculty areas of expertise for their media contacts file
- **Institutional Research/Provost** – a means of collecting data for assessment purposes, specifically academic indicators
- **Advancement** – a means of gathering data for grant requests and reports

The database project was added on to the responsibilities of a staff member in the library because it originally was a simple project intended to meet the one need of the Archives. As the project grew and interest increased among other campus members, we did receive some assistance temporarily. CST contributed the time of a part-time student assistant. This student entered data based on reports submitted by faculty to the Provost at the end of the academic year. However, over time, the database became the responsibility of a single person, Ron Joslin, who utilized students who worked in the library computer lab to assist in keeping the database current. This led to a great deal of problems with quality control which then led to more work being done by a single person, Ron. In addition to updating the database, Ron frequently received requests by some faculty to update their pages, while other faculty members were unaware that the database even existed. Other issues developed as a result of developing a “joint ownership” with College Relations. The amount of work to maintain and update the database became unwieldy and overwhelming. Thus when the option to move to Selected Works created an opportunity that would allow us to distribute the workload, allow faculty to update their pages if they so chose, as well as provide a more visually pleasing format, we chose that option. With the new system, comes new issues for discussion and decisions.

New Issues

1. **Annual List of Faculty Publications and Performances.** We cannot generate a list of recent publications with Selected Works. Is this list something that is essential for the college and if the answer is “yes”, then who should maintain it, and what resources are available for maintaining it.
2. **Annual Celebration of Faculty Scholarship and Performances.** A celebration is co-sponsored by the Library and CST. We did not generate a printed list last year due to the number of inaccuracies and challenges that led to someone not being represented on the list. Is there a need for this list?
3. **Statistics for IR.** Academic indicators were developed over the past few years and the expectation is that the library will provide a detailed count of faculty publications and performances.
4. **Updating individual pages.** Who should be responsible for updating individual faculty pages? As an example, a recent Bulletin included information on a new article publication by a faculty member. Do we designate a staff member to update pages as we receive notices, or does the liaison contact the faculty member, or what other process and procedure should we implement? It was agreed that we would work on a training session for interested faculty in October and coordinate with CST.

Next Steps

1. Terri will discuss issues with CST and identify their needs for list for annual celebration.
2. Terri and Ron will develop a training session for the newly hired tenure-track faculty, as well as for faculty who are interested in updating their own pages.
3. A discussion with Johan O. and liaisons will take place in the Fall to discuss maintenance issues.
4. A system will be in place in time for the Spring updates.