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But we made the easy cuts last year

Barbara C. Ingrassia University of Massachusetts Medical School

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"But we made the easy cuts last year!"

Maintaining a Quality Journal Collection in Tough Budget Times

Introduction: After dealing with three major budget cuts in FY03, The Lamar Soutter Library faced additional reductions for FY04. After brainstorming, the Management Team realized that drastic journal and staffing cuts were on the horizon. Concerns for the collection and continued customer service called for creative solutions. This poster examines the measures taken to preserve a quality journals collection.

Barbara Combes Ingrassia, MLS, AHIP Associate Director for Technical Services Elaine R. Martin, MSLS, MA, AHIP **Director of Library Services** The Lamar Soutter Library **University of Massachusetts Medical School** **Results and Conclusions:** The results of this process were unexpected. The faculty had been involved in the process and understood the ramifications of massive journal cuts. As a group, the Faculty Council appealed to the School Administration – and the Administration gave the necessary funds to the Library to pay for the journals slated to be cut. Although a "happy ending" is not always possible, a carefully planned review process, utilizing as much hard data as possible, and keeping the users informed at each stage, can benefit the library as it seeks to provide quality resources in support of the school's mission.

2001

2002

Winter 2003

Spring 2003

Fall 2003

Sept: LSL starts to collect usage data for print journals by scanning barcodes.

Usage Data is Collected by Scanning Barcodes at the Time of Re-Shelving



March: LSL starts to collect usage data for electronic journals using Cold Fusion

Summer: LSL Management Team compiles data for making decisions about journal cuts for 2003.

Sept: Final decisions made on journal cuts for 2003; 113 titles cut with fewer than 5 uses.

Winter: LSL Management Team compiles data on titles with fewer than 50 uses.

Feb 12: LSL submits budget request for FY04: Working FY03 Budget plus an increase to cover inflation

Feb 13: LSL is asked to trim 10% from Approved FY03 Budget and submit new budget for FY04.

March 1: LSL is asked to trim the 10% from Working FY03 Budget and submit a 3rd budget for FY04.

June 5: Library Director Elaine Martin discusses possible journal cuts with Faculty Council and Academic Department Heads.

June 17: Martin discusses Journal Cancellation Project with UMMS Library Committee.

June 18: Martin sends e-mail and journal lists to Faculty asking for their input to cut \$100,000 (about 200 titles) from Journals Line by Sept. 1. (Journal Cancellation Project) Her message and the list of titles slated for cancellation are posted on the LSL web page under "What's New?"

Letter from Library Director

Elaine Martin to Faculty

Dear Lamar Soutter Library Patron

Elaine R. Martin Director of Library Service

Summer: Faculty send comments to Associate Director for Technical Services.

> Information Posted on LSL Website for **Journal Cancellation Project**

July 7: Martin discusses Journal

curriculum-related Educational

Cancellation Project with

Policy Committee.



Table 1: 371 Titles Used Less Than 50 Times

| Table One: Total Project Usage (Low to High) | Table Two: Cost per Use for Fiscal Year 2003 (High to Low) | | | | | | |
|--|--|------------------|---|---------------|-------------------|--------------|------|
| TITLE | Cost FY 83 | Project Total | TITLE | Cost FY 00 | PT 03 PINE Use | Cost Per Use | Neve |
| Advances in biological psychiatry. | 98 | - 1 | | | | | _ |
| | | | 1 Brain research. Gene expression patterns. | 2853 | 0 | 2.853 | |
| Advances in carbohydrate chemistry and biochemistry. | 140 | | | 3620 | | 1.632 | |
| Brain research. Gene expression patterns. | 2853 | | Pfibusers Archiv : European journal of | | | | |
| Research and theory for nursing practice. | 128 | | 3 physiology. | 3459 | 2 | 1.730 | |
| Science & medicine. | 225 | | Journal of chromatography, B. Biomedical | | | | |
| Annual review of nursing research. | 53 | 2 | 4 sciences and applications. | 4880 | 3 | 1.627 | |
| Cold Spring Harbor symposia on quantitative biology: | | | 5 FEMS microbiology ecology | 6071 | | | |
| [proceedings]. | 215 | 2 | 6 Archives of gerontology and genetics. | 1437 | - 1 | 1.487 | |
| Critical care clinics | 228 | | 7 Brain research, Brain research protocols. | 2853 | 2 | 1.427 | |
| Scandinavian journal of surgery: SJS: official organ for | | | it Journal of liquid chromatography. | 2750 | 2 | 1,275 | |
| the Finnish Surgical Society and the Scandinavian | | | 9 Utologia internationalis. | 15304 | 12 | | |
| Surgical Society. | 221 | 2 | 13 Polyhedron | 6288 | - 5 | 1,258 | |
| Acta neurochirurpicis: Supplementum. | 0 | | 11 Leukemia resporch | 2117 | - 2 | 1,059 | |
| Advances in pharmacology. | 130 | 3 | Jayannel of hormartical meterials research | | | | |
| Advances in protein chemistry. | 124 | 3 | 12 Applied biomaterials | 5245 | | 1.049 | |

August 7: Martin updates Faculty Council.

Summer 2003

August 19: Martin calls special meeting of Library Committee.

August: Faculty Council appeals to UMMS Administration for funds to avoid drastic journal cuts.

Comments were received from 52+ Faculty about 106 Titles.

- "I appreciate this opportunity to comment on the journal titles that are scheduled for termination by the Library....
- "Title is one of the primary journals in the field, and key in education and research. It is a must keep!"
- "I strongly urge you not to eliminate Title. Some of our full-time faculty hold editorial positions on this iournal. It would be strange indeed for a University to cancel the subscription to a journal for which its own faculty play an editorial role.'
- "...I'd also like to ask that you consider adding Title."

Sept 1: Deadline for Faculty comments.

Sept 2: Martin thanks Administration for increased funds; only 40 titles to be cut.

Sept. 8: LSL informs journal vendors of titles to be cut.

Letter from Elaine Martin with GOOD NEWS September 2, 2003

Print Subscriptions are Decreasing due to Budget Cuts Print Journal Subscriptions 1580 2002 2003 1470

Each Title has One Barcode Per Decade



Use OBSERVER software for Endeavor ILS on a PDA with a built in laser barcode scanner.

See: http://paulasay.indstate.edu/observer



Used by LSL Management Team for Journal Cancellation Project