

**MERLIN Collection Development & Reference Services Committee Meeting  
November 10, 2009 via Telepresence**

Attending:

LSO: Kurt Kopp, Terry Austin, Abbie Brown, Susan McCormack

MST: Maggie Trish, Sherry Mahnken

MU: Hunter Kevil, Goodie Bhullar, Ann Riley, Judy Maseles, Diane Johnson, Mary Ryan, Cindy Bassett  
(MU-Law) and Rhonda Whithaus

UMKC: Steve Alleman, Melissa Muth, Nancy Morgan, Rebecca Power

UMSL: Tim Nelson, Jan Peach, Lindsay Schmitz

**A. Compilation of Database cut list (see attached consolidated ranking sheet)**

The databases on the consolidated ranking sheet were discussed, and the campuses agreed to the following cuts if necessary for FY 2011:

A&H Index (per-search) – we are only using approximately \$2250 this yr. so will have money left to apply to Philosopher's Index. MU may pick up a separate subscription.

Ovid Online Users – we have fewer databases on the Ovid platform, so will cut 29 users in the April renewal. This includes 5 for SLU; the UM campuses will cut 24, for a total of \$12,000. Terry suggested we cut to point where we get turnaways & then add back if necessary.

Company of Biologists -- UMKC may purchase separately

Core Biomedical/ Bio Med II – LSO will pick up the AMA package instead. Terry subtracted the JAMA & Archive journals fees (\$15,220) from the running cuts total

PAIS – KC needs to keep for Urban Studies – they have the archive so need to subscribe to keep that

Nature Clinical Practice – Nature bid this & cost came down, but cost per use is high

Table of Contents – we all agreed that the ToC are very useful, but after discussion preferred to keep databases with added content if we have to make cuts. We still have \$32,000 this year allocated for FY 10. Terry will re-send the parameters we agreed to last year so we can send current titles for ToC. She will also try to get BNA to run a deposit account for us in case we have some funds left over. MU has signed up with OCLC to add TOC into some of their records – there are parameters to prevent overlap. We discussed the possibility of using any funds LSO has left at the end of the year to purchase ToC, though it will be unlikely that there will be year-end funds in the future.

Materials Sciences - pricing is linked to TRD. We pay less for TRD because it has all of Materials Science included; if we cut Materials Science, the cost of TRD will nearly double. We will switch places for these 2 on the cut list, cancelling TRD and keeping Materials Science.

ABI – Inform – Proquest is threatening retaliatory pricing if we cancel their databases; they will double the price on Dissertations & Theses (to ~ \$30,000) if we cancel ABI. After discussion, the campuses decided there would be sufficient business subject coverage in EBSCO Business Source Premier, and voted to cancel ABI-Inform. If we cut this, we lose access to Wall Street Journal. (LSO would not be able to pick up the cost at \$35,267 for all 4 campuses, but if we decide we want it, the subscription could be billed back to individual campuses.

**The cuts to this point on the Consolidated Rankings list reached the total of \$250,000 we were asked to cut (approximately \$257,000). The remainder of the databases were discussed in case further cuts were needed.**

Dissertations & Theses was not on the cut list, so the committee needs to discuss this with their campuses to see if they wish to keep it with the cost increase, and if so, what they want to cut to cover the \$15,000 cost increase.

EI Compendex – discussion was that if we cut TRD, we should not cut Compendex. Both MST and MU say Compendex is vital for their Engineering programs. They prefer it over Scopus for ease of use although Scopus says they cover the same titles as Compendex

“Gut” and “Thorax” – we do not need to consider cutting these medical titles at this time

EBSCO ASP Upgrade – MU, UMKC, & MST are all keeping subscriptions to the EBSCO databases, so would like to continue the upgrade from Academic Search Elite: UMSL is not sure at this time if it will be able to renew.

TRD – we will cancel in place of Materials Sciences

BioOne – this covers more Biology than Medical topics, so we need to keep it

Avery – the majority of campuses wished to keep this

GeoRef – we do not need to consider cutting at this time

Nature/Nature Research & Reviews – without the Clinical Practice titles, these are more Biology & Life Sciences, so we would like to keep

(It was suggested that the campuses discuss BioOne and the Nature resources further to see if there was overlap.)

## **B. PsycInfo Bid**

Terry noted that we might see some savings by bidding PsycInfo: she will approach the vendors with our list of specifications to see if more than one meets the proposed requirements. She will arrange trials in February 2010 for all vendors meeting our requested specifications. Kurt Kopp will be bidding PsycArticles for MOBIUS, so it may no longer be on the Ovid platform.

## **C. Catalog redesign issues**

The Catalog Re-design Task Force has a list of proposed changes to the catalog with mockups. There are six quick changes that will be discussed by e-mail so campuses can provide input.

**Next meeting date will be April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010 from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm via Telepresence. The teleconference rooms have already been reserved for our use.**