

Libraries' Committee Report
Vicki L. Sauter, Chair
September 19, 2006

There are two changes happening in the Libraries this semester the Committee believes should be brought to the attention of the Senate.

1. The Libraries will be undergoing a process of serials cuts starting this semester. As we all know, journal subscriptions have increased at an alarming rate over recent history. Between 2002-2006, journal subscription increases have averaged between 39-49%. Unfortunately, the Libraries' budget has been flat during that time. Although UMSL completed a similar serials-cutting process in the Fall 2001 (for journal subscriptions starting in 2003), and the Library joined consortia to obtain best pricing of serials, it is necessary to cut serials to avoid deficits in the Library budget.

The current cancellations will be for the subscriptions starting January 2008 through 2010; decisions must be made by the end of the Fall '06 Semester. Each department has a librarian designated as its "selector". The selectors will be contacting their departments' library liaisons in early Fall with titles specific to that department from which cancellations will be chosen. The list of titles includes information useful to making the decision to keep or delete, such as price, inflation rate, impact factor when applicable, cost per use, and availability online. Selectors will work with the department's library liaison in making the cancellation decisions, and will be available to meet with the department, as well as answer questions any individual faculty members may have about the database or deselection process. Each department's cut will be in proportion to its contribution to the overall increase in journal costs.

2. Copying using cards at the Library will soon change. The Libraries will soon begin contracting with UMSL Printing Services to provide copiers and card vending equipment. This will allow patrons to obtain a single card that can be used for copying at all of the pay copiers on the campus. Rates for coin copies will be \$0.10; card copies will cost slightly less. (Rate to be determined by Printing). Departmental billing will be available through Printing.

There will be no interruption of copying services in the Libraries. The current vendor has continued to serve us on a month-to-month basis, and will not remove their machines until new equipment arrives and is installed. Any outstanding balances on current copy cards will be refunded to patrons. It is expected this will happen in October.