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To: The University of Oregon Community

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Subject: Serials Cancellation Update

By now you have seen the Provost's message regarding additional one-time funding for the Libraries. The powerful reaction of the UO faculty to the Libraries' funding situation stands as testament to the importance that the community places on maintaining high quality, comprehensive research collections. In addition to acknowledging faculty concerns, the Provost's decision to mitigate the current cancellation project reflects an understanding of the following realities:

- The new campus budget model has yet to be fully implemented, and its impact on central services (including the Libraries) is still unknown.
- The Big Idea portion of the Academic Plan is still in play.
- The campus is getting a new president, who may have his/her own vision for research libraries.
- The UO is engaged in discussions regarding deep collaboration with OSU, OUS, and Orbis-Cascade. In order to ensure a more sustainable model over the long term, we need to cooperatively build collections in conjunction with other institutions.
- The magnitude of the library's budget problems should provide an opportunity and an incentive for the campus to discuss new models of access to scholarly resources and new roles for the research library. Temporary funding mitigates the immediate damage and gives us some time to begin these discussions and to transition to a more sustainable model.

The \$300,000 provided by the Provost will be used to reduce the percentage cut in journal subscriptions, slowing the loss of access to library material (\$250,000), and to support UO faculty publishing in open access journals modeled after the [UC-Berkeley Library program](#) (\$50,000). Using some of the Provost's assistance to help transform the concept of the research library and its relationship to scholarly communications is appropriate given the lack of sustainability present in the current information environment and the need for the academy to respond with changes of its own.

Although the Provost's funds will be applied to the cancellation goal of \$1.2 million, immediately reducing the amount of journals needing to be cancelled, there are several important considerations to keep in mind:

- Assuming that there will not be any reductions to the UO Libraries' budget in the near future, the library will take the \$1.2 million in cancellations over a two year period; however,
- Should the Libraries' overall budget be reduced in FY 09 or in FY 10, it will be necessary to re-evaluate the length of time that future cancellations can be postponed. In other words, it may be necessary to cut the entire \$1.2 million (or more) in FY 10.

Journal cancellation targets have been re-calculated based on the assistance from the Provost as well as any credits applied to a given fund line as part of a database cancellation (a list of the databases proposed for cancellation is provided on the [Collections Review 2009 site](#)). Credits from centrally

funded databases that were spread evenly across all fund lines account for the fact that some discipline areas are not required to cancel any journals.

In the weeks to come, subject specialists will continue to work with library departmental representatives and other faculty to identify cuts based on these new targets. Subject specialists and faculty are requested to submit the cancellation lists by March 13, 2009. Once the lists have been submitted, they will be posted on the Collections Review site for inspection by the campus community.