Budget pressures may reduce access to resources – Jim Bothmer

Creighton University has undergone extensive strategic planning over the past year. The Creighton strategy calls for an environment in which creativity, innovation, and collaboration can thrive. This strategy identifies opportunities. The FY15 operating budget is designed to support the achievement of the University’s strategy by directing financial resources to achieve priorities. Investments in people and programs are high priorities.

In order to meet those worthy strategic goals it is necessary to reconsider where and how we spend our money as a University. So, some areas will see a reduction in their budget in order to free up funds to reinvest in other strategic priority areas.

While it is my firm belief that the libraries are critical to the academic, research, and patient care needs of the University, we must plan for the reality that the Health Sciences Library will see a reduction in our budget to help meet other University priorities. Below is a scenario of what the impact could be, and in this case the impact would be on all of the University and not just the health sciences area.

Currently the HSL invests along with Reinert and Law Libraries in “package” deals with various publishers. The cost of these package deals is based on the number of subscriptions we had with the publisher plus some additional costs. For that dollar amount we gain access to hundreds more titles plus there is a cap on the annual price increase. So, for example, for 2015 it is estimated that the cost of health sciences journals will increase on average by 9%. With our package deal with one publisher the cap is set at 3%. The disadvantage to this model is that our funds are tied up with one publisher and we don’t have much flexibility in being able to license another product. We are also locked into this model if we make multi-year agreements. However, there are also clear advantages to this model as well, among them that there would be a cap on the cost increase and there would be greater access.

Let’s take one publisher as an example. We pay $326,000 for the package from this publisher. This gets us access to 1,658 titles. In calendar year 2013 40,085 articles were downloaded from the titles in this package. If we unbundled that package al a cart we would be able to purchase only 281 titles, thus losing access to 1,377. And, in reality, the cap on the prices for this publisher would be eliminated so our purchasing power would actually be less. Similar impact would be seen with other package deals. See the chart below for further understanding of the impact of unbundling packages.

Note, this is just a hypothetical scenario. As this newsletter goes to press we do not yet know what the impact will be. But, if we see a reduction in our expenditures there will most definitely be an impact on what informational resources we can provide to meet the teaching, research, and patient care needs of our students, faculty, and staff.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Publisher Package A</th>
<th>Journals included</th>
<th>2Expected coverage w/o Package</th>
<th>Loss of access (% of titles)</th>
<th>3Articles viewed in 2013</th>
<th>3Articles viewed per day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Publisher Package B</td>
<td>1673</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>22,446</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publisher Package C</td>
<td>1658</td>
<td>281</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>40,085</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publisher Package D</td>
<td>287</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>38,494</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>228,763</strong></td>
<td><strong>627</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
1. The combined cost for the packages is over $1,000,000. The individual subscription price for all the journals in the packages is over $9,000,000.
2. This assumes we would drop the package plans and switch to individual subscriptions at the same cost (just over $1,000,000). Of course, if we have to cut the library’s journal budget, we will retain even fewer titles.
3. Because we would retain the most used journals (“core titles”) the loss of access by articles is estimated to be 40% - 60%, depending on the package.
Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries

Jim Bothmer, University librarian, Director of the Health Sciences Library and President of the Association of Academic Health Sciences Libraries (AAHSL), represented Creighton as the AAHSL’s Executive Committee visited Washington, D.C. in April. The Executive Committee also included the Immediate Past President, M.J. Tooe, AVP Academic Affairs and Executive Director Health Sciences/Human Services Library, University of Maryland in Baltimore, MD and Paul Schoening, President-elect and Associate Dean and Director, Bernard Becker Medical Library, Washington University in St. Louis.

Together the three members met with health associations and organizations in the nation’s capital to find common areas of cooperation and synergy. This year, the group met with the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP); the American Association of Medical Centers (AAMC); the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA); the Association of Research Libraries (ARL); the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS); and the National Library of Medicine (NLM). The results of those meetings will be compiled and shared with the AAHSL membership.

VisualDX update adds quizzes to app

The new update of VisualDX adds a quiz function to test your diagnostic skills. Version 2.23 includes 1300+ diagnoses and 28000+ medical images. VisualDX Quiz has 1300 questions and 13000 images to test your knowledge. If you already have the app just update to the latest version. You can get the app in the Apple or Android app stores. Create an account for mobile access at the Visual DX website: http://login.cushl.creighton.edu/login?url=http://www.visualdx.com. Contact the reference staff if you have questions.
Family views historical photograph.

Jeanne Marie and Henry Fishkin visited the Creighton Health Sciences Library this April. They are the children of Suzanne Tinley BA80, grandchildren of Jeanne Stech Tinley BA41, and great grandchildren of Cecil Bess Durham and Wenceslaus J. Stech, Creighton Medical School class of 1913, who are featured in the framed photograph they are holding. There have been 4 generations of the Stech and Tinley families that have attended Creighton University.

This historical photograph of a surgery clinic was donated to the library by their grandmother Jeanne and is part of the History of Medicine collection in the library. Jeanne Marie and Henry are also the grandchildren of Jane Fishkin, Library Specialist and the late Arthur Fishkin, former Biomedical Sciences faculty member.

Patient Education Materials Assessment Tool

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) has developed a new tool for healthcare professionals. The Patient Education Materials Assessment Tool (PEMAT) is part of the agency’s ongoing efforts to promote health literacy. It helps users select from the many patient education materials available to determine those that are easier to understand and act on. Materials that score better on the PEMAT can be distributed to patients and consumers in hard copy, placed in an electronic health record system for providers to access at the point of care, or posted on patient portals. The accompanying user’s guide provides instructions on how to use the PEMAT, and a spreadsheet file automatically calculates PEMAT scores. [http://1.usa.gov/Ilbfs6](http://1.usa.gov/Ilbfs6)

Marcella Dial receives Masters degree

The Health Sciences Library staff would like to congratulate Marcella Dial for receiving her Master Degree of Science in Ethnic and Multicultural Studies from the Minnesota State University of Mankato. After two years of working full-time, going to school full-time, helping support a family, and staying active in the community, Marcella finished graduate school! She said, “I thank God for giving me the strength to juggle many responsibilities and for my family and for their unwavering support and sacrifice. I also would like to thank my Health Sciences Library family for their support and for their many words of encouragement.”
Pet Therapy at the Health Sciences Library

Harriet, the certified therapy dog, visited the library on Sunday, May 4 to help students reduce the stress of studying for finals. Many students, some who were missing their dogs at home, took some time off to pet Harriet the dachshund before going back to their books. The library staff also provided coffee, tea and snacks to the students.