Assessment Annual Report

Oregon State University
Libraries and Press

Collection Development

Collection Development focuses on managing the general collection in the Valley Library and off-site storage. This collection consists of print and electronic resources that are either owned or leased through various subscription models. The Collection Council has general oversight of the decisions made with input from interested groups.

Fiscal Year

2022-2023

Overview

Oregon State University Libraries & Press (OSULP) worked closely with Portland State University (PSU) and the University of Oregon (UO) to review usage data, cost points, and licensing terms to negotiate new contract terms for Elsevier journal content. This was the first real application of the Open and Sustainable Scholarly Communication Negotiation Principles with a publisher. Although OSULP, PSU, and UO opted to cease negotiations and pause paywalled access to Elsevier journals, some negotiation principles were amenable to Elsevier. The inability of Elsevier to shift from historic and opaque journal pricing in a shifting Open Access market to more transparent and consistent pricing for paywalled content was the unresolved issue in the negotiations process.

Since the decision to pause the contract for paywalled Elsevier journal content, OSULP has enacted a strong communication plan allowing the OSU community to share input. Research guides were created to support people learning about alternative access, and new tools, LibKey and Article Galaxy Scholar, were added to the discovery layer to increase open access connections and article-level purchasing. We collect and review data on usage and impact monthly.

While Elsevier negotiations were occurring, the Collection Council met over a week and defined our strategic intent for the year. Our primary goals were to improve the transparency of our work to the broader OSU community by reviewing current communication channels. We also identified processes that needed to be modified to better align with the academic calendar. We completed our collaborative policy writing work and expect to launch a comprehensive LibGuide to support the information sharing of OSULP collections work.

Strategic Significance:

The OSULP strategic goal the collection council aligns with most closely is to "practice active and respectful stewardship" (Strategic Goal 4). The stewardship extends to all formats maintained in general collections and supports our intention of getting interested group input to support decision-making. External priorities that connect with the work in the collection council are: "optimizing the library experience..." through the reduction of barriers to access content; "strengthen equity, diversity and inclusion..." by ensuring underrepresented voices are seen and heard; "pursue solutions that will support publishing,

distribution and collection models..." by working with publishers and vendors to ensure our values of privacy and accessibility are reflected in the platforms and content we subscribe; and, "use direct and indirect strategies to help make college more affordable..." by building collections that support the teaching and learning of OSULP.

Takeaways:
- Continued refinement of applying the negotiation principles. We need to achieve small changes each year when encountering publisher pushback. We also need a schedule to help support our communication efforts with the OSU community and reduce interruptions to accessing content.
- Adding new tools like Libkey and Article Galaxy Scholar help to support access to articles, both open access and paywalled. These tools help set the stage for considering the future strategic directions that Open creates for collection development and management, and discovery.

Next Steps:
- The collections LibGuide will be launched in July with improvements to the discovery of the guide on the main OSULP website.
- The Elsevier usage data will continue to be reviewed with the expectation of sending an update to the OSU community in fall. This data will also support OSULP in determining future negotiations with Elsevier for access to paywalled journal content.
- Establishing a negotiation schedule and building support for that work with campus. This work aligns with the strategy to continue to improve the transparency and communication of collections-related work to the OSU community.

Assessment:

Since the pause to subscription access to Elsevier content we have been tracking the usage of our post-termination access content, and how many times a researcher has been turned away from Elsevier content to which we do not currently provide access. In addition to this data, we have been assessing the usage and efficacy of our services that provide access to individual Elsevier articles: Article Delivery Service and Interlibrary Loan. We plan to use this data to inform our future decisions related to negotiating an Elsevier subscription.

With the launch of the collections Libguide, we can track visits to the guide. We will also create input forms that will provide us with data we can use to assess adding or renewing collections.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerri Goergen-Doll   July 29, 2023
Signature of the person (or persons) who prepared this report   Date submitted