

State University Libraries - Electronic Resources Subcommittee Quarterly Report

Report from the ERS for review by the SUL Collection Planning Committee, February 9, 2006

This report reflects discussions and activities from committee meetings conducted via conference call on December 5, 2005; January 9, 2006; and February 6, 2006.

Action Items:

There are no action items at this time.

Information items:

Electronic Journal Packages

- 1. Cambridge University Press** - The 2006 renewal process is complete and libraries have received their invoices.
- 2. Elsevier ScienceDirect** - The 2006 renewal process is near completion. Participants have reviewed lists reflecting their subscriptions after the swap-out of titles was completed. Negotiations will begin this fall for the new contract for 2008 forward.
- 3. Springer** - A new, 3 or 5-year contract and license is currently being negotiated.
- 4. Blackwell** - A new contract is being negotiated. There is a possibility of participation by private Florida universities, resulting in a cost reduction for the SUL.
- 5. Oxford** - Due to a lack of appropriate customer support, the renewal process for OUP has now become protracted. However, we do have access to our subscriptions and the new 2006 titles.
- 6. Wiley** - The renewal process went smoothly and is now complete for 2006.

Other Electronic Resources

- 1. Compendex Backfiles** - A revised agreement was received from Elsevier and the back files have been acquired by FAU, FIU, FSU, UCF, UF and USF.
- 2. Gale Virtual Reference Library** - Each SUL selected titles in priority order. These were collated, resulting in the following titles being added:
 - Acronyms, Initialisms, and Abbreviations Dictionary, 35th ed.
 - American Men and Women of Science, 22nd ed.
 - Child Development
 - Encyclopedia of American Foreign Policy
 - Encyclopedia of American Religions
 - Encyclopedia of African-American Culture and History, 2nd ed.
 - Encyclopedia of Black Studies
 - Encyclopedia of Religion
 - Encyclopedia of the American Constitution
 - Feminism in Literature: A Gale Critical Companion
 - Scholarships, Fellowships and Loans, 22nd ed.

3. Chronicle of Higher Education - The following SULs are participating in a consortial subscription: FAMU, FGCU, FSU, UCF, UF, and USF

4. Philosopher's Index – FAU, FGCU, FSU, UCF, USF, UF and UWF are taking advantage of consortial pricing through CSA.

Proposals

1. Books 24/7 - The ERS received and considered a proposal for a subscription to the *ITPro* and *BusinessPro* collection of ebooks. There were reservations as to content and security restrictions imposed by Books 24/7 and not sufficient interest to pursue this at this time.

2. CSA/Sage Full Text Collections – The ERS has requested that CSA put a proposal together for subscription to all of the full text collections currently available.

3. B.C. Decker – The ERS considered a proposal offered for subscription to these 13 medical/dental titles. Libraries were required to maintain their current subscriptions and for an additional fee, access to the remaining titles would be granted. There was not sufficient interest the title list and the offer will not be pursued.

4. Taylor & Francis – The ERS is in the very beginning stages of working with Taylor & Francis on an ejournal package for the SULs.

5. Verde – Ex Libris has made a proposal to FCLA for the purchase of Verde by the SULs. The following will be participating: FAU (in 2007), FIU, UCF, UF, and USF (all in 2006).

Eresource Issues & Initiatives

1. LexisNexis Academic – In December 2005, the ERS responded to a request for feedback from SOLINET (via Michele Newberry, FCLA) on LexisNexis. The following comments were sent:

Negative

- Doesn't work in a federated search environment
- Doesn't work in an open URL environment
- Platform is antiquated
- Help screens don't cover some useful things which have been demonstrated in training sessions
- Searching is primitive
- Interface is not intuitive
- Lexis has been unresponsive

Positive

- At USF searches are fast compared to NewsBank

2. Possible alternatives to the content in LexisNexis Academic – As agreed at the ERS in-person meeting in September 2005, the committee will study the possible replacement of LexisNexis Academic with one or more other resources. In order to accomplish this, it was decided that four major components (Legal Research, Business, News, & Medical) would be reviewed by one of the current subject working groups and an ad hoc Law group. The ad hoc Law group is comprised of both law librarians and non-law librarians.

The following charge has been sent to the chairs of each group:

LexisNexis Academic Project – Charge

The SUL ERS (Electronic Resources Subcommittee), at its in-person meeting in September 2005, discussed and recommended investigating alternative resources that could replace the content in LexisNexis Academic. Reasons for this include the continued increase in cost for this already expensive product, the loss of content, the inadequate and outdated search capabilities, and its non-compliance with federated search and link resolver technologies used by the State University Libraries.

Realizing that finding one resource to replace LexisNexis Academic is highly unlikely, the ERS is charging the Business, Science/Health Sciences, Social Sciences subcommittees/working groups and an ad hoc Law working group with researching the possible alternatives. Assignments are as follows:

Business – Business
Science/Health Sciences – Medical
Social Sciences – News (excluding Business, Medical & Legal News)
Ad hoc Law - Legal Research

Some criteria to consider are equal or comparable content, search interface, search capabilities, output functionality (save, print, email), compliance with current technologies (federated searching, link resolvers, open URL, etc.), COUNTER compliant usage reporting. Upon receipt of each group's report, ERS and FCLA will coordinate to obtain pricing.

This assignment and a report of your findings should be completed by March 27, 2006. Please submit the report to the ERS via SUSECC-L@LISTS.UFL.EDU.

Please convene your subcommittee/working group to begin this work and let me know if you have questions or if any other clarification is needed.

Thank you.

3. OCLC FirstSearch per search databases – FirstSearch databases were evaluated for possible removal from the SUL collection. The Business subcommittee identified several that were felt to be of marginal value. Ken Wells provided usage statistics on all of the per search database for the ERS discussion. In light of the fact that some are choosing to use for their research, the ERS has recommended that we not remove them at this time. The ERS will reconsider these databases before renewal for 2007.

4. SFX/Metalib Summit – A subcommittee of the ERS has been formed to work with the DDAC on the planning and organization of the summit. Members are Monica Metz-Wiseman (chair), Athena Hoepfner, and Lynn Shay. Monica is developing a survey in order to identify what the potential participants are expecting from the summit.

5. Pilot Project with SOLINET – The CSUL has recommended that the ERS "...decide which of the projects to address, and return to the CSUL with a budget for their consideration." The ERS has moved ahead on two of the proposed projects; analysis of LexisNexis, and the purchase of the Compendex backfiles. The committee will discuss the third project, subscription to the University of Chicago Press Ejournal package, during the next conference call.

ERS Organizational Items

1. ERS Development Plan – The updated Development Plan has now been revised to incorporate the CSUL restructuring. It will be resubmitted to the Collection Planning Committee for approval and then submitted to the directors.

2. New ERS Members – Joining the committee in 2006 are:

Natalee Hattig - FSU

Michelle Crump – UF

Lee Ann Howlett - USF-Shimberg HSC

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor Lomax, Chair Electronic Resources Subcommittee