

## **State University Libraries - Electronic Resources Subcommittee Quarterly Report**

Report from the ERS for review by the SUL Collection Planning Committee, November 16, 2006.

This report reflects discussions and activities from committee meetings conducted via conference call on Oct. 2, 2006; and Nov. 6, 2006. It also includes recommendations from the ERS annual meeting held at the University of Central Florida, Sept. 20 & 21, 2006.

### **Action Items:**

The ERs made the following recommendations to the CPC for balancing the FCLA funds for databases:

- Cease the purchase of FirstSearch blocks, savings of \$207,000.
- Each institution will contribute funds to make up the overage (\$140,564).
- Explore individual database subscriptions to replace FirstSearch blocks.
- Seek alternative subscriptions for MLA.
- Obtain individual quotes for Value Line for the sake of comparison.
- Seek a better pricing offer for RefWorks.

Accepted by CPC

### **Information items:**

#### **Electronic Journal Packages**

##### **1. Blackwell Synergy**

Package details were explained by representatives from Blackwell at the ERS annual meeting. FAU, FIU and FSU have added the HSS Collection to their existing STM Collection. FGCU and NCF have become participants in the Full Collection and UWF has become a participant in the STM Collection. A revised license has been received, along with a letter of agreement and business terms for 2007-2009.

The current status of participation for 2007 is:

- FAMU – not participating
- FAU – Full Collection
- FGCU – Full Collection
- FIU – Full Collection
- FSU – Full Collection
- NCF – Full Collection
- UCF – Full Collection
- UF – Full Collection
- UNF – STM Collection
- USF – Full Collection
- UWF – STM Collection

#### **Proposals**

##### **1. LexisNexis Congressional Research Digital Collection (CRDC)**

A proposal was received for purchase of this collection, with an annual maintenance fee after 2 years. Five participants are needed. FSU has already purchased.

##### **2. Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals**

This resource is no longer available from RLG. Ovid offered a 10% discount for three participants. FIU-Law, FSU-Law and UF-LAW have subscribed. Access is university-wide for one user.

### **3. GeoScienceWorld**

Amigos considers three participants a consortia. Pricing is based on faculty and researchers in the Geosciences. FIU and USF are current subscribers. At this time, there was no interest among the other libraries.

### **4. INSPEC via Engineering Village**

Elsevier has offered a consortium price proposal for the INSPEC Archive (1969–1898) and INSPEC (196–present). Pricing is based on at least two schools purchasing the INSPEC Archive. Elsevier would charge an access fee for INSPEC (1969–present) under this proposal. The proposal is under consideration since INSPEC will cease on the ScienceDirect platform beginning January 1, 2007. Some of the SULs have been relying on SD rather than the FCLA supported Citation Server platform.

### **5. ACM Digital Library/SOLINET**

SOLINET is able to offer the ACM Digital Library at a price less than what FCLA is currently paying. However, it is ACM policy that “any institution or group of institutions that lapses to jump to a new consortium deal will remain at their old consortium’s current per institution price for at least two renewal cycles....” For the SULs this means that we would be able to take advantage of SOLINET’s higher FTE-based discount beginning in July 2008. All have agreed to switch to SOLINET.

### **6. Gale Academic OneFile**

FCLA was notified that the charge for adding this new resource to the current Gale package would be \$1,748.00. *Academic OneFile* is “a comprehensive database of more than 8,000 journals covering everything from STM to the humanities.” As the price was sufficiently low, it was agreed that it would be worthwhile to add this.

## **E-resource Issues & Initiatives**

### **1. Metalib Summit**

The Summit was held September 7-9, 2006. Report from Monica Metz-Wiseman sent as a separate attachment.

### **2. Pilot Project with SOLINET**

Tim Cherubini has begun negotiations with both the University of Chicago Press and Taylor & Francis. A proposal was received from the University of Chicago. This was sent by SOLINET to the ERS chair on November 3, 2006. Comments from the ERS membership have been forwarded to T. Cherubini.

A conference call to discuss licensing issues and requirements was held on October 24, 2006. In attendance were John Ingram, UF; Eleanor Lomax, FAU; Michele Newberry, FCLA; Monica Metz-Wiseman, USF; Tim Cherubini, SOLINET.

An initial proposal from Taylor & Francis was sent to the ERS on November 16, 2006.

### **3. Value Line**

Since the onset of the subscription, the SULs have experienced inconsistencies in access to the product. Reports of access being disabled were received on the following dates:

April 6 and June 23, 2004

January 20, 2005

March 27, May 4, May 30, August 29, October 1, and November 1, 2006

The incidents were not isolated but rather involved all 10 State University Libraries and were not always resolved quickly. On October 16, 2006, a letter chronicling these events was sent to the

President/CEO of Value Line. This letter also suggested that a credit for the downtime would be appropriate. On November 1, our access was once again not available.

The following explanation was sent to FCLA and also communicated to the ERS chair via telephone by Matt Jamison on November 2, 2006.

“The account number that FCLA has was renewed but the school account numbers were not changed. I take full responsibility for this matter and have corrected the problem on our end. There was a time when everything was under one account number when Ed Condon was the account rep and that changed in order to provide usage statistics. This caused each account to lapse. I have fixed the problem and will extend each account for 30 days at no charge for the ten days in which service was interrupted. I apologize for this inconvenience and look forward to a problem free future for FCLA.”

ERS will continue to monitor this closely and hold Value Line accountable.

#### **4. Gale Virtual Reference Library**

The SULs are in the process of selecting additional Gale Virtual Reference titles to purchase using the Gale credit extended as a result of persistent migration issues of previously purchased Ready Reference Shelf titles.

### **ERS Organizational Items**

#### **1. In-person Meeting**

Follow-up to the ERS recommendations made at the annual meeting of September 20 & 21.

- Seek alternative subscriptions for MLA  
Overall dissatisfaction with the Gale interface for MLA and their disinclination to initiate significant improvements has led to ERS seeking an alternative. EBSCO was asked to and did provide a quote for the SULs. Three libraries prefer to remain with the Gale MLA and FCLA requested a quote. One library would prefer the CSA platform and has obtained an individual quote.
- Obtain individual quotes for Value Line for the sake of comparison.  
Individual quotes were obtained and these revealed that the current pricing for FCLA is very favorable.
- Seek a better pricing offer for RefWorks.  
Negotiations with CSA/RefWorks and FCLA resulted in the RefWorks pricing remaining the same, but the CSA package priced was reduced by about \$27,000.

Vendors presenting at the meeting were:

- LexisNexis (demonstration of the new Academic interface)
- Elsevier (presentation of new subscription models as opposed to the “Big Deal”)
- Blackwell (presentation & discussion of the new license)
- ProQuest (update on their financial situation)
- Gale (discussion of numerous issues the SULs have with regard to Gale products and platforms)

ERS & CPC met jointly during the afternoon of day 2.

#### **2. Subject Working Groups**

Chairs of the five subject working groups have been asked to have their members review and revise the electronic resources on the wish lists submitted in 2005. The deadline for submitting the revised wish lists is March 1, 2007.

### **3. European ICOLC Meeting – 2006**

Michele Newberry and Eleanor Lomax attended the European ICOLC meeting in Rome, Italy, October 12-14, 2006. Vendor presentations included: American Chemical Society, CAS-Scifinder Scholar, Ex Libris-Verde, Serials Solutions-ERMS. Sessions were presented on the changing economics of publishing, measuring use and services, preservation and access, licensing evolution and business models, policies for access, and resource sharing. Topics for discussion in break out sessions included cost divisions, usage statistics, experimenting with e-books, national licenses, consortial cooperation, and scholarly communication.

### **4. Michele Newberry – FCLA**

Michele Newberry announced her plan to begin a new phase of her life at the University of Nevada – Las Vegas during the November 6<sup>th</sup> conference call. The ERS membership will be very sad to see her go. Michele has worked very closely with this group from its inception. She has been a valuable resource and friend to ERS and she will be missed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Eleanor Lomax, Chair, Electronic Resources Subcommittee