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From: Riley, Ann C.
Sent: Thursday, May 26, 2016 2:30 PM
To: MU PROVOST Chairs Council; MU PROVOST Deans/Library Director; MU PROVOST Dept Chairs; MU PROVOST Prog Directors; Trachtenberg, Ben
Cc: Gregory, Rabia; Stokes, Garnett S.; Murray, Kathy A.
Subject: Feedback needed on Journal Subscriptions and other library budget news -- May update

Dear Colleagues:

In March, we wrote to you asking for feedback on journal subscriptions. Thanks to the over 900 of you who responded. Your feedback is currently being used to re-negotiate our subscription packages. This is an update on likely cuts to library subscriptions, purchases, and services, as well as other budget news. As you already know, all units of the University of Missouri's Columbia campus are planning for budget reductions in the upcoming fiscal year. For our Libraries these reductions will be exacerbated by the major funding shortfall from journal price inflation that inspired our first review of ongoing subscription purchases.

As a result of the 5% givebacks and other funding shortages, the Libraries will be cutting \$1,200,000 from our acquisitions budget for Fiscal Year 2017 (July 2016-June 2017), which is approximately 20% of the materials budget. Some of the Libraries' cuts will come from staff positions and hours, but to reach the needed amount, we *must* include cuts to material that we know is essential for research and teaching at this University. The Libraries and the Library Committee are committed to being as transparent as possible about these unavoidable cuts. The survey sent out spring semester was the first phase of an ongoing evaluation process that will continue into the Fall semester.

Over the summer, the Libraries will have to make difficult decisions. When possible, we will solicit feedback on potential cuts, but the purchase of *new* materials including books has already been halted because the Library is out of money for *this* Fiscal Year 2016 (July 2015-June 2016). The cuts include the immediate cessation books purchased through regular plans. That will continue for the next Fiscal Year 2017, as mentioned above, and a 20% cut will be made to all subject-specific funds, which are used to pay for serials, books, and databases. The cuts will also include a \$100,000 cut to services purchased through the 4-campus MERLIN library consortium. You may keep up-to-date about this evaluation process here:

<http://library.missouri.edu/collectionsreviewupdate/>.

A significant number of titles will be up for renewal over the summer in addition to those evaluated in our last update. In this new budget environment, the process of evaluating potential cuts to subscriptions and acquisitions must continue over the summer, and we will continue to send out lists for feedback as they become available. By mid-August, a website will list the titles slated for non-renewal. Some subscriptions must be decided by the end of June, which we know is bad timing for faculty input, but we are asking each department have a person designated to continue to work with your department's subject librarian over the summer. Since primarily titles received electronically are under review, if a title is cancelled and that decision changes in the fall, reinstatement of the title, if funds are available, will be generally quick and easy. If funds become available, gaps in monograph purchasing will be filled retroactively.

Book purchasing will resume in the next fiscal year in a reduced way from the subject-specific funds. We are pursuing all possible funding strategies and will be appealing to other units for help.

Please make sure to let administrators know how these severe cuts will have a negative effect on your teaching and research. If funding becomes available, the Libraries will work to restore access to critical research material as quickly as possible. However, if funding remains flat or the Libraries are subject to additional cuts, even more cancellations will be unavoidable. The Libraries cannot continue to provide collections and services to support research and teaching at the levels we have done in the past.

Please forward this message to faculty, staff and graduate students in your area who may not have received it.

Thank you,

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