

Collection Assessment

OHSU Library Collection Assessment

Collection Development Committee Data Subgroup:

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David Sayers made significant contributions.**

2009-2010

The following report is based on collection data gathered from 2003-2009. All subject liaisons reviewed their individual data and submitted their analysis to the Collection Development Committee's Collection Data Subgroup. This report includes the information from subject liaisons and the findings from the Data Subgroup.

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Executive Summary

In 1986, the OHSU Library conducted an in-depth collection assessment of its monograph collection. Journals, databases, usage, expenditures were all areas missing from the assessment. Librarians could only review print holdings because electronic journals and monographs did not exist. In fact, the assessment called for the librarians to physically assess the collection. If that approach were taken in 2009, the library would have overlooked almost all of our journal collection and 30% of our monograph collection. Since the last assessment, our journal collection grew by 2,142 titles and 46,229 monograph titles. The inclusion of our Science and Engineering collection did not happen for another fifteen years. A collection assessment was long overdue.

Starting in 2009, members of the Collection Development & Scholarly Communications Department downloaded and packaged 2003-2009 data in many areas of our collection – holdings, usage, expenditures, and citation data. In the summer of 2009, subject liaisons began examining and analyzing their packaged data. All of the subject liaisons submitted subject data analyses and department profiles in December 2009. The following report builds on those analyses and the Collection Data Subgroup's review of all the collection data.

Upon completion of this extensive review, the Collection Data Subgroup wishes to present eleven recommendations to the Collection Development Committee for approval. These recommendations are based on our data and how we compare to peer institutions. One major finding is that our monograph and journal collections are in need of updating. While we rely on Orbis Cascade Alliance (consortia of 36 libraries in Oregon and Washington) to supplement our monograph and serials collection, we discovered that many subjects are no longer current. As we increase our monograph holdings, the library should look more closely at expanding our electronic monograph holdings as most subject liaisons agreed this was a format that would reach more users. In particular, the library should increase electronic access for continuations (part of an ongoing series on a related topic) and reference works. Participants in the collection assessment agreed that the Collection Development & Scholarly Communications Department should regularly provide data on what our users request from other libraries and what other libraries request from OHSU. In turn, subject liaisons should respond quickly to the data and make necessary adjustments in spending patterns when ordering new material for the collection.

Our journal collection also needs to expand to meet the needs of our users. Faculty requests for new subscriptions, journal titles frequently cited by OHSU users and journals covering emerging subject areas all represent opportunities to grow our collection in ways that align with user needs. At the same time, we need to expand access to electronic backfiles of core journals. As recently reported by one department, our inability to provide electronic access to earlier issues has impeded progress on several research projects. In the future, the Collection Development Committee and subject liaisons will prioritize new journal subscriptions taking NIH information, SciVal Spotlight (<http://www.info.spotlight.scival.com/>) and faculty input into consideration.

We hope that the Collection Development Committee accepts our eleven recommendations. Finally, we propose that the Collection Development & Scholarly Communications Department annually provides collection data to subject liaisons so the library can more quickly respond to user needs.

Recommendations

The Data Subgroup submits these recommendations for the Collection Development Committee's approval:

1. Update collection development policy
2. Increase monograph expenditures through systematic ordering by subject liaisons. Maintain current level of monograph expenditures
 - a. Purchase specific monographs identified by subject liaisons.
 - b. Update monograph collection in areas identified by subject liaisons.
 - c. Increase amount of e-book content in areas identified by subject liaisons.
3. Reduce monograph purchases in subjects identified by subject liaisons and put expenditures in those subject areas towards journal content
4. Deselect material from the monograph collection based on feedback received from subject liaisons and overlap data from other Orbis Cascade Alliance libraries
5. Transition print continuations to electronic format. Collection Development & Scholarly Communications Department should consult with individual subject liaisons on transition
6. Accept list of core journal titles. Develop a separate list of core journal titles for preservation purposes
7. Evaluate recommended journals for purchase and make a concerted effort to increase journal collection starting with the 2011 calendar year. Use reserve funds and the FY11 capital budget request of \$30,000 for new titles to add subscriptions. Collection Development & Scholarly Communications Department should consult with subject liaisons on priority purchases
8. Regularly monitor requests – titles requested from OHSU and titles that OHSU users request from other Orbis Cascade Alliance libraries. Collection Development & Scholarly Communications Department should make this information easily accessible for subject liaisons
9. Use SciVal Spotlight to track and update distinctive and emerging areas and faculty. The Collection Development & Scholarly Communications Department should regularly update subject liaisons on developments and publication patterns of faculty, especially new OHSU faculty. SciVal should also serve as another tool to identify key publications in emerging areas
10. Survey departments or key faculty on collection needs either through surveys or focus groups
11. Continue participation in Orbis Cascade Alliance cooperative programs

Holdings

Monograph

Monographs are an often-overlooked part of the library's collection. The collection assessment data, however, shows a strong and continued interest in these items. In the last several years, the library has made a concerted effort to update monograph holdings, especially in electronic format. The Data Group would like to highlight several themes and areas of interest.

Fluctuations in purchase history: as demonstrated in charts included in this report, our monograph purchases have taken a steep decline since the 1980s. In the last decade, monograph expenditures fluctuated every year depending on library funding. The Data Group encourages the Collection Development Committee to stabilize monograph expenditures, especially as our collection becomes more outdated. The median age of our collection is 1985. Many subject liaisons identified areas where we needed to update our collection. Other subject liaisons expressed confidence that their subjects received sufficient funding. The Data Group supports the subject liaison's recommendations as identified in Appendix 9, Recommendations for Specific Subjects.

Collaboration: as a member of the Orbis Cascade Alliance, we rely heavily on Summit to supplement our monograph holdings. One of the most fascinating sets of data from the project was our Summit requests and how it illustrated areas where we needed to purchase content, continue relying on Summit, or explore collaborative projects. It is clear that OHSU should participate in Orbis Cascade Alliance cooperative collection development efforts. Whether our efforts develop into shared approval plans, threshold of copies purchased in the Orbis Cascade Alliance or joint e-book purchases, we will realize many benefits. Some of our subjects overlapped with Portland State University or Oregon State University, especially in areas where we have joint educational programs. The Data Group encourages the Collection Development and Scholarly Communications Department to continue providing Summit statistics to subject liaisons.

Electronic content: Many subject liaisons supported an increase in e-book purchases. Within the last two years, the library has moved aggressively into individual e-book purchases. This trend should continue, especially as the Orbis Cascade Alliance moves toward shared purchasing of e-books.

Other highlights: The library needs to encourage more patron-driven monograph purchases, regardless of format. Only two departments showed a high level of faculty requests. The Data Group encourages more subject liaison promotion of electronic monograph purchases. The circulation statistics indicate an average circulation per title of 1.97, indicating that OHSU patrons use our collection. Subject liaisons should also explore the use of departmental libraries and how these libraries influence the use of our collection.

Top Holdings by Title:

1. Psychiatry
2. Neurology
3. Nursing

4. Dentistry
5. Pediatrics
6. Pathology
7. Pharmacology
8. Public Health
9. Cardiology
10. Psychology

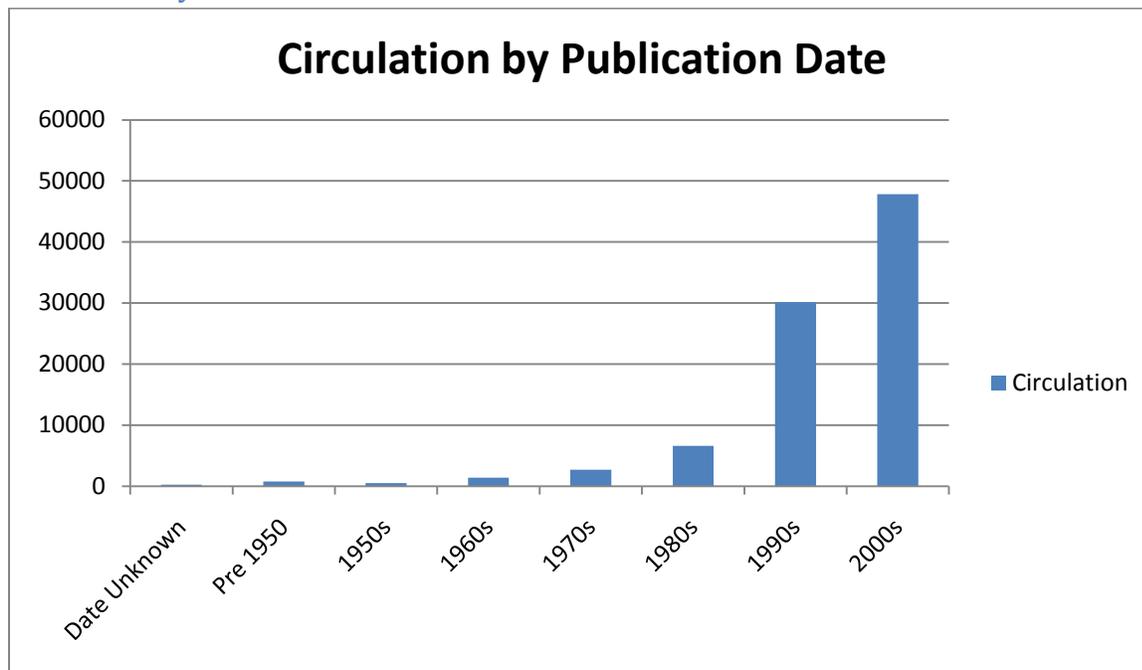
Highest Circulation (per book)

1. Statistics
2. Family Practice
3. Epidemiology
4. Long-term Care
5. Consumer Health
6. Biomedical Engineering
7. Informatics
8. Evidence-Based Medicine
9. Health Information Management
10. Anesthesiology

Lowest Circulation (per book)

1. Management Information Systems
2. Occupational and Environmental Medicine
3. Toxicology
4. Oncology
5. Veterinary Medicine
6. Allergy
7. Medical Literature
8. Pharmacology
9. Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
10. Ophthalmology

Circulation by Publication Date



Summit Requests

Even though we only had two years worth of request data, the data showed widespread usage of other Summit holdings. The Data Group recommends more frequent examination of Summit data to respond more quickly to user needs.

Top Requests

1. Computer Science
2. History of Medicine
3. Library and Information Science
4. Nursing
5. Psychiatry
6. Psychology
7. General Science

Low Number of Requests:

Many subjects had very few, if any, Summit requests. The subjects include: allergy, biomedical engineering, health information management, histology, lab medicine, long term care, medicolegal, nanotechnology, nephrology, occupational and environmental medicine, oceanography, palliative care, physical medicine and rehab, physical therapy, physician assistantship, respiratory therapy, rheumatology, speech/language/hearing, toxicology, and sports medicine.

Monograph faculty requests

Until the last few years, monographs requested by faculty were inconsistently recorded. Acquisitions changed procedures and this information is now systemically recorded. Acquisitions receives a large number of requests from faculty and students in psychiatry and the physician assistant program. The books cover a wide range of subjects including emergency medicine, health care administration, neuroscience, and public health. Liaisons are working more closely with their departments in encouraging faculty requests. As we consider patron-driven acquisitions in the electronic environment, we are relying on liaisons to play a critical role.

Most Current Collection

(Some subject's currency relates to the topic's emergence in health sciences, and not a reflection of OHSU's spending habits)

1. Nanotechnology
2. Evidence-Based Medicine
3. Biomedical Engineering
4. Palliative Care
5. Hydrology
6. Environmental Engineering
7. Long-Term Care
8. Informatics
9. Physician Assistantship
10. Management Information Systems

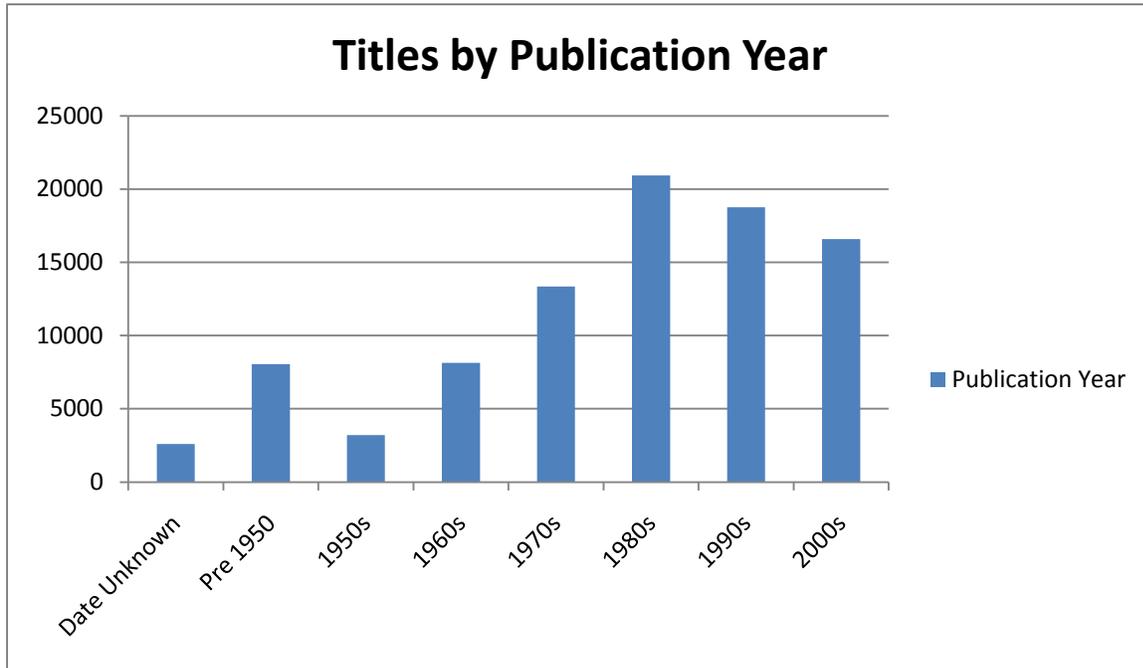
Oldest Collection

(Some subject's currency relates to the topic's lack of new advancements, and not a reflection of OHSU's spending habits)

1. Internal Medicine
2. History of Medicine
3. Anatomy
4. Primary Care
5. Surgery
6. Medicolegal Issues
7. Physiology
8. Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
9. Histology
10. Neuroscience

Collection by Publication Year

(Our collection does not mirror national trends. Our spending on monographs has not kept pace with the overall amount of published material).



Highest Expenditures by Subject

1. Neurology
2. Cardiology
3. Pathology
4. Obstetrics and Gynecology
5. Psychiatry
6. Pediatrics
7. Nursing
8. Surgery
9. Dentistry
10. Gastroenterology

Highest Cost-Per-Use

1. Orthopedics
2. Pulmonology
3. Rheumatology
4. Nephrology
5. Gastroenterology

6. Ophthalmology
7. Urology
8. Surgery
9. Radiology
10. Endocrinology

Lowest Cost-Per-Use

1. Medical Literature
2. Medical Ethics
3. Nursing
4. Library and Information Science
5. Alternative and Complementary Therapies
6. Palliative Care
7. Developmental Disorders
8. Long-Term Care
9. Physician Assistantship
10. Health Information Management

Publisher Strength in Titles Owned

1. Springer
2. Lippincott, Wilkins and Williams
3. Wiley Blackwell
4. Elsevier

Journals

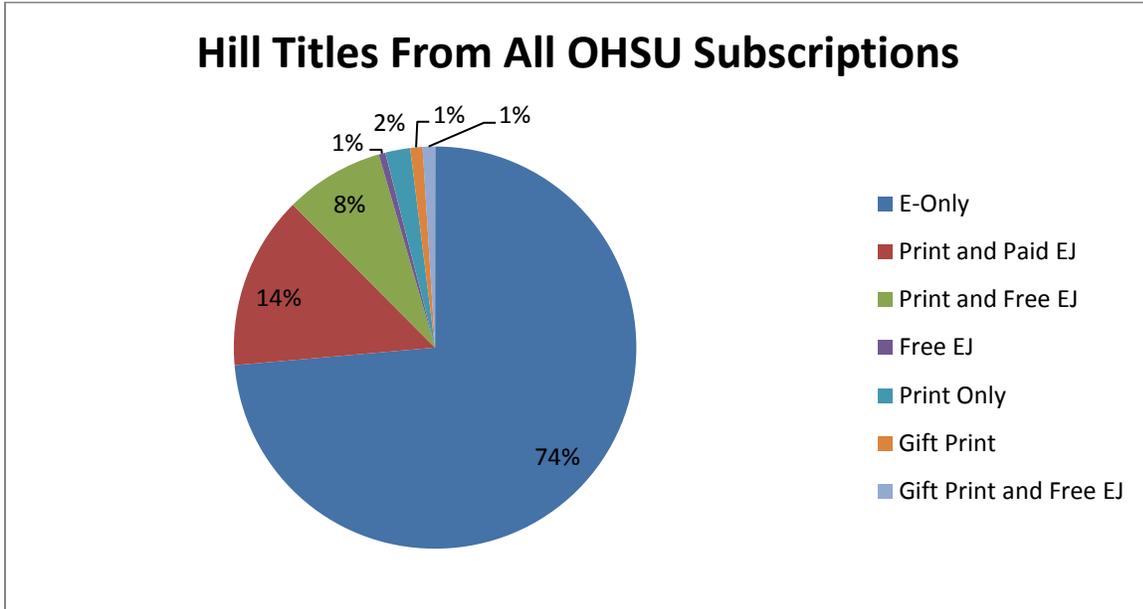
Our journal collection has nearly completed its transition to electronic only. We maintain print subscriptions for titles that are not available in electronic format or do not provide adequate archival access. On an annual basis, the Collection Development Committee should investigate each print subscription for a transition to electronic only.

The Collection Data Group and subject liaisons examined journal subscriptions that are important for each subject. Emily McElroy pared down that list by creating a core journal list based on priority rankings used in previous collection development decisions. The priority rankings take into consideration OHSU authored papers, OHSU citations, and usage. Further examination is required to make sure we are meeting emerging areas on campus, new faculty needs, and areas of publication. In 2009, we subscribed to 69% of the titles that OHSU authors cited and provided overall access to 71% of titles. Also, in 2009, we provided access to 92% of the articles that were authored by OHSU faculty and staff. We only subscribed to 77% of those titles, so our investments in consortia packages and EBSCOHost remain important. Further investigation is needed to make sure we are providing access to the titles that OHSU users choose for publication or to cite.

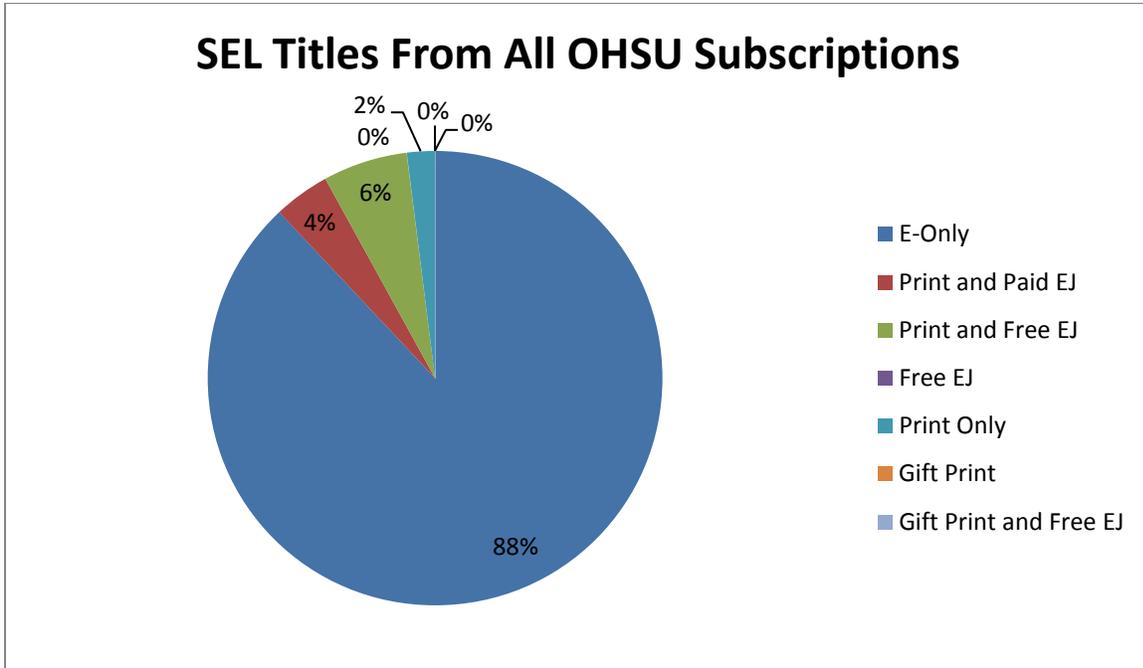
One primary area of concern is our reliance on consortia packages. As we witnessed in 2009, other Orbis Cascade Alliance members are rapidly canceling journal subscriptions. As a result, we risk losing access to journals that supplement our collection. We also relied on consortia packages for titles that were too expensive for us to add to our collection. Fortunately, we were able to save some titles because we received appropriate funding. If this trend continues, we could see a decline in our journal holdings.

While we have a strong journal collection, we need to improve our ability to meet user's requests. While we have made available 68% of faculty requests since 2003, we would like to improve on these numbers in the near future. The Collection Data Subgroup proposes that we prioritize new journals based on direct user feedback and the SciVal data.

Breakdown of Format of Journal Titles (traditionally considered Hill's subscriptions)

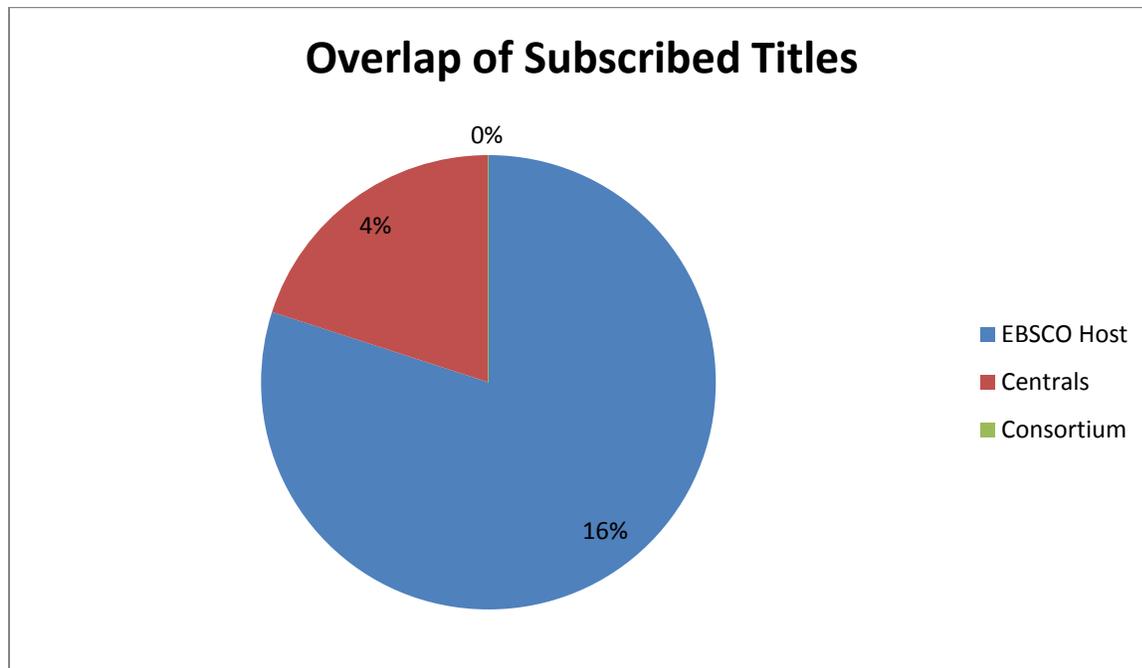


Breakdown of Format of Journal Titles (traditionally considered SEL's subscriptions)



Overlap of Journal Holdings

Only includes titles that we subscribe to and overlap with journals on EBSCOHost, consortia subscriptions, and journals on BMC Central or PubMed Central. 80% of our subscriptions are unique.



Top Holdings by Subject --- OHSU Subscribed

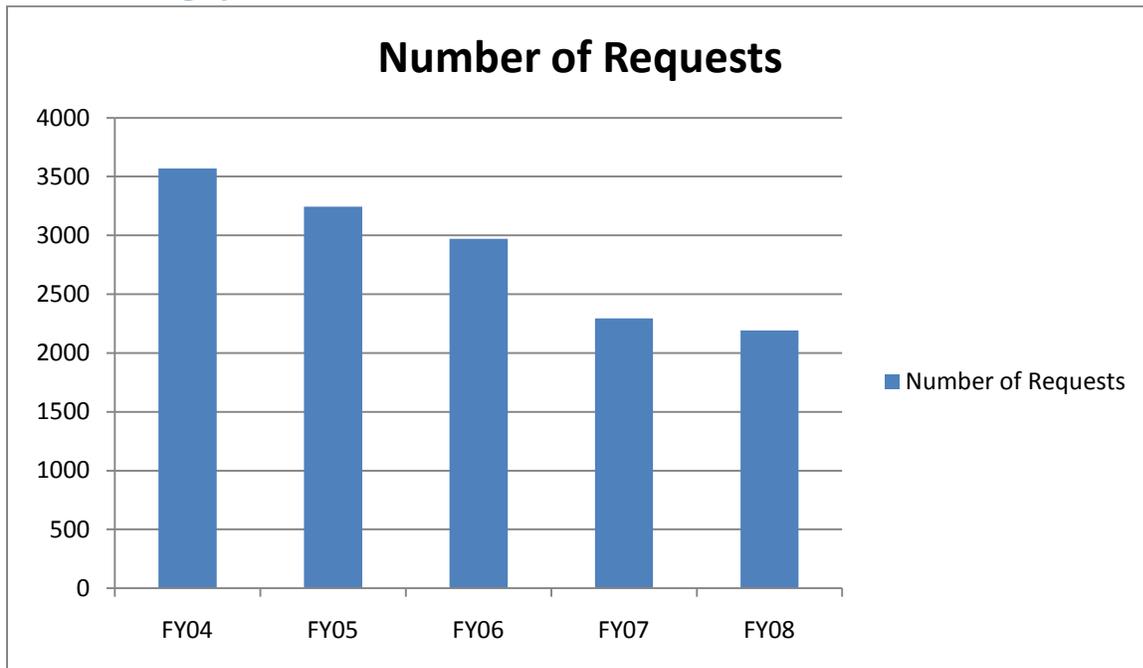
1. Environmental Engineering (packaged titles)
2. General Science (packaged titles)
3. Neurology
4. Nursing
5. Psychiatry
6. Computer Science (packaged titles)
7. Pharmacology
8. Psychology
9. Surgery
10. Dentistry

Top Holdings by Subject – all titles (includes subscribed, EBSCOHost, consortia and BioMedCentral journals)

1. Psychology

2. General Science
3. Neurology
4. Pharmacology
5. Environmental Engineering
6. Nursing
7. Psychiatry
8. Surgery
9. Health Care Administration
10. Molecular Biology

ILL Borrowing By Year



Top ILL Requests by Subject

1. Psychology
2. General Medicine
3. Pharmacology
4. Nursing
5. Neurology
6. Health Care Administration
7. Cardiology
8. General Science
9. Biochemistry
10. Oncology

Faculty Request Information - Journals

Total Number of Requests	251		
Number of titles requested by more than one person	50	% of titles requested by more than one person	20%
Number of titles ordered	89	% of titles ordered	35%
Number of titles ordered available only in print	0	% of titles ordered available only in print	0%
Number of titles ordered available in print and electronic	12	% of titles ordered available in print/electronic	13%
Number of titles ordered available only in electronic format	77	% of titles ordered available electronic only	87%
Titles not ordered that are available via consortia	33	% if titles not ordered that are available via consortia	20%
Titles not ordered that are available via EBSCO Host	29	% of titles not ordered that are available via EBSCO Host	18%
Titles not ordered that are available via a package	14	% of titles not ordered that are available via a package	9%
Titles not ordered that are available via other sources	5	% of titles not ordered that are available via other sources	3%
Total titles not ordered that are still available to users	81	% of titles not ordered that are still available to users	50%
Total number of requested orders that were ordered or available through other means	170	% of requested titles that were either ordered or available through other means	68%
Total titles not ordered that are unavailable from other sources	81	% of requested titles that are not available at all	32%
Titles not added that were previously or later cancelled (does not indicate if they are currently available via other sources)	18	% of titles that were previously or later cancelled	7%
Total number of subjects (from titles)	60		
Total number of requestors	282		
Requestors still at OHSU	152		
Anonymous requestors	15		
Requestors who left OHSU	115		
Total number of requestor's subjects (departments)	41		

Top Faculty Requests for Journals by Subject

1. Neurology
2. General Science
3. Nursing
4. Psychiatry

5. Surgery
6. Pediatrics
7. Oncology
8. Psychology
9. Radiology
10. Cardiology

Continuations

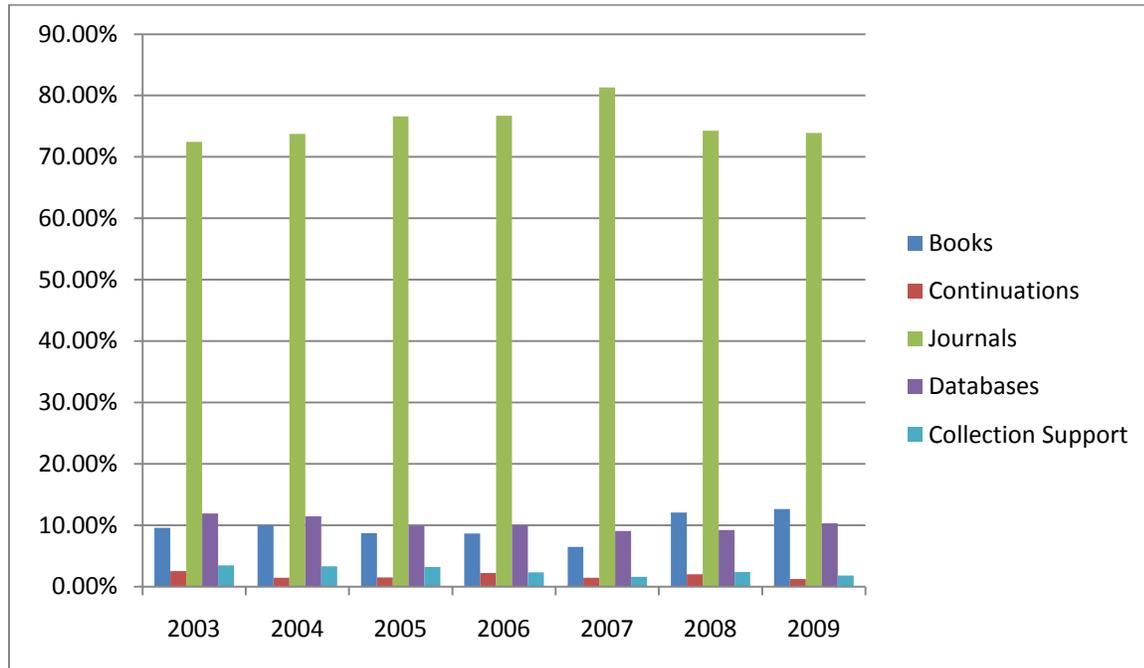
We currently receive 306 reference, book and serial continuations. Our continuations collection is heavily print-based. Nearly half (48%) of the collection is print only. When we factor in dual format, 67% of our continuations collection is print-based. The Collection Development Committee, with subject liaison support, should identify titles to move to electronic only format. One approach is to take a gradual approach in migrating formats, due to higher costs for electronic. At the same time, subject liaisons should review their continuation holdings for possible cancellation. Listed below are the subjects most affected by these recommendations:

Subject Strength:

1. Pharmacology
2. General Medical Education
3. General Medicine
4. General Science
5. Statistics
6. Dentistry
7. Health Care Administration
8. Nursing
9. Pediatrics
10. Public Health

Expenditures

Breakdown of Our Total Collection Expenditures



As seen in the above chart, our collection budget has seen shifts in all categories. One area of our collection, monographs, has seen a shift from print to electronic going from 19% electronic in FY08 to 30% in FY10. This number will only increase as we expand our e-book holdings.

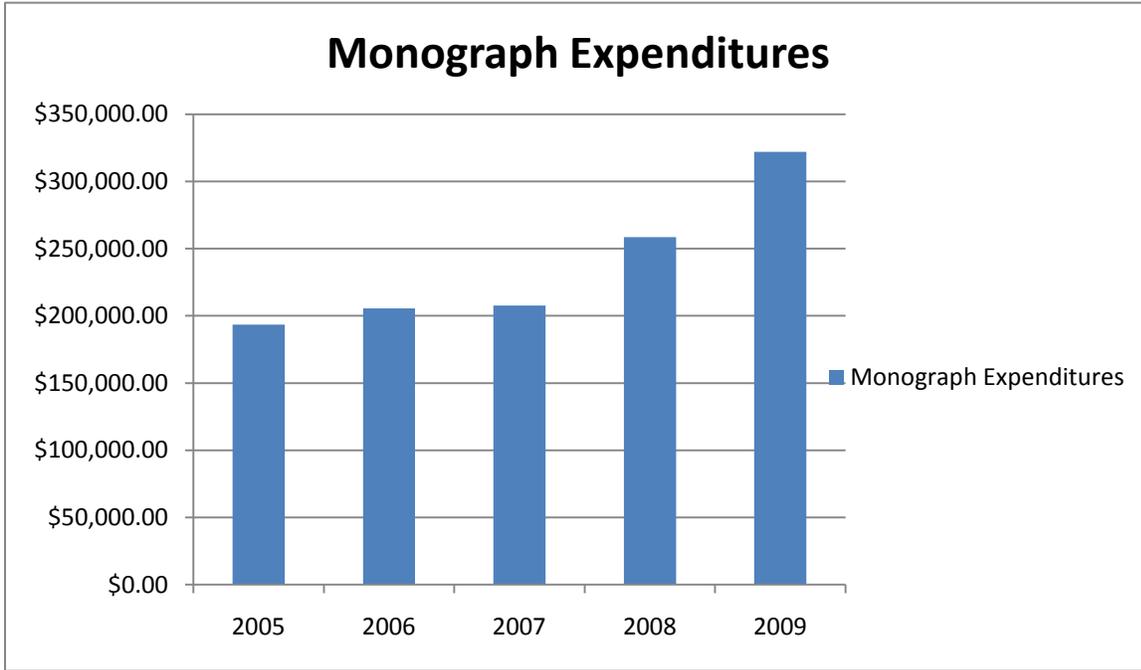
Another critical factor in our collection expenditures is the money saved through our membership in the Orbis Cascade Alliance and its electronic resources program. Through a combination of database, e-book and e-journal purchases, we saved \$909,019 in FY08 and \$438,253 in FY09. As we saw with the change in the Springer online collection, OHSU relies heavily on e-journal packages to supplement our subscriptions. OHSU made a commitment to join other Alliance libraries to increase spending to save the sharing of subscribed titles. Due to the financial situation with other Oregon and Washington libraries, we anticipate facing similar problems with other shared packages.

Our collection budget's actual inflation costs fluctuate every year based on the resources we purchase. While the industry inflation standard is more consistent, the OHSU library has seen inflation shifts in databases and journals that are outside the standard rate. The vendor and publishing community positively responded to the economic crisis by holding costs down, but we should see our expenditures start to climb as the industry and economy recover. Some of our main database providers have not held costs at low inflation rates so we did not realize significant savings in our database budget.

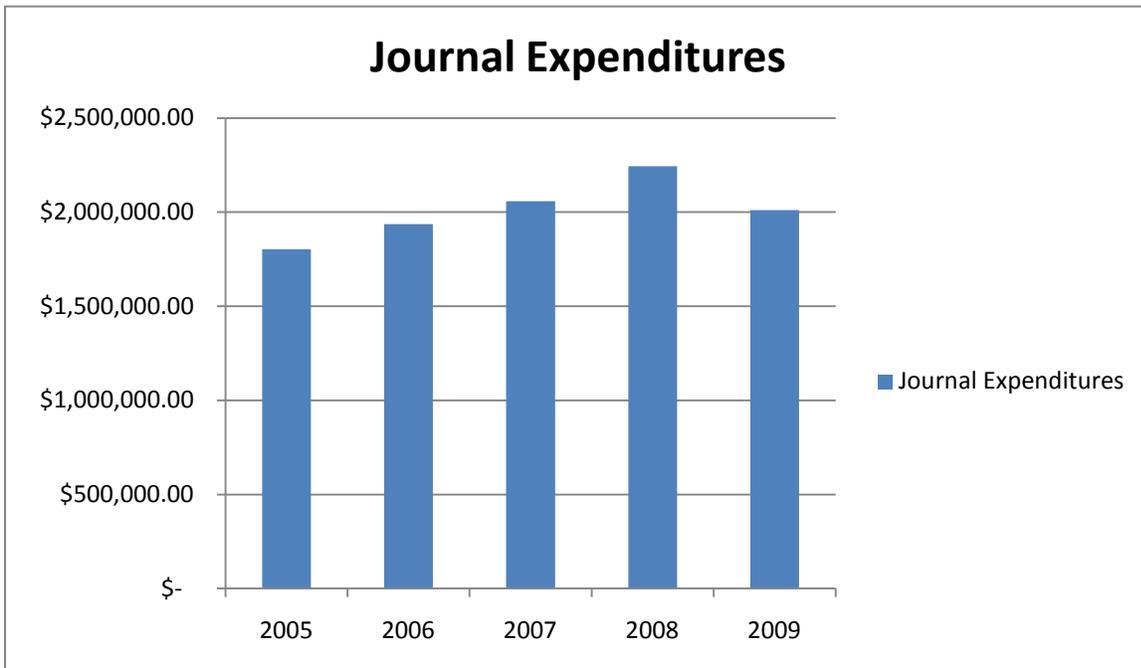
With all of the budget charts, we used AAHSL definitions. For 2009, definitions changed, which should explain some unusual leaps in spending.

Snapshot of Expenditures

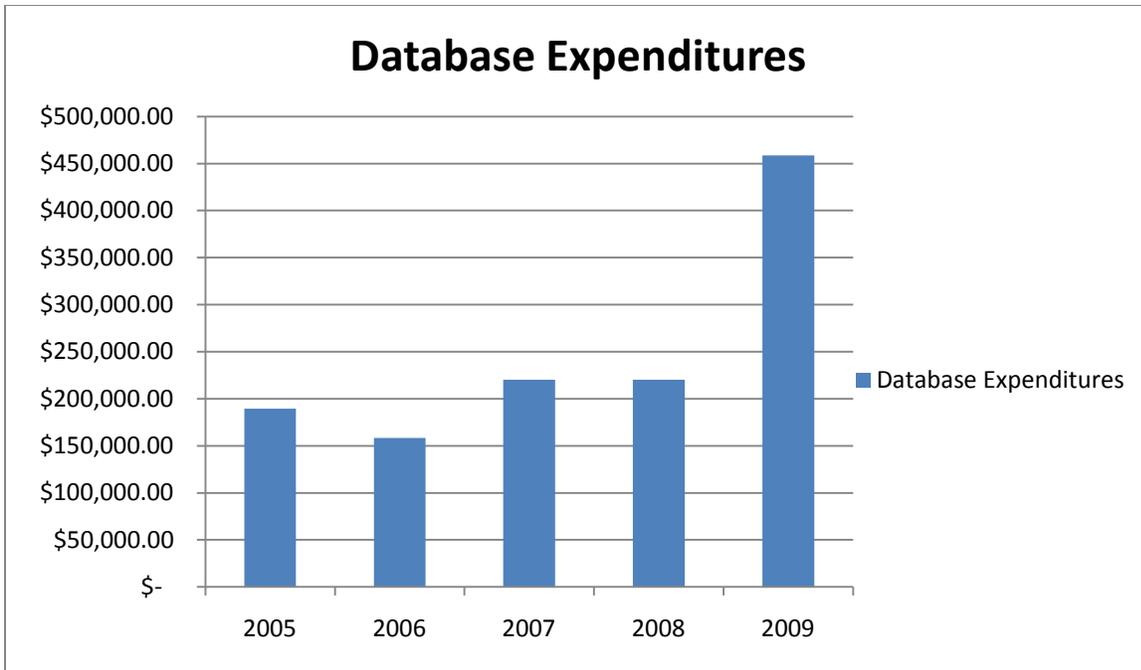
Print and Electronic Monograph Expenditures



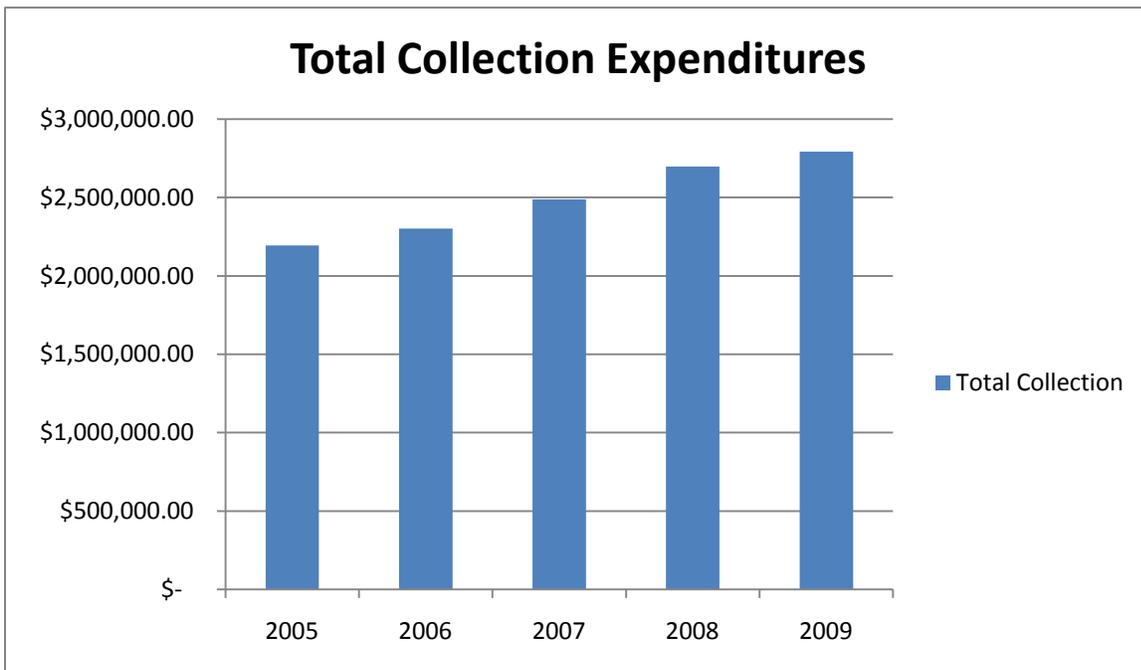
Journal Expenditures



Database Expenditures



Total Collection Expenditures



Appendix:

- 1. Core Journals**
- 2. Journals to Purchase**
- 3. Holdings and Expenditures Comparisons with Peer Institutions – data gathered for annual budget cycle using AAHSL statistics**
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