

## Assessment of Library Collections

### **Proposed Ph.D. Program in Public Health:**

### **Health Promotion and Community Nutrition**

Tony Schwartz  
Associate Director for Collection Management

January 23, 2004

April 2006 Update: the main additions to the health science collections since the report of 2004 have been two full-text databases in Nursing (605 journals at zero cost following cancellation of 105 print journals by the Nursing faculty) and the Cochrane Library database (zero cost following print cancellations by the Social Work faculty).

### **Summary**

**Journals.** Of 52 health science fields for which the journal literatures have citation-impact rankings, the faculty initially selected 12 and found eight to be useful for collection analysis:

- Gerontology and Geriatrics
- Health Care Sciences and Services
- Health Policy and Services
- Medical Ethics
- Medical Informatics
- Public, Environmental, and Occupational Health
- Infectious Diseases
- Nutrition and Dietetics.

Overall, these eight fields cover 310 journals, of which the library has 171 (55%). Of the 139 not held by the library, the faculty selected 27% for acquisition: 32 as high priorities, and five more as medium priorities. The cost of the 32 would be **\$16,883**; the cost of the other five would be **\$4,786** for a combined cost of **\$21,669**.

Given certain limitations of citation-ranked lists for collection assessments, the library also relies on the faculty to submit its own list of other journal needs. Six journals on the list submitted would be new to the collections. Other requests would have current subscriptions shifted from print to online. The total cost for this list would be **\$17,668**.

The aggregate cost of all journals (37 from the citation-ranked lists, six from the faculty's own list, plus those to be shifted from print to online) would be **\$39,337**—\$16,000 of which relates to a few titles having very high online prices: *Journal of the American Medical Society* (in the \$5,000 range), *New England Journal of Medicine* (\$5,400), and *HIV Clinical Trials* (\$5,533).

**Books.** There are no salient gaps in the library’s reasonably comprehensive framework for book acquisitions (the faculty requested the addition of one book series).

**Databases.** The library’s database collections in the health sciences are fairly comprehensive. The faculty may wish to consider for the library *EMBASE Excerpta Medica*, which provides biomedical and pharmacological information (cost not found in time for this report).

**Remaining Faculty Decisions.** For library budget planning, the Health Sciences program should make a final prioritization of resource needs, with the \$39K figure being allocated in at least two categories. A straightforward way would be to put the three journals that together cost about \$16K into a second category, with the library planning first for the other \$23K of resource needs. Currently, however, the library has no funds for such collection development projects.

## Main Report

**SCOPE.** This report covers the areas of Health Promotion and Community Nutrition in terms of eight fields selected by the faculty. Analysis focuses primarily on journals, books, and databases. Resources of the Geographic Information Systems Center are covered. Some other categories of library support are briefly described. Ten spreadsheets are appended: the first outlines the framework of book acquisitions, the other nine are journal-collection evaluations.

**METHOD.** As a rule, it is not feasible to make a comprehensive assessment of “all” library resources that may be relevant to a particular program or literature, given the interdisciplinarity of programs and literatures alike, as well as their library budget lines. To structure this situation, subject literatures must be bounded in certain ways, primarily by focusing on the core journals of a field according to the *Journal Citation Reports (JCR)* database of citation-impact rankings.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *JCR* covers about 5,000 journals in the sciences and technology, with another 1,500 in the social sciences; there are 52 fields in the health sciences. Citation-impact analysis is based on Bradford’s Law, that most of the important papers in a given field appear in a relatively small set of journals. On this pattern, see Hans Verner Holub et al, “The Iron Law of Important Articles,” *Southern Economic Journal* 58 (1991): 317-28.

As an indicator of the selectivity of the faculty, a number of other citation-ranked fields were reviewed with no journals picked for acquisition. If those fields had been included in this report based on just eight fields, the faculty’s selection rate would have been about 15% of all journals reviewed.

**JOURNALS.** For the various health sciences, the library has 169 journal subscriptions: 115 are print only, and 54 have online access. The essential question is whether the library is missing important or otherwise needed journals. *Need* is based on local demand.<sup>2</sup> *Importance* is gauged for the scholarly system as a whole by citation-impact rankings of the core literatures.

**Method 1: Core Literatures.** Of 52 health science fields which have citation-impact rankings, the faculty found eight useful for collection analysis: Gerontology and Geriatrics; Health Care Sciences and Services; Health Policy and Services; Medical Ethics; Medical Informatics; Public, Environmental, and Occupational Health; Infectious Diseases; and Nutrition and Dietetics.

**Gerontology and Geriatrics.** Comparison of the library's collections to the core journals in this field is shown in spreadsheet 2. Of the total 24 titles, the library has 10 (42%). Of the 14 other titles, the faculty selected five as **high** priorities: *Age* (ranked 1<sup>st</sup>); *Biogerontology* (7<sup>th</sup>); *Drugs & Aging* (8<sup>th</sup>); *Aging: Clinical and Experimental Research* (15<sup>th</sup>); and *Gerontology* (16<sup>th</sup>). The cost for this field would be **\$3,384**.

**Health Care Sciences and Services.** Comparison of the library's collections to the core journals in this field is shown in spreadsheet 3. Of the total 48 titles, the library has 30 (63%). Of the 18 other titles, the faculty selected six as **high** priorities: *Medical Decision Making* (ranked 5<sup>th</sup>; and 1<sup>st</sup> of 48 in Medical Informatics); *Medical Informatics and the Internet in Medicine* (6<sup>th</sup>; and 2<sup>nd</sup> in Medical Informatics; and 8<sup>th</sup> of 73 in Computer Science/Information Systems); *International Journal of Medical Informatics* (11<sup>th</sup>; and 5<sup>th</sup> in Medical Informatics; and 8<sup>th</sup> of 73 in Computer Science—Information Systems); *Palliative Medicine* (12<sup>th</sup>; and 36<sup>th</sup> of 88 in Public, Environmental, and Occupational Health; and 31<sup>st</sup> of 112 in Medicine—General and Internal); *Telemedicine Journal and E-Health* (13<sup>th</sup>); *Quality in Health Care*; now titled *Quality and Safety in Health Care* (22<sup>nd</sup>; and 45<sup>th</sup> of 88 in Public, Environmental, and Occupational Health). The cost for this field would be **\$4,556**.

**Health Policy and Services.** Comparison of the library's collections to the core journals in this field is shown in spreadsheet 4. Of the total 39 titles, the library has 33 (85%). Of the six other titles, the faculty selected one as a **high** priority: *Qualitative Health Research* (ranked 22<sup>nd</sup>; and 9<sup>th</sup> of 42 in Nursing), **\$710**.

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<sup>2</sup> Local demand is shown by interlibrary loan data, as well as faculty lists. In 2002, the library identified the journals most often requested in three years. In terms of access-versus-ownership economics (royalty payments compared to subscription prices), 18 titles of the total set of 135 proved to be more cost-effective to own. Those subscriptions begin January 2003. Six are in health fields: *Rehabilitation Management*; *Journal of Occupational Health Psychology*; *Topics in Stroke Rehabilitation*; *Ostomy/Wound Management*; *Stroke*; and *Cancer*.

**Medical Ethics.** Comparison of the library's collections to the core journals in this field is shown in spreadsheet 5. Of the total five titles, the library has one (20%). Of the four other titles; the faculty selected two as high priorities: *Bioethics* (ranked 1<sup>st</sup>); and *Journal of Medical Ethics* (2<sup>nd</sup>). The cost for this field would be **\$878**.

**Health Informatics.** Comparison of the library's collections to the core journals in this field is shown in spreadsheet 6. Of the total 18 titles, the library has nine (50%). Of the nine other titles, the faculty selected eight as **high** priorities. Three are already noted above: *Medical Decision Making*; *Medical Informatics and the Internet in Medicine*; and *International Journal of Medical Informatics*.

The other five are *Artificial Intelligence in Medicine* (ranked 4<sup>th</sup>; and 11<sup>th</sup> of 72 in Computer ScienceCArtificial Intelligence; and 7<sup>th</sup> of 39 in EngineeringCBiomedical); *Methods of Information in Medicine* (7<sup>th</sup>; and 20<sup>th</sup> of 48 in Health Care Sciences and Services; and 16<sup>th</sup> of 73 in Computer Science—Information Systems); *MD Computing* (18<sup>th</sup>; and 16<sup>th</sup> of 78 in Computer ScienceCInterdisciplinary Applications); *Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association* (12<sup>th</sup>; and 28<sup>th</sup> of 73 in Computer Science—Information Systems; and 17<sup>th</sup> of 76 in Computer Science—Interdisciplinary Applications); and *International Journal of Technology Assessment in Health Care* (12<sup>th</sup>; and 34<sup>th</sup> of 48 in Health Care Sciences and Services; and 59<sup>th</sup> of 88 in Public; Environmental; and Occupational Health). The cost for this field, not counting the three titles included in other literatures, would be **\$3,534**.

**Public, Environmental, and Occupational Health.** Comparison of the library's collections to the core journals in this field is shown in spreadsheet 7. Of the total 88 titles, the library has 42 (48%). Of the 46 other titles, the faculty selected five as **high** priorities: *Journal of Toxicology and Environmental Health Part B* (ranked 1<sup>st</sup>; and 1<sup>st</sup> of 29 in Environmental Sciences; and 3<sup>rd</sup> of 78 in Toxicology); *Epidemiology* (4<sup>th</sup>); *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology* (11<sup>th</sup>; and 10<sup>th</sup> of 36 in Infectious Diseases); *Epidemiology and Infection* (33<sup>rd</sup>; and 23<sup>rd</sup> of 36 in Infectious Diseases); and *Journal of Health Population and Nutrition* (88<sup>th</sup>; and 121<sup>st</sup> of 129 in Environmental Medicine). The cost of the high priorities for this field would be **\$2,121**.

Four are **medium** priorities: *Cancer Epidemiology Biomarkers & Prevention* (2<sup>nd</sup>; and 15<sup>th</sup> of 107 in Oncology); *Cancer Cause Control* (10<sup>th</sup>; and 38<sup>th</sup> of 107 in Oncology); *Occupational and Environmental Medicine* (21<sup>st</sup>); *Genetic Epidemiology* (23<sup>rd</sup>; and 62<sup>nd</sup> of 113 in Tropical Medicine). The medium priorities would be \$4,488; the overall cost for this field, **\$6,609**.

**Infectious Diseases.** Comparison of the library's collections to the core journals in this field is shown in spreadsheet 8. Of the total 38 titles, the library has 16 (42%). Of the 22 other titles, the faculty selected four as **high** priorities: *Clinical Infectious Diseases* (ranked 5<sup>th</sup>; and 5<sup>th</sup> of 38 in Immunology; and 10<sup>th</sup> of 82 in Microbiology); *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology* (13<sup>th</sup>; and 14<sup>th</sup> of 88 in Public, Environmental, and Occupational Health); and *Epidemiology and Infection* (20<sup>th</sup>; and 32<sup>nd</sup> of 88 in Public, Environmental, and Occupational Health). The cost of the high priorities would be **\$1,400**.

Another is a **medium** priority: *American Journal of Infection Control* (19<sup>th</sup>), \$298. The overall cost for this field would be **\$1,698**.

**Nutrition and Dietetics.** Comparison of the library's collections to the core journals in this field is shown in spreadsheet 9. Of the total 50 titles, the library has 30 (60%). Of the 20 other titles, the faculty selected one as a **high** priority: *Obesity Research* (ranked 4<sup>th</sup>; and 24<sup>th</sup> of 90 in Endocrinology and Metabolism), **\$300**.

Overall, these eight fields have 310 journals, of which the library has 171 (55%). Of the 139 not held by the library, the faculty selected 27% for acquisition: 32 as high priorities, five as medium priorities. Costs for individual journals are shown on the spreadsheets. The total cost of the 32 **high** priority titles would be \$16,883; the additional cost of the five **medium** priorities would be \$4,786 for a combined cost of **\$21,669**.

**Method 2: The Faculty's Supplemental List.** The citation-rankings approach, with its focus on established journals, has somewhat of a conservative bias. It generally does not account for newer or broader journals that may be highly relevant to a campus program. Accordingly, the faculty submitted a list of other journal needs. Six requests involve new journal subscriptions: *Public Health Nutrition*, *HIV Clinical Trials*, *Pediatrics*, *Clinical Infectious Diseases*, *Journal of AIDS*, and *International Journal of Infectious Diseases*. Other requests would shift current print subscriptions to online. As shown in spreadsheet 10, the overall cost for this supplemental list would be **\$17,668**.

**Overall Journal Costs.** The aggregate cost of all journals (37 from the citation-ranked lists, six more faculty requests for new subscriptions, and others to be shifted from print to online) would be **\$39,337**, dominated by three titles: *Journal of the American Medical Society* (the shift from print to online would be in the \$5,000 range); *New England Journal of Medicine* (the shift would be \$5,400); and *HIV Clinical Trials* (a new subscription at \$5,533).

## BOOKS

**Print.** This analysis pertains to University Park campus only.<sup>3</sup> Through its book-approval plan, the library (beginning in fall 2002)<sup>4</sup> automatically receives all university press titles in science fields relevant to the academic programs at University Park. In addition, the plan has always covered all adult-level titles reviewed in either *The New York Times Book Review* or *Times Literary Supplement*.

Collection analyses usually include a spreadsheet that delineates book acquisitions for the fiscal year by title counts and also in proportion to book-publication output per subject class. Since the expanded coverage of university press titles is not in last year=s approval plan activity report, the framework of book acquisitions in the sciences is outlined in two ways, both on spreadsheet 1.

First, the projected coverage is shown. For example, in Public Medicine total book-publication output in FY03 was 590 titles, of which university presses accounted for 100 (17%). Second, the spreadsheet lists the library’s various monograph series standing orders in the health sciences.

For this proposed program, the library should have a standing order for *Nutrition and Critical Care* (Nestlé Nutrition Services), eight volumes to date, \$198.25 per volume. With the library already having volume 1, the overall cost for the other seven would be about **\$1,400**.

The proposed Ph.D. program in Health Promotion and Community Nutrition will rely, as well, on books in the social sciences on health issues, particularly involving minority and underserved populations). There is no question of the adequacy of the University Park campus approval plan, which is fairly comprehensive in its cross-disciplinary coverage of all academic-level titles.

**Online Books.** Of the total collection of 27,280 Net Library online books owned by the library, some 833 titles have *health* as a keyword descriptor; there are 368 *health* subject headings. The library does not make title selections but relies on bulk acquisitions through a regional network. The *Net Library* portal is at <http://www.fiu.edu/~library/elibrary/ebooks.html>.

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<sup>3</sup> There are two main differences in the frameworks of book acquisitions for the two campuses. The approval plan for University Park does not include Nursing; and the plan for Biscayne Bay campus does not have University Park’s blanket coverage of all university press titles in sciences fields relevant to the academic programs on its campus.

<sup>4</sup> Previously, the UP approval plan for the health sciences had been limited to books on (a) nutritional diseases and disorders, (b) sports medicine, (c) history of science, or (d) social or public policy aspects of science. An analysis of the Biscayne Bay campus approval plan in health sciences was done in October, 2002 for the proposed Ph.D. program in Nursing; that report is not online but may be requested from the library.

## DATABASES

Databases that FIU owns or accesses in the Health Sciences include:

- *Medline;*
- *CINAHL Plus Full Text;*
- *Human Nutrition;*
- *Cochrane Library;*
- *PubMed* ( While *PubMed* is available to the public, FIU Libraries are members of the National Library of Medicine=s Alink out@ project so using FIU=s link to *PubMed* enables students not only to search *PubMed* but also to link to FIU electronic journals that are part of the Alink out@ project).
- *PubMed Central Life Sciences Journal Archive;*
- *Medical News* via Academic Universe;
- *Medical Journals* via Academic Universe;
- *Health and Wellness Resource Center;*
- *AbleData;*
- *AgeLine;*
- *Agricola;*
- *Agriculture and Environmental Biotechnology Abstracts;*
- *AIDS and Cancer Research Abstracts;*
- *Bacteriology Abstracts;*
- *Basic BIOSIS and BIOSIS;*
- *Bibliography of Bioethics;*
- *Bioengineering Abstracts;*
- *Biological and Agricultural Index;*
- *Biological Sciences;*
- *Biology Digest;*
- *Biotechnology and Bioengineering Medical News* via Academic Universe;
- *Medical Journals* via Academic Universe;
- *Health and Abstracts;*
- *Calcium & Calcified Tissue Abstracts;*
- *Cancer.gov;*
- *CCH Health and Human Resources;*
- *CDC Wonder;*
- *CHEM ID Plus;*
- *Chemoreception Abstracts;*
- *CRIS;*
- *Ecology Abstracts;*
- *EIS: Digests of Environmental Impact Statements;*
- *Entomology Abstracts;*
- *Environmental Engineering Abstracts;*
- *Environmental Sciences & Pollution Management;*
- *FAOSTAT;*
- *Genetics Abstracts;*

- *Hazardous Chemical Database;*
- *Health and Psychosocial Instruments;*
- *Health & Safety Science Abstracts;*
- *Human Genome Abstracts;*
- *IBIDS; Immunology Abstracts;*
- *Industrial & Applied Microbiology Abstracts;*
- *Medical & Pharmaceutical Biotechnology Abstracts;*
- *Mental Measurements Yearbook;*
- *Microbiology Abstracts;*
- *Neurosciences Abstracts;*
- *Oncogenes & Growth Factors;*
- *Pollution Abstracts;*
- *PopLine;*
- *PsycINFO;*
- *Risk Abstracts;*
- *Safety Science & Risk;*
- *Toxicology Abstracts;*
- *Toxicology & Environmental Health;*
- *Toxline;*
- *ToxNet;*
- *USDA Nutrient Database for Standard Reference;*
- *Virology & AIDS Abstracts.*

For descriptions, see <http://library.fiu.edu/subjects/medhealth.html> .

Health and nutrition promotion make use of Education databases, primarily *ERIC* and *Education Abstracts*. For descriptions, see <http://www.fiu.edu/~library/subjects/education.html>.

NOTE for collection development: the faculty may wish to consider for collection development *EMBASE Excerpta Medica*. It is a biomedical and pharmacological database with information about medical and drug related subjects, such as drug side effects and interactions; clinical and experimental medicine; and public, occupational, and environmental health. Cost information is not available.

## **GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SERVICES / REMOTE SENSING CENTER**

Jennifer Fu, Head <http://gislab.fiu.edu/>.

The Geographic Information Systems/Remote Sensing Center of Green Library provides computerized mapping and image-processing resources and services. Such tools are increasingly important to Public Health professionals and policy makers for disease surveillance, control and prevention; environmental health assessment; environmental exposures; geographically-coded health data; health services allocation; and policy-decision processes.

(Other GIS user groups are in urban affairs, biology, computer science, environmental studies, architecture, earth science, international studies, and civil and environmental engineering.)

Principal resources and services include Landsat imagery; USGS color-infrared aeriels; high resolution (1-foot) panchromatic aeriels photographs of Miami-Dade County; land cover, land use, vegetation, hydrological data, and digital elevation models (IHC's LIDAR data); Decennial Census data and associated TIGER/Line Files (both online and print); property parcel and appraisal data; as well as commercial mapping and image processing software (e.g., ArcGIS and ERDAS Imagine).

The center maintains broad collections of demographic and social-economic data sets of South Florida counties and municipalities. It provides consulting services on geo-statistical analysis, image processing, data modeling, 3-D visualization and geo-spatial metadata creation. Scanning and digitizing of large-format maps, along with large-format, high-speed plotting services, serve research units university-wide.

### **Summary of Outcomes for Budgeting**

**Journals** are the crux of any library collection assessment in the sciences. As noted earlier, the aggregate cost of all journals needs for the proposed Ph.D. program in Health Promotion and Community Nutrition would be **\$39,337** with about \$16,000 of that accounted for by three titles all in the \$5K online-subscription range: *Journal of the American Medical Society*, *New England Journal of Medicine*, and *HIV Clinical Trials*.

The approval plan for **books** in the health sciences is sound with the expansion of coverage to include university press titles at large. Such coverage is both economic and limited, given the relatively small role of university presses in science book publishing (column K of [spreadsheet 1](#) shows the university-press coverage to book-publishing output in each field). It would not be feasible to have trade-publisher books in the approval plan in the sciences, other than in carefully selected areas (e.g., the plan has always had broad coverage of the *nutrition* field). The book series requested by the faculty would cost about **\$200** a year—with an initial cost of **\$1,400** for retrospective acquisition of the past volumes.

The library's **database** collections in the health sciences are fairly comprehensive.

## **Other Library Resources and Services**

### **Library Instruction in the Health Sciences** (Valerie Boulos, Head)

The library has been active in providing instruction in library services, materials, and databases to the Health Sciences. The Information Literacy Program targets specific courses which are required of all students in which to provide this instruction during the junior or senior year of study. Course-related library instruction is also available for classes by appointment with the Health Sciences Librarian. Additionally, librarians have been assisting the College of Public Health to establish guidelines and a syllabus for a 3-credit course in Health Information Research to be added to the curriculum.

Basic reference services are provided on site, by e-mail, and in real-time chat service in English and Spanish (<http://www.fiu.edu/~library/services/asklib.html>). An information literacy program serves students' library-instruction needs at the lower division level, and targets core classes for instruction sessions at the upper division and graduate levels. Consultations for research projects are a faculty- and graduate-level service.

### **Government Documents** (Sherry Mosley, Head)

University Park campus is a selective (partial) Federal depository. In addition, it receives a broad range of publications from Florida state and local governmental agencies. Two milestones were reached last year when FIU was granted European Documentation Center status by the European Union (the only such center in the state, other than the University of Florida) and full United Nations depository status. See <http://www.fiu.edu/~library/internet/subjects/govern.html>.

### **Resource-Sharing Networks** (Douglas Hasty, Head)

The library belongs to several general consortia for interlibrary lending: the State University System, Southeast Florida Library Information Network, Southeastern Library Network, and Association of Southeastern Research Libraries. For foreign resources, the Center for Research Libraries (<http://www.crl.uchicago.edu/index.html>) is important.