

## **LIBERAL STUDIES PROGRAM REVIEW -- LIBRARY SERVICES**

Jean Smith  
Assistant Collections Librarian  
September 24, 1997

### **COLLECTIONS**

Since the collection in support of Liberal Studies is interdisciplinary and spread throughout the Library of Congress classification system, it is difficult to assess the overall number of monographs acquired. In addition to the original "core" collection based on Books for College Libraries, we have collected heavily in the areas of ethnic studies and popular culture, primarily for groups within the United States. The collection includes over 1500 titles covering African Americans and Hispanic Americans and more than 1100 volumes on Native Americans. Liberal Studies will also benefit from additions to the collection to support new faculty in Latin American, African, and Asian studies. Other collection strengths include U.S. History and California in particular, and U.S.-Mexican border studies. The library has nearly 40 journals on U.S. cultures, including some extended backruns. Without additional funding, we are unable to fund new subscriptions or purchase additional backfiles of core titles.

Over the past year, we have been able to expand the collection by adding a substantial number of materials previously stored in boxes off-site in the Foundation Building. These materials included a sizable number of books in cultural anthropology. We will continue this work as staffing allows. Over the past two years, we have significantly increased our ability to provide access to the full-text of a large body of scholarly journal literature through subscriptions to databases negotiated at reduced rates through the Chancellor's Office (see descriptions below). Additional databases will be made available in the coming year(s) as publishers increase their online offerings. However, without additional funding, our ability to take advantage of these offers will be jeopardized.

As the campus continues to grow, the continued lack of corresponding increases in the library materials budget results in not only a failure to support the growing number of subject areas and degree programs, but also the inability to support basic collection building. By formula-based standards set by the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL), the cost per year for collection maintenance and growth to support the CSUSM curriculum should be \$3,131,561. Our actual materials budget for each of the last two years has been \$450,000. Even within the CSU system, our materials budget falls well below the average. For the 95/96 fiscal year, the average spent on monographs by four of the small campuses (Bakersfield, Humboldt, Sonoma, and Stanislas) was \$259,500; CSUSM spent \$122,348. The average expenditure for periodicals by the same four campuses was \$304,700; CSUSM spent \$191,328. We have been able to fund our ongoing commitments (i.e. periodical and serial subscriptions) but unable to add new subscriptions without cancelling existing ones. Substantial increases in the costs of these ongoing subscriptions with no budgetary increase will result in a monographic budget well below \$100,000 and the possible cancellation of periodicals across the curriculum.

## REFERENCE AND ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

The Library subscribes to several print indexing and abstracting services including Sage Race Relations Abstracts, Handbook of Latin American Studies, Sage Urban Studies Abstracts, and Hispanic American Periodicals Index. Electronic indexes include Sociofile, America History and Life, Historical Abstracts, and Ethnic NewsWatch in addition to the interdisciplinary databases listed below. The recent purchase of a 15-year backfile of the Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI) on CD ROM will facilitate journal research; the networked version will be available on several of the computers in the reference area. New this year is a CD ROM product entitled The Indian Question which includes primary resources in Native American historical studies, linguistics and governmental relations as well as examples of Native art.

## INTERDISCIPLINARY DATABASES

In addition to Lexis/Nexis, which includes a variety of current news sources and full-text journals, we currently subscribe to the following, interdisciplinary databases:

EbscoHost: Full-text coverage of nearly 1000 scholarly journals with indexing and abstracting for approximately 1000 additional titles.

IDEAL: Full-text coverage of over 170 titles, primarily in the sciences, but including several basic social sciences titles as well.

Project MUSE: Full-text of over 40 journals in literature, philosophy, theater, and political science

First Search: A collection of indexing databases across the curriculum with document delivery available for a fee. Our base subscription includes access to general periodical literature, periodical literature in the humanities, sciences, and social sciences, government documents, tables of contents of over 12,500 journals, and conference papers and proceedings. Password access to additional First Search databases is available by arrangement with the coordinator of reference.

Also available through the Library's "electronic resources" web page are Britannica Online, and the Encyclopedia of Associations.

The recent completion of a project to list all periodicals holdings in the Library's Public Access Catalog (PAC) will allow us to link our holdings to several of the indexing and abstracting databases. This, coupled with various enhancements in document delivery services, will result in more efficient journal research.

Our ability to access a significant body of scholarly literature will be greatly enhanced in January with the start-up of the San Diego Circuit. CSUSM will join with the libraries at San Diego State University, the University of California, San Diego, and the University of San Diego to form a consortium whereby CSUSM students and faculty will be able to request books from any of the member libraries and receive them within one working day.

## **SERVICES**

The following is a partial statistical representation of the impact of the Liberal Studies Program on library services. Complete information was not available, as many Liberal Studies classes are listed under other disciplines. Dates of available data vary; we will standardize data collection for future program reviews.

## **INSTRUCTION**

95/96	2 sessions	1.5 hrs. in-class time	70 students
96/97	1 sessions	1 hrs in-class time	25 students

## **RESEARCH CONSULTATION (Individual reference appointment with librarian)**

2/96-6/97            11

## **INTERLIBRARY LOAN REQUESTS (Faculty and students)**

10/94-4/97            11

## **RESERVES (GE)**

96/97                13 courses            68 reserves

## **VIDEO RENTALS**

96/97                12

## **MEDIA RESERVES**

Fall 96/Spr.97            25 titles

## **MEDIA DELIVERIES (includes approx. 30 min. each for scheduling, delivery, & pickup)**

Fall 96/Spr.97            4 titles

## **LIBRARY HOURS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR PROGRAMS**

68.5 hours during the semester

## **NUMBER OF HOURS STAFFED BY REFERENCE LIBRARIANS**

53 Hours during the semester

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