Fiesta Bowl Revenue Allocation for the Library
November 7, 2006

In December 2005, Father John Jenkins, President, announced that revenue from the Fiesta Bowl (played in January 2006) would be directed to key academic priorities: financial aid, equipment for the Jordan Hall of Science and library acquisitions. Subsequently, in 2006, the University Libraries received $1.5 million for retrospective purchases and other library needs. The funds for the library were distributed as follows:

History - $1M for 20th century texts in print, digital and micro formats.
Africana Studies - $200,000 for texts in print, digital and micro formats
Web of Knowledge - $150,000 to complete our holdings of the e-backfiles
IEEE (Engineering) Electronic Library - $150,000 (about 4 years of access)

Our considerations began with proposals from the subject librarians for strengthening library collections and expanding desktop access to e-resources. Most appropriately, their proposals fit the needs earlier identified by the campus Library Task Force in Fall 2005:
• Retrospective purchasing in critical subject areas where the monograph collections are weak, and
• Immediate desktop access to core information resources.

We made the final strategic decision in collaboration with the Provost Tom Burish, Associate Provost Chris Maziar and the college deans. In coming to this decision, the Library Executive Committee was guided by many factors, summarized for the Libraries and the University Committee on Libraries on May 11, 2006, [http://www.library.nd.edu/ucl/minutes/documents/11may06.pdf](http://www.library.nd.edu/ucl/minutes/documents/11may06.pdf), which included:

• the pressure on book collections from serials inflation;
• the challenges in providing current and archival collections for the humanities;
• the need to support highly ranked academic programs, especially those with large Ph.D. programs, but with historically weak funding for collections;
• the ability to enhance support for faculty and students in multiple departments;
• the needs of new departments where collection support is weak;
• the distribution of the library materials budget for FY06/07 in which new money was used to reduce structural budget deficits in science, engineering, economics, business, psychology, and education;
• the distribution of the library materials budget for FY06/07 in which new money funded a new budget for a department or program (the Ph.D. in Literature) or added to an existing budget (Classics); and
• the pros and cons of addressing a small number of opportunities with relatively significant funds rather than addressing many opportunities with small dollar amounts.

The following paragraphs speak to the reasons for the specific allocations.

The History Department is a growing department and a flourishing discipline in serious need of expanded library collections to support the undergraduate curriculum, graduate programs and research. Enhancing the library collections is a top strategic priority of the College of Arts and Letters. Although the collection needs are not completely known, we are certain that real progress requires the infusion of a substantial amount of funds. We anticipate a substantial and visible improvement in the collections through the acquisition of thousands rather than hundreds of texts. Gay Dannelly will direct the overall initiative and Dave Jenkins will develop the collection development plan. Gay and Dave will engage in a thorough analysis of curricular and research needs and the existing collection. In determining what to buy, they will take into account the digital and print collections in other libraries, especially those where we have a direct or preferred borrowing arrangement, and College of Arts & Letters plans and priorities for history and the humanities. Due to the full analysis and broad consultation that will be necessary, we anticipate the planning will take 4 – 6 months.

Africana Studies is a relatively new area of study on campus and again, one without adequate support from the library collections. Although not the only new area studies program, Africana Studies was recently strengthened through the formation of a new department. Gay Dannelly will direct the overall initiative and Margaret Porter will develop the plan for the collection through a process similar to the one above.

The Web of Knowledge contains citation databases widely used on campus, according to the usage statistics for this and prior years, and the purchase of the backfile will provide access to the complete indexes back to 1900. Providing immediate desktop access to this core resource will benefit all students and faculty on campus. Joe Holtermann will initiate this purchase.

Last, access to the full IEEE (Engineering) Electronic Library represents an important step forward in meeting the knowledge needs of faculty and students in engineering, particularly those in computer science and electrical engineering. The value of this library, however, is not limited to engineering as it also contains literature on biomedical topics. Access to the back and current content together will greatly enhance access to this important literature. Carol Brach will initiate this purchase.

We also appreciate the football team and the Department of Athletics. Kathy Blackstead is developing and coordinating our thank you to the team. Marsha Stevenson is leading the development of our own Fiesta Bowl graphic (for a small number of physical bookplates and electronic stewardship) to be undertaken as this fall's first assignment in a graphic design class. It will be conducted as a contest among the class, for which the winner will receive a prize.

This is wonderful news for faculty, students and all of us in the library. If you would like more information about how the Fiesta Bowl funds will be used, please consult Gay Dannelly, Nigel Butterwick, Dan Marmion or me.

Jennifer Younger
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