NEW BRUNSWICK FACULTY COUNCIL
UPDATE ON THE LIBRARY SITUATION
JANUARY 2009

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For Collection Development and Management
• Update from my presentation at the NBFC meeting in May 2008

• Rutgers and Its Library System in Comparative and Historical Perspective

• Future Outlook
Situation in May 2008

Dismal outlook for the library, especially its collections budget:

• State Library project - New Jersey Knowledge Initiative (NJKI) providing academic and public libraries with key science and business databases - was coming to an end, just two years after its establishment. Cost for Rutgers - $600,000

• Over a 10% annual increase in subscription costs (over $600,000) in FY2008

• Well over a million dollars of requests for new databases and new journals had not been acted on because of lack of funding
Situation since May 2008

• NJKI – science database lost but two business databases were continued (no indication that they will be in 2010)

• VP Furmanski increased collections budget by $1.2 million to cover loss of science databases and inflation in serials

• 2009 Budget Reduction:
  • July 1 Reduction
    • $95,000 from collections budget
    • $664,180 in personnel budget (12 lines frozen since 2007 returned)

  • Planning for future budget reduction
    • $300,000 from collections budget
    • $634,000 from personnel budget (10 personnel lines)
Initially unknown if planning for future reductions would go into effect this fiscal year

• Cancellation decision needed to be made by October, so went ahead with them

• Criteria same as in 2007 when the Libraries reduced the collections budget by $800,000
  • Cancel duplicate subscriptions no longer needed in the current environment
  • Renegotiate existing contracts with information providers
  • Cancel unique titles that were not heavily used and where similar information is available in online resources

• Results similar to 2007 cancellations – little loss to content, but essentially remain at status quo. Money freed up can be used toward one-time purchases of databases and other resources this year
Rutgers and Its Library System in Comparative and Historical Perspective

ASSUMPTIONS

• Rutgers needs to be competitive with its peer group to compete for top faculty and students

• Rutgers needs a top library and information system so faculty can compete for research grants from NSF, NIH, and other sources

• Rutgers needs a top library and information system so it can recruit and retain top faculty and students

• Rutgers needs a top library and information system so its students can be fully educated and competent

• The Rutgers Libraries are uniquely situated to provide services and scholarly information to every member of the university community to further these goals
The Libraries have staff to navigate the complex information environment we live in. . .

- Can decide when information needs to be purchased or other forms of access can fulfill users’ needs

- Can bargain with information providers as one large university on three regional campuses and through consortia of other research universities such as the NorthEast Research Libraries Consortium

- Can teach information literacy skills to students

- Can assist researchers in finding and organizing scholarly resources

- Can assist researchers by preserving and expanding access to their work
To be able to perform these activities and be competitive with our peer/aspirant universities, the Libraries need resources – human and financial

We are falling behind the peer/aspirant universities identified by Rutgers in both personnel and financial resources in the last decade
Number Library Faculty & Staff Members: Percent Change from 1996 to 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Percent Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>NORTH CAROLINA</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>WASHINGTON</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>MICHIGAN</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES</td>
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<tr>
<td>VIRGINIA</td>
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<tr>
<td>WISCONSIN</td>
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<tr>
<td>CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY</td>
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<td>ILLINOIS, URBANA</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RUTGERS</td>
<td>-3</td>
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</tbody>
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We are falling behind our peers in funds to lease or purchase core scholarly information

Rutgers’ ARL rank in collections expenditures went from 7\textsuperscript{th} (with only Harvard, Yale, UCLA, Stanford, Berkeley, and Michigan ranked higher) in 1989 to 53\textsuperscript{rd} in 2007

Rutgers Libraries sends about $10 million a year on collections compared to:

North Carolina, UCLA, Pittsburgh, and Illinois - over $14 million
University of Washington - $16 million
Berkeley and Michigan - $20 million
Collection Expenditures: Percent Change from 1996 to 2007 ('07 Dollars)

CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY: 49.4%
ILLINOIS, URBANA: 41.2%
WASHINGTON: 34.0%
NORTH CAROLINA: 27.8%
MICHIGAN: 23.5%
CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES: 18.6%
CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO: 12.5%
VIRGINIA: 6.5%
RUTGERS: 5.8%
WISCONSIN: 5.8%

Collection expenditures for each faculty & student, 1996 and 2007 (in '07 dollars)


FUTURE OUTLOOK

Global Financial Crisis

• Budget Reductions
  • Libraries have been very responsible in how we have dealt with past reductions- limiting impact on collections, but rarely expanding our offerings
  • But extremely vulnerable to future reductions: in last few years 80% of our expenditures have been for serials and 20% for all other types of purchases – all from non-state funds
  • Potential loss of 10 additional lines will cut deeply in to our ability to offer services (22 lines in 2 years)
  • Fall further behind our peers
• Publishers will have to adjust to declining university budget
• Accelerate changes in scholarly communications
Changes in Scholarly Communication

• Opening up scholarly communication and eventually decrease cost
  - Open Access Publishing
  - Open Repositories
  - Open Source Software

• See Libraries webpage on Scholarly Communication: http://www.libraries/rul/scholarly_comm/scholarly_comm.shtml
Need for Academia to fully engage in these issues

• Not a Library Problem but we can help you
• Major copyright education program for Spring semester
• RuCore
• Important Draft Report :

  - *The University Roles in the Dissemination of Research and Scholarship – A Call to Action* by AAU, ARL, CNI, NASULGC

• Rutgers presenting Symposium on Scholarly Communication in Fall 2009