

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Board of Regents

**From:** Board Office

**Subject:** Annual Report of the Interinstitutional Library Committee and the Interinstitutional Task Force on Scholarly Communication

**Date:** October 8, 2001

**Recommended Actions:**

1. Receive the report.
2. Encourage Regent university libraries to continue their collaborative activities and, where feasible, extend such efforts.
3. Encourage the Task Force on Scholarly Communication to continue campus discussions of a common Regent policy on copyright.

**Executive Summary:** The Interinstitutional Library Committee requests approval of its FY 2001 Annual Report. The annual report also contains a report from the Interinstitutional Task Force on Scholarly Communication (TFSC), established two years ago by the Interinstitutional Committee on Educational Coordination (ICEC).

The four major sections of the report are summarized here, with examples of activities related to each section. The report contains numerous examples of visionary projects, done individually and cooperatively, despite continuing financial challenges.

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Examples of Activities</b>
Scholarly Communication	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The brochure, <i>Crisis in Scholarly Communication: What is the Impact on Iowa Regent Institutions?</i>, was distributed to all faculty at the 3 universities.</li> <li>2) TFSC coordinated faculty forums to discuss publication issues.</li> <li>3) The TFSC drafted a copyright policy and presented it to the ICEC.</li> </ol>

Topic	Examples of Activities
Cooperative Interinstitutional Library Programs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Collection development: The universities were able to purchase 718 titles through Elsevier's <i>ScienceDirect</i>; 713 electronic books through <i>netLibrary</i>).</li> <li>2) Information Technology: a variety of new projects have begun.</li> <li>3) Interlibrary loan activities: over 8,000 requests (down 1% from previous year).</li> <li>4) Preservation efforts: savings generated from contract to bind periodicals.</li> </ol>
Statewide Cooperative Activities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Library Services Task Force projected library needs of Iowa citizens and suggested solutions.</li> <li>2) Statewide Database Advisory Committee is developing ways to increase sharing of electronic information by Iowa libraries.</li> </ol>
Institutional Reports	Descriptions of SUI, ISU, and UNI library projects. Each library is making significant efforts to bridge physical and virtual resources.

**Link to Strategic Plan:**

There are no objectives, strategies, or action steps in the Board's Strategic Plan that refer directly to the libraries at the Regent universities. However, Key Result Area 1.0.0.0, Quality, assumes that strong educational institutions need strong libraries. As noted below, each of the new university strategic plans refers to the role of the library.

Board Plan

- Strategy 1.1.4.0 Strengthen research, creative work, and service by the Regent universities.
- Action Step 4.4.2.3 Explore opportunities for partnership among the Regent institutions and with other sectors of education.

University Strategic Plans

**SUI** – The University's new strategic plan emphasizes an intellectually fulfilling undergraduate experience, distinguished research, artistic creation, and enhanced patient care. The University Libraries provide an essential infrastructure that makes these goals attainable.

**ISU** – ISU's strategic plan states that library resources and services sustain and enhance learning and discovery. Moreover, the advancement of the electronic library's resources and services represents a measure for advancing information science and technology.

**UNI** – Rod Library supports University Goals 1 through 3, by providing equitable access to information resources supporting study and scholarship needs of UNI students, faculty, staff, and the community.

**Background: Scholarly Communication**

**Task Force Charge**

When the ICEC appointed a Task Force on Scholarly Communications in 1999, its charge to the TFSC was to “explore ways that the libraries of the three universities can more effectively use professional journals, in light of escalating costs and such developments as electronic publication.” The membership of the Task Force includes representatives of the faculty senates of each university, and personnel from the library, as well as Board Office staff.

**Scholarly Communication Activities**

Following the distribution of the brochure, *Crisis in Scholarly Communication*, Task Force members coordinated meetings of faculty to discuss relevant issues. In general, the forums at the three campuses covered such topics as the escalating costs of professional journals and books, faculty rights regarding copyright, and issues related to electronic publication. Some sessions involved faculty members who are editors of professional journals or who serve on editorial boards. Copies of papers developed at different universities and by such groups as the Association of Research Libraries were distributed. The TFSC found that faculty want to address the crisis with positive proposals. One of the proposed strategies, nation-wide, is to encourage faculty to retain copyright of their research publications.

**Copyright Policy Recommendation to ICEC**

Task Force has proposed to the ICEC that a policy on copyright include the following:

- Develop common Regents copyright policy for the three universities that would provide for appropriate steps faculty can reasonably be asked to take in order to retain their copyrights. Procedures for its implementation would be the responsibility of each university.

This recommendation does not cover, nor should it affect copyright of instructional materials or patent of inventions or discoveries, which are covered under other existing Board of Regents policies. It would apply only to the copyright of research papers and reports based on research conducted at the Regent universities.

- Develop appropriate support mechanisms for faculty, including education about copyright, model copyright agreements, and a set of minimal expectations for faculty to attempt to retain copyright. This might include access to university-endorsed alternative language for use in copyright agreements as well as in alternative publication systems.
- Support an examination of the impact of copyright and its effects on the publishing process on faculty annual evaluations and promotion and tenure criteria.

### **Interinstitutional Library Committee (ILC)**

The Committee is comprised of the Deans of the three Regent university libraries. It appointed a Reference and Instructional Services Task Force to oversee interinstitutional programs related to electronic reference and instructional services of value to all three libraries.

The ILC is investigating, in cooperation with the State Library of Iowa, the potential of a collective statewide website. Iowans using the proposed site would be able to learn of resources on topics of interest that would be at various public and higher education libraries throughout the state.

Most efforts of the ILC this past year were directed toward expanding electronic access. One part of this was consortial purchases of electronic books and journals.

### **Cooperative Interinstitutional Programs**

Collection  
Development

The following are a few examples found in the report on collection development:

- The consortial purchase of Elsevier's *ScienceDirect* provides the three institutions with full text online access to 718 titles. This approach gives faculty and students at any one of the Regent campuses electronic access to the titles held by the other institutions at no additional cost.
- The Regent universities consorcially purchased 713 electronic books through *netLibrary*. The collections focus on business, computer science, and education. Again, all three campuses now share access to these books, but at the cost of a single purchase.
- Continued joint licensing by all three institutions of Statistical Universe, an important database providing both indexing and data for statistics from state and federal governments and international sources.

Information  
Technology

Some of the projects that the ILC explored this past reporting year included:

- Reached an agreement that the universities use a common communications standard to insure accurate access to electronic materials.
- Continue the program of Information Technology staff visits to other Regent campuses.
- To address a major problem at all three institutions on how to promote staff without having to resort to reclassification, the libraries will share position descriptions and prepare a joint statement on hiring and salaries.

Interlibrary  
Loan

Since June 1992, an Interlibrary Loan Task Force has been active in expediting exchanges of library materials. Books, microfilm, and other so-called returnables are sent via 2-day commercial shipper. More recently, electronic means of transfer are used. Most copies are sent via Ariel, a text digitizing software of the Research Libraries Group (RLG). With this technology, articles are scanned, compressed, and sent via the Internet, often in a matter of minutes.

The overall volume of activity was down 1% compared with FY00. The number of requests in FY01 was 8,005 compared with 8,105 in FY00.

Preservation

The Regent libraries continue their contract with Heckman Bindery, Inc., of Indiana. Collectively, the Regent university libraries, including the SUI Law Library, had 72,368 items bound in FY01 at a cost of \$416,975.

The ISU Library and the SUI Libraries have initiated programs to use digital equipment for preservation purposes, primarily the imaging and facsimile replacement of brittle library materials. Both programs are in the early stages of development.

**State-wide Cooperative Activities**

The Regent libraries participated in two major statewide initiatives in FY01. The Iowa Commission on Libraries created the Library Services Task Force. The Task Force was directed to consider what Iowa will be like in the future, and asked to identify what Iowans are likely to need from their information centers. The Task Force submitted its report to the Commission in early 2001. The Commission accepted the report and prioritized the recommendations into two categories – those requiring legislative action and those that could be accomplished by the Iowa library community.

The Statewide Database Advisory Committee consisted of 31 librarians from public, special school, and academic libraries across the state. Of special interest to Regent libraries was the Committee's work in achieving a licensed electronic access to *NewsBank*, which provides access to the *Des Moines Register*, the *Cedar Rapids Gazette*, and the *Chicago Tribune*.

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**Analysis:**

To maintain their role as research universities and a comprehensive regional university, the Regent universities must maintain access to significant scholarship and information for faculty, students, and staff.

Continued Cost  
Increases

Last year, the libraries reported that both the volume and price of scholarly materials have increased nearly threefold during the last decade, making the task of maintaining access to scholarly information increasingly difficult. Based on a letter from the Interinstitutional Collection Management Council, the ILC will recommend to the ICEC, the following increases, to make up for lost purchasing power and/or inflation.

- FY2002: 14.5% [9.5% inflation and 5.0% lost purchasing power]
- FY2003: 10.0% [7.7% inflation; 2.3% lost purchasing power]
- FY2004: 10.0% [inflation only]

Individual  
University  
Examples

Each of the University reports that follow provide examples of FY01 under the categories of Information Technology, Collections and Services, Instruction, Outreach, Physical Facilities, Human Resources, and Consortial Activities.

One example from each institution is provided in each category to illustrate the variety of strategies and programs that the institutions are engaged in and attempting to expand services, while under budgets that have been reduced.

Information Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ISU launches e-Library; 20 million hits last year.</li> <li>• SUI completed the contractual development of its integrated library system, <i>InfoHawk</i>.</li> <li>• UNI used \$140,000 in student computer fees to complete four projects that benefited students, including licensing new electronic resources, media equipment purchases, and purchasing and installing 21 new computers.</li> </ul>
Collections and Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ISU develops a “one-stop” web page for remote library users.</li> <li>• SUI has new licenses with Elsevier and Wiley Interscience that provide access to over 1,000 science journals.</li> <li>• UNI purchased licensing agreements such as <i>CatchWord</i>, <i>ATLA Religion Database</i>, <i>Schientific American Online Archive</i>, and <i>LLBA Linguistics and Language Behavior Abstracts</i>.</li> </ul>
Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ISU completed the final year of a three-year project to create an Undergrad Commons. The goal of the Commons is to promote research I the undergraduate curriculum through the integration of electronic information resources into core undergraduate courses. Over 3,500 students enrolled in 34 classes were served.</li> <li>• SUI continued the User Needs Assessment Project, a comparative analysis of three separate surveys of faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates of their satisfaction with current services and resources.</li> <li>• UNI – Examples were not provided.</li> </ul>


Outreach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ISU participated in the Agricultural Network Information Center (AgNIC), an organization providing agricultural information and reference services in electronic format over the Internet.</li> <li>• SUI, as a Regional Depository for U.S. Government Publications, is dispersing its depository collections to other libraries.</li> <li>• UNI—one librarian from the Klagenfurth University Library visited in Fall 2000; 2 Rod Library faculty members traveled to Klagenfurth University in Spring 2001.</li> </ul>
Physical Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ISU renovated the Fireplace Reading Room.</li> <li>• SUI used monies from several funds to replace 1,275 chairs on the second floor study area.</li> <li>• UNI was able to purchase new furniture for the Youth Collection study lounge as a result of a private gift.</li> </ul>
Human Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ISU reduced library staff by four positions.</li> <li>• SUI added 7 new professional and scientific staff.</li> <li>• UNI – Searches for the Dean of Library Services and Web Manager positions were closed due to budget reductions.</li> </ul>
Consortial Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through participation in the Iowa Private Universities Library Group, ISU was able to add the American Chemical Society's entire online journals package.</li> <li>• SUI helped plan and participated in two workshops this year, one of Electronic Theses and Dissertations, and another on Virtual Reference.</li> <li>• UNI continues to participate in the Cedar Valley Library Consortium.</li> </ul>


There is a clear trend toward increased use of electronic delivery systems in the library. The cooperative efforts of the libraries have resulted in real savings.

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**Performance Indicators:**

There are no specific indicators related to university libraries.

  
Charles R. Kniker

Approved:   
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