



UNM

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

To: Julia Fulghum, Vice President for Research
From: Steven Harris, Chair, Faculty Senate Library Committee
RE: Proposal for Library Funding
Date: February 18, 2010

After members of the Office of the Vice President for Research met with the Faculty Senate Library Committee on December 1, 2009 the committee has discussed various projects that would aid research at UNM. The attached proposal is the outcome of those discussions. It describes a request for funding to make the Elsevier Freedom Collection available to UNM faculty and students.

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**Library Funding Proposal
Elsevier Freedom Collection
February 2010**

Background:

Elsevier publishes many of the most highly rated scientific journals in the world, on a platform called ScienceDirect. UNM currently subscribes to 271 of these Elsevier journals. The total subscription cost for these journals for the current fiscal year is \$576,777. Elsevier offers the Freedom Collection package, which includes nearly all of the titles published by Elsevier and their partner publishers (over 1,700 titles). Faculty and graduate students would like to have access to all the titles in the Freedom Collection. It is one of the most frequent requests heard in the libraries. In the recently completed LibQual survey, faculty expressed very strong feelings that the libraries fall short in journal collections they require for their research.

Benefits to UNM Research:

Elsevier will provide access to the entire Freedom Collection for the cost of the current UNM subscriptions plus an additional content fee. Through this offer UNM can provide access to over 1,400 additional Elsevier journal titles. On a cost per title basis, this would improve UNM's efficiency from over \$2,000 per title to closer to \$400 per title. Having immediate access to the entire Freedom Collection would greatly increase the productivity of UNM researchers and eliminate the need to submit many interlibrary loan requests. The Freedom Collection titles would be accessible on all UNM campuses, and remotely to UNM Albuquerque faculty, staff, and students via their NetID logon.

Funding Request:

UNM has entered a 5-year agreement with Elsevier for the Freedom Collection. The extended agreement keeps annual increases lower than current journal inflation rates. The libraries have made strategic cuts in order to meet the first year requirements of the agreement and have also budgeted for the ongoing cost and inflation of the subscribed Elsevier journals. The additional content fees in years 2011-2014, however, will be difficult to cover on existing library budgets.

The Faculty Senate Library Committee would like to request funding from allocated research overhead moneys for the UNM ADDED CONTENT FEES in years 2011-2014 of the agreement with Elsevier (see table below), with the option of continuing the support if the agreement is extended beyond 5 years. Funding will allow the libraries to sustain the agreement over 5 years and significantly increase the number of scientific journals available to UNM researchers without requiring the cancellation of other journal subscriptions or the cannibalization of other library collection projects.

Expense	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
UNM SUBSCRIPTIONS	\$576,777	\$605,616	\$635,897	\$667,692	\$701,076

UNM ADDED CONTENT FEES	\$112,286	\$140,401	\$168,671	\$177,104	\$185,959
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