DESPAIR?

Bryn Geffert’s article, “A Librarian’s Defense of Despair”, *Chronicle of Higher Education* (Mar. 6, 2015) resonated with me as I, in the spring of 2015, prepared to lead the libraries at USD through some difficult conversations about journal subscription costs. Geffert challenges universities to face two facts:

**Fact:** The current model of academic publishing or scholarly publishing is broken. Every year, mostly in the form of journal subscriptions, universities and those that support them—purchase back, often at exorbitant costs, the very research, scholarly inquiry, and creative work that faculty, students, and others develop in the labs, studios, offices, and libraries across campuses everywhere.

**Fact:** Very few colleges and universities in the U.S. have the financial resources to keep up with the escalating journal costs. In both annual and strategic planning, I plan for a rate of 5% inflation on the libraries’ journal subscription and other e-resources. The University Libraries and the USD Wegner Health Science Information Center expend over $2 million annually on journals, books, and other information resources.

The faculty and administrators with whom I serve on University Budget Committee, Graduate Council, University Libraries Committee, and Dean’s Council have considered with me the challenges that the above facts pose for USD. On behalf our students and faculty, I am grateful that the libraries’ budget has seen increases from both the University Budget Committee and the Wegner Health Science Information Center Board of Directors. These increases have been timely and much needed. As much as I am grateful for the increases, I am equally aware that we—USD—cannot spend our way out of the situation and keep up with either the pace of inflation or make up for the reduced budgets that the libraries and the entire university experienced during the Great Recession and previous years.

Hence, as FY2016-2017 gets underway, the faculty librarians and the faculty across the university are looking closely and critically at journal subscriptions across the disciplines with one question in mind: Is the journal essential to the teaching, learning, and research priorities of USD? At this juncture, I don’t envision USD dropping major journal packages such as ScienceDirect, which is supported through federal funding.

Nevertheless, the library and disciplines across campus will face and make some difficult decisions this year and in the future based on utilization data as well as the expertise and judgment of the faculty in the library and across the campus.

While annual subscription cuts are not sustainable, they are one tool for ensuring access to the information resources that support the teaching, learning, and research priorities of USD. The good news is that analyses of subscriptions is only one tool in a toolbox that is expanding. In the spring semester issue of the University Libraries’ newsletter and other venues, I look forward to sharing with you developments in Open Access and more.

**Despair? No. Resolve? Yes.**

Daniel Daily  
Dean of Libraries
EXHIBITS

Each semester student installations are exhibited in the library building, such as the 3D Design Art 123 and the Graphic Design Social Awareness campaigns.

Undergraduate student and art major, Leila Ghasempor is exhibiting her sculptural works and paintings.

New Union / Re Union, curated by Sarah Hanson, exhibits 50 artists, who "know Vermillion and/or the area intimately well," working to the poetry of Cynthia Nibbelink Worley, Harlem, NYC.

More info on library art and exhibits: usd-library.blogspot.com
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bit.ly/2dh6fN1
NEW RESOURCES

All databases and journals can be found by starting at the library home page: [www.usd.edu/library](http://www.usd.edu/library). Select Research Tools from the left navigation, or simply select Databases or Journals/Ebooks from the grey search bar in the middle of the page.

**American Indian Histories and Cultures**
Explore manuscripts, artwork and rare printed books dating from the earliest contact with European settlers to photographs and newspapers from the mid-twentieth century.

**ProQuest—US Major Dailies**

**Board Vitals**
Board Vitals provides a large question bank database of expert-reviewed board questions to assist in preparation for USMLE steps 1-3, PANCE, NCLEX PN exams, as well as many other board examinations.

**Routledge Performance Archive (RPA)**
RPA provides access to audio-visual material from past and present practitioners of performance. The video material spans more than 50 years of documented work direct from renowned practitioners and specialists.
NEW STAFF

Kat Anderberg, Interlibrary Loan Associate
Kat Anderberg started with the Interlibrary Loan department in May 2016. Prior to her position at the library, Kat worked in the Division of Continuing and Distance Education for three years.

Heath Davis, Reference Librarian
Heath Davis began work at the libraries in August as a reference librarian. Heath is a native of Dayton, Ohio. Heath has a Master of Library Science degree from Kent State University.

Constance Packard, Circulation Associate
Constance Packard joined the Circulation Department in early August. She recently graduated from USD with a B.A. in English.

NEW ROLES

Caroline Anderberg, Research Services Librarian
Caroline Anderberg is now the Assessment, Diversity and Research Services Librarian.

Sam Herley, Curator
Sam Herley accepted the position of Oral History Center Curator in March 2016.

Anne Hinseth, Electronic Resources Librarian
Anne Hinseth is now cataloging for the Digital Library and is also staffing the Reference Desk.

Tonya Olson, Digital Access Librarian
Tonya Olson accepted the position of Digital Access Librarian in February 2016. In August, Tonya started working at the Reference Desk.
DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

Horace J. Austin Papers

Work has begun on cataloging the Horace Austin Papers in the Digital Library of South Dakota (DLSD). Currently the diaries and a small selection of letters are available in the DLSD.

bit.ly/2cRhbBH
bit.ly/2dBJhDq

Judicial Voices Project

The Judicial Voices Project (JVP) collection was donated to the South Dakota Oral History Center in March of 2014. The collection was cataloged in the DLSD.

The JVP is a collaborative project between the Court, the University of South Dakota School of Law, and the Unified Judicial System to capture a historic snapshot of the South Dakota Supreme Court on its 125th Anniversary.

bit.ly/2dxl0dl
bit.ly/2dFJD8b

- Photos from USD’s past!
  bit.ly/USDPhoto

- Check out the rest of our Digital Collections
dlsd.sdln.net/cdm/usd