



Report from the University of Kansas Task Force on Scholarly Communication & Publishing

JUNE 2020

Executive Summary

Following the invitation and charge to the Task Force, the 24-person group met six times during the 2019-2020 academic year to discuss the current state of the scholarly communications ecosystem, the impact that ecosystem has on the University of Kansas, and the impact that KU can have on it. There was little disagreement that many aspects of this system are dysfunctional and unsustainable. The financial models, which have universities pay millions of dollars every year to essentially “buy back” research that was sponsored and supported on their campus through subscription costs, are the prime example of unsustainability. And the intertwined relationship between major commercial publishers and the system by which scholars are evaluated, especially for promotion and tenure, create incentives that often do not serve the goal of solid and responsible research, and sometimes undermine it.

The Task Force chose three foci for its work, and much of the hard discussions took place in subgroups, which drafted the recommendations herein. These groups concentrated as follows: 1. The role of KU faculty and researchers on the scholarly communications ecosystem and their ability to impact it; 2. Library budgets and the rising costs of scholarly materials, especially large journal subscription packages (often called “Big Deals”); 3. The continuing growth and impact within this system of open access (OA) to scholarship, including different models for OA, mandates for open access from governmental and other granting agencies, and how the costs associated with open access can be apportioned to reform the overall ecosystem.

Several themes ran through our discussions. We talked a great deal about how different disciplines experience the commercial publication system, the role of that system in the promotion and tenure process, and the opportunities for open access, differently. The upshot of discovering these differences was a sense that the focus of our efforts toward reform should be on empowering individuals to accomplish their own goals as scholars and to find ways to value a wide variety of scholarly contributions appropriately. One theme that ran across the various disciplines, however, was a sense of the valuable contributions made by many scholarly societies. The Task Force clearly felt that efforts at reform, as needed as they are, should not endanger the good work of these societies. Finally, there was clear acknowledgement of how deeply embedded the move toward more open access is at KU. The faculty’s open access policy was a pioneering step in this direction, and is part of a constellation of projects, efforts and advocacy directed toward democratizing access to knowledge and increasing the impact of KU research.

The Task Force makes a set of recommendations related to these three areas of focus. More detail is given, based on the work of each sub-group, in the recommendations section, but five broad points can help summarize these recommendations:

- Examine how scholars and scholarship are evaluated at KU, especially with regard to commercial metrics such as the widely repudiated Journal Impact Factor.
- Empower faculty and researchers to pursue alternative publication paths and develop ways to reward diverse forms of scholarly contribution.
- Explore alternative business models for the dissemination of scholarship and especially for the support of more open forms of publication.
- Examine ways to leverage the license created by the faculty open access policy as effectively and comprehensively as possible.
- Develop communication channels for focused dialogue with and amongst the KU faculty around subscriptions, assessment tools and open access.

The Repost of the Task Force

Introduction

The Task Force on Scholarly Communications and Publishing was formed and charged by Interim Provost Carl Lejuez in September 2019. The appointment of the Task Force grew out of conversations between Provost Lejuez, Chancellor Doug Girod and Dean of Libraries Kevin Smith, which had begun shortly after the announcement in February 2019 by the University of California system that they were not renewing their contact with publishing giant Elsevier. The UC announcement detailed the multi-year conversations amongst faculty, libraries, and administrators that had been necessary to make that decision possible. At KU, the Chancellor, Provost and Dean of Libraries determined that similar conversations were needed, although there was no intent to direct those conversations toward any specific action. At the time the decision to convene a Task Force was made, the KU Libraries were already negotiating a three-year contract with Elsevier, so no urgency was felt around that particular journal package.

Provost Lejuez and Dean Smith met in August 2019 to discuss the make-up of the Task Force. Thirty-one members of the faculty were ultimately invited to join, and 24 people accepted the invitation. The membership of the Task Force, and the charge they were given, are attached as appendices to this report.

The Task Force met for the first time in October 2019, and convened five more times during the 2019-2020 academic year, chaired by Dean Smith. Early in their work, the Task Force decided to divide into three smaller groups to focus more closely on parts of the issues we were charged to address. Sub-groups formed to examine subscription costs and the Libraries' budget, the multiple roles that faculty and researchers play in the scholarly communications system, and the growing importance of open access. Our meetings in January, February and March were each focused on one of these areas, and the specific subgroup that had been discussing that topic brought issues, questions and recommendations for the larger Task Force to discuss. At the end of April 2020, the group met to discuss our recommendations and the outline of this report.

Context and assumptions

As a public institution, openness and transparency in our scholarly enterprise are among the core values of the University of Kansas, and those core values have, since the late 1990's been expressed by a variety of projects, initiatives, and collective advocacy for wider distribution of the scholarly record. These values

recognize the need for accountability to the taxpayers in Kansas and beyond who support the university. Moreover, the goals of the open scholarship, or “open science,” movement -- to democratize knowledge and increase the impact of research – mirror fundamental commitments at KU. This fact that the KU faculty was the first public university faculty in the United States to adopt an open access policy for themselves, as scholarly authors (2010), is strong evidence of the long-standing intention to create change in the ways scholars communicate with each other and with the public.

There has been a long history of advocacy for open access, as well as projects to help faculty, researchers and graduate students leverage the power of open scholarship to increase their own visibility and the impact of their research, which is a vital foundation for all of the task Force’s recommendations.¹ We recognize that a significant part of the problem we are trying to overcome is the fact that so many of our scholarly publishing communication channels are held by commercial companies. For reasons of sustainability, fiscal responsibility, and our commitment to openness, the University must reduce its dependence on these commercial publishers. More broadly, however, we recognize that the scholarly communications system needs to be more diverse, with different business models and different forms of dissemination. Our fundamental goal is to develop ways to transition to a more open and sustainable ecosystem in which scholars and scholarship can thrive.

The system in which scholars communicate the results of their research is undoubtedly extremely complex, encompassing a great many stakeholders, from graduate students to multi-national corporations. The research lifecycle, which begins with ideation and planning, moves through many stages, including grant-seeking, experimentation or hypothesis, data collection and organization, analysis and writing, to culminate with validation, publication, and reward. At each stage there are participants in the process with a wide variety of interests, commitments, and values. This process is a true ecosystem, in the sense that the parts are interdependent, and adjustments must be made carefully. Even well-intentioned interventions can have unintended consequences for other parts and players in the system.

Themes Emerged

Two themes emerged during the task force’s discussion of this ecosystem. First, scholars in different disciplines experience the research cycle and the scholarly communications system quite differently. The impact of, and attitudes toward, commercial publishers, open access, and the system of promotion and tenure are all perceived differently depending on the area of study, and how it is structured. One area of consistent concern, however, was about the role of scholarly societies. In many disciplines, and cutting

¹ For more information on these efforts, see <https://openaccess.ku.edu/>.

across traditional distinctions between STEM fields, the social sciences and the humanities, scholarly societies are perceived as positive influences which also bring significant positive externalities to the scholarly communications system. While recognizing that these societies themselves can be very different in terms of their size, mission, and impact on scholars, the Task Force was unanimous in its concern that reform of the scholarly communications system should, insofar as possible, protect and preserve the contributions of these scholarly societies. When we advocate for more scholar-owned or community owned infrastructure, we need to recognize that many scholarly societies already represent this value.

Overall, the task force was clear that our focus should be on supporting and empowering our individual faculty and researchers to navigate the scholarly communications system in ways that work best for them and allow them to achieve their own goals. To do this, the university should strive for a great deal of adaptability in its approaches to the research enterprise, and to be prepared to examine its own policies, procedures and investments to eliminate barriers and promote flexibility.

The need for change

There can be little doubt that parts of the current scholarly communications system are not sustainable, owing to an imbalance of resources and influence within that system. The constantly escalating cost that universities must pay to buy back the products of research that are created on their own campuses is the most obvious example of such imbalance, let alone the cost barriers to readers around the world. It is not only under-resourced institutions that are suffering from this imbalance.² Universities are supporting profit margins for private publishing companies that exceed those in the health care industry,³ and they are doing it by giving away intellectual property developed on their own campuses and often with funds they provide.

The impact of the COVID_19 pandemic makes this sense of unsustainability even more pronounced. The need to move rapidly to online learning has underlined the importance of resources that are digital, portable and affordable, while the looming budget crisis caused by the pandemic response makes the cost of current resources not only unwise, but impossible. Open access to research articles and research data, along with open educational resources, is more important than ever; it is difficult to imagine how universities can navigate these challenging times without increased attention to the creation, preservation, and access to these open resources, both as tools for short-term adjustments and as long-term investments.

The ways in which faculty and researchers are rewarded for their work are deeply intertwined with the current system, and these too must be addressed by any effective reform. Both the grant funding process

² <https://theconversation.com/harvard-journal-subscription-fees-are-prohibitive-6659>

³ <https://www.theguardian.com/science/2017/jun/27/profitable-business-scientific-publishing-bad-for-science>

and the promotion and tenure procedures in place at KU and elsewhere fundamentally work to reinforce the status quo. To put it bluntly, these systems tend to reward those who are already privileged, the “winners” who have navigated the present system successfully to rise to positions of where they now wield power and influence. This cycle makes both the procedures in place and the forms of publication that are preferred appear natural and necessary, so it poses an obstacle to efforts to redirect energy and investments to more open or innovative forms of scholarly contribution.

In thinking about ways to change this unsustainable system, we should not lose sight of those elements that should be retained. Peer review is a valuable part of the ways in which research is validated. Promotion and tenure are key elements of the incentive structure that drives research and scholarship. And, as we have said, scholarly societies serve important functions by creating communities of like-minded colleagues, sponsoring conferences, and supporting graduate students in a variety of ways. These and other elements of the scholarly communications system that are worth retaining do not necessarily have to be supported in the same ways going forward, but we must take care that changes that we make, or for which we advocate, do not in inadvertently do harm to that which should be protected.

As we turn to the specific work of the task force and its recommendations, we want to emphasize that different stakeholders should focus on what they can do in their particular spheres of influence. The Chancellor and Provost operate in different spheres of influence than do the KU Libraries. Early career researchers are in a different position than are tenured faculty. Each has the capacity to influence change in some contexts, and each operates under some constraints. Most of all, however, we need coordinated collaboration. Libraries, to take one example, have collaborated with each other for many years, but their ability to effect substantive change has been limited. Peer-to-peer collaboration like this is still needed and should grow. But it also needs to be coordinated across the different contexts and spheres of influence just described. Leadership for this kind of coordinated collaboration for change almost certainly must come from the Provost and Chancellor.

The work of the Task Force

Early in our meetings, the task force focused on core elements of the scholarly communications system that impacted KU and the KU has an opportunity to influence. We identified three key aspects of the scholarly communications system that we wanted to discuss:

- The roles that university faculty and researchers play in the scholarly communications ecosystem, including as researchers, authors, editors and peer reviewers.

- The Libraries' budget and the escalating cost of journal subscriptions. This area included discussion about how decisions regarding what materials to cut from our subscription packages are made.
- The growing role of open access, and, especially, how KU can leverage the commitment its faculty has already made to openness and expand the opportunities available to them.

The task force divided itself into three subgroups, so that each could focus its discussions on one of these topics. The subgroups each met on their own schedule, and were asked to develop topics to focus the discussion for the larger group.

To clarify these areas, it is helpful to think of the web of relationships that KU and its researchers have with a single large commercial publisher, such as Elsevier. Many of our faculty publish research articles in journals published by Elsevier, and many review articles prior to publication. Some are editors of Elsevier journals, or members of scholarly societies that publish their own journals through Elsevier. Probably because it is the largest and most costly journal package in the area of scholarly publishing, Elsevier is also the focus of a great deal of anger over their troubling pricing and negotiating behaviors, and their legal actions, or threats of legal action, against authors and universities that want to openly share copies of their published works. In the past year, a number of large universities and university systems have made headlines by cancelling "big deal" subscriptions with Elsevier, including the University of California system, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and the State University of New York system.⁴ There is no doubt that Elsevier eats up a big portion of university library budgets; at KU the contract with Elsevier accounts for almost 14% of our overall yearly collection expenditures. This is in spite of the fact that the KU libraries were able this year to negotiate a three-year contract with them that does not increase our cost, for the first time in many years. And, of course, Elsevier has become a stakeholder in the open access movement. The turn that they are making, along with other publishers, toward so-called "transformative agreements" represents an effort to control the terms of open access and to ensure that it does not threaten their profitability. For KU, this trajectory probably means that it will remain difficult for scholarly authors to make articles published with Elsevier open unless they pay significant article processing fees or are more aggressive in leveraging the license created by the faculty open access policy than has been the case in the past.

Each of these relationships reinforce how deeply entwined the structure of scholarly publication is with the promotion and tenure and other reward systems at KU and elsewhere. Regarding evaluation and promotion, the system of journal impact factor has become, in the sciences particularly, deeply embedded in the process,

⁴ The University of California system in particular has shared a great deal of information about their negotiations and their decision to end their "big deal" journal package subscription at <https://osc.universityofcalifornia.edu/uc-publisher-relationships/uc-and-elsevier/>.

even though it was never intended for that purpose and is manifestly unsuited to support it. Many task force discussions centered on this problem. We also discussed the interrelated issue that different types of scholarly contributions are evaluated and rewarded in inconsistent ways. KU scholars make a very diverse set of contributions to the intellectual environment in which that work, and the ways those contributions are measured need to be flexible, while recognizing that there is not just one way to be an effective scholar. Creating an open textbook, or releasing an important data set so that other scholars can build on it, or annotating a musical score online can be just as impactful as a peer-reviewed article, even though our systems of evaluation often struggle to give appropriate credit for these forms of scholarship. Again, our fundamental challenge is to help KU become more flexible in its approach to scholarly dissemination and publication, and to find creative ways to reward research that is open and transparent.

There are several facets of our discussion that are specific to KU, and it is useful to reiterate those before we turn to recommendations. First and foremost is the history of support that KU faculty, researchers, administrators, and the libraries have demonstrated for open scholarship. The faculty senate's open access policy in 2009 and 2010, the first such policy adopted in the U.S. by a public university faculty, strongly demonstrates this support, as does the creation and continuing support for a modest Open Access Authors' Fund, which helps authors pay the "article processing charges (APCs) that are sometimes associated with open publication. This twin support for "green" OA – where authors deposit copies of their research articles in a local open repository in accordance with either publisher policies or a university-adopted open access license – and "gold OA," where an article is published first and only in open form, should be considered foundational for further actions.

At KU there is also a special concern for the ways in which different models for open access impact scholars and students in the Global South. Often these business models, such as article processing charges to authors (APC-based gold OA), have unintended consequences that exclude scholars who do not have access to grant funding or large research budgets, both in the developing and the developed world. Indeed, the traditional publication system and the various movements toward open access look quite different from the perspective of scholars in the Global South, as we learned in 2016, when KU Libraries and its Shulenburger Office of scholarly Communication & Copyright planned and hosted an international symposium on this topic that brought together scholars and advocates from Africa, central Europe and Latin America. The movements to shift toward paying upfront for open access, rather than post-publication subscription charges, does make more scholarship available to scholars in the global South, but at the same time it further marginalizes the voices of those scholars and the important perspectives they bring to discussions of global problems. This special concern for global equity in scholarly communications reform at KU makes our efforts distinctive and should remain in the forefront of our ongoing discussions.

Several additional considerations help complete the context for conversations about change and reform at KU. Our ongoing discussions about how to curate and manage research data are closely entwined with all these topics. The Task Force discussions also surfaced a deep awareness of disciplinary differences and needs, as well as sincere concern for the situation of scholarly societies in both the current environment and in the face of reform efforts. All these considerations and precedents form the complex context within which we present these recommendations.

Recommendations:

Each subgroup met and presented their own report, which is summarized below and their own recommendations, often overlapping with the concerns and recommendations of the other subgroups.

a. Summary and recommendations from the subgroup, faculty roles within the scholarly publishing system:

The subgroup addressing this topic prefaced their recommendations with this observation: Dissemination of research results will continue to require university investment. Transitioning to new models of scholarly publishing will likely cost more before there is an opportunity for it to cost less. Focus should be on recapturing more of the value.

- i. KU should work with the Office for Faculty Development and with faculty governance to embed responsible research assessments, with a focus on the ways that different publication venues and models impact the promotion and tenure process in order to:
 1. Expand the journals, types of journals, and sources of data that inform the process.
 2. Reconsider “prestige culture,” the Task Force recommends that KU endorse the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment, known as DORA (found at <https://sfdora.org/read/>), and implement its recommendations.
 3. Reduce the role of Journal Impact Factor, which the group agrees is a deeply flawed metric for evaluating individual scholars. If JIF continues to be used in the P&T process, the group recommends refocusing on the five-year JIF rather than a two-year measure.
- ii. Help faculty and researchers reassess their roles as editors and peer-reviewers, in order to provide our labor where it most effectively benefits the disciplines and the

work of academic scholarship. Faculty and researchers should feel empowered to decline these roles where they do not benefit those endeavors.

1. Empower KU scholars to consider different publications venues.
 2. Seek new ways to support scholarly societies, where faculty are able to exercise influence on the overall direction of the enterprise, is especially important.
- iii. Create alternative paths for publication. This could be most effectively accomplished by working within non-profit consortia such as the AAU.
1. Many options and experiments out there. The University should take stock of the alternatives and help develop consensus and collaboration around the most promising.

b. Summary and recommendations from the subgroup, budgets and journal subscription costs

(see **Appendices 3 & 4** for data that was used by this subgroup)

The University of Kansas should,

- i. Empower libraries to reject agreements not in the best interest of KU
 1. To do this effectively and with the least harmful impact on research at KU, consistent faculty involvement needs to be cultivated.
- ii. Therefore, the Libraries, with support from the Provost's office, needs to plan comprehensive outreach to help faculty be more involved in journal package negotiations and planning for reductions
- iii. As part of this collaborative effort, KU must map strategies to use potential savings to support publication infrastructure that is now and controlled with the academic community.
- iv. Explore transitional models for journal subscriptions. These models usually involve combining subscription costs with fees for open access publishing and would involve discussions about how grant funds could be used as part of the support.
 1. The group noted that often these "transformative" agreements are really just new business models for publishers, which do not control costs and therefore do not offer a lasting solution to the issues.
- v. Discuss preprint-servers and other locally supported journal publishing as transitional models that KU could support to facilitate gradual change.

c. Summary and recommendations from the subgroup, Open Access

The open access subgroup prefaced their recommendations with these two principles:

- Support for expanded and enhanced global access to the research and scholarship produced by KU scholars.
 - Better leveraging the license in faculty works that is created by KU's faculty open access policy is a significant part of this strategy.
- Protection and support for the long-term viability of scholarly societies and university presses.

Recommendations:

- i. Make a public reaffirmation of KU's commitment to, and efforts to advance, open access to scholarship and research results. Re-energize our open access efforts and work with the University Press of Kansas and other partners to incentivize open access monographs
- ii. Consider joining the project Toward an Open Monograph Ecosystem, or TOME (<https://www.openmonographs.org/>). TOME offers an opportunity to advance open monograph, thus improving the open access options in the Humanities and Social Sciences, and also to support university presses like the University Press of Kansas, an important and valued stakeholder in the scholarly communications system.
- iii. Charge a campus-wide open access working group.
 1. As part of that charge, this group should conduct a comprehensive assessment of KU's open access climate in order to better understand the opportunities, understandings and barriers to increased open access for each discipline.
 2. The working group should explore collaborations on shared infrastructures that could facilitate a move away from dependence on commercial publishers and would:
 - a. Help control costs of OA.
 - b. Advance the goal of "Free to Read, Free to Publish" This slogan expresses the important end-state that KU should seek, in collaboration with other universities and consortia, that will require the academy as a whole to embrace new ways to support the scholarly enterprise.

A concluding note from the Chair

Several weeks after the final meeting of the Task Force on Scholarly Communications & Publication, another major institution, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, announced that it was joining a growing list of universities that had decided to end negotiations with Elsevier for their comprehensive journal package and return to title-by-title subscription model for online journal access.⁵ The foundation of this decision was the “Framework for Publisher Contracts,” which was developed through a dialogue between the MIT Libraries and the Universities’ “Committee on the Library System.”⁶ This dialogue, I suggest, should be a model for the next steps at KU.

The most important result from the Task Force on Scholarly Communications & Publishing was the sustained conversation in which faculty and researchers could interrogate the libraries about budgets, open access and decision-making, while the Libraries had a chance to hear and understand more comprehensively how KU faculty members approach these issues. For ongoing progress to be made, those conversations must continue.

The recommendations of the Task Force reflect this desire for continued conversation, although there was some sentiment on the Task Force to the effect that we had talked enough already, and that further dialogue should be aimed toward concrete action. I want to honor both of these perspectives by suggesting that something like the “Committee of the Library System” is needed at KU, to perform a similar task as was done at MIT. That is, such a group would draft principles to guide the libraries, communicate with the larger faculty, support negotiations with specific publishers, and making recommendations about advancing open access. A continuing group, with stable membership, could significantly advance the recommendations contained in this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin L. Smith

Dean of Libraries and Task Force chair.

⁵ MIT explains the reasoning behind this decision at <http://news.mit.edu/2020/guided-by-open-access-principles-mit-ends-elsevier-negotiations-0611>.

⁶ The Framework can be found at <https://libraries.mit.edu/scholarly/publishing/framework/>. The University of Kansas is listed as having endorsed this Framework through its main library consortium, the Greater Western Library Alliance. Dean Smith was a voting member of the GWLA Board of Directors at the time this endorsement was approved.

APPENDIX 1 -- Charge for the Task Force [Sept. 2019]

Context

The University of Kansas has a long history of commitment to open access and is recognized as a leader in that area. Yet uptake on open access remains lukewarm on campus, and it is difficult to see how the current open access (OA) trajectory can address the systemic unsustainability of the commercially-based system of scholarly publishing.

The budget for library collections, including journals, books, databases and electronic content, has been stagnant for many years, and our purchasing power is declining steadily. Economic realities have forced the cancellation of many of the larger “big deal” subscription packages that have become a staple in the ecosystem of scholarship. It seems clear that our dependence on these expensive collections is unsustainable, and it is important to consider what our profile, as a research institution, will look like in 5-10 years. Scholars, librarians, universities, and scholarly societies all have a stake in this conversation, as we consider the role of publicly-funded research, commercial and non-profit publishers, and open access advocacy.

In order to prepare for a sustainable future, KU will establish a task force that is broadly representative of the university as a whole to gather and discuss data about our posture in the scholarly publishing ecosystem, foster inclusive conversations on campus on these topics, outline actions KU can take that will leverage principles and practices of open access, (locally and internationally), and make recommendations to the provost and chancellor about how KU can and should prepare for the deep changes in scholarly practices that the coming years will require.

Charge:

Advance university-wide education, advocacy and policy around new and emerging models for scholarly communications through the following:

- Review the current state of scholarly publishing and open access at KU, seeking and analyzing available data to provide a comprehensive and accurate picture of research dissemination across the university.
- Create opportunities for broad faculty discussion about current economic models and the future of scholarly communications for KU. Consider of the role faculty might have in strategizing or negotiating with publishers of academic literature.
- Examine the opportunities that exist for expanding open access initiatives, as well as the budget implications of those opportunities. Discuss how different modes of research dissemination contribute to raising the research profile of the university and the scholarly impact of individual researchers.
- Make recommendations regarding policies and strategies the university should explore regarding access to scholarly literature, the role of “big deals,” and the feasibility of alternative access.
- Assess the budget implications of current situation and any new initiatives related to publications, subscriptions, and open access.

APPENDIX 2 -- Members of the task force

- Apte, Udayan (Medical Center, Pharmacology, Toxicology & Therapeutics)
- Atkinson, Simon John (Vice-Chancellor for Research)
- Bannon, Corinne (Analytics & Institutional Research)
- Bean, Alice (Physics)
- Burgin, Amy Jo (Ecology & Evolutionary Biology)
- Cameron-Vedros, Crystal (KU Medical Center Library)
- Conrad, Kathryn A (English)
- Crandall, Chris S. (Psychology)
- Currie, Lea H. (KU Libraries)
- Delavaux, Camille Suzanne (Doctoral student, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology)
- Emmett, Laura Ada (KU Libraries)
- Gamblin, Truman Christopher (Molecular Biosciences)
- Garcia, Amy Lou (Nursing)
- Johnson, Christopher M. (Music)
- Lane, Kathleen (Special Education, Office of Research)
- Levin, Eve (History)
- Raza, Muhammad Hashim (Life Span Institute)
- Redeker, Jean Marie (Assistant Vice-Provost for Academic Affairs)
- Roberts, Conrad Ernest (University Press of Kansas)
- Smith, Kevin L. (KU Libraries) *Task Force chair
- Steele Jr, Ric G (Clinical Child Psychology) (Resigned after two meetings)
- Tamerler Behar, Candan (Engineering)
- Yang, Frances (Medical Center, Occupational Therapy Education)
- Yuille, Lua Kamal (Law School)

APPENDIX 3 – Subscription cost data from KUMC

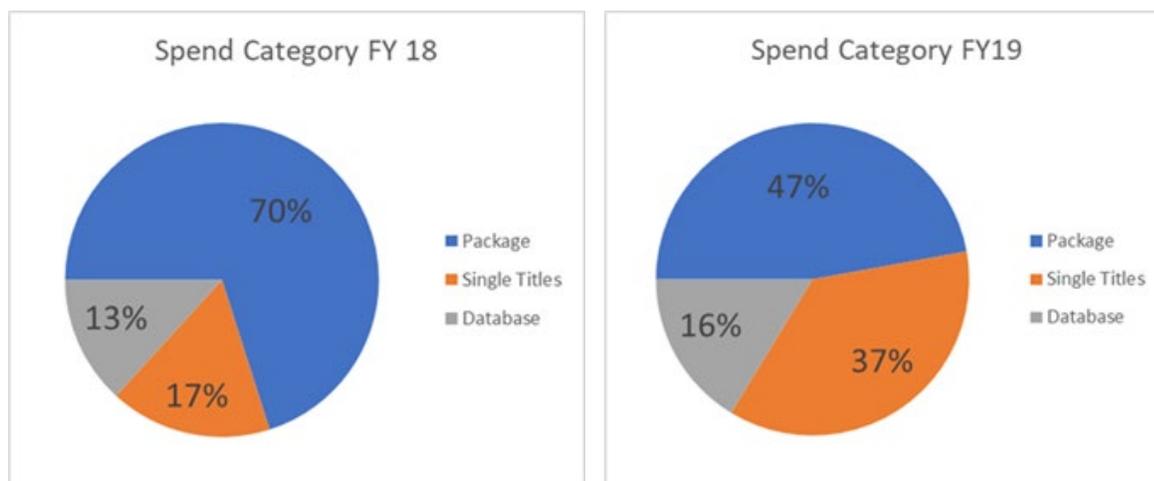
Library Budgets and Subscriptions subcommittee of the KU Scholar Communications

University of Kansas Medical Center budget and costs of journals.

Database vs. Package vs Single Titles at KUMC

Big Deal packages reduced by 22% in FY19.

By switching from the Big Deal packages with Wiley and Oxford to a title-by title collection model, we reduced the fraction of our collection locked into all-or-nothing packages by 22%. Together, these two packages amounted to approximately \$330,000 in FY18. Opting out of these packages greatly increases the flexibility we have with our acquisitions budget, giving us choices in the face of future inflationary cost pressures on our limited resources. Of our remaining Big Deal packages, Elsevier's Science Direct accounts for over half of this amount and 26% of our total budget.



Row Labels	Sum of FY18 Actual	
Package	\$	1,142,041.83
Single Titles	\$	272,080.35
Database	\$	215,135.18
Grand Total	\$	1,629,257.36

Row Labels	Sum of FY19 Actual	
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Package	\$	839,376.32
Single Titles	\$	650,966.99
Database	\$	290,165.24
Grand Total	\$	1,780,508.55

A 5-Yr analysis of our EBSCO agreement provides some examples. About half of these (86/171) saw a 4% increase - mainly due to our Wiley agreement. Excluding these we see an average increase of just over 5% in single titles. Selected titles for illustrative purposes:

Publisher Name	Title Name	Price 2020	Variance % 2019 to 2020	Price 2019	Price 2018	Price 2017	Price 2016
TAYLOR & FRANCIS GROUP	Clinical Toxicology	\$10,500	11.91%	\$9,382	\$8,851	\$7,501	\$7,144
ADIS INTERNATIONAL	Clinical Pharmacokinetics	\$5,650	6.64%	\$5,298	\$5,031	\$4,796	\$3,696
TAYLOR & FRANCIS GROUP	Drug Metabolism Reviews	\$4,770	6.00%	\$4,500	\$4,245	\$4,043	\$3,850
AMER SOC BIOCHM MOLECULAR BIOL	Journal of Biological Chemistry	\$3,565	2.88%	\$3,465	\$3,370	\$3,290	\$3,215
AMER SOC PHARM/EXPER THERAPEUT	Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics	\$1,324	2.71%	\$1,289	\$1,249	\$1,207	\$1,184

CINAHL and PsychInfo may be good examples of database increases showing roughly 7% and 5% increases each year, respectively.

Category	Vendor	Content	FY18 Actual	FY19 Actual	FY20 Actual
Database	EBSCO	CINAHL	\$9,974.54	\$10,673.00	\$11,420.00
Database	EBSCO	PsychInfo	\$7,464.00	\$7,837.00	\$8,229.00

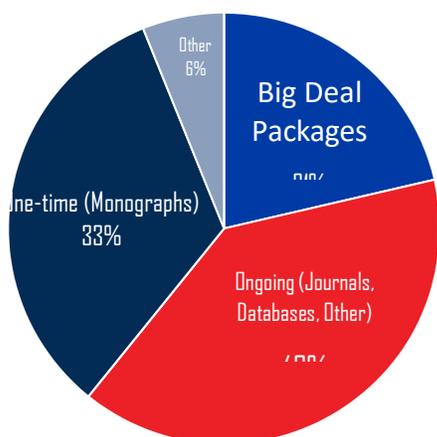
APPENDIX 4 – Collections data from Lawrence/Edwards campus provided to the Budget & Subscriptions sub-group:

KU Libraries collections budget

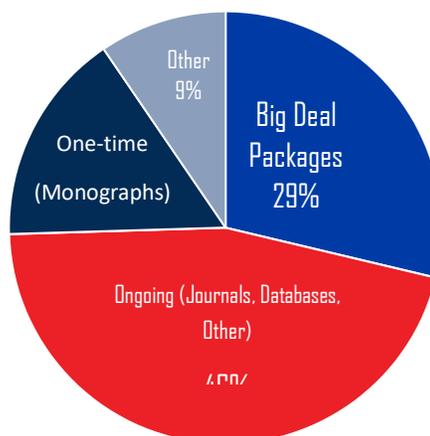
- Approximately \$8 million
- Separate from salaries and operations
- Flat — no cuts or increases — for the past 10 years
- Elsevier package alone is about \$1.5 million



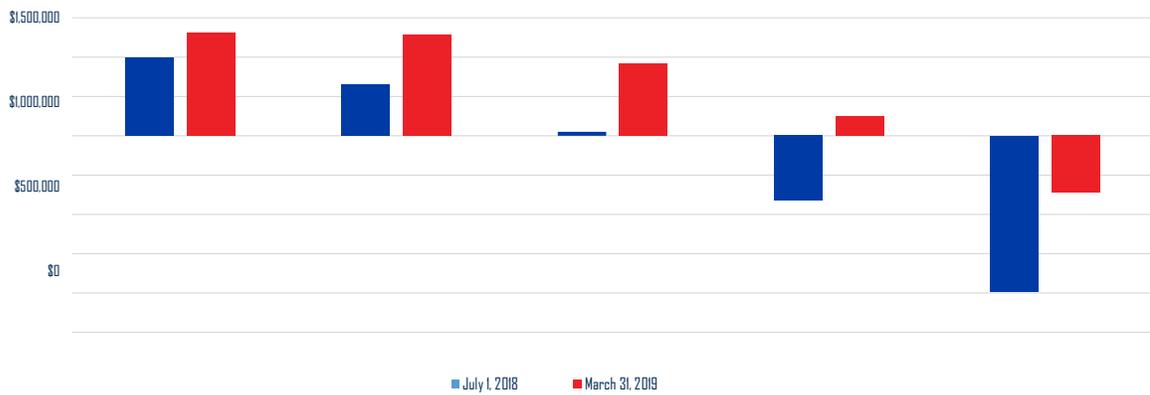
% of Budget
by Spend Type
2010



% of Budget
by Spend Type
2018

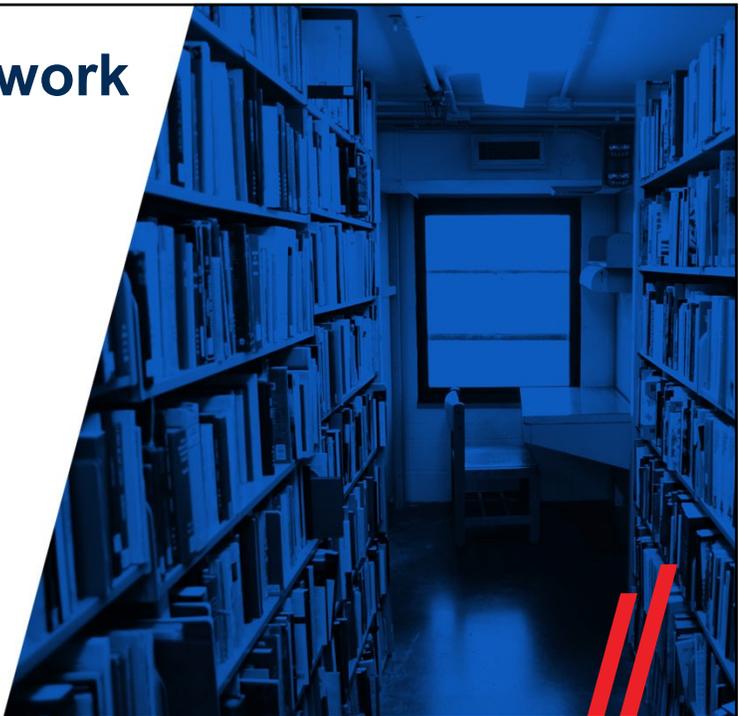


Projected end-of-year balances, FY19-23



How “big deals” work

- Started with subscription to individual titles
- Formula applied for print/electronic
- Flat fee added for “everything else”
- Annual price increases & titles added
- Difficult to swap titles or cancel unused items



Unbundling



What happened with Wiley

- Initial negotiations with large consortium (GWLA)
- October: Final package deal too expensive for KU, others
- Six schools asked to negotiate separately
 - KU began planning for title-by-title subscriptions
- Mid-December:
 - Shared campus announcement
 - Soon after, Wiley offered KU a separate, smaller package
 - Negotiated list with KUMC

Wiley and Oxford Package Cancellations

	OUP 2018	OUP 2019	% Difference	\$ Savings
Main	\$112,495.96	\$35,435.06	-68.50%	\$77,060.90
MED	\$40,444.40	\$49,127.35	21.47%	(\$8,682.95)
# of Titles	342	108		
TOTAL	\$152,940.36	\$84,562.41	-44.71%	\$68,377.95

***Harrassowitz charges 0% service charge*

	Wiley 2018	Wiley 2019	Wiley 2020	Wiley 2021	% Difference 2018-19	\$ Savings 2018-19
Main	\$482,026.44	\$313,867.39	\$326,422.08	\$339,478.97		
MED	\$291,939.10	\$310,914.10	\$323,350.66	\$336,284.69		
Law	\$4,748.91	\$3,279.34	\$3,410.52	\$3,546.93		
# of Titles	1489	220	220	220		
TOTAL	\$778,714.45	\$628,060.82	\$653,183.25	\$679,310.59	-19.35%	\$150,653.63