

The Board of Trustees of the University of Central Arkansas convened in a teleconference meeting at 4:00 p.m., Thursday, August 13, 2009 with the following officers and members present:

Chair: Mr. Rush Harding, III
Vice Chair: Dr. Harold Chakales
Secretary: Mr. Scott Roussel
Mrs. Patricia Bassett
Mrs. Kay Hinkle
Mr. Bobby Reynolds
Mr. Randy Sims

ACTION AGENDA

ACQUISITION OF “WEB OF SCIENCE” CITATION DATABASE - At the July 2009 Board meeting, a presentation was made about the Web of Science citation database. Provost Grahn; representatives of the Student Government Association; and Art Lichtenstein, Director of Torreyson Library, explained the purpose of the Web of Science database and the approximate cost of acquiring the database. The Board asked the administration to review the matter and to make a recommendation about the acquisition of the database.

Subsequent to the July meeting, the administration reviewed the matter and verified the cost of the database. The current one-year buy-in of the database through the Michigan Library Consortium is \$27,613.00. Plus, there is an annual maintenance fee of 5% of the subscription cost, not to exceed \$2,500.00. Additional archival files, the so-called back files, may be acquired in five-year increments at an additional one-time cost. The cost of the back files is as follows:

- A 10-year archive = \$40,038 [current year + 10-years back file = \$67,651]
- A 15-year archive = \$53,845 [current year + 15-years back file = \$81,458]
- A 20-year archive = \$66,270 [current year + 20-years back file = \$93,883]

The vendor states that there will be a standard annual increase of 7% unless stated otherwise in a multi-year agreement. A 3-year purchase agreement, however, would lower the standard annual subscription increase to 5.5% in years 2 and 3 of a multi-year subscription.

Also, Web of Science is not a full text database. Instead, it helps lead the researcher to the content that he/she needs to consult. In other words, the database tells the researcher where to go look for certain information. Undoubtedly, as the campus community uses it, there would be increased demand to provide full text access to the journals it indexes. While this will need to be examined more closely, it is likely that the university will be expected to provide full text access to an increasing number of professional journals. To address these and other costs, the SGA has proposed imposing a student fee to support the library. As such, it will be extremely important to work with the SGA and the Library staff to insure that any recommended Library fee include these additional costs into their calculations. The administration will work with the SGA to develop a proposal for this fee in the coming weeks.

The administration recommends that the Board approve the base subscription (\$27,613.00) and 20 years of archive data (total cost of \$93,883.00 plus the annual maintenance fee).

Dr. Meadors presented the agenda item and the following discussion took place:

Kay Hinkle asked that the Board consider purchasing a 10-year archive until we see how well this database is received and utilized. Mrs. Hinkle also stated that the SGA had indicated a willingness to impose a library fee and that money could be used to purchase more years of archived data. Mrs. Hinkle also asked if the Board was making a one-time commitment to this project. Dr. Meadors said that he would commit to pay the annual fee next year if the SGA had not implemented the library fee at that time.

Bobby Reynolds asked if Dr. Meadors had met with the Faculty Senate and Staff Senate. Dr. John Parrack, President of the Faculty Senate, was present at the meeting and said that Dr. Meadors had not met with the Senate but the faculty was certainly supportive of the purchase and felt this was an opportunity for the Board to show support for the library as well as the research faculty and students were doing.

Dr. Steve Runge, Interim Dean for the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, said ten years of data would be very useful but more would be better.

The Provost, Dr. Lance Grahn, said that the prices given for archived data were negotiated prices and we could expect them to go up next year. Randy Sims asked if we could negotiate to freeze these prices and Dr. Grahn indicated these types of contracts are usually non-negotiable.

Chairman Harding suggested a compromise of purchasing 15 years of archived data and Scott Roussel agreed that would be an acceptable compromise.

Kay Hinkle made a motion to purchase the database at a cost of \$27,613.00 and a 10-year archive at a cost of \$40,038 with the total purchase price of \$67,651 to be paid from the Board of Trustees Endowment Fund.

