

1-30-1998

SR-97-98-29 (LC)

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Recommended Citation

Marshall University, "SR-97-98-29 (LC)" (1998). *Recommendations*. 750.
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LIBRARY COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATION

SR-97-98-29 (LC)

Recommends that the fourth floor of Morrow Library be designated as an archival space to house back issue journals, including those from the medical school and other libraries of the University.

RATIONALE: It has been determined that there is a lack of space in the new Drinko Library and the Health Sciences Library to house the journals. Other buildings on campus are not engineered to support the weight of library materials.

At the present time, all of the journals and their back issues are not available in electronic format. Converting these journals to an electronic format is cost prohibitive, and receiving these journals through a library loan request significantly increases the waiting time and decreases accessibility.

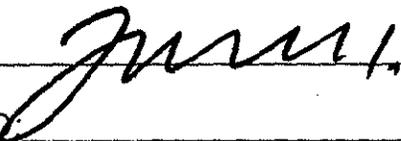
Destruction of the journals is unacceptable to the Library Committee and to the Biomedical faculty.

FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT:

APPROVED BY SENATE:  DATE: 1-30-98

DISAPPROVED BY SENATE: _____ DATE: _____

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT:

APPROVED:  DATE: 2-2-98

DISAPPROVED: _____ DATE: _____

COMMENTS:

Approved with the following conditions
that it is a Recommendation to the
Library Staff from the

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The HSL is moving into a new facility in May 1998. As nice as this facility is, it has less stack space than the current facility. In 1974, when the School of Medicine was in the planning stages, a consultant recommended that the library have about 30,000 square feet of space. The HSL actually began with 6,000 square feet of space in the Community College Building. Within 5 years, 500 square feet of adjoining space was added. This was adequate for a few years. A growing collection of books and continuing journal subscriptions quickly filled the remaining space. Even with periodic weeding of the collection, the space became more cramped. To keep up with the growth, study tables and carrels were removed and replaced with shelving.

The new library plans started with 15,000 square feet. The Center for Rural Health facility limited the HSL space to 10,000 sq. ft. Further limits have reduced the actual space on the library floor to 8,700 sq. ft. The current HSL has 2092 3-foot shelves. The new facility has 1320 3-foot shelves. Therefore, new facility has only 63% of the stack space of the old HSL.

Although approximately 27% of the book collection is being returned to Morrow Library (Morrow Library paid for those materials), the book collection will still be a tight fit. Few of the journals will be returned to Morrow Library. It has been estimated that the amount of shelving (comparable to that currently in the HSL) necessary to store the journals published before 1983 would be 86 double-faced sections. In terms of floor space, this is about 2,000 square feet, almost one fourth of the new facility.

This leaves the HSL with a problem with few solutions. The options are:

- Find storage space in the new facility,
- attempt to store the back issues in the Morrow Library building after the Drinko Library is opened,
- rent off-site storage space,
- microfilm all the back issues, or
- discard the back issues prior to 1983.

Storage space will require about 2,000 square feet of floor space. According to Jim Schneider, the new facility will not have any unused storage space available.

The Morrow Library building will be used for University library needs. The Drinko Library will only have space for about 200,000 volumes. Morrow Library currently has over 400,000 volumes. Not all the materials will be transferred to the Drinko Library. Government documents and Special Collections will remain in the Morrow Library. Both these departments will expand from their currently extremely cramped quarters.

Tri-Data, Inc. can provide warehouse storage for \$0.30 per box per month. The onetime processing fee is \$2.00 per box. The estimate for the back issues is an initial cost of \$9,600 with a monthly storage fee of \$1,400.

Microfilming the back issues is a monumental task. An estimate places the number of pages at about 29,000,000. The average three-foot shelf holds about 24,000 pages. The cost to microfilm a page is \$0.028. Therefore, the cost to microfilm the back issues would be about \$812,000. Purchasing microfilm from UMI is also expensive. The first six journals on the list would cost \$5,166 to cover 1970 to 1982. Not all titles are available through UMI.

Discarding the back issues and depending on interlibrary loan for the material is the least expensive option. A reshelving survey done in 1995 indicated that only 9% of the usage came from journals older than 1980. Including 1980-1982 should not increase the survey amount to more than 10%. If the interlibrary loan transactions increase by 10% (1997 had about 1,200 transactions), this would only generate another 120 transactions. At the region maximum charge, this would amount to \$1,200. For material older than 5 years it is not necessary to pay publisher royalties.

In addition, the collection grows every year. This means the collection will have to be monitored and weeded on an annual basis. This is not a unique problem to the HSL. Other libraries commonly discard back issues after a certain date. For example, the NIH Library keep some journals for 25 years, some for 50 years, and others for their entire run. Every year the oldest year of the 25 and 50 year journals is discarded.

In summary, the HSL is moving into a new facility which has less stack space. Many people have expressed concern that back issues may be discarded. This is a problem with difficult choices.

WHEREAS, the academic, scholarly and scientific pursuits of students and faculty depend upon the knowledge contained in journal archives, and

WHEREAS, medical education and rigorous investigation of medical problems are part of the mission of Marshall University, and

WHEREAS, the biomedical sciences is a Ph.D. program at M.U. requiring adequate library resources for doctoral education and research, and

WHEREAS, the biomedical sciences has been designated as a "center of excellence" at M.U., and

WHEREAS, biotechnology has been touted as an area of economic development by the M.U. administration, and

WHEREAS, accreditation of the education program leading to the M.D. degree, of medical residency programs, of the doctoral program leading to the Ph.D. degree, and of undergraduate programs all depend upon adequate library resources,

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that there shall be no destruction of journal archives currently held in the Marshall University School of Medicine Health Science Library.

[Signature]

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Pharmacology

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