

University of Oregon Libraries Seven-Year Expenditure Analysis

Executive Summary

This analysis looked at library expenditures for the most recent seven fiscal years. This was the period for which detailed financial data was easily accessible and for which other metrics were obtainable from the Office of Institutional Research. Data was generally averaged over this seven-year period to help present a more consistent picture of spending patterns and to smooth out any anomalous peaks and valleys in the picture.

Overall Expenditures

Between the 2002-03 and 2008-09 fiscal years, the University of Oregon Libraries expended \$40,193,484.42 in materials-related purchases, averaging \$5,741,926.35 per year. 2004-05 had the lowest expenditure, at \$5,194,964.36 and 2007-08 had the highest, at \$6,455,144.92.

Overall expenditures	7-YEAR TOTAL
Seven-year spend	\$40,193,484.42
Seven-year average	\$5,741,926.35
2002-03	\$5,454,295.76
2003-04	\$5,434,873.89
2004-05	\$5,194,964.36
2005-06	\$5,418,863.45
2006-07	\$6,217,576.97
2007-08	\$6,455,144.92
2008-09	\$6,017,765.07

Expenditures by Discipline Areas

Of the four overall discipline areas, Sciences were ranked first in terms of expenditures, in a seven-year average. Social Sciences were ranked second, the Humanities were ranked third and Law was fourth.

Overall Expenditures	
Sciences	\$2,214,072.33
Social Sciences	\$957,435.38
Humanities	\$804,693.49
Law	\$758,364.23

When expenditure data is cross-referenced with student and faculty populations and degrees awarded, Law's relatively small student count boosts its per-capita rankings into first place, followed by the Sciences. Social Sciences dropped to third place and Humanities into fourth place.

Expenditures versus Student FTE	
Law	\$1,199.40
Sciences	\$545.34
Social Sciences	\$121.07
Humanities	\$114.66

Expenditures versus Tenure-Track Faculty FTE	
Law	\$27,363.66
Sciences	\$14,676.72
Social Sciences	\$3,611.02
Humanities	\$3,540.45

Expenditures versus Degrees Awarded	
Law	\$4,354.84
Sciences	\$2,925.35
Social Sciences	\$1,624.35
Humanities	\$524.91

Expenditures by Academic Departments/Library Fund Lines

Although there isn't always a one-to-one correlation between the way that the academic departments are organized in CAS and elsewhere and the way in which the library divides its fund lines, for the most part, the comparisons are close. In some areas departments and/or fund lines were merged to provide a more direct comparison.

The Top Ten:

Rank	Seven-year average of Library dollar spent per-student	\$ per student
1	East Asian Language & Literature (east)/East Asian Studies (asia)/Pacific Island Studies (pais)/Southeast Asian Studies (sest/inlc)	\$1,772.80
2	Law Library	\$1,199.40
3	Russian and East European Studies Center (rees/rapp/reap/ruex)	\$925.72
4	Biology (biol)/ Neuroscience (neur)	\$845.15
5	Chemistry (chem)	\$778.86

	Oregon Institute of Marine Biology	
6	(oimb)	\$727.18
7	Physics (phys)	\$679.35
8	Religious Studies (reli)	\$448.97
9	Geology (geol)	\$425.24
	Computer and Information Science	
10	(csci)	\$340.54

Rank	Seven-year average of Library dollar spent per-tenure-track faculty member	\$ per tenure-track faculty member
1	Law Library	\$27,363.66
2	Chemistry (chem)	\$21,216.56
3	Physics (phys)	\$16,345.63
4	Biology (biol)	\$15,182.22
5	Environmental Studies (envi)	\$10,659.13
6	Religious Studies (reli)	\$9,862.37
	Portland Architecture Library	
7	(parc/poaa)	\$9,229.77
8	Geology (geol)	\$8,408.70
9	Mathematics (math)	\$7,345.33
10	Judaic Studies (juda)	\$7,017.53

Rank	Seven-year average of Library dollar spent per-degree awarded	\$ per degree
1	General Science (scie)	\$19,405.69
2	Physics (phys)	\$10,308.57
	Russian and East European Studies	
3	Center (rees/rapp/reap/ruex)	\$6,711.48
4	Chemistry (chem)	\$6,598.85
5	Geology (geol)	\$5,213.39
	Biology (biol)/Neuroscience (neur)/	
	Oregon Institute of Marine Biology	
6	(oimb)	\$4,697.45
7	Law	\$4,354.84
8	Judaic Studies (juda)	\$3,508.76
	East Asian Language & Literature	
	(east)/East Asian Studies	
	(asia)/Pacific Island Studies	
	(pais)/Southeast Asian Studies	
9	(sest/inlc)	\$2,638.79
10	Mathematics (math)	\$2,261.11

When examining how much the library spends per monograph however, Law and Sciences do not rise to the top of the rankings, as these tend to be more journal-heavy disciplines. (Journal costs are not analyzed for this table, but can be at a future date.)

Rank	Seven-year average of Library dollar spent per-monograph	\$ per item
1	Reference (refe)	\$757.17
2	Oregon Institute of Marine Biology	\$233.25
3	Urban Planning (urpl)	\$228.13
4	Science General (scie/scap)	\$155.35
5	East Asian Language & Literature (east)/East Asian Studies (asia)	\$153.17
6	Human Physiology (hphy)	\$151.18
7	International Studies (ints)	\$143.19
8	Fine Arts (fine/adig/apde/arta/exca)	\$127.40
9	Canadian Studies (cast)	\$117.40
10	Geography (geog)/Cartography (cart)	\$86.29

Conclusions

Library materials expenditures, with the exception of the most recent fiscal year in which significant budget cuts and a serials cancellation project were undertaken, have enjoyed a reasonably steady upward trend over the past three years. The 2008-09 materials budget however, is still \$563,469.31 higher in unadjusted dollars from 2002-03.

Of materials budget dollars that could be unambiguously assigned to one of four larger discipline areas, The sciences account for almost half (46.76%) of the materials budget. Social Sciences account for 20.22%, the Humanities, 17% and Law, 16.02%. This apparent disparity is in part due to the higher cost and proportion of subscriptions in the Sciences compared to other fields.

Like the Sciences, Law materials can also be quite expensive and when the smaller number of Law students, faculty and degrees awarded are factored in, Law expenditures, rather than Sciences expenditures wind up being the highest per-capita at the University of Oregon.

In terms of more discrete academic departments and library fund lines, Law and the Sciences tend to account for most of the top spots, in terms of per-capita spends. Asian studies, Russian and East European Studies, and Religious/Judaic Studies are the highest per-capita non-law, non-Sciences areas in which the library expends funds.