Tisch Library FY14 Materials Budget Request

Executive Summary

Tisch Library requests an 8.4% increase for the FY14 materials budget. The increase would allow the library to maintain current collections and purchase the new materials needed to support growing teaching and research needs.

- Due to journal inflation, a 5% increase is projected to maintain the status quo and ensure the protection of the current book, journal, and electronic resources base. This is an increase of $363,471 on a $7,269,423 materials budget.
- An additional 3.4% is requested to purchase new materials that have been identified through extensive faculty outreach, review of the curriculum, and examination of the publication and research universe. This is an increase of $254,000.

Journal Inflation

According to the May 1 issue of Library Journal, journal inflation increased from 5% to 6% between 2011 and 2012. This is a distressing trend because serials prices had begun to show signs of amelioration in 2010. While it is difficult to predict this far in advance, it is estimated that journal inflation for FY14 will hover around 6%. Given that 84% of the library budget is journals and other continuing costs such as electronic databases, we are predicting a need for a 5% increase to maintain the status quo. While we are grateful for the 5% increase we received for the FY13 budget, given the rise in journal costs, it is likely that the entire 5% will be absorbed by inflation. We feel that we have reached the limit of our fixed costs and that it would not be prudent to continue to add materials that have recurring costs without a budget increase that exceeds inflation. This is particularly true in the STM fields, where journals and databases are the primary means of scholarship, and where fixed costs are now about 95% of the budget. This suggests that in STM, Tisch is approaching its tipping point of moving away from growth toward a program of retrenchment. This is not an optimal state of affairs given the current expansion in STM research and teaching at the university. The materials mentioned below can only be purchased if we receive the additional 3.4% funding.

Support for New Curricular and Research Initiatives

Collections librarians have worked closely with faculty to identify new curricular and research needs. By disciplines, they are:

Science and Engineering

Science and Engineering programs are undergoing a number of major changes that will affect funding for these curricular and research endeavors for the next several years. These include the establishment of the Institute for Biopharmaceutical Partnerships, which both SOE and A&S
faculty are involved with, and interdisciplinary grants that involve faculty from SOE, A&S, and the medical schools. We would like to budget $50,000 to cover these new products in FY14.

- **Data:** Federal agencies now mandate that scientists share their data from federally funded projects. Various tools are being developed by commercial publishers to manage and present these data. Primary among these is MetaCore, which enables researchers to visualize biological data and then publish the images. Cost of $15,000.
- **Bioinformatics data** in areas such as gene expression, sequence analysis, and genome annotation.
- **Workflow productivity tools:** There has been increased interest in commercial products that bring together all aspects of a topic in one database—published literature, data, background conceptual information, etc. Tisch Library has formed partnerships with UIT, labs on the Medford and Boston campuses, and the Health Science library to fund these databases. An example of these is Macmillan’s Digital Science line, which offers a variety of productivity databases.

**Social Sciences**

In FY14, the focus of expanded growth in the social sciences will be around race and ethnicity, reflecting the new Africana Studies and Asian-American Studies programs. In the social sciences in general, there is an increased demand for primary source historical resources, many of which are now available as electronic databases. As with the sciences, data is also very important in the social sciences, and there are many commercial resources providing these data. These new products total approximately $69,000.

- **GIS:** GIS continues to grow in importance at Tufts. The social sciences collections librarian works closely with Patrick Florance and has identified several new geospatial datasets, many of which focus on China. Cost of $15,000.
- **Databases of original texts on American slavery:** Examples include Gale’s Slavery and Anti-Slavery and Adam Matthew’s Slavery, Abolition, and Social Justice. Cost of $25,000 each.
- **Primary source materials on colonialism and empire building:** Adam Matthew’s Empire Online—this is an interdisciplinary database that has been requested by several faculty in the social sciences and the humanities. Cost of $29,000.

Not included in this request are materials that may be needed to support new business and finance courses. This year, the Economics Department added a full-time, tenure-track faculty member who specializes in finance (Professor Sahar Parsa). The department is also currently searching for a Professor of Practice in Finance, who will begin in January. Professor Sahar is putting together a list of her teaching and research needs in finance, so we don’t have figures at this time. We do know, however, that financial resources are extremely specialized and very expensive. They also have very strict license restrictions that prohibit access to anyone outside
of a particular course or constituency. The Ginn Library, for instance, has one Bloomberg terminal that costs $25,000 annually. Access is restricted by license to one on-site user at a time, from the Fletcher community only. Interest in the Entrepreneurship minor also continues to grow, and we are assessing our business needs in this area. A review of all business and finance programs offered by A&S and SOE will be undertaken as soon as the Professor of Practice joins the Economics Department in the spring semester.

**Humanities and Arts**

Faculty in the humanities and arts are involving students in the analysis of primary source materials at an early stage. This is in part due to the increasing availability of primary texts in digital form. It is estimated that we will need approximately $135,000 in FY13 for new humanities and arts materials (many of these materials are interdisciplinary and will also be used by social scientists).

- *Print facsimiles of historical texts:* Art History, History, and Classics are involving students in primary source research through the study of manuscript facsimiles. We have received requests for new materials at a cost of $60,000.
- *Digital Archive of 3 African-American Newspapers:* These have been requested by faculty in several humanities and social science departments. Total of $75,000.

**Total:** Support for new curricular and research materials across the disciplines totals approximately 3.4% of the budget or $254,000.

**Collection Management Needs**

Collection development is no longer only about purchasing commercial materials to support teaching and research. Collections librarians are now actively involved in the selection, management, and preservation of digital content, both purchased content and content created at Tufts University. As such, they are involved in identifying ways to build a strong infrastructure to support digital content management. While it is difficult at this time to put a figure on costs in this area, they include funds for the following:

- Digitization of selected Tisch print materials
- Retrieval and access support, including metadata services and discovery platform
- Storage of the digital content, including digitized Tisch materials, locally produced videos, music and datasets, and commercially licensed digital materials
- Preservation of the digital content

Tisch Library is currently working with colleagues from UIT, Digital Collections and Archives, and University Library Technology Services to develop a plan for digital content management. Digital content management will become even more critical as A&S expands its programming in the digital humanities. The proposed Pre-Modern Digital Humanities master’s program will
need a strong digital management infrastructure, in addition to access to digital collections held in membership-based repositories such as the Hathi Trust.

This past year, Tisch Library received a special gift to digitize several hundred architectural slides from the Margaret Henderson Floyd collection. In FY14, we propose digitizing 1,000 slides of Armenian, Byzantine, and Near Eastern art and architecture from the Garsoian Collection. The Garsoian collection, which consists of approximately 6000 slides, is a unique and rich collection given to Professor Christina Maranci by its creator, a major figure in Armenian studies. Prof. Maranci is free to use the collection as she sees fit, including collaborating with Tisch to create a freely available, digital collection of the images. This collection supports art history classes taught by Professors Maranci, Hoffman, and Baskins, all of whom study cultural exchange among the countries around the Mediterranean. It will cost $8,000 to digitize 1,000 key slides.

Digitization of Tisch’s rare print materials can only occur when those materials are in good condition. We are grateful for the $15,000 we received in FY13 to begin conservation and preservation of our most fragile special collections. We are requesting another $14,845 in FY14 to complete the work.