Executive Summary

Tisch Library requests an 8.2% increase for the FY15 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 $381,645 on a $7,632,894 materials budget.
- An additional 3.2% 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 $245,800.

FY13 and FY14 Update

According to the May 1, 2013, issue of Library Journal, journal inflation in 2013 was around 6%. While it is difficult to estimate exactly how much Tisch’s own mix of journals and other materials inflated in FY13, with a materials budget increase of 5% we had little funding remaining (less than 1%) for new content. The library tracks the materials budget by continuing costs and one-time costs. Continuing costs are fixed costs and cover subscriptions that we pay on an annual basis. One-time costs make up our discretionary money; these funds are used to purchase books (both electronic and print) and large monographic databases. Since 84% of the library budget is fixed costs, we are extremely careful about purchasing new materials that fall into this category because journal inflation would soon eat up all our discretionary money. The new content we purchased in FY13 was one-time purchases. They included Gale’s Slavery and Anti-Slavery and print facsimiles of historical texts in the humanities. We were unable to purchase the majority of the new titles we requested in our FY13 budget request because they were continuing costs. These included all the materials in the sciences; they appear again on our request for FY15, marked by an *. To these recurring requests, we have added a few new priorities.

It is, of course, too soon to know how spending will go in FY14, although all indications are that journals will again inflate at 5%. Given the 5% increase to the FY14 materials budget, it appears that we will be in the same situation as FY13. So far in FY14, we have added $21,000 to our continuing costs in the social sciences for an acquisition that we could not postpone. Faculty in the Economics Department requested that their students be given access to the Bloomberg terminal in the Ginn Library. Access was restricted by license to one on-site user at a time, from the Fletcher community only. Tisch Library worked with the director of the Ginn Library to purchase a second terminal to be housed in Ginn. The costs of the 2 terminals are shared by both libraries, and access is open to all A&S and SOE students. While necessary, the addition of this
annual expense means that we will likely be unable to purchase most of the social science material we requested in our FY14 budget.

Support for New Curricular and Research Initiatives

Collections librarians have worked closely with faculty to identify new curricular and research needs. The titles listed here are not the only materials that have been requested by faculty. Since we must be selective in our choices, we give priority to those titles that will be used by more than one faculty member and have interdisciplinary relevance. Although we are a Research 1 Institution, we also heavily favor materials that we know will be used in teaching and student research.

Science and Engineering

Science in general, and at Tufts in particular, is changing at a rapid pace. Interdisciplinary research across the schools in areas such as cognitive science, microbial biology, genomics, biomedical engineering, and bioinformatics has produced a call for new databases and new research tools. We would like to budget $60,000 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 $20,000 annually.
- *Bioinformatics data* in areas such as gene expression, sequence analysis, and genome annotation. Cost of $20,000 annually.
- *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 TTS, labs on the Medford and Boston campuses, and the Health Science library to fund these databases. An example of this type is Macmillan’s Digital Science line, which offers a variety of productivity databases. Cost of $20,000 annually.

Social Sciences

Data has become increasingly important in the social sciences and at Tufts. The T10: Draft Strategic Plan identifies the need to strengthen quantitative and computational skills of graduate students (p. 8). While there are free open sources for data, most data is proprietary, and there are many commercial resources available. Our FY15 requests are centered on data concerning China, an area which is of great interest in both A&S and the Fletcher School. We would share costs on these materials with the Ginn Library. There is also increased demand from faculty for digitized primary source materials that enable undergraduates to do research that was not possible in the print environment. These resources serve interdisciplinary needs across many
departments in the social sciences and the humanities. The new social science products total approximately $61,800.

- **Passport Cities**: Provides city-level data for major cities around the world. Tisch cost: $3,500 annually.
- **China Data Center**: Multidisciplinary data on China that can be mapped with GIS software. Tisch cost: $10,000 annually.
- **Si Ku Quan Shu**: Digital Library of classical Chinese texts (requested by GRAL and history). Cost of $3,300.
- **Foreign Office Files for China**: There are 6 parts for a total cost of $165,000. We would purchase selective parts over time. Cost of $45,000.

**Humanities and Arts**

As mentioned above, faculty in the humanities have changed their teaching to take advantage of the availability of digitized primary source materials that reflect the interdisciplinary nature of current humanities scholarship. Many of the resources below were requested by faculty in both the humanities and the social sciences. In addition to these electronic databases, the humanities bibliographer has been working with faculty in 2 relatively new areas, Arabic and Portuguese, to identify core literature collections. We are requesting $10,000 each in seed money to start to build collections in these disciplines. It is estimated that we will need approximately $124,000 in FY15 for new humanities and arts materials.

- **Primary source materials on colonialism and empire building**: Adam Matthew’s *Empire Online*. Cost of $29,000.
- **Digital Archive of 3 African-American Newspapers**: Cost of $75,000.
- **Language seed money**: Cost of $20,000.

**Total growth amount for all disciplines**: Support for new curricular and research materials across the disciplines totals approximately 3.2% of the budget or $245,800.

**FY15 Journal Cost Predictions and Impact**

Economists are predicting that journal inflation for FY15 will again hover around 6%. 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.

We recognize that Tufts University is undertaking long-term efforts to curb expenditures and that this may require belt-tightening in many areas, including the library. This makes it hard to imagine budget increases beyond 5%. If the library again received a 5% budget increase for collections in FY15, we will review all journal subscriptions and begin discussions with faculty.
on possible cancellations. Such an effort is necessary in order to decrease our recurring fixed costs.

As a part of the TEAM procurement effort this spring and summer, collections and acquisitions staff from all the libraries worked diligently with Deloitte and Purchasing to identify cost savings with subscriptions/licenses. After intensive review of our purchasing practices, Deloitte concluded that based on current library stewardship there are no significant savings to be had, short of cancelling journal subscriptions. Tisch librarians carefully review journal usage data and interlibrary loan data on an annual basis. We cancel little-used titles and add new titles when possible, but without an increase that meets rising journal costs, we will have to start to cancel core titles. This is a difficult time to cancel journals given the current expansion of STM research and teaching at the university. Collections librarians, particularly in the sciences and engineering, are continually asked for new journals, particularly by the new faculty hires. We cannot continue to add journals in the STM fields at the expense of other disciplines--such as the humanities, arts, and social sciences--that are more book dependent. This is why we would initiate cancellation discussions if current budget increases are level or reduced.