

University Library Committee 1995-1996

Memo from Paul E Simonds 26 Oct 95

The following e-mail message was sent by Paul E Simonds and deals with the proposed serials cancellation.

I am sympathetic with your position that marginal journals cannot be supported when prices rise substantially every year. HOWEVER, for many fields, the last serials cut eliminated many of such journals. A selective review of the remaining journals would likely unearth some more but the wholesale cuts of half a million will gut the library holdings of some (and maybe many) programs. It will be fruitless to pay for the fancy databases (anthlit, for example) if we hold few of the journals referenced. While it is possible to rely on interlibrary loans for a portion of the reading we and our classes do, the quarter is far too short for that to be a viable alternative when classes are asked to do papers or one needs access to the most recent literature quickly (as in preparing papers and conferences with one's peers) A more appropriate approach would include a careful review of the whole budget and less emphasis on simply having the best technology while allowing the collections to degrade. Paul (simonds@uoregon.edu)