

March 2002  
Issue 16

# Polk Library News

*forrest r. polk library ❖ university of wisconsin oshkosh*

## In This Issue:

Polk Library is reviewing all journal subscriptions. The 2001 – 2003 state budget contained no increased funding for library materials.  
(see pp . 1 – 3)

**Universal Borrowing is here!** UW Oshkosh users can initiate requests on their own for materials from other UW System libraries.  
(see pp. 3 – 4)

Polk Library offers services for distance education students. Article access, library instruction and more are available to distance students.  
(see p. 4)

## 2002 Review of Journals and Proposed Cancellations

**Patrick Wilkinson**  
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Below is the text of a letter that I sent to deans, department chairs and departmental or college library representatives on February 25, 2002. In the next issue of Polk Library News, I will report on how scholars world-wide are trying to make the research literature of the world available at reasonable costs.

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*Polk Library must reduce its journal budget by approximately \$45,000 for 2002 – 2003. The library requests comments from your department or college on proposed cancellations and selective possible additions to the journal collection no later than April 12, 2002.*

### Background

As reported in the last two issues of *Polk Library News*, the 2001 – 2003 state budget contained no increased funding for library materials. The consequences of flat budgets and increased costs for library materials have predictable results. Polk Library will be buying fewer books, videos, reference materials and journals. To stay within budget for 2002 –2003, the library needs to make cuts in its journal collection.

UW Oshkosh is not unique in facing the problem of rising journal costs. According to the Association of Research Libraries, serial costs rose 226% from 1986 to 2000. During the same period, costs for monographs rose only 66%, and the Consumer Price Index increased just 49%. In addition, state funding for UW library collections has increased only 2 years out of the last 10 years. Unfortunately, a few commercial publishers have aggravated this problem by expanding their control of the research journal market and demanding exorbitant prices for their journals. These publishers seem to place maximizing profits over expanding access to research information.

All UW System libraries need to respond to this situation. So far this fiscal year, UW libraries have cancelled over \$800,000 worth of journal titles. Obviously, this is a difficult situation when so much depends on peer-reviewed literature - - scholarship, teaching, learning, promotion and tenure. Library directors in UW System are aware of this and are looking at ways to coordinate journal cancellations so UW faculty, students and staff have access to all the research literature that they need. For example, I am hopeful that by Fall 2002 Polk Library will be able to provide to all instructors and graduate students effective electronic desktop delivery of articles from journals cancelled by the library since 1994.

*continued on next page . . .*







ILL is also the method to use to request periodical articles that are not available online. Periodicals (journal articles and reference titles) cannot be requested using UB.

Most collections at Polk Library will be eligible for UB checkout to other UW system library patrons. This includes materials in the Education Media Collection (EMC) and the Browsing Room. Collections excluded from UB include the Reference Collection, Reserves, and periodicals. Book materials will circulate for 28 days, plus delivery time. Videos, software, Browsing Room books, etc., will circulate for 14 days.

Since UB materials are circulated statewide, it will be important that materials needed for classroom purposes, such as videos or items for reserve should be booked at

least one month in advance through our Circulation Department.

Fines are not assessed for overdue material; however, individual patrons are responsible for replacement and any other processing fees if the material is not returned to the owning library. All UW libraries will enforce these policies as part of this cooperative venture.

**For UB Instructions, visit:**

<http://www.uwosh.edu/library/ubhandout.html>

**Stop by the Reference Desk to see how easy UB can be!**

## Library Outreach Services Go the Distance

**Renée Sengele**  
[sengele@uwosh.edu](mailto:sengele@uwosh.edu)

*Teaching a class on the 'Net,*

*The professor started to fret.*

*"If my students need articles*

*On subatomic particles,*

*Can they get what they need to get?"*

Fret no more, my good professor. Whether you're teaching a class on the Internet, via teleconferencing, or at a remote site, Polk Library can provide you and your students with the same kinds of resources and services that are available here on campus.

### **Your student in Marinette needs an article for her research paper?**

Many of Polk Library's journal databases have full-text articles online, and as a UW-Oshkosh student, she can use these databases from home by logging in with her university email username and the last four digits of her Social Security Number.

### **Your student in Wausau wants an article that isn't online?**

We'll send copies of articles we own to UW-Oshkosh students studying at a distance, and those materials we don't own we can get for them from other libraries. See <http://www.uwosh.edu/library/distanceed/docdelivery.html> for more details and to find online article request forms.

### **Your student in Stevens Point desperately needs a book for his project?**

UW-System libraries are increasingly sharing resources, so he can use his Titan Card to borrow books from the UW-Stevens Point library, or he can

make a request for us to send a UW-Oshkosh book to Stevens Point. See <http://www.uwosh.edu/library/ubhandout.html> for instructions on how to place a request.

### **Your student in Green Bay doesn't know what keywords to use in her search?**

She can e-mail the reference desk at [infodesk@uwosh.edu](mailto:infodesk@uwosh.edu), and a reference librarian would be happy to help her get started.

### **Your students in your remote class are starting a research assignment and you wish someone could show them some good searching techniques?**

We'd be excited to discuss ways that we could teach our information seeking workshops in new online or teleconference formats. Contact Marisa Finkey, Library Instruction Coordinator ([finkey@uwosh.edu](mailto:finkey@uwosh.edu)) or Renée Sengele, Outreach Services Librarian ([sengele@uwosh.edu](mailto:sengele@uwosh.edu)) for more information.

We at Polk Library are excited about the growing opportunities for education at a distance from UW-Oshkosh, and we'd like to talk to you more about ways we can help your distance students find the information they need to learn and prepare for their futures!

For more information, contact Renée Sengele, Outreach Services Librarian, at 920-424-7331 or via email at [sengele@uwosh.edu](mailto:sengele@uwosh.edu).

**POLK LIBRARY NEWS IS A PUBLICATION OF:  
FORREST R. POLK LIBRARY, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN OSHKOSH  
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Polk Library News Issue 16 / March 2002

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Online version is available at <http://www.uwosh.edu/library/news/>