

**CSU LIBRARY CRISIS: How Many Cable TV Channels Do You Watch?
How our approach to buying access to research journals is unsustainable.**

Pat Burns, Dean of CSU Libraries

How many journal articles do you read from different journals in a year? Indeed, the provocative title of this article references the analogy between CSU Libraries' subscription to journal titles, and the manner in which cable TV channels are bundled together. A typical business model in both industries is to bundle content together into what cable providers term a "package,"

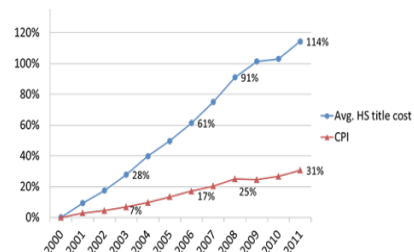


and libraries term "big deals" where many journal titles are made available via a multi-year contract. Currently, there are about one hundred thousand journal titles available worldwide – think of it, an average of 100 titles in which our approximately 1,000 tenured and tenure-track faculty can publish – simply mind-boggling! Now, some few tens of thousands of journal titles are not suitable to subscribe to as being of too low quality (some of these are described as "predatory" journals). At CSU, we subscribe to about fifty thousand journal titles (still fifty on average per faculty member), about half of the total available, and we carefully target those journal titles to align with our faculty's needs for access to content in their research areas. Annually, these subscriptions cost about \$5 million, and are required to provide a rich intellectual environment to support research and discovery.

Now, we turn our attention to the challenges. Our annual inflation just to maintain the same number of titles has been averaging about 5.8% per year as applied to our total journal and database collections budget of \$6 million. The reasons for this high inflation rate derive from the business practices of the publishers and aggregators. First, some of the big deals are "huge deals" to which we must subscribe; the deals are so large that they constitute an effective monopoly in the marketplace. In order to maintain the subscription, we must agree to their inflation rates imposed upon us – most of the publishers are corporations created in foreign countries, and there is no such thing as an international Sherman Antitrust Act. Secondly, it is common practice for the publishers to add titles – the larger publishers and aggregators are swallowing up the smaller publishers, who are going out of business in record numbers, and

adding their titles to their "big deals." It is typical that we hear, "Yes, your subscription costs are rising, but we are giving you access to more titles." The issue is whether those titles are the ones we need in our environment; often they are not.

The Provost has reviewed this situation, and has determined that following this cost curve upwards over the next decade is simply not sustainable. He has asked CSU Libraries to reduce and ultimately, over the next five or so years, to eliminate inflationary increases. And, if the state budget allocation to CSU shrinks as expected over the ensuing five years, we may have to decrease substantially our total collections budget as well. We are embarking upon adhering to the Provost's directive by restructuring our collection purchases, and plan to do so to minimize impact upon faculty's access to collections. In short, we are reviewing big deals that can become medium deals, but not having much luck with vendors here. Also, we are contemplating entirely eliminating select "big deals" where our usage of the titles therein may be low. In all cases, however, individual articles that we discontinue through "big deal" subscriptions will be available via Inter-Library Loan. The Bentham calculus here, though, is that as we pay by the article for Inter-Library Loan, it could easily cost us more in aggregate than subscribing to the "big deal." Ugh!



Average cost increase of Health Science (HS) journals since 2000.

It seems as if we are caught "between a rock and a hard place" here, but we will endeavor, as always, to make the best decisions on behalf of the University that we can under these circumstances. Please stay tuned as we progress in this endeavor.

Living Fully in Retirement

**Deanna Kern Ludwin, English Department
and CSU Best Teacher Award Winner 2006**

OPENING THE SENSES IN SOUTHERN FRANCE

Bursts of creativity, then weeks of neglect. During the academic year, that's how I approached my writing. When retired, I would no longer commit hours to students' stories and poems; I could write every day. Still, I needed a jumpstart, a change of scenery, a new muse.



My opportunity arrived in the form of a farewell travel certificate awarded by my generous English Department colleagues, followed by an announcement from a much-admired poet and friend, University of

Tennessee Professor Marilyn Kallet. Marilyn would be facilitating a spring 2012 poetry workshop at the Virginia Colony for the Creative Arts (VCCA) Studio Center in Auvillar, France. She had titled her workshop "O Taste and See: Writing the Senses in Deep France." I located the tiny Midi-Pyrénées village on a map and submitted my application.

I've participated in plenty of poetry workshops and thought I knew what to expect: talented writers, good food, morning critiquing sessions, afternoons absorbed in writing, evening lectures and readings. That would have been wonderful. But this experience was *extraordinaire*—immersion in the life of a lovely village (population 1,000) a bit northwest of Toulouse. Auvillar has been designated one of France's "One Hundred Most Beautiful Villages" and is a major stopover for pilgrims on their way to Spain's Santiago de Compostela. Here the Garonne River reveals its many moods, and roses bloom with abandon, even in May.

Yes, there were morning workshops, but there were also breakfast croissants and robust lunches of cassoulet, fresh vegetables, and regional wines, served en plein air behind Le Moulin à Nef, the 17th-century studio. One day, we prepared lunch under the direction of professional chef and photographer Christophe Gardner; another day, Christophe demonstrated photo techniques by the river. One evening, we were treated to a poolside party at the home of a delightful local couple.

Each night, Marilyn and I walked back to our gîte. We wrote until we were weary, and I emailed each day's poem to Marilyn's assistant so she could make copies for the next morning's workshop. In addition to our individual poems, our group wrote a collaborative work in praise of Auvillar. With Marilyn's aid, we translated it into French and read it to the villagers on our last sweet evening.

Since the village is small, even I, usually dependent on Colorado's Front Range as my compass point, could roam with confidence. I explored the medieval and Gallo-Roman ruins; Saint-Pierre Church, with its requisite Joan d'Arc statue and eclectic cemetery; the cozy soap shop; and Christophe's photo gallery. Auvillar is a comfortable place—so comfortable that one afternoon, made drowsy by sun, birdsong, and rustling leaves, I laid down my notebook and folded my bag into a pillow on the river's grassy bank. Just before I closed my eyes, a huge fish sprang from the river. For me, I thought, though of course it would have happened anyway.

I left the village on a chilly, misty day. The Garonne, so peaceful when I'd arrived, churned with agitation after three days of rain. I'd purchased a train ticket and would travel solo from Toulouse to Arles, in Provence, where I would spend several days. I departed with senses enlivened and poems in my notebook. My new muse, the village of Auvillar, would inspire me for months to come.

FRAME/WORD GAMES: (Answers on the next page)

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UBC UPDATE:

Oren Anderson, SSS UBC Representative



The University Benefits Committee (UBC) is an advisory committee to the University administration, specifically Human Resources Services and the Vice President for University Operations. In that role, the UBC considers and may recommend changes and improvements in the benefits program that the university offers to faculty, administrative professionals, and retirees. The membership of the UBC is reflective of that role. Of the nine members, four are chosen by Faculty Council to represent current faculty, four are chosen by the Administrative Professional Council to represent current administrative professionals, and one is nominated by the Society of Senior Scholars to represent retirees.

This fall the UBC has been engaged with a review of its Bylaws, consideration of the University's plans for changes in benefits for the 2015-16 fiscal year, and creation of a new UBC website (ubc.colostate.edu). The website, which shows up under 'University Benefits Committee' when using the 'A to Z' facility on the CSU home page, is still a work in progress, but should become steadily more useful to the university committee over time. This coming spring the UBC plans to carry out a comparative study of benefits at peer institutions and other institutions of higher education in Colorado. One of the areas to be considered carefully during this study will be the health care benefits provided to DCP retirees.

(Questions? Contact your representative at oren.anderson@colostate.edu)

FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Tom Boardman, SSS President



We have been planning our activities for the Spring semester 2015 for the CSU Society of Senior Scholars (retired faculty and admin pros). Shown below are some events which we hope you will enjoy. We continue to organize talks by professionals for our joint venture with the Osher Life Long Learning Institute. All sessions next year will be at the

Pathways Hospice facility on Carpenter Road from 3:00 to 4:30 PM. Their facility is excellent with room for up to about 100 attendees and plenty of parking. See the Osher insert below for details.

Ram Trax tours organized by Jennifer Lobermeier for SSS will be held on February 18th from 4:00 -5:00 at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital Animal Cancer Center. Our second tour during the week of April 21-25th (specific date later) is the popular tour of the CSU foothills research sites with the title "Earth, Sun, and Fire". Finally for the second year we will have the opportunity to visit two sites one at the University Center for the Arts Museum and then across the street to visit the CSU Annual Trial Gardens on July 22 from 10 a.m. -noon.

The CSU Morgan Library will offer two tours of their extensive archive collections, thanks to the effort of Janet Bishop, Coordinator. On March 24 we will visit "Treasures of Archives and Special Collections" from 2:00 to 3:30. On April 11 from 2:00 to 3:30 we have an overview of the "University Historic Photograph Collection". We likely will have an opportunity to have a session or two presented by an Apple Computer representative on using their products such as iPads iPhones, or iMac at the Library. Details will be on our SSS website next year.

Doreen Beard, Director of Operations and Engagement, Avenir Museum of Design and Merchandising, will host a SSS tour on May 12 likely beginning at 2:00 PM.

The faculty oral interviews, some only audio, while more recent ones with video, are available at the CSU Library's Digital Repository by typing Society of Senior Scholars Oral History at the main search box on the Library's web page.

And of course we have other projects underway as you will see in this newsletter.

ANSWERS to Frame Games:

- 1) You are over sexed and under nourished,
- 2) String quartet, 3) Close quarters 4) Tuna fish,
- 5) Gross injustice, 6) Open ended discussion

Editor's Meditation

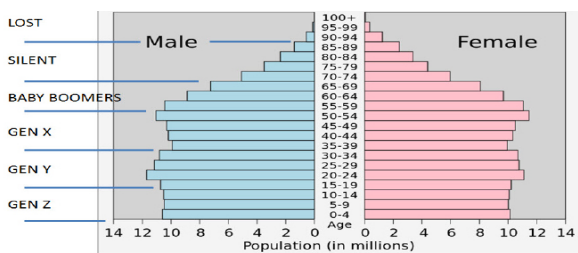
Robert N Meroney, SSS Newsletter Editor and VP

WHAT IS YOUR GENERATION COHORT?

A "generation" is a term used in the social sciences identifying the people within a population who share the same significant social or life events. These social cohorts can be identified with familial connections, education, ethnicity, racial background, cultural foundations, and economic or political formative experiences. Usually these generational groups or individuals are born and living about the same time, and typically covers those born within a period from 20 to 30 years. In the last 100 years generational groups have been related to processes of modernization, industrialization, or westernization. Nationalism has resulted in a blending or harmonization of people across familial, ethnicity, and racial boundaries. Today most popular generational indicators are determined by youth experiences which bond attitudes into a more-or-less cohesive character.



For the Western World (North America, Europe, South America, and Oceania) a list can be identified that most participants can accept. Hence, based on birth year there are:



The Lost Generation (1883-1900) identified by Gertrude Stein and Ernest Hemingway in *The Sun Also Rises*, as those who fought in or experienced the horrors of World War I. Lost did not mean vanished, but disoriented, wandering, and directionless. The last surviving WW1 US veteran (Frank Buckles) died in 2011, and the last WW1 veteran anywhere was UK veteran (Florence Green) who died in 2012.

The Greatest Generation (1901-1924) came of age during the Great Depression as first identified by Tom Brokaw in his 1998 book of the same name, fought in

World War II, and were sometimes designated the GI Generation. There were large population increases, low unemployment, low national debt, and moderate inflation. Characteristics: perseverance, courageousness, frugal, traditional values.

The Silent Generation (1924-1946) were born during the Great Depression, grew up during WW2, post-war nuclear world, and some served during the Korean or the Viet Nam Wars. The generation was comparatively small because financial insecurity in the 1920s and 1930s caused people to have fewer children. Time Magazine coined the Silent Generation name in a 1951 article. Also called the Lucky Few or Traditionalists the people largely conformed to social norms and focused on their careers. Characteristics: hardworking, logical, loyal, clear sense of right and wrong, conformist.

The Baby Boomers (1946-1964) came of age during the civil rights movement, witnessed Vietnam and anti-war movements, beatniks, flower children, and reflected a more permissive and socially liberal culture. In their middle years they saw increased public debt, higher inflation, and higher unemployment. Characteristics: independent, competitive, focused on health and wellness, values individuality, more open-minded social values.

Generation X or GEN X (1964-1980) grew up in post-Viet Nam period, heightened divorce rates, latch-key kids, and expectations of early independence. Many saw their parents laid off or faced job insecurity themselves. Careers tend to be fluid, with frequent lateral job movements. Characteristics: work well in multicultural settings, like relaxed workplace, traits of independence, resilience and adaptability.

Millennials or GENERATION Y (1980-2000) saw great period of computer and IT growth, dissolution of the Communist threat with the fall of the Berlin Wall, raised in a child-centric environment. Some participated in the Kuwait, Afghanistan and Iraq wars. Characteristics: self-confident, cocky, handle diversity well, technically literate, team-oriented, killer lifestyle, multitaskers, new to work place so could use mentoring.

Generation Z or GEN Z (2000-present) saw the aftermath of 9/11, heightened international tensions, terrorism, and the 2008 financial crash, but their parents bore the impact of unemployment, job insecurity, and two-working parents. Young people are very connected and active in school, sports, arts, and youth-groups. They are the students of today and the employees and consumers of tomorrow.

OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE AT COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY: FOR THOSE AGES 50 AND BETTER



Early spring 2015 Osher classes and Perk Series lectures and tours will begin the week of January 26th. This session, 22 courses and 13 free-of-charge lectures will be offered including three monthly lectures co-sponsored by the Society of Senior Scholars.

On January 26, Dr. Todd Bandhauer will speak on The Thermal Instability of Lithium-Ion Batteries - Causes, Effects, and Potential Solutions.

On February 16, Dr. Scott Denning will speak on Climate Change: Simple, Serious, Solvable.

On March 17, Eric Waples will speak on The Roberts Supreme Court and the Constitution.

The lectures are held at Pathways Hospice community conference room, 305 Carpenter Road/CO 392, Fort Collins, CO from 3-4:30 PM.

In addition, please join Osher for its 2015 Open House scheduled for Wednesday, January 14 from 1-4 pm at Drake Hall, 2545 Research Blvd., Fort Collins, Colo. (northwest corner of Drake and Research Blvd.). Meet our spring instructors, mingle with Osher members, enjoy refreshments & snacks, register for classes and enter the value-added draw to enhance your membership! Join the fun and help shape the future of Osher with your ideas and expertise. RSVP no later than January 7.

Osher at Colorado State University is a member-based, member-driven learning community of active adults aged 50 and better. Osher provides opportunities to explore fresh insights stay current on important topics and meet new people. Osher provides the very best in learning with no prerequisites, no tests, no stress and no attendance requirements. Kevin Oltjenbruns and Jean Morgenweck co-direct the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Colorado State University. Visit the website at www.osher.colostate.edu or call 491-7753 to learn about membership and to register for classes, Perk Series lectures, and the 2015 Open House.

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