



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH

OFFICE OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

RESOLUTION

IN SUPPORT OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY (ASCSU) RESOLUTION ON INCREASED FUNDING FOR THE CSU ELECTRONIC CORE COLLECTION (ECC)

WHEREAS: the CSU Electronic Core Collection (ECC) of library information resources for all campuses in the system has not received a funding increase since 2008, despite significant increases in subscription costs, resulting in significant cuts to the ECC; and

WHEREAS: inadequate funding, and subsequent cuts to items available through the ECC, have forced individual campuses either to terminate access to electronic resources or to pay for them locally, often at significantly higher prices; and

WHEREAS: the Academic Senate of California State University, Long Beach recognizes that centralized acquisitions of electronic resources allow the CSU system to leverage its purchasing power to negotiate costs that may be unachievable at the individual campus level; and

WHEREAS: the Academic Senate recognizes that access to library information resources through the ECC is critical to the success of our students;

be it therefore

RESOLVED: that the Academic Senate of California State University, Long Beach endorses the resolution of the Academic Senate of the California State University (appended below) in support of increased funding for the CSU Electronic Core Collection (ECC) of library information resources for all campuses; and

RESOLVED: that the Academic Senate of California State University, Long Beach encourages the CSU to leverage its purchasing power to negotiate reduced subscription costs; and

RESOLVED: that the Academic Senate of California State University, Long Beach strongly supports increasing base ECC funding

- 1) to allow expansion of the ECC and
- 2) to address resource cost increases and prevent a reduction in the number of ECC resources currently being offered

so that all CSU students and faculty have access to a strong core of disciplinary and general resources to meet their scholarly needs.

This resolution shall be distributed to

- Dr. Catherine Nelson, Chair of the Academic Senate of the CSU (ASCSU)
- Dr. Tim White, Chancellor, CSU

- Dr. Loren Blanchard, Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs in the CSU Chancellor's Office
- Dr. Gerry Hanley, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Technology Services in the CSU Chancellor's Office
- CSU Board of Trustees
- CSU Council of Library Deans (COLD)
- Council of Academic Senate Chairs of the CSU system
- CSULB Deans and Faculty Council chairs
- *Los Angeles Times, Long Beach Press Telegram, Long Beach Post, KPCC*

Adopted by the Academic Senate of California State University, Long Beach on May 2, 2019.

Appendices:

- ✓ Resolution on Increased Funding for the Electronic Core Collection (ECC) from the Academic Senate of the California State University (AS-3351-18/FGA/AA)
- ✓ Frequently Asked Questions about the Electronic Core Collection (ECC) from the California State University Council of Library Deans (COLD), April 2019

**ACADEMIC SENATE
OF
THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY**

AS-3351-18/FGA/AA (Rev)
November 8-9, 2018

INCREASED FUNDING FOR THE ELECTRONIC CORE COLLECTION (ECC)

RESOLVED: That the ASCSU recognize that the CSU Council of Library Directors (COLD) is faced with major cuts to the Electronic Core Collection (ECC) due to inflation and lack of funding increases, thereby damaging teaching, learning, research, and creative activities by faculty and students in the CSU; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of the California State University (ASCSU) urge the Chancellor to increase the funding for the Electronic Core Collection (ECC), in order to address increasing costs and continue to reap the advantages of collective purchasing power; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the ASCSU distribute this resolution to CSU Board of Trustees, CSU Chancellor, CSU campus Presidents, CSU campus Senate Chairs, CSU Provosts/Vice Presidents of Academic Affairs, Council of Library Directors (COLD), CSU ERFSA, and the California State Student Association (CSSA).

RATIONALE: *The ECC started in 1999 and in 2008, the Academic Senate of the California State University endorsed the Virtual Library AS-2854-08/AA of which the Electronic Core Collection (ECC) collection is part for CSU students and faculty. Since 2008, the budget has stagnated at \$5 million with no augmentations in ten years. As a result, due to increasing costs of information resources and inflation, the purchasing power of the ECC has diminished and information sources cut to keep within the budget.*

The ECC allows all CSU students access to materials no matter the size and budget of their campus, which in turn leads to their success. Further, the value of this collection helps campuses meet accreditation standards of WASC in information literacy and critical thinking. Notably, fiscally this is the most efficient way to maintain library collections because this combined purchasing power saves the CSU an estimated \$15 million, annually.

The ECC currently includes 52 online collections and databases (list attached). During the 2017-18 academic year, there were 17,774,233 full-text downloads from the CSU Libraries online resources by CSU students and faculty.

Resources in the Electronic Core Collection

- *ABI Inform (ProQuest)*
- *Academic Search Premier (EBSCO)*
- *Academic Complete eBooks (ProQuest)*

- *American Chemical Society Journal Archives*
- *American Council of Learned Societies*
- *America History and Life (EBSCO)*
- *Biological Abstracts (Thomson)*
- *CINAHL (EBSCO)*
- *Communication and Mass Media Complete (EBSCO)*
- *CQ Researcher*
- *Digital Dissertations Package A (ProQuest)*
- *Ethnic NewsWatch*
- *GenderWatch*
- *Global Newsstream (ProQuest)*
- *Grove's Music*
- *JSTOR Arts and Sciences (12 collections)*
- *Life Sciences Collection (JSTOR)*
- *MathSciNet*
- *Mergent Online*
- *Modern Language Association (EBSCO and ProQuest)*
- *NetLibrary (EBSCO)*
- *Oxford English Dictionary*
- *Project Muse Standard Collection*
- *PsycARTICLES (EBSCO and ProQuest)*
- *PsycINFO (EBSCO and ProQuest)*
- *Safari Tech Books (ProQuest)*
- *Sociological Abstracts (ProQuest)*
- *SpringerLink Online Historical Backfiles*
- *SCOAP3*
- *Westlaw: Campus Research – News and Life*
- *Wiley Interscience Backfile*
- *Wiley-Blackwell Backfile*

Approved Unanimously – January 17-18, 2019

California State University Council of Library Deans (COLD)
April 2019
Frequently Asked Questions about the Electronic Core Collection (ECC)

What is included in the ECC?

The ECC currently includes a collection of subscription databases of published content, including scholarly articles, popular news and magazine articles, reference articles, business data, and e-books. See the full list of 2018-19 ECC databases at the bottom of this document.

Who is responsible for the ECC?

The ECC began in 1999 as an initiative of the CSU Council of Library Deans (COLD). It is funded by the CSU Chancellor's Office, Academic Technology Services Division. Decisions about subscribed content included in the ECC are made by COLD, based on recommendations made by a COLD standing committee, EAR (Electronic Access to Information Resources), whose ten members include two deans, plus librarian representatives from small, medium, and large CSU campuses, each serving two-year terms.

Who can access the ECC?

All CSU students, faculty, and staff have unlimited access.

What is the current budget for the ECC?

\$5 million per year, which has stayed flat since 2008. This cost equates to about \$10 per CSU student.

What disciplines are covered by the ECC?

The ECC has a range of disciplinary content, including business, humanities, social sciences, law, technology, music, and physical and life sciences. The ECC is weak in STEM content, however, with several core resources missing. For example, the ECC does not include the most recent six years of the journals *Science* or *Nature*. Neither does it include the top science journal database, Elsevier's ScienceDirect or the key resource for chemistry majors and faculty, American Chemical Society Journals.

How is the ECC being used?

This material is used for faculty and student research, creation and completion of course assignments, information literacy instruction, and a variety of other faculty, student, and staff projects. In 2017-18, there were over 17 million full-text downloads from all library databases procured by the CSU Chancellor's Office, including the ECC.

If a resource is not included in the ECC, how do students and faculty at CSU campuses get access?

In some cases, individual CSU libraries subscribe to core resources not included in the ECC, which may be accessed by just those campus users. In other cases, particularly at smaller or less-resourced campuses, the individual library cannot subscribe to all core, necessary resources. Those students and faculty must rely on interlibrary loan, a slower, more onerous process and limited by copyright restrictions on quantity, or do without. This creates educational opportunity inequities between CSU campuses, and these access gaps have grown over time.

Does the system save money by purchasing content consortially for the ECC rather than individually by campus?

Yes. Savings for system-wide subscriptions vary but buying as a system is almost always less expensive.

How has the ECC been affected by stagnant funding and subsequent erosion of buying power?

With stagnant funding over the last ten years, there has been a loss of approximately \$1 million of buying power due to inflation alone. Unfortunately, subscription price increases have exceeded the inflation rate during that time period, so loss of buying power is actually much higher. For example, Elsevier recently claimed its average annual price increases were among the lowest in the industry at 5% per year. Using Elsevier's estimate as a minimum, loss of ECC buying power in ten years would be a minimum of \$3.4 million.

With at least \$3.4 million loss of purchasing power, the core collection has had to be modified over time in order to stay within the \$5 million budget, pushing the costs of core information resources onto individual campuses, with many campuses losing access altogether. A recent example is the cancellation of LexisNexis Academic Universe—an online service composed of approximately 5000 full text legal, news, reference, and business sources—in 2017. Nineteen campuses were not able to retain subscriptions to LexisNexis.

See the full list of databases that have been cut from the ECC at the bottom of this document.

What's happening with the ECC budget for 2019-2020?

The ECC is facing more than \$600,000 in cuts in 2019-20, as reserves from other budget areas that have been used in past years to cover this overage have been spent down to zero. This underfunding will translate to dropping subscriptions to several core research databases.

What budget increases are needed to make the ECC whole?

Increasing the ECC to \$10 million would address losses in purchasing power from ten years of stagnant budgets. Increasing the ECC to \$15 million would allow the system to expand access to new types of content not included in the ECC to date, such as streaming media.

What would the CSU libraries do with increased funding?

While decisions about ECC content are made via a shared governance process, there are several options that would serve the entire CSU system. Several core databases and journal collections that the majority of campuses pay for individually could be added. Subscriptions to emerging and in-demand content types could also be added.

What would it cost to make the ECC whole?

For the equivalent of \$10 more per student in general funding, the ECC will provide fair and equitable access to core information resources for all CSU students and faculty, and restore access to fundamental resources for science, business, and legal research.

What will happen if we maintain the status quo in the ECC?

Without increased funding, the ECC will continue to shrink, information access inequities will grow across the CSU, and opportunities for system-wide purchasing efficiencies will be lost.

What specific databases are included in the 2018-19 ECC? Titles underlined are being considered for removal from ECC.

ABI/Inform (business)

Academic Search

Business Source Premier, downgraded to Elite losing 856 full text journals & magazines, will also lose access to MarketLine Country Reports, MarketLine Industry Reports, MarketLine SWOT Reports. Political Risk Yearbooks from PRS

Academic Complete eBooks

ACLS (humanities eBooks)

America History & Life/Historical Abstracts

Biological Abstracts

CINAHL Complete (nursing)

Communication & Mass Media Complete

CQ Researcher

Dissertations & Theses Abstracts

Ethnic NewsWatch

GenderWatch

Global Newsstream (regional, national, international news)

Grove (Oxford) Music
JSTOR (13 collections) (humanities)
MathSciNet
MLA Intl. Bibliography (humanities)
Mergent (business)
Oxford English Dictionary
Project Muse (humanities)
PsycInfo / PsycArticles
Safari (technology eBooks)
Sociological /Social Services Abstracts
Westlaw

What specific material has been cut from the ECC since 2010? Underlined titles cancelled. The titles kept by CSU Long Beach took full funding (no system wide discounts) from the overall materials budget.

Encyclopedia Britannica
Factiva (news, business)
Grove's Art
Hoovers and Oxford Research (business)
Lexis Nexis (legal, news, business)
Philosopher's Index, Long Beach pays full price
Rand California

In addition, the following databases were previously partially funded via the ECC. In 2013, that funding was eliminated. The titles kept by CSU Long Beach took full funding (no system wide discounts) from the overall materials budget.

American Institute of Physics Journals
American Chemical Society Web Editions, Long Beach pays full price
Elsevier Science Direct, Long Beach pays full price
Springer Link, Long Beach pays full price
Wiley Interscience, Long Beach downsized to smaller product