

10-2000

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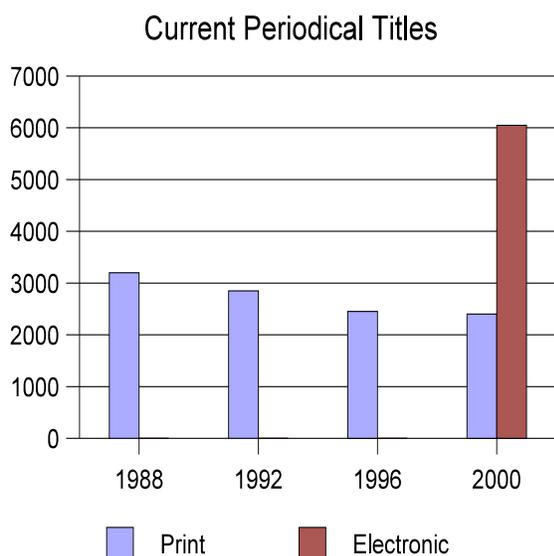
Andrews University, "Unclassified" (2000). *Unclassified*. 31.  
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## JWL EXPANDS PERIODICAL RESOURCES

Take a look at the following graph. It illustrates the fall and rise of James White Library periodical resources during the past twelve years.

From a high of approximately 3,200 print



subscriptions in 1988 the library has been forced to systematically reduce subscriptions as high inflation of journal prices could not be matched by increases in the library's periodicals budget.

The combined effects of an explosive growth in scholarly publishing, the steep inflation of journal prices, and the almost stagnant budget for periodicals has meant that the James White Library is a rapidly depleting reservoir of scholarly information.

### Enter the Digital World ...

The digitization of periodical content began in a significant way in the mid-1990's and has skyrocketed during the last three years. This has occurred in response to the periodicals crisis

which has gripped most academic libraries in recent years.

James White Library installed its first full-text service in 1997 with the EBSCOHost program giving access to the contents of one thousand current periodical titles. This popular database remains the core product within an ever-expanding basket of full-text services. By Fall 2000 the library is able to provide access to over 6,000 periodicals in electronic format, overshadowing its 2450 print subscriptions, as the graph illustrates.

### Periodicals Plan 2000

A task force of librarians and departmental faculty tackled the broad issues of periodicals resources during Fall 1999 and developed Periodicals Plan 2000 with twelve steps for implementation. A key element in the Plan is collaboration between librarians and academic departments in assessing needs and developing unique packages of print and online resources to meet those needs.

Led by Periodicals Department Head, Marilyn Gane, liaison librarians have already met with most departments, and have begun the process of putting together packages of resources to meet specific department requirements. New products include Current Contents Online, ERIC documents for online delivery, personalized document delivery of needed articles, and an online current awareness service. These will be showcased to faculty along with training opportunities to facilitate their use.

See overleaf for Frequently Asked Questions about the program.

## Frequently Asked Questions about the new Periodicals Plan.

*Are we talking about widespread replacement of print subscriptions with electronic?*

No. In many fields, paper copy will continue to be the only viable choice. Examples are the fine arts, architecture, and music. In the humanities generally, little is yet available in electronic text. In many disciplines, however, including sciences, education and business, there is a rapid growth of electronic resources. Besides the convenience of 24-hour campus-wide access, electronic text is important for off-campus programs simply because print is not a friendly medium for distance users.

*Will there be further reductions in print subscriptions?*

In some disciplines, yes. Decisions about the most appropriate access to scholarly material will be made in consultation with the appropriate faculty. Factors to consider when considering print cancellation are: (1) high cost, low use, (2) suitability and reliability of electronic text as a print alternative, and (3) acceptability of desktop document delivery for periodical articles. Our concern is to be budget-wise in providing the best possible range of periodical resources for faculty and students, utilizing a variety of access media, including print.

*What about the quality of the electronic product, especially for fine diagrams and illustrations?*

This is definitely a concern, especially if delivery of a needed article requires use of fax. The newly acquired Ariel software utilizes the Internet rather than the fax machine to transmit documents between libraries. And document delivery brings electronic content right to the user's desktop. Ultimately, though, the quality of hard copy often depends on the choice of the right desktop printer.

*How will Document Delivery work for me?*

Provided that you have (1) a reasonably fast computer at work or home, (2) a laser or ink-jet printer, (3) internet access, and (4) an email account, you can download and print periodical articles from a variety of sources, including the

James White Library's 6,000 full-text periodicals. When the library does not have the article you need, you have the choice of regular interlibrary loan, or requesting the library's selected document delivery vendor to forward the article directly to your email. The convenience factor with document delivery is that you can request and receive at any time, even when the library is closed.

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### Certificate of Completion Added to the Library Primer

A printable electronic certificate has been added to James White Library's online tutorial, *The Library Primer*. (See the URL below). The certificate is intended to be used in classroom situations where teachers have assigned the tutorial as part of the course work. At the end of each lesson, students may access the certificate by completing the "Tell Us What You Think" evaluation form. Once the evaluation form is sent, a new form appears where students enter their names and mark the lessons which they have completed. Submitting this information produces a certificate with the name and lesson(s) included which can be printed using the web browser commands. A certificate may be produced separately for each lesson, or one certificate listing up to all six lessons may be printed after the student has completed the lessons.

<http://www.andrews.edu/library/screens/tutorials.html>

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*UNCLASSIFIED is edited and produced by the James White Library Director's Office. Published in October, February, and May. Items for inclusion should reach the Director's Office by the first working day of the month of publication.*