




California State University  
SAN MARCOS

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**DATE:** February 14, 2013  
**To:** Budget and Long Range Planning Committee  
**From:** Wayne Veres  
Dean, Library   
**Subject:** Library Follow-up Comments for the P form for Master of Social Work (MSW)

Please find below the Library's comments in response to MSW's reaction to our September 26<sup>th</sup> memo. It is unusual for Library to have to respond a second time for a new program and we were quite surprised to learn external consultants were asked to critique our journal recommendation list. The Library understands our recommendation to acquire 63 journals at \$25,995/yr is a large annual payment. We would have been very open to a having a discussion with the consultants to determine a course of action to ease into a larger journal acquisition budget as the program grows.

That said, a meeting was held on February 5, 2013 where our concerns could be heard. At that meeting, Kara Witzke, Acting Chair of the Human Development Program, requested that the Library review a list of journals that were identified by the MSW consultant, Dr. Loring Jones, Coordinator of the MSW at SDSU. Dr. Jones ranked the CSUSM Librarian's recommendations as 'essential,' 'good to have,' and 'good to have but lower priority'. The cost of acquiring journals from this list will be approximately \$12,524.60. Therefore we ask that this amount, \$12,524, be used as the cost of Library resources instead of our figure of \$25,995 or EL's estimated budget line of \$7K.

As a note to BLP we ask the following be considered when program proposers request our signature approval for p-forms:

- Library needs for the programs should be discussed in detail before the p-form process proceeds too far. Library reports are unique assessments of the currently available and needed resources (materials and human) to support the faculty and students at CSUSM for any proposed program. Our analysis is done with a close eye to the specific situation at CSUSM and the propose emphases of the program.
- While outside experts and consultants can be quite helpful, the method in this case to determine 'essential,' 'good to have,' and 'good to have but lower priority' is unknown. It does not appear to follow accepted and standard methodologies used by academic librarians to determine library resource needs.
- The faculty at any given campus are not only experts in their field, but are experts in the unique nature of the curriculum at their campus, areas of interest common among students at their campus, and even aspects of the field that are of particular interest to the region in which the campus is located. Therefore, instead of identifying journals needed before faculty and

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students are on campus, we suggest that when faculty join the campus, they can work with a librarian to identify Library needs in detail.

cc: David Barsky  
Virginia Mann  
Yvonne Meulemans  
Hua Yi  
Luis Terrazas