Library Instructional Resource Prioritization

Instructional resources support needs from the Library are prioritized based on 4 horizontal categories. All 4 categories need to be met to keep the depth and breadth of the collection support for each discipline consistent and balanced. It is an integral part of the West Los Angeles College Library's mission statement to "actively support all academic pursuits" at West Los Angeles College.

http://www.wlac.edu/libweb/info/mission.html

The Library's mission is accomplished through achieving the following objectives:

- Identify, acquire, organize, preserve, and provide access to pertinent recorded knowledge to support pedagogical, study, and creative activities.
- Recruit, hire, and retain, quality faculty and staff committed to delivering excellent services in response to the rapidly changing needs of the diverse user community.
- Offer formal and informal instruction to promote information competency.
- Provide an easily accessible, user-friendly and safe environment that fosters teaching and learning for both library users and library employees.
- Apply appropriate technological innovations to achieve productivity and efficiency, as well as provide library services to distant learners and information seekers.
- Communicate library services to raise awareness and promote partnerships with college organizations and departments, other libraries and educational institutions, and the local community.
- Create a forward thinking, dynamic organization that is responsive and flexible in order to achieve its mission and goals.
- Continue to improve the library's effectiveness through systematic, ongoing outcome assessment.

This balanced approach is also consistent with the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights which was founded to protect intellectual freedom and based upon the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. Of course the Library will have to prioritize some of the resources due to the current fiscal climate and conditions, but the Library and the College must always strive to support all currently taught disciplines with a balanced approached. To do otherwise could and will most likely lead to encroachment on intellectual freedom under the guise of budgetary limitations.

Many of the disciplines such as Language Arts and Social Sciences cannot always supported by material that is only subject specific. Rhetoric discourse cannot be pigeon holed into a single subject. It is by its very nature multi-disciplinary. For example, it is not very common that an English essay will only be about English grammar or literature. The student will most often have to relate their topic to current events or history.

The 4 horizontal categories of prioritization

I.   Curriculum support – based on input from divisions and active courses in the curriculum
II.   Replacement of high demand titles
III.   Student requests
IV.   Other faculty requests – non-curriculum specific

Curriculum	Replacement	Student requests	Faculty requests
• Proportional to number of active courses – 500+ in Fall 2012 • Division requests 60+ subject fields offered • 150 online courses Selection will be based on: -Course outlines -Professional library book and instructional media material review journals -Specific title list from divisions Average of 3 titles per course 3 year cycle = $25,000 /year ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ In addition to books, periodicals are needed for current research assignments Annual online database subscription	Replacement of high demand and usage titles: outdated, damaged, lost -Based on circulation system records and usage statistics -Reference desk logs of needed titles 20 year replacement cycle 60,000 titles requires 3,000 replacements per year Based on current average price: $50 = $150,000 / year	Student request of titles and subject during Reference inquiries for course assignments Average 200 requests per year Based on current average price: $50 = $10,000	Non-curriculum specific titles and subjects for Professional Development and Training Average 20 requests per year Academic title average price $100 = $2,000

fee to cover the subject fields in our curriculum is <mark>$180,000</mark> (The national median is $198,000 from Academic Libraries Survey Fiscal Year 2010, National Center for Education Statistics). The online databases are required to support our distance education courses.			

Total $367,000 per year