

Making Progress with the Electronic Resources Initiative

The University of Missouri began its third year of the Electronic Resource Initiative (ERI) on January 1, 2007, after surpassing its goals for the first two years. LSO recently completed a report detailing the initiative's progress. The ERI is comprised of 26 electronic resources, twenty of which (75%) support life science disciplines. These resources were chosen by the MERLIN Collection Development and Reference Services Committee (MCDRSC). The goal of the initiative is to increase use of each resource, thereby decreasing cost per use. In addition, campus cost share for existing subscriptions to SciFinder Scholar and Web of Science were shifted to LSO, freeing up funds within the individual UM libraries for campus-specific priorities.

The goals for 2006, the second year of the initiative, were met with ease. The target for the average cost of use of the original 16 resources was set to decrease by 5%, and average cost of use actually decreased by 18% from 2005 to 2006. The target for the average use of these resources was set to increase by 5%, and this was exceeded by an enormous margin: average usage increased by 61% from 2005 to 2006! (See the chart at the bottom of this page for data on the ERI average usage.)

With these successes, the ERI enters its third year with heightened expectations. Nine new resources were added to the initiative beginning in early 2006, and MCDRSC has set new targets: cost of use of all resources is set to decrease by another 7% from 2006 to 2007, and average use of all resources is set to increase by 7%.

Facts and Figures

In February 2007:

- ◆ The cost for a MEDLINE session was 8¢ and a search was 2¢.
- ◆ There were 14,060 full text views for JSTOR Arts & Sciences I.

Current eResource Trials:

- ◆ EconLit with Full Text: trial through 5/15/2007.
[Click here to connect to trial.](#)

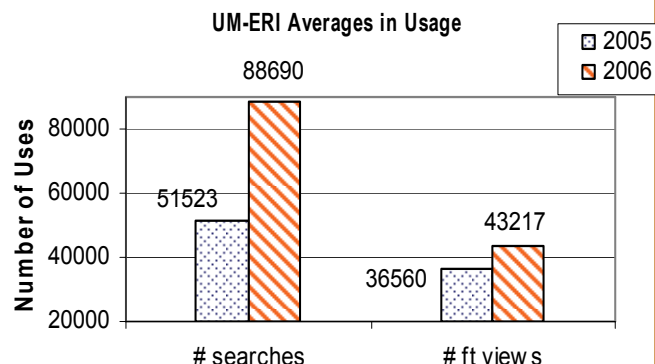
Upcoming Meetings:

- ◆ MCDRSC videoconference: 7/12/2007

Tech Support Statistics: 4 tech support tickets opened, 4 tech support tickets resolved

Standardizing Statistics

Most of the vendors of the electronic resources involved in the ERI are [COUNTER](#) compliant: the vendors collect statistics based on definitions that have been made standard throughout the industry. LSO uses this data in reports throughout the year. At the right, you can see a chart from the LSO report on average use of the ERI resources. A "search" is defined as a query in COUNTER; "ft views", or full text views, are the number of downloads.



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On the web:

lso.umsystem.edu



The Civil War in Missouri

The Civil War is a fascinating era in our history. This collection focuses on the Civil War in Missouri. Many of the books are in special collections and cannot be checked out. A popular resource for genealogists, it is consistently ranked in our top ten most popular collections, with 33,425 page views for all of 2006, and 8,647 pageviews so far for 2007.

digital.library.umsystem.edu/text/civilwar

LSO News

Well, here we are at issue number two of the LSO newsletter. Thank you for the kind words we received regarding the first issue. We would also like to hear what other types of information you would like to see. We need to make a correction to the first issue: the University of Missouri Libraries' Digital Library contains 21 text collections and 23 image collections, not what was reported earlier.

In addition to electronic licensing and digitizing, LSO also supports other aspects of the UM Libraries. We are working with Innovative Interfaces to implement the single-sign-on server for the MERLIN catalog. We have taken over the processing of patron data and are responsible for sending MOBIUS ready-to-load patron files. And, as the shift to the PeopleSoft student system moves forward, we will be working with the PeopleSoft implementers to make this transition as seamless as possible.

The libraries of the four UM campuses are working together on a task force to implement a prototype of a Digital Information Repository. The librarians are working hard to set parameters and collect content into the repository. LSO's role is to provide the hardware and software infrastructure required and to provide assistance on technical matters. Hardy Pottinger has been doing an excellent job of assisting the task force.

Suggestions Always Welcome

Please let us know what we are doing wrong (it's also nice to hear what we're doing right). If you know of collections that should be considered for digitizing, let us know and we will pass it on to the appropriate decision making group. Please note that we not only do library collections, but other departments collections.

Upcoming Activities for April

- ◆ Finish the Agricultural Experiment Station Publication grant.
- ◆ Modify the bursar's program that Ellis Library uses to send fines and bills to the cashier
- ◆ Add four volumes to the new "Mutation" collection.
- ◆ Convert UMSL patron loads to include student IDs so that they no longer use social security numbers.
- ◆ Continue to add volumes to existing digital collections.
- ◆ Begin adding collections to the Missouri State Library's ContentDM web site.

The Digitizing Lab

The "heavy lifting" of digitizing takes place in a room in the basement of Clark Hall. The room is affectionately known as "the cave" as there are no windows. Linda Vorce is the Digital Lab Supervisor and is responsible for making assignments and ensuring that the work moves smoothly through its various stages. The two scanning technicians, Elaine Huntsucker and Ian Schoone, have about 5 years experience between them and have scanned thousands of pages. Last month, for example, they scanned 9,429 pages. Once Elaine and Ian have scanned, cropped, and assigned filenames to

the images, Linda assigns the further cropping and zoning to one or more of our part time students: Kyle Parker; Maggie Parker; Mary Tarpein; Phillip Parker; Joshua Carlson; Angela Roberts; or Alexandra Wilson. She then runs the image through ocr and assigns the raw ocr to one of the students to be corrected. In March they corrected 10,883 pages of text. Finally, Jennifer Lee processes the images and text for inclusion on the web site. Hardy Pottinger is responsible for maintaining the web site. LSO is very fortunate to have such a skilled and dedicated staff in the digitizing area.