

**Campus Initiative
2010 – 2011 Biennium**

PROPOSING AGENCY:

UM-Helena Library

RESPONSIBLE ADMINISTRATOR:

Janice Bacino, MLS, Director of Library Services

SHORT TITLE FOR THE PROJECT:

Library Core Collection

Description of the Project:

UM-Helena proposes to create a core library collection of basic print and media resources to support the technical and transfer educational programs of the college. Particular attention will be focused on the academic needs of a growing student body enrolled in nursing and two year transfer degree programs. The project will:

- Purchase resources that support the colleges' educational programs
- Actively involve faculty, students, and MUS librarians in the selection of materials
- Select resources to complement the holdings of MUS libraries and local libraries
- Selected resources to complement the electronic resources of the UM-Helena Library
- Catalog and add all resources to the University of Montana Library System and the statewide Montana Library Network

Over the past ten years the college has expanded from its technical programs to include transfer education. An Associate of Science degree was added in 1996, an Associate of Arts degree was added in 2003, and a Registered Nursing degree was added in 2005. From fall 2001 to fall 2005, headcount of students enrolled in transfer education and non-degree classes more that doubled and by fall 2005 accounted for 44% of all students.

The college's library has not kept pace with this growth, and at present is profoundly deficient in size, subject coverage, and depth. This is a concern for how we serve our students' educational needs and it is an issue for accreditation.

- While national standards suggest a minimum of 30,000 volumes to serve a student population < 1,000,¹ the College's library has a collection of approximately 6,250 volumes.
- Compared to other Montana 2-year colleges, UM-Helena is far below peer institutions in the collection we offer our students. As of Fall 2007, UM-Helena's collection was approximately ¼ the size of the collection at Dawson Community College, ⅓ the size of the collection at Missoula COT, and ⅔ the size of the collections at Miles Community College and MSU Great Falls. (see Appendix I)
- This deficiency in the library's collection has been noted in our accreditation report of 2000, (*Recommendation 5: Continue increasing the institution's core collection . . . to achieve adequate support of the College courses and programs, particularly for the Associate of Science Programs --Standard Five: 5.A.1, 5.A.2, and 5.B.1*) and most recently in the Interim Report of 2005 which stated that "*the collection remains relatively small compared to other libraries with the College's student population and program mix . . . (and) the Evaluation committee believes that increasing the core collection should continue to be a priority for the College . . .*"² "*. . .the Committee remains concerned that the levels of financial support may not be sufficient to keep pace with the increase in students, particularly student in university transfer programs*"³

Methodology:

The project would add 7,000 volumes to the library, doubling the current collection and providing a collection for UM-Helena students on par with other 2 year institutions in Montana.

- Selection of items to be added would be made by the librarian (Janice Bacino, MLS), in consultation with faculty and staff, students, the Library Advisory Committee, and other MUS librarians. (Timeline: Months 1-9)
- Cataloging the items would be done by the library assistant (Mary Ann George) using the OCLC database to which we already subscribe cooperatively with other Montana libraries on a flat fee basis. (Timeline: Months 9-24)
- Physical processing of materials would be done by work study students. (Timeline: Months 9-24)
- Space and shelving in the new library will accommodate this growth of the collection. Most additional shelving has been secured through donation.

¹ Standards for Community, Junior, and Technical College Learning Resource Programs. "Standard Six: Collections." Association of College and Research Libraries, American Library Association, 1994. <http://www.ala.org/>

² Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities. *A Regular Interim Report. University of Montana – Helena College of Technology. March 31 & April 1, 2005.* p.7

³ Ibid. p.8

Outcomes/Assessment:

This project would support all four stated outcomes of the library's Assessment Plan:

1. Students will operate electronic databases and library online public access catalogs to locate resources for their coursework.
2. Transfer and nursing students will demonstrate basic skills in researching topics.
3. Students will utilize adequate print and recorded materials to succeed in their learning.
4. Students will utilize a space that promotes learning, study, and inquiry.

In addition to the measurement tools specified in the existing Assessment Plan, changes in the following would be monitored to further assess the effectiveness of the project:

1. Use of the collection as recorded in volumes checked out
2. Use of the collection as recorded in Interlibrary Loans requested and received
3. Student satisfaction with the collection as recorded in the Noel Levitz Student Satisfaction Inventory
4. Faculty satisfaction with the collection as measured by pre and post surveys

RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS:

FY2010	FY2011	Biennium
\$94,000	\$86,500	\$181,000

PROPOSED BUDGET:

	<u>FY2010</u>	<u>FY2011</u>
Personnel:		
Library Assistant 10 hrs/week	\$11,500	\$11,500
Expenses		
Books & recordings		
7,000 volumes @\$20.00 per volume	\$70,000	\$70,000
Shipping & handling (5%)	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500
Shelving	\$ 8,000	
Book processing supplies	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500
Total Budget:	\$94,500	\$86,500

Appendix I
2- Year Colleges in Montana
Library Collection Size
Fall 2007

