UTHAH STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT ASSOCIATION
EVALUATION OF EXISTING STUDENT FEE
FORM EESF-1

Please complete the following information and submit to the office of the Director of the Student Involvement & Leadership office no later than January 2, 2020. This form will be required each year the student fee is in existence.

NAME OF RESPONSIBLE ADMINISTRATOR   Bradford Cole, Library Dean

NAME OF ADMINISTRATIVE FEE CHAIR      Robert Heaton, Collection Mgmt Librarian

NAME OF DEPARTMENT                   Merrill–Cazier Library

CONTACT PERSON                      Robert Heaton              PHONE #    7-8042

NAME OF EXISTING FEE                 Library

BUSINESS SERVICES REP                Rachel Hamm              PHONE #    7-0646

Please complete the following. In addition, please attach the budget fee request worksheet, along with any other documentation you feel would help the University Student Fee Board understand the purpose and use of the fee.

Background: Explain the original purpose of the fee

The Library Student Fee is intended to subsidize the Library’s ability to purchase resources, print and online, specifically for students’ use. With the explosion of digital resources, the Library needed to increase its funding in order to cover ever-increasing costs. Fortunately, the Utah State University students have been strong advocates for a healthy library.

Request is made for current fee to: (Check one)

☐ Remain at current level (no justification required)

☒ Increase from current level

Describe the impact the increase will have on existing program(s)

As described in the attached proposal summary, the Library seeks an increase of $1.50 to help fund expensive streaming-video acquisitions and an Open Educational Resources Coordinator position, housed in the Library.
The demand for streaming video has increased sharply in the past 5 years as faculty desire to enrich their courses with multimedia content. Physical media such as DVDs, though less expensive, cannot fill this need due to the growth in online courses, an instruction format where we do not have the legal right to broadcast DVD content. Support from the student fee would allow the Library to maintain and expand streaming offerings without reducing funds dedicated to other areas. An increase for the University's Open Education Resources (OER) program would sustain existing efforts to help instructors find or create course materials that are free to students. In just the last year, students have saved over a quarter-million dollars in courses using no-cost textbooks. This fee increase would fully fund the 75%-time position that coordinates these efforts, increasing campus awareness of and support for OER, leading directly to increased student savings.

☐ Decrease from current level
Describe the impact the reduction will have on existing program(s)

Approvals

[Signature]
Fee Administrator

[Signature]
Business Services

[Signature]
Dean/Vice President

12-31-2019
Date

12-31-19
Date

12/31/19
Date
Use of fees currently received

The Library fee supports annual costs in three general areas: collections, technology, and open educational resources. See the “Fee Request Form” spreadsheet for information on the fund amounts allocated to these areas, and see below for the resources and services offered because of these allocations.

LIBRARY COLLECTIONS

Through student fees, the Library provides access to a broad range of online subscription resources across the whole range of disciplines. Students in every major benefit from access to the below student fee–funded annual subscriptions. Each of these can be accessed from https://library2.usu.edu/jnabs/result.php.

Subject Databases
- America: History & Life (EBSCO)
- Anthropological Literature (EBSCO)
- Art Index (EBSCO)
- Communication & Mass Media Complete (EBSCO)
- Education Source (EBSCO)
- Fish & Fisheries Worldwide (EBSCO)
- FSTA (Food Science & Technology Abstracts) (EBSCO)
- Historical Abstracts (EBSCO)
- Humanities International Complete (EBSCO)
- Linguistics and Language Behavior Abstracts (ProQuest)
- RILM (music index) (EBSCO)
- SportDiscus (EBSCO)

Specialized Resources
- AP Stylebook
- Artstor
- BioCyc
- Birds of North America
- Bloomberg BNA Tax Portfolios
- Columbia International Affairs
- Digital Dissertations*
- eHRAF (Human Relations Area Files) World Culture
- Euronmonitor*
- Gale Virtual Reference Library
- OverDrive*
- Oxford Bibliographies
- Scopus*
- Social Explorer

Journal Packages
- ASABE Online Technical Library
- BioOne.2
- IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers) Electronic Library*
- A portion of the ScienceDirect Freedom Collection*

Ongoing Access to Archival Collections
- 17th & 18th Century Burney Collection of UK Newspapers
- AAS Historical Periodicals
- American Periodicals Series
- American West Everett D. Graff Collection
- Congressional Research Digital Collection
- Historical New York Times
- Historical Times of London
- Illustrated London News Archive
- National Geographic Magazine Digital Archive
- North American Women's Letters and Diaries
- Sabin Americana Digital Archive
- Shen Bo Digital Archive
- Slavery and Anti-Slavery Digital Collection
- U.S. Declassified Documents Online
- U.S. Serial Set Digital Collection 1789–1979
- U.S. Supreme Court Records and Briefs

Streaming Video
- American History in Video
- Ethnographic Video Online
- Psychotherapy.net Video Collection

*indicates a cost of $18,000 or higher

The student fee also funds the purchase or lease of print books, e-books, and audiobooks. This includes academic books added to the general collections as well as popular reading materials in print (in the New Books Lounge) and online formats (the OverDrive platform, accessed via the Libby app). In fiscal year 2019, student fees funded the following book-related resources:

- 1,075 print books
- 859 e-books
- 75 audiobooks
- Administrative expenses for McNaughton books (popular print books program)
- Administrative expenses for OverDrive (popular e-books program)
- Administrative expenses for demand-driven acquisitions (scholarly e-books program)
LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY
The technology portion of our fee covers several expenses for computer hardware and software that are critical for students’ successful engagement with the Library, including:

- A portion of the cost of upgrading the Library’s Information Commons computers, which happens on a 3-year cycle (e.g., $100,000 covered 64 PC computers and 12 monitors in 2018–2019)
- A portion of the subscription and related servers for the Library homepage’s search-engine tool and catalog

OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES
Open educational resources, or OER, are public-domain or openly licensed learning materials. These allow instructors to create, adapt, and share textbooks, lecture notes, problem sets, test banks, and other high-quality resources at substantial savings to students. USU offers organizational support for OER via a campuswide committee and the website [http://oer.usu.edu/](http://oer.usu.edu/).
Student fees currently cover half of a salaried OER Coordinator position and part of one related student position’s wages. Along with one other student, this group supports faculty in creating, adopting, or adapting free or low-cost course materials and assessing and promoting these efforts on campus.

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Proposal for fee increase
Journal and database subscriptions, software licenses, and other expenses inflate annually across the industry. Journal packages are the Library’s most costly material expense, and their cost at USU currently increases at a rate of over $250,000 per year. While we are not seeking a student-fee increase to meet that particular need, it is important for the Student Fee Board to understand that this inflation is the major fiscal constraint under which we operate. Beginning with the 2020–2021 academic year, the Library proposes a total increase of $1.50 to our Student Body Fee, as itemized below.

STREAMING VIDEO
An increase of $0.50 would offer a sustainable source of streaming-video options for faculty to enrich classroom instruction. In the past, DVDs or other physical media could be used in a classroom setting. While the Library can acquire DVDs at a low cost, we do not have the legal right to broadcast them to those taking classes online or at statewide campuses. Some might think popular platforms such as Netflix and Hulu could meet this need, but USU cannot subscribe on behalf of students, and most educational content requested by instructors is not available there.
So if the Library is to fill this instructional need, it will be through leasing arrangements with the sites that host the desired videos, where individual titles cost upwards of $100 per year. Driven by changes to University programs, increased availability of quality video content, and high growth in online courses, the Library’s annual expenditures on audiovisual media have doubled over the past 4 years, to nearly $30,000 per year. Because the Library would otherwise need to cannibalize funds allocated to books or databases to meet rising demand, this issue affects all students.

OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES
An increase of $1 would fully fund the Library’s OER Coordinator position. In addition to supervising two student workers, this position maintains a current understanding of trends in open education, educates instructors on OER and advocates for their involvement, administers Library- and University-funded grants to incentivize the use and creation of OER, and oversees the work of supporting instructors’ adoption of OER materials. A sustained revenue stream would also create flexibility to pilot new programs that expand the influence of the existing program. One resource that reflects the OER work we’re doing is [http://oer.usu.edu/oer_at_usu](http://oer.usu.edu/oer_at_usu), where students can identify upcoming courses where the instructor has selected only zero-cost course materials.
Textbook affordability is a critical issue: Textbook prices have increased roughly 150% faster than wages over the last 20 years. 75% of students pay for books themselves, without the help of parents, loans, or scholarships; 69% have chosen not to purchase a textbook due to cost, even though 57% felt this decision negatively impacted their grade.
Meanwhile, in the 2018–2019 academic year, OER generated $781,794.50 in student savings at USU, which translates to a return on investment of $19.22 per $1 of Student Fee spent on OER. An increase in the Library student fee would build on this momentum to benefit all students.
Other funding sources

We are careful to approach the Student Fee Board for funding only as a last resort. The Library has successfully pursued funding from the following sources:

- **The Utah Legislature**: The Utah Academic Library Consortium successfully lobbied the state legislature for an annual budget increase of $800,000, which was first allocated in 2018. These additional funds brought new resources to USU such as CINAHL Complete, Nursing Reference Center Plus, and EBSCO Academic Search Ultimate as well as allowing us to shift a few valuable journal and database subscriptions from being paid locally to being covered by the legislative funds.

- **Academic and Instructional Services**: This USU division has generously helped fund various projects and positions at the Library, including OER initiatives and positions related to serving our statewide and online students.

- **Campus Information Technology**: Campus IT covers half of the cost of updating the Library’s Information Commons computers and software as well as supplying the student workers that staff the Library’s IT desks.

- **Provost’s Office**: President Cockett has worked with the Provost’s Office and other campus units to help the Library cover the dramatically rising journal-package costs, leaving us to draw upon student fees only rarely to support those particular costs.

- **Campus OER partnerships**: Colleges as diverse as Humanities & Social Sciences, Engineering, Science, and Natural Resources have contributed thousands of dollars to support the Library’s OER efforts to support instructors in creating and adopting textbooks that are free to students.

- **Better-distributed student fee**: Where the Library fee used to be levied only on Logan-campus students, in recent years the Library’s dean worked with the University to expand it to distance students and students in the Business School’s China program. This results in better equity and value to students throughout USU.

Along with seeking new funds, we work hard to spend existing funds in efficient, sustainable ways.

- **Consolidated buying**: Along with the Utah Academic Library Consortium mentioned above, the Library partners with the Greater Western Library Alliance, LYRASIS, and other partners to achieve improved pricing on key subscriptions. Because of these partnerships, for a cost of about $1 million, the Library receives content worth about $7 million each year.

- **Patron-driven programs**: Rather than only buying books and videos that we think patrons might value, the Library runs several "patron driven" acquisitions models. In these, librarians exert their professional judgment initially to narrow the scope of the materials made available, but later purchases of the individual items depends on actual use by Library patrons. Such programs open up huge quantities of content today while ensuring long-term access to those materials that patrons have used most.

- **Cancellations**: Along with regular, ongoing review of our subscriptions to ensure that funds are used cost-effectively, in 2017 we made some difficult decisions in order to cut annual database costs by over $300,000. By saving this amount annually, the Library has delayed needing to approach students for fee increases.

Transparency

In our accounting systems, we maintain separate fund codes to track student-fee expenses. As much as possible, we use the same fund as the previous year for subscription costs, which facilitates reporting on the specific resources acquired using student contributions. We share this information, including the information in this document, each year with USUSA’s Library Fee committee and are happy to share more widely as needed.
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**REVENUE RESOURCES**

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<td><strong>Carryforward</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Sales/Fees</strong></td>
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**EXPENSES**

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<td>$5,890,237.00</td>
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<td>$79,308.00</td>
<td>$79,308.00</td>
<td>$874,865.00</td>
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<td><strong>Systems licensing/hardware for students</strong></td>
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<td><strong>All other operation/maintenance expense</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>$7,622,457.00</td>
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**TOTAL EXPENDITURES**

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**DIFFERENCE**

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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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