Legislative Update on 2018 Funding
February 2019

History
The Utah Academic Library Consortium (UALC) was established in 1971 and consists of all public and not-for-profit private academic libraries in accredited institutions of higher education in the State of Utah. UALC receives funding from legislative appropriations and member dues. Private institutions pay for their share of collectively purchased resources. UALC members work together to enhance resources provided to Utah’s higher education communities.

Strategic Needs
UALC helps Utah students be successful in college, competitive in job markets, and engaged in the life of their communities by providing access to a rich set of information, resources and tools. Utah’s strategic workforce needs, especially in engineering and technology, science, health care, and business, require college graduates who are adept at using information to solve problems and create new products, technologies and services. The 2018 legislative funding of an additional $800,000 enabled Utah’s academic libraries to offer statewide higher education students access to significant new electronic journals and databases in targeted job-growth fields.

Principles for Collective Purchases

Common Resources for All
Establish and sustain equal access to a common core of resources for all Utah higher education students. No matter what institution a student attends, they should all have a common set of high quality resources that support success in their career goals and enhance civic life.

Specialized Resources
Support access to specialized resources that meet specific institutional and statewide priorities, such as workforce preparation in STEM fields, health care, business, and tourism.

Sustainable Shared Information Environment
Create a sustainable, shared information environment. We use our purchasing power to keep costs as low as possible and we support initiatives to keep course materials affordable for students across Utah.
New Resources Acquired in 2018 and 2019

- Nursing, health and wellness
- Engineering, science, and aviation
- Computer Science and information technology
- Business, hospitality and tourism

CINAHL Complete: A comprehensive collection of nursing and allied health information. This collection added thousands of full text articles for many institutions that previously had limited coverage.

Nursing Reference Center Plus: Provides evidence-based information for point of care, continuing education, and nursing research. Nursing students across the state now have access to a clinical tool that many will use in their future workplaces.

EBSCO Academic Search Ultimate: Added thousands of full text articles on a range of subjects, supporting the common core of resources that all USHE students should have. Also added significant new content in engineering, supporting curricula across the state.

New England Journal of Medicine and the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA): Added these two flagship medical journals to every USHE institutional collection.

ASME Periodicals Package: A subscription to the periodicals published by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. Added significant mechanical engineering content that supports the expansion of mechanical engineering programs at several USHE campuses.

IEEE Electronic Library /IEL: Expanded access to the premier electrical engineering and computer science database to Dixie State and Southern Utah University.

Scopus: An interdisciplinary database that supports research across a range of fields, but is particularly strong in STEM areas. Increased access for Snow College, Weber State University, UVU, SUU, Dixie, and SLCC. Supports a common core of resources across all institutions.

PsycInfo: Increased financial subsidy for a statewide subscription to PsycInfo, the premier psychology and behavioral health resource. UALC members partially fund this from their own collection budgets.

Sustainability plan

The cost for these new annual subscriptions is around $700,000. The remaining money was spent on one-time purchases of historical documents on Western history, women's history, and Supreme Court documents, to support the goal of a common core of library resources for all USHE institutions. Next year, we will use part of this $100,000 to pay for inflation on the cost of the new subscriptions, and we will purchase fewer one-time resources. This strategy will enable us to cushion inflationary increases and sustain the ongoing cost of the new resources for several years.