

University Centers Increase ScienceDirect Title Coverage and Benefit All

Cover Story

[University Center STP!](#)

Features

[University Centers Increase ScienceDirect Title Coverage](#)

[Next Group of Libraries begin ALEPH Implementation](#)

[Additional SUNYConnect Updates](#)

[Oswego's Sturr on \(partial\) Release Time to SUNY OLIS](#)

[SUNY and Morrisville are Wired \(and Wireless\)](#)

[Distinguished Librarian](#)

[How to Contact Us](#)

[Linkable Links](#)

[Link to the SUNYConnect Committees List](#)

When *SUNYConnect* access to [ScienceDirect](#) was negotiated in early 2001, it provided all campuses with about 712 online journals. Simply put, the agreement permits online access to all Elsevier journals that are subscribed to by at least one SUNY library, with OLIS picking up the cost of the "content fee." In addition, each of the subscriber libraries has to maintain its dollar expenditure for the three-year life of the agreement.

"Binghamton directly subscribes to 320 of these [ScienceDirect] titles. If Binghamton had subscribed to all of the titles as a single institution, it would have cost the University an additional 1.1 million dollars," Eleanor Heishman, Director of Libraries.

The ScienceDirect agreement also permits each library to make additions to and deletions from its title list, as long as its expenditure level is maintained. Because there are many duplicate print subscriptions for Elsevier titles among SUNY libraries, the new electronic access opened up the possibility of libraries collaborating to drop duplicate titles and add new ones not presently subscribed to anywhere in SUNY. This would result in all libraries having electronic access to the newly subscribed titles with no loss of access to the cancelled duplicates.

While all but about a dozen SUNY libraries subscribe to at least one Elsevier title, the four university centers collectively account for the largest number by far of Elsevier subscriptions, measured in both dollars and number of titles. Their commitment is about \$3,000,000 or about 75% of the SUNY total. While this placed a large burden on these libraries in particular, it also gave them the greatest opportunity to drop and add titles to the benefit of all.

First to step forward to seize this opportunity was the University at Buffalo, in the person of Michael Lavin, Coordinator of Electronic Collections. "The efforts of Michael and other staff members at UB to increase the number of ScienceDirect titles really personify the SUNYergy motto of 'libraries working together,'" Carey Hatch, Assistant Provost for Library and Information Services. At Michael Lavin's urging, an initial meeting was held in June, hosted at the University at Albany. Buffalo, including its Health Sciences library, and Albany were joined by representatives from Binghamton and Stony Brook, also including its Health Sciences Library, as well as Downstate Medical and Upstate Medical Universities. The Colleges of Arts and Sciences sent observers.

The meeting resulted in a general agreement by each library to evaluate its title lists to determine which subscriptions it might be able to drop in print and which new titles it might wish to add. This work was carried out over the summer and culminated in a second meeting, in September, again hosted by Albany. While not every library felt able to make changes at this time, several did submit drop and add lists for review, with most being prioritized. Based on these preferences, the expected "horse trading" took place among libraries in a very amicable and collaborative atmosphere. By the end of the meeting, a nearly final list of cancellations and additions was settled on. It only remained for each library to ensure that the changes would not effect its total expenditure commitment. These

details were worked out via e-mail and final lists were ready to be forwarded to Elsevier and the appropriate serial vendors by the end of October.

"By any measure, this voluntary collaboration of SUNY libraries has been a success. The university centers have collectively agreed to cancel 102 duplicate titles and enter new subscriptions to 164 titles not previously available anywhere in SUNY. It should be emphasized that the cancellations are of duplicate titles and will not result in loss of electronic access to any of them," says Mr. Larry Randall, SUNYConnect Coordinator. 164 new titles added to the 712 [currently available](#) electronically represents an increase of almost 25%. The new titles are available electronically SUNY-wide beginning in January 2002.

Thanks go to the University at Buffalo for taking the lead in this effort, in terms both of moving the process along and of the number of title changes made. Mike Lavin of Buffalo deserves a great deal of credit for this. Stony Brook also made a strong contribution to the number of titles affected. Thanks are due also to the University at Albany, especially Mary Casserly, for hosting these productive meetings, and to all participants for working so well together in a truly collegial effort. It bodes very well for a possible second round of cancellations and additions that is expected to be discussed during the first part of 2002.



<u>Cover Story</u>	<u>Feature</u>	<u>Feature</u>	<u>How to Contact Us</u>
University Center STP!	Next Group of Libraries begin ALEPH Implementation	SUNY and Morrisville are Wired (and Wireless)	Linkable Links
Feature		Distinguished Librarian	Link to the SUNYConnect Committees List
University Centers Increase ScienceDirect Title Coverage	Additional SUNYConnect Updates		
	Owsego's Sturr on (partial) Release Time to SUNY OLIS		