



# Engineering Library News

## July/August 1999

For more information on any topic please see our Web site at <http://www.lib.washington.edu/engineering/> or email us at [englib@u](mailto:englib@u.washington.edu).

### You may be interested to know...

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#### Information About New Books

<http://www.lib.washington.edu/engineering/newbooks/>

You can get information about new books at the Engineering Library in a variety of ways. By signing up for the email version of the new books service, you will get a list about once a week. You can scan this list for titles you would like to put on hold, then send it back to us with your library barcode number. Let us know at [englib@u](mailto:englib@u.washington.edu) if you'd like to sign up for this service. To see new engineering books received in the last several months, or new books from some other branches, go to:

<http://www.lib.washington.edu/services/delivery/booklists.html> /.

#### Electronic Journals – How We Get Them and Where We Keep Them

<http://www.lib.washington.edu/engineering/newbooks/>

The UW Libraries is continually purchasing electronic versions of journals and some books for your use. As publishers make electronic versions available, we work with them to provide access to the campus community. Some things we negotiate are price, access method, archiving, format, and intellectual property issues. Our goal is to make access as easy and uniform as possible.

Once we conclude negotiations and the campus has access, how can you find these resources? It's easy. You find electronic versions of journals the same way you find print versions: in the online catalog. The library catalogs online journals and books, and creates hyperlinks to them in the UW Libraries Catalog. You may also have noticed recently that sometimes you can connect from an record in an article database (such as Medline or INSPEC), directly to the online version of the article, bypassing the catalog completely. A final way to find out about electronic journals, and to see what we've obtained access to recently, is to check the subject lists on the Web. Take a look at [www.lib.washington.edu/subject/Engineering/](http://www.lib.washington.edu/subject/Engineering/).

### NEW This Month

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#### The Serials Crisis – More Questions and Answers

**Q. Are other research libraries engaged in cancellation projects similar to ours?** A. We are not alone, either in the region or nationally, in our efforts. See cancellation Web sites at the University of British Columbia ([www.library.ubc.ca/home/serialcan](http://www.library.ubc.ca/home/serialcan)) and the University of Oregon ([libweb.uoregon.edu/colldev/serialcn.html](http://libweb.uoregon.edu/colldev/serialcn.html)) for regional examples.

**Q. What kind of actions can faculty take to influence the journals crisis?**

- A. Become more informed about the high costs of journals in your field: ask your subject librarian about prices for particular titles or publishers that are consistently raising prices far above general inflation
- A. Refuse to support journals with exorbitant prices: refrain from submitting articles to these publications or serving on their editorial boards
- A. Expand your role as an editorial board member by discussing pricing issues with the journal's editors and publisher: encourage them to limit increases in the number of pages published each year and to make their acceptance standards more stringent
- A. Support the professional society, association, and university publishers
  - Choose to submit your articles to their publications
  - Recognize and encourage their leadership in the publication of electronic journals; recommend that they offer these journals at lower prices than print journals
  - Encourage them to continue to charge less for their journals than commercial publishers and to keep inflationary increases to a minimum
- A. Discuss journal pricing issues at faculty forums within the University and at meetings of professional societies and associations
- A. Acknowledge that research libraries can no longer afford to build comprehensive collections that may be used at some point in the future

We welcome comments on items in this newsletter, or on any library topic. To reach us, please send email to [englib@u](mailto:englib@u.washington.edu). If you'd like to be on our mailing list please email [pzilius@u](mailto:pzilius@u.washington.edu).