



香港特別行政區大學圖書館長聯席會

Joint University Librarians Advisory Committee

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Statement on the Current Financial Crisis and its Effects on JULAC Libraries' Budgets

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All JULAC libraries in Hong Kong will be facing cuts in their library budgets in the coming financial year. The University Grants Committee (UGC), the government committee that allocates funding to each of the eight government tertiary institutions in Hong Kong (the JULAC institutions), has indicated that all overall budgets will be reduced. JULAC libraries have been informed by their University administrators to expect reductions in their book votes. This will significantly impact upon our libraries abilities to purchase new bibliographic resources and renew current subscriptions.

JULAC asks publishers, vendors and aggregators to consider the impact that price increases for journals, database subscriptions, and print and ebooks will have on our libraries. JULAC asks that publishers and vendors also take into account more flexible pricing options for our libraries, such as price capping for multiple years, flexible payment options including the opportunity to pay for several years in advance with the current pricing model, allowing the ability to opt-out of multi-year agreements, using the number of concurrent users instead of using FTE as the basis for the pricing model, as well as minimizing price increases. JULAC Directors do not want to be in the position where they will have to consider cancelling major subscriptions if the price rises are too significant.

JULAC is collaborating with consortia around the world to work with publishers and vendors to achieve the best results for all concerned during this current financial crisis. JULAC has endorsed the International Coalition of Library Consortia (ICOLC) *Statement on the Global Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Consortial Licenses* of January 19, 2009 <http://www.library.yale.edu/consortia/icolc-econcrisis-0109.htm>.

JULAC invites publishers and vendors to contact JULAC's resource purchasing arm, *Consortiall*, to hold further discussions on how the current financial crisis is affecting its libraries.

Yours sincerely

Dr. Colin Storey

Chair, JULAC Consortiall Committee

University Librarian, The Chinese University of Hong Kong