



## MEMO

**TO:** UNC Health Affairs Deans and Directors  
**FROM:** Carol Jenkins, HSL Director *y*  
**DATE:** June 15, 2009  
**RE:** HSL Journal Review and Cancellation Process

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In response to the economic challenges we all are facing, the Health Sciences Library has begun to review our journals in anticipation of cancellations. A significant portion of our acquisitions budget (nearly 95%) is spent on recurring costs related to subscriptions, mostly journals. As these costs continue to rise and our budget dips, it is especially important to review our current subscriptions in terms of both their cost and their value.

Difficult times require difficult decisions. We are working to identify \$360,000 that need to be cut from our acquisitions budget in FY10. The average annual cost of a health sciences journal is \$1,400, so to meet this budget gap we may need to cut as many as 257 journals. We are exploring every alternative and are seeking feedback from across our user base to ensure that the tough decisions we have to make have the least impact on important scholarship and patient care. **I am asking today for your help in getting the word out to your faculty and staff**, so they can provide us with needed feedback to help us make these decisions.

### Getting Your Feedback

To facilitate obtaining feedback, we have developed a web [page](#) where you will find the list of [Cancellations Candidates](#), information on our [Cancellation Criteria](#), [FAQs](#) about the process, and our [Timeline](#). We value your opinion and encourage all of our users to participate in providing us feedback, using the website or any other means that you prefer.

### Criteria

We are looking at data like the number of times a journal is accessed online, its cost, and its overall value to our users. Our [Library Advisory Committee](#) advised us on this process and on our [Cancellation Criteria](#). The Committee is representative of all of the Health Affairs units and UNC Hospitals, and includes both faculty and student members.

### Timeline

Our [Timeline](#) for this process is based on required deadlines for negotiation with vendors. **The deadline to provide feedback is July 15, 2009.** Check our website for updates about how and when access to journals will be affected.

**Thank you in advance for sharing this information with your staff and colleagues**, and for providing your feedback to us during this process. If you have other suggestions, I hope you will [contact](#) me.