

October 25, 2012

Dr. Connie Shumake
Office of the Provost
University of Louisville
Louisville, KY 40292

Dear Connie:

The proposal for the Bachelor Degree in Public Health has been reviewed by James E. Manasco, Head, Collection Development for the University Libraries. The Libraries' collection of monographs, journals, and electronic resources are mostly adequate to support the proposed program.

The Libraries will continue to build collections to support existing programs to the degree possible with available funding.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Fox, Jr.
Dean, University Libraries

CC: Kira C. Taylor
Pete Walton
Neal Nixon, Director, Kornhauser Health Sciences Library
James E. Manasco, Head, Collection Development

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**EVALUATION OF LIBRARY RESOURCES
ESSENTIAL TO THE SUPPORT OF:
PROPOSED BACHELOR DEGREE IN PUBLIC HEALTH**

By

James E. Manasco
Head, Collection Development
University Libraries

Robert E. Fox, Jr.
Dean
University Libraries
October 25, 2012

OVERVIEW

The University of Louisville (U of L) Libraries are comprised of five separate libraries: the Ekstrom Library serving the humanities, social sciences, life sciences, business, engineering, physical science, and technology; the Kornhauser Health Sciences Library; the Law Library; the Anderson Music Library; and the Bridwell Art Library. In addition, the University Archives and Records Center is part of the library system. Materials relevant to Public Health can be found in Ekstrom and Kornhauser.

The Libraries support the instructional and research needs of almost 22,000 students and nearly 6,000 faculty and staff. The University Libraries are members of the State-Assisted Academic Library Council of Kentucky (SAALCK) and the Kentuckiana Metroversity, a consortium of libraries in the Louisville metropolitan area. In addition, the University of Louisville Libraries are a member of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL).

A review of library support for an academic program should include a review and analysis of all resources including the collections, services, staffing and facilities. This report provides such a review and analysis, along with recommendations in areas where resources appear to be lacking.

COLLECTIONS

I. BOOK COLLECTION

Proposing faculty identified several benchmark universities that have similar programs. We chose to review three of these universities holdings in public health via the WorldCat Collection Analysis Tool. The table below shows the comparison with UofL's Ekstrom and Kornhauser libraries:

Subject	University of Louisville	Kornhauser Health Sciences Library	Total for UofL	Temple University	University of South Carolina-Columbia	University of South Florida	Average for Benchmarks w/ Similar Programs
Health Professions & Public Health-Public Health	1745	674	2419	2665	2303	2505	2491

Our holdings are definitely within a reasonable amount of our benchmarks in this field. We anticipate no additional funds needed for acquiring monographs.

II. PERIODICAL COLLECTION

The University of Louisville Libraries currently receive multiple journals that support the proposed Public Health program. This is not surprising, as the University already supports a Master's program in the field. The following list shows recommended titles in this subject area from Kornhauser's libguide for Public Health:

- American Journal of Epidemiology
- American Journal of Preventive Medicine
- American Journal of Public Health
- American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene
- Annual Review
- BMC Public Health
- Bulletin of the World Health Organization (BLT)
- Epidemiology
- International Journal of Epidemiology
- Journal of Adolescent Health
- Journal of Occupational & Environmental Medicine
- Journal of Rural and Tropical Public Health
- Public Health Reports
- Social Science and Medicine
- Statistics in Medicine

In addition, the libraries provide many other journals that would support teaching and research in the realm of Public Health. Currently, we anticipate no additional journal coverage is necessary to support this new program.

III. BIBLIOGRAPHIC RESOURCES

Timely access to the current literature is at the heart of an academic program. Bibliographic resources provide access to this literature. Indexes and abstracts constitute the primary bibliographic resource. Through these bibliographic resources, faculty and students at the University of Louisville can identify books, reports and articles relevant to their studies and research. The U of L Libraries provides access to most of the major indexes and abstracts in medical and social science fields where U of L offers degree programs. Those covering literature relevant to a Public Health program are listed in the table below:

Major Indexes and Abstracts Covering Literature Relevant to Public Health

- Ageline
- CINAHL (Nursing)
- Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews
- Health and Psychosocial Instruments
- HSRPro
- Medline via Ovid
- Medline via PubMed (with UofL links)
- National Information Center on Health Services Research and Health Care Technology (NICHSR)
- Proquest Digital Dissertations
- PsycINFO (Ovid)
- RAND Health Publications
- Social Sciences Index
- TOXNET: Toxicology Data Network
- Web of Science

In addition, Kornhauser Library also subscribes to Public Health & Epidemiology Collection of e-books from Oxford University Press. The University Libraries provide numerous databases in a variety of fields to help support researchers in tangential areas of public health, as well.

SERVICES

I. DOCUMENT DELIVERY

Books and periodicals not held by the U of L Libraries are identified through online databases and the online union catalog, WorldCat, which includes more than 32 million records describing materials owned by libraries around the world. Materials are obtained through the traditional Interlibrary Loan (ILL) service, and supplemented by the University Libraries

participation in KUDZU, a consortium of major university libraries in the southeastern United States.

II. INFORMATION LITERACY & REFERENCE ASSISTANCE

Each library within the University of Louisville Libraries offers a program of instruction designed to meet the needs of that library's users. These programs help the users to make effective use of the services and collections in the individual libraries as well as libraries and information resources in general.

The University Libraries also provide reference assistance to faculty and students in locating specific information and verifying bibliographic citations. Reference assistance is offered most hours the libraries are open and is provided in person, via telephone and by e-mail.

STAFFING

The staffing of the University of Louisville Libraries compares favorably with the benchmark institutions but is low in comparison with ARL's. Librarians in the University Libraries provide users service and serve as liaisons to faculty in various departments.

FACILITIES

The Ekstrom Library has been enhanced recently with the addition of a new wing including a robotic retrieval system.

RECOMMENDATIONS

In general, with judicious use of interlibrary loan, the collections resources of the University of Louisville Libraries are mostly adequate to provide support for the proposed Bachelor Degree in Public Health. The facilities, services and staff of the Ekstrom and Kornhauser Libraries are adequate to meet the needs of the new program.

It must be noted, however, that, for the last few years, the general budget for the University of Louisville Libraries has not allowed for the purchase of many monographs due to the tremendous annual increases in periodical and database costs.

In spite of the financial challenges, we believe that current levels of funding will be sufficient to support this program.