

HIGHER EDUCATION LIBRARIES IN PARTNERSHIP (HELP) PROJECT



PART 4: JOURNALS CASE STUDY

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**WALES HIGHER EDUCATION LIBRARIES FORUM
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1. Summary of the HELP Journals Case Study

1.1 Recent comparative statistics¹ show that the HE sector as a whole in Wales has under-performed in terms of research output:

Staff numbers in 5 and 5 Departments*

Wales	315 *
England	448 *
Scotland	568 *

* Academic staff numbers for the last RAE exercise, standardised per million population

Scotland has 80% more staff in 5 or 5* departments than Wales; England has 40% more.

Staff numbers in 5 and 5 SET Departments*

Wales	101 *
England	228 *
Scotland	354 *

* Academic staff numbers for the last RAE exercise, standardised per million population

This suggests that the HE sector in Wales needs significant investment and support in its research infrastructure. In particular, access to research journals, the lifeblood of research activity, needs considerable improvement.

1.2 As with all academic libraries, expenditure on academic journals forms a substantial and growing element of the total spend of HE libraries in Wales. For 2001-02, eight HE libraries in Wales spent a total of £3,868,231² on journal subscriptions: roughly 20% of their total library budgets and 50% of their information budgets. The average expenditure on periodical subscriptions by Welsh HE libraries in 2001-02 was £451,600 which was 19% of their average total library expenditure and 47% of their average information provision expenditure³. This reflects the crucial role of academic journal subscriptions (print and electronic) for both research and learning. Pressure on institutions to perform well in the next Research Assessment Exercise will make the maintenance of journal subscriptions an essential factor in raising the research rating of HEIs in Wales.

¹ Davies, Richard. *Strategic directions*. Presentation delivered at UWS, 19 November 2003.

² Figures based on eight out of thirteen of HEI libraries in Wales (two libraries did not submit comparable data, two did not submit any data & one is not a member of SCONUL); from SCONUL ALS and HESA data.

³ SCONUL *Annual Library Statistics* (London: Society of College, National and University Libraries) and HESA data.

1.3 The expenditure on journal subscriptions by Welsh HE libraries has increased by an average of 40% over the last 6 years compared with a 16% average increase on their total library expenditure. As well as RAE pressures, this reflects the continuing high level of journal price inflation. In comparison, the average total expenditure on Welsh HE libraries has fallen. The continuing escalation in journal costs has also led to cancellations in subscriptions:

- *UWA*: 1999-2000 : 77; 2000-2001 : 162; 2001-2002 : 147; 2002-2003 : 83
- *UWB*: 23 print titles cancelled or ceased for subscription years Jan 2002- Dec 2003
- *UWIC*: 30 (in total)
- *Glamorgan*: 30 (in total)
- *UWCN*: 2002-2003: 36; 2001-2002: 7; 2000-2001: 15
- *UWS*: 65 print subs cancelled as from 2004.
- *SIHE*: 2003: 70; 2004: 3

1.4 These factors, along with the long track record of co-operation between Welsh HE libraries and the collaborative impetus of the *Reaching Higher* agenda, reinforce the need for further collaboration between Welsh HE libraries in this key area.

1.5 The Case Study has estimated a total of 31,764 print journal titles available in all HE libraries in Wales, including non-current titles and titles subscribed to by more than one institution (see section 8.1).

1.6 Initial estimates show that around 25,070 printed titles are unique to single institutions (unique HE library titles as % of HE library total = 79%; unique HE library titles as % of WHELP total (HE & NLW) = 51%). We need to ensure that, where feasible, these can be accessed by **all** HE researchers in Wales (see section 8.3).

1.7 The Case Study provides a snapshot of the growing trend towards e-journals and electronic only subscriptions. SCONUL *ALS* statistics show that from the total number of periodical titles taken by SCONUL libraries (average figures), an increasing number of these are available in both print and electronic format:

In 1999-00: of 5,699 total titles 654 were available both in print and electronic (12%)

In 2000-01: of 5,888 total titles 2,641 were available both in print and electronic (45%)

In 2001-02: of 6,489 total titles 3,814 were available both in print and electronic (59%)

These statistics further indicate an increased expenditure on periodicals received in electronic format only:

In 1999-00: of a total of £611,001 spent on periodicals, £46,322 was on electronic only (8%)

In 2000-01: of a total of £532,655 spent on periodicals, £49,349 was on electronic only (9%)

In 2001-02: of a total of £574,796 spent on periodicals, £78,932 was on electronic only (14%)

As with all other trends, rates of adoption vary from institution to institution within Wales. However, it is noticeable that, despite lower subscription costs from JISC banding structures, the smaller HEIs in Wales have far fewer e-journal title subscriptions (see section 8.2). This probably reflects the research-driven nature of e-journal adoption in the larger institutions as well as the scientific bias of the initial e-journal bundles.

1.8 Most HEIs are either currently using or plan to use an e-journal management system and Open URLs.

1.9 There is a variety of practice in terms of walk-in access to e-journals (see Appendix 10.1 Questionnaire, section 3).

1.10 The data on the subject coverage in Wales in terms of core journals (see section 8.5) obviously reflects the subject range of individual institutions. It also shows some gaps in core journal availability, which needs resolution to improve the research performance of the sector.

1.11 The Questionnaire (see Appendix 10.1) shows that most of the larger HE libraries in Wales face worsening accommodation problems for journals and other stock (see Section 9).

1.12 All HE libraries in Wales make heavy use of the Athens service as a means of providing remote, validated access to e-resources. All of the libraries bar one are also members of the SCONUL Research Extra access scheme for academic staff and research postgraduates. This replicates the former WHELP WALIA scheme on a UK-wide basis.

1.13 The National Library of Wales is by far the largest library in Wales and is the only legal deposit library in the country. The Case Study has demonstrated the value of the NLW to HE researchers. The Library has an estimated 21,534 current subscriptions to journals of interest to HE, of which 36% are unique subscriptions not taken by any HE libraries in Wales and of which 83% are unique NLW titles as a percentage of NLW total. The estimated value of the NLW's current academic journal subscriptions is £72,595 for 2002/03 (see section 7.3).

2. Recommendations

2.1 **Data Collection:** The difficulty in obtaining comparative data for the Case Study (even from published sources) has shown the need for all HE libraries in Wales to maintain and contribute a WHELP set of management statistics. This is essential to be able to monitor

developments, reveal gaps in provision, benchmark performance and efficiency and to identify potential duplication. As a legal deposit library which cannot lend material, the National Library of Wales also has an understandable gap in its management information on which of its journals are consulted and by whom. It would be helpful if the NLW could establish some information on the extent of use of its academic journals and of its customer base in the HE community.

Action: WHELF; NLW

2.2 Resource Discovery: HE researchers in Wales need to know where essential journal titles are available, in all Welsh HE libraries and in the National Library of Wales. Mechanisms for the delivery of this, from a union journals title for Wales to less expensive options like effective Z39.50 enablement need further investigation.

Action: WHELF; CyMAL; HEFCW

2.3 Access: The current SCONUL Research Extra access and loans scheme for academic staff and research postgraduates needs more active promotion to the HE community in Wales. Consideration should be given by WHELF to more extensive access and loan schemes for a wider range of HE customers (possibly on a city-wide or regional basis). Further publicity also needs to be given to the National Library of Wales's access arrangements for HE researchers.

Action: WHELF; NLW

2.4 Collection Management: A commitment to effective collaborative collection management should be one of WHELF's primary strategic aims. Two initial areas for activity are listed under 2.5 and 2.6. Opportunities for cross-sectoral collection management within Wales under the aegis of CyMAL should also be explored.

Action: WHELF; CyMAL

2.5 Collaborative Acquisition: A collaborative approach to subscribing to e-journal bundles from publishers should be examined to see if any additional cost benefits can be obtained compared to UK-wide deals.

Action: WHELF

2.6 Collaborative Storage: The cost benefits of a collaborative approach to shared storage of low-use research material should be investigated. This could be on a regional or a Wales-wide basis. The involvement of the National Library of Wales in this process could be mutually beneficial, as with the CASS project between Scottish HE libraries and the National Library of Scotland.

Action: WHELF; HEFCW; NLW

2.7 National Library of Wales Marketing: The NLW has made a significant improvement in resource discovery over the last few years, with all current journal holdings in its web catalogue and a planned contribution to the SUNCAT project. The Library has also adopted an innovative and effective marketing strategy. However, it is still apparent that many academic staff in Wales are not aware of the value and breadth of the NLW's holdings and a joint marketing campaign between WHELP and the NLW needs to be considered to reinforce this.

Action: NLW; WHELP

2.8 Core Titles: The core titles methodology outlined in section 8.5 should be investigated further, as a tool for benchmarking collections and as a method of collaborative journal provision.

Action: WHELP; HEFCW

3. Collaborative Collection Management

The HELP Collaboration Review of Welsh HE libraries and the recent RSLG Report¹ both promote the concept of national and HE library collections as part of a single national resource whose future development and use should increasingly be managed on a collaborative basis. This approach will not only provide scholars with enhanced access to research resources but will also enable libraries to make more cost-effective use of scarce resources. Although various suggestions concerning the collaborative acquisition and retention of different categories of material emerged during the course of the HELP Collaboration Review, particularly in relation to closer collaboration with the NLW, no detailed work on the feasibility of such proposals has yet been possible.

The purpose of this Case Study was to explore the practicality of such proposals by:

- identifying some of the generic issues associated with collaborative collection management
- highlighting the conditions that would have to exist for this to take place, along with the barriers that would have to be overcome and the potential benefits that might potentially accrue.

Journal literature was used as the demonstrator material in view of its fundamental importance to the needs of researchers, the difficulties libraries experience in satisfying

¹ Research Support Libraries Group (2003). *Research Support Libraries Group Final Report*.

academic demand in periods of financial constraint and the major changes the electronic revolution is currently provoking in the journal landscape. The degree to which academic and NLW journal holdings can be better integrated and exploited also constituted a priority theme.

4. Journals Case Study Project Plan

4.1 Terms of reference

To explore options for providing HE researchers in Wales with enhanced access to a much wider body of journal literature than can be realistically provided within any single institution. This would be delivered through improved resource discovery, shared access, collaborative acquisition and retention strategies across institutional and sectoral boundaries.

4.2 Objectives

- a) To collect and collate data and information on the print and electronic journal holdings of WHELP libraries in order to assess the degree of overlap and duplication that currently exists.
- b) To collect and compare information on the policies and procedures employed by WHELP libraries for the selection, acquisition, retention and use of both print and electronic journal collections.
- c) To establish a profile of academic and national library journal collections and to assess what scope there might be for rationalisation and greater collaboration in the acquisition, retention and use of journal collections.
- d) To prepare recommendations for incorporation into the final HELP report and action plan on the generic issues highlighted by the Case Study.

4.3 Study outline

The Journals Case Study reviewed the acquisition, provision and support of journals (e-journals and print) across all WHELP libraries (HE and the National Library of Wales). In order to meet the objectives of the Case Study, it was first necessary to collect the statistics and data necessary to provide a basis for analysis of journal collection management throughout these libraries.

a) *Data collection*: The first phase was the collection of statistical and bibliographical data and general information on arrangements for the management and use of journal collections in all specified libraries. Policies and practices regarding electronic journals were given particular attention. Statistical data was gathered from published data including the *SCONUL Annual Library Statistics*¹ and HCLRG statistics² where available (see Appendix 10.2). Questionnaires were sent out to collection development staff in individual libraries to fill in the gaps in data which could not be met by the available SCONUL or HCLRG statistics (see Appendix 10.2). Attached to the questionnaires was a request for an electronic list of print and electronic journal subscription titles (including ceased and cancelled) with ISSN and holdings data where available in order to produce a comparative list of holdings. Libraries were also asked to provide their acquisition and retention policies.

b) *Stock analysis*: The second phase was to construct a profile of the principal characteristics that define academic and national library collections and their use in order to inform future strategy, highlighting:

- the financial investment in maintaining local journal collections
- the degree of overlap in current subscriptions and retrospective holdings
- institutional acquisition and retention policies
- strategies for dealing with both print and electronic journals
- the quality and format of bibliographical records
- arrangements for various modes of access, including browsing, reference and borrowing

c) *Evaluation*: The final phase was to consider the relationship between, and characteristics of, academic and national library holdings of journal literature and the extent to which practical measures to co-ordinate and integrate provision for the benefit of both researchers and partner institutions are likely to be possible. Issues were considered at a strategic rather than an individual institutional level and areas suitable for more detailed subsequent investigation identified. Recommendations have been made for those areas likely to offer realistic prospects of progress.

4.4 Case Study Deliverables

- A detailed profile of the distribution and main characteristics of journal collections across the HE library sector and the degree to which they complement those of the NLW

¹ SCONUL *Annual Library Statistics* (Society of College, National and University Libraries)

² HCLRG Statistics (Higher Education College Learning Resources Group)

- A summary and analysis on the generic issues, barriers and considerations that need to be taken into account when proposals for collaborative collection management are being investigated
- Recommendations on the feasibility of collaborative actions in respect of the future management and use of journal collections across institutions

4.5 Project Management

The Journals Case Study was managed by a Steering Group consisting of:

- Mike Hopkins, Director of Information Services, University of Wales Aberystwyth
- Non Jenkins, Head of Acquisitions, National Library of Wales
- Elizabeth Kensler, University of Wales Aberystwyth
- Chris West, Director of Library & Information Services, University of Wales Swansea

Elizabeth Kensler was seconded to the Case Study on a part-time basis to collect data, undertake stock analysis and evaluation. Regular meetings were held to evaluate progress and analyse data.

5. Management and journals statistics

An important first step of the Case Study was to build up a snapshot of key comparative statistics for all WHELF libraries to provide a basis from which to later compare and analyse specific journals data and information. It was acknowledged, however, that there would be a problem with availability of these statistics from all WHELF libraries and that it would be unlikely that both WHELF libraries and the NLW would collect comparable statistics.

The SCONUL *Annual Library Statistics* and HCLRG Statistics publications were able to provide statistics for years from 1994/95 to the most recent return available 2002/03 where submitted by each HEI library. However, for the 2001/02 SCONUL publication only eight out of thirteen HEIs in Wales submitted returns. Furthermore, two libraries had not provided statistics to SCONUL ALS since 1995/96, one since 1999/2000, another had not submitted returns for a three year period and two institutions were not members of SCONUL (one has since joined and has completed returns for the 2002/03 period). Those libraries which had not provided statistics to SCONUL ALS for a number of years or which had gaps in coverage were requested to provide this data for the necessary periods for the purposes of the Case Study. It was acknowledged that it was possible that this data was not available, if not submitted to SCONUL initially.

The NLW does not have to submit these same statistics to SCONUL but was able to provide some basic statistics on journals expenditure, number of serials titles held (from LISU Annual Library Statistics returns) for 1997/98-2001/02 and details of the number of titles in the Legal Deposit collection and their estimated value for 1992/92-1998/99. It was established through the Case Study that it was not possible to get figures for journal usage at the NLW, whether on journals requested or on category of user. It was agreed that this information would have been a useful contribution to the debate on the usage and value of research journals held in the NLW.

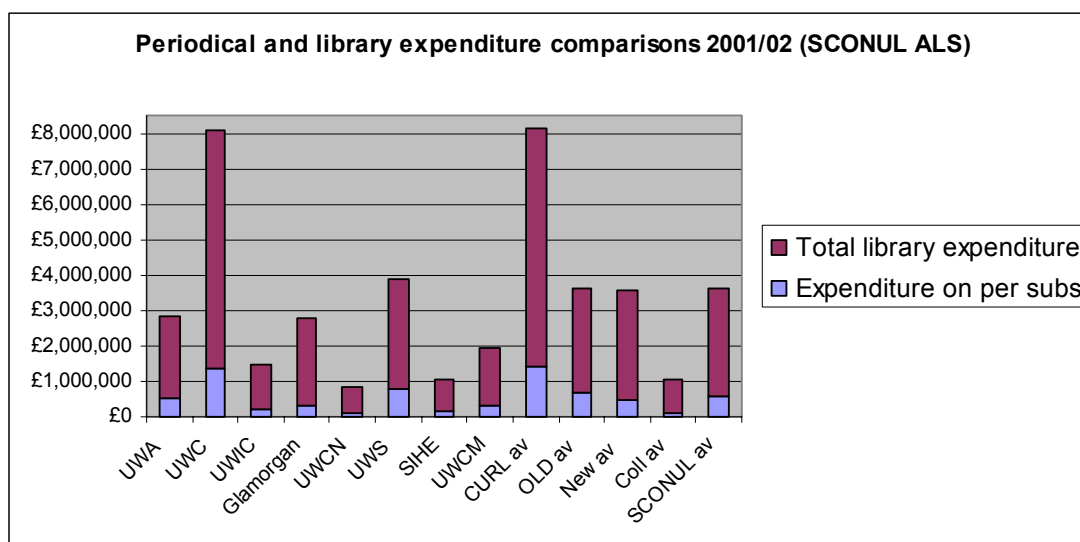
6. Policy and procedure questionnaires (See Appendix 10.1)

Two questionnaires were circulated. The first was on a general collection management theme, including questions on access to journals, e-journal subscriptions, storage requirements, InterLibrary Loans (ILLs) and library management systems and tools. The second included more data-type questions which complemented the data collected from SCONUL returns. It was stressed to those filling out both questionnaires that where data was not available or easily accessible, such as usage figures for print and electronic journals, that these areas should be left empty. Eleven out of thirteen libraries completed and returned Questionnaire 1 and nine out of thirteen libraries for Questionnaire 2. From the results of the questionnaires a clearer picture of the range of journal management activities undertaken in each library emerges and the scope for increased collaborative activity, for example in the areas of shared storage and/or collaborative purchase can be established.

7. Expenditure

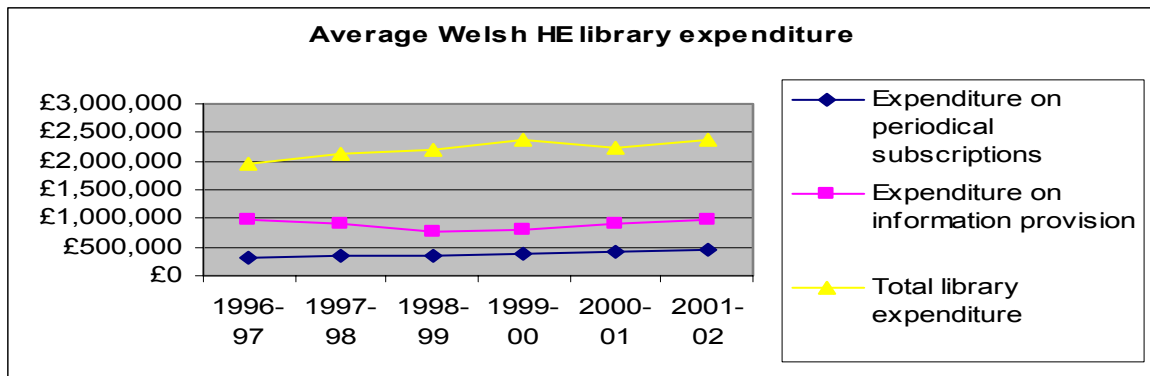
7.1 Periodical and library expenditure comparisons 2001/02 (from SCONUL ALS)

2001-02	Periodical subs. expenditure	Total library expenditure	Information provision expenditure
UWA	£525,084	£2,315,272	£885,184
Cardiff	£1,370,957	£6,719,389	£2,963,476
UWIC	£232,077	£1,253,079	£589,841
Glamorgan	£339,109	£2,449,579	£905,978
UWCN	£117,126	£733,580	£272,765
UWS	£810,593	£3,082,806	£1,254,197
SIHE	£135,203	£928,732	£262,325
UWCM	£338,082	£1,585,301	£570,009
Total Welsh	£3,868,231	£19,067,738	£7,703,775



7.2 Average Welsh HE library expenditure (from SCONUL ALS)

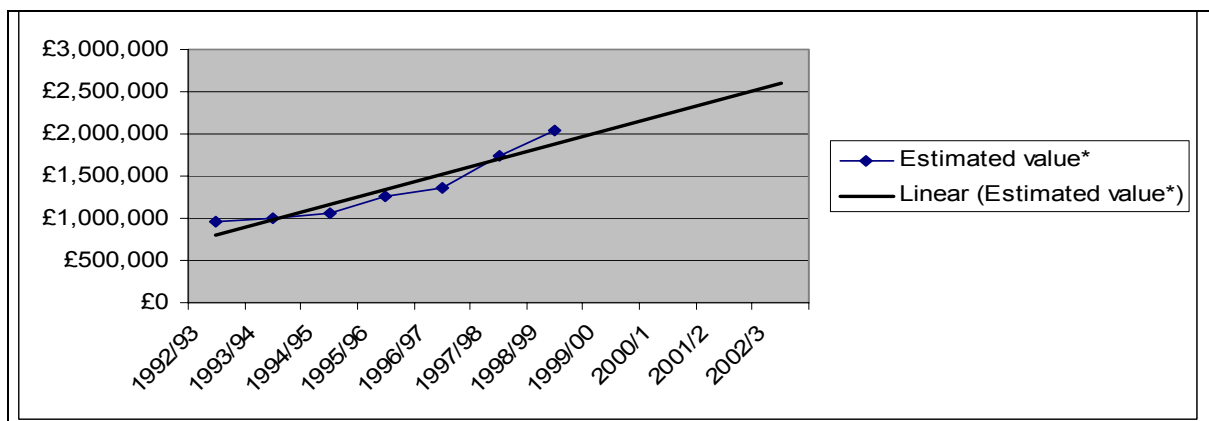
Expenditure on periodical subscriptions						
	2001-02	2000-01	1999-00	1998-99	1997-98	1996-97
Wales av	£451,600	£420,800	£367,357	£338,672	£351,883	£321,907
CURL av	£1,440,902	£1,433,053				
OLD av	£678,732	£661,374				
New av	£465,338	£429,827				
Coll av	£100,999	£95,836				
SCONUL av	£574,796	£532,655	£611,001	£544,732	£508,302	£495,564
Expenditure on information provision						
	2001-02	2000-01	1999-00	1998-99	1997-98	1996-97
Wales av	£966,530	£904,571	£792,327	£750,115	£901,237	£984,461
CURL av	£2,482,911	£2,501,236				
OLD av	£1,162,252	£1,156,028				
New av	£1,040,643	£1,018,696				
Coll av	£263,723	£249,239				
SCONUL av	£1,088,390	£1,045,077	£1,232,395	£1,139,755	£1,099,810	£1,044,465
Total library expenditure						
	2001-02	2000-01	1999-00	1998-99	1997-98	1996-97
Wales av	£2,383,467	£2,226,430	£2,369,782	£2,194,281	£2,133,740	£1,966,301
CURL av	£6,675,220	£6,239,530				
OLD av	£2,946,170	£2,864,654				
New av	£3,103,785	£3,021,892				
Coll av	£923,501	£816,845				
SCONUL av	£3,065,624	£2,784,876	£3,502,559	£3,287,641	£3,326,074	£3,137,558



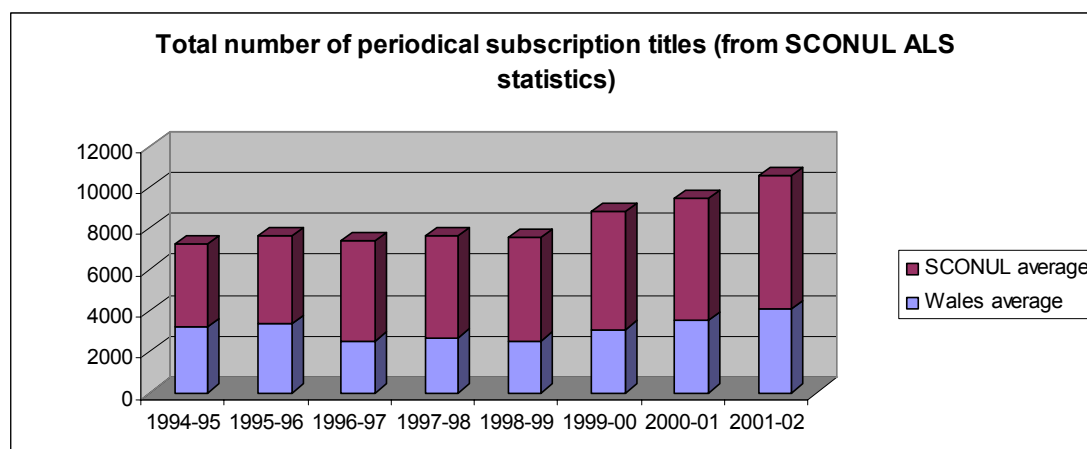
7.3 NLW expenditure on serials / subscriptions

	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03
Print	£87,473	£75,838	£72,595
Microform	£67,247	£99,061	£108,167
CD-ROM etc	£16,832	£23,034	£20,177
Online	£32,370	£35,747	£33,961

Estimated value of NLW Legal Deposit journals



8. Profile of journal collections in Welsh HEIs and the NLW



8.1 Print Journals

Following the request for lists of print journal titles (including ceased and cancelled subscriptions) with ISSN and holdings data, an alphabetical list of print journal titles held by HEI libraries in Wales and the National Library of Wales was developed. Only two institutions did not submit print journal lists. The list below indicates the number of print journal titles subscribed to by each library.

- University of Glamorgan (1,669)
- Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama (81)
- Swansea Institute of Higher Education (1,541)
- Trinity College Carmarthen (413)
- University of Wales, Aberystwyth (12,433)
- Cardiff (15,027)
- University of Wales College of Medicine (2,061)
- University of Wales College, Newport (664)
- University of Wales Institute, Cardiff (1,565)
- University of Wales, Lampeter (515)
- University of Wales Swansea (9,765)
- National Library of Wales (21,534)

Estimated number of print journal titles currently subscribed to by Welsh HE libraries = **45,734**
(includes titles held by more than one institution and non-current subscriptions)

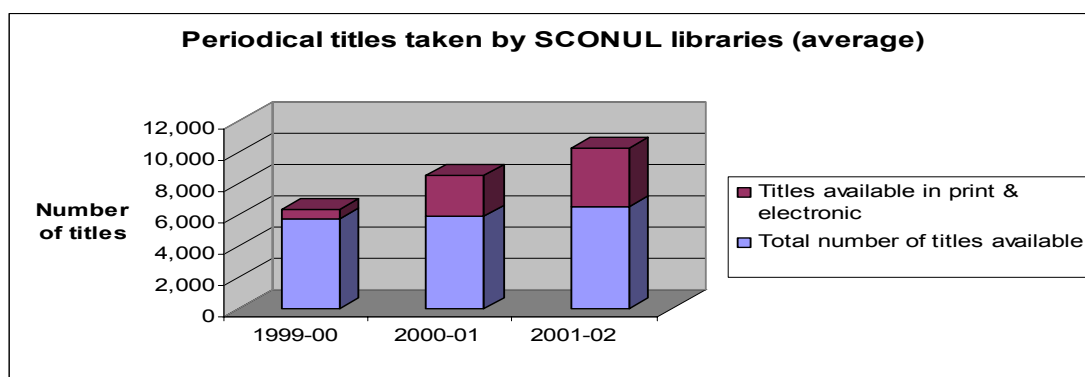
Estimated total number of print journals titles held by WHELP (HE & NLW) libraries = **67,268**

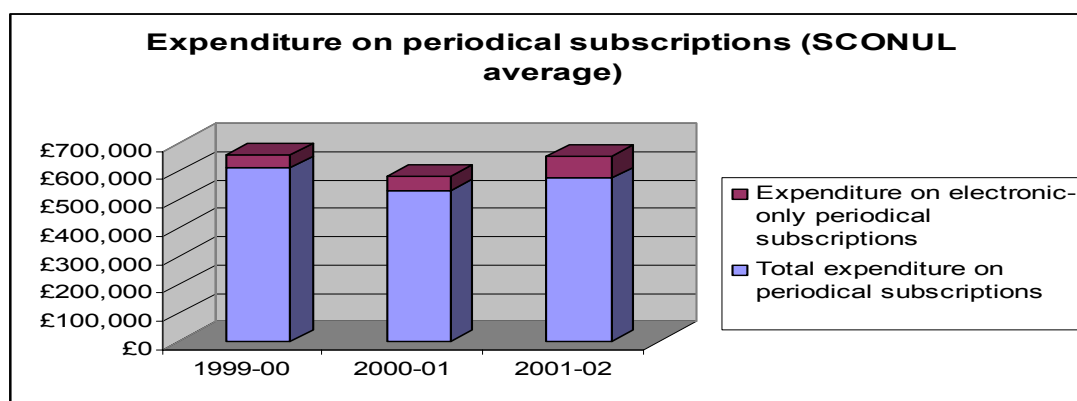
8.2 Electronic Journals

Following the request for electronic journal subscription titles (including ceased and cancelled), an alphabetical list of electronic journal titles held by HEI libraries in Wales was developed. Only one institution did not submit an electronic journal list and two institutions did not subscribe to electronic journal collections. The list below indicates the number of electronic journal titles subscribed to by each library.

- University of Glamorgan (5,965)
- North East Wales Institute, Wrexham (144)
- Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama (11)
- Swansea Institute of Higher Education (422)
- Trinity College Carmarthen (21)
- University of Wales, Aberystwyth (2,577)
- University of Wales, Cardiff (8,170)
- University of Wales College of Medicine (2,494)
- University of Wales College, Newport (920)
- University of Wales Institute, Cardiff (330)
- University of Wales, Swansea (6,965)

Estimated number of e-journal titles currently subscribed to by Welsh HEI libraries = **28,019**
(includes titles held by more than one institution)





8.3 Unique titles (print and/or electronic titles held by only one HE institution)

E-journals:

Estimated number of unique titles held by Welsh HEI libraries = **8,006**

Print journals:

Estimated number of unique titles held by Welsh HEI libraries = **25,070** (not compared with NLW titles)

Estimated number of unique titles held by NLW = **17,837** (i.e. not held in HEI libraries)

Further investigation is needed to establish the nature of these unique titles and their potential value to the rest of the HE community in Wales and to other users throughout Wales.

8.4 National Library of Wales journals

Legal Deposit = 17,268

Donation / Exchange / Deposit titles = 2,793

Purchase / Subscription = 1,442

Those both Donation / Exchange / Deposit & Purchase / Subscription = 31

Total current titles = **21,534**

NLW Unique titles = 17,837 (i.e. not held by a Welsh HEI library)

Unique NLW titles as % of NLW total = 83%

Unique NLW titles as % of WHELF total = 36%

NLW User statistics:

Users from HEIs: The proportion of readers noting 'formal education as student / researcher / teacher' as the main reason for visiting the Library in the NLW quarterly reader surveys:

40% April - June 2003

36% July - September 2003

61% October - December 2003

	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02
No. of users (Books and serials)	21,405	22,439	19,746	19,691	20,766
No. of issue slips (Books and serials)	76,703	95,458	84,302	76,445	80,618

8.5 Subject areas covered by WHELP libraries' journal collections

In order to get an indication of the subject coverage of the journal collections of WHELP libraries, both the lists of print journals and electronic journals lists were compared against subject lists of journals and annotated to indicate print and electronic availability in each Welsh HEI and in the National Library of Wales. Those subject lists taken from the ISI *Journal Citation Reports 2002 (JCR)* are ranked by impact factor within each subject area. The *JCR* only cover science and social sciences subjects and show a United States emphasis (due to coverage of the ISI Web of Science database). Where possible other collections of journals in humanities and social science subjects have been used to give a UK perspective (rather than the US emphasis from *JCR*) as well as to show alternative methods of assessing research collections by subject. It is acknowledged that this is a rather mechanistic method for assessing subject coverage of WHELP journal collections. These subject lists do not indicate definitive core collections of journals in any subject area and are intended merely as one means of assessing subject coverage of journals throughout Welsh HEI and the NLW.

Core journals in the following subject areas were identified with the stated tool:

- Top 100 Science journals (*JCR*)
- Top 20 Biology journals (*JCR*)
- Top 20 Chemistry journals (*JCR*)
- Top 20 Computer Science journals (*JCR*)
- Top 20 Engineering journals (*JCR*)
- Top 20 Maths journals (*JCR*)
- Top 20 Physics journals (*JCR*)
- Top 20 Sports Science journals (*JCR*)
- Top 100 Social Sciences journals (*JCR*)
- Top 20 Business journals (*JCR*)

- 290 Education journals (*British Education Index*)
- Top 20 Education journals (*JCR*)
- 50 English Studies journals (*Annotated Bibliography for English Studies*)
- 538 History journals (*Royal Historical Society Bibliography*)
- Top 20 History journals (*JCR*)
- Top 20 InterPol / Politics journals (*JCR*)
- 29 Law journals (*The Society of Legal Scholars*)
- Top 20 Law journals (*JCR*)
- Top 20 Psychology journals (*JCR*)
- 141 Welsh Studies journals (*The Bibliography of Wales*)

While generally providing a snapshot of the teaching and research areas within each individual institution, this data on core journal availability has been a useful tool for highlighting some gaps in core journal availability. The full range of journal subject coverage reports are included in the HELP Journals Case Study website (see Appendix 10.2). An example is shown below:

29 Law journals (*The Society of Legal Scholars*)

Given here is a comparison against the “Indicative list of Law Library holdings (1995, REVISED 1999). England & Wales: Journals” taken from *A Library for the modern law school. A Statement of Standards for University Law Library provision in the United Kingdom* prepared on behalf of the Society by a Consultative Group to the Libraries Committee. Convenor: Jules Winterton. 2003 revision.

Summary of holdings of WHELP libraries: UWA: 26 of 29; NLW: 24 of 29; Cardiff: 23 of 29; Glamorgan: 18 of 29; UWS: 17 of 29; SIHE: 12 of 29; UWIC: 4 of 26; UWCN: 4 of 26

Journal title	Held in print:	Held electronically:
<i>All England Law Reports Annual Review (1982-)</i>	UWA, NLW	
<i>Anglo-American Law Review (1972-)</i>	UWA, Cardiff, UWS, NLW	
<i>Bracton Law Journal (1965-)</i>	Glamorgan, UWA	
<i>Cambrian Law Review (1970-)</i>	SIHE, UWA, Cardiff, UWS, Glamorgan, NLW	SIHE; Cardiff; Glamorgan; UWS; UWA
<i>Cambridge Law Journal (1921-)</i>	SIHE, UWA, Cardiff, UWS, Glamorgan, UWIC, NLW	
<i>Contemporary Issues in Law (1995-)</i>	UWS, NLW	
<i>Counsel (1985-)</i>	Glamorgan, UWA, Cardiff, NLW	
<i>Current Legal Problems (1948-)</i>	UWA, Cardiff, UWS, Glamorgan, NLW	
<i>Denning Law Journal (1986-)</i>	SIHE, UWA, NLW	
<i>Edinburgh Law Review (1996-)</i>	Cardiff, UWS, NLW	
<i>Holdsworth Law Review (1968-)</i>	UWA, Cardiff	
<i>Journal of the Society of Public Teachers of Law (1924-1980)</i>	UWA, Cardiff, UWS	Cardiff
<i>Juridical Review (1889-)</i>	UWA, Cardiff, UWS, NLW	Cardiff
<i>Kings College Law Journal (1990-)</i>	UWA, NLW	
<i>Kingston Law Review (1968-1985)</i>	UWA, Cardiff	

<i>Law Librarian (1970-)</i>	UWA, Cardiff, NLW	
<i>Law Quarterly Review (1885-)</i>	SIHE, UWA, Cardiff, UWS, Glamorgan, NLW	Cardiff Glamorgan, CARDIFF, UWA
<i>Law Society's Gazette (1903-)</i>	Glamorgan, UWA, Cardiff, NLW	
<i>Law Teacher (1967-)</i>	SIHE, UWA, Cardiff, UWS, Glamorgan, NLW	
<i>Legal Executive (1963-)</i>	SIHE, Glamorgan, UWCN, NLW	
<i>Legal Studies (1981-)</i>	SIHE, UWA, Cardiff, UWS, Glamorgan, NLW	Cardiff
<i>Liverpool Law Review (1979-)</i>	UWA, Cardiff, UWS, Glamorgan, NLW	Cardiff, UWCN, UWS, UWA
<i>Modern Law Review (1937-)</i>	SIHE, UWA, Cardiff, UWS, Glamorgan, UWCN, UWIC, NLW	SIHE; Cardiff; UWCN; UWIC; UWS; Glamorgan; UWA
<i>New Law Journal (1965-)</i>	SIHE, UWA, Cardiff, UWS, Glamorgan, UWCN, UWIC, NLW	UWA
<i>Northern Ireland Legal Quarterly (1936-)</i>	UWA, Cardiff, UWS, Glamorgan	
<i>Nottingham Law Journal (1992-)</i>	UWA, Cardiff, UWS, Glamorgan, NLW	
<i>Oxford Journal of Legal Studies (1981-)</i>	SIHE, UWA, Cardiff, UWS, Glamorgan, NLW	Glamorgan; SIHE; Cardiff; UWS; UWA
<i>Solicitors' Journal (1857-)</i>	SIHE, UWA, Cardiff, UWS, Glamorgan, UWIC, NLW	
<i>Student Law Review (1990-)</i>	SIHE, UWA, Cardiff, Glamorgan, NLW	

9. Storage

9.1 The Journals Case Study has shown that most HE libraries in Wales face a worsening problem in accommodating their stock (see Appendix 10.1 - Questionnaire, sections 14 to 21). Seven out of the eleven respondents are experiencing a shortage of space for library materials: UWB, Cardiff, UWIC, Glamorgan, UWCN, UWS, and UWCM. Significantly, this includes all of the research-led and larger institutions, excluding Aberystwyth which has, over the last few years, made a substantial investment in a large external library store.

9.2 The main driver for stock expansion is the continuing pressure for research excellence. In view of the relative under-performance of Welsh HE in research output (see 1.2), then this will be a major factor for all research-led Welsh HEIs. If universities are committed to improving their research ratings, then they will want to retain access to relatively low-use material (journals and monographs) which retains a high potential research value. This is true not only for the Humanities, but also for a large number of the Sciences, including Mathematics, Chemistry, Zoology and so on. Most research-led universities in the UK have set up external library stores to accommodate their lesser-used research material. The design and service parameters of these are broadly similar. The stores are usually in single-storey warehouse-type buildings in relatively inexpensive, off-campus locations. Next working day delivery (and/or document delivery) meets researchers needs, with some stores encouraging visits¹.

¹ Blount, J *New remote store for Glasgow University Library* SCONUL Newsletter, 29, 72-74.

9.3 A number of Welsh HEIs have already invested in institutional library stores over the last couple of decades (see Appendix 10.1 – Questionnaire, section 15). By now, the capacity of these stores has been outgrown, apart from the relatively recent store for Aberystwyth. Further investment in library stores on a separate basis for these institutions will be an expensive option, either in terms of capital investment (as was the case for Cardiff's two stores), ongoing leasing costs (around £25K p.a. for Aberystwyth) and retrieval/staffing costs (estimated at around £25K p.a. for the Cardiff stores). The HELP Project recommends that a collaborative approach to the provision of library stores for HE research in Wales should be investigated as a matter of urgency. A collaborative approach in this area would appear to have the potential for considerable long-term savings in both capital investment and running costs:

- a. It seems self-evident that it is an inefficient use of HEFCW resources for most of the HE libraries in Wales to continue to make entirely separate capital and revenue investment in separate institutional library stores. This is a problem which needs resolution over the next few years and a collaborative approach would appear to have a number of cost and service advantages.
 - b. Collaborating over the storage of research material is clearly consistent with the strategic aims of the *Reaching Higher* agenda. The establishment of a shared research resource for HE researchers in Wales could exemplify the need for research collaboration. It could also be argued that infrastructural collaboration of this sort is more cost-effective and achievable than the inevitable high costs and complexities of institutional mergers. Sharing research storage could lead to more extensive platform collaboration for libraries, IT and administrative systems.
 - c. A shared research store would have additional long-term cost and space benefits arising from the de-duplication of stock: only one shared copy of a journal run or of a monograph would be retained. The sharing of service costs (staffing, delivery, resource discovery) will also reduce overheads for the individual institutions involved.
 - d. There are a number of existing models for a shared research store of this type, including those in Australia, Scotland and state-wide systems in the US (see section 4.6 of the *Collaboration Review* section). In particular, the CASS (Collaborative Academic Store Scotland) project in Scotland, which is being developed by our sister organisation SCURL (Scottish University and Research Libraries), will be a valuable source of information and advice.
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- e. Following recent Freedom of Information legislation, all HEIs in Wales have a new and considerable accommodation requirement arising out of their new records management systems and retention policies. Encouragingly, most HEIs in Wales have been collaborating to various degrees on FOI and records management. It could be a logical next step and cost-effective to share the storage of records (with confidentiality preserved) as part of a shared library store.
- f. As with the Scottish and Australian models, shared HE research stores offer exciting possibilities for integrated storage with the national library of that country: the National Library of Scotland is providing the initial accommodation for the CASS project. A linkage between a HE research store and some of the National Library of Wales's stock would provide HE researchers in Wales with a powerful tool to achieve research excellence, as well as further consolidating the already well-established collaboration between the National Library and HE.

9.4 The HELP Project recommends to HEFCW that further investigation is made of the cost, research and service benefits of a collaborative approach to a HE research store. As well as building on the CASS experience, further areas for investigation and cost-benefit analysis should include:

- a. The difficult geography of Wales suggests that next-day physical delivery of material for every part of Wales from a single store may be impractical. Regional and local alternatives, particularly for South Wales, may be a more effective approach.
- b. Initial discussions suggest that there is a clear relationship between the research commitment of an institution and the need for a research store. The more teaching-based HEIs in Wales may not wish to participate or may only have a small stock contribution. In view of this, a cost comparison of alternative methods of providing lower-use research material (Inter-Library Loans, document delivery, &c) needs further investigation.
- c. The electronic provision of journal articles by e-journal bundles is rapidly becoming the norm. This factor also needs consideration in any cost analysis: would it be more effective to invest in retrospective e-journal services like JSTOR and ScienceDirect Backfiles? Initial investigations suggest that it may be some time before retrospective e-journal coverage meets HE researchers' needs:

- Most e-journals only go back to the mid-1990s. Although initiatives like JSTOR are extremely welcome, the number of fully retrospective e-journals is miniscule, compared to total print output.
- Concerns remain over archiving of e-journals: JSTOR recommends the remote storage of their titles, rather than discard.
- The bundling (the provision of a wide range of titles produced by a publisher) of e-journals has artificially distorted the number of titles on offer.
- Most growth in stock occurs in books rather than journals: for example at the University of Wales Swansea in 2002-03, 21,780 books and pamphlets were added to stock, compared to just 3,000 print journal titles. Prospects for the large-scale digitisation of books are very remote.

d. Further areas for investigation include ownership, access, stock management and possible NLW collaboration.

9.5 In view of this, and the worsening space situation in most Welsh HE libraries, a fully costed evaluation of a collaborative HE research store for Wales should be undertaken as soon as is feasible.

10. Appendices

10.1 Appendix: Journals Case Study Questionnaire

10.2 Appendix: HELP Journals Case Study website for journal lists and statistics used in this study: <http://users.aber.ac.uk/eak/> (password / username: help)