

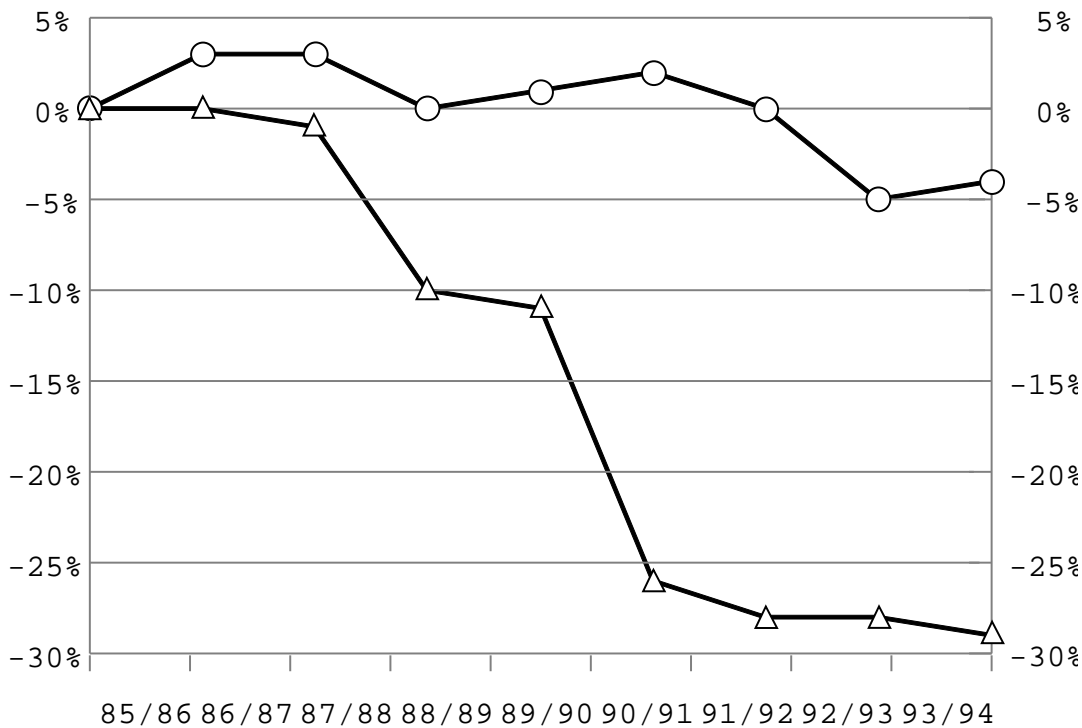
## Serials Review in Progress

**A** drastic cancellations project has been forestalled for this year with the recent infusion of \$185,000 in one-time monies that reduced the target to 260 titles. The outlook is grim, however, as long as the same economic conditions prevail. For next year, average inflation is projected at 16 percent, yet the N.C. legislature only approved an inflationary adjustment increase of approximately 5 percent (\$166,233). In addition, the serials budget must compensate for the loss of the one-time \$185,000. The projected cancellation

of 1,681 serials titles next year will deal a devastating blow both to undergraduate and graduate education and to research, and it will affect this institution's standing as a major research university. The accompanying chart shows the precipitous drop in the NCSU Libraries' percent of change in number of serials purchased from 1986 to 1994, as compared with the average for all 100+ members of the Association of Research Libraries. For the past three years, one-time monies have offset inflationary increases and protected the collections from

### NCSU LIBRARIES VS. ARL\* LIBRARIES

Percent Change in Serials Purchased, 1986-1994



—○— ARL Serials Purchased (-4%)

—△— NCSU Serials Purchased (-29%)

\* ARL=Association of Research Libraries

major serials cuts, yet the Libraries cannot continue to rely on one-time funding for ongoing serials subscriptions.

Since 1987-88, the NCSU Libraries has undertaken six serials cancellation projects as the N.C. General Assembly ceased allocations for inflationary increases while keeping the collections budget static. Earlier this spring, faced again with the possibility of no increase in the collections budget, no additional one-time monies, and no increase to cover inflation, the NCSU Libraries' Collection Management staff began to collect data for another serials review. At that time, projected cancellations totaled about 1,700 titles.

In April 1995 all faculty received a serials use survey to gauge their frequency of use of currently received titles. With the results of that survey and after receiving state budget allocation information in August, the Collection Management staff compiled a list of journals for potential cancellation. The journals appeals list was sent to faculty last month for further review. In addition, collection managers are reviewing other serials titles (e.g., titles in the general periodicals, reference, and bibliography areas) and are gathering cost and publisher information, citation data, interlibrary loan data, and reshelving data.

In September, responding to concern over inadequate funds to offset a double-digit inflationary rate, university administration allocated the Libraries the additional \$185,000 on a one-time basis. Using these funds and shifting monies from the purchase of books have now allowed the Libraries to reduce cancellations to 260 titles. After analyzing faculty appeals to assess the impact of each title's loss, collection managers will compile a list of recommended cancellations. The director of Libraries will then review the list to ensure that cancellations are proportional across disciplines, will not unduly affect any discipline, and will maintain the current collection's base profile. The cancellation list will be disseminated for final faculty comment.

Other factors contributing to the looming crisis in scholarly communication include soaring prices charged by commercial publishers (especially for scientific and technical journals), discriminatory pricing policies imposed by some publishers, and increasing scholarly output. The NCSU Libraries will continue to work with faculty and students to effect change in the present system of scholarly publishing. Please call John Abbott (associate head, Collection Management) or Margaret Hunt (head, Collection Management) at ext. 5-3833 if you have questions or comments about the serials review. ♦

## wwwWorld

*Department of Energy Reports Bibliographic Database* contains citations for all Department of Energy-sponsored (DOE) scientific and technical reports covering the period from January 1, 1994, to the present. Current DOE citations are added weekly as new reports are shipped to participating depository libraries. The NCSU Libraries receives DOE technical reports on microfiche.

<http://www.doe.gov/html/dra/dra.html>

*FlyBase* is a database of genetic and molecular data for *Drosophila*. *FlyBase* includes a bibliography of more than 73,000 *Drosophila* citations, an address book of more than 5,000 *Drosophila* researchers, *Drosophila* genetic map information, *Drosophila* Images, plus much more.

<http://morgan.harvard.edu/>

The Camelot Project is sponsored by the University of Rochester and prepared in the Robbins Library. The project makes available in electronic format a database of Arthurian texts, images, bibliographies, and basic information. The main menu lists Arthurian characters, symbols, and sites. Submenus provide basic information, texts, images, and a bibliography about that subject. A menu, arranged by author, is provided with most medieval texts listed under the heading "Anonymous." A third menu lists artists and their works. The project will always be "under construction" because project staff will constantly be adding information, bibliographic citations, texts, and images.

<http://rodent.lib.rochester.edu/camelot/cphome.htm>