



Progress Stalls with New State Budget

The OhioLINK appropriation in the current State of Ohio biennium operating budget will not only curtail new initiatives but it will also eliminate currently provided information resources. Any plans to expand resources in additional disciplines are being put on hold.

NO-GROWTH APPROPRIATION

In the latest State of Ohio biennium operating budget covering July 2001 – June 2003, the OhioLINK program receives an appropriation of \$7.69 million for each year. This amount is equal to the original annual

funding for the year ending June 2001. The new appropriation ends a very consistent history of expanding operating budget support that has allowed the OhioLINK program to become a world recognized model for cost and service effectiveness. The "Annual Operating and Capital Appropriations" chart summarizes our appropriations history.

\$565,000 IN INFORMATION SERVICES BEING DISCONTINUED

Three years of flat funding will not keep pace with the growth in costs to support current services. Even with tight control in

annual expenses there will be a deficit without expense reductions.

OhioLINK's primary cost, up to 75% of total operating and capital expenditures, is for electronic information content purchases and licenses. OhioLINK expenses for information content have already been reduced \$265,000 in the current fiscal year. Support was discontinued for Congressional Universe, Annual Bibliography

Share your story with us... How has OhioLINK helped you?

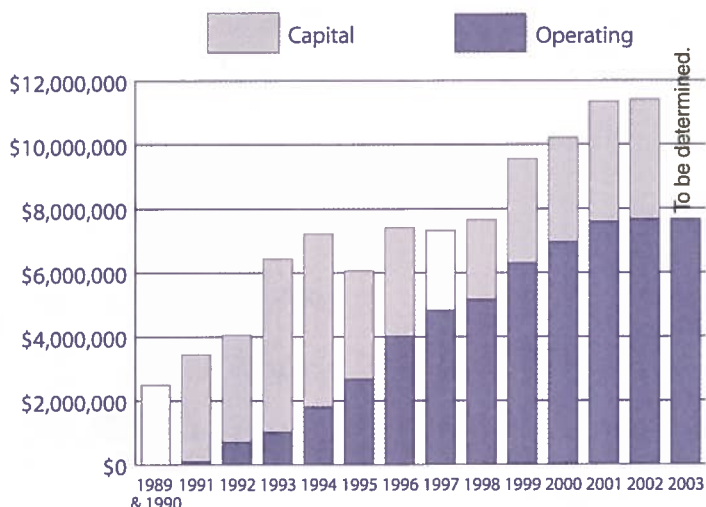
OhioLINK wants to know how its resources have improved your class instruction and/or research. Have you increased your expectations for cited resources in your students' work? Have you improved your own bibliographies? Please tell us about it. E-mail your story to kristan@ohiolink.edu.

of English Language & Literature, Associations Unlimited, American Heritage Dictionary, Columbia Encyclopedia, Thesaurus of English Language, and ESRI GIS & Mapping Software. Additional steps were taken to reduce current annual licensing costs \$125,000, although not all of these reductions are permanent. The next fiscal year will see an additional reduction of up to \$300,000 in annual additional database licenses. The difficult choice of selecting the databases to be eliminated will be made this winter.

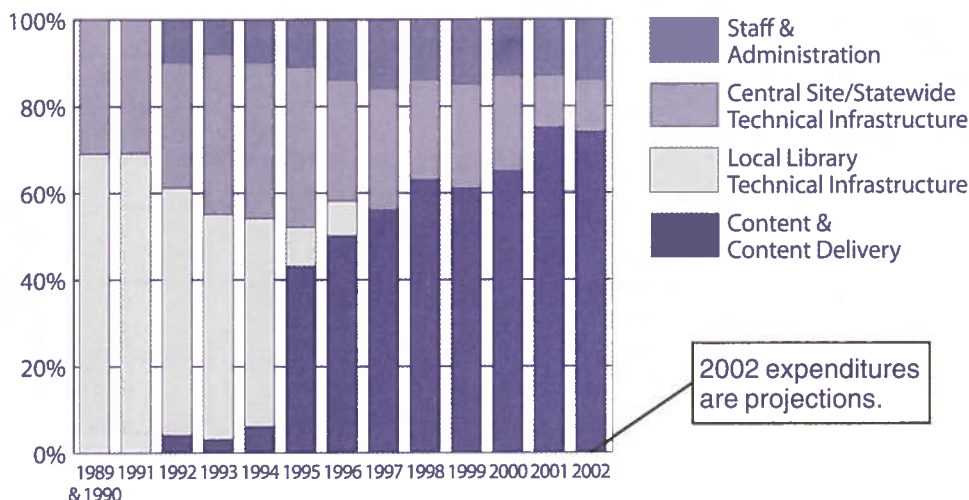
With limited expectations being set for the next state biennium capital budget, which starts in July 2002, there is great concern that a flat or declining capital appropriation will force additional reductions.

In all cases when an OhioLINK electronic information license is discontinued, libraries that wish to continue access must do so entirely on local funds at far less cost effective rates. With campus and library budgets also under severe pressure, the loss of services to students and faculty is a certainty.

Annual Operating and Capital Appropriations



Annual OhioLINK Expenditures by Category



INFORMATION NEEDS GO UNFULFILLED

The Electronic Journal Center, Digital Media Center, Reference Database Licensing Program, and Electronic Book Licensing Program are all works in progress. We have not yet achieved the mission of the OhioLINK program and its member libraries: to provide a comprehensive set of information resources that will support Ohio's expanding higher education's needs in the 21st century.

Electronic Journal Center (EJC)

Currently with 16 publishers, over 4,000 journal titles, and over 2.6 million articles, the EJC is a remarkable resource. But it is hardly complete. The addition of a host of important

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publishers is necessary to enhance the support of instruction and research. Notable examples are the journals of the American Psychological Association, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press, JSTOR, and additional back files for the current publishers.

Core Reference Databases

We have a broad array of reference resources but still lack essential resources in many disciplines of interest across the state. In addition to those we are eliminating, prime examples of missing resources across disciplines include: Chemical Abstracts, SciFinder, Gale Health Reference Center, USA Trade Online, ERIC full text documents, EconLit, Agricola, and Criminal Justice Periodical Index.

Digital Media Center

This recently added service for the storage and access of non-text information is in its infancy and is just beginning to reveal its promise. Commercial information resources are just now emerging that can become highly useful when delivered statewide over the Internet. Already, we have an array of resources: Ohio LANDSAT 7 satellite images, art, architecture, and museum images, 600 video demonstrations of physics principles, and a growing variety of library provided materials. These are but the tip of the iceberg. Educational video, audio, and image collections across the spectrum of academic endeavors are now emerging.

Electronic Books (e-books)

OhioLINK is at the forefront in determining how electronic books can provide expanded access and improve the efficiency of the state's collective book expenditures. Not until the spring of 2001 have we had a sizable e-book collection, and it totals only 17,000 items. Our early indications are that e-books can have the same benefits as electronic journals. Publishers do not yet make all books available electronically. We have yet to fully develop how we combine print and electronic book purchases to the best effect. There are a number of emerging e-book publication projects that we will want to subscribe to and deliver to user desktops wherever the users choose to study or do research.

A HISTORY OF EFFECTIVE SPENDING

With both operating and capital expenditures, the OhioLINK program has

met the challenge of improving the quality of Ohio higher education through expanded information access at highly cost-effective rates. Instructional assignments are enriched and expanded research activities enabled.

Working in concert with the many library budgets across the state, the OhioLINK program's strategy has been to maximize the effectiveness of spending for content through statewide licenses and to simultaneously economize expenditures in technical infrastructure through statewide services, eliminating costly local replication. The latest example of the latter is the single, statewide electronic theses and dissertation center (ETD).

As the "Annual Expenditures by Category" chart illustrates, we have been successful in executing this strategy. As support for the OhioLINK program has grown, an increasing percentage of our appropriations is spent on content. Up to ninety percent of any new operating funding will be earmarked for content maintenance and expansion.

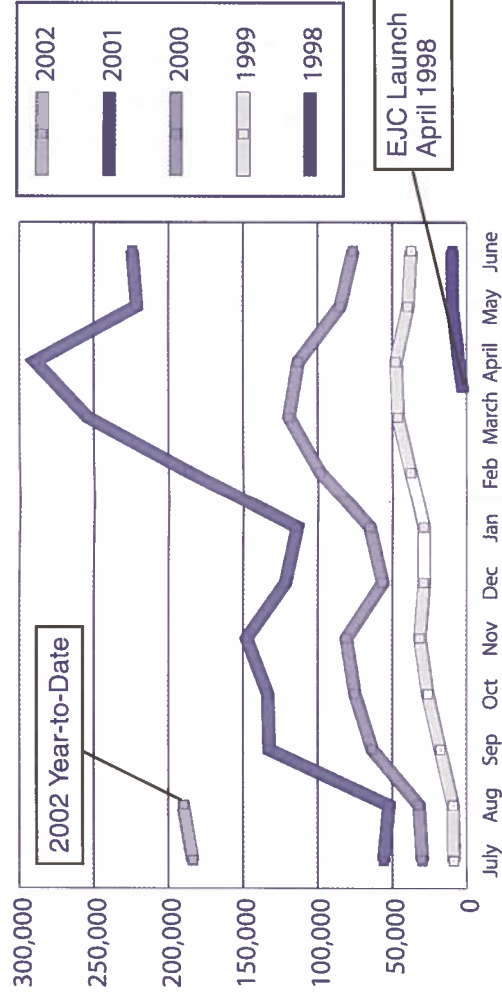
COMPETING FOR NEW FUNDS – MEETING OUR MISSION – PROVIDING A FIRM FOUNDATION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

The OhioLINK program, as originally envisioned, is not yet complete. It is still expanding and developing the services necessary to support the many information needs of Ohio higher education. Distance learning initiatives to increase Ohio's adult educational levels need portable, electronic information resources to support a wide range of electronic courses. The research envisioned by the Ohio Plan needs access to the latest research produced outside of Ohio. Major academic disciplines remain without significant, priority information resources. Initiatives to train the Ohio workforce in the 21st century skills require access to the latest developments in Information Technology and other rapidly developing fields. Individual library budgets cannot keep pace or buy efficiently enough to compensate for the inability of the OhioLINK program to continue its progress.

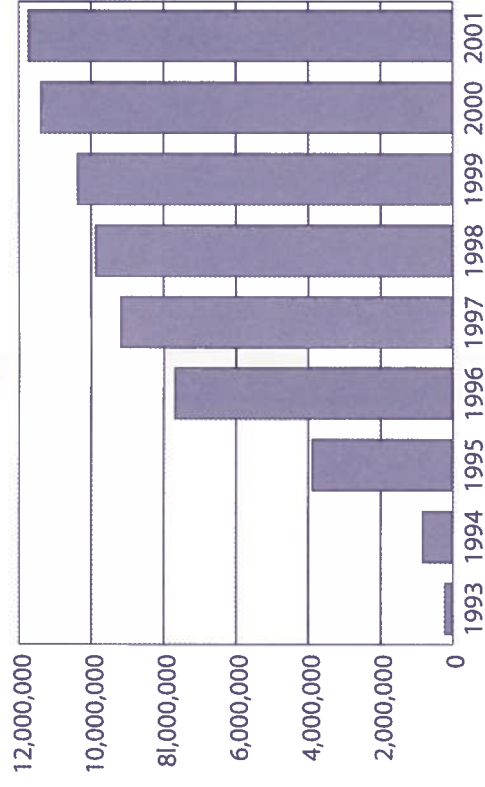
In today's world, robust information access is a fundamental building block for quality education. The OhioLINK program, working in concert with library budgets, has proven to be the innovative approach necessary to provide essential resource infrastructure in an information intensive 21st century. Even as new initiatives for higher education are envisioned let us not lose sight of the information foundation necessary to ensure each program's success.

Fiscal Year Statistics for 2001

EJC Monthly Article Downloads



Searches on Research Databases



Filled Online Book Borrowing Requests



OhioLINK In Brief...

DMC adds video and publicly accessible collections

The DMC's latest addition is 600 experiments demonstrating a full array of physics principles, including static-vs.-sliding friction and the Doppler Effect. The experiments are delivered via video across the Internet. Using a freely available browser plug-in, any student or faculty member can view the experiments and search, read or download the associated text.

In an effort to expand digital services beyond higher education, OhioLINK now delivers hundreds of historical photos, images of Mayan archaeological sites, and art and architecture images to the world-at-large through the Digital Media Center (DMC).

More than 300 historical photos from the Wright Brothers Collection at Wright State University are now available in the DMC's Historic & Archival Collections database. This collection includes photos of the family and the Wright brothers' flight exhibitions. Selections from Ohio University's Scripps Archive will join the Wright Brothers Collection in the Historical & Archival Collections later this fall. More than 500 Mayan archaeological images are housed in the DMC's new Social Studies Database, including images of Chichen Itza. Public access to Ohio art and architecture images was also added early in the summer. The public art collection includes selections from the Akron Art Museum and the University of Cincinnati's Visual Archive of Cincinnati Architecture.

New website debuts

The new OhioLINK website debuted this August after a series of end-user testing. The new site contains links to all the OhioLINK resources and indexes them in a variety of ways. It also allows personalization at the institutional and individual level.

Individual users can choose to set their own "Express Links". The "Express Links" allow the user to have a personalized list of those OhioLINK resources he or she uses most. The "Express Links" may also include several databases selected by the user's home institution. Some users also will find that their institution has added its own local databases to the OhioLINK lists. Users of Periodical Abstracts, the Electronic Journal Center, and PsycINFO also found new "Ask Us" links in the databases. The "Ask Us" links improve users' access to their local reference librarians.

New publishers added to EJC

Two new journal publishers are now part of the OhioLINK collection. The ACM (Association of Computing Machinery) Digital Library is now available as a database on the OhioLINK system. The collection includes journals, magazines, and conference proceedings from ACM and its Special Interest Groups (SIG). This collection will be integrated into the Electronic Journal Center (EJC) this fall.

The second publisher is BioOne. The 40 BioOne journals include biological, ecological, and environmental journals. This collection will also be added this fall.

New milestones reached in catalog and EJC

OhioLINK is pleased to announce two new service milestones. The first demonstrates the size and strength of the participating libraries' collection. The OhioLINK Library Catalog now offers 8 million unique library items with more than 30 million total items available for online borrowing.

The second milestone demonstrates the continuing growth of the Electronic Journal Center. In June, the three-millionth article download occurred. The two-millionth article download occurred early in 2001, and monthly downloads continue to rise, as illustrated in the "EJC Monthly Article Download" chart. With the continuing commitment to adding new publishers, the community will continue to see expanded use of the e-journals.

OhioLINK Member and Participating Institutions with Installation Dates

Antioch College, 1999
 Ashland University, 1999
 Athenaeum of Ohio, 1999
 Baldwin-Wallace College, 1999
 Belmont Technical College, 1995
 Bluffton College, 1999
 Bowling Green State University, 1992
 Capital University, 1996
 Case Western Reserve University, 1992
 Cedarville University, 1996
 Central Ohio Technical College, 1994
 Central State University, 1992
 Cincinnati Bible College & Seminary, 1999
 Cincinnati State Technical & Comm. College, 1995
 Clark State Community College, 1995
 Cleveland State University, 1994
 College of Mount Saint Joseph, 1996
 College of Wooster, 1996
 Columbus College of Art & Design, 2000
 Columbus State Community College, 1994
 Cuyahoga Community College, 1994
 Defiance College, 1999
 Denison University, 1996
 Edison State Community College, 1995
 Franciscan University of Steubenville, 1999
 Heidelberg College, 1999
 Hiram College, 1997
 Hocking College, 1995
 Jefferson Community College, 1995
 John Carroll University, 1998
 Kent State University, 1994
 Kenyon College, 1996
 Lakeland Community College, 1995
 Lima Technical College, 1994
 Lorain County Community College, 1995
 Malone College, 1999
 Marietta College, 1999
 Marion Technical College, 1994
 Medical College of Ohio, 1993
 Miami University, 1992
 Mount Carmel College of Nursing, 1999
 Mount Union College, 1999
 Mount Vernon Nazarene College, 1996
 Muskingum College, 1999
 Muskingum Technical College, 1994
 North Central Technical College, 1994
 Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine, 1993
 Northwest State Community College, 1996
 Notre Dame College, 1999
 Oberlin College, 1995
 Ohio Dominican College, 1997
 Ohio Northern University, 1995
 The Ohio State University, 1994
 Ohio University, 1994
 Ohio Wesleyan University, 1996
 Otterbein College, 1999
 Owens Community College, 1995
 Shawnee State University, 1994
 Sinclair Community College, 1994
 Southern State Community College, 1994
 Stark State College of Technology, 1994
 State Library of Ohio, 1994
 Terra Community College, 1995
 Tiffin University, 1999
 University of Akron, 1993
 University of Cincinnati, 1992
 University of Dayton, 1994
 University of Findlay, 1999
 University of Rio Grande & RGCC, 1995
 University of Toledo, 1994
 Urbana University, 2000
 Ursuline College, 1997
 Washington State Community College, 1996
 Wilberforce University, 1999
 Wilmington College, 1999
 Wittenberg University, 1997
 Wright State University, 1992
 Xavier University, 1996
 Youngstown State University, 1993

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The *OhioLINK Update*, published semi-annually, provides information on the developments of the OhioLINK project.

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