Library Evaluation for Category I Proposal

Proposal to offer a Religious and Culture Certificate in Philosophy

Title of Proposal

Philosophy

Departments

College of Liberal Arts

The subject librarians responsible for collection development in the pertinent curricular area has assessed whether the existing library collections and services can support the proposal. Based on this review, the subject librarian concludes that present collections and services are:
[ ] inadequate to support the proposal (see budget needs below)
[ ] marginally adequate to support the proposal
[X ] adequate to support the proposal

Comments and Recommendations:
Collection is currently adequate; however there is concern for the libraries ability to support growth and diversification of collection while maintaining a strong core.

Date Received: _12/18/2007__  Date Completed: _01/22/08__  

Jane Nichols  
Subject Librarian  

Laurel Kristick  
Head of Collection Development  

Karyle Butcher  
University Librarian  

Date  
Signature  

Date  
Signature  

Date  
Signature  
Oregon State University Libraries
Evaluation of the Collection Supporting:
Proposal to offer a Religious and Culture Certificate in Philosophy

Oregon State University
College of Liberal Arts
Philosophy Department

This library assessment reviews the monographic and serials collections for the proposal to offer a Religious and Culture Certificate in Philosophy.

We compared Oregon State University Libraries' monographic collections to the University of Oregon, Colorado State University-Fort Collins and the University of California-Davis. UO and UC-Davis offer majors in Religious Studies and Colorado State University-Fort Collins offers a minor in Religious Studies. UC Davis and CSU Fort Collins are OSU peer institutions. American Academy of Religion program lists all of these programs.

For serials, we measured the Valley Library holdings against Magazines for Libraries by Katz, for Religious Studies. This is a key bibliography to analyze library holdings.

Monographs:
We compared Oregon State University Libraries monographic collections to those of University of Oregon, Colorado State University-Fort Collins and the University of California-Davis. The OSU holdings were compared against the average holdings from the three institutions. OSU Libraries' holdings were generally found to be adequate. Five areas were found to be lacking: religious pluralism, tolerance and culture, Buddhism and Africa religion. They are below the WLN Collection Assessment recommended 50% collection level considered adequate for an undergraduate collection. For now, these can be addressed through our consortial lending agreement with the Orbis Cascade Alliance. However, I recommend that the Religion monographs firm and approval lines be recreated and funding instituted to address this gap over the coming years. For these lines, $300 per line would be a good start. Blackwell's Coverage and Cost Study 2007 states the average cost of religion books is $60.58 and $600 would increase OSU Libraries' holdings by approximately 9 books annually.
See Table 1: Monograph Holding Levels and Comparisons in the main areas of emphasis for the Certificate for details of holdings.

See Table 1: Monograph Holding Levels and Comparisons in the main areas of emphasis for the Certificate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject Heading</th>
<th>OSU Holdings</th>
<th>UCDavis</th>
<th>CSU-FC</th>
<th>UO</th>
<th>Comparator School Holdings&lt;sup&gt;a,b&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
<th>Average of Unique Comparator School Holdings</th>
<th>OSU Holdings as percent of average comparator holdings&lt;sup&gt;c&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Religious Pluralism</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religious Tolerance</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religion</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>684</td>
<td>378</td>
<td>546</td>
<td>1608</td>
<td>536</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religions</td>
<td>Christianity</td>
<td>Buddhism</td>
<td>Hinduism</td>
<td>Islam</td>
<td>Africa Religion</td>
<td>Native Americans Religion</td>
<td>Religion and culture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>272</td>
<td>224</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>454</td>
<td>628</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>273</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>268</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>314</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>286</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1036</td>
<td>931</td>
<td>744</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>609</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>345</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79%</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The three comparator schools selected were the University of Oregon, Colorado State University-Fort Collins, University of California-Davis.*

*Holdings indicate a unique monographic holding from one of any of the three schools. This calculation is performed to remove overlaps between the three collections.*

*A percentage higher than 100% indicates that OSU owns more unique monographs in the subject heading area than the three comparator schools.*

OSU Libraries holdings was also analyzed by measuring the currency for Religious Studies as compared to University of Oregon, Colorado State University-Fort Collins, University of California-Davis. See Table 2: OSU Holdings by Publication Date for Religious Studies. OSU is holding steady, that is, OSU Libraries collection is staying as current as our comparators.

### Table 2: OSU Holdings by Publication Date for Religious Studies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Publication Date</th>
<th>Religion</th>
<th>Number with percent</th>
<th>Estates Analyzed</th>
<th>Religious Studies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libraries</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals by Library*</td>
<td></td>
<td>412536</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
<td>15.64%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| B | OREGON STATE UNIV. CORVALLIS (ORE) | 101247 | 100.00% | 15.64% | 15.07% | 14.34% | 13.76% | 12.94% | 11.90% | 10.19% | 4.76% |

| B | Religious Studies | 31361 | 100.00% | 15.64% | 15.07% | 14.34% | 13.76% | 12.94% | 11.90% | 10.19% | 4.76% |

A final analysis was done by looking at uniqueness. Table 3: OSU Holdings by Uniqueness for Religious Studies shows that OSU holds almost 70% of what our peers hold. Thus, we have much of what is commonly held. This is a good indicator that for what OSU Libraries has we are on target.

### Table 3: OSU Holdings by Uniqueness for Religious Studies
In sum, OSU Libraries monograph holdings are adequate for the Religious Studies certificate. However, it is recommended that the Religion monographs firm and approval lines be recreated and funded at $300 each.

**Interlibrary Loan and Orbis Cascades Alliance/Summit Catalog Activity:**
Typically Interlibrary Loan (ILL) statistics are examined to gauge the need for new titles. However, because this is a new certificate that has many touch points (culture, religious pluralism and tolerance, etc) interlibrary loan statistics will only be useful once students and faculty from the Religious Studies certificate program begin requesting items through our ILL program. ILL statistics should be examined after the program has been established for several years, and the collection should be adjusted accordingly.

OSU Libraries holdings are supplemented through the Orbis/Cascades Alliance Summit catalog. For example, in 2007 there were 92 requests for materials that fall under Religious Studies. Thus, faculty and students may increase requests for materials that OSU does not have and for areas, noted above, for which OSU is at least 50% of our comparators.

**Serials/Journals:**
We compared the OSU Libraries' journal holdings against titles listed under the heading Religious Studies in the book Magazines for Libraries by Katz. This book is used to determine if a library holds core titles. Table 4 shows that Valley Library subscribes to 5 of 8 titles. I recommend reinstituting our subscription to Religious Studies: An International Journal for the Philosophy of Religion (formerly: Religious Studies: an Interdisciplinary Journal for the Philosophy of Religion and Theology) at a cost of $310/year.

**Table 4: Religious Studies Journals in Magazines for Libraries and OSU Libraries’ holdings.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Abbreviated Journal Title</th>
<th>OSU Holdings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><em>Intl J for Philosophy of Religion</em></td>
<td>1977-present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><em>Journal of Ecclesiastical History</em></td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Electronic Access to Journals:
OSU Libraries' subscribes to over 300 contemporary and archival online journals. This supplements the periodicals holdings noted above. Many of these are available from the databases listed below and will be relevant to this certificate program.

Subject-Specific Indexes, Abstracts and Full-Text Databases:
Relevant OSU Libraries subscription databases include:

- **Academic SearchPremier** - provides full text for nearly 4,600 scholarly publications, including full text for more than 3,500 peer-reviewed journals for all disciplines. There are 301 covering Religion. Coverage spans virtually every area of academic study and offers information dating to 1975.

- **Philosophy & Religion Collection** - This database provides extensive coverage of topics such as world religions, major denominations, biblical studies, religious history, epistemology, political philosophy, philosophy of language, moral philosophy and the history of philosophy. Religion & Philosophy Collection offers more than 300 full text journals, including more than 250 peer-reviewed titles, making it an essential tool for researchers and students of theology and philosophical studies.

- **American Periodicals Series** - APS contains digitized images of the pages of American magazines and journals that originated between 1741 and 1900. This database will be relevant for students focusing on historical aspects of Religious Studies.

- **Lexis Nexis Academic** - Comprehensive full text newspaper and magazine article database. Includes current general and Religion related news up to the last 10 years.

- **Project Muse** - 13 journal titles related to Religion are available in full-text access. Project Muse offers access to many additional full-text journals covering many disciplines.

These databases combined with OSU Libraries’ other holdings can support many of the listed courses for the Certificate program.

Audiovisual and Other Media
OSU Libraries holds 30 audiovisual titles. There has been an increased use of audiovisual materials for instruction at OSU and the OSU Libraries holdings will benefit from new and additional titles to stay current and to represent the range of topics courses for the Certificate will cover. For example at the time of this report, UO holds 55 titles, UC Davis 37 titles and Colorado State 2 titles.

Subject Librarian Support:
Jane Nichols is OSU’s Philosophy & Religion librarian. Jane is also the History/History of Science librarian. Additional librarians that may be drawn for instructional support are Loretta Rielly (English, Japanese, Chinese, Art, Comm) and Valery King (Music, Political Science) and Paula McMillan, Sociology librarian. All librarians may be impacted by this certificate in that they may get requests for information literacy instruction from students or faculty for courses in the Certificate program.

Summary:
OSU Libraries' collections are adequate to support the Religious and Culture Certificate in Philosophy as proposed.

However, I recommend the following:

- Recreate and fund the Religion monographs firm and approval lines at $300 each/year;
- Evaluate InterLibrary Loan statistics in the next 2-3 years for gaps.


Respectfully submitted by:

Jane Nichols
Assistant Professor and Librarian,
Oregon State University Libraries
2008