

STATE LIBRARY OF OREGON

Statewide Database Licensing Advisory Committee (SDLAC)

A committee of the LSTA Advisory Council

Annual Report: July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019

Project Name: Statewide Database Licensing Program (SDLP)
Date submitted: August 12, 2019
Submitted by: Statewide Database Licensing Advisory Committee

1. Summarize the overall purpose of the grant project

A. Scope

The Statewide Database Licensing Advisory Committee (SDLAC) is a committee of the library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) Advisory Council, which, in turn, advises the State Library of Oregon Board. SDLAC's primary responsibility is to advise on the drafting of requests for proposals, to review proposals, recommend database(s) to license, and to advise about the allocation of costs (when necessary) to libraries participating in the Statewide Database Licensing Program.

For more information about the Statewide Database Licensing Program, visit <https://www.oregon.gov/Library/libraries/Pages/Databases.aspx>.

B. Summary of Licensed Databases

- Gale Databases
 - The Gale database package provides access to full-text periodicals, including reference e-books, covering many topic areas.
- LearningExpress Library (EBSCO), including the Job and Career Accelerator and Computer and Internet Basics modules.
 - This product provides career and education skill-building courses, practice tests, and job-seeking resources and tools.

For more information about the databases and for a complete list of the Gale databases, visit http://libguides.osl.state.or.us/SDLP_FAQ.

C. Supports LSTA Five-Year Plan

The Statewide Database Licensing Program supports two goals of the LSTA Five-Year Plan:

- Goal 1: Provide access to information sources and library services
- Goal 4: Develop information skills

The LSTA Five-Year Plan is available at <https://www.oregon.gov/Library/libraries/Documents/LSTA/2018-2022LSTAFiveYearPlanFinal.pdf>.

2. Summarize the project results to date

A. Usage Statistics Summary

Gale/Cengage Learning and LearningExpress provide usage statistics for each database available in the statewide contract. A summary of user sessions by library type is presented along with percent of total usage. Both FY18 and FY19 are presented to show changes in usage over time. Oregon School Library Information System (OSLIS)/K12 library patrons continue to be the strongest users of the Gale databases in each fiscal year.

**SDLP Annual Database Usage
Number of sessions by user type
Gale Databases**

	FY 2018		FY 2019		FY18-19
Library Type	Database Sessions	Percent of Total	Database Sessions	Percent of Total	Percent decrease
Academic	1,164,740	19.9%	866,689	18.3%	-25.5%
Public/Tribal	1,213,220	20.7%	763,370	16.2%	-37.0%
OSLIS/K12	3,480,248	59.4%	3,094,675	65.5%	-11.0%
Total	5,858,208	100%	4,724,734	100%	-19.3%

LearningExpress Library

	FY 2018		FY 2019		FY18-19
Library Type	Database Sessions	Percent of Total	Database Sessions	Percent of Total	Percent increase
Academic	11,471	37.5%	15,432	39.9%	34.5%
Public/Tribal	6,461	21.1%	9,170	23.7%	41.9%
OSLIS/K12	12,650	41.4%	14,050	36.3%	11.1%
Total	30,582	100.0%	38,652	100%	26.3%

The number of user sessions for Gale products decreased by 19.3 percent in FY2019, with the largest decline in the Public/Tribal sector. It is difficult to point to a single cause for this decrease, as the influencing factors are diverse. As more libraries use vendor-based discovery systems, content from other vendors content may be prioritized in search results. Also, a lack of clear access points on library web pages and the diversity

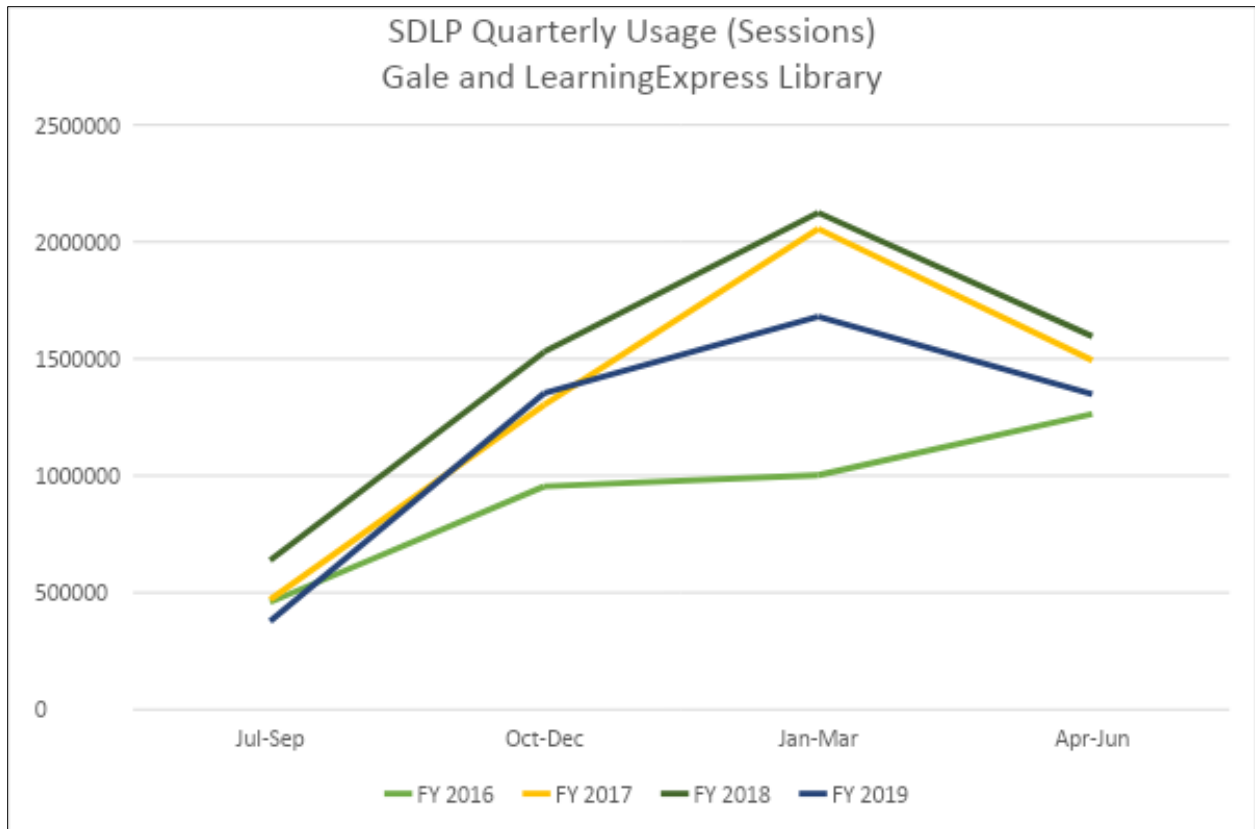
of competing database products available in libraries are likely contributing factors. Oregon’s decrease also reflects national trends.

The number of user sessions for LearningExpress Library increased by 26.3 percent. The increase is likely due to increased promotion by State Library staff through training events across the state over the last year.

The Committee recognizes that user sessions may not provide a full picture of the program’s reach and impact and reports the following additional usage data.

B. Changes in User Sessions over the Course of a Fiscal Year

The graph below illustrates changes in user sessions over the course of the fiscal year. It reveals that usage is consistently higher during times when schools and academic institutions are in session and educational activity continues to drive usage.

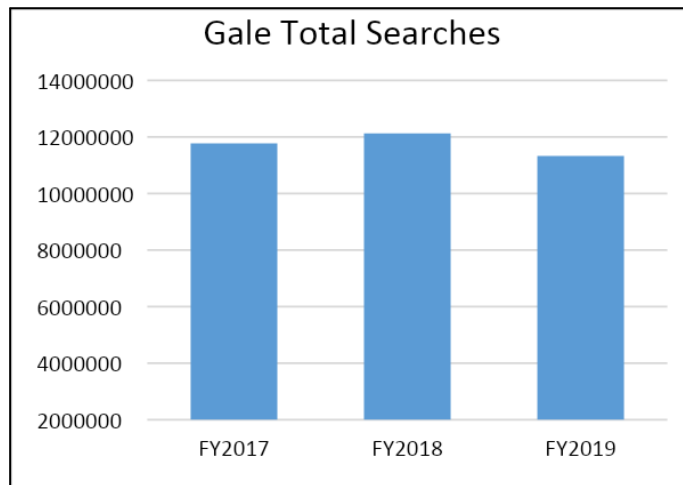


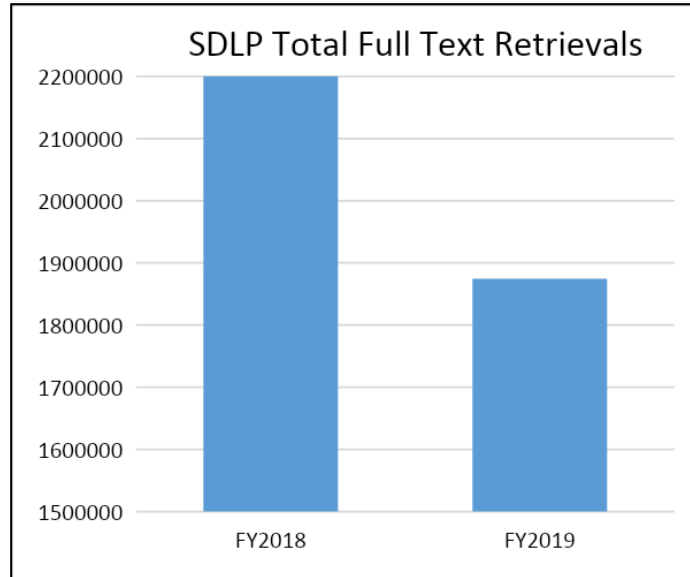
C. Number of Aggregated Searches/Retrievals

The following graphs illustrate the number of searches and full-text retrievals by all types of libraries in the program.

Searches represent the number of times users use unique terms to search the Gale databases (Note: search data is not available from LearningExpress Library, as this resource relies primarily on guided navigation). Full-text retrievals represent the number of times users access content relevant to their search when using SDLP resources.

From FY18 to FY19, overall searches have decreased by 7%, however the number of searches by the OSLIS/K12 sector have actually increased by 9%. Full text retrievals have had an overall decrease of 18%, although retrievals have increased within LearningExpress Library by 19%. These decreases are consistent with the user session data presented earlier and show that Gale usage is the driving factor in the overall usage of the SDLP.



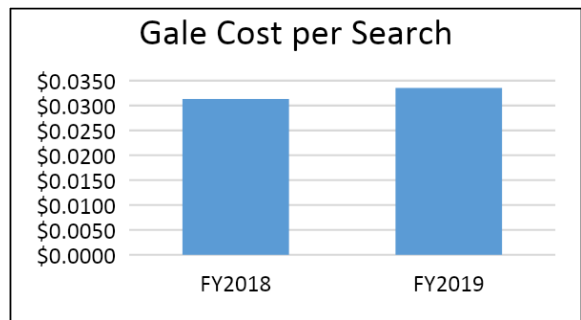


D. Cost Per Search

Cost-per-search data is reported as a way to demonstrate the value of the program.

Since search data is not available from LearningExpress Library, the graph below illustrates the cost per search of the Gale databases.

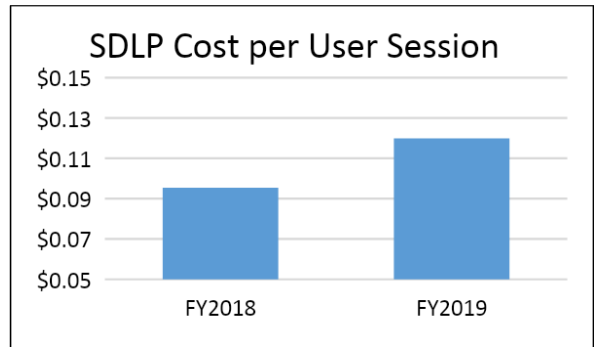
Gale Searches	FY18	FY19
Academic	3,255,592	2,071,689
Public/Tribal	1,326,544	943,042
OSLIS/K12	7,547,515	8,315,601
Total	12,129,651	11,330,332
Total Annual Cost	\$ 380,000	\$ 380,000
Cost per Search	\$ 0.0313	\$ 0.0335



While the number of searches have decreased, the cost per search remains essentially the same from FY18 to FY19.

E. Cost per session

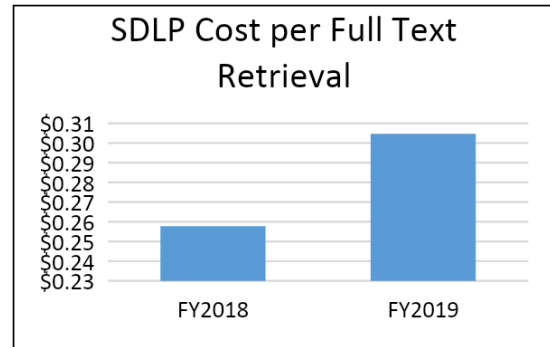
Total SDLP User Sessions	FY18	FY19
Academic	1,176,211	882,121
Public/Tribal	1,219,681	772,540
OSLIS/K12	3,492,898	3,108,725
Total	5,888,790	4,763,386
Total Annual Cost	\$ 562,094	\$571,125.00
Cost per Session	\$ 0.10	\$0.12



Given the increase in LearningExpress Library costs along with overall decrease in the number of user sessions, the cost per session has increased from \$.10 in FY18 to \$.12 in FY19.

F. Cost per full text retrieval

Total SDLP Full Text Retrievals	FY18	FY19
Academic	803,883	664,383
Public/Tribal	80,451	63,288
OSLIS/K12	1,295,823	1,112,440
Total	2,180,157	1,874,586
Total Annual Cost	\$ 562,094.00	\$ 571,125.00
Cost per Session	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.30



Similarly, the cost per retrieval has increased from \$.26 in FY18 to \$.30 in FY19.

The Committee recognizes the problem with measuring the success of the program based on usage data alone. Measures that look at overall impact and value of the program will continue to be explored.

3. Discuss significant developments

A. EBSCO/ProQuest subsidy

The committee reviewed the current system of dividing the annual EBSCO/ProQuest subsidy provided to academic libraries. The committee made the recommendation to eliminate the materials budget aspect of the formula and move to a use formula that is an allocation based 50% on even distribution and 50% on FTE. After further consultation with Jessie Holden from the Orbis Cascade Alliance and community college directors, the State Library also agreed to subsidize the one-time fee for SDLP academic libraries to join the Alliance's Electronic Resources Program. This will help streamline data gathering for the formula and distribution of the subsidy.

B. Online Encyclopedia

In January, the committee launched a survey to determine how school libraries felt about access to a general online encyclopedia and how many schools had access to at least one. The survey went out to Oregon Association of School Libraries (OASL) members and OSLIS contacts, about 1400 total. 159 responses were received. The committee evaluated responses based on geography, noting that responses were not received for nine counties. Of the twenty-seven remaining counties, fourteen counties had responses reporting access to an online encyclopedia. However, some counties only had one response, so it is possible there might be other schools in the county with subscriptions. Approximately 88% of respondents indicated that it is important or very important for students to have access to an online encyclopedia product.

The committee acknowledged that the data gathered documented the desire among school library staff to have an online encyclopedia product, but did not provide a complete picture of geographic coverage throughout the state. Committee members representing school libraries will work further to document disparities in access, as this documentation is needed if the Oregon Department of Education is approached to assist with funding.

C. Libraries of Oregon evaluation

The committee reviewed the results of a usability study completed with the help of students from Pacific University. Overall, the reactions were positive and the committee recommended some changes based on this feedback. Committee members also agreed to use the tool created to gather information for the usability study in other library settings to make sure broad feedback from a variety of audiences is collected.

D. Bylaws change – Chair elect position

The committee requested and received approval from the LSTA Advisory Council to change the bylaws to include a Chair-elect position. This resulted in the committee's structure becoming more closely aligned to its parent body, LSTA Advisory Council. Additionally, there will be a carryover of administrative knowledge from year-to-year resulting in a smoother transition. In this year, both a Chair and Chair-Elect were elected from the committee's membership. Moving forward, a Chair-Elect will be selected each year and the previous years Chair-Elect will move into the Chair role.

E. Committee membership changes

The Committee had changes to the OASL Membership representatives in the last year due to resignations. These changes, as well as those coming on to the Committee for the next term, are below.

Incoming Committee members are:

- Position #3: School Library drawn from OASL Membership [Term ends 6/30/2020]
Jean Gritter, West Albany High School
- Position #6 - School Library drawn from OASL Membership [Term ends 6/30/2021]
Jen Blair, Beaverton School District
- Position #7: Public Library Serving over 100,000 [Term ends 6/30/2022]
Carey Hunt, Jackson County Library Services
- Position #8: Academic Library from a Private Academic Institution [Term ends 6/30/2022]
Alex Rolfe, George Fox University
- Position #9: Resource Sharing Network [Term ends 6/30/2022]
Julie Retherford, Coastline Libraries (Chetco Community Public Library- Brookings)
- Position #10: Tribal Library [Term ends 6/30/2021]
Harris Reibach, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Tribal Library

Catherine Jasper served as chair over the last year. Brenda Herren-Kenaga was elected chair for the upcoming year, and Jennifer Croft will serve as chair-elect.

The Committee thanks outgoing members Catherine Jasper, Lynda Irons, and Courtney Sheedy for their service.

4. Discuss future plans

- Continue to advise State Library on the promotion and development of the Libraries of Oregon website.
- Continue to explore options for adding an online encyclopedia product for the K-12 community to the program.
- Advise State Library staff on upcoming RFP for online skills building tool (LearningExpress Library) and evaluate proposals
- Examine and recommend new ways to promote and measure usage of SDLP resources among libraries, including consideration of ways to increase visibility on library web pages.