



Informing decisions for substitutions

Use case

In order to offer value for money, libraries are keen to ensure they make the right purchasing decisions on behalf of their users so that the collection continues to reflect the teaching and research needs of the institution. A number of journal publishers allow libraries to make some alterations to the core or subscribed titles held within their collections, and most libraries review their packages on an annual basis. It can be difficult to ensure the right decisions are made based on the needs of the organisation's users.

How can JUSP help?

In addition to providing accurate, up-to-date information on the overall usage of their resources, JUSP has a number of special reports that enable libraries to identify which resources are being most heavily used. One table shows the top 100 titles accessed over a certain time period across all publishers, another enables libraries to track usage of a particular title or group of titles over a three year period.

The integration with KB+ means that libraries can see the core or subscribed titles they have marked in KB+ as starred items within all their JUSP reports, or view summary usage within KB+ lists. By using this information, they can see which core or subscribed titles are being heavily used, and which are not, helping them make decisions about which titles to consider substituting or cancelling. At the same time, JUSP will show which previously unsubscribed titles within a collection are now getting heavy use.

Using this method to manage electronic journals ensures an evidence-based approach to collection management decision making is taken. The information gathered from JUSP will help libraries in their discussions with academic departments on resource allocation and management, and will give a clearer picture of the institution's changing teaching and research profiles.

What do JUSP institutions say?

"JUSP is really useful for making decisions for cancellations (or substitutions if publishers allow)."

University of Warwick

"It has also helped us better understand the research profile of our institution which in turn informs decisions over resource allocation. For example, we may have a high profile academic who heavily used a particular resource but the resource had relatively low usage other than this user. If this academic leaves the institution the money for this could be better utilised elsewhere. The data we get from JUSP can help us identify the ever changing research profile of the institution."

Birkbeck, University of London

"I will also use it if we are renewing our big deals, all the big packages, like Wiley and Sage and Science Direct. I'll run statistics on our core journals in that package and the rest of the journals, and see whether I want to swap titles in or out depending on how much they have been used."

Aston University

