

Some Statistics for Fiscal Year 2011-12 Turpin Library, Dallas Theological Seminary

We are slowly transitioning from physical resources to online resources.

This fiscal year our constituents downloaded 45,229 electronic documents. That is an all time high. At the same time, circulation of books and other tangible resources declined to 72,119. Long term decline in initial loans appears to be due to two factors. First, there has been a decline in ThM and Dallas campus enrollment as online and extension enrollment grow. Second, online resources are progressively meeting a larger fraction of student needs. However, physical loans still outnumber online downloads. Further, periodic counts of books left on tables and book trucks indicate in-house use of books equals external loans. At this time, students are still highly dependent on the physical collection. The long term outlook is for increased reliance on online sources, but the transition from paper to online is gradual.

The combined Dallas + Houston collection grew modestly. We acquired a total of 5,104 print vols. We discarded about 2,445 bound journal volumes for which we have perpetual online access via JSTOR. This is the beginning of a major transition from reliance on print journals to online journals. We acquired the Sage Humanities and Social Sciences package of ejournals (about 421 titles). We also discarded hundreds of microforms, some of which were replaced by online resources. We no longer collect microforms.

	7/1/2011	Added in FY	DFEC in FY	7/1/2012
Print volumes	228,485	5,104	-2,582	231,007
Microforms	56,704	6	-676	56,034
Other physical pieces	11,301	527	-121	11,707
Ebooks	19,613	688	-2	20,299
Ejournals (titles)	1,771	498	0	2,269
Meaningless Total	317,874	6,823	-3,381	321,316

- DFEC = discarded(-) or found(+) or error corrected(+ or -)

In addition, we also rent (lease, license) access to over 10,000 peer reviewed ejournals. They are not included in Table 100 because they are rented, not owned. For a partial tabulation, see <http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/texshare/databasecountfy2012.html>. In July 2013 we began renting a package of about 100,000 ebooks. This is mostly non-theological material, but it should provide a nice complement to our collection.

Students are hungry for additional electronic resources and we are eager to purchase them. However, theology is lagging behind STEM disciplines in conversion from print to electronic format. We must wait for hundreds of publishers to convert. We will buy what we can when we can. But at this time we are not able to buy the core high-use titles that are so important for students. Too few key publishers are selling electronic resources.

During the year, the front door photocell counted 147,326 round-trip visits. The computer lab reported 13,814 sign-ins and 235,241 pages printed. Although visits to the building have declined steadily during the past decade, large numbers of students are still using the building. Online resources have not eliminated the need for a building. Personal laptops have not eliminated the need for a computer lab.