

Some Library Statistics for FY 2012-13

Dallas Theological Seminary

We are slowly transitioning from physical resources to online resources.

In fiscal year 2012-13, students and faculty downloaded 48,731 electronic documents, and grads downloaded an additional 8,980. Both are all-time highs. At the same time, circulation of books and other tangible resources declined to 45,672 initial loans plus 22,357 renewals = 68,029 total circulation. **This is the first year the number of downloads exceeded the number of initial physical loans.** Of course we expected a shift to online resources. Steady decline in circulation began in 2007-08, partly because distance education enrollment has been increasing while Dallas campus enrollment has been decreasing, and partly because available e-resources have been increasing. However, physical loans are still very significant. Further, periodic counts of books left on tables etc. indicate in-house use of books equals external circulation. At this time, students are still dependent on the physical collection. Many of the most important books and journals are not available for purchase in an online format.

48.9% of all physical loans were in the field of biblical studies, 25.3% in systematic and historical theology, 22.0% in pastoral ministries, Christian education, counseling, spiritual formation, or world missions, and 3.8% other. This is similar to previous years. It shows a bible-centered curriculum, and a bible-centered interest on the part of students.

The combined Dallas + Houston collection grew modestly. We acquired many e-books as part of a Muse package.

Total Collection Size, Combined Dallas and Houston Collections	7/1/2012	Added in FY	DFEC in FY	7/1/2013
Print volumes	231,007	4,376	-55	235,328
Microforms	56,034	1	0	56,035
Other physical pieces	11,707	159	-21	11,845
E-books, sole owner	9,033	2,724	0	11,757
E-books, shared consortial owner	11,266	0	0	11,266
E-journals (titles)	2,269	72	0	2,341
Meaningless Total	321,316	7,332	-76	328,572

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

The e-journal collection is growing rapidly. This FY we subscribed to 599 online journals and 557 print, including 79 received in both online and print format, so the total of unduplicated unique titles was 1077. **This is the first year the number of online journal subscriptions exceeded the number of print subscriptions.**

Current periodical title subscriptions						
FY	online only	print/paper only	duplicated = received in both online & print	total net unduplicated titles	total print received	total online received
2010-11	22	581	105	708	686	127
2011-12	461	557	75	1093	632	536
2012-13	520	478	79	1077	557	599

In addition, we also rent/lease annual access to over 10,000 peer reviewed e-journals and over 100,000 e-books. They are not included in the tables above because they are rented, not owned. They are mostly non-theological. In addition, we own about 1,700 online journal backruns,

mostly in JSTOR, but of course all of our current online subscriptions are also accumulating backruns. These are not included in the current subscription count above because they are backruns.

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 supply e-resources. 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 theological publishers are selling electronic resources.

During the year, the front door photocell counted 134,685 round-trip visits; that is equivalent to 157 visits to the library per student (i.e., per Dallas campus FTE student). There were 288,372 pages scanned, 207,689 pages printed, 47,286 pages photocopied, and 12,863 computer lab sign-ins. Although visits to the building have declined steadily during the past decade, students are still using the facility very frequently. Distance programs and new student housing on campus have not eliminated the need for a library building. Personal laptops have not eliminated the need for a computer lab.