MEMO

To: Elizabeth Vogt, Assistant Vice President, Accreditation & Institutional Effectiveness

From: Karen Harker, Head of Collection Assessment

CC: Diane Bruxvoort, Dean of Libraries

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Subject: Linguistics and ESL Academic Program Review

Date: July 28, 2023

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The UNT Libraries Collection Assessment Department has reviewed the resources and materials in subjects which are relevant to the curricula of the Linguistics and ESL program. While not comprehensive, this review provides insights into the needs of students and faculty who teach and the resources that the UNT Libraries provides to meet these needs. Recommendations for further review are provided, as well.

Our review indicated that **the UNT Libraries' collections appear to support the curricular needs of the Linguistics and ESL programs**. Subjects highlighted in this collection include:

Strong Subjects	Adequately Meets Needs	Needing Attention
Language Acquisition *(P118)* Machine Learning. Pattern Recognition *(Q325-327)* Artificial Intelligence *(Q334-342)* Information Theory *(Q350-390)* Philology, Linguistics *(P)* Sociolinguistics *(P40-40.5)* Stylistics - Style, Composition & Rhetoric *(P301)* Mass Media. Communication *(P87-95)*	English Language, Grammar, Composition, Elem. *(LB1575.8-1576)* Ethnolinguistics *(P35)* Philosophy, Origin of Language *(P101-112)* Special Topics in Computer Science *(QA76.9)*	English Language - Modern *(PE1001-1693)* English Language - Slang, Argot, Vulgarisms *(PE3701-3729)* Periodicals. Congresses. Dictionaries *(P1-29.5)* Psycholinguistics *(P37)*

Measures of Holdings	Linguistics Collection	All Titles	All Collections *(Median)*
All titles	38,589	3,674,644	36,771
Books *(% of collection)*	91%	69%	84%
eBooks *(% of all books)*	46%	54%	27%
Journals *(% of collection)*	5%	8%	7%
Online journals *(% of all journals)*	70%	84%	70%
Open Access *(% of online journals)*	36%	30%	28%
Embargoed *(% of online journals)*	8%	3%	10%
Audiovisual *(% of collection)*	2%	14%	3%
Published since 2000 *(% of collection)*	52%	36%	38%

The Linguistics collection is heavily text-centric, with 96% of the titles being books or journals. It is also relatively young, with over half of its titles published after 2000. This collection also has a larger proportion of ebooks than most collections, with 46% of book titles available online, greater than most other collections. The journals are more accessible than most collections, with greater proportion available Open Access and lower proportion embargoed, which restricts access to the most recent issues.

Measures of Quality	Linguistics Collection	All Titles	All Collections *(Median)*
Choice's OAT* books provided *(% of OAT)*	67.0%	67.9%	63.0%
JCR journals provided** *(% of JCR)*	81.7%	79.9%	82.5%
Interlibrary Loan requests *(% of all requests)*	0.9%	--	0.7%
Ratio of Borrowings to Holdings *(% of Holdings / % of ILL requests)*	1.50	--	1.08
Book Requests *(% of collection requests for books)*	48%	47%	48.5%

* *Choice's* Outstanding Academic Titles (OAT) are those with particularly strong reviews.
** Journal Citation Report (JCR) journals are journals that have high bibliometric scores.

The Linguistics collection appears to be notably strong. The UNT Libraries provides access to 82% of the journals indexed in the ***Journal Citation Report* (JCR)**, well above the median of all collections. Most notably, over 95% of the top-rated journals in these subjects are available. These rates were strongest in the education research, communication, social science, computer, and information science, all over 90%. Weaker areas include probability, as well as linguistics and language. The UNT Libraries also provides quality books, with 67% of the **Outstanding Academic Titles (OAT)** relevant to the Linguistics collection, which is substantially above the median of the collections. Resources relevant to the Linguistics collection are requested via **Interlibrary Loans (ILL)** at a

greater than expected rate, given the size of the collection, despite substantial declines in 2020. Requests for articles are slightly greater than those for books (62% vs.38%).

Peer Group		Distinct	Gap	Shared	Grand Total
National Peers (10)	Held by UNT and Peers	7%	83%	10%	100%
	Held by Majority of Peers	N/A	45%	55%	100%
Texas Peers (7)	Held by UNT and Peers	9%	75%	16%	100%
	Held by Majority of Peers	N/A	30%	70%	100%

Comparison of holdings with peer libraries is another measure of quality (see Appendix). A relatively large proportion of collective titles which are **unique** is important for supporting a **research** program, while a relatively larger proportion of titles which are **shared** amongst UNT and at least one other peer is important for supporting an **undergraduate** program. The UNT Libraries provides a collection that strongly supports the undergraduate and master's professional development academic programs in Linguistics and ESL. There is a solid base of titles that are shared with both statewide and national peers, with relatively lower rates of titles not owned. The collection is not as distinctive as expected for supporting a doctoral research agenda. An exception to this is the relatively large collection of audiovisual resources that support communication for trade and business skills.

Measures of Usage	Linguistics Collection	All Collections *(Median)*
Circulation to Holdings ratio *(% of circs / % of holdings)*	3.9	0.8
% of all circulations	*2.3%*	*0.2%*
% of total holdings	*0.6%*	*0.2%*
Online books used *(% of collection)*	24.1%	31.3%
Depth of online book usage *(# uses / title used)*	44.6	63.2
Breadth of online book usage *(# uses / total titles)*	10.7	20.3
Journal usage ratio *(% of all uses/% of all titles)*	2.0	2.07
% of all journal usage	*0.6%*	*0.8%*
% of all active titles	*0.3%*	*0.3%*

Circulation of physical materials has rebounded since the COVID crisis and is on track to returning to pre-COVID levels . Since 2021 the physical check out has been increasing substantially. While usage of **ebooks** is less use than most collections (23% of titles used, compared with a median of 31%), this usage has been declining, possibly due to changes in the curriculum. **Journal** usage has been steadily increasing, reflecting growing reliance on the use of journal literature in the field. Usage of journals in the Linguistics collection is particularly strong, representing over 2% of all usage, despite a collection of only 0.9% of all titles.

- **ComAbstracts/ComIndex**
- **Sage Research Methods**
- **Sage – Linguistics Database**
- **Mergent Intellect**
- **Statista**
- *Transactions of the Association for Computational Linguistics*
- *Nature Machine Intelligence*
- *Communication Methods and Measures*

Digital Collections
- **UNT Data Repository**
- **Corpus collections available**
- **Manipur Language Collection**
- **Lamkang Language Collection**

RECOMMENDATIONS

Analyses of subjects was based on holdings, usage, interlibrary loan requests, and overlap with *Choice's* OAT. The Collection Assessment Department recommends continuing standard collection development methods, with stronger focus on language acquisition, artificial intelligence, philology, linguistics, sociolinguistics and mass media. We also recommend adding more ethnolinguistics, computational linguistics, English language in slang, argot, and vulgarisms, and Psycholinguistics.

APPENDIX

PEER INSTITUTIONS

The National Peers were selected from *The Chronicle of Higher Education*s [Who does your college think its peers are?](#). The Texas peers were selected based largely on data from the UNT Data Analysis and Institutional Research (DAIR) Insight's *Admitted Yet Enrolled Elsewhere* dashboard.

National Peers	Texas Peers
Arizona State University Florida International University Florida State University Georgia State University Indiana University - Bloomington SUNY at Albany University of Cincinnati University of Central Florida University of California - Santa Barbara University of Oklahoma - Norman	Texas A&M University Texas State University Texas Tech University University of Houston UT Arlington UT Dallas UT San Antonio