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**TOPIC:** University of Maryland, College Park: Procurement of Subscriptions to Serials for the Acquisitions Department of McKeldin Library

**COMMITTEE:** Finance

**DATE OF COMMITTEE MEETING:** June 18, 2013

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Acquisitions at the University of Maryland, College Park, McKeldin Library coordinates the procurement of serials comprising periodicals, newspapers and electronic resources. The University's Libraries currently acquire, on an annual basis, approximately 7,000 serial and periodical titles, including foreign and domestic newspapers. Serials are procured as needed through a contract with EBSCO Information Services, who then coordinates all acquisitions on behalf of the University.

The University is requesting Board approval for the award of the third and final two-year renewal option, to run from July 04, 2013 through July 03, 2015, in the amount of \$13 million.

This request for approval is submitted to the Finance Committee of the Board of Regents pursuant to University System of Maryland Procurement Policies and Procedures, Section VII.C.2 for procurements exceeding \$5 million.

EBSCO Information Services has access to major and minor publishing organizations throughout the world and provides the University with listings of new publications and assists in locating and procuring obscure publications many of which are out-of-print. The University lacks the staff resources or the world-wide access to search, locate, track and acquire publications on such a large scale

The contract for these services and access to the breadth of publications that are then available to the University are essential research and education resources that might otherwise not be available, impacting performance on government contracts and grants and would also impact the quality of education provided to the student population at large. This contract as well removes the burden both financial and operational from individual departments that would be required to expend valuable resources to establish individual relationships and procurement vehicles with publishers for each a unique publication is required by individual departments, and Finally, this contract is both effective and efficient as it leverages the University's collective purchasing power providing a cost benefit through price discounts that are negotiated by the vendor that flow down to the University.

**CONTRACT(S):** EBSCO Information Services

**ALTERNATIVE(S):** The serial purchases under this contract support virtually every academic discipline at the University of Maryland, College Park as well as other University System of Maryland institutions. The availability of these serials is essential to the University delivering high quality education and research in order to maintain the reputation within the academic community as a cutting edge institution of higher learning. Continuing the contract described herein is the most effective and efficient method for managing the large volume and complex array of serial publications required at the University.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The \$13 million spend includes the cost of the services provided by the vendor and the cost of periodicals acquired over the term of the contract. The source of funds to pay for these services and acquisitions is current unrestricted funds. This contract is available to other institutions within the System under the same contract terms and conditions.

**CHANCELLOR'S RECOMMENDATION:** That the Finance Committee recommends that the Board of Regents approve for the University of Maryland, College Park, the award of the third and final two-year renewal option to EBSCO Information Services in the approximate amount of \$13 million for the purpose of procuring serials as described above.

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COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

DATE:

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BOARD ACTION:

DATE:

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SUBMITTED BY: Joseph F. Vivona (301) 445-1923

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