

# West Side Informer

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*are available at the Check*  
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*The newsletter is written*  
*and published by the West*  
*Campus Library Staff.*

## The Cost of Access

The costs for journal subscriptions have been increasing and library budgets have a hard time keeping up. As it becomes more common to end subscriptions to print journals and concentrate on online subscriptions, it becomes increasingly important to keep these subscriptions; when the subscription to an online journal ends, the library loses access to all of it, not just the most recent issues.

A 2005 study looked at 386 scholarly business journals, comparing various factors to see what affected the subscription prices of business journals. Factors included the number of issues put out each year and the age of the journal as well as impact and publication location. The average annual library subscription price of these 386 journals was \$990, with a large amount of variation; the least expensive subscription was for *The Journal of Management Accounting Research* at \$15 and *The International Journal of Bank Marketing* was the most expensive at \$12,519 a year. This average annual subscription price for business journals puts them in the list of most expensive disciplines, ranked not far behind subscription prices for many of the scientific disciplines found in a 2011 study even using numbers from six years earlier.

Liu, L. (2005) Factors determining subscription prices of scholarly journals in business discipline: Themes and variations. *Library Collections, Acquisitions, and Technical Services*, 29 (4), 382-394. Retrieved from Elsevier ScienceDirect Complete database.

Lisa M. Rose-Wiles (2011): The High Cost of Science Journals: A Case Study and Discussion, *Journal of Electronic Resources Librarianship*, 23:3, 219-241. Retrieved from Academic Search Complete.

## Open Access Week

We're not talking about the computer lab! Open Access refers to free and unrestricted availability to publications or other resources on the Internet. In the traditional publication model, an author would submit an article to a journal which is made available to libraries or individuals who paid to subscribe to the journal which limits the visibility of the article to those who can afford to pay for these subscriptions. Authors who choose to publish their articles in Open Access journals make their work available to anyone who has access to the internet.

Open Access Week will be celebrated at A&M on October 22-26 and the theme is "Set Your Research Free." For more information, stop by the Open Access Café in the WCL lobby on Thursday, October 25, or contact Digital Services & Scholarly Communication at [digital@library.tamu.edu](mailto:digital@library.tamu.edu)

## Halloween Is Coming

While Halloween isn't one of the big money making holidays, Halloween spending is increasing. The amount that people planned on spending went up 18.3% from 5.8 billion in 2010 to 6.9 billion in 2011. Almost everyone (94.6%) plans to buy candy, though due to candy being less expensive than costumes, even though only 53.3% of people plan to buy costumes, they expect to spend more money on them and the total expenditures for costumes and candy end up being very similar.

Mintel. (2012, July) *Holiday Shopping - US*. Retrieved from <http://academic.mintel.com/>.