

Section 4: Comparison of 2000-2007

The comparison of number of records from the years 2000-2007 contains three sections. The first analysis comparing the years 2000-2007 is a comparison of the two complete 5 year intervals of 1995-1999 and 2000-2004 by individual institution. The records are also compared by subject areas by library and by unique records within the 2000-2007 year totals.

Five-Year Comparisons, 1995-1999 and 2000-2004

For the individual libraries in the SUL study, Table 4-1 shows the percentage increase/decrease between the two five year intervals, 1995-1999 and 2000-2004. (The totals for 2000-2004 were added together from the single years in the WCA product. The data are from 1st quarter 2008).

Table 4-1
Rate of Change Between 1995-1999 and 2000-2004

Rank	Institution	% of increase/Decrease
1	Florida State University Music Library	223.54%
2	Florida A&M University, College of Law	187.11%
3	Florida International University, College of Law	166.94%
4	Florida State University, College of Medicine	65.96%
5	Florida A&M University	47.19%
6	University of South Florida, Poynter Memorial Library	45.05%
7	Florida State University, Ringling	19.79%
8	New College	2.20%
9	University of Florida, Lawton Chiles Law Library	2.14%
10	University of Central Florida	1.03%
11	Florida Gulf Coast University	0.57%
12	Florida State University, College of Law	-5.03%
13	Florida Atlantic University	-8.54%
14	University of North Florida	-10.78%
15	Florida International University	-13.21%
16	University of South Florida	-15.97%
17	University of Florida	-16.86%
18	University of Florida, Gainesville Health Science	-20.50%
19	University of West Florida	-25.67%
20	University of Florida, Jacksonville Health Science	-28.68%
21	Florida State University	-30.79%
22	Florida International University, Biscayne Bay	-36.05%
23	Florida Solar Energy Center	-41.81%
24	University of South Florida Mental Health	-47.47%
25	University of South Florida Health Science	-52.20%

It can be seen from Table 4-1, that the majority of the libraries have a decrease in number of records in the last interval, 2000-2004, from the previous interval for 1995-1999. Those libraries that have large increases in the latter interval are special subject libraries. The **Ringling Art Museum** has a 20% increase; **FSU College of Medicine** a 66% increase; **FIU College of Law** has a 167% increase; and the **FSU Music Library** a 224% increase. The only other increases occur at the **USF St. Petersburg** library at 45% and **Florida A&M** at 47%. The **UF Law Library** and **New College** each had a 2% increase. The **University of Central Florida** had a 1% increase with **FGCU** at an even lesser .6 percent.

With the exception of UCF, the larger institutions all have a decrease in the number of records from 1995-1999 to 2000-2004. **Florida State University** has a 31% decrease; **West Florida** 26%; **UF** 17%; **USF** 16%; **FIU** 13%; and **North Florida** 11%. **FAU** has a smaller decrease at 8.5%.

As with the largest increases, the largest declines were in specialized libraries. The **Florida Solar Energy Center** had -42%, the **USF Florida Mental Health Institute**, -48%, and the **USF Health Sciences Center Library** -52%.

The next analysis examines the trends by subject division to identify particular subject areas that may have larger or smaller increases or decreases than the overall pattern for the 2000-2004 timeframe.

Subject Divisions 1995-1999 and 2000-2004

There are several common patterns in the subject divisions for increase/decrease among the university general library collections. Florida State, University of Florida, Florida Gulf Coast, North Florida, Central Florida, South Florida, West Florida, Florida A & M, Florida International, and Florida Atlantic all show large declines in the medicine and health divisions. There are also huge declines in the number of government document records in these library collections. Increases vary more by library but most have increases in the humanities and social sciences. Some have increases in the physical sciences outside of the health sciences and medical divisions.

The **University of Florida** has very few subject divisions with an increase in records in the last five year interval. The overall decline is 17 percent. Art and Architecture and Performing Arts both increase more than 10%. Divisions with a less than 10% increase are Chemistry, Mathematics, Physical Education, and Physical Sciences. All other divisions decrease with the health sciences and medicine among the larger declines. Psychology and Library Science/Reference both decrease over 20%. History and LLL decrease slightly. Government documents also has the largest percentage decline of all divisions at 81 percent.

Florida State University has no subject divisions with increases. The overall rate of decline is 31 percent. There are very large declines in the health sciences and medicine, Physical sciences, and Music. Divisions with the lowest declines are

Education, LLL, Physical Education, Political Science, and Sociology. Government Documents also have among the largest declines at nearly 80 percent.

The **University of South Florida** has decreases in the majority of divisions, but the decreases are more evenly spread over the collection. The highest decrease is in Government Documents with the next highest decreases in the health sciences and medicine. The only other decrease over 20% is in Computer Science. The largest increase is in Physical Education with 37%. The next increase is in Physical Sciences at 10%. The overall rate of decline is 16 percent.

The **University of Central Florida** collection has a very slight 1 percent increase between the two five year intervals. UCF has a similar pattern to the other large research libraries with large decreases in health sciences and medicine, Agriculture, Psychology, and Law. Government Documents again has the largest decrease of over 80%. The decreases are offset by substantial increases in other divisions: Music has the largest increase with 56%; Art & Architecture, Performing Arts, and Physical Sciences are in the 40% range. Mathematics, Physical Sciences, and Sociology are all over 20%. The remaining divisions have varying increases under 20%.

Florida Atlantic had the lowest decrease among the general university libraries at 8.5%. After Government Documents the largest declines were in the health sciences and medicine. Aside from those divisions there were only declines of less than 10% in Agriculture, Geography, and Psychology. The majority of subject divisions had increases in the last five-year interval of 2000-2004. The largest increase was in Performing Arts at 44%, followed by Music at 40%, Computer Science at 31%, Art and Architecture and Physical Sciences at 28%, Biological Sciences at 22% and History at 20%. Chemistry, Mathematics, Education, Philosophy/Religion, and Sociology are all in the 10% to 12% range. Other divisions increased less than 10%.

For **Florida International** the overall decline was 13 percent. After Government Documents, the largest declines were in the health sciences and medicine divisions with the exception of Health Facilities and Nursing, which had an 18% increase. There was over a 40% decrease in Chemistry; a 28% decline in Mathematics; and a 21% decline in Agriculture. All other declines were less than 20%. The healthy increases were in Sociology, Art and Architecture, Computer Science, History, LLL, Music, Performing Arts, Physical Education, and Sociology. Other divisions had increases of less than 10%.

Florida A & M University had a 47% increase in monograph records during the 2000- 2004 interval in sciences and medicine. There were huge increases in LLL of 274%, Performing Arts at 241%, and Psychology at 213%. There were 12 divisions with increases of over 100%: Agriculture, Anthropology, Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Education, Geography, History, Law, Mathematics, Music, Philosophy/religion, Physical Sciences, and Sociology. Other divisions had increases of less than 100%, but substantial increases nonetheless. The increases were spread

across the broad subject divisions of the sciences, social sciences, and humanities, unlike in the other university libraries.

The **University of North Florida** had an 11% decrease in monograph records during the 2000-2004 interval. The largest decreases were in the health sciences with the exception of the division of Medicine, which increased 36%. The declines were in the same divisions as the other universities, but to a lesser extent in Government Documents. Lesser decreases of over 10% occurred in Art & Architecture, History, Music, and Sociology. Areas which increased were Biological Sciences, Chemistry (with the largest increase of 55%), Computer Science, Education, Engineering, and Mathematics. Increases of less than 10% occurred in Anthropology, Physical Education, and Physical Sciences. The subject divisions supported with increases were in the sciences with both humanities and social sciences sustaining decreases in addition to the health sciences.

West Florida, with a 26% decrease in records, did not have many areas with increases in records in the 2000-2004 interval. The largest decreases follow the same pattern as seen in the other university libraries with decreases in the health sciences and medicine divisions and the largest decrease in Government Documents. Aside from these areas, decreases of over 20% occurred in Business, Education, and Mathematics. Computer Science and Psychology had declines of 17% and Anthropology and Law had declines of nearly 11%. Chemistry, History, Music, Philosophy/religion, Physical sciences and Sociology all had modest increases under 10%.

Florida Gulf Coast had no difference in the number of records between the two five-year intervals with less than a .6% increase. The largest decreases were in the same subject divisions as other SUL general libraries of health sciences and medicine, Library science/reference, Physical sciences, Psychology, and Government Documents. Subject areas with lesser declines below 20% were Education, Business, and Sociology. Subject Divisions with large increases were Agriculture, Art and Architecture, Computer Science, LLL, and Philosophy/religion. The emphases in the increases were mainly in the humanities and social sciences.

The **Biscayne Bay** Campus Library of FIU had a 36% decrease in the 2000-2004 interval. The decreases follow the pattern of the largest decreases in Government Documents and the health sciences/medicine. Other subject divisions with high decreases over 40% were Business, Philosophy/religion, and Psychology. Subject divisions with decreases over 20% were Anthropology, Education, Engineering, Law, Library science/reference, Physical Sciences, Political Science, and Sociology. Areas that had an increase were Art and Architecture, Computer Science, LLL, and Physical Education.

The **USF St. Petersburg** campus library had a 45% increase in records in the second interval under study. The only decreases were in the same subject divisions as the other general academic libraries in Government Documents and health sciences and

the medicine divisions other than Medicine. The only other area with a decrease was Chemistry. The areas with over one thousand records which had substantial increases of over 20% were Art & Architecture, Business, Education, Engineering, History, LLL, Medicine, and Sociology. With such a large increase, the St. Petersburg Library must have received an increase in funding. The additions were concentrated in subject divisions central to the undergraduate and graduate emphases of the university.

New College is the smallest of the general university collections. The rate of change was almost steady state in the second five-year interval with a very slight 2% increase in records. There were large decreases in the same areas of health sciences/medicine. The subject areas with the largest number of records were History and LLL with declines of 20% and 35% respectively. Contrary to the other university collections, the area with the largest number of records and over a 220% increase was Government Documents. Only two other areas had slight increases, Music and Political Science. If the huge increase in Government Documents is removed, the rate of change is negative, as only three of the 30 subject divisions had increases.

Medical/Health Sciences Libraries

The four health sciences libraries will be looked at as a group with the USF Mental Health Institute also included.

The largest of the health sciences libraries is at the **University of Florida** in Gainesville which had 20.5% decrease in the 2000-2004 interval. The largest subject division for that library is Medicine with over 7,000 records for both five-year intervals. There is a decrease of nearly 6% for the Medicine division. The next largest division is Health Professions & Public Health with a 28% decrease in the number of records in the second five-year interval. Biological Sciences is third largest with 766 records in the first interval and 587 in the second interval for a 23% decrease. All other divisions have less than 500 records and varying rates of change, all declines but slight increases for Physical Education and Psychology.

The **University of South Florida Health Sciences** library is the second largest of the university health sciences collections. It had a 52% decrease in the number of records in the second interval. The only division with a substantial number of records is Medicine, which had a 43% decline. Health Professions had 424 records in the first interval, but only 173 records in the second interval for a 59% decline. The other divisions had less than 100 records in the second interval. The rate of change is very large percentage declines, but the declines are on very small numbers. Disregarding all of the divisions except the two of Medicine and Health Professions, the rate of decline is still 51%, or little different from the overall rate of change at -52%.

The **University of Florida Health Science Center in Jacksonville** library does not have any records in six of the subject divisions for the 10 year period and had a 100% decline in seven of the divisions on a number of records of 2 or one. Again, the division with the largest number of records was Medicine which had a 17% decline in the second interval. All of the other divisions had too few records for the rate of change to be meaningful.

The **Florida State University College of Medicine** Library was opened in the last decade. The collection is the smallest of the health sciences libraries, but shows substantial growth in the 10-year period 1995-2004. The overall rate of change is a positive 66%. As with the other health sciences libraries, the general division of Medicine has the largest number of records. It increased 106% in number of records from the first interval to the second. The only other division with over two hundred records in the second interval is Health Professions which had a 61% increase. The other divisions have too few records for the rate of change to be meaningful.

The **University of South Florida Mental Health Institute** has a larger collection than all of the health sciences libraries except UF in Gainesville. The largest division for FMHI is also the general Medicine division which had a 46% decrease in the second interval. Sociology had the second largest number of records in the first interval with a 34% decrease in the second interval. FMHI also has a larger collection of government documents than the health sciences libraries, but that division decreased 76%. Again, the rate of change for the majority of the subject divisions is calculated on very small absolute numbers.

With the exception of the Florida State College of Medicine library, the health sciences collections all show substantial declines in both of the five-year intervals from 1995-2004. Overall, for the health sciences collections, eighteen of the subject divisions had less than 500 records in the 2000-2004 interval, thus having the effect of diminishing in importance either large increases or decreases in the number of records. But each of the 30 subject divisions contributes equally to the overall average percentage rate of change. If the number of records for each subject division is examined as well as the rate of change, it can be seen that largest changes may indeed be in areas with very few records.

If the main library collections were reducing acquisitions in the health sciences and medicine fields and relying upon the health sciences libraries, the WCA analysis shows that the special libraries in the health sciences were reducing numbers in the same subject divisions.

Law Libraries

Only one of the four law library collections has a decrease in records in the second five-year interval and that is a small 5% decline for the FSU Law Library. The University of Florida Law Library has a very small increase in records of 2%. Both FAMU and the FIU College of Law Library have large increases of 187% and 167% respectively.

The **University of Florida Law Library** collection is the largest with the largest number of records in the Law, Government Documents, Business & Economics, and Political Science divisions. These all increased in number of records in the second interval with the exception of Government Documents. The Law division had 5,522 records in the first interval and increased 8% to 5,978 records in the second interval. Business & Economics increased 10% and Political Science, with less than 1,000 records, increased 64%.

The **FSU Law Library** had a 1% increase in Law, the largest division. All of the other divisions had numbers less than 300 records in the second interval. There were large increases and decreases by division on very small absolute numbers. For both the **FAMU** and **FIU** law libraries, the Law division is the only one with substantial numbers. For FAMU there was an increase of 185% and for FIU the increase was 159% in the Law division. As with the two larger law libraries, the remaining subject divisions had numbers too low to be meaningful.

Other Special Collections

The two Florida State Special collections, the Ringling and the Music Library each had increases in number of records from 1995-1999 to 2000-2004. The Ringling had a 20% increase and the Music Library had a 224% increase. For the **Ringling**, the overall rate of change is somewhat skewed by over 100% increases in subjects with very low numbers of records. The same can be said for the decreases, except for the two areas with the largest number of records, which had an increase in records. The number of records was fairly steady for each year in 2000-2004, except for an increase in 2003.

For the **FSU Music Library**, there was an increase of 234% in the Music division. All other areas had very low numbers of records with mostly increases. The FSU main library shows an 87% decline in the Music division for the same time period.

The **Florida Solar Energy Center** had a decrease of 42% in the number of records in the 2000-2004 interval from the five years before. The division with the largest number of records, Engineering, decreased 38%. All other areas had numbers too low to be significant.

There are common patterns for the SUL in differences between numbers of records in the last five year interval in the study from 2000-2004 and the previous interval 1995-1999. All but one of the general libraries had large declines in the division of Government Documents. In many of the libraries this was the subject division with the largest decline. The subjects with the next largest declines common to the majority of the libraries were the divisions in the health sciences and medicine. These subject divisions showed declines in both the general libraries and in the health sciences libraries. Increases in numbers of records were in the humanities and social sciences in many libraries, although this was not as prevalent a pattern as the decreases in the health sciences and medicine.

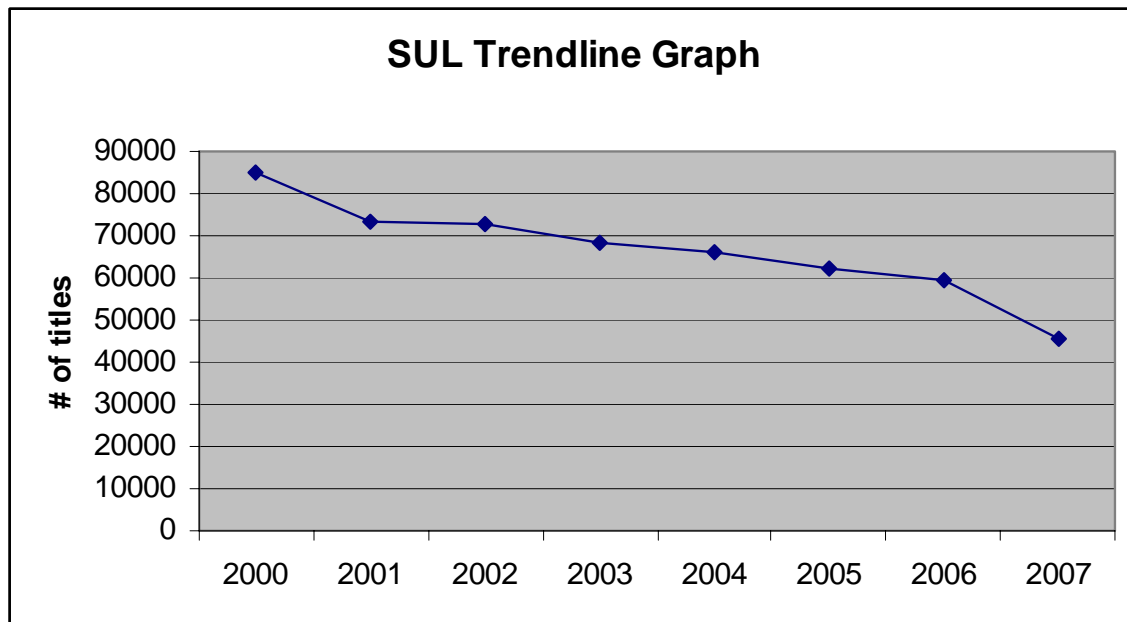
The largest increases and also the largest decreases occurred in the special libraries. The general library collections had declines ranging from -8.5% for FAU to -36% for FIU Biscayne Bay. The USF St. Petersburg Library had a 45% increase in records. Other general libraries, New College, UCF and FGCU, had small increases between the two intervals.

Rate of Change 2000-2007

A pattern of decline in the number of current bibliographic records is seen in the data in the SUL study as shown in Figure 4-1. The aggregate collection has its highest percentage of total in 2000 at 2.28% and decreases each year to 1.22% in 2007. Within the subject divisions for the 2000-2007 time period, the majority of the subjects have percentages of total under 3 percent in 2000. Only Computer Science and Medicine have higher percentages. Computer Science has close to 5% at 4.89%. Medicine has the highest percentage of all of the subject divisions at 5.28% in 2000. The annual percentages for each decrease as the years become more current.

A trend-line graph was created for each library showing the trajectory of the record numbers for books from 2000-2007. The initial analysis above for the last two five year intervals in the study has shown that the majority of the libraries had a decrease in the number of records in the second five-year interval ending in 2004. In the 2000-2007 analysis, for the majority of the libraries, the number of records is fairly steady until 2004. Then there is a steep plunge in the numbers to 2007. Since the data in the SUL study were extracted in early 2008, it is easy to see that there has not been a long enough time span between the last imprint year and the point of extraction to adequately reflect the number of titles for 2007. But the previous years also show declines in the number of records.

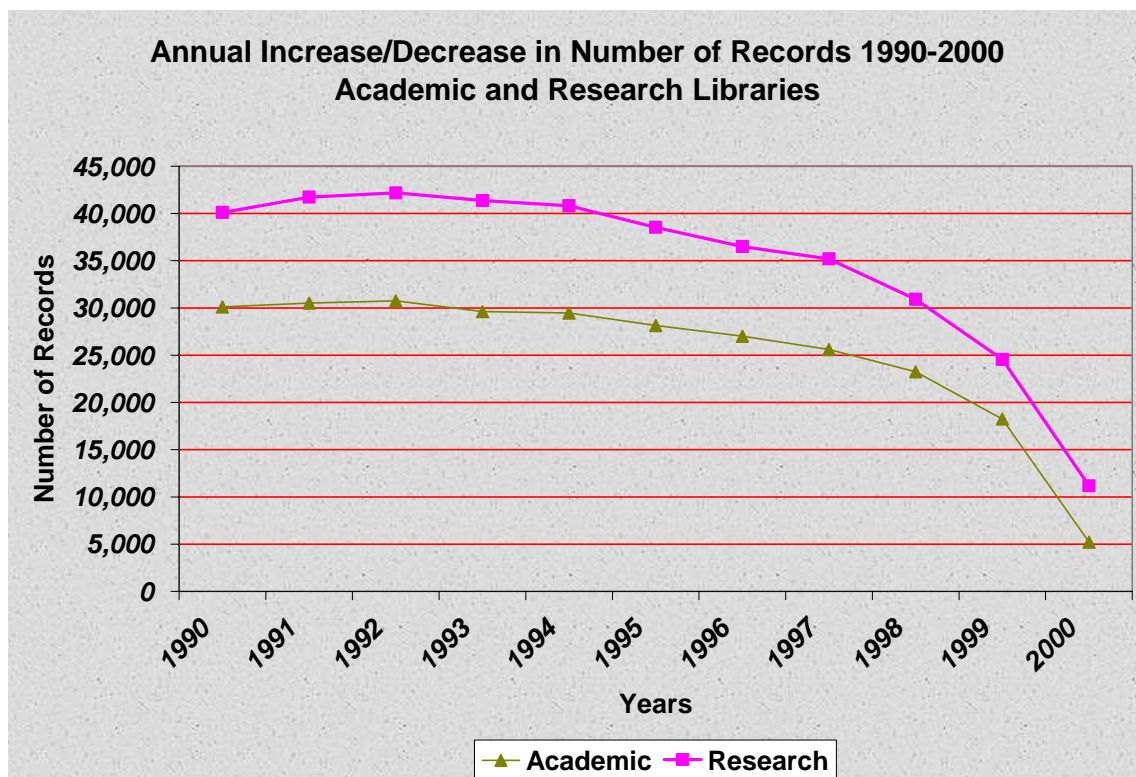
Figure 4-1
SUL 2000-2007



Two institutions, **UF** and **FIU**, have straight declines beginning in 2000. **Florida Gulf Coast** and **West Florida** have similar patterns with a decline from 2000 to 2003, a slight upturn to 2004, then a decline from 2004 forward. **FAU** and **USF** decline from 2000 and then again begin to decline in 2004. Other libraries have variations from the patterns of the larger institutions. Only one library has an increase in the last years --the **University of Florida Jacksonville Health Science Center** library has a steep decline with a bottom in 2003, then a straight upward increase to 2007, forming a U-shaped curve.

The reasons for the decline in numbers in the most current years cannot be determined from the data presented here. There are research findings which confirm that there is a pattern of a decline in the number of records in the most current years in WorldCat. Findings from that study show that the same pattern of decline seen in the SUL in the most current years is evident in WorldCat. Prior research by Perrault on aggregate data for ARL libraries has also confirmed this pattern. Figure 4-2 from the WorldCat study illustrates the findings with regard to the pattern of decrease in the most current years in the WorldCat study.

Figure 4-2



The graph shows the number of bibliographic records for the last ten years in the WorldCat study for two library groupings of research libraries and non-ARL academic libraries. It can easily be seen that the trendline for numbers of bibliographic records by

year is similar for both groupings of libraries. The pattern is the same for the WorldCat database. (In fact the research has also shown that the research libraries set the profile of the WorldCat database) Analyses of subsets of the WorldCat data by unique records and by language groupings of English and Non-English all evince the same pattern of decline.

In the WorldCat study, the decline begins as far back as seven years from the most current year in the study. Other analyses performed in the WorldCat study show that the records in the most current years tend to be for mainstream published materials (those with ISBN numbers) and that the richness of content as reflected in the WorldCat database develops over many years. It is assumed that both cataloging lag and the spread of acquisitions over time are the major factors responsible for the gradual build up of imprints for any one year. It cannot be assumed that the decline is a result of decreased funding.

Because libraries add titles constantly, the number of retrospective materials tends to rise over time. No exact number of years can be determined by which the trend graphs would indicate a leveling off of number of records by year. The individual graphs for the time period 2000-2007 for the majority of the SUL have the same pattern as that found in the WorldCat study in 2002. In the SUL, the decline beginning before 2000 would seem to indicate that at least a 10 year period is involved in continued additions to WorldCat, causing significant change in the number of records over time. With continued additions, it is possible that the decreases will turn into increases over time within the SUL.

The speed with which new acquisitions are added to WorldCat is a factor that has been identified in previous research. And decreasing amounts of funding can certainly be a factor, but that cannot be presumed from just looking at the data. The tendency has been through the years for librarians to point to rises and falls in funding as the main reason the number of records by publication year increase and decline in trend graphs. All of these variables are only known at the local level. Those with knowledge of the budgetary history for their institution are in a position to know if the trendlines have any correlation to funding for the same years.

It is ironic, that the WorldCat CA product was begun by WLN as a tool to assist with current acquisitions decisions among groups of libraries. It does assist when the title in question appears as being owned by one or more libraries in the group. It does not help for titles not found in the database which, according to the WorldCat findings, would tend to be the more unusual items and not mainstream publications. As stated previously, the richness of collections is built over a long period of time.

The next section looks at the percentage of records classified as unique for the years 2000-2007.

Unique Records, 2000-2007

The percentage of unique titles by year does follow a pattern among the general university libraries.

Beginning with the largest, the **University of Florida**, The percentage of unique records ranges from the highest at 42% in 2004 to the lowest at 25% in 2007. Since the total collection percentage of unique records for UF is 40%, the percentage unique by year hovers close to the total unique except in the last two years when it decreases to 30% and then 25 percent. Unlike the other general libraries, the percentage of “shared by” begins to decrease beginning with “shared by 3.” By “shared by 5,” the percentages of records shared with other libraries are less than 10% in every year. The higher percentages of unique records means that the number and percentage of titles shared with other library collections are much lower than those of the other general libraries.

The highest percentage unique from 2000-2007 for **FSU** is in the last year at 22 percent. The next highest are in 2001 and 2002. The percentages of unique for each year in 2000-2007 are far below the total collection unique percentage of 30 percent. The percentage “shared by” increases each year for “shared by 2 - 4.” The percentages increase for the number “shared by” until “shared by 4,” after which they begin to decrease as the number of libraries gets larger. It is not until “shared by 9” that the percentages shared are under 10 percent.

The **University of South Florida** also has a percentage unique for 2000-2007 much lower than the total collection percentage unique at 15 percent. The lowest percentage unique is in 2000 with fluctuations between 8% and 9% until 2006 when it decreases to 7% and ends up with 8% in 2007. The “shared by” fluctuate in the same pattern as the unique. The highest percentage of “shared by” occurs in 2007 for “shared by 2 – 5.” The percentage unique by year increases through “shared by 4” and then begins to decrease with the larger number of libraries. For the 2000-2007 time frame USF seems to have a large number of records shared with the other libraries in the SUL grouping.

The **University of Central Florida** has percentages of unique in the 2000-2007 period near the total collection percentage unique at 15 percent with the exception of 21% unique in 2007. The percentages for unique from 2000-2007 are much higher than for the University of South Florida, although the percentages in the “shared by” are also generally higher than USF. The percentages do increase each year in “shared by 2 and 3.” They remain in a much narrower range for “shared by 4 and 5.” The percentages by year also decrease as the number of “shared by” libraries increases and beginning with “shared by 5” they decrease in the most recent years. Beginning with “shared by 7” the percentages are all below 10 percent.

For **Florida Atlantic** the percentages of unique records 2000-2007 vary in the range of 11% to 13%, close to the overall collection percentage of unique at 13 percent. 2000 and 2001 are outside that range with 8% and 10%. The “shared by” are also lower in those two years with increases in percentages until 2006. Then 2007 has the highest percentages of unique in “shared by 2 – 4.” The percentages of “shared by” for all years increase until “shared by 6” in which they begin dropping.

Florida International University has close to 12% in total collection unique records. For 2000-2007, the percentages by year of unique records range from a low of 7% in 2000 to a high of 15.5% in 2007. There is a steady increase in percentages of unique records in the last three years. The “shared by 2” fluctuates in a range of 12% to 17% until 2007 when the percentage spikes to 22 percent. The percentages by year decrease beginning with “shared by 3,” although generally remaining above 10% until “shared by 7.”

For the **University of West Florida** the percentages of unique titles for all of the years 2000-2007 are higher than the overall collection percentage of 11 percent. The percentages of unique are the lowest in 2000 at 12% and increase to nearly 20% in 2007. The percentage unique is lower than the larger general libraries in the lower “shared by” and then increase each year in “shared by 3 - 6.” Then the percentages for “shared by” begin decreasing with “shared by 6,” but the percentages for the previous years increase beginning with “shared by 4.” 2007 is the exception with larger percentages in the “shared by until “shared by 6.

Florida Gulf Coast has a unique percentage of 10% for the overall collection. The range in percentage unique is from 6% in 2000 to 13% in 2007. The percentages fluctuate between 6% to 9% until 2007, in which the percentage unique spikes to 13 percent. The percentages increase by year for “shared by 2 and 3.” The prevalent pattern is that the percentages of “shared by” increase each year from 2000 until 2006 in “shared by 4 and 5.” In “shared by 6” the percentages for the earlier years are still increasing while the last four years are decreasing. FGCU also has high percentages shared with other libraries.

FAMU has a 9% share of collection in unique records. From 2000-2007, the percentage of unique records are in a much lower range from 3% to 6% than the majority of the other general collections. The percentage of unique records fluctuates and reaches the lowest in 2006 with 5% in 2007. In the “shared by 2,” there are high percentages of unique records at 16% in 2006 and 26% in 2007. Beginning with “shared by 3,” the percentages of unique records increases from 2000 to 2007 and continue to increase through “shared by 4.” For the earlier years, the percentage of unique records remains higher than the most recent years beginning with “shared by 6.” The increases in percentages as the number of “shared by” libraries increase are consonant with the low number of unique records.

The **University of North Florida** has only one year below the overall collection percentage of unique records of 9% from 2000-2007. The years 2002-2007 are all above the total collection percentage ranging from 10% in 2005-2006 to 15% unique in 2007. "Shared by 2" has higher percentages in 2003-2004, but ends with a lower percentage than unique in 2007. The pattern for "shared by 3" more closely follows the pattern of the majority of the general libraries in that the percentages of "shared by" increase from 2000-2007. The percentages still increase in "shared by 4" except that they are lower than in "shared by 3" until the last two years in which they increase to over 20%, the highest in the "shared by" groupings. As with other libraries, the percentage of shared increases and remain high in 2000 through "shared by 7." The percentages of shared records are higher for the larger number of libraries. This pattern is seen in the other libraries of similar size.

The **FIU Biscayne Bay** campus library has an overall collection percentage unique of 6 percent. The percentage unique records for 2000-2007 are in a range of 7% to 9%, with the exception of 2007 in which the percentage spikes to 26 percent. The percentages for "shared by 2" are in a range of 6% to near 10% until 2006 in which the percentage increases to 11% and then to 19% in 2007. The percentages for the "shared by" groupings do not form much of a pattern, although overall they gradually increase for most of the "shared by" groupings as the number of libraries increases until they begin to decrease at "shared by 7." The increases in percentages as the number of "shared by" libraries increases are consonant with the low number of unique records.

St. Petersburg has the lowest percentage of overall collection unique at 5 percent. The percentages are near 5% for all of the years except 2005 with 7 percent in unique records. The percentage of records in the "shared by" categories increases as the number of libraries increases up through "shared by 6" in which all but the last two years increase. As with the collections of similar size, the percentage of records shared is still fairly large up to "shared by 9."

New College has a total collection percentage of unique records at 13 percent. The percentage of unique records for total collection is higher than that for 2001-2003 and very close with a lower 12% in 2004. The percentages unique are much lower in the last three years from 2005-2007. New College does not follow the pattern of increase in the percentage of unique records in the most current years found in the other general library collections. The pattern for the "shared by" is also different. New College has very large percentages in "shared by 2" from 2002-2005. Then very low percentages of shared in the last two years, 2006-2007. In "shared by 3," the percentages are more even until a spike in 2004-2005, after which the percentages level off to near 9% in the last two years. In "shared by 4," the percentages are much lower, with the exception of the last two years in which they rise to 43% and then 50 percent. New College does have larger percentages than other of the academic libraries in the "shared by 8-10" range.

Special Libraries

The **FSU Ringling Museum of Art Library** has over 50% of collection in unique records within the SUL grouping. For the 2000-2007 years, the percentage unique fluctuates between 40% and 52%. The highest percentages of “shared by” occur in “shared by 2,” after which the highest percentage is 8% in “shared by 3” and 10% in “shared by 4” in one year. The percentages of “shared by” are very low throughout the time frame with the largest in the two most current years. With the extremely high level of uniqueness, the percentages for “shared by” are the lowest of any in the SUL.

The **FSU Music Library** has over 22% in unique monographic bibliographic records. The percentage unique ranges from 8% in 2001 to the highest at 17% in 2003. The library has the highest percentage of “shared by” in 2007 until “shared by 5.” The “shared by” percentages are highest in “shared by 6” indicating that there are a number of music collections with records in common in the SUL grouping.

The **Florida Solar Energy Center** has a large percentage of unique monographic bibliographic records at 41 percent. For the years 2000-2007, the range of unique percentage is from a low of 29% in 2005 to 62.5% in 2007 with no particular trend. The largest percentage of “shared by” occurs in “shared by 2,” after which the percentages decline. The overall “shared by” percentages are very low with only a few exceptions. The FSE has a very unique collection and very low overlap with the general library collections.

Law Libraries

The **University of Florida** and the **FSU Law** libraries have very close to the same percentage of unique records at over 26% for UF and 28% for FSU. For UF the range of unique percentage for the years 2000-2007 is from 13% in 2000 to 36% in 2007. For FSU Law the range is from 17% in 2004 and 2001 to 22.5% in 2002. The last two years for FSU have 21 percent. Both UF and FSU have over 20% of “shared by 2” for most years and similar percentages for “shared by 3.” FSU has higher percentages in “shared by 4.” The **FIU College of Law** library has a 24% overall unique, similar to that of UF and FSU. The percentage unique for 2000-2007 is in a similar range as FSU from 17% in 2001 to 22% in 2002. The **FAMU College of Law** Library has the lowest overall percentage unique at 17%. The range is slightly lower for 2000-2007 than the other three law libraries from 14% in 2004 to 23% in 2001. The “shared by” are highest in “shared by 2 and 3.” As the percentages of unique and “shared by” are within the SUL grouping, the law libraries share records with the general libraries.

Medical/Health Sciences Libraries

The two University of South Florida libraries, **FMHI** and **Shimberg Health Sciences** have close to the same percentage unique at 38% and 37% respectively. **FMHI** has very high percentages of unique records in all of the years from 2000-2007. The lowest is 27% in 2006 and 28.6% in 2007, but the other years range from 43% in 2000 to 54% in 2004. With these high percentages of unique records the percentages of “shared by” are lower beginning with “shared by 3,” with the exception of 2007 which remains higher than the other years. The overall percentage of collection shared is 8% in “shared by 3” and reduces to the 6%, then 5% range after that. As **FMHI** is not a general health sciences library, the collection has different emphases. The high unique percentages and low “shared by,” show that **FMHI** does not hold the same titles as the other libraries.

The **USF Health Sciences Center** has a 37% overall unique percentage, but the percentages by year are considerably less in 2000 and 2001. The percentage begins to increase in 2002 at nearly 23% and rises to 36% in 2006. In 2007 the percentage is slightly less at 32%. The “shared by” are also very high and fluctuate by year until “shared by 6.”

The health sciences library with the next highest percentage of unique records is the **UF Health Science Center** at 33%. The percentage unique for the years 2000-2007 are very high ranging from 22% in 2000 to 51% in 2007. Likewise the “shared by” are also high, then reduce considerably in “shared by 3” and again in “shared by 4,” after which they level off until “shared by 7.” The **UF Health Science Center in Jacksonville** has 23% unique records, but very high percentages of unique after 2001 ranging from 40% in 2002 to 56% in 2007.

The **FSU College of Medicine** library has the lowest percentage of unique records and the highest percentages in “shared by” through “shared by 6.” The percentage unique for 2000-2007 range from 11% in 2000 and 2001 to 50% in 2007. AS the collection is small, the library may be duplicating core or mainstream titles.

The only pattern that is common to almost all of the libraries is that the uniqueness increases as the years become more current. Rather than buying the same titles in current years, the acquisitions are more varied and unique, but as we move further back in time, the “fill in” results in more copies of the same titles.

An example can be given to illustrate the pattern of collections becoming less unique. In 1999, a study was conducted by the Triangle Research Network into the effectiveness of a joint approval plan between the **TRLN** libraries. Six months of acquisitions were examined including all holdings, not just those titles received on approval. Fifty percent of the approval titles were shipped to only one library. But when all holdings were examined, the pattern was reversed and the percentage of titles held by only one library fell to 11% after other types of purchases or gift additions. In the case of the three **TRLN**

libraries, the relative uniqueness resulting from approval plan shipments in fact was largely erased by discretionary purchases.¹

By subject over the 2000-2007 time span, only two subject divisions have more than 3% of total by year: Computer Science and Medicine. It appears that these subject divisions are receiving more support than any of the other 30 subject divisions.

¹ Kim Armstrong and Bob Nardini. "Making the Common Uncommon? Examining Consortial Approval Plan Cooperation." *Collection Management* v.24, No. ½ (2000): 45-54.