The Rentschler Library plans to purchase and place on library reserve textbooks for 17 Miami Plan or other introductory courses offered at MUH. Our goal is to assist students who are unable to afford the texts or whose financial aid situation prevents them from making the purchases till several weeks into the semester. We are also giving all students an opportunity to make use of their required texts while on campus. This pilot project is intended to make these materials for learning as widely available as possible, which is certainly a part of the library’s mission.

A full list of the courses and their textbooks will soon be available on the Rentschler Library website and via the library’s blog.

For each course, a single copy of the textbook will be placed on two-hour closed reserve, meaning it cannot be taken out of the library and is loaned for two-hour blocks of time. This is a pilot project, and we plan to assess use of this current group of books at the end of the semester to guide us in making future selections and usage guidelines.

Courses and textbooks were selected based on the following criteria:

- The nature of the course (in terms of its status as a Miami Plan or introductory course)
- Significant projected student enrollment as determined by the number of sections offered during Second Semester and maximum enrollment limits in each section
- Use of a single textbook for all or most sections offered for the course
- Nature of the texts (only required texts will be purchased; no study guides, lab manuals, workbooks or other related materials included)
- Publication of a new edition of the text is not immediately pending

I would like to thank Pete Haverkos in Learning Assistance and Bob Kleefeld, Bookstore Manager, for their assistance in helping us to choose the courses for inclusion in the pilot program. Their experience and expertise were invaluable assets to us in planning for the rollout of the program. Thanks also to the many MUH instructors who regularly place their own copies of the texts for their courses on reserve in the library. One way that this program could continue to grow is through instructor donations of review copies of their texts or student donations of used copies. If you would like to put a copy of your textbook on reserve for second semester, please bring it to Kim Taylor, Circulation Supervisor, at Rentschler Library and fill out a reserve materials form.

Please inform students that these materials will be available at the start of Spring Semester and also pass this information along to your colleagues. Whether you are an instructor in one of the courses involved or are in a position to advise students about the availability of textbooks for these courses, we appreciate your help in getting the word out. Please feel free to contact me with questions or suggestions.

Thanks,
Krista