

November 17, 2005

TO: Public Libraries in Washington State

FROM: Karen Forsyth, Statewide Database Licensing Librarian

SUBJECT: THOMSON GALE ONLINE DATABASES – 2006 OFFER

Dear Colleagues,

In partnership with Washington Public Libraries Cooperate! (WPLC!), the Washington State Library Statewide Database Licensing Project and THOMSON GALE are pleased to offer the 2006 THOMSON GALE database renewal package. This contract will cover the period from January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006, and as before, provides unlimited users for participating libraries. For 2006, you will again be able to choose your package level and, within that level, you will be able to choose the databases that best fit the needs of your library. The Washington State Library will act as the fiscal agent, so all invoicing and payments will go through our financial department.

This program will be modified in 2007 to allow libraries more flexibility and options when selecting Thomson Gale products. Thomson Gale will work with participating libraries throughout 2006 to insure that everyone understands the changes coming in 2007, and to assist staff in selecting the best options for each library. Thomson Gale will present the new program at the WPLC! meeting on January 26 2006. All interested libraries are welcome to attend this meeting.

Please select your 2006 Package based on the options below. Thomson Gale and the State Library have agreed to a 2% increase for the 2006 renewal packages. However, there will be no increase for libraries that maintain or upgrade their current package.

There are four packages to choose from (A, B, C, or D). The packages and their options are listed in Appendix B. For additional information on database content, please refer to the THOMSON GALE web site: www.gale.com.

Package A consists of twenty-one databases including the popular *Marquis Who's Who* which is only available in Package A. From the groups of databases, Package B consists of any eight, Package C consists of any six, and Package D consists of your choice of four. Package D is available only to those libraries serving a population of 100,000 or less. Gale's Biography & Genealogy Master Index Online is included at no additional charge with any of the packages.

We will still be using 2000 population statistics (source: Office of Financial Management's *Population Trends*). To calculate your approximate cost, multiply your population served (Appendix A) by the FTE cost outlined in the 2006 proposal (Appendix B). If you are staying at the same package level, or moving to a higher package level, use the 2005 FTE pricing.

If you wish to participate in the 2006 THOMSON GALE package, please complete and return the enclosed **two-page** "Intent to Participate" form (Appendix B). Be sure to check the package that you want and the databases within that package. **Please return the forms no later than November 30, 2005.** If you do not want to participate in this group purchase, there is no need to return the form. These databases are for public library access; if your local high school would like to have access to these databases please call for a quote.

Please contact me if you have questions and I will be happy to assist you. Thank you.

Karen Forsyth, Statewide Database Licensing Project
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