

OCEANBASE: A MARINE SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY BIBLIOGRAPHIC DATABASE

James W. Markham

Davidson Library
University of California, Santa Barbara
Santa Barbara, California 93106-9010
markham@library.ucsb.edu

Peter Brueggeman

Scripps Institution of Oceanography Library
University of California, San Diego
9500 Gilman Dr., Dept 0219
La Jolla, California 92093-0219
pbrueggeman@ucsd.edu

Victoria Welborn

Science Library
University of California, Santa Cruz
Santa Cruz, California 95064
welborn@cats.ucsc.edu

ABSTRACT: OceanBase, available on trial from Elsevier, was evaluated by comparing its coverage of oceanographic topics of current interest with coverage by several other databases already available to the authors. Although OceanBase retrieved citations for all topics searched, retrieval was much less than in the other databases.

INTRODUCTION

The California Digital Library (CDL) arranged for a trial of a set of science databases made available to the University of California (UC) through Elsevier ScienceDirect in April and May 2000. For our original report to CDL, OceanBase was evaluated by 4 librarians, representing 4 different University of California Libraries: J. Markham is Aquatic Sciences/Biology Librarian at UC Santa Barbara. UCSB has a strong marine science program and library collection. P. Brueggeman is Director, Scripps Institution of Oceanography Library, UC San Diego, representing the strongest marine science program and collection in the UC System. V. Welborn is Ocean Sciences Librarian at UC Santa Cruz, which has a strong marine science program and collection. J. Gelfand, Applied Sciences Librarian, UC Irvine, also participated in the evaluation for CDL, as a representative of a library with a more multidisciplinary approach to marine sciences, with less emphasis on oceanography. In order to provide more information for the

