

Advancing knowledge and technical achievement through research

The Biological and Environmental Sciences and Engineering (BESE) division of the **King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST)** boasts some of the most advanced equipment in the world for genomics, proteomics, imaging/characterization, nanofabrication, and the ability to explore global marine environments. KAUST researchers focus on how to intervene on the environment to respond to the increasing needs of food and water availability; how human activity affects environmental systems at an integrated level; and how these interventions affect living organisms.

“In terms of the content, BioOne Complete is very good in that it includes journals from many smaller publishers and societies, which we would otherwise struggle to get access to. It would also be just too messy to acquire these journals individually.”

– Lee-Yen Han, Liaison Librarian

Biological and Environmental Sciences and Engineering (BESE) Division
King Abdullah University of Science and Technology

Bringing together students, faculty, and researchers, BESE pushes the frontiers of science through collaborative inquiry into issues of global and regional significance, including cellular and molecular biology, marine science, biophysics and bioimaging, microbiology, plant science, water science and technologies, and bioengineering.

As the liaison librarian for BESE, Lee-Yen Han is responsible for development of the Biological Sciences collection, as well as outreach programs to students and faculty within the division. Ms. Han and KAUST began their partnership with BioOne Complete on a trial basis before utilizing BioOne’s “Blocks of Docs” program. Blocks of Docs is a usage-based pricing option that allows organizations to pre-purchase a defined number of full-text journal downloads for their users. This model is ideal for institutions that are not interested



in a traditional subscription and do not require perpetual access. This option also allows organizations to “test” interest in BioOne Complete among their users.

“The initial block purchase really helped us to have a full picture of what kinds of resources our patrons were using, and how useful the collection was for them,” explained Ms. Han. “The Blocks of Docs option really helped us at KAUST as when we had almost used all of the downloads, we were able to easily demonstrate the justification for switching to the annual subscription and evaluate user demand, enabling us to then acquire a full subscription, available to everyone.”

Leveraging timely, aggregated content from 200+ titles

Ms. Han relied heavily on feedback from faculty, researchers, and students while evaluating the reach and applicability of the BioOne Complete collection for KAUST. Usage data, as well as the technical architecture and effectiveness of the BioOne platform, were key factors for the university and Ms. Han’s team. Discussing the value of a full subscription, Ms. Han said, “Ultimately, BioOne’s pricing model really enabled us to move forward and gauge the true value of the content for our users.”

Ms. Han also noted that new content is constantly being added to the BioOne Complete database, with new journal articles added daily, and new journal titles added to the collection every year.

“It’s also about the ease of use of having one platform with all those different publishers and societies in one place, rather than having to go to different platforms to get that information.”

– Lee-Yen Han, Liaison Librarian

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BioOne Complete is a database of over 200 subscribed and open-access titles in the biological, ecological, and environmental sciences. Providing libraries with cost-effective access to high-quality, curated research and independent society publishers with a dynamic, community-based platform.

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