

THE WAYS AMERICAN ACADEMIC LIBRARIES  
FACE AUSTERITY

*Chen Y. Fan*

**Abstract**

Because of extreme inflation, the decrease in state and federal funding and declining student enrollment, many American colleges and universities have been suffering serious financial difficulties since late 1970s. As a part of their parent institutions, American academic libraries are inevitably confronted by this austerity.

In order to maintain the normal operation, American academic libraries look for possible ways to solve the problems: to improve resource sharing with other libraries and employee performance may be regarded as two of the most effective solutions.