

Collection Policy: Biology Program

Last reviewed January 2009

Purpose

The Collection Development policy is used as a guide to shape relevant collections and to ensure consistency in collection development. The decision to purchase library materials is primarily the responsibility of the Collections Librarian in consultation with faculty in the Department.

This policy has been developed by Carol Stephenson, the Collections Librarian, in cooperation with and endorsed by Dr. Matthew Smith, the Department Faculty Library Liaison for the Department.

Collection Focus

- To support teaching, study and research up to the graduate Master level, as well as to support faculty research.
- Areas of special interest must include: anatomy, bioinformatics, cell biology, ecology, genetics, genomics, microbiology, molecular biology, plant and animal physiology, taxonomy/systematics. Within each specific area individual faculty members may make recommendations for items to be included in the collection.

Collection Scope

- **Language:** primarily English language materials are collected.
- **Place of Publication:** priority is given to materials from North American, European or Northern Asian publishers.
- **Dates of Publication:** emphasis is placed on recently published works. Works, both serial and monograph with a publication date older than ten years may be selected for transfer to the Annex for long term storage or withdrawal.
- **Chronological Period:** works with a focus on current research will be emphasized. Those works having a historical overview may be considered.
- **Geographical Areas:** priority is given to works with a North American focus, with secondary emphasis on the British Isles, Europe and Northern Asia. Other areas of the world will be considered as the need arises.
- **Publishers:** works from scholarly and academic publishers are emphasized

Types, Formats, and Readership of Materials Collected

- Materials with academic-level readership are selected. Donations from private collections may be considered if they fill a gap in the collection.

- Web-based formats for reference sources, journals and indexing sources are preferred.
- Single copies of books in print formats are generally selected. Web-based formats are selected especially if available as publisher packages or as individual titles if of interest to users at multiple Laurier campuses. Duplication of print across Laurier campuses is generally avoided.
- Selected textbooks and study aids are obtained to complement undergraduate textbooks used in the current curriculum.
- Excluded types include abridgements, limited editions, works by vanity presses, juvenile works, reprints and partial contents (eg. single issues of journals, electronic versions of single chapters of books). Titles already held by the Universities of Waterloo and Guelph may be excluded.
- The following items, as they apply to Biology, will only be considered for inclusion in the collection upon the request of the Biology faculty:
 - Proceedings of conferences, symposia, international congresses, etc.
 - Selected Canadian and American theses
 - Reports of non-governmental organizations such as research centres, university departments, etc.
 - Numeric and/or spatial data

Subjects Collected and Collecting Priorities

Collecting priorities are categorized into 3 levels:

- A=highest emphasis. The collection includes major published materials required to support the core teaching and research at the highest degree level offered by the Department.
- B=secondary emphasis. The collection includes a selection of materials to complement the discipline as a whole, although it may not be a primary focus for courses. This level is also used to identify other departments that may have identified aspects of this area as something of highest emphasis
- C=selective emphasis. Materials, including reference materials and basic journals and indexes are collected to introduce and define an area

Library of Congress	Subject Area	Level	
Q	1-390	Science (General)	B
QH	1-83	Natural History (General, History, Conservation)	A
QH	84-100	Physiographic distribution	B
QH	101-200	Topographical distribution (by geographical area)	B
QH	201-300	Microscopy	A
QH	301-705	Biology (General)	A
QH	345	General biochemistry	A
QH	359-425	Evolution	A
QH	426-470	Genetics	A
QH	471-531	Reproduction. Life. Death	A
QH	540-549	Ecology	A
QH	573-671	Cell biology	A
QH	705	Economic biology	A
QK	1-57	Botany (General, History, Biography, Teaching)	A
QK	58-70	Collecting. Surveys and mapping	C
QK	71-82	Botanical gardens, herbariums, laboratories	C
QK	83-85	Plant lore. Wild flowers	B
QK	86-90	Conservation. Relict plants	B
QK	91-101	Classification. Identification, atlases	A
QK	102-474	Geographical distribution, phytogeography	A
QK	475-503	Spermatophyta. Phanerogams	A
QK	504-639	Cryptogams. Myxomycetes	A
QK	640-709	Plant anatomy	A
QK	710-899	Plant physiology and biochemistry	A
QK	900-989	Plant ecology. Evolution	A
QL	1-58	Zoology (General, History, Biography, Teaching)	A
QL	59-60	Wildlife	B
QL	81-100	Animals and civilization. Endangered species	B
QL	101-149	Physiographic distribution	B
QL	150-350	Geographical distribution	B
QL	351-361	Classification. Nomenclature	A
QL	362-604	Invertebrates	A
QL	605-749	Chordates. Vertebrates	A
QL	614-639.8	Fishes	A
QL	671-699	Birds	A
QL	750-800	Animal behavior	A
QL	801-950	Morphology	A
QL	951-991	Anatomy	A
QP	1-33	Physiology general	A
QP	34-38	General human physiology	C
QP	56-81.4	Physiology (General, History, Biography, Teaching)	A

QP	82	Environmental influences, e.g., altitude, cold, pesticides, radiation, stress, etc.	A
QP	83-87	Developmental physiology, e.g., growth, aging, death	A
QP	501-900	Animal biochemistry	A
QR	1-45	Microbiology (General, History, Biography, Teaching, Technique)	A
QR	75-99	Bacteria	A
QR	100-179	Microbial ecology. Micro-organisms	A
QR	180-200	Immunology	A
QR	201-300	Pathogenic micro-organisms	A
QR	301-351	Micro-organisms of animals and plants	A
QR	352-354	Mycoplasmas. Rickettsias	A
QR	355-502	Virology	A
SB	1-106	Plant Culture (General, History)	A
SB	107-168	Economic botany, seed technology	A
SB	599-991	Plant Pests and diseases	A
SB	992-998	Economic zoology	A
SF	517-599	Beneficial insects and insect culture	A
SH	20.3-199	Aquaculture	A
SH	200-400	Fisheries	A
TD	169-171	Environmental protection	A
TD	194-200	Special environment pollutants. Acid rain, industries	A
TD	365-389	Water quality. Monitoring. Conservation	A
TD	419-428	Water pollution	A

Related Programs and Support

Related materials are also purchased in support of departments and programs such as Geography, Global Studies, and other Science departments. The Universities of Guelph and Waterloo also offer programs to the graduate level in Biology. Their collections are available to Laurier students and faculty through the shared TRELIS library catalogue.

Consortial purchases with the TriUniversity Group of Libraries (Guelph, Waterloo, Laurier university libraries), with the Ontario Council of University Libraries, and on a national level through the Canadian Knowledge Research Network, are pursued.

The WLU Special Collections department has a number of collections of personal papers from local academics dealing with the environment, the Great Lakes and fisheries that may be of value to Biology students.