

Collection Development Policy

Introduction

The commitment of the Eunice and James L. West Library is to support the mission of the Texas Wesleyan University. To this end, the library shall endeavor to serve the students, faculty, and staff of the Wesleyan community by building a collection that will meet the present and future information needs.

The Library adheres to the American Library Association's documents on intellectual freedom: Library Bill of Rights, Freedom to Read Statement, and the Intellectual Freedom Statement.

Collection Development

The collection development policy encompasses both print and nonprint materials. The collection building guidelines include the realms of collection, deacquisition, and gifts.

Within budget constraints, the Librarians shall work in partnership with faculty in selecting materials. However, recommendations for selections are also accepted from staff and students. Acquisition of each recommendation although given equal consideration, shall depend upon relevance to the collection. The final responsibility of selection rests with the Dean of the Library.

Instructional materials are selected to implement, enrich, and support the educational program for the student. Materials must serve both the breadth of the curriculum and the needs and interests of individual students. It is the obligation of the university to provide for a wide range of abilities and to respect the diversity of many differing points of view. To this end principles must be placed above personal opinion and reason above prejudice in the selection of materials of the highest quality and appropriateness.

Collection: Criteria taken into consideration when selecting materials include: relevance of the subject matter to the collection; timeliness or permanence; authoritativeness; accuracy of information; author's reputation and significance as a writer; inclusion of the title in recognized bibliographies; price; availability of materials on the subject. Collections are developed in the broad areas of: reference, periodicals, juvenile, fine arts, and main circulating collection. The library adheres to the American Library Association's documents on intellectual freedom: "Library Bill of Rights," "Freedom to Read Statement," and "The Intellectual Freedom Statement."

Deacquisition: The collection is under continuous review and evaluation on title-by-title basis. The determination to deselect material is based on the following criteria: appropriateness of subject matter to the collection; obsolescence; usage; physical condition.

Gifts: Gifts are accepted with the understanding that there are no conditions attached to their disposition. The evaluation of gift materials shall be consistent with the criteria applied to collection development.