

Biological Sciences Collections Management Policy

Date created: March 5, 2004; revised February 2, 2010

Subject librarian: Linda Dunn

Purpose of the Collection

The biological sciences collection of the Allyn & Betty Taylor Library is intended to support the research activities of faculty and staff as well as students at the undergraduate, M. Sc. and PhD levels. The collection also supports the instructional requirements of the Department at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Unless specified, collection in any biological subject area is not restricted to a particular life form. With the exception of genetics and the interaction or impact of humans on other organisms or environments, materials dealing with human biology are not normally collected in the biological sciences as they form an integral part of other subject collections such as the basic medical sciences.

Scope of Coverage

- 1) **LANGUAGE:** English is the primary language of collection in the biological sciences with other languages being considered upon request.
- 2) **GEOGRAPHY:** sources of publication are primarily Canada, the United States, Australia and Europe with the language restriction applied. Collections of flora and fauna, are actively pursued for global compilations and regional collections within the Americas and the Arctic. Other regions are considered upon request and dependent upon funding availability.
- 3) **CHRONOLOGY:** Materials with a recent imprint date are preferred. Collection of older materials will be considered upon request but will be dependent upon funds as well as availability.

Type of Material Collected

In general acquisitions will include monographs, book series and journals. All theses and dissertations affiliated with the Department are also collected. Alternate formats such as CD-ROM, video, DVD, and microform are considered on an individual request basis. The focus of collecting is now shifting to resources available online and these are preferentially selected over their print counterparts especially in serials.

Exclusions

With the exception of individual requests and some selective acquisitions the following items are not actively pursued:

- popular literature
- conference and symposium proceedings,
- theses or dissertations from other institutions
- course textbooks.

Material Transfer to Long Term Storage:

Periodically it becomes necessary to analyze space availability in order to accommodate the growing collection. At these times, titles will be identified that can be transferred to our long term storage facilities. Criteria for transfer selection include but are not limited to the following:

- 1) Outdated or previous editions of titles
- 2) Medium to low use items
- 3) Material that is available in alternate formats, i.e. online
- 4) Materials that would benefit from storage in a more controlled environment.

Subject areas in support of research:

- Amphibia
- Animal behavior with attention to hibernation and torpor
- Bioinformatics
 - Genomics
 - Proteomics
- Biogeochemistry
- Cell death
- Cell signaling
- Comparative histology
- Comparative physiology
- Conservation biology
- Developmental biology with attention to
 - Cell differentiation
 - Morphogenesis
- Ecology with attention to
 - Behavioral ecology
 - Evolutionary ecology
 - Speciation
- Ecosystem health

Endocrinology
Environmental science with attention to
 Phytoremediation
 Bioassessment of aquatic ecosystems
 Bacteria-metal interactions
 Metal tolerance
Evolution
Fish biology with attention to freshwater species
Forest ecology
Fungal biology
Gene expression
Genetics
 Molecular genetics
 Phylogenetics
Insecta
Invertebrata with attention to
 Benthic macroinvertebrates
Laboratory methods & protocols
Lichen biology
Limnology
Mammalia with attention to
 Bats
 Rodents
Molecular biology of animals and flowering plants
Natural history with attention to
 Mammalian life histories
Neuroscience with attention to
 Spatial orientation
 Memory
Neurotransmitter transport
Ornithology especially songbirds
Parasitology with attention to
 Trypanosomes
 Blood flukes
Photosynthesis & photobiology
Phytochemicals with attention to
 Brassinosteroids
 Suberin
Planta
Plant biotechnology
Plant pathology
Plant physiology
Plant-pollinator Interactions
Population biology
Seed biology
Soil microbiology

Systematics & taxonomy
Watershed ecology
Weed biology
Yeasts

Subject areas in support of instruction (U = undergraduate; G = Graduate)

Animal behavior (U & G)
Animal physiology (U & G)
Biodiversity (U & G)
Bioinformatics, genomics and proteomics (U & G)
Biology of fungi (U & G)
Biostatistics (U & G)
Botany (U & G)
Cell biology (U & G)
Comparative anatomy and physiology (U & G)
Developmental biology (U & G)
Genetic engineering (U & G)
Genetics (U & G)
Ecology (U & G)
Environmental science (U & G)
Evolution (U & G)
Insect biology (U & G)
Laboratory methods and protocols (U & G)
Marine biology (U & G)
Microscopy (U & G)
Molecular biology (U & G)
Ornithology (U & G)
Parasitology (U & G)
Plant pathology (U & G)
Plant physiology and biochemistry (U & G)
Phytochemicals (U & G)
Political biology (U & G)
Population biology (U & G)
Sensory biology (U & G)
Systematics & taxonomy (U & G)
Vertebrate biology (U & G)
Wildlife management (U & G)

Support from Other Collections

It is recognized that there are multidisciplinary research groups and programs affiliated with the biological sciences such as Environmental Research Western and the Environmental Sciences program. With this in mind, the collection for biological sciences is further supplemented by collection activities in related fields such as all the basic medical sciences, chemistry, computer science, earth sciences, and engineering also housed in the Taylor Library.

Furthermore collections in anthropology, geography and psychology housed in the D.B. Weldon Library, could support some of the research and teaching activities in the biological sciences.

Biology Collection Policy
Revised 2-Feb-2010