Collection Development Policy
Chemistry

Statement of Purpose and Library Needs:

Chemistry deals with the properties, composition, and structure of substances (defined as elements and compounds), the transformations they undergo, and the energy that is released or absorbed during these processes. Chemistry is concerned with the properties of atoms and the laws governing their combinations and how the knowledge of these properties can be used to achieve specific purposes. The great challenge in chemistry is the development of a coherent explanation of the complex behavior of materials, why they appear as they do, what gives them their enduring properties, and how interactions among different substances can bring about the formation of new substances and the destruction of old ones. Chemistry also is concerned with the utilization of natural substances and the creation of artificial ones. The major subfields of chemistry are: analytical chemistry, biochemistry, inorganic chemistry, organic chemistry, polymer chemistry, physical chemistry, and industrial chemistry. [extracted from Encyclopedia Britannica]

Students completing undergraduate degrees in chemistry take course work in the following disciplines: General Chemistry, Calculus, Organic Chemistry, General Physics, Inorganic Chemistry, Analytical Chemistry, and Physical Chemistry. Students may concentrate with further coursework in the areas of Biochemistry, Health Professions, or Environmental Science. Students completing graduate degrees, in addition to the 5 traditional areas, may concentrate in such interdisciplinary and specialized areas as Bio-organic and Bio-inorganic Chemistry, Environmental Chemistry, Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy, Computer Modeling, Polymers, Photochemistry, Marine Chemistry, Medicinal Chemistry, Electrochemistry, Nucleic Acid Chemistry, and Enzymology.

The Department of Chemistry awards two degrees at the baccalaureate level, the Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry and the Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, and three degrees at the graduate level, a non-thesis Master of Arts, the Master of Science and the Doctor of Philosophy. Each of the graduate degrees offers specialization in the areas of analytical chemistry, biochemistry, inorganic chemistry, organic chemistry and physical chemistry. In addition, a Master of Arts degree is offered as part of a carefully integrated accelerated B.A.-M.A. program. The Bachelor of Science is particularly designed for students wishing to continue with graduate training in chemistry and closely allied disciplines and graduates are certified for membership in the American Chemical Society. The Bachelor of Arts provides opportunities for curricula individually tailored to meet many career objectives.

The Department of Chemistry conducts advanced research in a wide array of subjects, as follows: drug discovery, marine and environmental sciences, advanced materials, nanotechnology, bioengineering, computational chemistry, water resources, life and health sciences, and learning technology. The Department of Chemistry also participates in the Center for Molecular Design and Recognition and the Institute for Environmental Studies.

The library endeavors to develop and maintain a collection that will satisfy the need for resources that support the undergraduate and graduate curriculum in chemistry, as well as meet many of the more specialized demands from graduate students and faculty for advanced research materials.

I. COLLECTION AREAS

A. Area: Chemistry

B. Classes and Levels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LC Class</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Current Collection</th>
<th>Collection Goal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>QD 1-65</td>
<td>General chemistry</td>
<td>3c</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QD 146-197</td>
<td>Analytical chemistry</td>
<td>3c</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
C. Scope of Coverage

1. Chronological Guidelines

Emphasis is on acquiring materials dealing with current technology; items dealing with older or outdated technology are acquired selectively, generally through gifts and donations.

2. Geographic Guidelines

There are no geographic limits governing the selection of materials in this discipline.

3. Date of Publication Guidelines

Emphasis is placed on the acquisition of current imprints. Older imprints are acquired selectively according to specified collection intensity levels.

4. Language Guidelines

English is the primary language of the collection. Other languages will be acquired selectively.

D. Types of Materials Collected

1. Treatment of Subject

Emphasis is on maintaining a robust selection of journals in chemistry and developing a strong research monographic collection representing the important trade and professional presses. Conference proceedings, technical reports, dissertations, reference works, and graduate and advanced undergraduate texts are acquired selectively. Audiovisual materials and datasets are acquired selectively.

2. Format

Print resources prevail, although an increasing number of current imprints are accompanied by diskettes and CD-ROMs. Full-text electronic journals are continuously added to the virtual library. These are acquired through package arrangements with publishers, or through electronic upgrades of current subscriptions. (Note: Cancellation of a print subscription for which there is an electronic, full-text equivalent is encouraged and will follow the guidelines set forth in the document Selection of Resources for the Virtual Library.) Audiovisual presentations on laboratory procedures and field operations may be selected for purchase. The same holds true for specialized datasets, with the understanding that these resources become the permanent property of the library with no restrictions on who may use them.

II. ACQUISITIONS STRATEGY
Chemistry materials are selected by the Collection Development Librarian assigned to the department, with priority given to faculty requests. The library maintains a well-established approval plan for most trade and professional presses of interest to the department, and has current subscriptions to all American Chemical Society and Royal Society of Chemistry journals.

Retrospective purchases are done at faculty request or to replace items lost through theft and damage. Since funding is very limited for new subscriptions, access to articles in journals that are not owned by the library is routinely handled through fee-based document delivery services and inter-library loan. The library encourages faculty to periodically review their journal subscriptions and to cancel titles that are no longer of interest or value. The library occasionally receives donations of chemistry journals and monographs from faculty and the community. When it is appropriate to do so, donated materials are added to the collection.

III. COLLECTION NOTES

Upper level undergraduate texts are acquired selectively. Theses and dissertations from other institutions are generally not collected unless they are specifically requested by the faculty. Popular chemistry items are excluded.

Prepared by: Kathy Whitley - 7/12/2001