Collection Development Policy

Marine Science

Statement of Purpose and Library Needs:

The primary mission of the College is to conduct basic and applied research in ocean science, defined by application of the traditional fields of science to the biology, chemistry, geology, and physics of the marine environment, including the interactions between the marine environment and the adjoining atmosphere and land systems - presently and throughout earth's history. Included in the primary ocean science mission is the development of new technologies and tools for exploring the coupled ocean-atmosphere-land systems. Integral to the ocean science research mission is the education of graduate students. The College recruits, trains, and graduates productive, creative scientists at the Ph.D. and M.S. levels that are prepared to make independent contributions to ocean science.

[Extracted from the USF College of Marine Science Mission Statement]

The College offers two degrees, a Master of Science and a Doctor of Philosophy in the following programs: Biological Oceanography, Chemical Oceanography, Geological Oceanography, and Physical Oceanography. Over 100 students are enrolled in the College.

The CMS laboratories specialize in the following research areas:

Biological Oceanography
- Ecosystems
- Marine Fluorescence
- Microbiology
- Physiology

Chemical Oceanography
- Organic geochemistry

Geological Oceanography
- Geophysics
- Paleoceanography / Paleoclimatology
- Reef Indicators
- Seafloor mapping

Physical Oceanography
- Ocean Circulation
- Ocean Modeling and Prediction

The College also partners with the Center for Ocean Technology (COT), Institute for Marine Remote Sensing, Global Change Research Center, the United States Geological Survey Center for Coastal & Watershed Studies, the State of Florida Institute of Oceanography, and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission’s (FWC) Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI).

The College outreach programs such as Oceanography Camp for Girls, Center for Ocean Science Education Excellence (COSEE), the Executive Internship Program, and Tampa Bay Beach Buddies are intended to motivate all generations to become scientifically literate citizens and to understand the environment in which they live.

The library endeavors to develop and maintain a collection that will satisfy the need for resources that support the graduate curriculum and the specialized demands for advanced research materials.

I. COLLECTION AREAS

A. Area: Marine Science
B. Classes and Levels

GC    Oceanography
GE    Environmental sciences: marine, ocean, and polar topics.
Q115-123   Scientific voyages and expeditions
QA901-930   Fluid dynamics
QB275-343   Geodesy
QC221-246   Acoustics
QC801+    Geophysics, geomagnetism, meteorology, climatology
QD701-731   Photochemistry
QD142    Water analysis
QE39-39.4   Submarine geology
QE350    Oceans
QE500-625   Dynamic and structural geology: marine or coastal areas
QE640-699   Stratigraphy: marine or coastal areas
QH90-96    Aquatic, Marine Biology
QH541.5   Coasts, reefs, deep sea, marine, estuarine environments.
QH75-84   Conservation: marine, ocean, and polar topics
QK102-103   Aquatic, marine flora
QK930-935   Aquatic, marine botany
QL120-139   Marine animals. aquatic mammals
QL610-639   Marine or saltwater fishes
SH201-400   Fisheries
TA349-360   Applied mechanics: marine, ocean, polar, or coastal topics
TN269    Geophysical surveying
VK600-794   Tide and current tables

C. Scope of Coverage

1. Chronological Guidelines

Emphasis is on acquiring materials dealing with current research in marine science; items dealing with older research are acquired selectively, and 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 marine science and developing a strong research monographic collection representing the important university, 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 USF Libraries Website. 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 materials 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

Marine science materials are selected by the Collection Development Librarian assigned to the College, with priority given to faculty requests. The library maintains a well-established approval plan for most trade, university, and professional presses of interest to the College, and has current subscriptions to many 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 subject related 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

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

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