Collection Development and Information Access Policy

1. Purpose

The Collection Development and Information Access Policy (hereafter referred to as The Policy) supports the teaching, learning, research and cultural activities of the University by acquiring or otherwise providing access to information resources in a variety of formats.

The Policy is supplemented by the:
- Special Collection Development Policy (PDF 359kb, opens in new window)
- Archival Collection Development Policy (PDF 354kb, opens in new window)
- Donations & Gifts Policy (PDF 302kb, opens in new window)
- Deselection and Relegation Policy (PDF 141kb, opens in new window)

The Library's Guidelines for the selection of information resources are publicly available.

2. Guiding Principles

The Library employs a number of mechanisms to meet the information needs of the University and its community, including: purchase, subscription, provision of access to free and open source resources, and arrangements with other libraries and information providers. For both books and journals, the Library takes advantage of consortia purchasing arrangements.

- Resources are acquired or subscribed to on the basis of their relevance to the teaching and research interests of the University
- The Library takes advantage of consortia purchasing and leasing arrangements
- Digital versions of information resources are acquired, accessed or created in preference to resources in print or analogue form
- Multi-user access licences and those with generous provisions for use, loan, printing and download are preferred over more restricted licences. Materials will not be purchased or subscribed to where acceptable licence terms cannot be negotiated.
- Publications by and about the University and its staff will be acquired wherever possible
- Students are expected to purchase textbooks. The Library will normally only purchase a single print copy of designated text books and only if a digital copy is unavailable
- Specialist research needs may be met through Document Delivery and Interlibrary Loan
- Priority is given to resources in the English language. Exceptions to this will be made where required for teaching or research.
- Recommendations for information resources are encouraged from staff and students of the University

3. Primary User Group

The focus of the Policy is supporting the activities and needs of staff and students of the University. It seeks to balance the sometimes competing needs of teaching, learning and research, providing access to resources used by both large and small cohorts of students across multiple disciplines as well as meeting the needs of specialist researchers.

The Library will not normally purchase resources solely on the basis of interest from the community at large.

4. Access to resources and collections

- Access to ebooks and online databases and full-text journals subscribed to by the Library is normally restricted by licence to current staff and enrolled students of UniSA. Visitors to the Library in person may be permitted to access licensed content from equipment designated for this purpose
- Use of electronic resources is limited by the appropriate licence conditions, copyright legislation, the University policy on Acceptable Use of Information Technology (IT) facilities and the University By-law 7 Disorderly or offensive behaviour
- Access to digital collections owned and managed by the University is determined by the conditions applying to the particular collection and by the access conditions applicable to individual items within the collection
- Authorised users may view, print and/or download content from these online services provided such use is for study, teaching or research, does not constitute sequential and systematic downloading of an unreasonable volume of licensed content or amount to or result in commercial distribution or plagiarism
- All visitors to the Library may request and use available print resources under the terms and conditions of use of the individual resource or collection

7. Approval and Version History

Date	Action
August 2001	Created as "Online Resources Policy"
December 2003	Revised and renamed as "Resources to support teaching, learning and research by Library Leadership Team
September 2009	Reviewed and amended by LOG
March 2011	Replaced by "Collection Development and Information Access Policy" with recommendation that the Library strengthen its e-preferred practice
March 2012	Inclusion of Digital Strategy
May 2014	Reduction in referenced policies and inclusion of preference for OERs and focus on generous access licences
April 2016	Scope incorporated into guidelines to remove repetition. Link to Digital Library Strategy removed