

Gatton Library Collection Development Policy

Last updated: 1st July 2009

1. Purpose of the Collection

The Library's collection supports the undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and research activities in the areas of Natural Resources, Agriculture and Veterinary Science.

2. Primary user groups served

The Gatton Library houses the collection of materials intended to support teaching and research within many of the schools and centres within the Faculties of Natural Resources, Agriculture and Veterinary Science at the Gatton Campus:

- School of Land, Crop and Food Sciences
- School of Integrative Systems
- School of Animal Studies
- Centre for Advanced Animal Science
- Centre for Native Floriculture
- Rangelands Australia

3. History of the collection

The basis of the present collection at the Gatton Library was the collection of the Queensland Agricultural College Library. In 1897 the College was established and a library formed to support the agricultural subjects offered by the College. In 1990 the Queensland Agricultural College was amalgamated with the University of Queensland and its library became part of the University of Queensland Library.

The Gatton Library collection has expanded to support the range of undergraduate and postgraduate courses offered at the Gatton campus. The collections support agribusiness, agriculture, animal production and studies, crop production technologies, equine and companion animals, horticulture, natural systems, rural systems, soil and land resources, pesticide management, seed propagation, veterinary technology and wildlife biology. The print collections include a small newspaper and map collection. In 1999 material relating to tourism and hospitality was transferred to the Ipswich Library when the courses were offered at Ipswich campus.

Access to a wide range of electronic journals, statistical reports and bibliographic databases have augmented the print collections. In early 2000 the University Librarian prepared a submission requesting additional funding to enhance the collection to support the new programs to be offered at the Gatton Campus. As a result of this submission \$1 million was allocated to the Gatton Library to upgrade the collection.

4. Description of existing collection

The collection contains approximately 54,000 monograph titles and 290 current journal subscriptions. Multiple copies of textbooks are purchased to cater for the large number of undergraduate students and a collection of electronic course materials are also held in the library. The collection also includes a number of videos, maps and CDROMS and a newspaper collection of national and local newspapers.

The strengths of the Gatton Library collection are in agribusiness, agriculture, animal production, animal studies, environmental management, forestry, horticulture, marine resources, natural systems, protected area management, rural systems, veterinary technology and wildlife management.

The library has access to many electronic databases. These include:

- Agriculture and Natural Resources Index
- Australia Heritage Bibliography
- Biosis Previews
- CAB Abstracts
- Web of Science
- Zoological Record

The Library also has electronic access to collections of full text journals including:

- Elsevier Science Direct

- Cambridge Journals Online
- Oxford University Press
- Blackwell Science Journals
- CSIRO Online Journals

5. Interdisciplinary relationships

Other University of Queensland branch libraries supplement the resources of the Gatton Library including:

- Biological Sciences Library which collects material relating to agriculture, horticulture, environmental studies and animal studies
- Social Sciences and Humanities Library which collects material relating to human resource management, management, tourism and business
- Physical Sciences and Engineering Library which collects material relating to agricultural engineering and biometrics
- Architecture/Music Library which collects material relating to tourism and environmental planning
- Ipswich Library which collections material relating to tourism and business

There is a formal policy in place, which is designed to minimize duplication of monographic titles and to rationalize the serial collection across the various branches of the University Library.

6. Scope of current collection

- Languages collected: The collection contains English language material only.
- Geographical areas collected: No geographical areas are specifically excluded.
- Chronological periods collected: Emphasis is on current material with older material retired to the warehouse.
- Types of material collected or excluded: No forms of material are excluded.
- Publication dates: Purchases are normally restricted to current publications.
- Special Collections: Recreational Reading Collection

Recreational Reading Collection

1. Purpose of the collection

To provide UQ Gatton students and staff access to a broad range of books for recreational reading to enhance their time at Gatton.

2. History of the collection

The collection was established in 2002 in response to requests from students and various stakeholders on campus. Initial funding to establish the collection was provided by the Library, the Halls of Residence and the Gatton Campus. Continued financial support for the collection is provided by the Library, the Campus and the Halls of Residences. The Halls of Residence provides on-campus accommodation for up to 360 students. The Halls provide students with a caring environment emphasising support for academic studies and offering involvement in cultural, social and sporting activities. The commitment to a caring environment and cultural activities is demonstrated by providing funds for this collection.

3. Description of existing collection

The collection is housed at the UQ Gatton Library and includes a wide range of best selling and popular fiction, award winning titles and Australian fiction. The collection also includes best selling non-fiction titles in the areas of biography, sport and travel.

4. Scope of current collection

- Languages collected: The collection contains English language material only.
- Geographical areas collected: No geographical areas are specifically excluded but there is an emphasis on Australian content.
- Chronological periods collected: Emphasis is on current material.

Types of material collected or excluded:

- Only adult material will be collected.
- Paperback is the preferred format.
- Titles held at another UQ Library will not be collected.
- Multiple copies will not be collected.

5. Collection Development Practices

5.1 Selection

The Manager UQ Gatton Library is responsible for developing, managing, selecting and ordering materials for the collection. Selection will be undertaken at least twice a year. De-selection of material is undertaken to ensure that the collection is attractive and reflects the changing needs and interests of our customers. Material de-selected will no longer be relevant for a range of reasons:

- Obsolete and dated
- Poor physical condition
- No longer popular or useful for today's needs.

5.2 Physical conditions

- The collection will be housed separately at the UQ Gatton Library and shelved alphabetically by the author's surname.
- Items will be added to the Library catalogue. Brief records will contain author, title, date of publication and call number.
- Items will be lent to customers using the Library's automated circulation module.
- Standard loan periods and overdue charges apply.
- Items will be renewable according to Library policies.
- Holds will not be permitted.
- Items will be lent at the Gatton Library only.
- Items will not be available for Document Delivery to other libraries.

5.3 Customer suggestions

The Library acknowledges the importance of customer input. Suggestions for purchase are welcomed and will be considered within the scope of the current collection policy.

5.4 Donations

The Library accepts donations, but reserves the right to decline or redistribute them as appropriate if they do not meet the scope of the current collection.

5.5 Reports

Reports will be provided to the Gatton Library Advisory Committee, the Campus Manager and Principle, Halls of Residence on the use of the collection.