




National University of Health Sciences General Policies

Title: Library Material Selection and Objectives	Page	1	of	2
Date Adopted: 03/12/87	Date(s) Revised:	09/04/92		
 President		<u>2-11-09</u>	Date	

POLICY STATEMENT

The Sordani-Burich Library supports the objectives of the University through development of its print and non-print collections. The collections are intended to foster effective instruction, to support sound scholarship, and to provide materials which can help prepare students to become competent physicians capable of participating in the civic, social, cultural, spiritual and political aspects of their communities.

The primary goal of the library's collection development policy is to serve the educational needs of the University. The library will acquire all of the most important books, periodicals, and audiovisual materials in the fields of the University's programs and at depths appropriate to the levels of instruction. A basic reference collection and supplementary reading for courses will be collected in conjunction with this primary goal.

Secondary goals of the library's collection development policy are as follows:

- To provide access to a limited collection of cultural and recreational materials.
- To encourage independent reading and browsing habits by providing an interesting collection of useful books.
- To serve as a depository for the preservation and scholarly use of historically significant titles in designated subject areas (e.g., chiropractic, naprapathy, naturopathy, etc.) through its Special Collections and Archives.
- To serve the community as a source of information on health-related subjects, particularly, non-allopathic therapies.
- To provide for an active and continuing program of weeding (selection of material for withdrawal) through definition of guidelines for examination, retention and withdrawal of material in the collections.

GUIDELINES FOR SELECTION

The stated objectives of the collection development policy will serve as the basic guidelines for determining the subject appropriateness of all materials to be considered for acquisition. All selections will be made in accordance with the collection levels for subjects listed in the section, "Outline and Depth of Collection". The University holds final authority over all selection decisions. The Learning Resource Center (LRC) Selection Committee must approve all materials purchased. The following sources of information will be considered in screening of selections for acquisitions:

- Suggestions and completed recommendation forms from students, faculty, administration and staff within their particular subject expertise or to support their educational and/or research interests.
- Lists of recommended titles (i.e. "Brandon-Hill", "Library for Internists"), which are appropriate to the requirements of the library's collections.
- Reviews of titles from *Journal of the American Medical Association*, *Lancet*, *New England Journal of Medicine*, *Mayo Clinic Proceedings*, *Journal of the American Osteopathic Association*, and *Library Journal*, which are appropriate for inclusion in this library's collections.
- Acquisition lists from the health sciences libraries whose collections share a common subject interests with this library.
- Jobbers' listings of recognized publishers and producers (generally to be used to select between titles of similar coverage).

In addition, selections will be limited to:

- English language material only (except those items of historical value which are appropriate for inclusion in the Special Collections).
- Material whose information is current (except items of historical value which are appropriate for inclusion in the Special Collections).
- Material, which is in an appropriate format for conveying its information, (e.g., a slide or videotape program probably would convey anatomical description better than an audiocassette).

General categories of material, which might be excluded or given low priority in selection include:

- Newsletters and state journals (except chiropractic publications and unique sources of research information such as *New York State Journal of Medicine*, *New England Journal of Medicine*, and *Healing Currents*).
- Publication or productions resulting from congresses (with some exceptions such as *CIBA Foundation Clinical Symposia*).
- Reprinted papers (unless the information cannot be found in journals which are received by the Library) and
- Thesis, dissertations and other scholastic papers, except as needed for subjects collected at the comprehensive level (e.g., Archives & Special Collections).