A Five Year Collection Development Plan for

Middle Carolina University

Created by

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Collection Development Plan

Middle Carolina University

2019-2024

Introduction

This document will serve as a plan to ensure that the collections of the Middle Carolina University Libraries will continue to support the mission and vision of the Libraries over the next five years, and will serve as a starting point for future long-term planning.

Mission

The Middle Carolina University Libraries' mission is to support the university by being a guiding resource that supports teaching, learning and research. The library's goal is to cultivate an environment that aids users in a collaborative and innovative society while encouraging the open exchange of ideas, information literacy, and creativity.

Vision

Inspiring lifelong learning, advancing access to information, and nurturing and growing intellectual and cultural curiosity.

Values

- Learning: We strive to provide an environment conducive of learning allowing improvement, experimentation, innovation, creativity, and intellectual growth.

- Service: We strive to provide excellent customer service by engaging and assessing the needs of our users and responding in a friendly and helpful manner.

- Diversity: We strive to provide a safe and supportive environment of openness and inclusivity for the exploration of diverse cultures and communities.

- Access: We strive to provide access in efficient and innovative ways allowing fair use and intellectual freedom.

The collection of The Middle Carolina University Libraries is robust, with 200,000 print volumes, over 500,000 electronic resources, and 120,000 journal titles. The values and mission of the Libraries dictate that the collection must remain a strength for the Libraries and the University, and this plan will lay out a five-year series of actions and projects that must be completed to ensure that the collection grows and develops efficiently and effectively to serve the needs of the entire University community, while responsibly making use of Libraries and University resources.

Project Scope

This plan will detail specific actions and projects for chosen segments of the Libraries' collection, in order to highlight the unique and varied nature of the Libraries' collections, and to serve as illustrative examples for the collection as a whole.

Evidence-Based Nursing

A prime component of the collection of the Allied Health Library branch, students in the School of Health Sciences and the School of Nursing both rely on

the careful application of research and study to their education and their practice, and the Libraries' dedicated Allied Health Library staff focus their collection on materials that will serve this medical philosophy.

One of the core tenets of the evidence-based medicine movement is to reduce the length of time it takes for cutting-edge research to make it from publication to the bedside, and in order to accomplish this goal, the Allied Health Library has a duty to ensure that its collection is as current as possible, and to keep the collection manageable, so that the most relevant and research-supported materials are easy to find and to access.

Political Science: 21st Century Studies

The political science program at MCU is one based on the philosophy of not just teaching about the foundations of politics from ancient Greece and the Enlightenment period of the late 1600s and 1700s, but also to look at the modern tenets of political science philosophy. The political science collection at MCU University Libraries reflects this unique approach. In consultation with the faculty, the political science subject librarians have curated a collection that will meet the needs of students who are pursuing a political science major, while also ensuring that students in other majors, including history and philosophy, have access to relevant materials. With a domestic and international outlook, the political science collection will give students a well-rounded approach to modern politics.

African American Poetry (19th and 20th Century)

The African American 19th & 20th Century Poetry Collection is there to service MCU's library, English department, African American Studies department, and the Master of Fine Arts (MFA) Program. Focusing on the University's value of diversity, this collection contains poetry from African Americans in the 19th and 20th centuries. With the assistance of the departments, librarians, and University, this collection now contains a variety of journals, databases, books, and more, displaying the blessings, plights, and everything in between for African American poets in the 19th and 20th centuries. This collection serves several departments and programs, therefore, it is constantly being evaluated and expanding. Although we are unable to physically hold all the literature we would like, our online catalogs and databases are frequently updated in an attempt to provide access to more poetry from African Americans in the 19th and 20th centuries than ever before.

Users of the collection have unlimited access to any of the available online resources at any time and from any location using their MCU login information and an internet connection. Physical copies in the collection are for building use only by reason of their fragility and rareness. This collection is not exclusive to the students and faculty of the English and African American Studies department nor the MFA students. Any student, faculty, or staff has access to the collection with their MCU login information. Visitors are allowed to use the collection as long as they are in the MCU library.

STEM Education

STEM stands for science, technology, engineering and mathematics and refers to any subjects that fall under these four disciplines. Because these things are never straightforward, there are also dozens of alternative versions of STEM (including STEAM, STREAM and METALS) but STEM is by far the most widely-used.

The acronym originates from discussions about the lack of qualified graduates to work in high-tech jobs in the U.S. Since its creation, governments and universities around the world have made attracting students to STEM courses a priority, in order to address this shortfall. In some cases, it's also easier to immigrate to another country if you studied a STEM subject at degree level and are looking for work in that field.

MCU offers the STEM Program which is housed in the Center for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education. The goal of the MCU STEM Program is to broaden the pool of students pursuing mathematics, science, and engineering based majors and careers. The faculty and staff continually strive to provide opportunities to enhance abilities and develop skills that will enable students to recognize and achieve their full potential.

Future Projections

Events, developments, and trends from both inside and outside the university, the state, and the nation will affect the management of the MCU University Libraries' collections. A major change from within the university will be the establishment of the

MCU School of Medical Administration, currently scheduled for Fall 2022. An interdepartmental team of faculty, staff and students will serve as an advisory committee to the Health Science Library in order to develop a suitable collection for the new program.

A trend that is affecting all aspects of academic librarianship is the complicated move towards Open Access, and how that will affect every facet of collection development strategy from textbook adoption and course reserves to journal subscriptions and support for the research lifecycle. The potential for "read-and-publish" arrangements with major publishers may dramatically alter the serial publishing landscape, and MCU (and the UNC system) needs to be ready to adjust to that market.

Funding Goal: The Libraries will create new partnerships in order to obtain more funding for the improvement and expansion of the current collections.

Current Funding

- Funding is currently supported solely by the University's budget. Our collections, including all databases, subscription journals, books, etc., are provided on a budget of approximately $7,000.

- Maintain current funding levels.

Future Funding

- Identify gaps in current funding and find organizations, donors, etc., willing to work with the library in filling those gaps.

- Build strong partnerships with new funding sources and show plans for how their partnerships will help in improving the collection.

- Implement new funding in the areas of most need within the collections.

Weeding Goal: The Libraries will regularly and routinely weed the collection as necessary.

Current Weeding

- Each collection has its own weeding schedule but weeding is done at least once every quarter.

Future Weeding

- The libraries will create a more routine schedule for weeding the physical and online collection.

- Improve current weeding policy to reflect new changes.

- Conduct intensive weeding projects as planned in order to streamline collections in specific areas and allow for targeted growth (see below).

Acquisition Goal: The Libraries will create, maintain, and follow an acquisition policy.

Current Acquisitions

- The libraries have a policy on acquisition but it has not been updated in years.

Future Acquisitions

- The libraries will look at the current acquisition plan and update or create a new plan based on past and future projections.

- The libraries, working in collaboration with the faculty from the respective academic departments, will create an acquisitions team that will work together to evaluate and select appropriate vendors, negotiate consortium pricing, and select appropriate resources.

- Target specific areas for rapid development and growth, in response to expansion within the university (specifically, establishment of the School of Medical Administration in 2022).

5 Year Collection Development Plan Details

Collection Development 5 Year Plan	
Mini-Collection Topic	**Plan Details for Each Mini-Collection**
Evidence-Based Nursing	**Goal 1: Manage collection in order to provide cutting-edge research and educational resources for Schools of Nursing and Allied Health.** Year - 2019: Establish data collection protocols, assessment metrics, and desired targets for future collections analysis. Year - 2020: Analyze and update serials collection policy based on data from previous year. Year - 2021: Evaluate and update weeding procedures and guidelines in preparation for targeted growth in anticipation of the School of Medical Administration. Year - 2022: Meet with faculty across Health Sciences programs to align education and research goals with collections development plans. Year - 2023: Analyze monograph and textbook collection policy based on data and faculty input. **Goal 2: Establish and build collection areas for School of Medical Administration.** Year - 2019: Establish data collection protocols, assessment metrics, and desired targets for targeted growth areas. Year - 2020: Begin serial subscriptions for medical administration core journals as identified by faculty, staff, and literature review. Year - 2021: Work with incoming Medical Administration faculty to build monograph and textbook collecting in targeted growth areas. Year - 2022: Integrate growth areas with existing weeding and shelf maintenance programs. Year - 2023: Evaluate effectiveness of targeted growth in supporting new Medical Administration program.

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Political Science: 21st Century Studies	Year - Current: **Goal 1: Align the collection so that it meets current and emerging university needs.** **Goal 2: Establish assessment priorities for collections analysis, including future collection strategies and goals.** Year - 2020: Meet with faculty to ensure that the collection meets the goals of the program curriculum (recurring). Year - 2021: Evaluate the collection for updates to monographs and web-based information. Begin weeding of items in the collection as the program curriculum goals change (recurring). Year - 2022: Re-evaluate collection strategies and goals for the collection. Year - 2023: Evaluate the collection for its effectiveness in providing curricular support to the political science program.
African American Poetry (19th & 20th Century)	**Goal: Expand the collection to include oral and written poetry from African Americans from the 18th century to the present.** Year - 2019: Evaluate the effectiveness and use of the current collection. Start obtaining approvals and creating a plan for how to digitize the majority of the collection. Year - 2020: Once approvals are obtained, begin creating a database large enough to expand to encompass the new needs of the collection. Begin weeding of collection in order to create physical space within the collection. Begin obtaining and locating materials to expand the collection. Year - 2021: Start compiling the materials collected into the new online database and start adding physical copies to the current physical collection. At the end of the year, evaluate the new collection as is, define what is there, what needs to be added, discuss current location in the timeline, and address any logistical issues. Year - 2022: Continue adding to the databases and collection with the goal of having an 80% complete physical and online collection by the end of the year. Evaluate mission, goals, and values and adjust as needed. Year - 2023: Prepare for opening of new collection by solidifying the mission, values, and goals. Finalize logistical components, evaluate and update current procedures in handling, weeding, distribution, etc., of the new collection. Post advertisements and create event for opening of new collection.
STEM Education	Year 2019 - Current: **Goal 1: Manage collection to provide students in STEM programs educational resources.** Collections should be efficient and effective. Collection will have innovative technology and develop strategies that align

	with and amplify students education at MCU. Year - 2020: Communicate and collaborate with faculty to better understand the needs of students at MCU. Also, evaluate current selection to see what needs to be done to make collection resources more useful for students. Year - 2021: Start adding and compiling new resources. Databases and physical copies should be added to match curriculum of MCU. Year - 2022: Re-evaluate collection. Assess metrics and desired targets for targeted growth areas. Year - 2023: Begin weeding items in the collection as the program curriculum goals change. Prepare to add any new materials that students may need/want in the upcoming future of the library at MCU.

Summary and Other Considerations

Over the next five years, the MCU Libraries will be going through some major changes. Specifically, the Libraries will be expanding the collection of the Health Sciences Library branch to accommodate the needs of the MCU School of Medical Administration, which currently scheduled to open to students at the beginning of the Fall 2022 semester. Also, there are plans to digitize the majority of the African American Poetry (19th and 20th Century) collection by the end of 2020.

In order to accommodate these expansions to the Libraries' collections, increased funding sources will be sought. The current funding budget for the Libraries' collection, which is supported solely by the University's budget, is $7,000. This will be not enough to maintain the collection at the levels needed to support these new endeavors. The Libraries' will need to seek out additional funding sources to fill current funding gaps. Contacts with these additional funding sources, which include organizations, donors, etc.,

will be made during the August open house at the Libraries. The Libraries staff will also seek out additional funding sources throughout the year.

These additions to the collections will also require the adding of additional personnel to the library staff. The Health Sciences Library will require one full-time ALA-accredited librarian and the main library will require one part-time library assistant. The funding for the Health Sciences Library position will be part of a budgetary package for the School of Medical Administration. The funding for the main library library assistant will come from the existing payroll budget.

If for any reason the budgetary considerations for the additions to the collections cannot be completed following the timeline of this plan, the Libraries will adjust by using existing resources (current collections, personnel, etc.) to begin working on these additions.

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