

**DEVELOPING AND MANAGING INFORMATION COLLECTIONS FOR
ACADEMICS AND RESEARCHERS AT A UNIVERSITY OF
TECHNOLOGY: A CASE STUDY**

by

CAROL WENDY VAN ZIJL

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PROMOTER: DR E M GERICKE

JOINT PROMOTER: PROF M P MACHET

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SUMMARY

This study examines the efficacy of collection development and management practices, policies, guidelines and standards in universities of technology to meet the information needs of academics and researchers at such institutions. In South Africa, as in Australasia, technikons or polytechnics have been upgraded first into degree granting institutions and then, at the beginning of the 21st century, into universities of technology. The researcher was concerned that library collections in South African universities of technology have not grown to meet the research and teaching needs of academics at the level of universities offering instruction up to a doctoral level. As research funding, government grants and the general prestige of the institutions depend on the research output of the institutions, it is essential that academics and researchers find the information resources they require in their institutional libraries. Case studies of universities of technology in New Zealand and South Africa reveal that, while Auckland University of Technology has been successful in extending its collection to meet the increasing demands placed on it, the collection development policies, standards and guidelines in a South African university of technology need to be upgraded in order to meet the information needs and information behaviour of their researchers and academics. Current levels of funding for the acquisition of information resources in South Africa lag behind those found at the New Zealand university of technology. The university of technology that was the object of the South African case study needs to bring its collection in line with that of similar institutions worldwide. This entails adapting goals and objectives stating how the collection is to develop, evaluating the collection and the needs of users, changing the Collection Development Policy to reflect the direction collection development will take and ensuring that the institution and the government back this project financially. To this end, a model Collection Development Policy has been drawn up that can be adapted to the local requirements of South African universities of technology to assist with the process of developing and managing library collections that will be worthy of such an institution.

Key terms:

University of technology libraries; Collection development policies; Information needs; Information behaviour; Auckland University of Technology; Scholarly communication; Materials budgets; Library collection size; Traditional information resources; Digital information resources; Library funding.

FOREWORD

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ACRONYMS USED

ACLS - American Council of Learned Societies
ACRL – Association of College & Research Libraries
AHCI – Arts & Humanities Citation Index
ALA – American Library Association
ARL – Association of Research Libraries
AUT – Auckland University of Technology
CAUL – Council of Australian University Libraries
CCD – Collaborative Collection Development
CCI – Current Collecting Intensity
CDP – Collection Development Policy
CMC – Computer-Mediated Communication
DCI – Desired Collection Intensity
DOI – Digital Object Identifier
E-book – Electronic Book
ECS – Existing Collection Strength
E-journal – Electronic Journal
Email – electronic mail
E-resource – Electronic Resource
EWU – East Washington University
FTE – Full-Time Equivalent
GAELIC - Gauteng and Environs Library and Information Consortium
HDI – Historically-Disadvantaged Institution
HEQC - Higher Education Quality Committee
HTML – Hypertext Markup Language
ICT – Information and Communication Technology
ILL – Interlibrary Loans
IT – Information Technology
JCR – Journal Citation Reports
KFUPM - King Fahd University of Petroleum & Minerals
LAN – Local Area Network
NZQA – New Zealand Qualifications Authority

OCLC – Online Computer Library Center
OPAC – Online Public Access Catalogue
PDF – Personal Document Format
POD – Print-on-Demand
R&D – Research and Development
RLG – Research Libraries Group
SCI – Science Citation Index
CERTEC - Certification Council for Technikon Education
SMT – Science, Medical Sciences and Technology
SPARC - Scholarly Publishing & Academic Resources Coalition
SRC – Student Representative Council
SSCI – Social Science Citation Index
SUNY – State University of New York
TOC – Table of Contents
ULANZ - University Library Aotearoa New Zealand
UNLV - University of Nevada, Las Vegas
URL – Uniform Resource Locator
UTK - University of Tennessee at Knoxville
WAN – Wide Area Network
WLN – Washington Library Network
WWW – World Wide Web
XUT – X University of Technology

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