Collection Management Principles

The UTAS Library collection is a single integrated collection of physical and electronic resources. Physical material is located within our libraries or is available upon request from our onsite or offsite storage. Electronic resources are accessible to all current UTAS students and staff.

1. Information resources are selected for the collection to meet the current learning, teaching and research needs of the University community.
2. Electronic resources are preferred over print because they maximise student and staff access to collections, independent of time and location. Electronic journals and databases are preferred over print journals, and electronic books (ebooks) are preferred over print books when available.
3. The Library is committed to equitable access for the entire UTAS community within the licenced content parameters.
4. The Library provides Document Delivery services to academics, researchers, research students and staff to enable access to material beyond our collections. The Library is committed to exploring other collaborative arrangements that maximise cost-effective access to other collections and shared archives.
5. The Library develops the Library Acquisitions budget to meet the information needs of the University - responsive to changes in courses, student numbers, research directions and resources already available in its collections, and mindful of the differing costs of resources in various disciplines.
6. The Library manages the purchase, organisation and access to information resources in the most cost effective way.
7. A balance will be maintained between subscriptions and books. The library aims to spend no more than 80% of the Library's collections budget on subscriptions.
8. The Library has established regular collection management programs where evidence based decisions result in information resources that continue to meet current learning, teaching and research needs.
   8.1 The Library uses usage and return on investment measures to ensure it continues to purchase resources that are in demand.
   8.2 Wherever possible the Library avoids duplication of resources.
   8.3 Print versions of electronic resources for which the Library has guaranteed access in the long-term will be assessed for withdrawal.
   8.4 This includes consideration of preservation of unique material.
9. The Library collects and preserves the intellectual output of the University, in manuscript, print and electronic formats, through the Library Open Repository and the Special and Rare Collections. The Library preserves works by UTAS authors where identified.

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