Biological Sciences

Responsibility for Policy: Cheryl Ward
Approving Authority: University Librarian
Approved: November 2012
Next Review Date: November 2014

The Biological Sciences Collection Development Policy is bound by the general principles detailed in the Library’s Collection Development Policy. It is not a stand-alone document and should be read in conjunction with the Library’s Collection Development Policy and any other subject specific collection development documents.

1. General Information

1.1 Collection Purpose
The study of biological sciences at the University of Waikato is in the major traditional biological disciplines of microbiology, zoology and botany and the interdisciplinary subjects of biochemistry and biochemical engineering, physiology, genetics, ecology, animal behaviour, and marine biology.

The biological sciences collection supports the teaching, research and learning needs of staff and students in the Department of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science & Engineering at all levels.

Papers offered in biological sciences range from bridging courses in preparation for the study of science, through undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate certificates and diplomas to masters and PhD level.

1.2 Primary User Groups
The primary users of the collection are students and staff of the Faculty of Science and Engineering.

Students may major in biological sciences for the Bachelor of Science (BSc) or Bachelor of Science (Technology) (BSc(Tech)).

A number of interdisciplinary majors are available, including Resources and Environmental Planning, Environmental Science (with specialisations in Marine Sciences, Environmental Microbiology, Land and Freshwater Environments, and Environmental Modelling), Animal Behaviour, Biotechnology and Biochemistry. Also Te Pūtaiao me ngā take Māori which is a specialisation on the BSc and BSc(Tech) degrees.

1.3 Department’s Research Interests
Research interests within the Department of Biological Sciences are listed in the Science and Engineering handbook and on the department’s website.

1.4 Interdisciplinary Relationships
The collection also supports relevant papers and research in the Departments of Engineering, Chemistry, Earth & Ocean Sciences and Psychology.
2. **Description of Existing Collection**

Relevant material is held in the following LC classification areas in the Central Library:

- QH Natural history
- QK Botany
- QL Zoology
- QM Human anatomy
- QP Physiology
- QR Microbiology

Subjects such as animal behaviour, biochemistry and ecology are included in the classification areas listed.

There is also some overlap with other subject areas in Science and Engineering. Some material may also be held in the R-RZ (Medicine) call number range.

Increasingly e-books are being purchased.

The Library provides access to scholarly journals, electronically or in print, and databases, including:

- American Chemical Society (ACS) Journals
- Cambridge Journals Online
- EBSCO
- JSTOR
- Oxford Journals
- Proquest Science Journals
- PubMed
- Sage Journals Online
- ScienceDirect (Elsevier)
- SciFinder
- Scopus
- SpringerLink Journal Collection
- Wiley Online Library
- Web of Science

3. **Scope of Collecting**

Emphasis is on undergraduate and graduate texts, research monographs, professional society publications and journals. Latest available editions of text books recommended for undergraduate courses are purchased.

Conference proceedings are not purchased unless requested or of local significance. Popular works, biographies and histories are not generally collected.

Appropriate reference works are collected and updated.

3.1 **Chronological Periods**

Although no chronological period is specifically excluded, the emphasis is on current research findings and theories in biological sciences.

3.2 **Types of Material**

Print and/or electronic formats are collected but other types of material may be considered
3.3 Geographical Areas

No geographical areas are excluded.

3.4 Languages

English is the primary language of the collection.

3.5 Publication Dates

While the collection focuses on recent and current material to support the teaching and research areas of the Biological Sciences Department, retrospective collecting may be undertaken to support new teaching and research programmes.

4. University of Waikato at Tauranga

Some Biological Science courses are offered at the Tauranga campus. The Department of Biological Sciences has a presence in the Intercoast programme which is based at Tauranga.