

Iowa State University Library Collection Development Policies For the Environment

I. General Purpose

This fund supplements other collecting areas such as Natural Resources Ecology and Management, Business, Civil Engineering, and others with environmental concerns. It is meant to collect materials that are not normally collected by any of these specific programs but are relevant to them all.

II. History

Since the University first offered classes in 1869, it has offered programs now within environmental science. Identification of environmental science as a specific discipline is a comparatively recent occurrence. The University has interdisciplinary programs in Environmental Studies and Environmental Science. The Environmental Studies program was founded in 1974 as an interdepartmental program administered by the Colleges of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Engineering, and Family and Consumer Science. The Environmental Science program was begun in 1999.

III. Iowa State University Program

The Environmental Science Program is offered through both the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the College of Agriculture. An undergraduate degree can be earned or courses can be taken for a minor. Courses must be taken in biology, earth science, chemistry, physics, calculus, and statistics. In addition, other courses are taken in a variety of areas relevant to environmental science topics. Environmental Science also offers a university-wide, interdisciplinary graduate program leading to the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees with a major in Environmental Science.

The Environmental Studies Program is taken as a second undergraduate major in addition to a major taken through one of the regular academic departments (there is also a minor available). Students must take certain Environmental Studies courses, which can be supplemented by other courses with the approval of the Program.

IV. Subject Boundaries

This fund acquires general environmental information materials not acquired by the collection development programs associated with specific academic programs. Generally, scientific and technical materials will be acquired for particular programs such as Natural Resources Ecology and Management or Civil Engineering. Materials are acquired to cover topics such as environmental public policy, environmental law, and the history of the environmental movement.

V. General Collection Guidelines

A. Linguistic.

Generally only English language materials are collected.

B. Geographical Areas.

Materials related to Iowa are collected. Materials related to the rest of the world may be collected when relevant to the instruction and research programs of the university.

C. Types of Materials Collected.

The library purchases monographs, journals, conference proceedings, technical reports, maps, access to electronic databases, and other materials. Relevant government documents are received through the federal depository program. This fund is not responsible for acquiring relevant journals.

D. Format of Materials Collected

Materials are primarily collected in paper and electronic formats. Microforms, video, and other formats may be collected.

VI. Specific Collection Guidelines

The following description of collecting levels is from the library's YBP Library Services profile:

GE Environmental Sciences

The library receives books in this area except that Journal Monographs, Conference Proceedings, Correspondence, Practical Works (Guidebooks), Non-United States material, Collections (except New Collections), Pictorial Works, and Journalistic Treatments are not automatically sent.

Also,

GE 145 (Environmental Risk Assessment) books are not automatically sent

GE 160 (Environmental Risk Assessment—other regions or countries)

books are not automatically sent

GE 190 (Environmental policy—other regions or countries) books are not

automatically sent

GE 199 (Environmentalism—other regions or countries) books are not

automatically sent.

VI. Detailed Subject Areas

Not applicable to this policy.

VIII. Other Resources Available

The library collects materials in areas that are directly relevant to environmental science.

These include biology, ecology, animal science, plant science, zoology, toxicology, civil engineering, anthropology, political science, sociology, and others.

The Iowa Department of Transportation Library located in Ames has a specialized collection related to Environmental Science. Two other major public research universities in Iowa have library resources to support faculty research in environmental sciences. A number of smaller private universities and colleges within the state have library resources supporting biological science programs.

The University of Iowa has a number of library resources of interest. There are major collections of materials in its Main Library, Biological Sciences Library, Engineering Library, Geology Library, Law Library, and the Hardin Library for the Life Sciences. The University has a department of Environmental Sciences in its College of Liberal Arts. There are also a number of other programs conducting related research.

The University of Northern Iowa's Rod Library collects a variety of literature relevant to environmental science. The University's Earth Science and Biology Departments have faculty involved in research related to that being conducted by faculty and students at Iowa State University.

IX. Cross-references to Collection Policies

X. Creation date

September 2000
Richard Llewellyn

XI. Revision History

Revised October 2006
Janet Pine

XII. LC Class(es), if applicable.

GE 1-199

XIII. Bibliographer name

Janet Pine