

## Collection Development Policy Biological Sciences

**Subject Librarian:** Rhonda Culbertson

**Purpose of policy:** The collection development policy for Biological Sciences guides the development and management of the Biological Sciences collection.

**Program Description:** The Department of Biological Sciences provides undergraduate education critical to understanding living organisms, and is fundamental to understanding life itself. A major in biology centers on a core that includes cell biology, genetics, physiology, plant science, anatomy and physiology, microbiology, and immunology. Additional courses in general chemistry, organic chemistry, physics, and mathematics round out the basic program.

### Areas of established specialization

- Comparative, environmental and organismal physiology
- Ecology of species interactions
- Biology of plants, evolution of plants
- Cell biology, cell motility mechanisms
- Genomics of cancer
- Molecular biology of vision and neural growth
- Developmental biology
- Microbiology of gut flora

### Changes in user population for most recent five years:

- Many if not most of the students have a strong preference for internet based resources.

### New and expanding areas of interest:

- Health impact of Cannabis use and medical use of marijuana

### Degrees Offered:

- BA in Biological Sciences
- BS in Biological Sciences

**Clientele:** The primary clientele are the undergraduate students, faculty, and staff of the Biology Department. Members of the Michiana community may also use the collection.

## Scope and Collection Guidelines

The Biological sciences collection consists of works written for the basic through advanced undergraduate level and for basic faculty research. Graduate- and research-level publications are collected selectively.

**Formats collected:** Scholarly monographs, serials, collections of essays, conference proceedings, videos, and electronic resources are extensively collected.

**Formats excluded:** Pamphlets, newsletters, article reprints, and required textbooks. Popular and/or journalistic monographs about social issues are selectively collected.

**Language:** The collection is primarily in English.

**Geographic coverage:** All geographic areas are covered. For titles with a geographic focus, preference is given to materials relating to the region (Michiana, northern Indiana, and Midwest).

**Chronological periods collected:** Priority is given to current publications. Older imprints are collected selectively, usually as replacements for classic works, or upon request.

**Subject Emphases:** The Biological sciences collection focuses on the topics of general biology, genetics, botany, anatomy and physiology, cell biology,

**Current Collecting Priorities:** Emphasis is on scholarly periodicals in electronic format.

**Subjects Collected Selectively:** health impact of marijuana

**Reference:** Reference material for Biological sciences are selected by the Biology subject librarian

**Location:** Biological sciences materials are housed in the Schurz Library. Works specifically about the discipline of biology are classified in the Q schedule of Library of Congress system;

Biology call number areas:

QH 1-278.5 Natural history

QH 30-705.5 Biology

QK 1-989 Botany

QL 1-991 Zoology

QM 1-695 Human Anatomy

QP 1-981 Physiology

QR 1-502 Microbiology