

**University of South Carolina
Law Library**

Collection Development Policy

Revised June 1, 2011

Collection Development Policy – Outline

I. Purpose, Mission, and Objectives

- A. Purpose
- B. Mission
- C. Objectives
- D. Definition - Collects

II. Acquisition guidelines

A. Format

- 1. Electronic resources
- 2. Loose-leaf services
- 3. Microforms
- 4. Newspapers
- 5. Pamphlets

B. Jurisdiction - United States

- 1. Constitution - Federal
- 2. Constitutional convention proceedings - Federal
- 3. Constitutions - State
- 4. Constitutional convention proceedings - State
- 5. Treaties and international agreements
- 6. Legislative materials - Federal
- 7. Legislative materials - State
 - a) State legislative journals
 - b) Legislative committee hearings
 - c) State legislative studies
 - d) Bills
- 8. Session laws - Federal
- 9. Session laws - State
- 10. Statutory compilations - Federal
- 11. Statutory compilations - State
- 12. Statutory compilations – Municipal/County
- 13. Administrative regulations - Federal
- 14. Administrative regulations - State
- 15. Administrative decisions - Federal
- 16. Administrative decision - State
- 17. Administrative reports - State non-decisional
- 18. Attorney general reports and opinions
- 19. Court rules - Federal and state
- 20. Court reports

- a) Federal official
- b) Federal unofficial
- c) State
- 21. Records and briefs - Federal
- 22. Records and briefs – State
- 23. American legal treatises - multi-jurisdictional
 - a) Current publications
 - b) Old editions
- 24. Local practice books and one-state jurisdictional treatises
- 25. American law student texts (Hornbooks)
- 26. Student casebooks
- 27. Directories
- 28. Dictionaries
- 29. Citators
- 30. Digests
- 31. Legal encyclopedias
- 32. Annotated law reports
- 33. Restatements
- 34. Form books
- 35. Legal periodicals and indexes
- 36. Legally related periodicals and indexes
- 37. Law school publications
- 38. Biographies
 - a) Individual biographies
 - b) Collected biographies
- 39. Trials
- 40. Bibliographies
- 41. Examinations
- 42. Institute and conference proceedings/publications
- 43. Proceedings of bar associations and other legal organizations
- 44. Self-Help Materials

C. Jurisdiction - Foreign, International, and Comparative

- 1. Foreign Law
 - a) Primary materials
 - i. Great Britain and Canada
 - ii. France and Germany
 - b) Secondary materials
- 2. International law
 - a) International - Primary materials (treaties)
 - b) International - Primary materials (adjudications)
 - c) International law - Secondary materials

3. Comparative law and other legal systems
 - a) Comparative law
 - b) Other legal systems

III. Additional criteria for selecting Law Library materials

1. Archival materials
2. Bibliographic and other tools for staff use
3. Current materials vs. retrospective materials
4. Duplication
5. External standards
6. Replacement
7. Collection review and De-selection
8. Gifts
9. Rare books
10. Government documents

IV. Acknowledgments

V. Appendixes

Appendix A: Electronic Resources Policy and Procedure

**Appendix B: Association of College and Research Libraries' Standards and Guidelines
Concerning Gifts**

Appendix C: Collection Review and De-selection

Appendix D: United States Government Depository Collection Policy

Collection Development Policy 2011

Coleman Karesh Law Library University of South Carolina School of Law

I. PURPOSE, MISSION, AND OBJECTIVES

A. PURPOSE

The collection development policy is intended as a guide for selecting legal research materials in various formats through effective allocation of available resources in support of the Law Library's mission and the needs of its users. The policy further serves to inform the law school and the communities it serves of the scope and nature of the Law Library's existing resources and the criteria and guiding principles employed in developing its collection.

The development policy will be reviewed regularly to adapt to changes affecting the Law Library and the needs of its users.

B. MISSION

The primary mission of the Coleman Karesh Law Library is to evaluate, acquire, organize, preserve, and provide meaningful access to legal information resources in support of the instruction, research, and service activities of the faculty, students and staff of the law school. The Law Library also serves the scholarly community of the University and encourages interdisciplinary approaches to research and learning. As the largest public Law Library in the state located in the heart of its capital city, the Law Library's collections are also utilized by government agencies, the judiciary, the practicing bar, local academic institutions and the general public.

The Law Library serves as an instructional unit within the law school responsible for teaching its students effective legal research techniques. It provides reference and research instruction within the Law Library to all its users and supports meaningful access to legal information for all South Carolinians through its web presence and outreach programs.

In addition to developing its own print and electronic collections, the Law Library actively participates in campus, regional, and national programs for collection sharing and development.

C. OBJECTIVES

The primary community served by the Law Library consists of approximately 700 students and 45 faculty members. The USC School of Law offers the Juris Doctorate degree, participates in

eleven dual-degree programs and supports four scholarly journals. The Coleman Karesh Law Library is central to the academic success of the law school with collections encompassing American law, South Carolina legal history, international and comparative law.

Consistent with the Law Library's mission and the limitations due to cost and availability of resources, the Law Library seeks to attain the following specific objectives with respect to the development and management of its collection:

- to develop a broad-based scholarly collection to support the curricular and research needs of the law school community for the present and foreseeable future, with particular emphasis on faculty and student scholarship and interest;
- to maintain a comprehensive collection of all primary and major secondary legal works of the United States central to any legal research, while avoiding unnecessary duplication of formats or titles accessible through the University or other local libraries;
- to maintain and preserve a comprehensive collection of current and retrospective primary and secondary South Carolina law and materials on South Carolina legal history;
- to enhance the monograph collection, acquiring works of enduring usefulness and ensuring sufficient depth of treatment of individual topics;
- to preserve historically significant, ephemeral, or superseded works that may be of importance to future scholarship, law reform, or legal practice;
- to participate as a contributing member of local, regional and national networks for the sharing of legal information resources;
- to comply with all external standards pertaining to academic law libraries promulgated by the American Bar Association and the Association of American Law Schools; and
- to comply with all applicable standards to fulfill its obligations as a selective depository of United States government publications and making the depository publications available to the general public upon request or as required by law.

D. Definition - Collects

This policy uses the word *collects* to describe the library's acquisition of library materials for its collections. While the Law Library may receive materials in the form of gifts or donations, the Law Library purchases the vast majority of its resources for the use of its patrons.

II. ACQUISITION GUIDELINES

A. FORMAT

1. Electronic Resources. “Electronic resources” are defined as resources that require computer access. Examples include, but are not limited to, periodical indexes, reference databases, PDF documents, e-books, and multimedia files. Data may be accessible via the Internet, online services, DVD, or CD-ROM. The policy provides guidelines for the selection, acquisition, and availability of access to these resources.

Electronic resources are selected according to the guidelines of the current collection development policy. These guidelines are used with the understanding that while much of the same criteria for selection can be used for content, digital resources present new issues and unique requirements that require additional criteria to fully evaluate the resources.

It is the Law Library’s goal to collect, to evaluate, and to organize electronic resources to provide users with relevant legal information. Selection considerations include cost, accessibility, coverage, demand, technology platform support, licensing guidelines, cost of initial acquisition, ability to keep current maintenance costs, availability of alternate and/or back-up sources, and projected longevity. This policy also takes into account the additional unique issues that are raised by copyright law and licensing requirements of electronic resources. The Law Library’s Electronic Resources Policy and Procedures are set forth in [Appendix A](#) of this policy.

2. Loose-leaf Services. The Law Library continues to acquire and maintain quality loose-leaf services from reliable legal publishers. Due to their expense (both the initial purchase price and maintenance costs), loose-leaves are closely scrutinized before purchase. Factors to be considered in selection decisions include:

- a) The known and projected research activity in the subject area.
- b) The availability and utility of duplicative material in the existing collection and in online services.
- c) Whether the currency of material is essential to research in the particular subject area, *e.g.*, taxation or labor, and if so, frequency of updating.
- d) The worth of the publisher’s or compiler’s features, such as annotations, arrangement, and integration of materials and accessing aids.
- e) In the case of competing services, whether more than one is necessary for the researcher. This decision may be facilitated by consultation with appropriate faculty researchers.
- f) Cost is a significant factor. (Components of this cost include the initial purchase price, annual maintenance costs, and ongoing labor cost of maintaining the physical item.)

The principal loose-leaf sets (*e.g.* from BNA, Lexis, Bender, CCH) are evaluated on an annual basis. Subscriptions to titles which no longer meet selection criteria and/or are of no interest to faculty are canceled. If the material is of sufficient research value, the material is retained and labeled "Not kept up to date." If not, it is discarded.

3. Microforms. The Law Library acquires microforms for the following reasons:

- a) To preserve fragile materials.
- b) To reduce the shelf space required to house materials.
- c) To fill in gaps in a serial or multi-volume title.
- d) To collect materials for which the library would have insufficient space if preserved in hard copy.
- e) To collect material otherwise unavailable to the Law Library in hard copy.
- f) To serve as a back up for a hard copy set that is in frequent use.

4. Newspapers. The library selects legal newspapers which are indexed in standard legal periodical indexes. As funds allow, additional titles and back files are added. As microform versions become available, hard copy of these newspapers is withdrawn.

5. Pamphlets. The Law Library maintains a vertical file. Pamphlets must meet the same criteria for selection as other works.

B. JURISDICTION – UNITED STATES

1. Constitution - Federal. The Federal Constitution is readily available in multiple sources. The Law Library collects a number of these sources in accordance with the guidelines for statutory compilations. The Federal Constitution may also be found in the statutory compilations of each state.

2. Constitutional Convention Proceedings - Federal. The Law Library has a collection of contemporary and historical materials on the conventions in print and through online resources.

3. Constitution - State. The Law Library collects all South Carolina Constitutions as well as annotated versions in the Code of Laws of South Carolina Annotated. The constitutions of other states are available in state statutory compilations and in other compilations.

4. Constitutional Convention Proceedings - State. The Law Library collects all South Carolina Constitutional Convention proceedings. State constitutional conventions are maintained most completely in microfiche.

5. **Treaties and International Agreements.** The Law Library collects the full text of all treaties to which the United States is or has been a party, and those treaties registered or filed and recorded with international organizations of which the United States is a member or with whom it maintains close ties.

Additionally, the Law Library collects the principal European treaty series. The Law Library maintains the major treaty series and provides access to other sources in which treaties selectively appear.

6. **Legislative Materials – Federal.** The Law Library collects federal legislative materials. The Law Library also collects indexes, both commercially produced and those provided by the government through the depository program, needed to compile a legislative history.

7. **Legislative Materials – State.**

- a) **State Legislative Journals.** The library collects South Carolina state legislative journals.

- b) **Legislative Committee Hearings.** Legislative hearings are not available for South Carolina and all requests are referred to South Carolina Legislative Council Library.

- c) **State Legislative Studies.** The Law Library collects all South Carolina law reform commission reports when they are published in bound volumes.

- d) **Bills.** South Carolina bills are available online. The Law Library maintains print copies of South Carolina House and Senate bills from 1971-1994 in its collection.

8. **Session Laws - Federal.** The Law Library collects the United States Statutes at Large through the Federal Depository Library Program.

9. **Session Laws - State.** The Law Library collects South Carolina session laws in print, online, and microform formats. The Law Library collects, as funds allow, session laws in print, online versions, and microform for states other than South Carolina.

10. **Statutory Compilations - Federal.** The Law Library collects each of the three federal statutory compilations:

- a) United States Code
 - b) United States Code Annotated
 - c) United States Code Service

11. **Statutory Compilations - State.** The Law Library collects current annotated statutes for most states as available resources allow. The Law Library retains South Carolina statute

pocket parts. The library does not collect the official codes of other states unless they are annotated. The library collects superseded volumes of state codes in microfiche format.

12. Statutory Compilations - Municipal/County. The Law Library does not collect South Carolina municipal or county codes due to their availability on-line.

13. Administrative Regulations - Federal. Regulations from 1936 forward are collected through a complete print copy of the Code of Federal Regulations for each year. The Law Library also maintains a complete set of the Code of Federal Regulations in microfiche. The Federal Register is available on microfiche from 1936 to the present.

The library does not collect procedure manuals and other internal agency regulations on a systematic basis, either through deposit or purchase, unless warranted by the complexity of the subject matter and perceived utility to our patrons.

14. Administrative Regulations - State. The Law Library collects South Carolina administrative regulations. It selectively collects publications incorporated by reference in the South Carolina Code of Regulations. The library collects and retains the South Carolina State Register from its inception.

15. Administrative Decisions - Federal. The Law Library collects all published, printed, or processed official federal administrative agency decisions available through Federal Depository System.

16. Administrative Decisions - State. The Law Library relies on online access for South Carolina administrative decisions. South Carolina administrative decisions will be collected when they are available. The Law Library does not collect other state's administrative decisions.

17. Administrative Reports - State (Non-Decisional). The Law Library collects South Carolina state administrative reports and materials when available.

18. Attorney General Reports and Opinions. The Law Library collects South Carolina Attorney General Opinions when available. Our holdings include printed opinions from 1955 to 1994; opinions on microfiche from 1978 to the present; and opinions online from 2006 to the present. The Law Library does not collect federal or other states' Attorney General Opinions.

19. Court Rules. The Law Library collects commercially produced compilations of court rules as resources allow.

20. Court Reports.

a) Federal. The Law Library collects the U.S. Reports and the following commercially published court reports:

1. Supreme Court Reporter
2. Supreme Court Reports, Lawyer's Edition
3. Federal Reporter
4. Federal Supplement
5. Federal Rules Decisions
6. Bankruptcy Reporter

The library collects loose-leaf and/or subject-specific reporters covering the federal courts as warranted by use.

b) State. The Law Library collects South Carolina court opinions including South Carolina retrospective materials. The Law Library collects the Regional Reporters for access to appellate opinions from other states.

21. Records and Briefs – Federal. The library collects U.S. Supreme Court records and briefs of cases argued and decided per curiam from 1897 to the present on microfiche. The Law Library collects Fourth Circuit records and briefs on microfiche. The Law Library retains a historical bound collection of Fourth Circuit records and briefs.

22. Records and Briefs – State. The Law Library collects and binds South Carolina Supreme Court records and briefs from 1918 to date and South Carolina Court of Appeals records and briefs since that Court's inception in 1984.

23. American Legal Treatises – Multi-jurisdictional. The Law Library collects current multi-jurisdictional and federal legal treatises.

24. Local Practice Books and One-State Jurisdictional Treatises. The Law Library collects materials relating to South Carolina law. The Law Library collects other state research guides as available.

25. American Law Hornbooks, Nutshells, and Other Study Aids. The Law Library collects current multijurisdictional hornbooks and *Nutshells*. The Law Library selectively collects commercially published study aids.

- 26. Student Casebooks.** The Law Library collects casebooks written by our faculty. The Law Library may purchase other casebooks which contain materials other than reprinted decisions or cover topics not adequately treated in other forms.
- 27. Directories.** The Law Library collects general legal directories for South Carolina and the federal government. The Law Library collects Martindale-Hubbell. The Law Library retains directories which may have research value.
- 28. Dictionaries.** The Law Library collects the latest edition of Black's Law Dictionary and other current standard legal dictionaries. The library collects foreign legal dictionaries whenever possible and maintains general unabridged English dictionaries and foreign language dictionaries as necessary.
- 29. Citators.** The Law Library collects Shepard's Citators for South Carolina in print format. The library also collects online versions of citators for South Carolina and other jurisdictions from multiple vendors.
- 30. Digests.** The Law Library collects one set of the American Digest System, but does not maintain the General Digest. The library collects the South Eastern Digest. The library also collects digests for the federal court system. Subject digests are acquired on a limited basis.
- 31. Legal Encyclopedias.** The Law Library collects *American Jurisprudence 2d* and *Corpus Juris Secundum*. The library collects state legal encyclopedias for South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia.
- 32. American Law Reports.** The Law Library collects American Law Reports (ALR). At least one copy of the predecessor sets, "Trinity Series," is retained in the collection.
- 33. Restatements.** The Law Library collects one full set each of tentative and final drafts of Restatements.
- 34. Formbooks.** The Law Library collects standard multi-jurisdictional formbooks.
- 35. Legal Periodicals and Indexes.** The Law Library collects law and law related periodicals. The library subscribes to most American accredited law school general reviews and journals and to many topical law school journals. The library does not generally collect association newsletters. Those association newsletters which are purchased have a limited retention period.

The Law Library does not purchase separate indexes for periodicals which are already indexed by ILP&B or LegalTrac unless the specialized index will allow speedier location of

articles dealing with specific issues or the index includes useful tables of cases or other authorities cited.

- 36. Legally Related Periodicals and Indexes.** The library collects new interdisciplinary journal titles and new law related titles on user demand or faculty request, if covered in one of the major indexes.
- 37. Law School Publications.** The Law Library collects materials intended for public use that are generated by the University of South Carolina Law School faculty, organizations, and staff.
- 38. Biographies.** The Law Library collects individual and collected biographies and autobiographies of South Carolina lawyers and judges, Justices of the U.S. Supreme Court, and of other prominent and universally respected legal personages whose influence on some phase of law or government has been established.
- 39. Trials.** The Law Library collects selectively in this area.
- 40. Bibliographies.** The Law Library collects bibliographies on law and law-related subjects.
- 41. Examinations.** The Law Library collects selected University of South Carolina Law School examinations contributed by the faculty.
- 42. Institute and Conference Proceedings/Publications.** The Law Library collects proceedings of institutes on a selective basis.
- 43. Publications of Bar Associations and Other Legal Organizations.** The Law Library collects bar journals which may include published proceedings of state bar associations. The library collects proceedings and journals of significant organizations of lawyers and/or judges. The Law Library collects selected publications of the American Bar Association.
- 44. Self-Help Materials.** The Law Library collects print reference materials to support the research needs of the general public and to assist patrons who are representing themselves. The Law Library also maintains research guides on its website to promote access to free legal resources through the Internet.

C. JURISDICTION - FOREIGN, INTERNATIONAL, AND COMPARATIVE

1. Foreign Law

a) Primary Materials.

- i. The Law Library collects the session laws and selected court reports of Canada and Great Britain.
 - ii. The Law Library selectively collects English translations of primary materials for France and Germany
- b) **Secondary Materials.** The library collects secondary materials from foreign jurisdictions based on present and long-term interest to the Law School. For identified subject interests, it collects leading works. It does not necessarily collect all editions of a treatise.

The Law Library does not, as a general rule, collect the foreign equivalent of American loose-leaf services or treatises written for practitioners.

The library collects major law journals as funds allow and demand requires. It does not buy journals or newsletters that serve primarily to update practitioners on legal developments in one or more countries. The library selectively collects secondary materials dealing with the federal systems of foreign countries.

2. **International Law.**

- a) **International - Primary Materials (treaties).** The Law Library collects significant treaties and international agreements. It collects compendiums of current treaties, or retrospective historical collections, where such a purchase would enhance our collection. It also collects indexes and digests, when available, to provide adequate access to the collection of treaties.

When possible, the library collects proceedings and reports issuing from significant international conferences working toward the formulation of new treaties.

- b) **International - Primary Materials (Adjudications).** The Law Library collects the documentation surrounding significant international adjudications and arbitrations, as well as the reports of final decisions.
- c) **International Law - Secondary Materials.** The Law Library collects major treatises dealing with public and private international law. In those areas in which there is current and long term interest, it selectively collects significant works and important journals dealing with international law.

3. **Comparative Law and Other Legal Systems.**

- a) **Comparative Law.** The Law Library collects scholarly monographs and treatises dealing with issues of comparative law, and on a very selective basis, those works describing matters of comparative law for practitioners.

The library selectively collects compendiums of national constitutions. Additionally, the Law Library purchases compendiums of various types of laws, *e.g.* commercial, tax and labor, only on a highly selective basis.

- b) **Other Legal Systems.** Other legal systems include Roman, Canon, Islamic, Jewish, and customary. The Law Library collects selective secondary materials that are published in these areas. If an area is of current interest within the law school, the library collects at a level adequate to support that interest as funds allow.

III. ADDITIONAL CRITERIA FOR SELECTING LAW LIBRARY MATERIALS

1. **Archival Materials.** The Law Library is willing to collect archival materials, but has limited capacity due to staff, space, and environmental constraints. The library maintains an archive of material and memorabilia related to the history of the School of Law.
2. **Bibliographic Tools for Staff Use.** To support the staff members in the performance of their duties, the Law Library acquires print and electronic legal research guides, Blue books, citation guides, ordering, cataloging and classification tools, conservation manuals, and treatises on many aspects of librarianship.
3. **Current Materials vs. Retrospective Materials.** While both current and retrospective materials are essential to the needs of the academic community, current materials will generally receive high priority. Lesser-used retrospective materials will be sought through interlibrary loan, gift or exchange. Current materials are defined as those in print, in original editions; retrospective materials are defined as those which are out of print or available only in reprints.
4. **Duplication.** Duplication within the collection is avoided unless there is a demonstrable need for multiple copies based on patron use.
5. **Replacement.** Replacement of materials is required when an item is lost or has deteriorated in condition so that it is no longer usable. In both cases the work should be re-evaluated according to the guidelines set out in this document for the selection of any material for the collection. Beyond this, other considerations should be made. If the content of works that have deteriorated in condition due to age meets the selection criteria, a decision must be made as to the replacement format.

If a replacement in good condition cannot be acquired, the library will consider a reprint or a microform copy. If necessary, the library will consider photocopying the original and binding the copy. The least desirable decision would be to remove the work from the open shelves and/or place in a phase box.

6. Collection Review and De-selection. The library's material review and de-selection policy is set forth in [Appendix B](#) of this policy.

7. Superseded Materials. Because the University of South Carolina Law Library is a major research library, the question of what superseded materials to retain in the collection becomes important. Some retention questions have been outlined within other sections of this document. In general, print versions of research materials, where only the most recent inclusive edition is useful, will be candidates for discarding (*e.g.* Shepard's).

Expository titles, particularly those that change emphasis between editions, are retained. The exception to this general policy is South Carolina materials, where both expository and research works are retained.

8. Gifts. Gift materials are treated in the same manner as other potential acquisitions: that is, they are accepted, retained, discarded, exchanged, sold, circulated, and located in accord with collection development policies of general application. No commitments to accept gifts shall be made by anyone on the library staff other than the Director of the Law Library or his/her designee.

With regard to gifts:

1. The library will determine the classification, housing and circulation of all gift items.
2. The library retains the right to dispose of gifts at any time and in any manner deemed appropriate.
3. The library will not appraise the value of any gift.
4. The library will provide only a general acknowledgment, not a list of items.
5. The Director must approve any gifts which library personnel are required to transport.

The library will follow the Association of College and Research Libraries' Standards and Guidelines concerning gifts, which is found in [Appendix C](#) to the Collection Development Policy.

9. Rare Books. Donations of rare books are gratefully accepted, under the same conditions as other gifts. Rare books may be purchased, if funds permit, for the South Carolina Legal History Collection when they are relevant to South Carolina or colonial law.

10. Government Documents. Selection of government documents, federal, state, foreign, or international, is based on subject. The Law Library will acquire federal and state documents which are relevant to legal research. Although all types of documents mentioned above are initially free when received through depository programs, their acquisition involves commitment to the costs for housing, maintaining, and processing.

For these reasons the same criteria are applied to documents as are applied to books and serials.

The Law Library does not participate in the South Carolina documents depository system and relies on the State Library and the University library for documents not acquired directly from agencies.

The Law Library is a selective depository for United States Government documents, selecting approximately 8% of available items. For the full collection policy relating to U.S. government documents, see [Appendix D](#).

IV. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Acknowledgment is made for ideas taken from University of Michigan Law Library Collection Development Statement, Thomas Cooley Law Library, Appendix B: Electronic Resources, Columbia University Law Library Acquisitions Guidelines and from the Lillian Goldman Law Library Collection Development Policy.

APPENDIXES

[Appendix A: Electronic Resources Policy and Procedure](#)

[Appendix B: Collection Review](#)

[Appendix C: Gifts](#)

[Appendix D: Government Documents](#)

Appendix A

Electronic Resources Policy and Procedure

Electronic Resources Selection Criteria

Electronic resources as defined above will be selected and evaluated by the Law Library's collection development team. The team will be responsible for selecting serials, monographs, and multimedia titles in alternative formats. Electronic resources will be selected on the basis of content, format, cost, search capabilities, vendor considerations, contract and licensing details, necessary hardware and software, as well as installation and implementation of the product. Members of the team will keep the following selection criteria in mind as they review and evaluate material for inclusion in the collection.

General Considerations:

Has the resource been requested by others?

Will the resource be heavily used?

Does the resource cover a subject area not well covered in the collection?

Does it complement an existing digital or print resource?

Does the resource have competitors in the marketplace; if so, why choose it over its competitors?

Will the resource provide access to information not available in other formats?

Can we get a trial subscription to evaluate the resource?

Is it essential to match library sources offered by peer law schools?

Specific Considerations:

Content criteria: (Predominantly the same as print materials)

Availability

Cost

Faculty Interest

User need

Language

Content Quality

- Accurate, well-written, well-edited
- Coverage and scope of the information, with regard to geographical and subject coverage, including availability of both current and historical data
- Identification of author
- Author's reputation and qualifications
- Publisher's reputation
- Objective/balanced content

- Favorable reviews
 - Source Identification
- Duplication; overlap with current resources

Product/ Format criteria:

1. Product Considerations

- Appropriateness in meeting curricular, teaching, and/or research needs
- Available in electronic format only; born digital product
- Evaluation of the strengths and flexibility of the electronic format compared with the print resource, such as additional informational access points, and user-friendliness
- If e-resource duplicates another resource, it should offer value-added enhancements, such as wider access or greater flexibility in searching
- Cost-effectiveness of the product, including potential cancellation of the print source with acquisition of the electronic source
- Currency of the product including:
 - Frequency and modes of updates, such as cumulations or supplements
 - Ease or difficulty of the updating process
 - Links are kept up to date; no inoperable links
- Functionality and ease of access
- Stability
- Uniqueness
- Relationship to other resources in the collection
- Impact on other reference sources
- Authenticity of the resource
- Links to external sites are clearly delineated
- Accessibility of simultaneous users from core user groups, allowing restricted access by means of authentication devices
- Reasonable expected longevity of product, to warrant the staff effort required to make it available
- Uniformity of software platform(s) used
- User friendliness: interface design & functionality

2. Cost Analysis

- Payment criteria: single use; multiple users, number of simultaneous users (seats); per use cost
- Initial Cost: One-time cost or initial subscription cost
- Ongoing Cost: Annual subscription, supplementation price, etc.

Cost to obtain back run, or to provide ongoing access to historical data in electronic form

Ongoing electronic preservation costs

Equipment acquisition and maintenance costs

Staffing cost to configure new products

Training costs

Subscription price discount with the purchase of vendor hardware

Cost of making licensing adjustments

Additional fees to third party vendors

Inclusion of hardware maintenance in the subscription price

Additional hardware, wiring, furniture, etc, requirements

Renovation or space reconfiguration requirements

3. Search/System Capabilities

Reasonable response time and stability of resource itself

Provision of search features such as: Boolean operators, truncation, browse functions, natural language searching, and proximity searching

Availability of Marc records for catalog searching

Ability to download search results

- PDF format

- Email results

Download capabilities

Uniformity of search protocols

User friendly, intuitiveness

Self Help/Tutorials

Quality of the search software including considerations of indexing and effective retrieval

4. Vendor Considerations

Reputation of the vendor

Availability of a demonstration product or trial period

Accessible customer support such as:

- Technical support

- Response time

- Online support

- Toll-free telephone support

- Customer support track record

- Fees assessed for support

- Availability of onsite vendor supplied training; continuous education agreements

- If product changes vendor should offer review and re-evaluation period

5. Contract & Licensing Considerations

Assessment of penalties for early contract cancellation

Contract restrictions such as:

- negotiability
- obligation to return superseded disks
- limited access and availability to walk-in patrons
- permission for off-campus access with authentication
- restrictions on downloading
- liability from patron use of information
- printing
- simultaneous multi-user licenses

Ability to comply with copyright and contractual requirements

Consortia/cooperative agreements

Archival provisions and perpetual access rights

Remote accessibility

Permission for use in course packs and reserves

Permission to use for interlibrary loan with preference for electronic transmission

Avoidance of auto-renewals

Free with print

6. Hardware and Software Considerations

Availability & compatibility of the hardware required

Storage and memory requirements of current equipment

Ease of use of navigation features

Software platform considerations including:

- Equipment requirements
- Functionality of the software
- Available via IP authentication
- Password requirements
- Data format compatibility with the law school's standards

7. Implementation/Installation

Availability of technical support including user documentation, technical documentation, and help functions

Ease of loading necessary software and hardware

Ease of uninstalling database

Acknowledgement: Criteria for selection adapted from Appendix B: Collection Development Policy: Electronic Resources of the Thomas Cooley Law Library.

Appendix B

Collection Review and De-selection

Collection Review

The Law Library's mission includes developing a collection that supports the curriculum and research needs of the law faculty and students. In support of this mission, collection review is an ongoing process comprising several facets. These facets are:

Shelf- Reading and Inventory

Weeding

Collection Evaluation

Shelf-Reading and Inventory

A complete shelf-reading and inventory of the collection is a perpetual project designed to provide more effective use of the collection by patrons and to identify missing materials.

Weeding

Both current and retrospective materials are valuable to the collection. Since the University of South Carolina Law Library is a research library, it retains at least one copy of old editions of multi-jurisdictional and federal treatises, subject to a number of factors that contribute to decisions about the retention of materials in the collection. These factors are:

- 1. Duplication.** Multiple copies will be considered for weeding. As a general rule, duplicates of South Carolina materials, faculty publications, current nutshells and hornbooks, and materials held in both the SC Legal History collection and the general collection will not be weeded.
- 2. Space Limitations.** Weeding due to space limitations will be considered if the material is available in another format, such as fiche or online.
- 3. Routine Discards.** The following items are not normally retained in the collection:
Superseded volumes of statutes and codes other than the U.S. Code and South Carolina Statutes;

Superseded Shepard's volumes;
Replacement digest volumes;
Materials that are not updated for two years or more;
Superseded encyclopedia volumes;
Items that the publisher requires to be discarded;
Nutshells and hornbooks (student editions) beyond the current and immediate prior editions.

Collection Evaluation

The collection is periodically evaluated for relevance and currency. The factors guiding the evaluation are:

- 1. Qualitative value.** If items of little or no qualitative value exist in the collection and would not be selected if they were current publications, they will be discarded.
- 2. Physical Condition.** Materials that are so fragile that they cannot be used by patrons will be weeded from the collection unless the item is irreplaceable and of great value to the collection. If that is so, the item will either be repaired/rebound/moved to phase box, or moved to the Rare Book collection.
- 3. Level of Use.** Items that receive little or no use may be considered for weeding when space needs dictate such consideration. Discarded items should no longer be relevant to the collection development plan and usually will be older non-legal works. Preferably, the items will be held in the collections of other U.S.C. libraries.
- 4. Obsolescence.** While many items retain historical value as they age, some do not. Materials that are outdated and of little historical value will be discarded. Superseded materials that are completely replaced by later editions will be discarded, other than South Carolina materials. Loose-leaf materials that have had their subscription cancelled will be reviewed for discard every year.

Appendix C

Association of College and Research Libraries' Standards and Guidelines Concerning Gifts

"Potential donors and others often seek guidance on the authenticity or market value of books and manuscripts. It is proper to assist the owner of materials in the use of reference tools for these purposes, but libraries must ensure that librarians exercise due caution when offering further advice, characterizing it as informed opinion only and explicitly warning against employing it in place of professional appraisal. Caution must be exercised in giving written certification of the authenticity or authorship of specific materials beyond the ordinary nonbinding statements made in the course of cataloging or normal reference work. United States Internal Revenue Service regulations prohibit librarians from acting as appraisers of materials given to their institutions. While donors may be helped to find expert appraisers and tax advisers, special collections libraries must make certain to avoid any appearance of collusion with potential donors to bypass provisions of the law regarding gifts. Special collections libraries should avoid any appearance of collusion or favoritism by requiring librarians to provide, whenever possible, more than one name in referring potential donors or other inquirers to appraisers, booksellers, and other persons who may be of assistance to them."

Appendix D

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT Depository Collection Policy

BACKGROUND

The Coleman Karesh Law Library, University of South Carolina in Columbia was designated a depository in 1983 under 44 U.S.C. 1916 for the purpose of supporting the faculty and students of the law school. The collection is primarily designed to serve the government information needs of the 2nd Congressional District.

COMMUNITY SERVED

Columbia is the state capitol of South Carolina and the University of South Carolina School of Law is the only public law school serving the state; therefore, the materials in the Law Library are an important resource to all South Carolinians. The library offers free and unrestricted access to all depository resources. The primary community served by the library consists of approximately 700 students and 45 faculty of the law school. The library also serves University students and faculty from all departments and the general public. The general public consists of lawyers, paralegals, pro-se patrons, state agencies and government officials and other South Carolina citizens.

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

The primary responsibility of the Law Library is to develop a collection that will support the teaching, research, and writing efforts of the faculty and the students of the Law School. As a selective depository, the library selects items which are directly related to legal research and which complement its collection. The library selects approximately 8% of items offered. The selection rate has remained stable. Library users' needs are very distinct and the library collection is narrowly limited to law. Community needs can also be met by the University's main library, which is a regional depository, and other nearby depository libraries: The South Carolina State Library, Benedict College, and Clemson University.

The Coleman Karesh Law Library is the largest legal research facility in South Carolina. The needs of the community are determined by faculty and student requests and research, and questions from the public in general. Selection of government documents and supporting materials is made by the Head of Technical Services and all professional librarians.

The staff meets on an ad hoc basis to discuss requests made by patrons and new items offered through GPO surveys. An annual review of all selections is conducted by the Head of Technical Services to re-evaluate items currently selected. Librarians also identify for purchase commercially published sources to support the collection.

Selection of depository items is held to the same criteria that apply to selection of our general collection; although "material cost" is not a factor, cost of housing, staff time, and format is a consideration. These factors are:

1. Faculty interest
2. Language
3. Quality
4. Availability
5. Cost

The library selects all titles from the "Basic Collection" listed in Chapter 5, Section 3, of the Federal Depository Library Handbook [FDLH], Rev.7/2009 (available at http://www.fdlp.gov/component/ijoomla_archive/?act=getall&ptitle=FDL+Handbook&catid=56). The depository staff has examined the "Suggested Core Collection" in FDLH Appendix A. The library holds a high proportion of those titles suggested for law libraries.

Depository items are integrated into the Law Library collection, cataloged and classified using the Library of Congress classification scheme. Microfiche are cataloged and filed using the SUDOC classification. Microfiche can be found in designated cabinets. The library selects all formats of material offered by GPO, including electronic products. The library has internet access on all public PCs. Several library PCs are equipped with CD players to allow access to CD-ROMs and DVDs selected. The Law Library provides access to many electronic documents produced by the GPO, via permanent URLs included in the catalog record or through various subscriptions from commercial vendors. Links from the library's home page to GPO Access and other governmental sites are also available. The library will attempt to accommodate new formats which may be developed in the future.

PRESERVATION

The acquisitions staff is familiar with the Superseded list. Retention notes are on the records in the automated system. The library retains some superseded documents in the collection, as they are often relevant for comprehensive legal research.

The library adheres to GPO requirements for disposition of materials retained the statutory minimum of five years from receipt and follows the "Disposal Procedures" outlined by USC's Thomas Cooper Library, the regional depository (on file with the library).

Government publications are bound at the same frequency or need as any other library material. Security detection stickers are placed on government documents according to library processing procedures as apply to all library materials. The library replaces damaged and missing volumes by purchase from the GPO and commercial vendors.

DISPOSAL

The library does not have a systematic method for weeding GPO materials. Government documents which are serial in nature, such as agency newsletters, bulletins, and periodicals are often the most likely to be disposal candidates. Often these materials are received sporadically at best. These materials are identified by an action date generated by the automated system and disposed of as outlined by USC's Thomas Cooper Library, the regional depository.