

**DEVELOPING AND MANAGING INFORMATION COLLECTIONS FOR  
ACADEMICS AND RESEARCHERS AT A UNIVERSITY OF  
TECHNOLOGY: A CASE STUDY**

by

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## SUMMARY

This study examines the efficacy of collection development and management practices, policies, guidelines and standards in universities of technology to meet the information needs of academics and researchers at such institutions. In South Africa, as in Australasia, technikons or polytechnics have been upgraded first into degree granting institutions and then, at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, into universities of technology. The researcher was concerned that library collections in South African universities of technology have not grown to meet the research and teaching needs of academics at the level of universities offering instruction up to a doctoral level. As research funding, government grants and the general prestige of the institutions depend on the research output of the institutions, it is essential that academics and researchers find the information resources they require in their institutional libraries. Case studies of universities of technology in New Zealand and South Africa reveal that, while Auckland University of Technology has been successful in extending its collection to meet the increasing demands placed on it, the collection development policies, standards and guidelines in a South African university of technology need to be upgraded in order to meet the information needs and information behaviour of their researchers and academics. Current levels of funding for the acquisition of information resources in South Africa lag behind those found at the New Zealand university of technology. The university of technology that was the object of the South African case study needs to bring its collection in line with that of similar institutions worldwide. This entails adapting goals and objectives stating how the collection is to develop, evaluating the collection and the needs of users, changing the Collection Development Policy to reflect the direction collection development will take and ensuring that the institution and the government back this project financially. To this end, a model Collection Development Policy has been drawn up that can be adapted to the local requirements of South African universities of technology to assist with the process of developing and managing library collections that will be worthy of such an institution.

### **Key terms:**

University of technology libraries; Collection development policies; Information needs; Information behaviour; Auckland University of Technology; Scholarly communication; Materials budgets; Library collection size; Traditional information resources; Digital information resources; Library funding.

## **FOREWORD**

To Heather Jenks and other members of staff from the Auckland University of Technology, I offer my sincere thanks for all the time and effort you put into ensuring that I received the information I required as quickly and thoroughly as possible. This study would have been impossible without your friendly and professional assistance.

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## ACRONYMS USED

ACLS - American Council of Learned Societies  
ACRL – Association of College & Research Libraries  
AHCI – Arts & Humanities Citation Index  
ALA – American Library Association  
ARL – Association of Research Libraries  
AUT – Auckland University of Technology  
CAUL – Council of Australian University Libraries  
CCD – Collaborative Collection Development  
CCI – Current Collecting Intensity  
CDP – Collection Development Policy  
CMC – Computer-Mediated Communication  
DCI – Desired Collection Intensity  
DOI – Digital Object Identifier  
E-book – Electronic Book  
ECS – Existing Collection Strength  
E-journal – Electronic Journal  
Email – electronic mail  
E-resource – Electronic Resource  
EWU – East Washington University  
FTE – Full-Time Equivalent  
GAELIC - Gauteng and Environs Library and Information Consortium  
HDI – Historically-Disadvantaged Institution  
HEQC - Higher Education Quality Committee  
HTML – Hypertext Markup Language  
ICT – Information and Communication Technology  
ILL – Interlibrary Loans  
IT – Information Technology  
JCR – Journal Citation Reports  
KFUPM - King Fahd University of Petroleum & Minerals  
LAN – Local Area Network  
NZQA – New Zealand Qualifications Authority

OCLC – Online Computer Library Center  
OPAC – Online Public Access Catalogue  
PDF – Personal Document Format  
POD – Print-on-Demand  
R&D – Research and Development  
RLG – Research Libraries Group  
SCI – Science Citation Index  
CERTEC - Certification Council for Technikon Education  
SMT – Science, Medical Sciences and Technology  
SPARC - Scholarly Publishing & Academic Resources Coalition  
SRC – Student Representative Council  
SSCI – Social Science Citation Index  
SUNY – State University of New York  
TOC – Table of Contents  
ULANZ - University Library Aotearoa New Zealand  
UNLV - University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
URL – Uniform Resource Locator  
UTK - University of Tennessee at Knoxville  
WAN – Wide Area Network  
WLN – Washington Library Network  
WWW – World Wide Web  
XUT – X University of Technology

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