



VUL LIBRARY COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

Library Mission and Philosophy

Virginia University of Lynchburg is a comprehensive university whose mission is to provide accessible, high quality and affordable, lifelong education. Within this context, the primary goal of the Library is to provide library services that support the curriculum and fulfill the information needs of students, faculty, staff, administration and community through the building and maintaining of a vital collection of library materials and resources. Whenever possible, those will be extended to the community.

I. Library Purpose and Goals

In support of the stated goals and objectives of the college, the Library is developing a unified program of library-media resources and services. The purpose of this program is to enhance instruction and learning in a manner consistent with the philosophy and curriculum of Virginia University of Lynchburg. The Library is guided by the principles of the Library Bill of Rights in the development of its program and services.

The goals of the Library are:

- To provide an organized collection of print and non-print resources which will meet the instructional requirements as well as the individual needs of students.
- To create an environment in which resources are made readily accessible, not only through the provision of appropriate facilities, furnishing, equipment, and supplies, but also particularly through the provision of adequate staff.
- To facilitate learning and community services by providing services, resources and facilities, which encourage and stimulate individualized instruction, independent study and effective use of resources by students, faculty and the community.

II. Library Bill of Rights

The American Library Association affirms that all libraries are forums for information and ideas, and that the following basic policies should guide their services.

1. Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation.
2. Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.
3. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.
4. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.

5. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.
6. Libraries which make exhibit spaces and meeting rooms available to the public they serve should make such facilities available on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting their use.

III. COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

The primary goal of the Library is to provide library services, which support the curriculum and fulfill the needs of students, faculty, staff, administration and community. The purpose of the Library's program of resources is to enhance instruction and learning in a manner consistent with the philosophy and curriculum of Virginia University of Lynchburg.

Responsibility for selection of materials

1. The responsibility for the selection of instructional materials is delegated to professionally trained employees of the Library by the Executive staff of Virginia University of Lynchburg. For the purpose of this statement, the term "instructional materials" includes audiovisual material but not equipment.
2. While selections of materials involves many people, the responsibility for coordinating the selection of materials and making the recommendation for purchase rests with the professional librarians. Recommendations from students, staff and the community are accepted and evaluated according to the criteria.
3. Materials shall be chosen to foster respect of minority groups, women, and ethnic groups, and shall represent our pluralistic society, along with the roles and lifestyles open to both men and women.
4. Physical format and appearance of materials shall be suitable for their intended use.
5. The selection of materials on controversial issues in the Library will be directed toward maintaining a collection representing various views.
6. The Library recognizes the financial limitations in providing research materials to a diverse community. For this reason, a strong commitment will be made to provide access to collections of their libraries through data base searching and interlibrary loan.
7. As a general rule, the Library will purchase only one copy of an item. Additional copies, up to a total of 3, may be purchased when the requirement can be justified.
8. Since the major purpose of the Library is to provide curriculum support materials, the purchase of textbooks will not be a priority. The Library will accept textbooks as donations.

Gifts

We gladly accept materials donated to the Library on the following conditions:

1. The donor gives full title and control of the material to the library, with the clear understanding that the Library is not obligated to place or keep any materials on the shelves.
2. The Library applies the same criteria to donated material as to purchase materials.
3. Appraisal of gift materials to the library is the responsibility of the donor. The library does not appraise gifts.

Discard and weeding

Weeding, or the removal of materials from the Library, should be considered an integral part of the total effort to build the collection. Excess or duplicate materials and inaccurate or outdated materials will be considered for withdrawal. Decisions to remove materials will be made by faculty liaisons and faculty representative if necessary.