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**Changing trends of Collection development for 21st century at Panjab University Library,  
Chandigarh: a move towards e-resources**

Seema Sood  
Assistant Librarian  
A.C. Joshi library,  
Panjab University, Chandigarh

\*Sunaina Khanna  
Assistant Librarian  
A.C. Joshi library,  
Panjab University, Chandigarh

Deepika Tewari  
Library Assistant  
A.C. Joshi library,  
Panjab University, Chandigarh  
*\*Corresponding author*

**Abstract**

The fundamental goal of the university is to provide excellence in teaching and research. To accomplish perfection in advanced education, the role of university library is very vital. The Panjab University library intends to collect, organize and preserve the significant sources of knowledge and to facilitate the objectives of the parent organization. This paper discusses the collection development procedure of Panjab University library, Chandigarh both for books and periodicals and reflects the changing environment of collection development. It deliberates on the importance, objectives, criteria, procedure involved in the selection process. In order to adapt itself to technological transformation and to meet the changing demands of diverse users, the library is moving towards procuring e-resources, in addition to print ones. The library is spending a significant amount of its budget to procure e-resources. It has been observed that the whole process of collection development is a planned action of experts, clients and staff. In spite of constraints like ever growing number of publications, continuous increase in prices of documents, changing users need, the library has formulated a realistic collection development procedure which suits its best to meet all the reasonable needs of the users.

**Keywords:** Collection development, collection development policy, printed books, e-resources, Changing trends, University libraries, Panjab University library



## 1. Introduction

Libraries acquire and maintain resources to support academic, research needs and professional development of the user community. Keeping in view the resources and ever changing information needs of the user community in a well-timed and economical manner, developing a dynamic collection is a prerequisite. Collection development procedure is intended to meet the goals of the library and to satisfy the needs of the parent organisation. Collection development procedure is very essential for selecting new collections, acquisition, cooperative decision-making etc. Collection management has experienced boundless changes amid the previous couple of years. The essential objective of collection development policy is to select the best and useful documents in a methodical way and to maintain a framework to develop the library's collection in terms of priorities for various subjects and languages.

### 1.1 Defining Collection Development:

Collection development is the foremost process, pertaining to resource management and obtaining guidelines to maintain the resources and to meet the user's demands to their satisfaction level. Collection development incorporates broad range of activities as selection, procurement, and assessment of information resources in print and electronic form.

Collection development as “the process of identifying the strengths and weakness of a library's materials collection in terms of patron needs and community resources, and attempting to correct existing weakness, if any” (Evans, 2004)

According to International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA):

“Acquisition and collection development focuses on methodological and topical themes pertaining to acquisition of print and other analogue library materials (by purchase, exchange, gift, legal deposit), and the licensing and purchase of electronic information resources.”

Harrod's Librarian's Glossary mentions that Collection development is "The process of planning a stock acquisition programme not simply to cater for immediate needs but to build a coherent and reliable collection over a number of years, to meet the objectives of the services."

## 2. Review of Literature

Hunt (2017) highlights the collection development activities in UK higher education libraries. It suggests that collection development is not entirely a library professional activity but one that takes account of multiple strings of collection, selection and management. Collection development



is closely associated with collection management, content methodologies and so forth. Khan (2016) concentrated to know the collection development and organizational pattern of university libraries in India. The study uncovered that the old centralized universities are better placed in terms of all the parameters of collection development. It additionally featured that there is contrast between old centralized and newly centralized universities especially in Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University. More effort has to be put in to explore technology innovation application and provide IT-empowered services to its clients. Patel (2016) studied the collection development in academic libraries. Different components must be thought about while building up a qualitative collection for advantage of the clients. These factors incorporate strategies, methodology and issues related with collection development. Library committee plays a noteworthy role in collection development by framing policies and formulating programmes for its implementation. The study concluded that utmost care is to be taken by library professionals to develop a balanced collection that enhances its quality. Mangrum and Pozzebon (2012) discuss the role of collection development policies, past and present, and the challenge of moving collections to the electronic format. It depicts that library resources are evolving with growing electronic advancements by publishers and vendors. Collection development policies are being employed for decision making policies in the libraries.

### **3. Methodology**

To assemble information about the library collection development of Panjab University library, interview method was adopted. In-charges of book acquisition and periodical segment were interviewed to get the specific information. The entire data has been given in a detailed and exhaustive manner and has been presented as tables and figures.

### **4. Panjab University**

Panjab University built up at Lahore in 1882 is one of the most established universities in India. The university is having a long tradition of pursuing excellence in teaching & research in science and technology, humanities, social sciences, performing arts and sports. The 78 departments and 4 chairs on the campus and four regional centers offer several diploma, degree, postgraduate and Ph.D. courses in various disciplines. UGC and DST has offered recognition to a large number of departments under different projects, i.e. Special Assistance Programme/Departmental Research Support (SAP/DRS), Centre for Advanced Study (CAS), Funds for Improvement of Science and Technology (FIST) and the Department of Special Assistance (DSA). The Panjab University has high level of joint effort with various national and worldwide organizations and is taking an



interest in major international multi- collaborative research projects.

#### **4.1 Panjab University Library**

The Panjab University library named as A.C. Joshi Library is housed in a 5 storey building having a seating capacity of approx. 800 users. Library has an aggregate collection of 7.5 lacs publications and a prized accumulation of 1490 manuscripts. Fully computerized library provides access to approx. 7500 online full text journals through E-Shodhsindhu, which provides an extensive number of e-resources. RFID has been introduced in the library premises for benefit of the clients that permits self check-in and self check-out facility. Library is continuously adapting itself to technological up gradation, such as online enrolment, SMS and e-mail alerts, digital signage system and social networking and so forth.

#### **5. Collection Development**

Keeping in mind the needs of the university community, the library is providing best library and information services to the users. The mission is to satisfy the objectives of the parent organization, in terms of accomplishing perfection in education, teaching, research and to promote resources to meet the larger amount of brilliance. The basic objective is to frame a collection to support the needs of every kind of user i.e: students, researchers, faculty and so forth. The library's budget is utilized to procure printed books and e-resources. The library budget is augmented by funds from various recurring and non-recurring grants received from university and various agencies from time to time. Though collection is developed mostly through purchase, but it is also strengthened through valuable endowments by authors, publishers, institutions like Kendriya Hindi Nideshalaya and publications of other universities etc. Endowments of documents which are required in the library and are generally not available through normal trade channels are additionally welcomed.

##### ***a. Parameters of Collection Development***

Selection of documents is a continuous process influenced by dynamic curriculum and availability of new and most recent collection. Utmost care is taken to develop a balanced collection that enhances quantitative library collection in terms of quality. It provides a base for accurate planning, best selection and economical use of resources. The procedure for collection development has been formed, keeping in view the status of the library, level of its users, and form of documents (books, periodicals, CD-ROMs, audio-visual materials, reports, manuscripts, rare books, electronic databases, and so forth).



### **5.1.1 *To analyse information needs of the clientele***

Clients are the primary stakeholders of the institution and fulfilling their information needs is the main objective of the library. To determine the user groups, their goals and objectives is of utmost importance.

### **5.1.2 *Balanced Collection***

A balanced collection pertaining to multiple subjects, keeping in view the multifarious clients and their information needs is of prime consideration.

### **5.1.3 *Quality of content***

To provide best possible resources and to maintain quality of content, the documents are selected that are by renowned authors and publishers, have received acclaim from reviewers and critics and that have dependable scholarly significance.

### **5.1.4 *Currency***

The library generally acquires current resources, however there might be occasions (e.g. new programs and courses) that require retrospective purchasing also.

### **5.1.5 *Language***

The selection of records is ideally in English. Likewise documents in Hindi, Punjabi and other languages that is additionally included, however in less proportion relying upon special requirement of the clients.

### **5.1.6 *Duplication***

The Library mostly abstains from purchasing duplicate copies of books, unless necessitated by high usage i.e. text books which are required by multiple users.

### **5.1.7 *Variety of formats***

Variety of formats (print books, CDs, DVDs and e-resources) are acquired to satisfy learning, teaching and research needs of the users. Electronic is the preferred format for serials these days.

### **5.1.8 *Reputed publishers***

The reputation of the publishers provides an indication of quality of the content. Esteemed publishers with authenticity, originality and quality of content are preferred for collection development.



### **5.1.9 *Reliable suppliers***

An important element in collection development process is the supplier. They are chosen as per their performance, unwavering quality, services and accessibility of the documents. Measuring supply performance and supplier feedback is another vital factor which is taken into consideration.

## **6. Central Library**

The Central library has adopted approval method for selection of books. For procurement of books, a six member committee has been constituted by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of the university, which comprises of University Librarian, Deputy Librarians and Reference Librarian. The book sellers frequently bring to the library the latest publications (General interest books, current affairs, fiction, subject books, reference books and competitive exams books etc.) for approval to the acquisition section of the library and the committee holds its meeting monthly. The purchase decisions are made not only on the basis of currency of the individual book, yet in addition repute of the publisher/author and other parameters as to its quality and depth of coverage are also considered. The library procures unique scholarly works on multifarious subjects and languages. The books are selected keeping in view the requirements of the users and also with a view to update the library collection in terms of comprehensiveness. The selected books are ordered to the vendors and bills are invited for the same. Besides the purchase committee's recommendations, the selection is made through following modes also:

- Publisher's catalogue
- Book review
- Students requirements
- Faculty recommendation

### **6.1 *Departmental Libraries***

Since the library is following a centralized purchase system for book procurement, hence it makes purchases for departments also. A few of the departments i.e. Laws, UILS, Evening Studies, UIAMS etc. have their own purchasing system. The purchasing of departmental libraries is done on the recommendations of head of the department. List of recommended books along with full bibliographical details and source of availability are received in the acquisition section of the central library and then orders are placed to the specified vendors. In departmental libraries, the head of the department recommends the books after consulting the following modes:

- Faculty recommendation
- Syllabus



- Publisher’s catalogue
- Exhibitions
- Book reviews
- Students requirements

**7. Terms and conditions for the vendors**

- Latest edition and publisher’s price supported by documentary proof
- The foreign currency prices converted as per Good Offices Committee
- Payment is done by the university accounts branch through cheque only
- No discount on government publications
- Discount rates: for English books 10%, for Hindi, Panjabi, Sanskrit books 15% and for multi-volumes 20%
- If the ordered materials not supplied within 3 months, the order for the same stands automatically cancelled

**8. Changing trends of collection development in Panjab University Library**

The library used to utilise its major portion of grant for procuring print documents. 21st century technological innovations and assessing the changes information requirements of users in the present digital era, the library is spending substantial amount of its budget to procure e-resources. A grant of Rs.2,94,25,000/- is allocated for total collection development. Rs. 20,00,000/- for books, Rs.1,00,00,000/- for print journals and Rs.1,74,25,000/- is being spent for procuring e-resources. Out of 20 lac (Rs.12, 82,500/-) is used especially for purchasing general interest books and reference books for the central library. Rs.7,17,500/- is distributed to various departments to purchase subject related books for the central library. The departments have their own budgets under various heads i.e. Books & Journals, UGC Plan, SAP, CAS, ASHISH, PURSE, FIST and so forth.

**9. Statistical Growth of collection of books**

Table 4

Statistical Growth of collection of books

<b>Year</b>	<b>Books added every year</b>
2007-08	12389
2008-09	11577
2009-10	5227
2010-11	7651
2011-12	8362
2012-13	17044
2013-14	5897
2014-15	7720

2015-16	5739
2016-17	9332

Table 4 indicates the aggregate number of books included every year from 2007-08 to 2016-17 and also shows the variance in number of books included every year. The fluctuation depends upon aggregate grant allocated every year and cost of books.

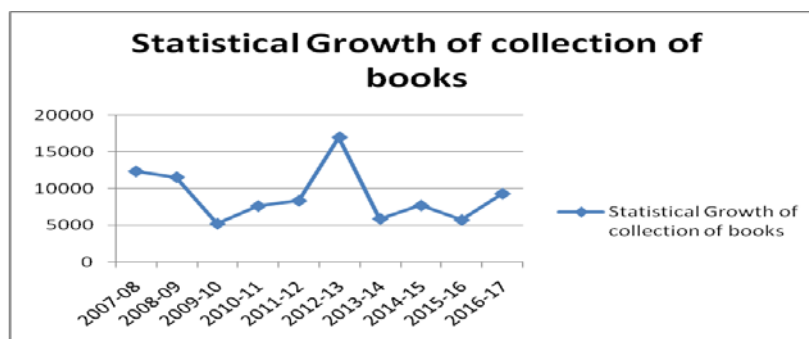


Fig 1: Statistical growth of collection of books

### 10. Periodical Subscription

E-resources are considered as favored format that incorporates e-journals, abstracts and indexes e-books and e-databases for library resources. With a specific end goal to adapt to innovative changes and to meet the changing requests of its clients, the library is moving towards e-resources at a very high pace and is spending a significant amount of its budget to procure e-resources. The library is pursuing a centralized purchase system for periodicals also. Procurement of periodicals is done both through subscription agents and directly from the publishers. Priority list of periodicals from various departments of the university is received in the periodical section and the Vice Chancellor of the university approves the lists and then orders are sent to the specified agents and publishers.

Table 6

#### Types of Periodicals

Journals	474
Newspapers	27
Magazines	46
<b>Total</b>	<b>547</b>

Table 6 shows that total 547 periodicals are being subscribed by the university that includes 474





journals (Indian journals 239 and foreign journals 235), 27 newspapers and 46 magazines. In addition to English language, periodicals are also subscribed in other languages like Hindi, Punjabi, and Urdu etc.

### ***10.1 Subscribed E-resources***

The university library is spending a very large proportion of its budget for procuring e-resources, which is imperative to satisfy the changing needs of the user community in present digital era. The library is subscribing to various e-resources that include electronic journals, books and databases etc:

#### ***Subscribed E-resources***

- Only Online subscribed 31
- Print online Free 101
- Print online subscribed 59

#### ***Subscribed E-Books***

- Pearson Engineering and Management: 211
- EBSCO-Engineering: 84
- Wiley Chemistry E-Books: 32

#### ***Databases subscribed***

- ACM Digital Library
- ASME Online
- DELNET (Online)
- District of India.com (2 Users)
- EBSCOHOST: Academic Search Complete
- IEEE Electronic Library (IEL) (Online Database)
- Indiastat.com (2 Users)
- JOVE (Journal of Visualized Experiments)
- Lecture notes in Mathematics (Online Only)
- Proquest Dissertation Abstract & Index Part A&B (Online Database)
- Proquest Indian Journals
- Westlaw (Online Database)
- Scopus (Online Database)
- Science Direct (Online Database)

In the recent years, Panjab University Library has seen a noticeable transformation in the



collection development and service structure to the clients. The procedure and practices of collection development have undergone recognizable change. Print publication is progressively offering route to electronic type of documents. Web is influencing the development of new modes of scholastic communication; its potential for delivering information is quite high; overcome effectively the geographical constraints associated with print media. The time slack between product publication and its delivery has been fundamentally decreased. The accessibility of electronic resources on the university campus is relatively adequate for all the disciplines. Majority of the clients are reliant on e-resources to get the required information. To explore the utilisation of e-resources to the maximum extent adequate infrastructure facilities are being provided to the users. Digital library with a multiple numbers of terminals has also been set up as a separate segment to explore the use of e-resources.

### **11. Suggestions**

- The library should always keep pace with the latest upcoming technologies and implementing them for serving the clients
- Training programs should also be provided to the staff and users
- Remote access of e-resources to be included
- The library should take feedback and suggestions regarding periodical subscription/renewal from the users to the maximum possible extent.
- Expanding the Digital library infrastructure ,so that more number of users can access

### **12. Conclusion**

The library is growing steadily in terms of its core collection, comprising books and e-resources. Notwithstanding printed documents, a significant proportion of the university's budget is being utilised for procuring e-resources, which is very imperative to meet the changing needs of the clients and it is additionally need of the hour. The library is following a sound collection development procedure, so as to accomplish its responsibility to acknowledge the ever changing needs of the user community. The library is satisfying its objective to formulate a need based up-to-date balanced collection. Various factors are contemplated while building a qualitative collection of resources for the benefit of users that incorporates objectives, criteria and procedure. The university library procures original scholastic works on multiple subjects and languages. The entire procedure of collection development is a coordinated activity of authorities, users and staff.

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