

# INFS 326: COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

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Department of Information Studies

# COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT & COLLECTION MANAGEMENT

Differences | Similarities | Relationship



School of Info. & Comm. Studies

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# *Introduction*

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- The use of library or any information centre depends on the availability of materials and sources.
- Therefore **arbitrary provision of irrelevant** resources can turn patrons away from using that library or the information centre.
- A **non-arbitrary way of providing relevant information materials** to patrons of an information centre is what leads us to concerns of this course - ***collection development***

# *Background Knowledge*

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- ***Collection development*** came into wide use in the late 1960s to replace ***selection*** as a more encompassing term reflecting the thoughtful process of developing a library collection in response to institutional priorities and community or user needs and interests (Johnson, 2009).

# What is Collection Development? (1)

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- Collection Development is a term representing the process of systematically building library collections to serve study, teaching, research, recreational and other needs of library users.

# What is Collection Development? (2)

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- Collection development is the process of planning, building and maintaining a useful and balanced collection of library materials based on an ongoing assessment of information needs of a library's clientele, analysis, of usage statistics and demographic projections.

(The online dictionary of library and information science, 2008)

# What is Collection Development? (3)

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- **Library collection development** is the process of planning and acquiring a balanced collection of library materials of many formats, including books, periodicals, online resources and other media.
- Simply put, it is the process that ensures that the right types/kinds of materials are selected for the library in adequate quantity, quality and variety.

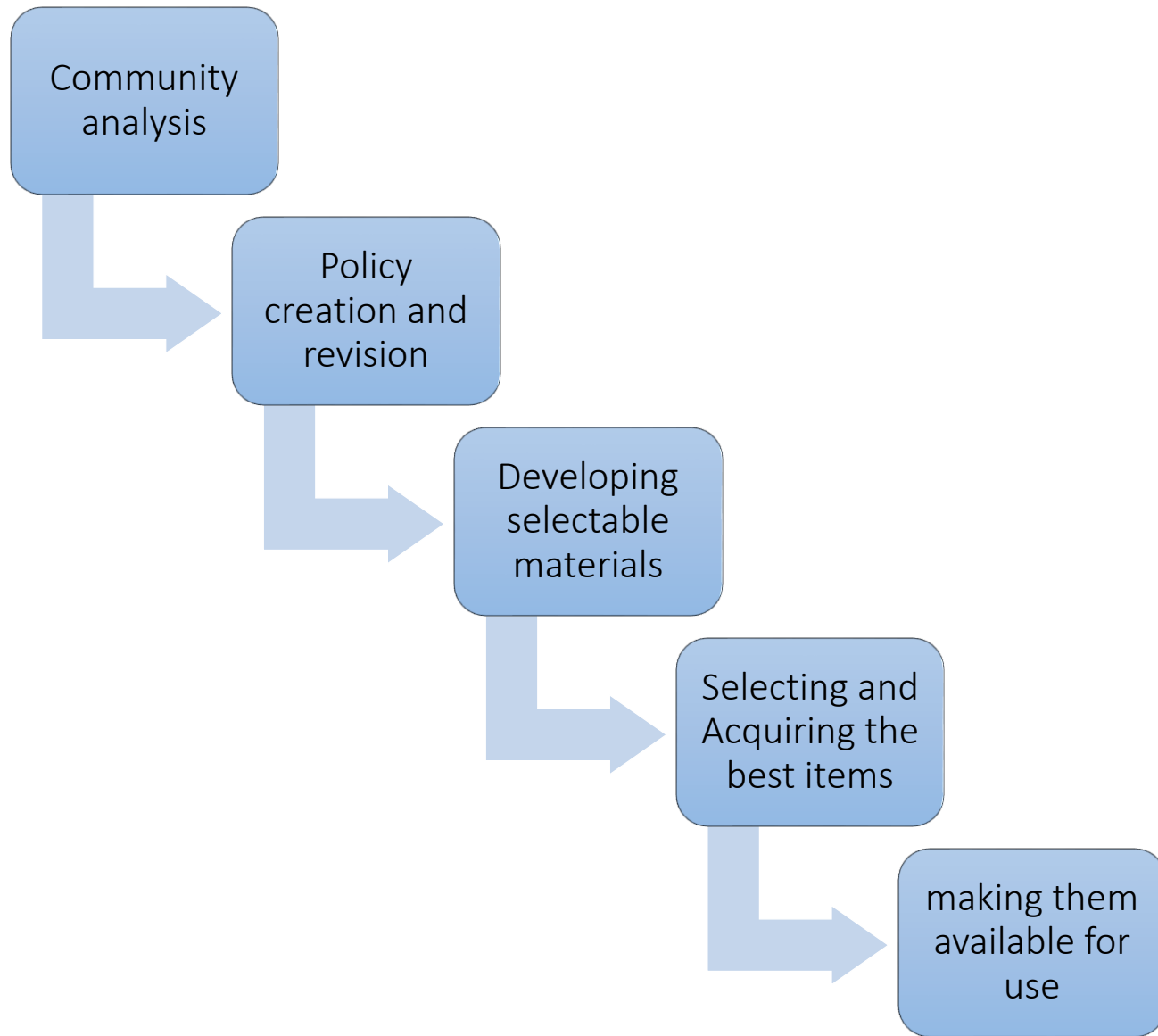
# What is Collection Development? (4)

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- Collection Development include community analysis, policy creation and revision, developing a pool of selectable materials, selecting the best items, and then acquiring the selected items and making them available for use.



# The Collection Development Process



# Collection Management

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- There is a paradigm shift within the library/ information centres as more librarians/ information providers are doing collection management rather than collection development.
- The focus is rather on interpretation of information rather than selection.

# What is Collection Management?

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- The term collection management implies the systematic, efficient and economic stewardship of resources. Thus it involves the process of information gathering, policy formulation, selection and acquisition of materials, weeding, evaluation, resource sharing, preservation and access to information sources in support of the intellectual needs of the user community.

[Johnson \(2009\)](#)

# What is Collection Management? Cont'd

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- It is therefore a set of activities geared towards ensuring the satisfaction on one's information needs as well as ensuring the efficient and effective use of limited resources and a long-term access to intellectual materials.
- Collection development and collection management have been used almost synonymously or in tandem, although there are differences in meaning.

# Collection Develop't & Collection Mgmt.

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- Collection Development is the part of the Collection Management that primarily deals with decisions about acquisition of materials.
- Collection development is subsumed under collection management

# Collection Develop't & Collection Mgmt.

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- Collection development is the selection and acquisition of library materials considering users current needs and future requirements.
- Whilst collection management is much more than collection building. It is managing the use, storage and organisation of the collection, and making it accessible to users.

# Collection management Functions

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These include the following:

- Preserving or maintaining intellectual content.
  - This includes *weeding* in order to ensure that items are used, useful and useable.
- Conserving or extending the life of the physical item.
- Creating and revising policy.
- Evaluating the collection.

# Collection management Functions **Cont'd.**

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- Securing & allocating financial resources.
- Managing the issues associated with digital rights management for leased digital database and digital collections.
- Resource Sharing.
- Making the collection visible to present and potential users.



# Objectives of Collection Development

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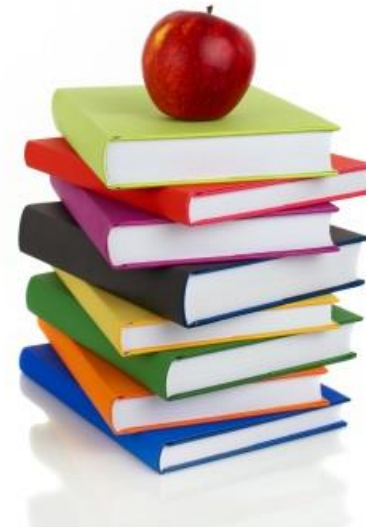
The basic objective of any library is to serve its patrons. Therefore, the purpose of collection development is to select materials that could serve the following needs of its users:

- Educational
- Recreational
- Information.

# What is a Collection?

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- A selection of appropriate items or materials to serve an identifiable need of a particular audience



# What is a Collection?

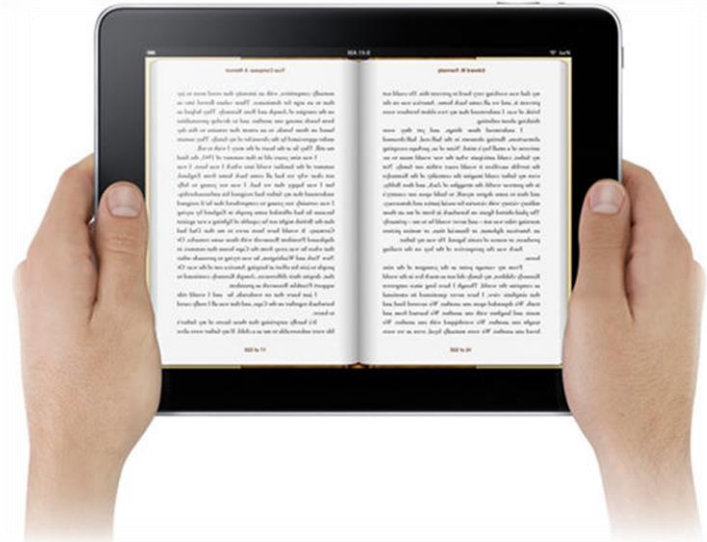
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- A group of resources that are related to each other in some identifiable way.
  - The relationship might be through a topic, a place, a person, an organisation or a type of object.
- A set of resources brought together for a particular audience or to serve a particular function.
- “a growing organism”

# Is a Collection Digital or Physical?

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- The items in a collection can be **physical** (e.g. books, objects, paintings) or **digital** (e-books, digital images, databases).



# Is a Collection Digital or Physical?

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- It is also possible for collections to be **hybrids**, and contain both physical and digital items.
- A collection may also contain digital items that are **surrogates** of physical items in that collection.



# Types of Collection

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- Distance Collection
- Comprehensive Collection
- Selective Collection
- Centralised Collection
- Decentralised Collection

# The Role of the Collection

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Collection exists in library under the following conditions:

- They are influenced by the informed judgement of the librarian.
- They must relate or complement the existing collection in the library.

# The Role of the Collection

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Cont'd

- They must match the needs and interests of users.
- They are made up of a mixture of materials, e.g., books, periodicals, audio-visuals, computers, etc.
- They have their own unique character.
- They are also dynamic – they can change according to time.
- They must be improved (updated) as they get older.



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- *The element of a collection management programme as they relate to libraries, are universal.*
  - *The importance of one element as against the other, might however, vary from library to library and from day to day.*

# The Role of the User

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- The user plays an important role in collection development programmes.
- Users - Kings or Queens of the Library.

# The Role of the User

Cont'd

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This is achieved under the following conditions:

- Collections exists to serve users' needs.
- Users' have different needs and interests.
- Librarians must respond to users' interests.
- Librarians should be able to interpret users' interests.
- Librarians should be able to interpret users' needs and interests.

# The Role of the User

Cont'd

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- Librarians must be able to provide conducive atmosphere for users to use the collection.
  - Collections must be in good physical condition for users.
  - Collection should be properly arranged to enable easy access by users.
  - Librarians must always be ready to assist users.



# Factors Affecting Collection Development

# FACTORS AFFECTING COLLECTN DEV'T

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- The factors that may affect collection development can be grouped as:
  - External Factors
  - Internal factors.

# External Factors (EF) that may affect CD

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- Government Policies
- Copyright
- Economic Condition

# Government Policies (EF)

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A number of government policies affect libraries in a number of ways. For example:

- The funds that are made available for research and development and other data collection functions.
- Regulation of information technology.
- The encouragement of restriction that is placed on certain types of information.



# Copyright

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(EF)

- Copyright grants the owners of intellectual property the protection of their works from unauthorized copying, printing, publishing or sale of their works.
- The copyright law affects collection development because the library is bound by the law.

# Economic Condition

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(EF)

- When inflation and recession affects the economy of a country, prices of things go up and that affects the library collections too, what you can use to buy 100 titles, because prices have gone up, can only buy small number of titles.
- In times of economic decline, government hardly pay attention to libraries.

# Internal Factors (IF) that may affect CD

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These include the following:

- The Community
- The Purpose of the Library
- The Library Users
- Current or present collection
- Available Resources

# The Community

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(IF)

- It is certain that you cannot establish goals and objectives for a library without knowing the community the library will serve.
- The type of community determines the types of materials.

# The Purpose of the Library (IF)

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- This has to do with the mission of the library and the resources available to achieve the mission of the library.

# The Library Users

(IF)

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- Both real and the potential users of the library affect the collection development. For example in an academic setting the university library will give priority to the needs of students, faculties and other academic staff.
  - The needs of users are seen by many libraries as the basis of which to develop or discontinue the services or collection.

# Current / present collection

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(IF)

- This also determines the direction in which the collection will go.
- If an evaluation of the collection shows that there is weakness in certain areas, it means that collection development must set itself in strengthening that area.

# Current / present collection(IF) Cont'd

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- In other words if there is over use in certain areas, the collection development should focus more on that area and depending on the vision of the library, the present collection may be maintained in the collections for research.
- On the other hand, a public library may be more geared towards current materials therefore there should be a lot more weeding.



# Available Resources

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(IF)

- This includes human and financial resources.
- If the library has enough funding, it can buy 'whatever' it wants.

# Available Resources (IF)

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Cont'd

- But if funding is not available the collection development must be selective.
- If the human resource is inadequate, this will also affect the pace of selection and acquisition of materials.

# References

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- Johnson, P. (2009). *Fundamentals of collection development and management*. American Library Association.
- Online dictionary of library and information science, 2008.
- UKOLN (2008). A national centre of expertise in digital information management. Available at <http://www.ukoln.ac.uk/>

thank  
thank  
you!

# Activity 1

(Prepare a 5min. presentation on the following activity)

- “Collection development begins with community analysis”. To what extent do you agree with this assertion? (Give reasons to buttress your answer).
- Briefly describe any method by which community analysis can be performed for the purpose of collection building.