

Information Services Collection Policy: School of Computer Science

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1. Introduction

Information Services holds and provides access to information resources to support the research, learning, teaching and business activities of the University. For the same purposes, but also in support of the actual and potential interests of the local, regional, national and international research community, the library holds and provides access to Manuscript and Special Collections.

2. Overview

2.1. Collections

Information Services aims to provide information resources to fit the priorities of the School of Computer Sciences, within practical and budgetary constraints. Information Services will attempt to acquire sufficient material for undergraduate and taught postgraduate courses. It also aims to hold key materials which support the research activities of the School.

Library collections include, but are not limited to, the following types of information resources:

- printed material, including books, pamphlets, journals, newspapers, music, maps etc
- eBooks and eJournals
- electronic databases
- photocopies and electronic copies
- photographs
- multimedia materials
- microforms
- manuscripts
- sound, video and film recordings.

Information resources are provided under the following arrangements:

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- owned by the University and managed by Information Services
- licenses or other permission from the rights holder
- partnerships and other collaborative arrangements
- public domain resources.

2.2. Global library collections

Information Services is managing a global collection.

Many items required by users will not be available in the library collections of the University of Nottingham. Efforts will be made to obtain access to such items through Inter-Library Loan or other document delivery services. The cost of such requests, up to a certain quota, will be subsidised by Information Services, though a nominal fee will be charged. The fee for requests in excess of the quota, however, will approximate the full cost, excluding staffing and administrative costs.

3. Mechanisms for implementation of the policy

3.1. Scope of the current policy

The policy is to acquire materials on all aspects of computer science relevant to the learning, teaching and research carried out in the school. In addition materials will be acquired which build on the strengths within the computer science collections in order to maintain their local and regional importance and to provide a broad, balanced collection for further research and project work.

The policy is to be monitored by the Science & Engineering Faculty Team and the Library Liaison Representative. Each year the policy will be reviewed and, if necessary, revised by a member of the Faculty Team and the Library Liaison Representative for the School of Computer Science.

3.2. Provision

Material will be purchased to support the current teaching and research interests within the school.

3.2.1 Teaching and Learning

Special areas of current teaching and learning include the following:

Algorithms	Artificial intelligence
Bioinformatics	Compilers
Computer games/design	Computer graphics
Computer security	Computer systems architecture
Concurrency	Cryptography
Data structures	Database systems
Decision support systems	Digital documents
E-Commerce	Electronic communications
IT in organisations	Human factors/interface
Mobile computing	Internet/world wide web

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Networks/communications	Multimedia
Non-standard computing	Neural computing
Operating systems inc Unix	Object oriented analysis/ design
Parallel computing	Operations research
Robotics	Programming (inc C/C++/C## and Java)
Software engineering	Spatial information technology
Systems analysis	Theoretical computing
Ubiquitous computing	Vision and image processing
Practical research techniques	Mathematics
Computer modelling	Communication skills
System administration	Collaborative technologies
Functional programming	

3.2.2. Research

Special areas of current research interest include the following:

- Automated Scheduling, Optimisation and Planning
 - Algorithms for scheduling, timetabling, manufacturing, logistics, space allocation, stock cutting, anomaly detection
 - Bioinformatics especially protein structure
 - Computer security
 - Decision making
 - Finance investment strategies
 - Fuzzy systems
 - Game strategy
 - Heuristics
 - Models
 - Robotics
- Foundations of Programming
 - Algorithmic problem solving
 - Functional programming
 - Development & application of logical techniques
- Vision and Image Processing
 - Human-computer interfaces for image databases
 - Face recognition
 - Medical imaging
 - Visual information processing
 - Management of large image repositories including indexing and retrieval of information
 - Pattern recognition, signal processing and information theory

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- Mixed reality
 - Computer supported co-operative work
 - eScience
 - Evaluation of new interactive technologies and their application
 - Interactive and distributed systems design
 - Mixed reality technologies
 - Mobile technology
 - Ubiquitous and pervasive computing
 - Virtual environments

Research is also undertaken by members of the school within the following associated institutes:-

- Interdisciplinary Optimization Laboratory
 - Agent-based simulation and discrete event simulation
 - Artificial and computational intelligence
 - Artificial immune systems
 - Anomaly detection and computer security
 - Biochemistry and bioinformatics
 - Case-based reasoning
 - Systems biology
 - Collaborative and co-operative decision making
 - Data clustering and mining
 - Expert systems and medical decision making
 - Evolutionary computation
 - Fuzzy reasoning and uncertainty handling
 - Multi sensor data fusion
 - Robotics
- Learning Sciences Research Institute
 - Analysis of classroom interaction
 - Mixed reality learning technology
 - Informal, play and game-based learning

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- Visual thinking and learning
- Fundamental learning processes
- Collaborative and individual learning environments
- Global and distance learning
- Evidence-based inquiry learning
- Web 2.0 technologies
- Mobile learning environments
- Cross-cultural learning (in collaboration with UNNC)

Where there is overlapping interest or joint research projects with other departments, schools and faculties, the Science & Engineering Faculty Team will collaborate with colleagues to ensure provision of relevant material.

3.3. Funds for acquisition

Funds which may be used for purchase of materials for the School of Computer Sciences are:

- the School of Computer Science book fund
- The CompGen book fund for general reference works
- the Science Area fund
- Jubilee Computing periodicals' fund
- bids for a share of funding to support new modules/new lecturers.

The level of funding will be communicated to the school each year as early as possible via the School Library Liaison Representative. The representative will be regularly informed of the status of the fund. Updates can be obtained at other times as required from the Science and Engineering Faculty Team.

Periodicals are purchased through a separate Faculty based periodical fund.

3.4. Selection and recommendation mechanisms

The following tools may be used for selection of resources:

- information received from module convenors and contributing lecturers
- communications and suggestions from the school
- publishers' and booksellers' catalogues (print or online)
- current awareness listings e.g. Coutts Library Services profile reports

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The Science & Engineering Faculty Team is also alerted to heavily reserved items or items reported missing or damaged. The Science & Engineering Faculty Team is responsible for ordering extra copies or replacing these items.

Information Services also relies on academic staff for book suggestions. The books suggestions form is available online:
www.nottingham.ac.uk/is/uon/forms/book-suggestions.php

3.5. Ordering and receipt mechanisms

Items are ordered by the Science & Engineering Faculty Team or centrally by the Acquisitions department and are recorded on the Library Management System. Urgent orders are normally sent within five working days; all orders are sent in accordance with Key Performance Indicators.

Items currently on order are displayed on the Library Online Catalogue. Reservations may be placed on items at any stage. Further information regarding items on order can be obtained from the Science & Engineering Faculty Team.

The Science & Engineering Faculty Team can be contacted for further information on progress.

3.6. Donations

The collections have, over the years, been enhanced by donations. Donations will normally be added to stock only if relevant to the current teaching or research profile or if they strengthen existing specialist areas. Substantial donations must be notified to, and agreed with, the Science & Engineering Faculty Team before delivery.

There is a separate Donations Policy.

3.7. Classification and storage

Items acquired will be stored in the most appropriate library and classified in the appropriate subject area. Items may occasionally be duplicated between libraries.

Items are classified according to the Library of Congress classification scheme. A copy of this scheme can be consulted online from the Library of Congress web site: www.loc.gov.

Periodicals are arranged in class mark order and then by title at DLRC and in alphabetical order by title on the top floor (D floor) of the George Green Library.

Extra copies of books which are in heavy demand are bought where they are available. These may be stored on the main shelves as ordinary loan or in the Short Loan Collection.

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The classification scheme used in the Short Loan Collection is the same as on the main shelves.

Material which is fragile or less-heavily used may be placed in the George Green Library store or at the King's Meadow Campus. The library catalogue may be used to request items at the King's Meadow Campus, which will normally be made available within two working days. Items in the local library stores are available for consultation and in some cases may be borrowed. This material can be consulted (and, in most cases, borrowed) during staffed library opening hours on request at the main lending desk.

3.8. Subject resources

Important printed and electronic resources of interest to the School of Computer Science are available through the eLibrary Gateway. These resources include bibliographic databases, internet subject gateways, full text resources and electronic journals.

The following resources are of particular relevance to the School of Computer Sciences:

- ABI/Inform Global
- Computer Abstracts
- eBrary
- Ei Compendex
- Inspec(Ovid)
- Intute: Science, Engineering and Technology
- MathSciNet
- Safari Books On-Line
- Science
- Science Classic
- Scopus
- UNLOC Library
- Web of Knowledge Databases
- Web of Science Database

3.9. Journals

Journal price inflation is consistently higher than average inflation. This means Information Services is unable to invest in new print journal titles at present without a balancing cancellation.

The department has an interest in the following e-journal packages:

- ABI/Inform Global Database
- ACM(Association of Computing Machinery)
- American Institute of Physics
- Blackwells STM
- Cambridge Journals Online eJournal
- EMX (Emerald) Database

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- Highwire Press Database
- IEEE Explore
- Institute of Physics
- Journals@OVID Database
- JSTOR Database
- Kluwer Online Journals
- Nottingham ePrints
- Oxford University Press
- SAGE Journals Online
- Science Direct
- Springer Database
- SwetsWise Database

These and other individual electronic journals may be accessed via the eLibrary Gateway or the Library Online Catalogue (UNLOC).

3.10. Conference proceedings

Where conference proceedings contribute substantial information to the subject they may be acquired.

3.11. Standing orders

Information Services recognises the importance of continuing commitment to major monographs in series and attempts to maintain these where appropriate.

These titles will be reviewed to match changing teaching and research profiles.

3.12. Theses and eDissertations

Printed copies of PhD theses are kept in the Djanogly Learning Resource Centre. Theses and dissertations may also be submitted to the library electronically. For more information see: <http://etheses.nottingham.ac.uk>.

3.13. Balance between printed and electronic resources

Information Services seeks to provide access to new electronic resources where appropriate, whilst taking care to monitor the balance between printed and electronic resources.

3.14. Reading lists

In order to ensure copies of recommended texts can be obtained in time for relevant modules, readings lists should be submitted by academic staff to the library 10 weeks before the start of the Semester. Module convenors should indicate on reading lists which books should be in short loan.

Reading lists should include details of author, title, edition (where applicable), year of publication, publisher and ideally place of publication

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and ISBN. A note of the expected number of students on the module should also be included.

Module convenors should inform the Science & Engineering Faculty Team when modules cease so that the online reading list can be deleted.

Module convenors are encouraged to make reading lists available online at: www.nottingham.ac.uk/is/gateway/readinglists.

3.15. Short Loan Collections

3.15.1. Books

There is no Short Loan Collection at DLRC; any books required for short loan will be deposited at either the Business Library on Jubilee Campus or at the George Green Library, University Park campus. Selection for short loan will depend on factors such as:

- the number of students (and whether full- or part-time) on the module(s) for which it is recommended
- the length of reading list and/or prioritisation of the items on the list
- experience of usage of books recommended for modules within the department or specialism
- likely longevity of the module
- cost
- frequency of new editions and relevance of previous editions
- existence of online full-text versions
- overlap with other modules.

Use of books is monitored and extra copies are purchased as necessary.

3.15.2. Photocopies

Photocopies of journal articles may also be held in the Short Loan Collections of other libraries, as above, provided they are within permitted limits. Photocopies from originals within the library's own collection can be placed in the Short Loan Collection, provided the publisher participates in the Copyright Licensing Agency agreement. Any other material has to be obtained via the British Library copyright fee-paid service using the Inter-library Loan service.

3.15.3. Digitised copies

Documents covered by the terms of the Higher Education Scanning Licence, or for which separate permission has been obtained from copyright holders, may be acquired and made available in digitised form for students to access via the online reading lists.

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3.16. Binding

Binding of material in the collections is supported from the binding fund. Titles selected for binding will be reviewed from time to time to ensure the preservation of heavily-used periodicals.

3.17. Expensive and interdisciplinary items

Expensive items, reference works, and items of an interdisciplinary nature can be recommended by academic staff and may be funded in full or in part by the Science Area book fund. The Faculty Team will liaise with colleagues in other subject areas where there is an overlap of interest.

3.18. Collection management

The collection is regularly monitored and the Relegation Policy is available online:
<http://workspace.nottingham.ac.uk/download/attachments/62358464/Library+Collection+Relegation+Policy+2009.pdf>

3.19. Collection development

The collection will be developed to support teaching and research activity in the School of Computer Sciences. Where it is appropriate, the collection will complement local and regional collections. The Science & Engineering Faculty Team will consider active participation with national collection management initiatives.

3.20. Information Literacy

Use of the collection will be supported through information literacy sessions provided by the Science & Engineering Faculty Team, including induction and longer sessions arranged through the Graduate School and tailored sessions for the School of Computer Science.

Pathway2Information will give staff and students general information skills guidance and support. These pages are available online:
www.nottingham.ac.uk/pathways

3.21. Department of Manuscripts and Special Collections

This policy does not cover, in any detail, the work of the Department of Manuscripts and Special Collections within Information Services, whose holdings complement and extend core library collections. For advice on the department's collection policies, see
<http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/manuscriptsandspecialcollections/aboutus/policy/collecting.aspx>