

National Weather Center Library Materials Selection Policy

Goal:

The National Weather Center Library primarily serves the University of Oklahoma's College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's faculty, researchers, staff and students. The Library collection supports the educational, informational, service and research needs of the Library's users. The primary emphasis is the study of atmospheric science with supporting materials on such topics as physics, fluid mechanics, hydrology, environmental science, global warming and atmospheric chemistry that directly relate to the curriculum of the College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences and to the research and service interests of OU and NOAA researchers and staff. The Library strives to achieve a balanced collection which serves the basic, general needs of undergraduate students through the complex and specialized needs of faculty and researchers.

Criteria for Selection:

The NWC Library offers current information as well as a historical perspective; overviews and surveys as well as critical analyses; published books and journals as well as raw data, notes and technical memos in order to provide Library users with as comprehensive, accurate and useful collection of resources as possible. To accomplish this, the Library uses these criteria:

- **Journals.** The majority of the Library materials budget will be used to subscribe to journals in atmospheric science and related fields. Access to the online journals and databases provided by the University of Oklahoma will be offered, supplemented by additional online subscriptions to journals not owned by OU. If possible, back-up paper copies of journals will be purchased and kept in the Library.
- **Books.** As funding allows, the Library will purchase most current books on meteorology published in English which are of a scholarly nature, published by reputable publishers specializing in academic works, and/or have at least one favorable review in a scholarly journal. The Library Committee will recommend new titles in related fields that will support the educational, service and research needs of the Library's users. As many of these supplemental titles will be purchased as possible.
- **Government Documents.** Much of the government information related to atmospheric science is available online to Library users. The Library will supplement this online information, when possible, with paper resources of direct relevance to OU and NOAA faculty, researchers, staff and

- students. The Library also maintains historical government documents in paper format.
- Videos, CDs, DVDs and Other Audio-Visual Resources. A small collection of audio-visual resources will be maintained. The Librarians will rely on the Library Committee to identify resources that will best support the educational and research needs of Library users.
 - Maps and Photographs. The Library will maintain various atlases of the world and the United States, supplemented by collections of maps provided by the federal government. Any individual maps or photographs will be evaluated by the Library Committee for possible inclusion in the Library collection.

Responsibility for Selection:

The NWC Librarians are responsible for maintaining the Library collection, which includes purchasing, processing, cataloging and evaluating all Library materials. It is expected that the Librarians will rely primarily on the expertise of members of the Library Committee, as well as the knowledge and experience of NOAA and OU faculty, researchers and staff in order to build and maintain a comprehensive, accurate and useful Library collection.

Any Library user can suggest materials for purchase by using the attached Library Request for Purchase Form. All requests will be carefully considered based on the quality of the suggested item, its availability for purchase, its cost and its potential usefulness to Library users.

Gift Materials:

The Library welcomes donations. However, donors should understand that the Library reserves the right to determine which items will be added to the Library collection and which items will not be included. Criteria for determining which items to accept will include the condition of the item, its relevance to the educational and research needs of Library users, available space, and the balance of the Library collection. Librarians will use the expertise of the Library Committee to determine which items to add to the collection. Items not added to the collection may be given to other libraries, sold in a book sale or discarded, based on the discretion of the Library. All materials donated to the Library become the property of the Library and may be used for all educational, research and other Library purposes at the complete discretion of the Librarians and Library Committee.

NWC Library Request for Purchase Form

Please provide as much information as you can. The NWC Library will evaluate your request and will notify you of the Librarians' or Library Committee's decision.

Your Name: _____

Your Email Address: _____

If the Library purchases this item, please reserve it for me to check out when it arrives: _____ Yes _____ No

Information about the Item Suggested for Purchase:
(Please provide as much information as possible.)

Title: _____

Author: _____

Publisher: _____

Publication Year: _____

Price: _____

Additional Information:

Reason to Purchase:

Potential Users (who would be interested in this item):