



Resources to support teaching, learning and research

1. Underlying principle - Support for University initiatives

The University has amongst its goals, to meet the needs of students to gain flexible access to learning, and to foster an environment for research. The innovative use of information technologies plays a role in meeting these. By embracing the opportunities for educational delivery provided by communications technologies, the University has moved progressively and strategically towards flexible delivery of its programs. This includes the delivery of courses online and offshore.

The Library contributes to meeting University objectives by providing staff and students with access to resources in a range of formats. It recognises the diversity of the university community and seeks to balance the move to online resources with a continuing commitment to providing access to resources in print where this remains the accepted or only format.

2. Information resources and the Library

Library collections are established and developed within the framework of a consolidated fund and selection policy for all subscriptions regardless of format. The Library is actively pursuing a move to electronic journals in support of the University's online and internationalisation initiatives and as such:

- will not initiate a print subscription where an online version is available as a separate entity unless there is a strong justification from the relevant school/research centre. Criteria for subscription to the print format includes quality of images and purpose of collection
- Online resources generally cost less than those in print. The Library reviews titles currently available online as well as in print at UniSA as a means to contain costs
- where practical has adopted a policy of cancelling print titles which are currently received in electronic form, replacing these with the online version

- the online component of the Library Materials Budget is reviewed each year to reflect University priorities as part of the budget process

The purchase, acquisition and provision of access to information resources is limited by legal and technological constraints as well as by available funding. The Library will not acquire resources:

- in obsolete formats
- where access is unduly limited by copyright or license e.g. psychological tests restricted to accredited psychologist practitioners
- available only as software limited to installation on an individual computer

3. Balancing competing needs

The Library subscribes both to resources used by large numbers of undergraduate students across multiple disciplines and to resources supporting small groups of specialist researchers. Its collections are intended to balance the sometimes different needs of teaching, learning and research

- all subscriptions regardless of format are subject to standard selection criteria
- Library resources may be partially or fully funded by Research Centres, Schools or Divisions
- Students are expected to purchase textbooks. The Library will normally only purchase a single copy of designated text books
- the advice of Divisions and Research Centres is sought in determining priorities in the selection and retention of individual journal and database subscriptions.
- The Library determines the appropriateness of subscribing to large multi-disciplinary electronic collections (aggregations)
- if access to individual resources is lost or continuation of a subscription cannot be justified, funds saved will be available for the purchase of replacement titles based on University and Divisional priorities supported by the Library's subscription selection criteria

4. Access to resources and collections

All visitors to the Library may use most resources available in print.

Access to electronic databases and full-text journals and services subscribed to by the Library is restricted by licence to current staff and enrolled students of UniSA. You may view, print and/or download contents from these services provided such use is for your University studies, teaching or research, does not constitute sequential and systematic downloading of an unreasonable volume of licensed content or amount to or result in commercial distribution or plagiarism. Use of these resources is limited by the appropriate licence conditions, copyright legislation and University Policy on use of University Information Technology facilities.

5. Approval and Version History

Date	Action
August 2001	Created as "Online Resources Policy"
December 2003	Updated & Approved by LLT
September 2009	Reviewed and amended by LOG (Version 2)