Mary and Jeff Bell Library
Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi
Subject Collection Development Policy

**Subject:** Environmental Science

**Subject Librarian Liaison:** Edward Kownslar

**Section I: Program Descriptions**

Description of Undergraduate Program: “The mission of the Bachelor of Science program in Environmental Science is to educate students to succeed in their chosen careers, to transfer environmental knowledge to the community and to peers, and to provide an environmentally literate workforce and citizenry.

“The program is intended to provide the environmental science major with a broad foundation in the sciences as well as specialized knowledge in environmental biology, environmental chemistry, environmental geology, or science education concentration areas. The environmental science curriculum prepares students for career positions in environmental science or science education, or for further professional education.”

(Source: 2006-2007 Undergraduate Catalog)

Tracks/Concentrations Offered for Undergraduate Major:

Environmental Biology Concentration
Environmental Chemistry Concentration
Environmental Geology Concentration
Science Education Concentration

(Source: 2006-2007 Undergraduate Catalog)

Undergraduate Catalog Course Listings:

[http://www.tamucc.edu/catalog/catalog07/undergraduate/ug_programs/courses_e.html#envsci]

Description of Graduate Program: “The mission of the Master of Science program in Environmental Science is to provide a rich and rewarding setting in which students and
faculty can develop and communicate innovative and practical solutions to present and future environmental challenges, with a focus on urban and coastal issues.

“Students will choose between thesis and non-thesis options. The non-thesis option is designed for students who desire a greater breadth of understanding of environmental science than the thesis option provides. The curriculum will especially benefit individuals employed in scientific or technical fields who seek advancement or additional training to enhance their knowledge and skills. Non-thesis students must complete a professional research project with a written final report and seminar. The thesis option requires a thesis based upon original research, supported by the scientific literature, and analyzed statistically, when appropriate. The thesis master’s degree will allow a person to pursue advanced graduate study, or to obtain employment in most areas requiring a detailed knowledge of a specific aspect of environmental science.

“Students following either option will be required to take a core of interdisciplinary courses to provide a broad background, and to select elective courses in consultation with their advisory committee to provide in depth education in a particular area of emphasis related to environmental science. The elective courses may derive from one science discipline but they will often be interdisciplinary.” (Source: 2006-2007 Graduate Catalog)

Tracks Offered for Graduate Major:

“A student will define an emphasis area for his or her graduate studies with assistance from the graduate advisor and advisory committee. The emphasis area is a unique word or phrase which best expresses the student’s intended focus of graduate studies within the broad field of environmental science. The emphasis area is stated on the degree plan. Students must demonstrate that the selection of electives produces a coherent graduate program focused around the emphasis area. Designated electives must receive the approval of a student’s advisory committee. Electives from the natural sciences, computer science, geographic information science, mathematics, political science, public administration, business law, or other areas may be approved.”

(Source: 2006-2007 Graduate Catalog)

Graduate Catalog Course Listings for Environmental Science:

http://www.tamucc.edu/catalog/catalog07/graduate/grad_programs/sci_tech/environmental_sci.html
Section II: Collection Levels

Environmental Sciences (ESCI) is an interdisciplinary program. A significant number of courses for the undergraduate and graduate programs are drawn from other academic programs (biology, chemistry, geology, physics and math). In addition, students conduct independent research as part of their required coursework.

In this policy, all subjects not labeled ESCI in the catalog will not be included in this policy; rather, they will be included in the more comprehensive subject policies. For example, subjects/courses listed in the Environmental Sciences core program with the “BIOL” prefix in the catalog will be included in the Biology collection development policy, rather than ESCI. There will also be references from the environmental policy to that specific subject policy.

Also, environmental sciences resources that focus on Texas, the Gulf of Mexico, the Gulf Coast (from Texas to Florida), and the local geographic area have a higher collection level priority (between 3 and 5) than the titles that cover other geographic areas or are more general in scope.

In addition, the University began to offer a doctoral program in Coastal and Marine Systems in Fall 2005. The CMSS curriculum is interdisciplinary and has a direct relationship to the academic programs in the College of Science and Technology (Environmental Science, Biology, Chemistry, Geology, and Math); specifically, several faculty members that teach in these programs also teach in the CMSS doctoral program. However, because this doctoral program is relatively new, the program directors and faculty members for the CMSS doctorate are still developing and revising the curricula. Because the program is still under development, the CMSS courses will not be included in any of the other subject policies. In the future, CMSS will either be included in a specific subject policy, or the library will create a separate policy for CMSS.

The designated collection levels will provide the appropriate support for the University’s academic programs. These levels are ideal collection targets and are dependent on funding.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subjects</th>
<th>LC Call Number Range</th>
<th>Collection Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hydrology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water by Region</td>
<td>GB 651 – GB 992</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groundwater</td>
<td>GB 1001 – GB 1199.8</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rivers, Streams</td>
<td>GB 1201 – GB 1598</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lakes, Limnology</td>
<td>GB 1601 – GB 1798.9</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Disasters</td>
<td>GB 5000 – GB 5030</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Oceanography

General                  GC 1 – GC 90  2
Estuarine                GC 96 – GC 97.8  4
Chemical                 GC 103 – GC 141  3
Physical                 GC 150 – GC 182  2
Ocean-Atmosphere         GC 190  2
Waves                    GC 203 – GC 229  3
Currents                 GC 229 – GC 299  3
Tides                    GC 300 – GC 309  3
Tides, Atlantic Ocean    GC 331 – GC 335  4
Tides, American Coast    GC 353 – GC 358  4
Marine Sediments (Atlantic) GC 381 – GC 392  4
Western Atlantic         GC 501 – GC 541  4
Marine Resources         GC 1000 – GC 1023  3
Marine Pollution         GC 1211 – GC 1241  3

Environmental Sciences

General                  GE 1 – GE 20  3
Philosophy, Methodology GE 40 – GE 45  3
History, Biography       GE 50 – GE 55  2
Environmental Education GE 70 – GE 90  4
Condition/Quality/Indicators GE 140  4
Policy                   GE 170 – GE 190  4
Environmentalism         GE 195 – GE 199  2
Justice                  GE 220 – GE 240  2
Management               GE 300 – GE 320  4
Engineering              GE 350  3

Environmental Law        K 3581 – K 3590  2

Conservation

Nature Conservation, Landscape QH 75 – QH 83.5  2
Wildlife Conservation     QL 81.5 – QL 84.7  2
Soil Conservation         S 622 – S 627  2
Natural Resources Conservation S 900 – S 954  2
Conservation & Protection SD 411 – SD 428  2
Environmental Protection  TD 169 – TD 171  2
Environmental Pollution   TD 172 – 193.5  2
Pollution of Groundwater  TD 426 – TD 428  2
Soil Pollution            TD 878 – TD 880  2
Air Pollution             TD 881 – TD 890  2
Hazardous Substances & Disposal TD 1020 – TD 1050  2
Subjects Not Included:

Environmental Biology (Please refer to the Biology Collection Development Policy)
Environmental Chemistry (Please refer to the Chemistry Collection Development Policy)
Environmental Geology (Please refer to the Geology Collection Development Policy)

Section III: Preferred Collection Formats and Languages

Preferred Collection Format(s): Electronic, Print

Lower-Priority Collection Formats: Microform

Language: English

Section IV: Noteworthy Publishers:

Elsevier: http://www.elsevier.com
Texas A&M University Press: http://www.tamu.edu/upress/
University of Texas Press: http://www.utexas.edu/utpress/
Wiley: http://www.wiley.com
Various University Presses
**Section V: Weeding Policy**  
*(Including Frequency of Collection Assessment)*:

The collections for Environmental Science (in the Main and Reference collections) will be examined, and weeded, every three years.

Weeding criteria include (1) Currency and relevance of material to the curriculum; (2) Updated/revised editions; and (3) Physical condition of the title (please see the “Weeding” section of the General Collection Development Policy).

**Section VI: Gift Policy**:

The library will accept donations of materials (monographs, periodicals, etc.) in this subject area. All donors are encouraged to fill out, and sign, a form with the Technical Services Department when the library accepts those materials. If the donor allows the library to keep all donated materials, then the library has the discretion about whether to integrate those materials into the collections or use them in another capacity, such as: (1) Donating those titles to another library; (2) Including them in the annual book sale; or (3) Recycling the materials if no other parties or organizations can use the materials. However, the donor can also specify on the form that they would like all donated materials returned to them if the library cannot add those materials to the collections.

The library will add gift books to the collections only if they support the curriculum and student research in environmental science.

The Library will generally add print periodical titles to its collections under the following conditions: (1) The library already has a current subscription to that title; (2) The library has determined that there is adequate room for older print volumes of that title; (3) The library does not own those titles but they fit the subject’s selection criteria.

Revised: July 11, 2007, by E. Kownslar.

Approved by the Library Director: August 1, 2007.