

PCC Library

Collection Development Policy

Pasadena City College

PCC Shatford Library

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Introduction

The PCC Library Collection Development Policy:

- Outlines the Library's practices for the maintenance and continual development of its collections with consideration for the most optimal uses of funding.
- Establishes guidance for developing a collection that is responsive to the needs of the PCC community, with a primary focus on students.
- Communicates the goals of library collection development and stewardship to students and stakeholders.

This policy will be reviewed annually and revised or updated as needed.

College Mission, Vision, & Values

An understanding of Pasadena City College's [Mission, Vision, & Values, and its stance as an equity-minded learning community](#), is a prerequisite to understanding the mission of PCC Library.

The Library offers services and resources that support the College's mission, as outlined in Pasadena Area Community College District Administrative Procedure Manual [AP 4040: Library Services](#).

PCC Library Mission, Values, Vision, & Philosophy

Mission

PCC Shatford Library is the information hub of Pasadena City College. In support of Pasadena City College's mission, the Library's faculty and staff meet the information needs of our community by offering virtual and in-person services and resources. As an academic and service-oriented department, we empower students, faculty, staff, and community members through learning, teaching, and information access. As professionals and educators, we continuously evaluate our practices to meet the evolving needs of our community within the dynamic information landscape.

Values

Academic Integrity, Excellence, and Student-First Decision Making

We provide services and resources that align with academic programs and curriculum, the College Mission and Pasadena City College AP/BP 4040. The Library's reference, outreach and instructional services foster information literacy and the ethical use of information. We offer up-to-date print and digital materials that support curriculum needs, quiet and collaborative study spaces, technology, and access that is as free and open as possible for students, faculty, staff, and community members.

Serving students in a thoughtful and responsive manner is our foundation, and we uphold a student-first culture through our policies and practices. We provide in-person and online reference, outreach and instructional services to meet students' diverse learning needs, and equitable lending policies that minimize barriers.

Cultural Humility

In our service to students, we recognize and value their existing knowledge and acknowledge that authority is constructed and contextual ([Association of College & Research Libraries Framework](#)).

Improving our cultural humility is an ongoing practice in which we respect students' self-efficacy, recognize and challenge our own biases, and build campus partnerships to deepen our support of programs and initiatives that can strengthen our service to students.

Social Justice

We value and uphold the right to privacy ([American Library Association – Privacy](#)) and equitable information access and engagement for students and community patrons through our print and digital collection, technology, and library spaces.

Free and Informed Expression

We support students and community patrons in locating resources and materials that align with their information needs, whether for academic goals or personal interests.

Centering the Identities and Lived Experiences of Our Campus Community

Our collection development practices reflect the diverse identities within our broader campus community. We coordinate and curate displays that highlight myriad voices and experiences. We provide library services that are responsive to the needs of students and the campus community, and we value feedback and consider it in our review of library services and collection development.

Transformational Problem Solving

We strive to support students in becoming informed consumers of information and to critically examine multiple perspectives in the research process. From our professional expertise and in collaboration with the Library Dean, we advocate for equitable access to campus resources that help us thrive as the information headquarters for our diverse student population. We continue to develop our professional expertise and recognize that we as library professionals are lifelong learners.

Vision and Library Areas

Access Services

Access Services is the frontline of library customer service and includes the Circulation and Computer Lab Desks. Access Services takes an equitable and student-centered approach to providing information and resources, such as print materials and technology lending, that support student success.

Archives

The Archives is responsible for collecting and preserving the historical record of the college for equitable access to the campus community. The Archives is engaged in work to identify and promote collections that further reflect the rich diversity of the campus history.

Assessment

Library Assessment gathers data about the composition of the physical and electronic library collection, the usage of the collection and library spaces, as well as operational and instructional services. Library Assessment offers opportunities to review, revise, and implement best practices that support students and the community.

Outreach

Library Outreach engages with student-centered campus initiatives to promote the use of Library services and resources. Outreach aims to cultivate a sense of belonging in the Library for students and all members of the campus community.

Reference and Instruction

By providing research help and information literacy instruction both in-person and online, PCC Librarians encourage students and faculty to utilize library resources, evaluate and select appropriate sources for their needs, and engage with the research process as critical, confident, and ethical consumers and creators of information.

Technical Services

Technical Services develops and maintains PCC Library's ever-evolving collections and systems to ensure that library resources (both physical and online) are findable, browsable, and accessible by our users.

Philosophy

The PCC Library supports and upholds the following:

- [Library Bill of Rights](#)
- [Intellectual Freedom Principles for Academic Libraries: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights](#)
- [Reader Privacy Act](#)

PCC Library Users

The PCC Library serves the students, faculty, and staff of the College, as well as the residents of the Pasadena Area Community College District, including local high school students. The majority of the library's user base is PCC students, followed by PCC faculty & staff, followed by community users.

Collection Objectives

The PCC Library supports the Pasadena City College community through the continued development and maintenance of its collections. This is accomplished by:

- Providing access to materials in a variety of formats including print, electronic, and audiovisual.
- Developing and maintaining a collection of materials in each of the College's curricular areas.
- Developing and maintaining a collection of materials that reflects the College's diverse population and changing needs, including materials of a variety of reading levels.
- Developing and maintaining a collection of materials relevant to the general information needs of PCC students, including topics which may not be addressed in the College curriculum, to encourage and support life-long learning.
- Developing and maintaining a collection of materials for leisure use to encourage and support reading for enjoyment.
- Providing access to the College's archives through preserving and maintaining the Archives collection to support educational programs and community outreach.

Selection of Library Materials

Selection of materials for the PCC Library shall be guided by the mission and values of the College.

Collection Priorities

Priority for books and other materials to be purchased is given to those materials which meet direct curricular needs in courses.

Materials in the following categories shall be considered for selection:

- Materials used in, or in support of, the College's curricular areas.
- Cultural and current interest materials to enhance students' educational and intellectual growth, and foster a sense of belonging.

Materials not normally considered for purchase include:

- Rare books and collectors' items.
- Materials with accessibility limitations that cannot be reasonably mitigated or accommodated.
- E-resources with restrictive licensing agreements.
- Materials (including books, streaming media, and e-resources) not readily available through vendors for which the library has an existing agreement or contract.
- Research materials outside the scope of the College's curriculum.
- AI-generated materials.

Selection Criteria

The following is an example set of criteria that Librarians use to make judgments on selection:

- Accessibility (i.e., availability of captions for audiovisual materials)
- Accuracy
- Authoritativeness
- Cost
- Currency
- Format (e.g., print, ebook, audiovisual)
- Indexing & metadata quality
- Licensing restrictions
- Market availability
- Recommendation by PCC students, faculty, or staff
- Redundancy of items in the collection on same subject
- Relevance to College goals or initiatives, such as textbook affordability
- Relevance to community needs
- Reliability of vendor/producer/publisher
- Reviews from reputable sources, such as academic journals and library review publications
- Scope
- Staffing considerations for acquisition, maintenance, training, and patron assistance
- Usability

Librarians use reviews appearing in authoritative professional journals and popular publications to inform selections.

Although all the above criteria are considered, materials selected need not address every criterion.

Selection Responsibility

PCC Librarians and Library staff, in consultation with the Dean of the Library, manage all processes of selection, acquisition, cataloging, deaccession, and maintenance of all library materials.

Librarians function as liaisons to teaching faculty to identify and select curriculum-aligned resources. PCC students, faculty, and staff may recommend purchase of materials to support the College's curricular areas and cultural and current interest materials. A [Suggest a Purchase](#) form is available on the library's website.

Library database selection and deaccession are coordinated via collaboration among the Librarians. Note that database content can change or become unavailable without notice due to factors beyond the library's control (e.g., vendor decisions, changes in access agreements). Librarians participate in book/ebook selection according to their subject division assignments.

The library's collection is funded through a budget allotted by the College. Outside funds may be applied to special projects and collections with coordination of Librarians and library staff.

Gifts

The PCC Library does not accept donations of physical items such as books, magazines, videos, or other materials. Exceptions may be considered for donations from current or former PCC faculty members.

All materials gifted to PCC Library become property of the library. The library may discard any gifted materials that do not meet selection criteria. The library reserves the right to determine the retention, location, cataloging treatment, and other considerations related to the use or disposition of all gifts. The library assumes no responsibility for appraisal of gift items, nor can the library accept items under restricted conditions.

The library does not provide a statement of value for gifted materials for income tax deductions or other purposes. The library may issue a non-itemized letter of receipt.

Monetary gifts to purchase items for the Library's collection may be accepted through the [Pasadena City College Foundation](#). Potential donors should contact the Foundation to make arrangements for a monetary gift. Donations are accepted with the understanding that Librarians will make final selections based on selection criteria.

Textbook Reserves

The PCC Library manages a Textbook Reserves collection in two parts: Instructor Reserves and Textbooks.

Instructor Reserves

Instructor Reserves are faculty-owned materials placed in the Library for student use. Instructors retain ownership of these materials, and the Library manages the lending.

Librarians and Library staff welcome instructors to place their own copies of books and other non-photocopied materials on reserve for students to use. An [Instructor Reserves](#) form is available on the Library's website.

Textbooks

Textbooks are Library-owned materials. The size and comprehensiveness of this collection vary from year to year according to funding, demand, and cost of textbooks. When new editions of textbooks are acquired, older editions may be moved from Reserves to the general collection for circulation or deaccessioned.

Multiple Copies / Duplicates

The PCC Library primarily collects a single copy of physical materials due to space and fiscal limitations. Duplicates or multiple copies may be ordered when an item is predicted by the Library to have (or has been shown to have) high demand.

The PCC Library does not purchase or manage the circulation of physical class sets of required texts.

Requests for Reconsideration

It is the policy of the Pasadena Area Community College District that academic freedom is a right enjoyed by all members of the PCC community, including students, staff, faculty, and Trustees. PCC's [Mission, Vision, & Values](#), [Administrative Procedures](#), and [Board Policies](#) also reflect a commitment to encouraging and supporting an environment of healthy and constructive debate and to respecting the right of all members of the College community to freely evaluate, criticize, and/or advocate personal points of view. Further, the principles set forth in the [Library Bill of Rights](#) form a framework for building collections that serve the entire academic community. It is essential that Library collections contain materials representing a variety of perspectives on subjects that may be considered controversial.

A person who wishes to request the reconsideration of Library material must submit a formal written request for reconsideration via email to librarian@pasadena.edu. Upon receipt of a written request for reconsideration, the following steps shall be taken:

- Written acknowledgement of the request will be sent to the individual via email.
- An ad hoc Reconsideration Review Working Group will be formed, composed of the Library Chair, the Acquisitions Librarian, the Dean of the Library, and at least two other full-time Librarians.
- The working group will meet to review the material based on the PCC Library Collection Development Policy and make a final determination on the status of the item.
- The working group will send a written response to the request for reconsideration, explaining the working group's rationale for the decision to retain or withdraw the item.
- The working group will submit a completed form detailing the objection and outcome to ALA's [Office for Intellectual Freedom](#) for inclusion in their database on challenged materials.

Challenged materials will remain accessible and available to Library users during the reconsideration process.

Deaccessioning

Deaccessioning is a necessary function in the maintenance of a quality Library collection. Removing materials that are no longer relevant to the curriculum, outdated, or are unusable due to their physical condition is critical for ongoing stewardship of a Library collection.

Criteria for Deaccessioning

The following factors play a role in deciding to deaccession Library materials:

- Accessibility or usability
- Accuracy
- Appearance or condition
- Cultural/historical/literary significance
- Currency
- Format (including obsolescence factors)
- Newer editions have been acquired
- Redundancy of items in the collection on same subject
- Relevance to the curriculum
- Usage

Participation in Deaccessioning

All full-time Librarians are responsible for collection maintenance in their assigned subject areas, with guidance from the Acquisitions and/or Technical Services Librarians. Instructional faculty may also be called upon to advise on deaccessioning within their areas of expertise.

Archives

The PCC Library manages and maintains an archive of College materials. Decisions regarding materials for inclusion into the archives are made by archives/Library faculty in collaboration with the Dean of the Library.

Pasadena City College Archives is the official repository for the historical or archival records of Pasadena City College, Pasadena Junior College, and the shared campus of Pasadena Junior College and Pasadena High School from its founding date in 1913 to the present and supports research efforts based on these identities.

Archival records are defined as those that have lasting historical value to the College community, support the Library's [Mission, Values, & Vision](#), and are therefore permanently preserved and whenever possible, made accessible for researchers. It is advised that these guidelines be used by other College departments as criteria for determining the appropriateness of materials for the Pasadena City College Archives.

Types of Material Collected

In general, records of permanent historical and archival value to the College include, but are not limited to:

- Primary papers of the Office of the President (e.g., policy statements, reports, correspondence, business files, speeches, memoranda)
- Board of Trustees documents (e.g., memos, reports, by-laws, correspondence, meeting minutes, agendas)
- Official College publications (e.g., catalogs, newspapers, literary magazines, newsletters, brochures, posters, programs, postcards)
- Faculty and alumni publications, dissertations, and sabbatical reports.
- Staff and student organizational records (e.g., minutes, publications, photographs)
- Books published by staff and faculty.
- Films, recordings, tapes, photographs, or prints produced by the College.
- Select records from administrative and academic offices (e.g., self-study reports, policy and planning documents)

New accessions should support the Archives' existing collections, extend the Archives' strengths and needs in a manner consistent with the Archives' collection priorities, anticipate research interests, and anticipate a high ratio of use to the cost of processing the collection. It must also be noted that even when materials are determined to have archival value, the Archives' ability to accept and process collections is limited. Therefore, consideration of financial support from the campus department or external donor for processing, preserving, and housing the collection will be undertaken.

In general, the Archives holds physical materials, the bulk of which is paper-based. While the Archives fully endorses preserving appropriate born digital materials, the Archives does not currently have the resources to support an institutional repository or electronic document management system. Currently, the only online content the Archives supports are those that have been converted through PCC Library's digitization program.

Types of Material Not Collected

Because of the sheer volume of records created by administrative and academic departments on the campus, the Archives is not able to provide the necessary resources to address the preservation and access requirements for all of these records. Most of the records listed below are created for a specific purpose and do not have lasting historical value. More information about the retention and destruction of these materials is available in the Pasadena Area Community College District Administrative Procedure Manual in policy [AP 3310: Records Retention and Destruction](#).

Materials may be refused if it is determined that the materials do not have undeniable historical significance. In general, the Archives does not collect:

- Financial transaction records
- Payroll records
- Course scheduling records, syllabi, and evaluations
- Personnel records
- Student transcripts
- Routine administrative records
- Duplicated material, or materials collected for reference purposes only

- Classroom aids, posters, books, or other materials used for classroom instruction

Transferring Records to the Archives

Archives/Library faculty and staff coordinate the processes of transferring records to the Archives, in collaboration with the Dean of the Library. Donations must meet the outlined requirements and go through the Pasadena City College Foundation office.