I. PURPOSE/PROGRAM SUPPORT

The Elliott School of International Affairs offers a multidisciplinary program leading to the Master of Arts in the field of international development studies. The program provides students with a background in international development and a concentration in one of the following areas: culture, society, and development; economic development policy; humanitarian assistance; international business; international development management; international education; international health; natural resources and the environment; political science; and women and development. Around 70 graduate students are currently enrolled in the program which has two core faculty members.

The goal of the library is to support the program as broadly as possible, covering both the curricular needs of students and the individual research interests of faculty.

II. AREA RESOURCES

A. Washington Research Library Consortium (WRLC)

Researchers may draw upon the individual collections of the libraries within the Washington Research Library Consortium.

B. Other area resources

The Washington area has an abundance of resources on international development, including the Library of Congress and specialized collections such as those maintained by the Agency for International Development.

III. GENERAL COLLECTION GUIDELINES

A. Language

English is the primary language of collection.
B. Period of Coverage

Emphasis is on current scholarship (i.e., post-World War II).

C. Dates of Publication

Current scholarship is emphasized; older materials are acquired selectively.

D. Geographical

All geographical areas are treated, with special attention given to Latin America and South, Southeast, and East Asia. Increasing attention is now being devoted to Africa. The collection development librarians for those areas acquire materials relating to economic development in their specific geographic regions.

E. Treatment of Subject

The focus is on interdisciplinary scholarly contributions to the literature, both applied and theoretical, including reference materials such as research guides, dictionaries, and bibliographies.

IV. DESCRIPTION OF MATERIALS AND FORMAT

Print materials include standard reference sources, circulating monographs, multi-author anthologies, monographic series, and periodicals. Videos are considered for purchase upon faculty request contingent on repeated use. Electronic databases supporting research are also acquired.

V. SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Given its worldwide geographical focus and multi- and interdisciplinary concentrations, the collection needs of International Development overlap with those of other departments and programs. The collection development librarian thus shares responsibility for acquiring materials with colleagues responsible for building collections in those areas.

VI. DUPLICATION

In general, duplicate copies of a title are not purchased, the operative principle being to purchase more titles rather than extra copies of individual titles. However, if warranted by demand, e.g., reserve readings, duplicate copies will be bought on a case-by-case basis.

VII. SELECTION METHODS
A. Selection of new materials generally occurs through five sources:

1. The approval plan through Blackwell’s Book Services is monitored on a regular basis to ensure the profile meets our needs. Any changes in the curriculum, as indicated through library impact statements, are examined against possible changes in the approval profile.

2. Firm orders are initiated by the collection development librarian. Firm order requests from faculty and students are reviewed and approved by the collection development librarian.

3. Standing orders, memberships, and serial title requests are initiated by the collection development librarian either independently or in consultation with faculty.

4. Gifts are accepted under the same guidelines as other acquisitions. They must meet the criteria outlined in this policy.

5. The library participates in the Federal Depository Library Program; collection development librarians review documents available through the U.S.G.P.O. for access or inclusion in the collection.

B. Deselection

The deselection process may be initiated by library staff, by the faculty, or the collection development librarian. Final decisions on deselection are made by the collection development librarian. Items considered for deselection will be checked for general condition, current availability, and continuing value of content.

VIII. SUBJECT AREAS

Because of the highly interdisciplinary character of the Program, materials fall under a number of Library of Congress classifications.