COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY STATEMENT

NAVAL SCIENCE

Date: March 2006

Collection Development Librarian: David Killian

I. PURPOSE/PROGRAM SUPPORT

The George Washington University is host to a unit of the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) Program. Gelman Library’s collection in Naval Science supports the curricular and research needs of this unit. The NROTC program offers young men and women the opportunity to qualify for scholarships and, upon receiving the baccalaureate and completing the program, earn commissions in the Naval Reserve or the Marine Corps Reserve.

GWU’s NROTC midshipmen are required to take Naval Science courses, which are undergraduate-level courses in subjects such as naval ships systems, navigation and naval operations, sea power and maritime affairs, the evolution of warfare, and amphibious warfare, among others.

There are currently about 170 undergraduate students in GWU’s NROTC program, which is the only NROTC unit in the Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan area. Also attending classes in the program, in addition to students from GWU, are students from Georgetown University, Howard University, the University of Maryland and Catholic University. GWU has this year (as always) the largest number of students in the program (95), followed by UMD (47) and Georgetown U. (21).

There are currently eight faculty members in the program.

Degree credit for specific Naval Science courses is offered by the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, the School of Engineering and Applied Science, the School of Business, and the Elliott School of International Affairs. For example, Naval Science 126, *Sea Power and Maritime Affairs*, may be used as elective credit in the Elliott School of International Affairs.

Enrollment in NROTC is not a requirement for taking naval science courses. Any student enrolled at GWU may take naval science courses with the approval of the Professor of Naval Science.
II. AREA RESOURCES

A. Washington Research Library Consortium (WRLC)

Faculty and students may utilize the collections of the member libraries of the Consortium either on-site or through the library’s Consortium Loan Service.

B. Other area resources

GWU students and faculty have access privileges at the Chesapeake Information and Research Library Alliance (CIRLA) libraries. Graduate students and faculty have borrowing privileges. GWU is the only CIRLA school that has a NROTC program.

III. GENERAL COLLECTION GUIDELINES

A. Language

English is the sole language of this collection.

B. Period of Coverage

The period from the beginning of WWII to the present is the most important, but coverage of American naval history extends from the Revolutionary War to the present.

C. Dates of Publication

Current materials are preferred, but retrospective materials may selectively be acquired.

D. Geographical

The United States is the main focus of the collection, but materials on areas worldwide that are of strategic importance to the U.S. Navy will be acquired.

E. Treatment of Subject

Scholarly materials, both current and retrospective, are preferred. Popular materials may selectively be acquired. Dictionaries, handbooks, and other reference materials pertinent to naval science are acquired. Textbooks are not normally purchased unless they address topical areas in which the library has limited coverage.

IV. DESCRIPTION OF MATERIALS AND FORMAT
The collection is comprised largely of monographs. Serials and online article indexes are also acquired.

V. SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Naval Science is supported by collections in related disciplines, including history, political science, security policy, management, and engineering.

VI. DUPLICATION

In general, duplicate copies of a title are not purchased, the operating principle being to purchase more titles rather than extra copies of individual titles. However, if demand warrants, e.g. reserve readings, duplicate copies are bought on a case by case basis. Additional copies of titles may be accepted as gifts.

VII. SELECTION METHODS

A. Selection of new materials generally occurs through 5 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 requests are initiated by the collection development librarian.

4. Gifts are accepted under the same guidelines as other acquisitions. They must fit the criteria spelled out in this collection development 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 can be initiated by Gelman staff, by faculty, or by the collection development librarian. Final decisions on deselection are made by the collection development librarian. Items are checked for general condition, availability of newer or replacement editions and the continuing value of the content.

VIII. LIBRARY OF CONGRESS CLASSIFICATION
Most of the titles in Naval Science fall in Class V (Naval Science) of the Library of Congress Classification System. Within this class, the following subclasses carry the preponderant number of titles:

- V Naval Science (General)
- VA Navies: Organization, distribution, naval situation
- VB Naval administration

Titles pertaining to U.S. naval history will be found in these areas:

- E 182 United States – History – Naval History
- E 591 – 600 United States – Civil War period, 1861-1865 – Naval History
- E 746 United States – Twentieth century – Naval History

Materials related to specific U.S. naval actions may be found by the country or region in which the actions occurred. For example, books concerned with U.S. naval engagements during the Vietnam War may be found in Class DS557 – 559.9 (Vietnamese Conflict).

Other L.C. classes that pertain to Naval Science are:

- U 1 – 900 Military Science (General)
- UB 416 - 419 Minorities, women, etc., in the armed forces