COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY STATEMENT

SPEECH AND HEARING SCIENCE

Date: August 2007
Collection Development Librarian: Cynthia Holt

I. PURPOSE/PROGRAM SUPPORT

The collection supports the curricular and research activities of the Speech and Hearing Science department of the Columbian School of Arts and Sciences. Material is acquired to support teaching at the undergraduate level, teaching and research for graduate study, and faculty research interests. The department supports study leading to a B.A. in Speech and Hearing Science and a M.A in Speech-Language Pathology.

Undergraduate students earn a B.A. degree with a major in speech and hearing science. The department also offers a minor in speech and hearing science that requires 15 credit hours. Undergraduate students must complete 25 clinical observation hours as part of their degree.

There are two graduate programs: One for those with an undergraduate in speech language pathology and one for those with an undergraduate degree in another area. Those with an undergraduate degree other than speech language pathology must complete two semesters of required prerequisite courses before entering the regular graduate program. Students may choose either a thesis or non-thesis option as part of the requirements of the graduate program. Students choosing the non-thesis option take a departmental comprehensive examination during their last semester of graduate study. Those choosing the thesis option do a thesis presentation in lieu of the comprehensive examination. All students take the National Examination in Speech-Language Pathology (PRAXIS) during their last semester.

Areas of concentration for Master's degree candidates include the following topics:

- Pediatric Speech-Language Pathology
- Medical Speech-Language Pathology with Adults
- Language Disorders in Children and Adults
- Voice Disorders in Children and Adults
- Neurologic Communication Disorders in Children and Adults

Current faculty research areas include speech, language, and voice disorders; central auditory processing; aural rehabilitation; audiology; autism; fluency disorders; cognitive
development; language development and pediatric language impairments; phonological development; virtual reality applications; swallowing and neuromuscular disorders; foreign accent reduction; dysphagia; and neurogenic communication disorders.

In September 2006, there were 8 full-time and 12 part-time faculty and 31 undergraduate majors and 75 graduate students.

II. AREA RESOURCES

A. Washington Research Library Consortium (WRLC)
The collections at George Mason University's Fenwick Library and Gallaudet College duplicate and complement Gelman's holdings in speech and hearing. The collections of these libraries and those of other Consortium members are available for use by students and faculty of GW through direct borrowing on-site or through the Consortium Loan Service.

B. Other area resources
Reference and referral tools for collections in the area's major libraries are provided in Gelman's collections. Speech and Hearing faculty and students use library facilities at GW’s Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library, National Institutes of Health, and National Library of Medicine. Faculty and graduate students have access and borrowing privileges at the Chesapeake Information and Research Library Alliance (CIRLA) libraries. CIRLA libraries, including the University of Maryland and Johns Hopkins University, have research-level collections in speech and hearing.

III. GENERAL COLLECTION GUIDELINES

A. Language
English. Translations and major works in key research areas not available in English are acquired selectively.

B. Period of Coverage
Emphasis is on current scholarship. The collection contains some historical materials. Works on the history of speech and hearing are acquired selectively.

C. Dates of Publication
Materials are considered as they are published. There is no systematic retrospective purchasing activity. While the collection contains some major works of the 19th and early 20th centuries, most items in the collection have been published within the last 40 years.

D. Geographical
No areas are excluded.
E. Treatment of Subject
Emphasis is on upper-undergraduate, graduate, and research-level materials. Monographs supporting study and research in broad topics as well as narrow subjects are selected for the collection. Books on techniques and upper-division and graduate textbooks are purchased selectively; lower division textbooks are ordinarily not purchased.

Journals are of primary importance, and subscriptions constitute more than 83% of expenditures for all speech and hearing materials. Other serials, such as proceedings and transactions of conferences, symposia, etc., are acquired selectively.

Non-GW dissertations, biographical works, and popular works are acquired selectively.

IV. DESCRIPTION OF MATERIALS AND FORMAT

Materials may be acquired in several formats: print, machine-readable files, videotapes, web subscriptions, microforms, CD-ROMs, etc. The bulk of the collection is print. Software is acquired only as it accompanies print material. Some journal backsets are in electronic or micro-format. GWU theses and dissertations are acquired and given full cataloging.

V. SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Recently, the department has started to focus on autism, an area covered more extensively by the psychology collection development policy.

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 five sources:

1. The approval plan through Blackwell 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
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. De-selection

The de-selection process can be initiated by Gelman staff, by faculty, or by the collection development librarian. Final decisions on de-selection 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

Materials for speech and hearing are located within several areas of the Library of Congress classification, including RC (internal medicine), RF (otorhinolaryngology), RJ (pediatrics), and QP (physiology).