COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY STATEMENT

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY AND SECURITY

Date: October 2006
Collection Development Librarian: Cynthia Holt

I. PURPOSE/PROGRAM SUPPORT

The collection in transportation safety and security supports the curricular and research activities of the transportation engineering option offered by the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department in the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences. Material is acquired to support teaching at the undergraduate level, teaching and research for graduate study, and faculty research interests. Transportation Safety and Security is designated as an area of academic excellence by the University.

The department supports study leading to the undergraduate degree of B.S. in Civil Engineering with a Transportation Engineering option, the M.S. in Civil Engineering with a concentration in Transportation Engineering, and the Ph.D. in Civil Engineering. An Aviation Safety and Security Management Certificate program is offered at the Virginia Campus under the auspice of the GW Aviation Institute.

Current areas of faculty research in Transportation Safety and Security include:

- Applied mechanics and transportation safety
- Intelligent system and neural networks, nonlinear finite element methods and dynamics simulation and modeling, with applications in transportation, vehicles, and safety
- Aviation and transportation safety, hybrid-electric vehicles, combustion and fire dynamics
- Innovative bridge design
- Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)
- Meshless methods for future crashworthiness simulation and modeling
- Waterways safety research
- Risk management and assessment for transportation safety and security (includes sustainable port risk management systems)

Faculty carry out multidisciplinary basic and applied research through the GW Transportation Research Institute, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)/National
Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) National Crash Analysis Center, Center for Intelligent Systems Research, GW’s Institute for Crisis, Disaster and Risk Management, and GW’s Aviation Institute.

There are eight full-time and eight part-time faculty focused on Transportation Safety and Security. The department includes seven undergraduate majors and 18 graduate students.

II. AREA RESOURCES

A. Washington Research Library Consortium (WRLC)

The collections of the Washington Research Library Consortium (WRLC) libraries are available for use by students and faculty of GWU either on-site or through the Consortium Loan Service. George Mason offers masters and doctoral degrees in Civil Engineering with an area of concentration in transportation engineering. Reference and referral tools for collections in the area's major libraries are provided in Gelman's collections.

B. Other area resources

Faculty and graduate students have access and borrowing privileges at the Chesapeake Information and Research Library Alliance (CIRLA) libraries. CIRLA libraries, such as the University of Maryland, have research level collections in transportation engineering and are accessible to all GWU students and faculty.

III. GENERAL COLLECTION GUIDELINES

A. Language

The primary language of the collection is 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.

C. Dates of Publication

Materials are considered as they are published. There is no systematic retrospective purchasing activity. Most items in the collection have been published within the last 40 years.

D. Geographical

Although no areas are excluded, the emphasis is on research and projects in
industrialized nations.

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 in English are purchased selectively; lower division textbooks are ordinarily not purchased. Accompanying instructors' manuals and students' solutions manuals are not acquired.

Journals are of primary importance and subscriptions constitute more than 95% of all expenditures for transportation engineering materials. Other serials, such as proceedings and transactions of conferences, symposia, etc., are acquired selectively.

Standards, technical reports, and collections of previously published articles are selectively acquired, primarily in response to individual requests. Programmed instruction materials on transportation engineering subjects, laboratory manuals and workbooks for professional engineers' examinations are not acquired.

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, Internet subscriptions, microforms, CD-ROM, etc. The bulk of the collection is still print but periodicals are being increasingly purchased as online subscriptions. Software is acquired only as it accompanies print material. GWU theses and dissertations are acquired and given full cataloging. Materials in other formats are not normally acquired.

V. SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There is a reliance on materials purchased for Civil and Environmental Engineering, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Computer Science, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Engineering Management and Systems Engineering, Biology, Physics, and, to a lesser degree, on general engineering materials. Refer to those policy statements for details.

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. Due to the reliance on current information in the computer science field, older editions and texts are generally not retained in the collection.

VIII. LIBRARY OF CONGRESS CLASSIFICATION

Materials for transportation engineering, including transportation safety and security, are located within the TL area of the Library of Congress classification.