

Assessment of Library Collections

Public Administration

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February 22, 2007

OVERVIEW

The library's collections in Public Administration appear to be in fairly good shape in terms of core resources for advanced undergraduate research. The essential question is whether collection development is keeping pace with the faculty's needs, given the aim for library resources and services to be commensurate with FIU's Research One ranking.

For example, the citation-rankings approach to evaluation of journals collections, with its focus on established titles, has somewhat of a conservative bias. It generally does not include newer titles that, though lacking a certain impact in the scholarly system, may be relevant on campus. For such needed breadth in collection development, the library relies on its collaborations with the faculty.

BOOKS

Approval plan coverage in the social sciences—not having any substantive subject limitations—is well-suited to cover the broad cross-disciplinarity of Public Administration.

Faculty orders are afforded through another budget that does not have departmental limits (the library attempts to acquire everything requested each year).

Online books: of the 56,000 *NetLibrary* electronic books owned by the library, 92 have *public administration* as a subject heading.

On a more general level, the University Park campus library has roughly 24,000 books in the Library of Congress subject series for Political Science (J through JX), of which about 1,600 are in the subfield of Public Administration (JF) and about 1,000 are in the subfield of Local and Municipal Government (JS).

JOURNALS

The University Park campus has 168 journals in the Public Administration and Political Science fund accounts taken together: 91 are print, 77 are online.

Citation-impact ranked journals:

- In Public Administration, the library has 21 (88%) of the 24 titles.
- In Political Science, the library has 62 (79%) of the 78 titles.
 - For the two literatures taken together, of the 19 ranked journals not in the library's collections, just three appear to be priorities for acquisition: *Local Government Studies*; *Governance: An International Journal of Policy and Administration*; and *Environment and Planning C: Government and Policy*.
- Online journal archives: the library has all four JSTOR Arts & Sciences collections.

DATABASES

The library's collections of databases and other online resources, about 300 in number, include the core ones in Public Administration.

- *ABI Inform*
- *Access UN*
- *CQ Weekly*
- *Criminal Justice Abstracts*
- *Declassified Documents Reference System*
- *Econ Lit*
- *Ethnic News Watch*
- *Global Legal Information Network*
- *Global Newsbank*
- *Government Periodicals Index*
- *GPO Access*
- *Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals*
- *Legal Periodicals Full-Text*
- *Legal Trac*
- *LexisNexis Academic*
- *LexisNexis Congressional Universe*
- *LexisNexis State Capitals*
- *LexisNexis Statistical Universe*
- *NewsBank Newsfile*
- *Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center*
- *PAIS (Public Affairs Information Service) International*
- *Policy File*
- *Shepherd's Citations*
- *Social Sciences Full-Text*
- *Social Work Abstracts*
- *Sociological Abstracts*
- *Source OECD*

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- *STAT USA*
- *United Nations Bibliographic Information System*
- *United Nations Common Database (UN Stat)*
- *United Nations Official Document System*
- *World Bank e-Library*
- *World Development Indicators*
- *World Law Index*
- *World Tourism Org. e-library* (on order)
- *World Trade Atlas, U.S. State Export Edition*
- *Worldwide Political Science Abstracts*

OTHER LIBRARY RESOURCES AND SERVICES

Government Documents (Sherry Mosley, Head)

The University Park campus is a selective Federal depository. In addition, it receives a broad range of publications from Florida state agencies. Two milestones were reached in 2002 when FIU became a full depository library of the European Union (the only such library in the state other than the University of Florida) and full United Nations depository status.

Special Collections / University Archives (Vicki Silvera, Head)

Senator Jack Gordon Collected Papers; and Papers of Elaine Gordon. Jack Gordon, for whom the Institute for Public Policy and Citizenship Studies is named, donated his papers to FIU. They consist of files pertaining to his work with the Dade County School Board over the struggle for desegregation in South Florida, and to his travels for the U.S. State Department.

Digital Collections Center (Gail Clement, Head)

Miami Metropolitan Archive is a cooperative effort of FIU Libraries' Digital Collections Center and its Department of Government Documents; the City of Miami City Clerk's Office; and the Florida Center for Library Automation to provide digital access to important source materials on Miami-Dade County history. Currently, early City of Miami City Council meeting minutes, charters, departmental annual reports, and urban planning documents from 1896 to 1966 are archived. <http://miami.fiu.edu/>

Florida Historical Legal Documents is a growing collection of primary source materials surveying changes in Florida law from the time it became a territory in 1822 through 1845 when Florida became a state. The collection includes the complete Florida Territorial Laws, a time capsule of Florida history documenting the establishment of the territorial court system based on British Common Law as of July 4, 1776. Other materials in the collection offer supplementary information about the legal, political and social history of Florida before and after its Territorial period. Most materials, including Florida Territorial Laws, can be searched in full-text; others are available only as page-images. <http://susdl.fcla.edu/>

Geographic Information Systems / Remote Sensing Center (Jennifer Fu, Head)

The GIS Center provides computerized mapping and image-processing resources and services, including collections of demographic and social-economic data sets of South Florida counties and municipalities, and many government depository data sets. Its user groups are chiefly in the fields of urban affairs, public health, biology, computer science, earth sciences, environmental studies, international studies, architecture, and civil and environmental engineering.

Reference and Instructional Services (Valerie Boulos, Head; Mary Gay Anderson, Liaison)

Basic reference services are provided on site, by e-mail, and in real-time chat service in English and Spanish. An information literacy program serves students' library-instruction needs at the lower division level, and targets core classes for instruction sessions at the upper division and graduate levels. Consultations for research projects are provided to faculty and students alike.