

Information Resources Policy for Umeå University Library

Umeå University Library's (UmUB) information resources constitute an infrastructure that supports research and higher education. Acquisitions, InterLibrary Loan (ILL), databases, maps, archives, manuscripts, etc. in both physical and digital formats serve as support for research and undergraduate level education within the university's areas of research. The University's primary patrons are Umeå University employees as well as employees of University Hospital of Umeå.

General guidelines

The Information Resources Policy aims to ensure that the Library's information resources support ongoing research and education in terms of flexibility and long-term planning. This policy shall even aim to coordinate the effective management of media resources at the University Library. The Information Resources Policy is valid for all of its libraries: University Library (UB), Medical Library (MB), and Arts Library (KC).

Regardless of type of resource, format, and manner of acquisition, the contents of the acquisitions should be objectively evaluated together with consideration of relevance, representativeness and diversity. The University Library strives for all information resources to be discoverable and easily accessible. A central point of discovery is the Library's search tool where a majority of the information resources can be retrieved.

The University Library also strives to make scientific publications authored by researchers, teachers and other employees at Umeå University easily discoverable and accessible.

The University Library prioritizes, when possible, acquisitions of electronic material rather than physical material, as well as local acquisitions rather than ILL.

Information resources and manner of acquisition

The University Library works to ensure a satisfactory selection of information with relevant and sought after literature in different languages and various formats. Resource wise, the largest section of acquisitions is interdisciplinary publishing contracts for electronic resources. These contracts are primarily signed via national consortium agreements, but even through local agreements.

For acquisitions and ILL, an assessment is made from the primary target groups' needs and the Library's resources. Suggestions for acquisitions from this group has a prioritized. Information resources that are not normally a part of the Library's collections can, for the Library's primary patrons, be requested via ILL. If and when possible, purchases are made instead of ILL. For archives and manuscripts, there are special guidelines.

The University Library manages all compulsory graduate and undergraduate course literature at Umeå University, which is registered in the University's curriculum database as printed reference copy for library use only, and at least one additional copy in printed or electronic format.

The University Library is one of seven libraries that carries all printed material, which is sent out for wider distribution in Sweden. These legal deposits include books, journals and pamphlets. For mandatory deposits, the Library assesses the material by taking into consideration the needs of the University and University Hospital.

Gifts are accepted in cases where the material is determined to be relevant in accordance with the same principles that are used for acquisitions in general. Consideration is also made for the resources that are necessary to provide and make this acquired material accessible. The University Library retains the right to freely make decisions about the material that has been received as a gift.

For manuscripts and archives, the University Library acquires collections with connections to northern Sweden or of particular interest for research and education at Umeå University

Accessibility of the Library's information resources

The University Library has large collections of different types of information resources and strives for satisfactory visibility and accessibility of all of the Library's information resources.

We strive for:

- all information resources as much as possible shall be visible in the Library's search tools as well as relevant national and international search tools;
- electronic information resources shall be available regardless of time and places for students and employees of Umeå University, as well as for the public's use of the Library's spaces (walk-in use);
- all physical collections that do not require special protection shall be in open collections in each respective library;
- digitization of in-house printed information resources when possible.

The University Library supports open science and open access and works towards including requirements for open access in new contracts, provided that the requirements follow the national and international recommendations regarding open science. The Library actively works with making publications by Umeå University's researchers freely available through parallel publication (i.e., green open access).

The Library shall continually evaluate the use of information resources and make necessary revisions of this Information Resources Policy.

The Information Resources Policy has been approved by the Library Director 2019-03-06.