

Collection Development: An Experience at Smt. Hansa Mehta Library (SHML); ‘The M. S. University of Baroda’

Mayank Trivedi

The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda
Vadodara-390 002, India
libmsu@gmail.com

Ranjita N. Dash

Babaria Institute of Pharmacy, Varnama
Vadodara, India
ran_dash2006@yahoo.co.in

Abstract. *Academic library collections were previously composed of print materials. The selection of books and periodicals were through familiar procedures, and budgets were decided on the basis of years of academic experiences and research needs of the University as well as on the publishing trends. However, the advent of electronic resources has transformed the work of collection development and their availability is highly demanded. The collection development program of Library system has always strived to provide information in the most appropriate formats. The authors have shared their experience about the collections at Smt. Hansa Mehta Library, The M S University of Baroda, which is in vibrante mode for developing the library as a digital library by creation of digital collections and Institutional Repository. There is huge thrust and also increased awareness for the use of e-resources and open source resources at Smt. Hansa Mehta Library.*

Keywords: Library Collection, Library Resources, University Library, Collection Development Policy

1. Introduction

Collection means the holdings of materials. In the context of library, collection means several types of documents - Books, Periodicals and Serials, Government Publications, Academic Thesis and Dissertations, Research Reports, Annual Reviews, Conference Proceedings, Pamphlets, Standards and Specifications, Patents, Trade Literature, Maps, Atlases, Globes, Photographs, Illustrations, Painting, Microfilms, Microfiches, Rare Books, Manuscripts, Slides, Audio Cassettes etcetera and with the advent of electronic media like computerized databases, Floppies, CD-ROM, DVD, e-journals, e-books, e-thesis, Internet etcetera in addition to books as principal constituents. The present paper highlights the various trends in collection development at Smt. Hansa Mehta Library; The M S University of Baroda.

2. Collection Development: Scope And Objective

Collection development involves understanding the nature of requirement of users and anticipating their demands. “*It is a systematic activity well planned from the budget provisions made to any library*”. It has to do with determining the location of copies of the materials. It is also at times referred only to the selection of materials for acquisition, because selection itself is an important aspect of collection development. A carefully selected collection is an asset for a library. In other words, selection of items and the actual process of acquiring them constitute in itself a wider area of professional work. Systematic, reliable and continuous collection evaluation and management is more important in getting appropriate feedback for collection development process and also to identify obsolete, irrelevant and unused part of the collection. Thus, collection development which is one of the key activities of librarianship is concerned with information contained in the documents.

A great deal of work is being done to develop and organize collection development in libraries, since it involves the selection and acquisition of reading materials and also involves a well thought over plans to develop existing collection. In both the cases, primary governing factors are availability of funds, ample space and staff to render service to the users at the right time. If these conditions are satisfied one can infer that collection development is appropriate.

The objective of collection development is to provide “*Library Service for the Community*”. Besides, the collection development should be able to:

- (1) Meet the needs of the majority of the clientele.
- (2) Constrain the duplication of documents or near text of documents.
- (3) Control the bias or over attention to any particular section of clientele.
- (4) Buy books which have greater half life i.e. the contents of documents should be such that is valuable to its clientele for a longer period.
- (5) Buy on a modular basis, i.e. spread out document acquisition on a modular structure.
- (6) Meet the library networks demand for core subject in which the host organization of the library belongs.
- (7) Identify the acquisition of a balanced set of documents from what is published, to what is required and to what can be bought efficiently.
- (8) Enhance the value of the documents already bought.
- (9) Help the general knowledge of its clientele in all the spheres of its activity.
- (10) Understand the cost-benefit and cost-effective aspects of the documents acquisition⁴.

3. Definition

With increase in the demand of collection in libraries, there arose the concept of ‘*collection development*’. Collection as defined by the Webster Dictionary is a “*publication containing a variety of works*”. However, in the connotations of library science, the term collection refers to book selection, library acquisition, building the collection and developing it. All these terms are used to describe the process of building a collection in the library, following certain canons and principles. Today, ‘*collection development*’ has replaced all these terms.

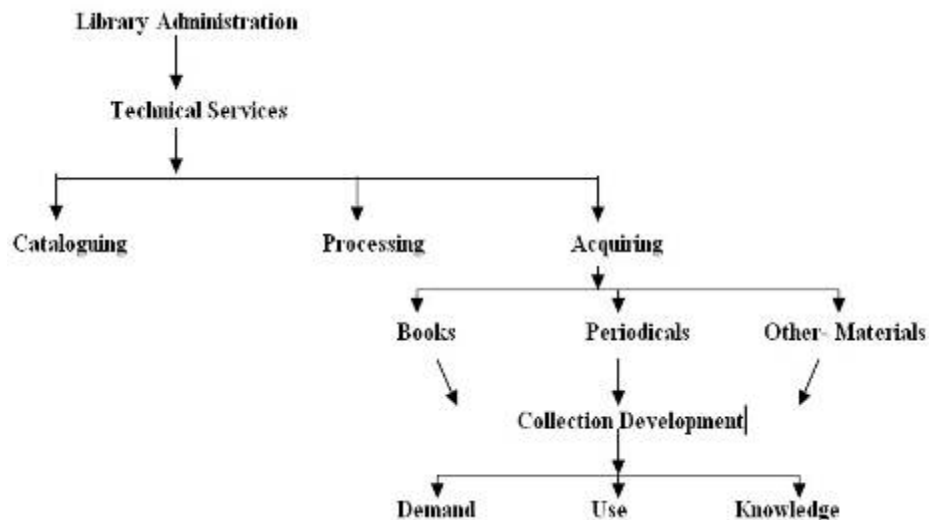
Collection Development is a universal process for all types of libraries. It is a dynamic process which involves the information professionals as well as the community of users. It is generally geared to the requirements of the identified clientele. The requirements must be satisfied with the help of a standard and balanced collection of library materials⁵. These constitute the holdings of a modern library.

Collection development is defined as “*a process of making certain the information needs of the people using the collection which are met in a timely and economical manner using information resources produced both inside and outside the organization*”. According to Encyclopedia of Library and Information Science, collection development is defined as “*the process of identifying the strength and weakness of a library’s materials collection in terms of patron needs and communicating resources and attempting to correct existing weaknesses if any. This requires the constant examination and evaluation of the library’s resources and constant study of both patron needs and changes in the community to be served*”.

An analysis of this definition identifies six elements of collection development such as:

- (1) Objectives of the library;
- (2) Users need;
- (3) Library policies;
- (4) Selection, acquisition and weeding;
- (5) Evaluation and;
- (6) Implementation.

Now, it is a clear fact that library cannot function without an appropriate collection. The efficiency of library service is governed largely by the strength of the library collection both in terms of quantity and quality. In a nutshell; it can be defined as the systematic building of a library collection based on meaningful data rather than subjective choice. The process of collection building includes selection of current as well as retrospective material, rejection of obsolete and unwanted materials and evaluation of the existing collection. Ranganathan’s two laws of Library Science fulfill the ethics of collection development. “*Every book its readers*” and “*every reader his/her book*”. In other words, no reader should have the portal of a library without getting the book of his need and every book’s existence in the stock should be justified. This naturally expects that the librarian ought to be very cautious in selecting of journals. Hence, the libraries should try to acquire all types of materials to satisfy their users and keep them abreast in their field of interest. Parry Commission also opines that “*the policy document of a university library will consider all subject fields which are to be developed in relation to the needs of the students and staff of the university, all types of collection and all types of materials whether printed or not.....*”. Collection development is one of the most challenging and imaginative process of the library profession whereby, the library staff acquires a variety of materials to meet the demands of the users. The meaning to the term collection development has undergone considerable change with the progress in the field of librarianship. “*Collection Development Policy*”, “*Selection Policy*” and “*Acquisition Policy*” are the terms used interchangeably by the librarians but they are by no means, synonymous to each other. They represent a hierarchy in which collection development, being a planning function is placed at the highest level. Selection is the second level of decision making and acquisition the third level. It is the process by which library acquires various materials. Hence, selection and acquisition policies, though independently different, form the content of the collection development plan.



In today’s library structure, collection development stands as an individual department having a strong relationship with the acquisition process.

4. Traditional Collection Development: An Overview

Building suitable collections for scientific and technical libraries is a process of prime importance. Many users, when asked to evaluate scientific and technical libraries, put collections on high priority.

The classifications of traditional library collections according to Ranganathan, Hanson and Grogan are as follows:

• **S. R. Ranganathan’s Classification**

- Conventional: Books, Periodicals, Maps, and Atlases
- Neo-Conventional: Standards. Specifications, Data
- Non-Conventional: Microforms, Audios, Visuals, audiovisuals

Meta-document: Directly produced document without human intervention.

• **C. W. Hanson's Classification**

Primary: Books, Periodicals, Dissertations, Reports, Patents, Standards, Trade Literature, Conference proceedings

Secondary: Catalogues, Bibliographies, Indexes, abstracts, Indexing and abstracting journals

• **Denis Grogan's Classification**

Primary: Periodicals, Research reports, Conference proceedings. Patents, Standards, Theses, and Dissertations, Trade Literature

Secondary: Reference books, Indexing and abstracting journals, Reviews of progress, Text-books, Monographs, etc.

Tertiary: Bibliographies of bibliographies, Yearbooks, Directories, Guides to Literature, Lists of research in progress, Guides to libraries, Guides to organizations

Collection development is the systematic building of a library collection based on meaningful data rather than subjective choice. It is the process of assessing the strength and weakness in a collection and then creating plans to correct the weakness and maintain the strength. The process of collection building includes a selection of current as well as retrospective material and the evaluation of the existing collection.

The basic steps involved in traditional collection development can be outlined as follows.

1. Formulating a collection development policy (including a needs analysis).
2. Establishing a budget and maintaining a record of funds.
3. Receiving notification of the resources.
4. Evaluation of the publications.
5. Prioritization of the publications.
6. Purchasing or subscribing to the publications (current/back files).
7. Delivery of the publication to the readers.
8. Monitoring usage of the publications.
9. Subscription renewal or cancellations.

A Collection Development Policy (CDP) will boost the library staff for better performance and also facilitate continuous, consistent and balanced growth of library collections. A CDP has a great impact on all the activities of the library. The policy should consider:

1. What forms of material are to be emphasized? E.g. films recorded or printed material only.
2. What subject fields are to be emphasized?
3. What are the levels of materials to be considered? E.g. scholarly, specialized or popular.
4. Who will select the material?
5. Who will decide the distribution of funds for each discipline?

The policy statement should be under fairly constant review and should certainly be reviewed frequently. In recent years, information technology has advanced to such an extent that its impact on libraries is significant, particularly developments in the field of;

1. Electronic Mail
2. Electronic Publications
3. Internet
4. CD-ROMs
5. Multimedia and Personal Digital Assistant (PDA)
6. Digital Libraries, Virtual Libraries and Data Banks

These factors have forced the librarians to change the way they are now functioning. In this context, librarians are giving more importance to accessing the other library's collection (resource sharing) rather than possessing almost all documents on a given subject. In the electronic environment a publication needs to be owned to be readily accessible. An electronic collection can be more flexible and dynamic, having wider variety.

5. E-Collections

The library environment is currently undergoing a rapid and dynamic revolution leading to a new generation of library collection with an emphasis on e-resources. On one side, there is an increasing demand for good library collection in terms of large amount of data/information and on the other hand, the publishing media are striving hard to support this demand at lightning speed by way of e-publications as well as online access. As a result, a large number of e-resources are published in all subject areas. Therefore, the library needs to adopt electronic media for its collection development in a better way to fulfill the requirements of users. With the advancement of technology the libraries are moving towards digital resources, which are found to be less expensive and easily accessible. These are more helpful especially to the type of users who have limited time to access the libraries from outside of the commonly available e-resources mainly CD-ROM, OPAC, electronic publications (e-journals, e-books, e-thesis etc.) and Internet.

The classification of library collections in present electronic era is shown in Figure 1

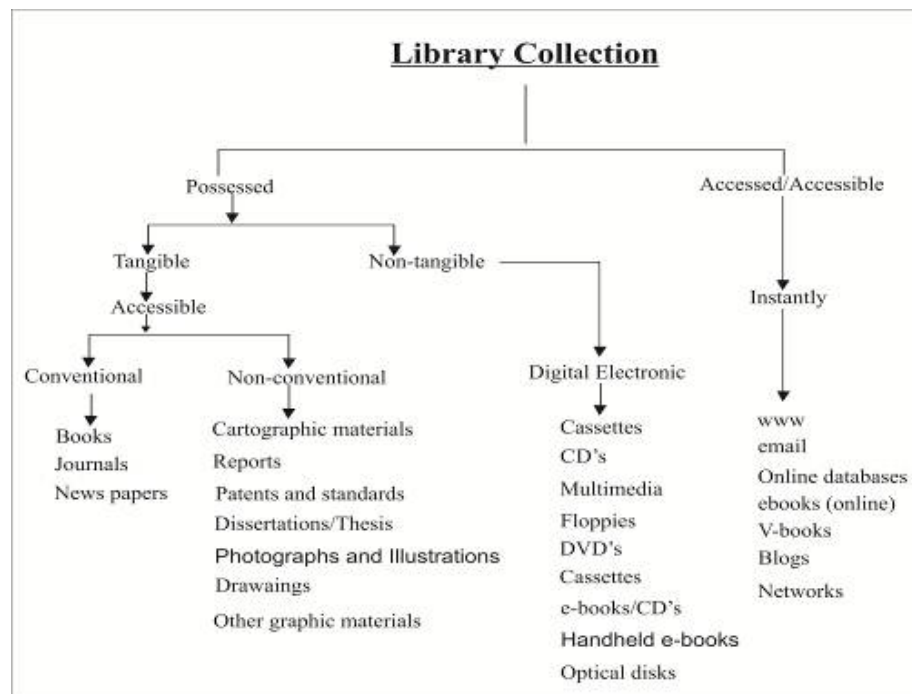


Figure 1.

The formats of library collection in present electronic era is shown in Figure 2.

6. Collections Development: Requirements

- a. A policy well done;
- b. Analysis of users' needs;
- c. Development of a library (inter and intra) communication policy;
- d. Budget and resource allocation;
- e. Contract negotiations;
- f. Macro-evaluation of collections;

- g. Micro-evaluation of collections for the preservation/conservation or thinning of collections;
- h. The selection of electronic resources tends to be a group activity rather than an individual activity;
- i. Evaluation System.

Goals and objectives of the institution are of primary importance in identifying priorities of collection development. Therefore, the library's objective is to contribute to maximize the organization's profits. It is noteworthy that the collection development is a continuous process that requires more attention from decision makers. Therefore, when designing the collection development policy should demonstrate the important factors that must be maintained.

- a. Organization philosophy.
- b. Organization nature.
- c. High standards of contents installed.
- d. Relevance of content.
- e. Cooperation and networking.
- f. Access x possession.
- g. Relationship with other units and information services.
- h. Availability of budget and resources.
- i. Societies.
- j. Policy review.

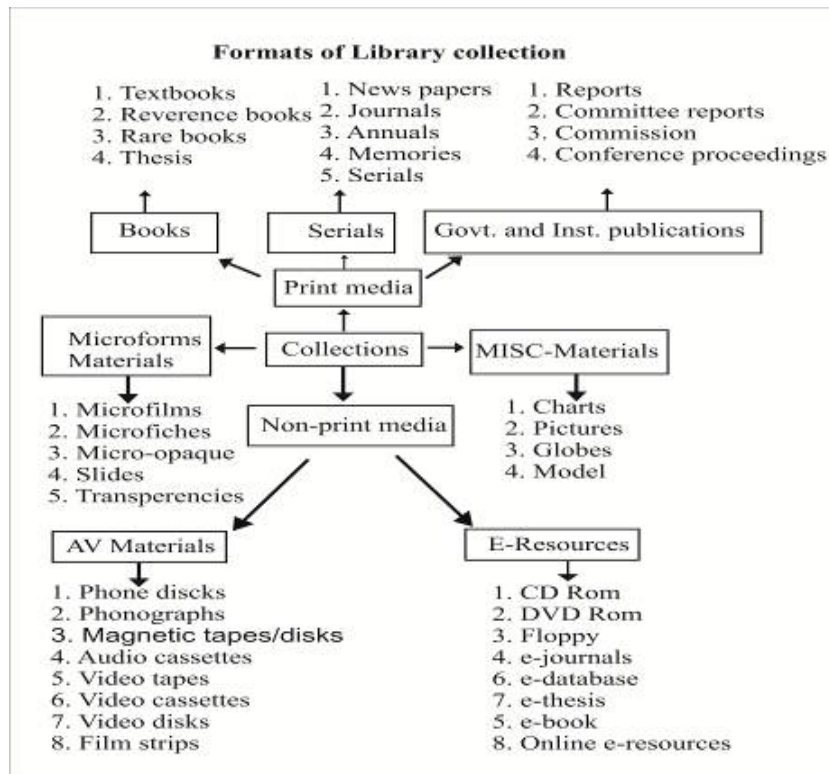


Figure 2.

7. Functions Of Collection Development

Collection development has a cluster of functions which together shape the holding of the library.

Figure 3 clearly depicts that collection development is a dynamic, ongoing cycle repeating the functions one after another every year and involving both the library and the selecting staff. The last function of collection evaluation takes us back to the first function “*Users analysis*” and determining their needs.

8. Need For A Collection Development Policy

There is an immediate need for libraries to adopt collection development policy bearing in mind their peculiar problems with regard to increasing lack of space, limited budgets and inadequate staff. A collection development policy statement becomes an indispensable tool because it enables the book selectors to work with greater consistency towards defined goals. It can also enable them to use limited funds more wisely resulting in stronger collection. Due to ever increasing inflation and decreasing purchasing power of the libraries, it has become necessary for the libraries develop techniques to ensure that limited

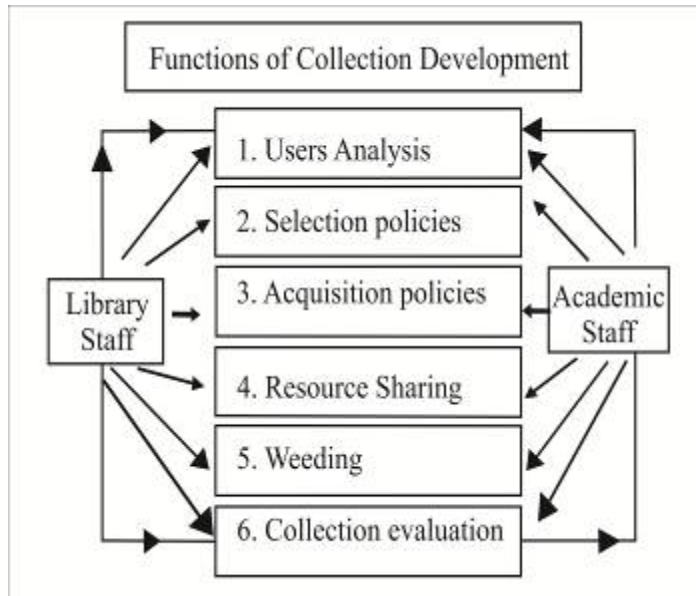


Figure 3

Collections are developed to meet the pressing needs of their users. Moreover, the worth of a library collection varies with its extent, utility and uniqueness. Collection Development Policy is a prior statement of specific long term collecting goals.

So, in the age of resource crunch and information explosion it is not practically possible for any library to satisfy all the information needed by its users. The spiraling cost of publications and budgeting limitations puts forth a challenge to the libraries for serving their users. Therefore, an intelligent librarian needs a collection development policy prepared by a group consisting of the librarian, the faculty members and the users.

9. Factors Affecting Collection Development

The factors which would immensely help the librarian to be more alert to build up a user responsible collection are:

- a. The institution;
- b. The user community;
- c. The present collection;
- d. Human and financial resources;
- e. Purposes and objectives of the library;
- f. Duplication;
- g. Information availability;
- h. Financial support;

- i. Buying power;
- j. Para-professional and non-professional work.

At present, with limited funds the unlimited demands are to be met and this is the crux of the problem posed before the library to go for a qualitatively comprehensive collection.

The facts giving rise to increased demands are:-

1. Awareness about the documents is increasing;
2. Need for improved bibliographical sources, abstracting and indexing services;
3. Availability of database and its easy searches.

These factors have a direct impact on the acquisition programme of the library. Thus, of all the responsibilities of a librarian, collection development is the most important and it has to be seen that the most needed reading materials are added to the library to meet the current and foreseeable needs of the users.

10. Problems in Collection Development

The problem of collection development has to be examined in the context of '*existing collection and its utilization*'. The existing collection should be developed in such a way that it can satisfy "laws of library science". The collection of the library should satisfy, not only the present needs but also the future needs of the organization and further it should also help the users to keep themselves abreast of the new developments in their own fields of specialization.

Among the various functions performed in a library, the most important function is the development of a collection of information materials, which is need-based, relevant both in terms of quality and quantity, user-oriented, and is the most difficult and challenging job.

The other problems which are associated with the collection development are: lack of community analysis and use studies, lack of collection development policies, problems in the selection of information materials, lack of weeding, storage, preservation and evaluation programmes need for development of knowledge, skill and attitudes.

The major forces which create serious impediments in successful implementation of collection development programs are:

1. Unavailability of materials
2. Policy of funds
3. Changes in user need.

Besides, the other problems are:

1. Increase in volumes of periodicals that come out from the ever growing number of publishers.
2. Relentless rise in prices of periodicals,
3. Fluctuations in the exchange rates of foreign currencies.
4. Unfair trade practice that is followed by some of the booksellers, distributors and publishers,
5. The restriction on import, especially of non-book materials.

Hence, in order to develop or perfect balanced need-based, user-oriented and user centered collection, the librarian should take special care to have a preliminary survey of library materials before a decision is taken as to what type of reading materials are to be acquired, especially in view of the rising cost of documents, devaluation of currencies etcetera.

11. Shrimati Hansa Mehta Library

Smt. Hansa Mehta Library (SHML), the University Library of The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda, was established in 1st May 1950. The teaching programme covered at Graduate and Postgraduate levels under various faculties such as Science, Arts, Commerce, Management, Engineering, Pharmacy, Medicine, Homeopathy, Home Science, Law and Education includes Postgraduate Degree Courses, Postgraduate Diploma Courses, Diploma Courses, and Advanced Certificate Courses. Undergraduate Courses are taught in the colleges or institutes affiliated to the University. At the time of establishment of the M.S. University of Baroda, a collection of 25,000 books belonging to the two state Libraries, the Huzur Political Office and Secretarial Library, were handed over to the University Library. Thus, the University Library was established with this core collection, which finally emerged as an academic library. Dr. Rajendra Prasad, the President of India, had laid the Foundation stone of Smt. Hansa Mehta Library of the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda on 16th November 1954.

There were several colleges in Baroda - Baroda College (for Arts), Science Institute, Commerce Colleges, Engineering, and Teacher's Training College etcetera. These colleges had libraries of their own. These libraries continued to remain as Faculty Libraries and were administered independently. Thus, the University Library System was established on 01-05-1950, which was housed in the central block of old Residency office Building.

12. University Library System (ULS)

Considering the unitary structure of this University, the first University Librarian Late Dr. C. P. Shukla propounded the existing structure of the University Library System (ULS). He was a pioneer in introducing the concept of the Integrated Library System way back in the early 1950s at the University by putting a constituent chain of libraries under the umbrella of the University Library (Central Library). In the year 1955, the University authorities laid down a comprehensive policy for the library services; it was decided that in order to achieve efficiency and uniformity, all the libraries under the University have to work under the guidance of the University Librarian, that resulted in the implementation of a common scheme of classification (Library of Congress Classification) and cataloguing and developed a Union Catalogue which facilitated to locate reading material across the University. Accordingly, it was also decided that the libraries of the faculties of Arts, Science, Commerce, Education and Psychology and Intermediate College should be merged with the University Library.

ULS caters to the academic and research needs of teachers and postgraduate and undergraduate students of all the 13 constituent faculties comprising of 85 teaching departments and 5 institutes. Smt. Hansa Mehta Library system consists of central library and 14 faculty libraries.

Out of the 14 constituent libraries under the University Library System, 8 libraries offer library operations through a smart card using bar code technology and are fully automated. Circulation Section is one of the prominent sections, which facilitates the users to borrow books for their home reading on the basis of their category of patron privilege.

The existing building of the Smt. Hansa Mehta Library (University Library) was designed with great foresight and a high level of structural marvels. The library is housed in a modular structure building having different sections. The total built up area of the Library is 80,025 sq. ft. The readers can enter from both the sides of the building and pass through the circulation counter to get into the Library's Reading Room and stacks where the books are housed.

The first floor of the building is the prime functional area. To have proximity and coordination among the various sections, the service areas viz. Circulation Section, Reading Room with curricular collection, Reference Section and Journal Section are all on the Northern part of the building. Administrative wing and behind the curtain sections viz. Acquisition, Technical Processing Unit and Computer Console are housed on the southern part of the building.

The ground floor is used for books, bound journal collections and photocopying and cloakroom facilities for the readers. The mezzanine floor accommodates about 500 readers, books and in-house binding unit.

Present Composition and Holdings of the University Library System of the University

SR. NO.	NAME OF THE LIBRARY	HOLDINGS
1.	Smt. Hansa Mehta Library	4,56,033
2.	Sir Sayajirao Memorial Trust (SSMT) Library	4,56,033 Combine with H M Library
3.	Prof. T. K. Gajjar Library, Faculty of Technology & Engineering.	1,12,670
4.	Polytechnic Library, Polytechnic College	41,170
5.	Faculty of Fine Arts Library.	11,195
6.	Faculty of Management Studies Library.	5,514
7.	M K Amin Arts & Science College and College of Commerce, Padra Library.	14,750
8.	Faculty of Performing Arts Library.	13,077
9.	Faculty of Social Work Library	13,499
10.	Center for Advance Studies in Education (C. A. S. E.) Library	18,959
11.	Oriental Institute Library	49,347
12.	Water Resources Engineering & Management Institute's (WREMI) Library	1,983
13.	Baroda Sanskrit Mahavidyalaya Library	5,244
14.	Department of Biochemistry Library (Faculty of Science)	789
15.	Faculty of Law Library	7,305

It has more than 22,000 active members, which is accommodated at a time 1,500 readers and is having a large reading room of 10,600 sq. ft. Which can accommodate 1,100 students at a time and is open to readers from 8.00 am to 10.00 pm i.e. 14 hours a day throughout the year except on National holidays. It covers the North Side of the building, in order to have a continuous natural light throughout the year.

The books of the library are stacked on two floors in the Stack Rooms. These Stack Rooms have the same dimensions as the Reading Room with an additional seating capacity of 500 plus readers.

13. Library Collections

The total library (SHML) holdings exceed 7, 88,984 books in English, Hindi, Gujarati, Marathi and Sanskrit, Urdu and several foreign languages, 74,413 bound volumes of periodical, 127 National Journals, 182 International Journals, 5,500 E-Journals, 12,000 Dissertations/Theses, 2,300 CDs of books, 23 Video Cassettes, 32 old photos in digital form, 117 Maps and 37 books in digital form.

- **Special collection**

The library has some special collections

1.	Journal of Royal Asiatic Society, Volume 1; 1834 onwards
2.	Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, Volume 1; 1890 onwards
3.	Economic Journal, Volume 4; 1894 onwards
4.	Geographical Journal, Volume 1; 1893 onwards
5.	Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society, Volume 1; 1890 onwards

- **Baroda (state) collection**

Baroda (State) Collection of Smt. Hansa Mehta Library is a unique historic collection of Administrative, Legal, Educational and other documents and publications of the Baroda State of Pre-Independence Era. The collection is rich in books on History, Economics, Education, Law and Public Administration etcetera.

Special publications like the Maharaja's visit to District and to Foreign countries and visit of foreign dignitaries invited by the Maharaja, all administrative developments of the State, Laws and Acts passed by the Baroda Government, Inquiry Committee Reports, Government Orders, facilities provided by the Baroda Government for industries, rules of Business of the Council of the State, public lectures of eminent people, Rituals to be followed in the Temples, King's Silver Jubilee Celebrations, Judicial system in Baroda State, documents of the Archaeology Department of Baroda State etcetera are preserved under this collection. This collection is of prime importance for the study and research of the history and the functioning of various States of Pre-Independence period, especially pertaining to the Baroda State of Gaekwads. It contains some of the rare administrative documents of the British Era. The available books are in print form of early 19th century to the 1950's.

- **Rare books collection**

Rare books include books dated back to the sixteenth century. Approximately 3,500 books are preserved in this precious collection, which is comprised of some noteworthy titles, which are out of print.

- **Prof. Balvantrai Kalyanrai Thakore (B.K.T.) collection**

It is a unique collection of 3,985 titles of Prof. Balvantrai Thakore, an eminent literary figure in Gujarati literature. This collection includes variety of literary forms such as Bhasha Shastra, Old ejoyanati, Kavya, Natak-Natika, Novels, Lekh-nibandh, Criticism, Vivechan, Praveshak, Charcha-Patra, Avlokan, Nivedan, and letters etcetera by Prof. B. K. Thakore.

The Library has a rich collection of more than one lakh bound journals, out which some belonging to the nineteenth century are available till date. A few of these are listed below.

Some noteworthy Indexing and Abstracting Journals are also being subscribed as listed below.

Biological Abstracts	– 1942 to till date
Current Contents: Life Sciences	– 1963 to till date
Dissertation Abstracts International Section A	– 1973 to till date
Chemical Abstracts	– 1912 to till date
International Political Science Abstracts	– 1952 to till date
Nutrition Abstracts and Reviews Section A	– 1976 to till date
Nutrition Abstracts and Reviews Section B	– 1976 to till date
Physics Abstracts	– 1910 to till date
Psychological Abstracts	– 1946 to till date
Physical Reviews A	– 1970 to till date
Physical Reviews B	– 1970 to till date
Physical Reviews C	– 1970 to till date
Physical Reviews D	– 1970 to till date
Sociological Abstracts	-1970 to till date

14. Electronic Resources

Information and communications technology has a major impact on materials for research. It is changing the shape both of primary resources like texts, images and data and secondary resources like indexing, abstracts etcetera. Now web based electronic resources have become most popular tools for academic research. It is because e-resources are an up-to-date source of information and they can be accessed from any computer, which is connected to the campus network and the Internet. Besides these e-resources support searching capabilities, timely access and other unique features like links to related items, reference linking etcetera.

E-Books Total = 869

E-journals free subscribed by UGC-INFONET consortium total = 6,087

UGC-Infonet Consortium		
Publisher Name	No : Of Journals	Coverage
American Chemical Society	31	Vol. 1 onwards
American Institute of Physics	19	1997 - onwards
American Physical Society	8	1997 - onwards
Annual Reviews	31	Last 10 Years
Cambridge University Press	189	1997 - onwards
Economic and Political Weekly	1	Current
Elsevier Science - Science Direct	1000 + (10 Subject Collections)	1995 - onwards
Emerald	29	2001 - onwards
Euclid Project	18	2002 - onwards
Institute of Physics	36	Vol. 1 onwards
JCCC - 8000 Plus Instant Access	8000+	
JSTOR - Archival Access	582	Vol. 1 onwards
Nature	1	1997 - onwards
Oxford University Press	169	1997 - onwards
Portland Press	4	1996 - onwards
Project Muse	293	1999 - onwards
Royal Society of Chemistry	23	1997 - onwards
SIAM Journals (Society for Industrial & Applied Mathematics)	13	1996 - Current
Springer link	1200	1997 - onwards
Taylor and Francis	1100	1998 - onwards
Wiley Online Library	908	1997 - onwards

CD-ROM Data Base

Sr. No.	Electronic Databases
1	Taxmann's Tax & Corporate Website
2	Capitaline Plus Website
3	EBSCO Database Website
4	Prowess Data Base UP to June 09-May 10
5	Indian Standards Complete set in Networking

Electronic Resources Subscribed To In Smt. Hansa Mehta Library: (Full Text):

(a) **Business Source Premier (Full text online database of EBSCO):** This database provides comprehensive full text coverage of more than 7,400 regional business publications. Regional Business News incorporates coverage of 75 business journals, newspapers and newswires from all metropolitan and rural areas within the United States. This database is updated on a daily basis.

(b) **Academic Search Premier (Full text online database of EBSCO):** The world's largest academic multi-disciplinary database, Academic Search Premier, provides full text for more than 4,700 publications, including full text for more than 3,600 peer-reviewed journals. Its coverage spans virtually over every area of academic study and offers information dating as far back as 1975. This database is updated on a daily basis via EBSCO host.

(c) **Wilson Social Science Abstracts (1984-2000):** Produced by H. W. Wilson Company, it is a bibliographic database that cites articles from more than 420 English language periodicals published in the US and elsewhere. The coverage includes a wide range of interdisciplinary fields incorporating an array of Social Science journals.

(d) **EconLit:** The bibliographic database published by American Economic Association is the world's foremost source of references to literature in Economics. It is an expanded version of the Journal of Economic Literature (JEL) and is a reliable source of citations and abstracts to research in Economics, dated as far back as 1969. It indexes journal articles, books, dissertations, working papers, conference proceedings, collective volume articles and book reviews from 600 international economic journals. It indexes over 500 journals from subject areas like Accounting, Consumer Economics, Demography, Economic Theory, Labour, Marketing, Modeling, Monetary Policy and Planning.

(e) **ERIC (1966-1998):** ERIC database abstracts and indexes the U.S. literature in Education. The document and journal article literature includes research and technical reports, conference presentations, instructional and curriculum materials, project and programme descriptions, dissertations etcetera. Articles are drawn from over 775 major journals in the field. The subjects covered are Counseling, Curriculum, Education and Social Sciences. The data covered in the CD is from 1966 to 1998.

(f) **CABSAC (1973-1997):** Published by CAB International, UK, it is a bibliographic abstract database from and on South Asia from 1973 to 1998. It contains information on;

- Agricultural Engineering
- Animal Health & Veterinary Medicine
- Animal Husbandry
- Nutrition and Breeding
- Biotechnology & Genetics
- Crop production, protection and breeding
- Dairy Science and Technology
- Economics

- Sociology and Rural Development
- Forestry & Forest products
- Horticulture
- Soil Science & Fertilizer Technology

It also covers related topics like, Human Nutrition, Mycology, Entomology and Parasitology.

(g) IBID (1993-1999): India Business Insight Database: Published by Informatics (India) Pvt. Ltd. Bangalore, it provides extensive coverage of 38,000 plus Companies & 10,000 plus Products. It gives comprehensive insight into 44 Sectors of Indian industry including Advertising and Market research; Agriculture; Horticulture and Forestry; Automobile and Railway Equipment; Banking, Financial & Insurance Services; Chemical Industry; Consumer Goods; Defense & Aerospace; Drugs and Pharmaceuticals; Health Care, Electrical Industry; Electronic Industry; Energy; Power Generation and Transmission; Engineering Industry; Ferrous Metals; Food, Beverages, Dairy, Confectionery and Tobacco; Gems and Jewellery; Watches; Hotel, Restaurants & Catering; Computer Industry; Telecommunication Industry, Leather and Allied Products, Live Stock, Fish and Animal related ; Mining , Minerals and Metallurgy; Oil and Natural Gas; Rubber Industry; Non-Ferrous Metals; Oils and Fats, Glass and Packaging Industry; Paints and Surface Coatings; Cinematographic Equipment; Optical Instruments and Photography; Pollution Control including Waste Management; Polymers and Plastics; Printing and Publishing; Paper Industry; Soaps, Detergents and Cosmetics; Sugar Industry; Textile Industry; Mail and Transportation Services etcetera.

(h) PROWESS (1994-2004): Prowess is the most reliable and empowered corporate database developed by Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), Mumbai. It contains a highly normalized database built on a sound understanding of disclosures in India on over 8,000 companies. The database provides financial statements, ratio analysis, funds flows, product profiles, returns and risks on the stock markets etcetera.

The database is complemented with powerful analytical software tools to enable extensive querying and research. With Prowess, information access and research are effortless. The rich analytical reports based on a carefully normalized database in Prowess enables to sharpen understanding of a company and quicken the decision making process. Application areas include credit evaluation, security analysis, industry analysis, benchmarking, and evaluation of competition, feasibility studies, consulting, journalism and research.

(I) Capitaline Plus: Capitaline Plus database provides financial and other information on more than 10, 632 companies, of which 4, 321 are unlisted. Fact sheets are powerful aggregation screens wherein one can view scoreboards of companies classified under different catalogs like, Industry, House, State, Country, Product, Stock Exchange and Index etc.

15. E-Resources@Ugc-Infonet Digital Library Consortium

The UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium subscribes to the resources for its member institutions. Shrimati Hansa Mehta Library is also one of the members of UGC-Infonet Digital Consortium. All electronic resources subscribed are available from the publisher's Web site.

The UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium was formally launched in December, 2003 by Honorable Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, the then President of India, soon after providing the Internet connectivity to the universities in the year 2003 under the UGC-Infonet program. The Consortium proved to be a recipe to university libraries which have been discontinued subscription of scholarly journals because of "*Serials Crisis*". The term "*Serials Crisis*" refers to exponential and continuing increase in subscription cost of scholarly journals. The crisis is a result of the rise in cost of journals much faster than the rate of inflation, increase in number of journals and the paucity of funds available to the libraries.

The Consortium provides current as well as archival access to more than 7,000+ core and peer-reviewed journals and 10 bibliographic databases from 26 publishers and aggregators in different disciplines. The programme has been implemented in phased manner. In the first phase, that began in 2004, accesses to e-resources were provided to 50 universities which had Internet connectivity under the UGC-Infonet Connectivity Programme of the UGC. In the second phase, 50 more universities were added to the Programme in the year 2005. So far 160 Universities out of the 181 universities that come under the purview of UGC have been provided differential access to subscribed e-resources. These e-resources cover almost all subject disciplines including Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, Physical Sciences, Chemical Sciences, Life Sciences, Computer Sciences, Mathematics and Statistics etcetera. The Programme is wholly funded by the UGC and executed by the INFLIBNET (Information and Library Network) Centre, Ahmadabad (www.ugc.com).

16. Role Of Libraries And Librarians

In this changing scenario, libraries and librarians will continue to play an important role in handling conventional and electronic resources. Unless this is recognized and acted upon, other professionals will use up our roles and functions. A similar line of thinking can be seen in Alberico's comment that, "*if we don't become involved at all levels, there is a very real possibility that resources will shift to other segments of the economy that can handle and deliver the electronic services that academic and post - industrial organisations will need to survive*".

Atkinson however, believes that the role of the library in an electronic environment would be to:

a) To identify resources that are likely to be of greatest interest locally and downloading these to a local database - a kind of deferred CD operation (locating information sources as they are needed rather than to predict the needs in advance).

b) To become a publisher and disseminator of information by uploading rather than downloading. Holding a similar view, Alberico comments that, "*libraries may become publishers by using the network to build customised multimedia documents for clients or by providing the technology/training and facilities to allow clients to build their own composite documents*". In other words, the library is being viewed as a creator and disseminator of information and also has such value-added responsibilities of user education.

On the role of librarians, Choudhry comments that, "*Librarians will have to initiate the transition to an access-based model of service based upon electronic networks that will provide bibliographic, numeric and full-text information to scholars and researchers. They will have to create an environment where access to collective scholars and researchers. They will have to create an environment where access to collective scholarly resources supersedes the historic quest for the great comprehensive collections*".

In addition, librarians will have to involve themselves in the access process and also in negotiating with publishers and vendors about site licenses and methods of royalty and copyright payments. Further, they have to be prospectors selecting and acquiring materials in the complex network environment.

17. Conclusion

It is often suggested that some or all of these functions of collection development become redundant in an era when increasing amounts of information are available directly to users via the Internet. This argument is contradicted by an often-heard complaint that the Internet is completely chaotic, and therefore that people waste much time in fruitless searching for the precise information that they need. The skills of a librarian are, in fact, just as relevant to the electronic milieu as they were to that of print. The concept of ownership of items, however, has become more fluid. Collection development now consists in deciding which items to provide straightforward access to for your users. Librarians are currently playing a pivotal role in this process.

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