University of Edinburgh Library Committee

Wednesday 4th March 2015

New acquisition highlights

Description of the paper

1. The paper highlights a small selection of new acquisitions as selected by staff in Special Collections and by the Academic Support Librarians.

Action requested

2. The Committee is asked to note the resources.

Recommendation

3. The Committee is recommended to note the resources.

Background and context

4. This paper illustrates the range, depth and diversity of new resources now available in support of research and of learning and teaching across the Colleges. New acquisitions in Special Collections are listed first, followed by resources arranged by College and School, although many of the resources are of potential use across a variety of academic disciplines.

Discussion

Special Collections

Purchases made with support from Friends of Edinburgh University Library:


6. This volume appears to have been compiled to illustrate the Tramways Bill of 1920 - surprisingly, no other surviving copies have been traced.


8. We already have extensive correspondence by John Buchan in the Thomas Nelson archive so it seems appropriate we should have the first edition of his most famous "shocker", 100 years after its first publication.


10. This is a fine private press publication, based on the Latin text in the Delitiae poetarum Scotorum published in Amsterdam in 1637. It is one of 20 copies.
Purchases made with support from the School of Anatomy:

11. Petition by Edinburgh medical students for more cadavers for anatomical study. *Edinburgh, 28 March 1828. £6,720*

12. Manuscript petition, ink on vellum (approx. 190 x 60cm.) with 248 signatures of medical students.

13. This is a document of significance in British medical history, the urgency of the students’ petition aligning with the exactly contemporaneous Edinburgh murders by William Burke and William Hare committed to supply the anatomy table of Professor Robert Knox. Given that at the time Edinburgh was at the forefront of British medical study it is not surprising that the practice of exhumation was prevalent in the city. The shortage of supply of cadavers was caused by the law allowing only the corpses of executed criminals to be used for medical research. The Anatomy Act of 1832 remedied the situation by permitting the legal custodian of a corpse to pass it to a medical school for anatomical study or surgical practice.

Purchase made with support from College of Humanities and Social Science:

14. *Archive relating to Hugh MacDiarmid and The Jabberwock. £7,700.*

15. This auction lot includes a number of key original manuscripts and letters by Hugh MacDiarmid, Compton Mackenzie, Robert Garioch and other leading modernist writers, and the collection is directly connected to the University through *The Jabberwock* magazine - whose editor Ian Holroyd apparently retained all these items. Holroyd was the founding editor of *The Jabberwock*. Modern Scottish literature is a key teaching and research area at the University and this archive will receive early attention from students and academic staff.

Purchases made with Library Endowment Funds:

16. *Collection of correspondence and manuscripts of Robert Nye. £4,000.*

17. This significant purchase completes our existing archive of modern writer Robert Nye and includes some of the most important letters; it is of major literary significance.

18. *Collection of sketch books by architect Charles Lovett Gill. £1,515.*

19. Gill was a Scottish architect whose travels and work are recorded in this collection, which enhances our excellent holdings relating to design, architecture and town planning.

20. *Collection relating to George Sims. £2,540.*
21. George Sims was a remarkable bookseller who worked closely with Alan Anderson of the Tragara Press in Edinburgh, many of whose private press publications we hold. This collection of books, catalogues, letters and ephemera gives insights into the business of publishing and the book trade.


23. The text discusses climatic factors, geological and edaphic factors, agriculture, distribution of Machair-land, the South Harris and Ensay Machairs, primary succession, erosion and secondary succession. This is an important addition to our holdings on Scottish geology and environmental studies.

Humanities and Social Science


25. Cross-School: Oxford handbooks: online OHO brings together the world’s leading scholars to discuss research and the latest thinking on a range of major topics. Each Handbook offers thorough introductions to topics and a critical survey of the current state of scholarship in a particular field of study. Modules include: Business & Finance; Linguistics; Literature; Criminology and Criminal Justice; Political Science; Medicine


27. Business: China Economic Statistics offers time-series records on macro-economic data, industry and sector data, regional data with over 10,000 economic indicators.

28. ECA: 4 rare and "vintage" artists' books by Ed Ruscha, who was one of the founders of the democratic artist book movement in the 1960s.

29. Economics: China Local Gazetteers is a collection published after 1949 covering all regions of China. There are over 26,400 volumes of e-books included in this database which contain a range of information covering various aspects of local economic, social and political life.

30. HCA: Accessible archives: eyewitness accounts of historical events, vivid descriptions of daily life, editorial observations, commerce as seen through advertisements, and genealogical records. It includes archives from African American Newspapers, American County Histories, Civil War archives and many other eighteenth and nineteenth century newspaper and journal archives. There are 13 full-text databases with a mixture of newspapers and transcripts.
31. **Health in Social Science**: proving its worth in 2014 with 896 sections read or downloaded, the online version of *The Royal Marsden Hospital manual of clinical nursing procedures* has more than 350 evidence-based, step-by-step clinical procedures. We will be subscribing to the forthcoming 9th edition.

32. **Law**: *China Law Info* is a bilingual database for China legal documents and information. The database provides both the original Chinese version and the English translation of China laws and regulations, judicial cases, tax treaties, white papers, law journals and gazettes, as well as other China legal information such as legal news and legislative/regulatory updates. The database is updated daily.

33. **LLC**: *Casalini Spanish & Italian ebooks collections*: 1,867 scholarly e-books from Italian and Spanish academic publishers since 2000. The collection consists of 1,188 titles on Italian studies and Italian literature and 679 titles on Spanish studies.

34. **PPLS**: *Cambridge history of the Romance languages* is the most comprehensive survey of the history of the Romance languages ever published in English.

35. **PS**: *Media Education Foundation (MEF) digital films service*: MEF produces and distributes documentary films and other educational resources to inspire critical thinking about the social, political, and cultural impact of American mass media. We have access to 140 videos.

**Medicine and Veterinary Medicine**

**LWW Health Library - Integrated collection**

36. We have upgraded our subscription to the LWW Health Library to add seven important titles. This is now a collection of 27 popular medical e-books important to MBChB and biomedical students at undergraduate and masters level, including key texts such as Moore's 'Clinically Oriented Anatomy', Fletcher's 'Clinical Epidemiology: The Essentials' and 'Langman's Medical Embryology'. The list of included titles can be seen here: [http://lwwhealthlibrary.com/meded_titles#integrated](http://lwwhealthlibrary.com/meded_titles#integrated)

**Oxford Handbooks**

37. We have recently added 29 titles in the Oxford Handbook series to the range of mobile optimized e-books available via Oxford Medicine Online. These are very popular clinical handbooks and include the *Oxford Handbook of Clinical Medicine* and other key student and foundation doctor titles. One reader commented “The Oxford Handbooks are an amazing resource and my books of choice for every rotation”.

**Sage Research Methods**

38. This provides access to 700+ e-books, encyclopedias, videos and journal articles. SAGE Research Methods supports beginning and advanced researchers in every step of a research project, from writing a research question, choosing a method, gathering and analysing data, to writing up and publishing the findings.
39. With information on the full range of qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods for the social and behavioural sciences, as well as many methods commonly used in the hard sciences, the book, reference, and journal content in SAGE Research Methods help researchers of all levels conduct their research.

**Veterinary Record Case Reports**

40. A new online only journal which aims to publish a high volume of cases in all disciplines allowing veterinary professionals, researchers and others to find important information on both common and rare conditions. It includes cases with clinically valuable lessons, such as common cases that present a diagnostic, ethical or management challenge, or that highlight aspects of mechanisms of injury or disease. The journal is happy to receive case reports from the extramural studies of veterinary students.

**Wageningen Academic Publishers**

41. We now have access to the e-books published between 2002 and 2014 on the Wageningen Academic Publishers platform. Main subject areas include Animal and Veterinary Science, Environmental and Plant Science, Food Science and Social Science. This collection of 247 titles is a useful addition to the resources available to ODL students.

**Science and Engineering**

42. **Biological Sciences:** *The Arabidopsis Information Resource (TAIR)* is an online database of genetic and molecular biology data for the model higher plant *Arabidopsis thaliana*. Data available from TAIR includes the complete genome sequence along with gene structure, gene product information, gene expression, DNA and seed stocks, genome maps, genetic and physical markers, publications, and information about the Arabidopsis research community. Gene product function data is updated every week from the latest published research literature and community data submissions. TAIR was purchased using non-recurrent funds from the College and is funded until 30\(^{th}\) April 2015.

43. **Chemistry:** *RSC (Royal Society of Chemistry)* 2014 e-book collection has two titles in the top 25 of the total package’s full-text downloads. The 71 titles in the package have had 310 sections downloaded in total from the time they were available to December 2014. The package is as multidisciplinary as would be expected from chemistry-related publications, and comprises titles published throughout the year.

45. **Engineering:** *AccessEngineering* is an e-book package of over 200 engineering reference sources, including many key engineering reference books (e.g. Perry’s Chemical Engineers Handbook, Roark’s Formulas for Stress and Strain, Standard Handbook for Electrical Engineers and Marks’ Standard Handbook
for Mechanical Engineers). Over 5,000 interactive graphs and downloadable tables and charts are available within the e-books, as well as links to instructional videos covering key topics. AccessEngineering was purchased using non-recurrent funds from the College and is funded till 31st May 2015.

46. GeoSciences: Elsevier’s Earth and Planetary Sciences archive collection gives full online access from Volume 1 to a range of Elsevier titles including Lithos, Chemical Geology, Earth and Planetary Science Letters. This was a purchased in perpetuity. Full online archive to AAPG was also purchased to support research and MSc Carbon Capture teaching from non-recurrent funding from the College and is funded until July 2015.

47. Informatics: Foundations and Trends in Technology is a journal package of eight titles focusing on high quality reviews, surveys, and tutorials of significant research topics. This was funded until Dec 2014 and most use was for the titles Communications and Information Theory and Computer Graphics and Vision.

48. Mathematics: Lecture Notes in Control and Information Sciences [online] Archive was requested by a postgraduate research student in School of Maths. Full-text access to the “front end” volumes was already available. This product covers the 328 volumes published from 1975 to 2004, the vast majority new to the Library’s collection.

49. Physics: Purchase of Elsevier’s online journal archive “High energy/nuclear physics & astronomy” gave the University of Edinburgh’s online Physics journal collection parity in this field with those of comparator HE institutions, as well as full online access to Professor Peter Higgs’ 1964 broken symmetries/ gauge-boson article in Physics Letters.

Resource implications
50. Some of these new acquisitions have been purchased out-right, whilst others are annual subscriptions which require ongoing funding. This is currently an issue for some of the Science and Engineering resources, given the overall position of funding for library materials purchasing for this College.

Risk Management
51. There are no risks.

Equality & Diversity
52. The aforementioned acquisitions will have been acquired in line with the Collections Policy which has recently undergone a EqIA, which was published in February 2015.

Next steps/implications
53. The paper will be presented to the HSS Library & Academic Computing Committee, MVM Library Committee and the Science & Engineering College Library Committee. The resources are already being promoted in a variety of ways.
Consultation
54. The paper has been reviewed by the Library Management Team.

Further information
55. Author
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Freedom of information
56. This paper is open.

m/ULC march 2015 new acquisitions paper