

Subject: Hoover Collection Development Procedure

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Operational Procedure - Date Adopted by the Library Services Faculty: 1/7/2010

Administrative Procedure – Date Issued by Administration:

Date Revised:

1. History and Purpose:

The Hoover Collection on International Communism was established as a collection within the Special Collections unit in 1968. The collection was a gift of Dr. J.C. Peele of Kinston, North Carolina. The collection is named in honor of J. Edgar Hoover, who personally approved the naming. In the 1980s a number of twentieth century radical periodicals on microform (Underground Newspaper Collection) were purchased to supplement the collection and enhance student interest in these materials. These materials are currently stored in the Joyner Library General Microfilm collection. Arbor Gray a former FBI agent, donated several hundred items to the collection in 1991. Subsequently, in the 1990s, the Special Collections Department purchased a substantial collection of radical literature from a New York book dealer.

The collection, consisting of materials listed above, is currently under the control of a curator assigned to oversee collection operations and access. The purpose of the collection is twofold. First, the collection supports the curriculum of East Carolina University and the research needs of its students and faculty members. In addition, it assists in the fulfillment of Joyner Library's mission to be Eastern North Carolina's major research library. A special prior emphasis has been on groups that were of interest to Dr. Peele. Materials often have his handwritten annotations about the author and special notations concerning his opinions about the ideas mentioned in the work. Material dates back to the radical movements of the 19th century although the bulk of the collection is from the 20th century. Some materials given by Dr. Peele were placed in the general circulating stacks and not all of his donation has been transferred to Special Collections. The collection's holdings offer a rich research source for local and visiting scholars from around the world. Future purchases and donations would be limited to Communist activities in the Southern United States.

Collection Development Goals:

A. Curriculum

The goal of collection development is to support current, interdisciplinary and emerging programs of research at East Carolina University. This includes a wide range of graduate student research and writing, including sustained independent research of students and faculty in related disciplines. Traditionally, the collection has supported the work of students and faculty members

in the Department of Political Science. The collection will endeavor to support the Departments of History and Political Science current concentration in comparative international government. The collection is especially rich in material relating to radical groups in the South, both Communist and anti-Communist.

Primary and Secondary Users.

1. Primary users – Students and faculty members at East Carolina University
2. Secondary users – Other students and faculty, historians, political scientists, students of radical literature, visiting scholars, and academic researchers

2. Scope

A. Subjects represented:

The collection contains more than 8300 volumes including monographs, serials, leaflets, newspapers, and a variety of other ephemeral materials published by and about pro- and anti-Communist and radical organizations and movements. The collection is especially rich in material collected during the protest movements of the 1960s and 1970s. While the bulk of the collection is of an historical and political science nature, other areas such as literature and the arts are collected. Dr. Peele was especially interested in the use of music and other performing arts by the Communists as tools to indoctrinate young people. This view was often reflected in the views of right wing commentators concerning folk musicians of the period. Future purchases and donations would be limited to Communist activities in the Southern United States.

B. Formats:

The collection consists entirely of print materials. Electronic versions may serve as access copies for print resources in the collection. In the 1980s a number of

radical periodicals on microform (Underground Newspaper Collection) were purchased to supplement the Hoover collection. These materials are currently stored in the General Microfilm Collection.

C. Languages:

English is the primary language for all materials. Some areas of study in non-English speaking areas may require materials in other languages, although it is expected the future purchases in non-English materials will be extremely limited.

D. Geographic Guidelines:

The collection is focused primarily on the southern areas of the United States. Current periodical subscriptions consist of the American Communist party organ: *the Workers Vanguard*, *the Beijing Review*, and *the Taiwan Review*. Except for these three periodicals, future purchases and donations would be limited to Communist activities in the Southern United States.

E. Chronological Guidelines:

Materials related to periods from the nineteenth century to the present will be selected.

F. Publication Date Guidelines:

Rare materials, regardless of date of publication within subject scope. Materials within scope of the collection from the 1910s to the present. Current periodical subscriptions consist of the American Communist party organ, *the Workers Vanguard*, *the Beijing Review*, and *the Taiwan Review*.

G. Material Types:

- Books
- Serials – Currently three periodicals are received on a subscription basis (*Workers Vanguard*, *Beijing Review*, *Taiwan Review*).
- Pamphlets
- Leaflets
- Ephemera

H. Material Types Excluded or Limited:

- Works in poor condition: Will be weeded or not added to the collection as appropriate. Since preservation/conservation funds have historically been very limited, condition is an important exclusion for many otherwise collected items.
- Guidebooks and workbooks: Will be highly selective and should relate to major collection focus areas
- Textbooks: As a general practice, Joyner Library does not collect textbooks; however, gifts may be added as appropriate if especially rare and noteworthy.
- Audiotapes and Videotapes: Not collected
- CD-Rom and DVD movies: Not collected

- Children's Books: Not collected. Collected by the Teaching Resources Center
- Ephemera: If in poor condition, or not related to collecting interests (for example, flowers or newspaper clippings laid or tipped in books)
- Religious and Law Books: Not collected, unless of very special regional interest
- Encyclopedias and Dictionaries: Not collected, unless requested for use in curriculum
- Theses and Dissertations: collected in other library collections (University Archives, North Carolina Collection, The ScholarShip (ECU's institutional repository))
- Reference materials: Items that meet the Special Collections Reference Collection Procedure are excluded from the Hoover Collection
- Maps: maps are covered by the East Carolina Manuscript Collection development Procedure
- Unpublished materials of all types: Not collected, materials of this type would be more appropriately housed in the East Carolina Manuscript Collection or the University Archives and Records Center. Electronic versions authored by ECU faculty or students could be considered for The ScholarShip, ECU's institutional repository. (For example, undergraduate term papers, oral histories, etc.)

Library of Congress Subject Headings and Call Number Ranges:

Primary Responsibility

Description Call Number Range

All areas A - Z

Related Subject Liaisons

In an effort to provide wider access to materials and the best possible coverage, the selector will work closely with all subject liaisons, the Assistant Director for Special Collections, the collection management officers, the Assistant Director for Collections and Technical Services, and teaching faculty.

Selection Tools

- Faculty requests
- American Book Prices Current
- Auction records
- Bookfinder.com
- Review sources: Publishers' catalogs, WorldCat, and printed catalogs of other radical literature book collections.
- Newsletters and other online selection tools
- Indexes, bibliographies, and series lists
- Inter-library loan requests
- E-mail lists and postings
- Catalogs of other colleges, universities, and research institutions that have similar collecting interest, including:

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Duke University

Hoover Institution

University of Maryland BC
Syracuse University
University of Northern Colorado
Rutgers University
Oberlin College (nineteenth century)
Northern Illinois University
Brandeis University
Library of Congress Radical Pamphlet Collection
University of Wisconsin – Green Bay
University of Texas – Austin (Jaffee collection)
University of Michigan – Labadie collection (40,000 books)
Northwestern University
Brown University

De-selection

Books which are damaged beyond repair will be discarded. The selector may undertake periodic collection management projects, which may result in some books being weeded, moved to remote locations or otherwise re-formatted. Except in unusual circumstances duplicate copies of identical titles will be placed in the general circulating stacks or weeded. The selector will seek input from the Assistant Director for Special Collections and the Assistant Director for Collections and Technical Services, appropriate liaisons, and faculty during any such projects.

Email comments to Ralph Scott (scottr@ecu.edu), Curator of Rare Books

Draft date: 7 October 2009; Reviewed by Assistant Director for Special Collections 8 December 2009, approved by the Library Assembly, 7 January 2010.