



Research collection adequacy

Hot Topics CAUL 02/2006

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Monash University Library

Research collection adequacy working group

2005

Lisa Smith	Law Faculty Team Leader, Law Library Manager
Robert Stafford	Collection Management Librarian
Judy Nolan	Subject Librarian, Arts Faculty Team member
David Horne	Subject Librarian, Business and Economics Faculty Team Leader
Gayle Whyte	Subject Librarian, Arts Faculty Team member

Jill Wilson and **Wilna Macmillan**, Directors

Assistance from additional Subject librarians and reference staff

2006

Gary Pearce	Subject Librarian, Arts Faculty Team
Robert Thomas	Hargrave-Andrew Library Manager, Engineering Faculty Team Leader
Ajanta Dasgupta	Arts Subject Librarian, Acting

Objectives

- Develop a working methodology for evaluating our research collections
- Apply the methodology to measure how well our collections support research at Monash in selected areas

How to get there?

- Develop a methodology and apply it to subject areas?
- Identify tools?
- Select subject areas?
 - Two initially
 - Used to develop a process

Subject area criteria

- Definable
- Profile, international and growing at Monash
- Links with University Research Centres
- Interdisciplinary, drawing on more than one branch collection
- Subject librarian and faculty team support

What did we do?

- Identify researchers
- Talk with researchers, staff and hdr students
- Examples of research output
- Core journals, databases
- Citation analysis
- JCR comparisons
- YBP comparisons
- Compare with other library collections, national and international
- Document delivery
- Focus groups

Early Learning Findings

- Broad and well established
- Australian focus
 - Impact factor limitations
 - Smaller publishing houses
- Importance of subject librarian
 - Established contact
 - Subject and research knowledge
 - Email effectiveness
- Psychology additions

Terrorism Findings

- Very interdisciplinary
- Growing rapidly, topical
- Current information
 - Limits with tools
- New areas developing
 - Latin America
- Graduate students
- Importance of subject librarian

Jewish civilisation

- Australian centre for study of Jewish civilisation est. 1992
- Potential research growth
- Laura and Israel Kipen Judaica collection
- The Giligich Yiddish collection
- Collection to aim for 'Best' Australian

Discussions with staff

- Research interests
- Location of research activities
- Electronic resources
- External/personal collection
- Research students
- Document Delivery Services
- Key journals
- General

Citation check of selected publications

- **Markus, Andrew**, "Pro-Israelism as a factor in Australian Jewish Political Attitudes and Behaviour." In *Jews and Australian Politics*. Eds. Geoffrey Brahm Levey and Philip Mendes, 109-126 (Brighton: Sussex Academic Press, 2004).
- **Bialer, Uri**. "Top Hat, Tuxedo and Cannons: Israeli Foreign Policy from 1948 to 1956 as a Field of Study." *Israel Studies* 7, no. 1 (Spring 2002): 1-80.
- **Bialer, Uri**. *Cross on the Star of David: The Christian World in Israel's Foreign Policy, 1848-1967*. Indianapolis, Indiana University Press, 2005.

Publication	No of references	No. held by Monash University	Percentage held
Markus, book chapter	36	17	47.22
Bialer article (English titles only)	105	55	52.38
Bialer book (English titles only)	80	42	52.5

Core journals in Jewish studies

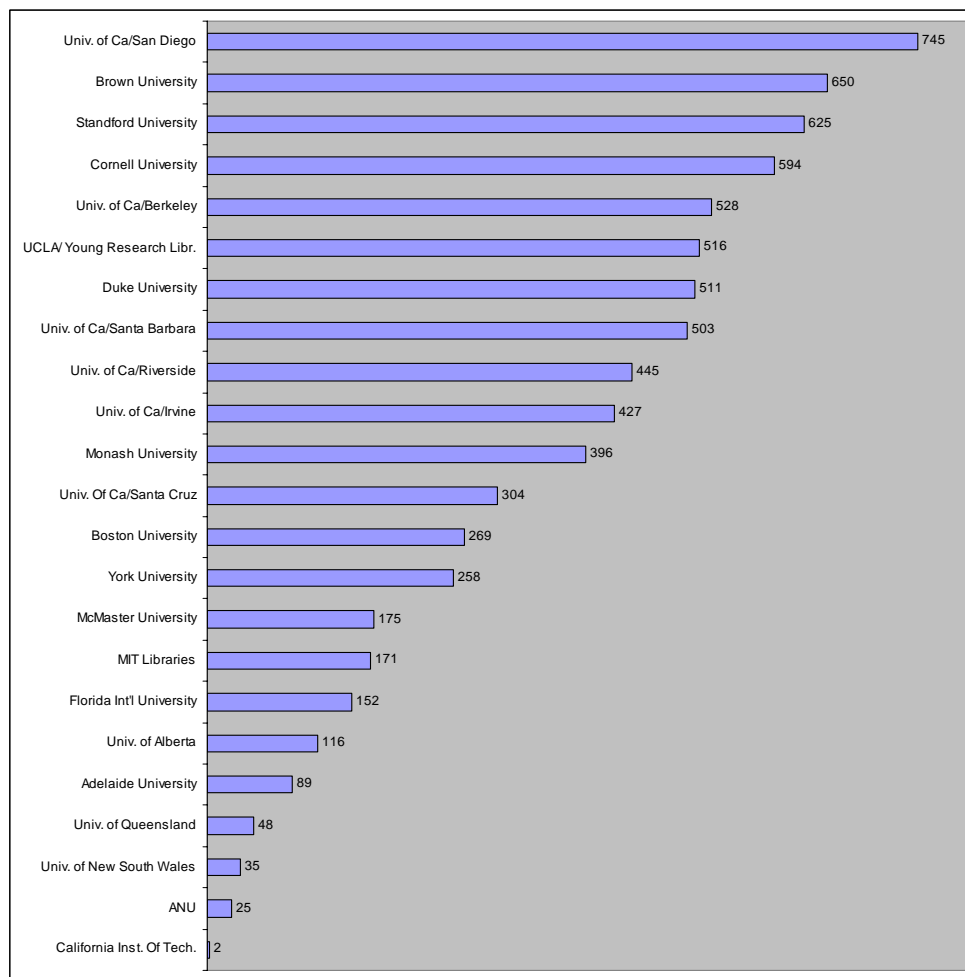
- Academic Jewish Studies Internet Directory
- Academic Guide to Jewish History (U Toronto)
- Jewish Studies Library Resources (U Illinois)

Listing	Number checked	Number held	Percentage
AJSID	44	20	45.45
AGJH	68	39	57.35
JSLR	62	34	54.83

YBP Peer ranking report 08/02/2006

Library Option:	My Peer Group
Universe:	All titles
Category:	Approval shipments; Continuations; Slip orders; Firm orders
eBook Preference:	Exclude
Date range:	01/01/2005-08/02/2006
Publishers:	All
Descriptors:	Jewish Studies

Institution



745 UCSD

US institutions

396 MONASH

US & Canadian institutions

89 Adelaide

Other Australian institutions

Number of YBP purchases Jan 2005 – Feb 2006

Benchmarking

Dewey number		Monash	Melbourne	Sydney	UNSW
181.06	Jewish philosophy	58	76	55	23
296	Judaism	1472	1672	2178	1215
296.082	Judaism and gender	16	10	13	2
296.092	Rabbis	0	59	42	11
296.36	Judaism and ethics	28	11	12	3
304.85694	Immigration to Israel	6	9	1	0
305.80095694	Israel, ethnic relations	13	16	0	0
305.8924	Jews/anti-semitism	425	784	289	402
320.54095694	Zionism	86	126	49	46
320.95694	Israel politics	52	35	24	32
327.5694	Israel foreign relations	82	83	58	48
327.7305694	Israel – US relations	30	33	21	19
330.95694	Israel/Palest. economy	17	18	25	2
340.58	Jewish law	1	17	64	2
439.1	Yiddish language	24	18	10	3
492.4	Hebrew language	88	253	360	15
839.1/892.49	Yiddish literature	713	27	5	6
892.4	Hebrew Literature	967	572	642	84
940.04924	Jews, European	28	25	21	12
940.5318	Holocaust	1035	1041	444	195
943.004924	Jews, Germany	157	184	69	92
943.8004924	Jews, Poland	64	74	20	15
947.004924	Jews, Eastern Europe	45	63	20	32
956	Middle east	2293	3006	1978	1212
956.04	Mid east 1945-80	240	223	168	128
956.046	Israel-Arab War, 1967	34	31	19	21
956.05	Mid east 1980-2000	90	56	32	22
956.94	Israel Palestine	758	785	576	118
973.04924	Jews, US	77	61	21	36
994.004924	Australian Jewry	37	23	29	18
909.04924	Jewish history and civilisation	256	304	170	114
TOTALS		9192	9695	7415	3928

Melbourne	9695
Monash	9192
Sydney	7415
UNSW	3928

LC Subject headings	Monash	Melbourne	Sydney	UNSW
Arab-Israeli conflict	135	346	186	111
Cabala - History	31	30	25	8
Hebrew literature, Modern - History and criticism	9	26	18	8
Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)	298	351	183	165
Holocaust survivors - Biography	23	33	12	5
Israel	46	37	30	
Israel and the diaspora	26	27	15	21
Israel-Arab War, 1967	20	24	18	13
Israel - Economic conditions	26	33	23	16
Israel - Ethnic relations	56	79	33	34
Israel - Emigration and immigration	33	30	27	17
Israel - Foreign relations – United States	45	60	29	27
Israel - History	80	88	59	49
Israel - Politics and government	169	200	95	91
Israel - Social conditions	52	60	36	37
Jewish-Arab relations	136	159	114	128
Jewish authors	7	12	3	5
Jewish diaspora	30	40	20	18
Jewish ethics	60	48	50	25
Jewish law	35	40	59	40
Jewish literature - History and criticism	25	24	26	13
Jewish women	7	7	5	1
Jews - Australia	27	22	19	14
Jews - Australia – Biography	38	19	19	18
Jews - Australia – History	21	25	27	19
Jews - Civilization	39	39	26	22
Jews - Cultural assimilation	19	17	7	10
Jews - History	118	134	116	78
Jews - Identity	69	83	52	48
Jews - Intellectual life	29	38	20	13
Jews - Legal status, laws etc	3	11	16	5
Jews - Persecutions – Poland	25	22	10	7
Judaism	165	134	205	89
Judaism - Customs and practices	55	31	36	16
Judaism - Doctrines	46	47	46	25
Judaism - History	60	56	68	43
Middle East - History	64	81	34	35
Palestine - History	33	47	43	20
Philosophy, Jewish	79	124	90	58
Yiddish literature – History and criticism	44	37	14	4
Zionism - History	74	93	58	50
TOTALS	2357	2814	1972	1109

Melbourne	2814
Monash	2357
Sydney	1972
UNSW	1109

LC Subject headings	Mon	Brandeis	Toronto	Harv	CUNY	Yeshiva
Arab-Israeli conflict	135	536	1415	2194	430	487
Cabala - History	31	124	144	165	51	161
Hebrew literature, Modern - History and criticism	9	1	201	269	137	262
Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)	298	745	992	1502	624	852
Holocaust survivors - Biography	23	53	91	113	36	91
Israel	46	251	289	559	129	158
Israel and the diaspora	26	128	144	215	61	155
Israel-Arab War, 1967	20	138	103	365	41	78
Israel - Economic conditions	26	181	192	608	55	83
Israel - Ethnic relations	56	221	258	341	102	221
Israel - Emigration and immigration	33	282	254	907	72	223
Israel - Foreign relations - United States	45	134	163	250	126	120
Israel - History	80	252	304	828	131	203
Israel - Politics and government	169	992	1047	2522	309	825
Israel - Social conditions	52	222	252	562	97	187
Jewish - Arab relations	136	638	1160	1770	330	344
Jewish authors	7	40	17	56	16	30
Jewish diaspora	30	128	119	258	59	138
Jewish ethics	60	2	935	1571	207	2303
Jewish law	35	1214	1170	4991	142	2686
Jewish literature - History and criticism	25	110	110	166	49	129
Jewish women	7	65	52	173	21	52
Jews - Australia	27	6	8	25	2	3
Jews - Australia - Biography	38	1	7	21	0	17
Jews - Australia - History	21	6	7	19	4	19
Jews - Civilization	39	196	208	302	128	207
Jews - Cultural assimilation	19	38	46	52	22	47
Jews - History	118	705	861	1678	395	728
Jews - Identity	69	294	305	568	143	384
Jews - Intellectual life	29	89	103	151	49	94
Jews - Legal status, laws etc	3	39	24	141	16	31
Jews - Persecutions - Poland	25	39	40	191	15	98
Judaism	165	1492	1636	2364	631	1422
Judaism - Customs and practices	55	523	582	1311	148	1187
Judaism - Doctrines	46	289	304	691	106	431
Judaism - History	60	247	303	491	160	300
Middle east - History	64	80	253	380	109	64
Palestine - History	33	140	268	387	67	119
Philosophy, Jewish	79	724	582	1414	245	879
Yiddish literature - History and criticism	44	195	187	180	63	184
Zionism - History	74	320	333	662	167	313
TOTALS	2357	11880	15469	31413	5695	16315

Harvard	31413
Yeshiva	16315
Toronto	15469
Brandeis	11880
CUNY	5695
Monash	2357

Core books in several Australian libraries

- Endnote around subject areas
- Multiple overlapping searches duplicates deleted
- Combining records from two or more libraries identifying common holdings

Total		In common			
Monash	11928				
Sydney	11388	3537	1209	1777	785
Melbourne	16091				
UNSW	6023				

Document delivery 2003 -

- 49 requests were made by nominated researchers within the centre
- 1 researcher accounted for all but 8 of the requests
- 1 researcher made no requests

List checking of bibliographies

Samples from bibliographies were checked against library holdings

Resource	Number checked	Number held	Percentage
Baskin	200	105	52.5
Bleaney	200	122	61.0
Holtz	260	185	71.1
Kaganoff	200	77	38.5
Niewyk	200	160	80.0

Databases which support Jewish studies

Specialised

- Historical Abstracts
- Linguistics and Language Behaviour Abstracts
- Middle Eastern & Central Asian Studies
- MAIS Multicultural Australia and Immigration Studies
- MLA International Bibliography
- Philosopher's Index
- ProQuest Religion
- RAMBI: The Index of articles on Jewish Studies
- Sociological Abstracts

Interdisciplinary

- Current Contents Connect
- ProQuest Dissertations and Theses
- BHI: British Humanities Index
- Expanded Academic ASAP
- PAIS International
- Periodicals Archive Online
- Project Muse
- Web of Science

Biomedical Engineering

- Broad and interdisciplinary
- Biofluids engineering
 - New area, early career researchers
 - No core journals
 - Few texts
 - Conferences of young researchers

Outcomes

- Research dialog
- HDR and early career research needs
- Established career researchers
- Our journal collections are strong
- Tools
- Focus group/question bank
- Additional resources
- Methodology

Some issues

- Descriptive, not statistical
- Time consuming
- Limitations with YBP, Dewey and citation analysis
- Scale up for large research centres
- Lack of comprehensive look at what others are doing in the area

Directions

- Complete sci/tech and sci-fi areas
- Try art and design, and business and economics
- Develop a checklist for the methodology
- Research centre priorities
- Collection evaluation for teaching and learning?