

Principles of Purchase for E-Resources (E-journals/ E-Databases) at Monash University Malaysia

The Library and Learning Commons (Monash University Library, Malaysia) has worked closely with Monash University Library, Australia on the principles that guide the Malaysian campus to acquire E-Resources (E-journals/ E-Databases) that meet Malaysia-specific or local requirements for teaching and research.

Monash University Malaysia's Campus Education Committee endorsed the Working Group's initial recommendations on 5 June 2015.

The principles for the selection and acquisition of Malaysia specific or local resources are reflected below:

Monash University Library, Malaysia will fund e-resources that are

- unique to Malaysia,
 - not required for accreditation purpose, or
 - considered not relevant for Australia
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- Monash University Malaysia will also fund unique research collections in support of the Research Platforms, provided the research work is not supported by a grant.
 - Where arrangements are possible, the management of negotiations with vendors, licence agreements, payments and access set-up will be undertaken by Monash University Library, Australia, with charge back payments made against Monash University Library, Malaysia's budget.
 - E-resources that do not fall in the priority list in support of teaching and research priorities for Monash University Malaysia may be considered by the Library if other Schools expressed the need for the same resources, and are subject to budget availability.
 - Specialised e-resources with restricted audience and/ or access should be purchased by the School and/or Department. It is the responsibility of the respective School/Department and/or Research Platform to coordinate technical support for continuous access.
 - E-resources that are not and/or cannot be made accessible via the Monash University Library, Malaysia (i.e. set of secondary data, specific financial data) should be budgeted, purchased and managed directly by the Schools through their respective budget or awarded grant(s).
 - Requests by graduate research students for e-resources should align with the teaching and research priorities for Monash University Malaysia and should be validated and approved by the School prior to submission to the Monash University Library, Malaysia.

- Monash University Library, Malaysia in collaboration with the vendor as appropriate, will support the investigation for purchase and trials of e-resources requested by academic staff and/or School/Department, and may also coordinate on-site or virtual demonstrations.
- All E-resources that are purchased for Malaysia-specific requirements should be contracted for twelve (12) months at a time and reviewed annually by Monash University Library, Malaysia and the respective Schools based on usage data, license costs and budget availability. Monash University Library, Malaysia has discretion to cancel a subscription based on costs and/or usage.
- Where conflicting priorities occur, greater weight will be given to larger cohorts of users and most cost effective subscriptions or purchases.

The above principles can be applied to e-resources that are predominately scholarly in content or those resources that enable teaching, learning or research.

The issues below should be taken into consideration for the acquisition, access and availability of MUM e- resources:

- ❖ Funding provenance (Monash University Library, Australia, Monash University Library, Malaysia, Schools, Research Platforms).
- ❖ Availability of OPEX funding must be considered when purchasing e-resources, with particular consideration needed for recurring subscriptions.
- ❖ Review of unspent funds by Monash University Library, Malaysia for optimal budget use should align with the campus fiscal period which ends in December. In order to be considered, all requests must be submitted to the Library before 31st August of the given fiscal year.
- ❖ Availability of expertise required to trial and evaluate the resources.
- ❖ Increasing complexity involved in providing access and authentication, and which may require the involvement of eSolutions/ITS.
- ❖ Increased number of, and more sophisticated licence negotiations with vendors which requires both local facilitation by Monash University Library, Malaysia and coordination through Monash University Library, Australia.
- ❖ Management and compliance with licence agreements for the Malaysian context.

Sources:

- Principles of Collection Budget Management. LLC Committee, Working Group on Collection.
- Budget Management. Monash University Malaysia. 14 May 2015, 18 August 2016.

Consultative and review process:

- Monash University Library: 18 June 2015, 24 June 2015, 10 July 2015, 13 July 2015
- Monash University Malaysia, President and Pro Vice-Chancellor: 22 June 2015, 28 June 2015
- Monash University Malaysia, Campus Education Committee: 5 June 2015
- Monash University Malaysia, LLC Committee: 13 August 2015, 25 August 2016
- Monash University Malaysia, LLC Senior Management Committee: 8 July 2015, 13 July 2015, 18 August 2016, 8 July 2019, 8 October 2020
- Monash University Malaysia, Vice-President (Education), 9 October 2020
- Monash University Library, Malaysia Acting Director, 20 August 2021