

Policy: Pacific Research Archives collecting

Purpose

To define the material which the Pacific Research Archives in the Australian National University Archives seeks to acquire for its collection.

Overview

The Pacific Research Archives at the Australian National University (ANU) is a significant national centre for research and teaching resources on the Pacific.

The Pacific Research Archives collects, preserves and provides access to unpublished and published research material from and about the Pacific Islands.

The Pacific Research Archives collaborates with the ANU Archives, the ANU College of Asia and the Pacific, the ANU Library, the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, the National Library of Australia and the National Archives of Australia to develop the Pacific resources at the ANU.

Scope

This policy covers all acquisitions by the Pacific Research Archives.

Definitions

Continuing research value the value of records beyond their immediate purpose of creation for their potential for use in future research

Provenance the origin of records: who created and maintained them and for what purpose

Record (AS ISO 15489) information created, received and maintained as evidence and as an asset by an organisation or person, in pursuit of legal obligations or in the transaction of business

Policy statement

2. The Pacific Research Archives will actively seek to acquire records based on the following criteria:

- geographic limitations
- provenance
- continuing research value
- format and condition

Geographic limitations

3. The geographic limitations on the collection policy of the Pacific Research Archives relate to the area identified by the scholarly community as the Pacific.

Provenance

4. The provenance of records the Pacific Research Archives seeks to acquire can be broadly stated as:

- material of scholars involved in the study of the Pacific, including but not limited to those from the ANU
- material of individuals, organisations and societies related to the Pacific

Continuing research value

5. The Pacific Research Archives will collect materials that have continuing research value for scholars and individuals interested in the study of the Pacific Islands.

Format and condition

6. The Pacific Research Archives accepts records in many formats including, but not limited to, paper records, printed and published material, audio–visual material, photographs, digital images and electronic documents. Records with identified conservation problems such as mould, chemical contamination or insect infestation, which would threaten the preservation of the existing collection or the health of staff, will not be accepted by the Pacific Research Archives until those problems are remedied.

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