Located in room 403 of Coleman Library, Special Collections consists of the collections outlined below. Special Collections includes circulating collections, ready reference collections, and reserve materials. See the circulation guidelines for information regarding borrowing and use. The Special Collections Librarian in consultation with the Collection Management Librarian is responsible for the acquisition, administration, and disposition of materials.

**African/African American Collection**
The African American Collection started in the late 1920’s. The majority of the collection was acquired in the 1960’s and 1970’s. Over 20,000 titles by and about African Americans make up the collection. A microform reproduction of the New York Public Library's Schomburg Collection of Negro Literature and History, one of the most important resources in the world for the study of African American people, is also included in the Collection. For guidelines guiding the development of this collection, see The Collection Development Guidelines for the Florida A&M University Libraries African/African American Collection.

**Faculty Publications**
This collection consists of resources published or written by members of the Florida A&M University faculty. The University Libraries will attempt to acquire at least one copy of all University faculty publications. Duplicate copies will not generally be purchased, however duplicate gift copies will be accepted.

**FAMU Dissertations and Theses**
The library attempts to acquire a copy of all dissertations and Theses written by FAMU students. Dissertations and theses of FAMU faculty and non-FAMU students will be collected based upon program support and congruency to the Libraries' collection development guidelines.

**Famuana**
This collection consists of pamphlets, newspaper clippings, photographs, memorabilia, and other materials pertaining to the activities of the University, its faculty, staff, students, and alumni. This collection is not a university archive and does not necessarily contain materials dating back to the University's inception.

**Florida Collection**
The Libraries will purchase selected monographs and related materials by and about Tallahasseeans and Floridians. Florida periodicals, newspapers, and other serial publications will be housed with those respective collections.
Heritage Room
The Heritage room, located in room A412 of Coleman Library, houses a collection of exceptional works by and about Africans and African Americans. Resources that meet the criteria for this collection are costly and are acquired only as funding permits. The development of this collection is largely dependent upon special funds. Several resources in this collection have been funded by the Student Government Association.

Rare Works
Resources that qualify as rare in terms of age, uniqueness, artifactual, bibliographical/research relevance, or market value shall be acquired only as funding permits.

Exhibits

Purpose
The purpose of exhibits is to inform library users of library collections and services, the libraries’ role in the curriculum, and the libraries’ involvement in university activities. Exhibits should incite the scholarly and cultural interests of library users and support the university’s mission.

Selection Criteria for Exhibits:
- Exhibits are designed to showcase the holdings and resources of the FAMU Libraries and will primarily contain materials from its collections.
- Non-library materials are included only upon administrative approval. Exhibits supporting the University’s strategic initiatives and academic programs will be given priority.
- Exhibits should be scholarly or of interest to the university community.
- Library staff will produce exhibits. When approved by the administration, exhibits can be created in cooperation with campus or community groups.

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