UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING LIBRARIES STRATEGIC PLAN

2024–2029

UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING | Libraries

University Libraries' mission is to provide information resources and services to meet the instructional, research, and outreach needs of UW students, faculty, and staff regardless of location. UW Libraries is also open and available within the constraints of available resources to the citizens of Wyoming.

University of Wyoming Libraries supports the University's vision and mission by fostering the open and unrestricted pursuit of inquiry, discovery, and knowledge, and by enhancing teaching, learning and research experiences through collections, services, and study and learning spaces.

01 SUPPORT STUDENT SUCCESS

Objective: Provide instructional services for information literacy, digital scholarship, and data literacy.
Action: Enhance support of information and digital literacies in University Studies courses
Action: Integrate inclusive pedagogy into library instruction practices

Objective: Invest in Open Educational Resources to enhance degree affordability for students and their families
Action: Continue to fund Alt-Textbook Grant program
Action: Partner with UW Store to support instructors adopting OER and library materials as required course materials
Action: Implement Leganto for course reserves

Objective: Enhance library spaces and services aligned to undergraduate and graduate student needs.
Action: Continue to evaluate and upgrade study space in Coe Library
Action: Evaluate branch libraries and assess how to better serve NW campus
Action: Create a graduate student study space
Action: Explore off-site storage opportunities to free library space for new student uses

Objective: Provide co-curricular experiences that enhance student well-being
Action: Reimagine student work and internship opportunities, including student participation in library advisory groups.
Action: Seek opportunity to include library student employment as experiential learning credit in the new University Studies Program.
Action: Provide experiential learning opportunities for students in partnership with University Studies and Student Affairs.

02 BOLSTER ACCESS TO LIBRARY RESOURCES

Objective: Promote distinctive print and digital collections.
Action: Evaluate Hebard Collection holdings to identify materials of high research interest suitable for digitization and sharing in open-access digital repository.
Action: Identify rare Special Collections holdings for digitization and contribution to HathiTrust or another cooperative digital archive.
Action: Market primary source collections to appropriate UW classes and researchers.
Objective: Eliminate barriers to discovering library resources and improve user experience
Action: Task Discovery Enhancement Committee with ongoing optimization of library discovery services and functionality, while improving user experience and accessibility to library resources
Action: Explore adding RFID tags to library materials to improve self-checkout and the inventory/findability of physical library materials
Action: Expand the marketing and promotion of library resources to faculty, staff, and students
Objective: Assess and update collection acquisition models
Action: Explore the impact of e-preferred purchasing and vendor platforms on user experience.
Action: Review and update collection approval plans to meet the resource needs of current in-person and distance degree programs.
Action: Implement the digital Federal Depository Library Program.

03 INVEST IN RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

Objective: Enhance open-access publishing and repository services to support faculty research and increase the reach of UW scholarship
Action: Fully implement new data, institutional, and digital repositories.
Action: Implement open book publishing platform and continue to host open journal system.
Objective: Become a center for digital scholarship at the University
Action: Add new kinds of expertise in digital scholarship to the Libraries workforce.
Action: Provide workshops and other educational outreach through the Digital Scholarship Center.
Objective: Support the practice of research and publishing
Action: Expand read-and-publish, transformative, and article processing fee discount agreements with publishers where feasible.

04 FOSTER A SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY

Objective: Provide a welcoming and positive workplace
Action: Revisit Employee Support Committee charge
Action: Audit employee workspaces and make more effective use of available space
Objective: Support professional development and advancement opportunities for Libraries employees
Action: Fund conferences and trainings, including supervisor training
Action: Continue to build staff career ladders
Action: Seek opportunities for cross-divisional training to find efficiencies with work and positions
Objective: Improve internal communication
Action: Task Communication Leadership Team to make recommendations for improving intranet, weekly updates, and Libraries-wide meetings
Action: Improve employee onboarding processes and documentation
Action: Implement a Libraries employee handbook
Objective: Foster a culture of creativity and innovation
Action: Task AI Leadership Team to explore how to use AI for everyday work and free employees to work on higher-level projects
Objective: Prioritize and expand statewide access to library materials
Action: Seek permissions for unrestricted access to in-copyright Wyoming Newspaper Project holdings
Action: Continue to explore opportunities to expand statewide or community college access to licensed resources.

05 ENHANCE LIBRARIES FUNDING AND PARTNERSHIPS

Objective: Cultivate donations to support student-centered initiatives
Action: Prepare for a university-wide capital campaign and identify top library needs.
Action: Connect donors to wish list items identified in the grassroots strategic planning process.
Action: Grow donor base of recent graduates through targeted outreach to former student employees and through Giving Day
Objective: Continue to evaluate shared collections and strategic partnerships
Action: Assess shared goals and opportunities with current building partners including LeaRN, ECTL, Writing Center, STEP, and UW IT.
Action: Calculate return on investment for memberships in consortia and other buying/ publishing groups.