

Academic Master Plan WIU Libraries November 16, 2007

Library Overview

The Western Illinois University Libraries is comprised of the main [Leslie F. Malpass Library](#), the [Music Library](#), the [Physical Sciences Library](#), the [Curriculum Library](#), and the [WIU-Quad Cities Library](#) (Moline, Illinois). WIU Libraries' collections rank in the top 10 nationally among comprehensive universities.

Our Mission

University Libraries identifies, collects, organizes, preserves and provides access to information resources and services to support the University's commitment to academic excellence, educational opportunity, personal growth and social responsibility.

Our Vision

WIU Libraries serves as a portal to the information landscape (physical and virtual); it inspires and integrates scholarly communication at all levels, and enhances collaboration between students, faculty and staff.

Our Values

Values:

As an institution and as individuals associated with the library, we value:

- an educated population
- the role of librarians and libraries in educational institutions
- equal access to information
- the ability to identify and locate information
- the fair use of copyrighted material and the preservation of works in the public domain
- technology as a tool to aid the organization and the transmission of knowledge, and,
- a quality service environment welcoming students, faculty, staff, and the community to find and use the information resources they need

Our Slogan

WIU Libraries: The Active Learning Space

Inspire and educate Faculty and Students of the 21st century to use the library through innovative services and redesigned of facilities

Goal 1: Exploit the educational mission of the library

Hire Librarians with strong educational and assessment backgrounds

1 Instructional Services Librarian Replaces retiring faculty member

2 FYE librarians New Resources Required:

Ensure curricular integration of library services and resources throughout WIU and address the needs of WIU's tech savvy students. *Hire an Instructional Services librarian (Reallocation of Library Funds)*

Transform the traditional collections-focused liaison role into one engaged with information literacy, teaching and learning initiatives, curricular reform, scholarly productivity, and institutional transformation. *(Reallocation of faculty time and New Resources for 2 FYE Librarians)*

Develop the libraries' Information Literacy standards and implement assessment tools used to gauge and improve student learning. Inventory of department class offerings to determine appropriateness for instruction and assess workload demands.

Enhance libraries' outreach and communication through library liaisons and collaborative technologies such as blogs and wikis. Liaison roles involve discipline-based academic programs, interdisciplinary research, and such initiatives as learning communities, undergraduate research programs, and diversity and globalization initiatives. *(Reallocation of faculty time)*

Aggressively promote library services to current as well as prospective faculty, student, staff, and donors. Provide educational and cultural events to promote information management and dissemination and library collections. Programs will be integrated with university theme and/or library themes. *(Reallocation of Library Resources and Outside Resources)*

Goal 2: Create an Information Commons within WIU Libraries

Expand the library infrastructure to support high-end technology and collaborative learning. *(New resources required)*

Create more student collaborative learning space by the redesign of facilities, additional lighting, furniture, carpeting, and relocation of library staff offices. *(Reallocation of library resources and new resources required)*

Provide evolving state-of-the art technology, workstations and peripherals to support student use of the libraries' digital resources. *(New resources required)*

Investigate and increase wireless capacity and emerging wireless technology use within WIU Libraries

Secure additional computers and printers for students throughout the libraries (*New resources required*)

Transform the first floor of Malpass Library including the Audiovisual Department into a **Student Digital Commons**, a technologically advanced collaborative learning environment

Create a student-centered and environmentally friendly and safe environment

Increase hours of opening to first floor services to coincide with Malpass Library hours (*New resources required*)

Relocate audiovisual materials to the Circulation Department on the Second Floor to improve access to the collection

Increase and raise the technology level of service offered from front line library employees on the first floor to assist users for the purpose of integrating the use of technology in their educational pursuits and to support scholarly communication

Implement a Coffee Bar on the first floor of Malpass Library (*Working with Sodexo. (New resources required)*)

Encourage faculty to meet and engage with students informally in the Student Digital Commons area.

Goal 3: Improve the libraries' storage capacity for its existing and future print collections

Implement an aggressive weeding, inventory and shelf reading program to accommodate the collections from the Chemistry and Physical Sciences, Curriculum, Music, and Quad-Cities Libraries. (*Faculty and Staff time*)

Preserve University Archives by installing compact storage on the first floor of the library. (*New Funding Required*)

Focus on acquiring digital rather than print resources whenever appropriate.

Goal 4: Improve Library Efficiency

Realign library operations to take advantage of new functionality provided with the Voyager System. (*Staff Time and Training Funds*)

Reconfigure collection development, acquisitions and cataloging departments as appropriate to gain new functionality and efficiencies. (*Staff Time and Training Funds*)

Streamline behind-the-scenes technology infrastructure and systems operations for acquisitions, cataloging, and collection management. (*Staff Time and Training and Travel Funds*)

Reexamine Libraries' collection appropriation funding formula and as needed redirect Departmental funding to support today's curriculum needs.

Goal 5: Increase technology innovation to provide the delivery of information to any WIU student, faculty, staff member anytime and anywhere, and in support of our distance education, Quad Cities and nursing programs

Migrate print collections to electronic resources as available (*Collection Funds*)

Utilize technology where appropriate to educate library users of available print and electronic resources. (Reallocation and New Funds Needed)

Enhance Interlibrary Loan delivery using high-end copy, transmission, and data management systems such as ILIAD to support WIU and our educational partners. (*Staff Time and Computing Resources Needed*)

Develop a WIU Library Portal to integrate and provide a gateway to library resources, quality internet resources, and library services (*Current and New Staff Required*)

Develop web-based databases and applications (*New Staff Resources Required*)

Web Content Management System module

WIU Authors Database

Podcasting, blogging, and RSS Feeds

Convert the libraries' print format materials to electronic resources

Retrospectively digitize selective library collections (*New Resources Required*)

Support the creation and distribution of WIU scholarly communication electronically (*Staff Time & New Staff Required*)

Extend the Archives Digital Image Database to create WIU Scholarly Communication Repository

Implement the creation and preservation of WIU's electronic thesis and dissertations and Honors Thesis. (*New Resources Required. 1 Civil Service Employee with good technical skills*)

Goal 6: Hire, Train and Retain Library Faculty and Staff

Secure funding to hire a health sciences librarian to support the information needs of WIU's nursing faculty, staff and students (*new funding*)

Secure funding to hire staff to support the development of WIU's Quad-Cities Information Commons and information needs of faculty, staff, and students in the Quad-Cities (*New Funding*)

Create staff development and leadership opportunities for all library faculty and staff (*Library Reallocation*)

Implement a library mentor program (*Staff Time*)

Promote the creation of innovative methods to recruit, train, and hire library faculty and staff (*Staff Time*)

Pursue the creation of library internship and practica programs (*Library Reallocation and external funding*)

Scholarly Communication: Access to information, the foundation of scholarly communication, has traditionally been provided through academic journals, research collections, and other print publications. Recent advances in digital technology, however, have revolutionized scholarly communication, leading to innovations in the conduct of research as well as in the conveyance of ideas to readers. At the same time, changing copyright laws, licensing rather than owning publications, and rapidly increasing subscription costs for scholarly journals have limited access to and restricted uses of scholarly information.

Libraries, research institutions, scholarly societies, commercial publishers, and others are experimenting with a variety of models to provide digital, online, unfettered access to scholarly information.... Despite variations, however, the goal is the same: to develop more efficient, economical, and accessible models for research and scholarly communication <http://www.arl.org/osc/models/index.html>