

Meriam Library
California State University, Chico

STRATEGIC PLAN 2007-2012

September 2008

The Meriam Library Strategic Plan aligns with the mission and goals of the campus, Academic Affairs and Information Technology plans. The Library goals concentrate on the foremost goal of all three plans – to support teaching and learning inside and outside the classroom.

VISION, MISSION AND VALUES

Our Vision

We strive for excellence in collections that meet the information needs of our academic community; services that are effective and responsive, partnerships that contribute to an active university education and that position students for life-long learning. We are dedicated to the principle of access to and the free exchange of information.

Our Mission

Our mission is to prepare CSU, Chico students to live in the information economy; who are information literate in their chosen field, and that can use information and knowledge effectively in their chosen profession and as informed citizens.

We accomplish this mission by supporting the learning, teaching, research, and service priorities of California State University, Chico. We provide collections, services and programs that integrate information resources and information literacy into the student experience. We actively shape the library in-house and electronic collections to support research and enquiry, making judicious decisions that offer the best range of resources within allocated resources. We provide an environment conducive to study, research and reflection. We are committed to outcomes which demonstrate that students are confident and competent in their ability to access, evaluate, synthesize and use information.

Our Values:

- The library as learning organization
- Encouraging student inquiry and scholarly research
- The privacy of our users
- The freedom of information
- Courteous, capable and responsive services
- Ease of access to information and services
- Being a vital part of the academic community
- Respecting our users and colleagues
- The wise application of information technology
- Continuous improvement in the design and delivery of services and resources
- Active innovation and incorporation of academic library best practice
- Professionalism and pride in our work
- Service to the greater community
- A commitment to our own growth and development
- A comfortable, quiet, calm, safe and clean library environment
- The effective stewardship of allocated resources

GOALS

Library programs, services and information resources are informed by these six goals.

- 1: Information Access
- 2: Library Services
- 3: Information Literacy
- 4: Collections and Information Resources
- 5: Library as Place
- 6: Librarian and library staff development and contribution

1. Information Access

Implement appropriate technological applications into the ReSEARCH Station with a design that is intuitive and user-friendly.

Service Level Objectives

- Continuous assessment and improvement of the online catalog
- Continuous assessment and improvement of the ReSEARCH Station
- Continuous addition and integration of new electronic resources
- Continuous improvement of navigation and functionality

2. Library Services

Offer a suite of library services that support student learning and faculty research.

Service Level Objectives

- Meet the need for research assistance inside and outside the library
- Maintain excellent relationships with faculty to foster information literacy, curriculum and research partnerships
- Provide ready access to materials not held in local collections
- Arrange library collections to facilitate location of materials
- Active communication with the campus about library tools, services and collections
- Serve as a campus resource for copyright and intellectual property
- Assist faculty to incorporate information resources and apply the provisions of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act into online courses.

3. Information Literacy

Incorporate fundamental research skills and concepts into the first-year experience and general education and continue to build on these skills through the major to ensure that all graduates are competent in their ability to use information resources in their chosen career and are prepared for life-long learning

Service Level Objectives

- Continue to implement, assess and improve the information literacy curriculum in University 101
- Continue to implement, assess and improve information literacy and skills presented in general education courses

- Provide course related library instruction to upper and lower division classes as requested
- Offer self-paced web based information literacy training to ensure point-of-need instruction.
- Provide information literacy training workshops for instructors
- Collaborate with faculty to help integrate information literacy into courses and curricula
- Support campus efforts to teach the understanding and application of the ethical principles research, academic honesty, and fair use of information
- Participate in the CSU Information Literacy Initiative

4. Collections and Information Resources

Build and manage a collection of information resources that best satisfies the curriculum, research and information needs of the campus community balanced with available resources.

Service Level Objectives

- Align the electronic collection to the curriculum through judicious selection and continuous assessment of effectiveness
- Balance increasing expectations for immediate access to information with reduced resources
- Engage in an active and continuing program of collection management to balance the size of collections with the needs of the campus community for study and learning space
- Create digital collections of unique materials to improve access to primary resources

5. Library as Place

Create and maintain the library as a safe and inviting space conducive to study and learning.

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Service Level Objectives

- Plan for future library space that is appropriate to the changing needs of the campus community
- Assess collections and services to simplify access to collections and improve self-service
- Maintain library hours
- Foster opportunities to partner with the campus to offer exhibits and programs

6. Librarian and library staff development and contribution

Improve library operations, services and programs by providing opportunities for staff to succeed in the changing library environment and by having librarians active in the campus community and professional contribution.

Service Level Objectives

- Librarians and staff will take advantage of continuing education opportunities to improve programs and services
- Librarians and staff will serve as active members of the campus community.
- Librarians will participate in the advancement of librarianship through papers, publications, etc.
- Librarians will improve the practice of librarianship through contributions to professional associations and organizations