

# University of Delaware Library, Museums and Press **STRATEGIC PLAN**







## OVERVIEW

The Library, Museums and Press (hereafter referred to as the Library) are fundamental to ensuring the realization of the University of Delaware's goals and aspirations. We, the Library staff, honor the accomplishments of the Library's past while embracing the possibilities of the future. The University of Delaware Library staff cultivates and stewards the Library's collections, both tangible and digital, and makes these collections broadly accessible to best serve the University of Delaware and the global community. We support and facilitate teaching, research and scholarship, and actively contribute to the success of our community members. We use a process of continual assessment and adjustment to achieve our goals and strategic directions.

## MISSION

The Library inspires the intellectual, scholarly and creative achievement of University and global communities with expert staff, excellent service, dynamic learning spaces and access to diverse collections and information resources.

## VISION

The Library is the intellectual and interdisciplinary hub of the University. We partner with the campus and the community for scholarly and creative endeavors. We support the University's efforts to have a positive impact on the community and offer innovative solutions to global problems.





## VALUES

The University of Delaware Library, Museums & Press contributes to a community that nurtures intellectual curiosity and free inquiry, where everyone is empowered to learn and flourish, in alignment with the [University of Delaware Values](#). These values ground our strategic and operational decisions and inform the way that we develop personnel, spaces, collections, services, and programs.

Our values in action:

- We provide a welcoming environment that is open to all in accordance with [UD Library policies](#).
- We provide equitable service to our diverse community of users, and in doing so we recognize, value, and embrace the uniqueness of each individual.
- We promote an atmosphere of respect and civility as an essential part of strengthening our campus and local communities.
- We embrace intercultural competence as articulated in our [diversity statement](#).
- We preserve, disseminate, and provide equitable access to knowledge in a variety of forms.
- We assist users in the creation of a wide range of scholarly materials, encouraging excellence and innovation, and supporting student success.
- We foster lifelong learning aimed at supporting an informed and engaged citizenry.
- We support rigorous scholarship and critical thinking by embracing the core professional values of [librarianship](#), [academic museum practice](#), and [university press publishing](#), including intellectual freedom, inclusion, privacy of users, and social responsibility.

In accordance with these practices we operate with transparency and accountability. We recognize the dignity of all people in public and private discourse, and engage in dialogue that builds trust and fosters collaboration. Thus, we value and cultivate the free exchange of ideas, and condemn speech or action that threatens the physical or psychological safety of any member of our community.





## FOUNDATION

Each of the Library's strategic directions rests upon the interconnected foundations of inclusive excellence, organizational effectiveness and user experience. To provide superior user experience, the Library must be guided by effective internal organization that is inclusive, adaptive and actively supports continuous learning. None of these foundational principles can be successful without the others.

### **Inclusive Excellence**

The Library recognizes and celebrates the diversity of staff, students, faculty and the broader community. We welcome, respect and respond to the contributions of all.

### **Organizational Effectiveness**

Our organization is transparent and built on strong and effective communication. We foster an environment of collegiality and teamwork. The Library cultivates a respectful and inclusive work environment that empowers staff and values input from all employees. Data analysis is used to drive decision-making and responsible resource allocation.

### **User Experience**

We enhance discovery of the Library's tangible and digital services, collections and resources. We create environments conducive to learning and collaboration. We continually assess library activities and services to plan for future improvements.



# STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS



## STUDENT SUCCESS AND LEARNING

The Library empowers students to effectively research, explore and demonstrate their knowledge. Expert staff inspire self-directed, lifelong learning beyond the classroom. We support students' critical engagement with information sources in a variety of formats. Student needs and achievements are evaluated through data-driven assessment.

### GOALS

1. Develop instructional approaches that support students' information literacy learning needs, including skills for locating, evaluating, using and creating information.
2. Partner with faculty in curriculum planning and design to develop intellectual curiosity, critical thinking and technological ability in students.
3. Collaborate with faculty to integrate resources into distance learning programs that enhance the educational effectiveness of those courses.
4. Actively encourage the creation and/or use of high-quality open educational resources on campus to provide greater access to educational content and reduce students' financial burden.
5. Leverage technology to support research, learning and creativity.
6. Develop frameworks to assess and improve the impact of the Library's services on student learning and success.



## RESEARCH, SCHOLARSHIP, AND DISCOVERY

The Library increases the value and impact of research, scholarship and discovery through excellent collections, interdisciplinary activity and innovative methods of information management. We contribute expertise throughout the research lifecycle, from conceptualization to actualization. The Library provides leadership in scholarly communication and the curation and preservation of research and scholarship in all formats.

### GOALS

1. Provide access to resources that reflect diverse perspectives and prompt critical analysis and innovative thought.
2. Promote use of the unique materials in the Library's Special Collections and Museums and enhance access to these resources.
3. Assist faculty members with the curation, management and preservation of research data.
4. Inform faculty and graduate students about open access initiatives and encourage participation in open access publishing in order to provide students and scholars with greater access to research.
5. Expand global access to University of Delaware research and collections through active promotion of digital collections in repositories such as UDSpace, Artstor and HathiTrust.





# STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS



## LIBRARY AS PLACE

The Library is a welcoming place to study, learn and create. We facilitate activities ranging from individual contemplation to group collaboration. Our spaces (physical and virtual) support library operations and user needs for intellectual exploration, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation. Library spaces will be adaptable to different activities and priorities as needed.

### GOALS

1. Develop spaces that are cohesive in design, technology-rich and flexible.
2. Showcase creative and scholarly achievements of the campus community.
3. Design space based on the assessment of user needs and library operations.
4. Offer spaces that facilitate collaboration and the building of partnerships.



## PARTNERSHIP AND COLLABORATION

We actively seek out partnerships and collaboration locally, regionally, nationally and internationally to expand knowledge and advance the mission of the University through collective strengths. We achieve more together than we do individually.

### GOALS

1. Communicate the value of the Library's expertise, resources, programs and services to current and potential partners.
2. Develop relationships on and off campus to preserve and protect intellectual and cultural heritage.
3. Support the University's community engagement and research efforts to improve education and the quality of life in Delaware.
4. Investigate and take advantage of opportunities that utilize library resources for entrepreneurial endeavors.
5. Foster internal collaborations by promoting inter-divisional and inter-departmental partnerships, improving communication and building good will.