Collier Library and Information Services Strategic Plan

2019-2024

Vision

Collier Library and Information Services will function as a critical partner to every member of the University of North Alabama pride and as a leader within the state by being an intellectual centerpiece physically and virtually, rooted in discovery, research, scholarship, and information fluency.

Mission

Collier Library and Information Services supports the strategic plan of the University of North Alabama and the enrichment of our pride by providing information resources, instruction, staff, services, and spaces that strengthen information fluency in learning, teaching, and research of the University of North Alabama community.

Strategic Priorities:

Priority One: Build & Maintain Evolving and Responsive Collections – The library will continue to provide information resources that meet the changing teaching and research needs of the campus community and that support and encourage continuous learning. (Supports Theme One: Transformational Student Experience, Theme Two: Academic Excellence and Innovation, Theme Four: Financial Sustainability)

Goals:

- Build agile, flexible collections to support programs and learning
- Engage in ongoing evaluation of electronic subscriptions to ensure continued relevance and value
- Implement new acquisitions models to provide maximum amount of content at lowest cost
- Evaluate print collections and withdraw materials that are obsolete or no longer support existing curriculum
- Lead the state in collaborative collection development
- Make strategic content purchases as replacements for high-cost student course materials
- Reimagine collection development policies and procedures
- Develop systematic communication strategy to inform users about existing and new resources

Priority Two: Provide Innovative Services & Spaces – While maintaining traditional services that remain relevant, Collier Library & Information Services will implement new services and spaces that meet users' diverse needs. (Support Theme Two: Academic Excellence and Innovation)

Goals:

- Lead the campus in the identification and promotion of Open Educational Resources

- Expand technology lending program
- Develop programs to target at-risk students and orient them to the library and its resources
- Expand online research consultation availability
- Expand information-focused instruction and evaluate need for program expansion
- Provide flexible spaces that allow users to reconfigure furniture to customize their learning environment
- Develop spaces for exhibits and displays
- Provide 24x5 access to Collier Library ground floor
- Evaluate spaces to ensure accessibility
- Develop systematic communication strategy to inform users about existing and new services and spaces

Priority Three: Develop Strong Technological Integration – Collier Library & Information Services will facilitate technological integration to support educational and research needs of its diverse users. (Supports Theme One: Transformational Student Experience and Theme Two: Academic Excellence and Innovation)

Goals:

- Promote integration of library resources and services into Canvas
- Promote availability of online research consultations
- Explore options for more fully integrating Spring Share products
- Create presentation practice space for students and faculty
- Maintain technology consistent with the needs of the current user
- Develop program of ongoing usability testing of web presence
- Explore open source possibilities in technology implementation
- Work with ITS to provide access to specialized discipline-specific software on library computers
- Develop and/or expand online guides to aid faculty in integration of library resources into Canvas

Priority Four: Establish & Expand Partnerships – Collier Library & Information Services will seek to establish and expand partnerships with internal and external groups. (Supports Theme One: Transformational Student Experience and Theme Two: Academic Excellence and Innovation)

Goals:

- Expand the use of embedded librarians in targeted courses
- Expand the current library liaison program to include key non-academic departments
- Investigate additional collaboration opportunities with University Success Center
- Recruit additional general and council members to the Friends of the Library program
- Explore collaborative opportunities with key community partners
- Expand participation in Network of Academic Libraries (NAAL) initiatives and programs

Priority Five: Advocate for Information Literacy Curriculum Integration – Collier Library & Information Services will advocate for the integration of information literacy instruction across the curriculum. (Supports Theme One: Transformational Student Experience and Theme Two: Academic Excellence and Innovation)

Goals:

- Develop and submit proposal for a for-credit information literacy course or program
- Expand the number of information literacy instructional videos and tutorials available to users
- Work with faculty teaching writing courses within each department to integrate instruction on information literacy

Priority Six: Support Campus Research – Collier Library & Information Services will provide resources and services to support the creation and dissemination of scholarship. (Supports Theme One: Transformational Student Experience and Theme Two: Academic Excellence and Innovation)

Goals:

- Expand awareness and campus usage of the institutional repository
- Assist with data curation for faculty
- Facilitate Scholars' Week preparation and events
- Provide spaces and host events for researchers to share work
- Advocate for the transition to digital submission of graduate theses
- Develop program to purchase faculty publications
- Develop services needed to support expanded graduate offerings
- Conduct and lead information-focused research

Priority Seven: Recruit & Support a Skilled and Diverse Staff - A skilled and diverse staff is a core component of a quality academic library. As a result, Collier Library & Information Services will seek to hire and support talented and diverse employees. (Supports Theme One: Transformational Student Experience, Theme Two: Academic Excellence and Innovation, and Theme Three: Diversity and Inclusion)

Goals:

- Fund professional development opportunities for staff relevant to their job functions and to an increased understanding of the academic library environment
- Develop an official onboarding process for new employees, including student workers
- Identify and mentor promising students who may wish to pursue library and information science
- Assess current vacant positions and advertise based on current and future need
- Expand efforts to recruit a diverse pool of applicants for vacancies