

Annual Report, 2019-2020

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I. KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2019-2020

We had an ambitious list of goals for 2019-2020, and despite the pandemic, we accomplished and/or made progress on many of them while a few others were not accomplished.

Complete the library's strategic plan and begin implementation. ACCOMPLISHED and ONGOING. The library's plan was completed and it has guided us in the many areas that are outlined in our goals below. https://www2.stetson.edu/library/green/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/1-2019_09_23-Strategic-Plan-Map-FINAL.pdf

Develop and implement a library for-credit internship experience. ACCOMPLISHED. We were very pleased to have a diverse and highly qualified set of finalists for our internship. We chose Brianna Morris, an African-American student who impressed us with her serious interest in learning about libraries and archives. Brianna worked in almost every department in the library, and sat in on some staff and administrative meetings. She seemed to enjoy her time with us, and although the internship was cut a bit short by the March shut-down, we consider the internship a success. We will initiate another internship when we can again work closely with a student in our physical spaces.

Develop a comprehensive plan to address the needs of the neurodiverse student population. PARTIALLY ACCOMPLISHED and ONGOING. We met with campus staff with experience working with neurodiverse students; met with two neurodiverse students; met with Natalie Greenshields, a senior social sciences major who had done research in this area; went through a lengthy interactive program (Project A+) developed by FSU that provides information and strategies for academic librarians and staff interacting with individuals with autism; and made furniture purchases based on what we had learned. While the March shut-down slowed the development of a comprehensive plan, we have made significant progress in better understanding and meeting the needs of this segment of our community.

Maintain up-to-date research guides (LibGuides) to support information literacy learning outcomes. ACCOMPLISHED. Over the past year, 10 new research guides were created, and 45 research guides were updated using best practices guidelines developed by the research librarians. We have also added a number of additional online resources specifically to reach an online audience resulting from COVID-19.

Continue to nurture existing collaborative relationships with classroom faculty and expand the program beyond those departments and groups already targeted. ACCOMPLISHED. Debbi Dinkins and Jennifer Corbin expanded their outreach to Sociology/Anthropology and Digital Arts. Soon after meeting with Sociology, Dr. Charmaine Jackson asked for a departmental review of the library's collection in support of the department, and that was provided. A meeting was set with the Education Department for late spring, but was cancelled due to COVID-19; it has been rescheduled for fall 2020.

Continue to offer existing cultural credit Innovation Lab workshops, as well as develop new workshops for new equipment. ACCOMPLISHED. The Innovation Lab offered regular, well-attended cultural credit workshops through March.

Develop a comprehensive plan for a reorganization of the Archives and Special Collections.

ACCOMPLISHED. The Archivist has worked with the Library Dean to develop a plan to use limited space more effectively and efficiently. The Archives space on the main floor was renovated this summer to make room for the Bert Fish Collection coming to us from the West Volusia Historical Society.

Develop a sensory garden in the Nemec Courtyard. **ACCOMPLISHED.** The librarians and staff created a sensory garden to enhance the Nemec Courtyard as both a study and event space, and, we hope, to appeal to some of our neurodiverse student population who may want alternative study spaces. The Garden has been very successful, and has been booked numerous times for special events (and is now available to book for classes).

Develop a plan for the Writing Center Director's office to be constructed adjacent to the Writing Center. **PARTIALLY ACCOMPLISHED but STALLED.** The Library Dean developed a plan for the office construction, and worked with Matt Adair from Facilities to get quotes on the renovation. Despite repeated efforts to get quotes out of a vendor, to date we have no quote – and Matt Adair has left the University. This effort has stalled, and is likely on hold for the immediate future.

Develop a plan to create additional student study rooms on the main floor. **NOT ACCOMPLISHED.** We has this scheduled as a summer plan (which included a significant Reference Collection weeding project), but this was put on hold to deal with COVID-19 reopening plans. Librarians and library staff, however, have begun to weck the reference stacks.

Improve library "wayfinding." **ACCOMPLISHED.** With Jennifer Corbin leading this effort, library signage improved considerably, but is now somewhat over-shadowed by COVID-19-related signage that is throughout the building.

Pursue University and/or donor funding to construct a new office for the Writing Center Director. **NOT ACCOMPLISHED.** See above comments on Writing Center office.

Continue to pursue funding for the Innovation Center. **NOT ACCOMPLISHED.** President Libby, Development staff, and I approached some target donors without success. With a change in the University presidency, it remains to be seen if President Roellke will make this a priority.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:

For library annual statistical data, see: <https://www2.stetson.edu/library/about-us/library-publications/annual-reports/>

KEY LIBRARY GOALS 2020-2021

ENGAGEMENT: Student engagement in the library is far more difficult as a result of COVID-19 – the pandemic has created a necessary atmosphere of occupancy limits, physical distancing, and rigid enforcement of health and safety protocols. Therefore, the library’s primary goal in 2020-21 will be to find innovative ways to engage library users, primarily students, while these restrictions remain in place.

- Practice compassion and consideration with both library users and fellow library staff members who are all experiencing levels of COVID-19 stress and anxiety.
- Enhance and promote the virtual club experiences to engage more students.
- Increase collaboration/communication between library departments.
- Maintain student engagement by taking our bulletin board questions to an electronic forum.
- Working with the Hand Art Center and the Creative Arts Department, create a main floor gallery wall to display a revolving display of Stetson art work with opportunities attached to the space for Cultural Credit.
- Rethink Milk and Cookies night as a take-out boxed style snack give-away.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION: Demonstrate a commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion in the library. Some of this work is outlined in the library’s Strategic Plan (improving interactions with neurodiverse students; encouraging diversity in the profession of librarianship through a library internship), and some is built into our procedures (conducting searches with a commitment to diversity and inclusion).

- Conduct all searches in a manner that maximizes opportunities for a diverse candidate pool.
- Encourage more library faculty and staff to participate in the Project PALS WebJunction Course designed to help librarians and library staff better serve neurodiverse patrons.
- Assess our first library internship and improve the design of the next internship.

DEVELOPMENT AND FACILITIES: Given the lack of progress on securing the funding for the Innovation Center on the ground floor, explore some alternative “space” plans that will meet a number of needs, including creating more study space; creating more space for the Innovation Lab; creating a small 24/7 enclosed footprint on the main floor of the library; and relocating Archives and Special Collections spaces.

- Weed the reference and periodicals stacks on the main floor in anticipation of removing stacks and creating more study space.
- Investigate a phased approach to “glassing in” (creating a wall of some sort) the perimeter of the main floor of the library with the idea to block off a 24/7 accessible space in the main floor center. Begin with investigating glassing in the area in front of the Innovation Lab to expand the area’s footprint.
- Work with Development to fund facilities goals.

INFORMATION LITERACY: Especially in the wake of COVID-19, librarians must proactively engage in continuing and refining effort to improve information literacy – especially online.

- Participate in the University's QEP efforts, especially in the information literacy component.
- Create tutorials to support information literacy learning in a virtual environment for FSEMs, as well as for students in the three Schools/College.
- Adapt information literacy instruction to meet the needs of hybrid and online courses.

DEPARTMENT AND OTHER LIBRARY GOALS 2020-2021

ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS:

- Create at least one online exhibit to highlight a targeted Special Collection.
- If the agreement with the West Volusia Historical Society and the Bert Fish Foundation is finalized, create exhibit for the Bert Fish Collection on main floor, southeast corner.

COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT:

- Increasing our electronic resources by adding new platforms for ebooks and streaming video.

COVID-19:

- Improve and maintain communication with IT, Campus Life and Student Success, Residential Life, and the Safer Stetson Task Force to ensure that students have the technology and information resources that they need whether on-campus, off-campus, or in quarantine.

FACILITIES:

- Secure quote for an office for the Writing Center Director adjacent to the Writing Center office in order to reclaim office space for the library staff.

INNOVATION LAB:

- Increase virtual/remote availability of Innovation lab services and outreach. Investigate ways to interact with classes needing a demo on our equipment through online collaboration.
- As digital content has escalated in importance, redesign Innovation Lab equipment tutorials available on the website to better serve our users.
- The Innovation Lab will work with the Engagement and Learning Librarian to produce items in the Lab that can be used in outreach.
- Be open to opportunities to serve the Stetson community (as was done with the ear guards in summer 2020).

SOCIAL MEDIA AND MARKETING:

- Continue to develop the library's presence on social channels by publishing visually-engaging media and creative posts which feature our services, collections, spaces, users, and events; continue to interact with and build our audience across all library channels.
- Distribute and display more library promotional materials on campus emphasizing our services and value.