

Annual Report, 2021-2022

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Not surprisingly, COVID-19 continued to impact the library's operations in 2021-2022 – most notably in a decreased gate count and the need for hybrid approaches to instruction. For the most part, however, the library normalized operations throughout the academic year by returning seating to the public areas, ending decontamination protocols for materials, cutting back on the extensive sanitizing of surfaces throughout the building, and ending the mask requirement at the end of spring semester.

While in-person use of the library increased over the last year, gate count has not fully recovered from pre-pandemic levels. Therefore, we will continue the primary goal of rebuilding the in-person library community that we have nurtured for many years.

I. KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2021-2022

We had an ambitious list of goals for 2021-2022, and we accomplished and/or made progress on most of them.

GENERAL LIBRARY Accomplishments:

- *Reengaged our in-person users and rebuilt the library community that we have nurtured over many years.* We have had some success with these efforts: while our gate count was down more than 80% in 2020-21 compared to the last full non-pandemic year (2018-2019), gate count has rebounded to 50% of our pre-pandemic count in 2021-2022. While this is not where we would like to be, we are heading in the right direction. Current Stetson students have spent two to two-and-a-half years under COVID-19 restrictions. We believe that the “isolation” factor has worked against community-building, so it may be that our usage numbers will not recover for several years until post-pandemic students begin to come through Stetson and re-establish habits of utilizing campus spaces.
- *Move the library's strategic plan (2019-2023) forward.* We have completed, or made progress on, 15 of our 17 strategic goals. As the library moves through the last two years of its current five-year strategic plan, librarians and library staff are designing assessment surveys and questions for focus groups to ensure that our plan continues to meet the information, service, and facilities needs of students, faculty, and staff.
https://www2.stetson.edu/library/green/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/1-2019_09_23-Strategic-Plan-Map-FINAL.pdf
- *Continued efforts to promote and practice diversity, equity, and inclusion in the library.* The library has continued to make progress on our DEI commitments:
<https://www2.stetson.edu/library/dupont-ball-library-diversity-equity-and-inclusion/>
The library is building an online collection of Stetson primary sources documents pertaining to DEI that will become part of our Digital Archives. As part of the University's

campus climate plan, Dean of the duPont-Ball Library Sue Ryan and Hand Library Director Roy Balleste (College of Law) completed a historical timeline of DEI-related events and initiatives at Stetson. The University's DEI website features highlights from the timeline. Ryan and Balleste are also working on short videos focusing on specific areas of historical campus diversity (gender, race, etc.) for future inclusion on the website.

TEACHING & LEARNING / INFORMATION LITERACY Accomplishments:

- *Participated in the University's QEP efforts, which includes a significant information literacy component.* In support of Stetson's SACSCOC Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), the library offered two workshops to students – *Are All Sources Created Equal?* and *Research after Stetson*. In addition, librarians have helped with marketing the QEP initiative through posters, videos, and in-person "tabling" events. This spring, the library welcomed librarian Kellie Pait to a year-long position to assist the library in providing research services and to work on QEP-related projects.

COLLABORATION Accomplishments:

- *Continued to nurture existing collaborative relationships with classroom faculty and expand the program beyond those departments and groups already targeted in previous years.* As part of the library's Faculty Collaboration Project, Jennifer Corbin and Debbi Dinkins met with the History department faculty and the Theatre faculty in fall 2021. At the suggestion of the Theatre faculty, the library added the resource, *Digital Theatre+*, a database of award-winning theatre productions videos and other engaging educational materials. In spring 2022, librarians met with the School of Music and the School of Business Administration's Management Department. Based on faculty input, the library is adding some additional resources in support of Management, as well as RILM - a comprehensive database about music, including traditional music, popular music, jazz, classical, and related subjects.
- *Supported external reviews.* Librarians participated in on-site visits for the School of Music and the department of Sociology. Librarians also completed a review of library finance resources at the request of the Finance faculty for their departmental evaluation. After receiving the report, Finance faculty asked the library to add current access to three e-journal titles – those became accessible in January 2022.

COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT Accomplishments:

- *Withdrew redundant print journal issues and bound volumes in order to consolidate all print journal holdings to the ground floor of the library.* Consolidation into one collection on the ground floor was completed in April 2022.
- *Added five new databases:* African American History Online; Digital Theatre Plus; MRI/Simmons Insights (market segmentation database in support of the School of Business' marketing department); Polling the Nations; RILM.

- *Continued purchasing books in the e-book format to support online courses during the fall semester.* A shift in preference for the e-book format throughout the year was noticed from both faculty and students.
- *Expanded the library's faculty* by adding Nancy Marksbury as Systems and Digital Initiatives Librarian in May 2022.

ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS Accomplishments:

- *Continue to develop and promote the Archives and Special Collections as a library distinctive.* Two online cultural credit events were created from the Archives collections: *Take it to the Max! The Life and Career of Max Cleland, Stetson class of 1964* and *From Bedford to Lisbon: The Life of Bert Fish (Stetson class of 1895, 1902)*. Students earned 477 credits for both events in fall 2021. The library also hosted a spring cultural credit event, *Egyptology and Empire*, based on the Bert Fish Collection and the rare first edition volumes that the library holds titled *Description de l'Égypte*. Commissioned by Napoleon Bonaparte in the late 1700s, and published in the early 1800s, the resulting research set the stage for the modern study of Egyptology.
- *Space-planned for the future of the Archives and Special Collections.* To ease the storage space issues of our growing Archives and Special Collections, the library has received a gift to convert a ground floor office into a Special Collections room. This new area will house the Greenlaw Collection (first edition, signed children's literature) and the Treasure Collection (rare and/or valuable books).

INNOVATION LAB Accomplishments:

- Increased virtual/remote availability of Innovation lab services and outreach with a number of virtual tours and remote class sessions.
- Updated Innovation Lab equipment tutorials to better serve our users.
- Offered regular face-mask and other fabric workshops throughout the year.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND MARKETING Accomplishments:

- Consistently created dynamic content and posted it regularly, growing our social media presence and engagement. We maintained our engagement by responding to direct messages, comments, and mentions on all social media platforms.
- Increased the frequency of physical outreach on campus locations. We distributed content regarding services and events to Residential Life and Learning, the CUB, and to clubs and organizations throughout the university.

FACILITIES Accomplishments:

- *Made significant progress on the first stage of the plan to create additional student study space on the main floor.* We have continued weeding the reference stacks on the main floor in anticipation of removing stacks and creating more study space. (More than 3,000 volumes and more than 750 loose issues withdrawn.) In support of this effort, Academic Affairs provided more than \$14,000 in funding to replace print reference titles with e-book titles.

DEVELOPMENT Accomplishments:

Continued to pursue funding in support of the library's mission and strategic priorities. The library continues to grow its endowments and gift funds. Since the current dean's tenure (2011), library endowments have grown from \$2.3M to \$6.6M. Since FY17, gift funds (which vary considerably from year-to-year based on both giving and spending) have grown from \$60K to \$129K in FY22, with a total raised of \$768,000 in cash gifts and \$526,000 in gifts-in-kind.

In 2021-22, the library received approximately \$30,000 in cash gifts, and \$8,600 in gifts-in-kind.

II. KEY LIBRARY GOALS 2022-2023

- *Overall Library:* Build community in order to increase library usage/gate count.
- *Overall Library:* Complete the library's strategic five-year strategic plan. https://www2.stetson.edu/library/green/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/1-2019_09_23-Strategic-Plan-Map-FINAL.pdf
- *Overall Library:* Continue our efforts to promote and practice diversity, equity, and inclusion in the library. <https://www2.stetson.edu/library/dupont-ball-library-diversity-equity-and-inclusion/>
- *Teaching and Lifelong Learning:* Play an active role in the information literacy components of the QEP.
- *Teaching and Lifelong Learning/Innovation:* Continue to offer cultural credit and course-related Innovation Lab and Archives/Special Collections workshops, as well as rotating Gallery duPont exhibits.
- *Teaching and Lifelong Learning/Archives:* Continue space optimization efforts including moving and organizing storage areas and opening the Greenlaw Special Collections Room.
- *Collaboration:* Continue to nurture existing collaborative relationships with classroom faculty and expand the program beyond those departments and groups already targeted in previous years.
- *Development:* Continue to pursue funding in support of the library's mission and strategic priorities.

- *Marketing and Social Media:* Continue to build relationships with library users, engaging the Stetson community actively to promote our collections, services, spaces, and activities.
- *Facilities:* Complete the first stage of the plan to create additional student study space on the main floor.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION (PRELIMINARY through May): For complete library annual statistical data, see: <https://www2.stetson.edu/library/about-us/library-publications/annual-reports/>



