



University of Tennessee Libraries Priority Action Items for 2002

Content

Provide access and collections that meet the information needs of the university community with a special emphasis on support for research. Maintain or improve the condition of the libraries' collections into the indefinite future.

- Develop the most comprehensive, affordable access to the journal literature
- Build an archive of selected commercially available image collections
- Develop an enhanced suite of electronic text content and services
- Conserve a greater number of imperiled materials
- Enhance preservation based on the Preservation Awareness and Education campaign
- Increase the availability of information resources in collaboration with ORNL, Tennessee Electronic Library, the Information Alliance and other UT libraries
- Fund the acquisition of unique primary resources in areas of regional or research priority
- Continue to build Special Collections in areas of existing collection strength

Digital Library Development

Create digital library collections and services that are well integrated across the library and offer added value to users.

- Conduct the second pilot year of digital multimedia services to faculty in partnership with the Office of Research and Information Technology
- Complete the first year of the Tennessee Documentary History (funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services)
- Complete the six initial Digital Library Center projects and develop a process for selecting additional original digital content
- Employ a technical infrastructure that allows for the most flexible and effective access to digital collections
- Develop a portal to unique digital resources
- Undertake a scholarly publishing pilot project in collaboration with a scholarly society

Systems

Provide state-of-the-art technical infrastructure and tools in support of both user access and internal library processes.

- Develop specifications and secure funding to acquire a replacement integrated library system
- Provide cost effective public printing
- Implement MetaLib to integrate the catalog, web resources, and online services
- Explore the potential for providing personal information management tools to users

Facilities

Make the most effective use of the buildings and facilities available to house Library collections and services.

- Plan renovation of library space in Hoskins as space is created for the Baker Center
- Reconfigure second floor Hodges circulation desk
- Review the changing patterns of use of library spaces and recommend facilities and programming to meet users' emerging and continuing needs

Information Services

Offer excellent information services with emphasis on the teaching and consulting roles of subject librarians.

- Continue to develop a suite of data services
- Explore practical partnerships to provide a fuller set of Geographic Information Systems services
- Work with other units on campus to better support distance education students
- Undertake a course-integrated approach to information literacy instruction with selected teaching faculty
- As MetaLib is implemented, educate ourselves about its potential and create instructional opportunities and materials for our users
- Linking subject librarians with faculty creating and teaching online courses through a continuing collaboration with the Innovative Technology Center

Resource Development

Secure adequate funding from a variety of sources to support delivery of high quality library collections and services.

- Use every opportunity to articulate library budget requirements
- Support library faculty research activities, including participation in professional leave opportunities
- Seek grants to support a wide range of fund development activities
- Mount a reinvigorated fund development effort with the assistance of the Library Friends
- Demonstrate the value of the library by measuring the use and quality of library services
- Articulate meaningful opportunities for donors
- Monitor University budget reallocations and the effect on the Libraries

Personnel

Recruit, develop, and retain a highly skilled and flexible staff with a strong service orientation.

- Improve salaries and compensation to levels equal to the average of our peer institutions
- Recruit, hire, and retain a larger number of employees from under-represented groups by developing innovative efforts like Minority Residency Programs
- Examine the deployment of library employees across the organization and reallocate as needed
- Move the Career Employee Program from a project to a routine opportunity for staff
- Expand the number of Library Graduate Assistantships and include the Reference graduate students in the program
- Create a diverse and welcoming library environment guided by the results of the Diversity Climate survey

Market the Library

Increase use of the library by making users aware of the full array of library services.

- Publicize the collections and electronic content offered by the Libraries
- Make Tennesseans aware of the UT Libraries as a state and regional resource
- Host lively programming that showcases the library as a cultural center on campus and in the community
- Increase the visibility of the Libraries nationally
- Use LibQual+ results to highlight quality and service strengths
- Hold a Scholarly Communication Conference