



THE UNIVERSITY OF
TENNESSEE
KNOXVILLE

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Discover the *Volunteer Difference* at the Libraries

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE LIBRARIES STRATEGIC PLAN, 2017-2022

Mission

The University of Tennessee Libraries enrich and advance our community, the nation, and the world by providing expertise and leadership in accessing, creating, disseminating, and preserving knowledge.

Guiding Principles

In order to achieve our mission, the UT Libraries' faculty and staff commit to:

- Serve our users with excellence and compassion;
- Encourage innovation, creativity and strategic risk-taking;
- Foster a diverse and inclusive environment marked by integrity and civility;
- Act as a good steward of our collections, resources, and space;
- Ensure equitable access to information; and
- Build partnerships that advance learning, scholarship, and community.

Vision Statement

The University of Tennessee Libraries is an indispensable partner to every member of the Volunteer community as they discover and advance knowledge, engage with society, and strive for excellence.

University of Tennessee VolVision 2020 Strategic Priorities

PRIORITY ONE: Undergraduate Education

Recruit, enrich, and graduate undergraduate students who are prepared to enter the global community as lifelong learners and authentic leaders

PRIORITY TWO: Graduate Education

Strengthen graduate education through an emphasis on excellence and improvement of the graduate student experience

PRIORITY THREE: Research, Scholarship, Creative Activity, and Engagement

Strengthen our capacity, productivity, and recognition across our total portfolio of research, scholarship, creative activity, and engagement

PRIORITY FOUR: Faculty and Staff

Attract, retain, and recognize stellar faculty and staff who strive for excellence and proudly embody Volunteer values

PRIORITY FIVE: Resources and Infrastructure

Develop a resource base for the future; continue transformation of campus infrastructure

PRIORITY SIX: Diversity and Inclusion

Enhance diversity and inclusion to benefit our campus

Full version of VolVision 2020 and other key planning documents
available at <http://top25.utk.edu/category/key-documents/>

Five Areas of Strategic Emphasis

Teaching, Learning & Innovation

Teaching, learning, and innovation occur when the right environment inspires intellectual curiosity and fosters creativity. The Libraries provides the spaces, technology, and expertise to encourage study, reflection, and exploration. Librarians are dedicated partners in a shared quest for transformative learning and champions for faculty and student success.

Goals

- Provide spaces, technology, and support for the development of new pedagogical models
- Collaborate with campus and community partners to strengthen experiential learning
- Be a campus leader in furthering graduate student success
- Ensure excellence in library instruction in the classroom, online, and one on one
- Create inspiring individual and collaborative learning spaces
- Develop effective engagement with at-risk populations

Aligns with VolVision 2020 Strategic Priorities 1, 2, 5, 6

Five Areas of Strategic Emphasis, continued

Empowering Research

Through investigation and creativity, scholars generate ideas and discoveries that improve our community, our region, and lives around the world. Librarians, as information specialists and stewards of the scholarly record, recognize the power inherent in scholarship and are crucial partners in its creation and dissemination.

Goals

- Educate and collaborate with the campus community on emerging forms of scholarly discovery, knowledge management, and research dissemination
- Lead the university in identifying holistic measures of excellence in research, scholarship, creative activity, and engagement
- Advance the responsible conduct of research
- Promote the power of open research, open science, and open systems to advance the public good

Aligns with VolVision 2020 Strategic Priorities 1, 2, 3, 4

Five Areas of Strategic Emphasis, continued

Collaborative Collections

The Libraries develops and maintains outstanding collections; continuously improves access to—and the accessibility of—those collections; and creates opportunities for collaboration and the sharing of materials across institutions. The Libraries advances these objectives through application of best practices and utilization of the latest discovery platforms and other technologies.

Goals

- Make discovery of information intuitive for our users
- Implement an evidence-based model to inform collection decisions
- Strategically build unique special collections to levels of global significance
- Use best practices to effectively share our local collections with a global audience
- Invest in cooperative partnerships to provide greater access to the cultural and scholarly record
- Implement strategies for best stewardship of physical and digital collections

Aligns with VolVision 2020 Strategic Priorities 3, 5, 6

Five Areas of Strategic Emphasis, continued

Organizational Excellence

Within the Libraries, the pursuit of organizational excellence is an ongoing process. Collectively, we value and promote excellence, and we welcome diverse ideas for attaining our common goals. We are individuals working together to meet shared goals in a culture that promotes trust, value, and inclusion.

Goals

- Support and encourage continuous learning, exploration, mentorship, and professional growth for individuals and teams
- Identify and implement effective and efficient internal communication practices
- Advance a culture of trust, diversity, respect, and inclusivity
- Provide the spaces and tools necessary to support the activities of our faculty and staff

Aligns with VolVision 2020 Strategic Priorities 4, 5, 6

Five Areas of Strategic Emphasis, continued

Sharing Our Story

Communication is not a one-time activity but rather an initiative that requires ongoing dedication. It encompasses listening as well as telling. Effective communication demands that we weave our users' range of experiences into what each of us does and how we convey it. In this way, we do more than share experiences. We create a shared experience.

Goals

- Use two-way communication and assessment to create an extraordinary user experience
- Cultivate private support of the Libraries
- Increase awareness of library services and resources
- Create and promote consistent best practices for external communication
- Publicize the Libraries' accomplishments throughout campus—and beyond

Aligns with VolVision 2020 Strategic Priorities 1, 2, 5, 6