



UW LIBRARIES STRATEGIC PLAN 2023-2026

MISSION

The University of Washington Libraries advances discovery and enriches the quality of life by connecting people with knowledge.

VISION

The University of Washington Libraries will accelerate inquiry, creativity, and learning for global impact and the public good. We will advance student success, catalyze world-class research, amplify the diverse voices of our communities, and empower faculty, staff and students to experiment fearlessly and create new knowledge.



VALUES

User Centered

We align our services and programs with the needs of our communities and strive to create shared ownership of the Libraries.

Collaboration

We invest in sustained and intentional partnerships to achieve shared goals that increase the impact of education, research, clinical care and the advancement of knowledge.

Equity

We aspire to become a truly inclusive and equitable organization. We actively support the University in sustaining diversity, creating inclusive experiences for the UW community, and confronting institutional bias and structural racism.

Creativity

We embrace a culture of exploration, experimentation and reflection to improve services, anticipate needs and manage change.

Sustainability

We are committed to being outstanding stewards of our human, environmental, physical, digital and financial resources. We engage in holistic decision-making, balancing current needs, resource allocation and long-term aspirations.

DIRECTIONS

GOALS

Advance Research for the Public Good

UW research attains its greatest impact on our most pressing global challenges when we advocate for open, public and emerging forms of scholarship.

- Increase the impact of UW scholarship by investing in and promoting institutional open access publishing, open scholarship and open infrastructure.
- Advance evolving University-wide initiatives by fostering collaborative relationships in new areas of research support.
- Enhance innovative research by strengthening data services, digital and community engaged scholarship and emerging technologies.
- Support researchers' needs by providing expertise and education for the entire research lifecycle, from knowledge creation to curation and dissemination.

Enrich the Student Experience

Students reach their full potential as learners and global citizens when we support the holistic student experience.

- Address the student affordability crisis by participating in efforts on open educational resources and pedagogies, strengthening partnerships that improve access to resources and services.
- Increase opportunities for student learning by strengthening investment in scalable, multimodal and inclusive pedagogies to teach essential information skills.
- Enhance University initiatives focused on belonging, inclusion, and the success and holistic well-being of diverse student populations through strengthened partnerships and Libraries-wide support.
- Develop and advocate for evolving library spaces that address student needs and changes in scholarship and learning.

Enhance Equitable Environments for Research, Learning and Working

Students, faculty, staff and community members from diverse backgrounds thrive when we prioritize inclusivity in research, learning, working environments and Libraries daily activities.

- Strengthen campus-wide partnerships to support social justice and equity-focused research, teaching, learning, clinical care and staff development.
- Elevate the voices of historically underrepresented communities at UW and in the Pacific Northwest by partnering to create, preserve, and increase access to culturally-relevant resources.
- Improve access to resources, spaces, and services through continuous accessibility improvements.
- Foster an equitable and inclusive culture for Libraries staff through programs, mentoring, hiring, retention and training.

Accelerate Scholarship and Learning through Responsive Collections

The work of students, clinicians and researchers is advanced when we develop and steward collections that align with evolving and future needs.

- Enhance scholarship, learning, and university goals by diversifying and aligning collections with research and curricular needs.
- Strengthen users' ability to efficiently find and use information by improving discoverability and access to diverse and interdisciplinary collections.
- Expand the quantity and range of information resources available to users and support sustainable physical collection growth by leveraging multi-institutional partnerships.
- Maintain outstanding collections by enhancing digitization strategies and proactively managing the lifecycle of collections through acquisition, preservation and deselection strategies.

Prioritize Employee Development and Evolving Ways of Working

The evolving needs of our communities are better met when we invest in the development of our staff and transform our ways of working.

- Improve communication and strategic decision-making to foster effective and equitable ways of working.
- Transform our working practices to enable effective collaboration and a holistic perspective on individual work.
- Strengthen capacity and clarity for a participatory organizational structure based on shared values, priorities and vision.
- Invest in developing, recruiting and retaining staff to strengthen skill sets in support of changing university needs.