Brookens Library Program Review

Objectives

In the 21st century, the paramount responsibility of a library is to provide access to, and help users to make sense of the world of information. The library will maintain its physical and virtual presence in such a way as to be open, inviting and inspiring to all its users, both in-person and online. The library will reach out to each of its communities in a manner that is best suited to the needs of that particular community.

Communication:

- Continue to increase communication within the library, as well as between the library and the institution
- Come together to such an extent that the library would meet qualifications for Excellence in Academic Libraries Award

Outreach and Partnership:

The library will reach out to each UIS community through targeted outreach efforts.

Faculty

- Maintain liaison relationships that facilitate teaching, learning, and scholarship
- Increase faculty knowledge and understanding of library resources and services, especially information literacy
- Educate faculty about scholarly communications and open access opportunities

Students

- Offer tours, workshops, instructional sessions, targeted to particular student populations (e.g. transfer, online, commuter, etc.) so that they know that the library is a vital source of information to aid in academic success.
- Promote library as cultural asset for Springfield community through collections, organizations, such as the Friends of Brookens Library, and events such as the ECCE speaker series, staff and student book clubs, poetry slams, the Holtz Memorial Lecture, and more to enrich student and community life
- Continue partnerships with Springfield area libraries and cultural institutions
- Continue partnerships with Student Life, Athletics and other programs to build awareness and trust between librarians and students
- Recognize faculty, staff and students that make exemplary use of the library's collections and/or services

Information Literacy:

Information literacy is an important life skill and a baccalaureate goal at UIS. Students who master this skill are more likely to succeed not only in college, but in their professional lives. "The bright spot in balancing all the literacies that need to be taught is that it points to the extreme need for librarian, faculty, and writing center collaboration (Diederich & Schroeder, 2008; Callison, Budny & Thomes,

2005). It takes a whole institution, in many cases, to teach students all the skills they need" (Natalie Tagge, **From the Frying Pan Into the Fire (and Back Again): Adventures in Subject-Based, Credit Instruction.** *In the Library with the Lead Pipe* Blog)

- Embed information literacy into the freshman seminar courses
- Integrate information literacy into the core research methods courses of each department
- Continue to create online workshops and tutorials to support the development of information literacy skills
- Offer tours of the library that incorporate the latest technology such as mobile devices to support learning
- Offer information literacy instruction to community high school groups to introduce them to college-level research resources and methods
- Offer professional development workshops to keep faculty informed of valuable library resources and services

Recruitment and Retention:

- Provide attractive and functional library spaces to enhance student learning and success
- Continue to introduce high school students to library through tours and instruction
- Attend preview days to attract new students to the university
- Maintain partnerships with Student Life, the Learning Hub, and other units to promote the library as an integral part of student success and as a component of a positive educational experience

Collections:

- Build and maintain the collections both in print and electronic formats that best support teaching and learning at UIS
- Serve to enrich the information needs of the Springfield community and beyond through the UIS Archives, Government Documents, Legal Collections, and CINRC
- Promote access to archival collections through digitization initiatives
- Acquire materials and collections to promote the preservation of UIS and Springfield area community history
- Build collections in a variety of media to support lifelong learning of UIS community
- Continue to partner with other U of I campuses, CARLI and other library groups to expand access to resources and use available funds resourcefully
- Support systems that provide seamless access to the library resources
- Increase awareness of scholarly communication issues within the campus community and promote use of institutional repository (IDEALS) to support open access to university scholarship
- Work with ITS and other university partners to broaden access to streaming media that supports teaching and scholarship

Library as Place:

- Promote the renovation of the Brookens Library as specified in the 2009 Master Plan (as of FY 2012 library is number 5 on U of I Capital Projects List)

- Re-imagine existing library space in light of trends and best practices in library interior design, including individual, group study and other collaborative spaces

Technology:

- Emphasize innovation and flexibility to accommodate new trends in technology services and facilities such as tablets
- Promote website as virtual library, connecting users to the full array of library resources and services
- Support multiple modes of access to the library
- Provide discovery and research support to students and faculty at the point-of-need
- Use new and existing social media to interact with both broad audiences and more focused groups (students, faculty, staff and community)
- Evaluate promising new technologies for adoption or implementation for use with patrons or staff

Assessment:

- Continue to develop and implement assessment efforts put into place in FY 2012
- Develop existing Electronic Resource Management System (ERMS) to support the assessment of collection development
- Use acquired library assessment products to collect, review, approve and report on the quantitative aspects (performance metrics) of Library performance, including peer benchmarking that incorporates qualitative and quantitative results