

University Library

Expanded Statement of Institutional Purpose

Institutional Mission Reference

The mission and major goals of Old Dominion University can be found in the University Catalog and the 2000-2005 Strategic Plan. An important part of the University's mission is to advance knowledge and a genuine desire for learning, as well as to extend the boundaries of knowledge through research and scholarship. The mission of the Library is to promote the instructional, research, and public service goals of the entire university community through the expert provision of information and the development and management of collections of information.

Institutional Goal(s) Supported

The Library's programs support institutional initiatives to provide a high quality, distinctive undergraduate experience, to provide excellent graduate programs with exceptional opportunities for scholarship, research, creative work and service, and to establish the infrastructure required to promote and sustain high quality research.

Intended Objectives, Methods for Assessment, and Criteria for Success

Intended Objective 1

The University Library will provide easy access to all collections and services, enabling users to find and use needed resources simply and quickly.

Method for Assessing Objective 1 and Criterion for Success: On a revolving schedule, users of each service point in the library system are surveyed to assess service quality. Topics of investigation include staff accessibility and knowledge, as well as the quality of the collection and the adequacy of staff and other resources to meet users' needs in a timely way.

Intended Objective 2

The University Library will enhance collections and services through digital technologies.

Method for Assessing Objective 2 and Criterion for Success: The Library's Web site will lead users to the fully developed catalog, an array of bibliographic databases, significant full text journal holdings, tutorials and other instructional material developed for students in a single discipline, and manuscript material digitized for exhibits and scholarly use. The homepage and selected component parts will be tested regularly for usability, using accepted methodology.

Intended Objective 3

The University Library will continue to optimize library collections and information access for enhanced research and creative output, internationalization of the curriculum, and developing distance learning programs.

Method for Assessing Objective 3 and Criterion for Success: Assessments of present library collections will be carried out to identify critical collecting needs for research in each discipline represented in the University. Data collection will take several forms, including a benchmark comparison of the Library's existing collection with those of peer institutions in the discipline, as well as information gathered from current faculty, evaluation of recent requests for the purchase of materials, and interlibrary loan requests in the discipline.