



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NOTRE DAME
A U S T R A L I A

University Library

Strategic Plan



2006-2008



Mission

To enrich the teaching, learning and research activities of the University by acquiring, making available and preserving scholarly information resources that support these activities.

Vision

The Library aims to be an active and effective partner in the realisation of the University's mission. The Library is a partner which:

- creatively fulfils its role as the University's provider of academic information and information services
- provides access to high-quality scholarly information, in both physical and electronic forms, that supports learning, teaching and intellectual growth
- works in partnership with academic and other University staff to provide a student-centred learning environment
- offers approachable, accessible and effective information services
- provides students with the skills to enable them to find information effectively and efficiently, both for study purposes and for their subsequent professional and personal lives.

We value service by:

- anticipating and being responsive to client and stakeholder needs
- developing, managing and preserving our collections
- providing reliable knowledge resources and information literacy instruction

We value intellectual endeavour by:

- fostering and protecting intellectual freedom
- promoting fair and open access to information

We value creativity by:

- encouraging innovation
- encouraging leadership at all levels

We value respect for:

- the individual
- privacy and confidentiality
- the achievements and contributions of staff

We value staff excellence and achievement through:

- teamwork
- open, thoughtful, and responsive communication

We value collegiality by:

- engaging in collaboration and partnerships within the Library and the Notre Dame University community
- working with colleagues in other universities and libraries

We value accountability by:

- honouring our commitments
- being institutionally and personally responsible for our decisions and actions
- careful managing our resources, human, financial and material

Information Resources

To maximise the available relevant information resources

- Simplify the Library Audit process to make it easier for staff to ensure that the Library contains the resources needed to support their teaching
- Develop a general collection development policy for the Library and collection development statements for each discipline area
- Continue to weed collections regularly to remove older materials which are no longer needed

To provide the highest quality information within our resource allocation

- Develop collaborative partnerships and take advantage of consortia deals to enhance the cost effectiveness of our purchasing.
- Continually evaluate information resource providers to ensure best practice and pricing in acquisition activities
- Develop a suitable resource allocation formula across discipline areas that has consensus support from the academic units of the University

To provide information resources in the most appropriate formats using the most appropriate delivery methods

- Increase access to academic information by selecting information sources that provide remote, web-based access to content
- Expand the range and variety of digital resources, including e-books, available to customers
- Establish an electronic reserve collection

Information Services

To develop and deploy new models of information service delivery

- Develop and deploy a virtual reference service
- Liaise with and survey Library users to determine ways in which services can be tailored to meet their needs
- Investigate and assess new developments in information service delivery for application to the Notre Dame Library

To maximise customers ability to access information independently

- Continually develop the presentation and features of the Library website and the Horizon Information Portal (Library catalogue).
- Develop and maintain web based subject guides for major disciplines
- Develop, schedule and promote hands-on training in the effective use of information resources available through the Library
- Simplify access to information resources by improving the meta-data describing these resources and implementing meta-searching tools

Staff

To provide a structure for staff that supports them in the performance of their duties

- Establish local project teams to develop solutions to network wide problems and to evaluate potential service enhancements
- Participate in professional associations and ensure Notre Dame representation on working parties and participation in relevant conferences, workshops, and seminars

To empower and motivate staff

- Provide ongoing professional development and training in skills required to achieve organisational goals and encourage multi-skilling
- Improve the effectiveness of internal communications
- Develop and make freely available clearly articulated policies and procedures governing the operations of the Library

Technology

To provide simple and effective systems and services which improve access to information:

- Select systems and technologies from vendors who can fully support their product without significant Library staff knowledge or expertise
- Identify, evaluate and select Library systems technologies which improve the customer's capacity to access information
- Monitor all aspects of the performance and suitability of our existing Library technology to ensure continued relevance and useability.

Promotion

To enhance the Library's reputation for providing advice and resources of quality

- Ensure the Library is the focal point for delivery of information services within the University community
- Promote and market Library resources, services and training programmes in internal University communication media
- Survey clientele on a regular basis to ascertain their opinion of existing resources and services and determine their level of expectation of the service
- Provide customers with mechanisms for recommending resources for inclusion in the Library's collections

To align the Library services and resources with the operations of the University:

- Promote the Library as the University's experts in managing and organising information resources
- Lobby for the ongoing involvement of Library staff in the development and delivery of formal information literacy courses that are integrated with the academic programmes of the University
- Promote the Library as the one of the University's key information portals through the use of our Website and Horizon Information Portal

Partnerships

To initiate, develop and maintain partnerships that provide opportunities to further enhance Library services and the University's reputation.

- Lobby for the Library's involvement in the planning and establishment of new and developing University wide strategic alliances with information and education providers.
- Identify and encourage alliances and agreements with appropriate organisations and corporations to enhance services available to our customers and to raise the profile of the Library in the community.

Information Resources

- Evaluate comprehensiveness of print and electronic resources by benchmarking against collections of other Universities (Ongoing)
- Maintain monthly usage statistics for print and electronic resources and compile and evaluate these statistics annually (Annual)
- Survey Library users, staff and students, about effectiveness of collection development in relation to their research needs (Annual)

Information Services

- Evaluate comprehensiveness of Library services by benchmarking against services of other Universities (Ongoing)
- Survey Library users, staff and students, about their satisfaction with Library services (Annual)

Staff

- Perform performance appraisals for Library staff (Annual)

Technology

- Evaluate effectiveness and suitability of the Library IT infrastructure and services by benchmarking against other Universities (Ongoing)
- Survey Library users, staff and students, about their satisfaction with Library technology infrastructure (Annual)

Budget Management

- Evaluate actual expenditure against available funds within the budget (Monthly)
- Conduct comprehensive review of annual expenditure as a basis for subsequent budget submission (Annual)

Partnerships

- Formally review Reciprocal Agreements every two years (Biennial)
- Informally review Reciprocal Agreements six monthly (Bi-annual)