

Stewart Library
Annual Report
2015/16 Academic Year

I. Mission

The Stewart Library's mission is to advance the teaching, research, and community service mission of Weber State University through the development of collections, personalized assistance in the use of library and information resources, and instruction on research strategies and tools.

We are committed to assessing our services and the relevancy and use of our resources, and to utilize assessment outcomes to improve those resources and services.

II. Ongoing Goals

The library has the following ongoing goals:

- 1. Acquire and make accessible the information resources needed to support teaching, learning, and research at Weber State University.*
- 2. Provide patron-centered services in a welcoming, inviting library environment.*
- 3. Provide an instruction program that promotes information literacy skills in Weber State University students.*
- 4. Seek additional sources of funding to enhance library resources and services.*

III. Annual Goals - 2015/16

In support of its ongoing goals, annual goals are established. The following is an update on the progress made in meeting the library's 2015/16 annual goals.

Goal 1. Continue to expand access to electronic, print, and primary source information resources.

In 2015/16, the library added approximately 3,600 print volumes, more than 35,000 e-books, and a significant number of other electronic resources to the collection. These additions were made possible by cancelling subscriptions to unused resources, switching to less expensive token access for one of our most expensive resources, and renegotiating contracts with vendors.

Examples of major electronic resources added:

Arts & Humanities

- * Alexander Street Press Complete Music & Dance Package, which includes dance, operas, classical music videos, and a classical scores library of more than 50,000 in-copyright scores, in addition to streaming music previously acquired by the library*
- * Women's Wear Daily, including the archive of the premier industry journal for fashion, beauty, and retail*

Business & Economics

* *Harvard Business Review* (for course work)

* *IBISWorld* - comprehensive industry-based research reports on more than 700 U.S. industries

Engineering, Applied Science & Technology

* *IEEE/ET Electronic Library (IEEE Xplore)* - premier resource for Electrical & Computer Engineering & Electronics

* *BuildingGreen* - web based resource on green facilities important for Construction Management Technology and the Sustainability Practices & Research Center (SPARC)

Health Professions

* *Anatomy TV* - the remaining modules that had not been purchased previously. This resource includes access for an unlimited number of users, and apps for mobile devices. This is also an important resource for departments in the College of Education.

* *Ovid Nursing & Health Professions Premier Collection*, includes more than 70 new journals to which the library did not previously have access

* *Up-to-Date* - point of care, evidence based medicine database (acquired in collaboration with the College of Health Professions)

Science

Nature Online - includes all *Nature* subject journals as well as other journals published by Nature Publishing Corporation

Much of the funding used to support new electronic resources resulted from the decision to cancel most of our subscriptions to journals published by Wiley, a leading American academic publisher. The library moved to token access, which significantly lowered cost, while providing transparent, online access to a large number of journal articles, e-books, and series previously unavailable to the WSU community. The library also made a similar change with the American Chemical Society.

Unfortunately, the major European publishers do not allow institutions token access at the present time. However, industry experts believe these publishers will be forced to move to token access in the next several years.

Excellent progress continued to be made in acquiring and providing access to the library's unique collections and primary source material. One of the most significant new donations to Special Collections was the Thomas D. Dee II Collection. Donated by Tim and David Dee, the collection showcases their father's military career, along with expanding the resources on the Dee family and the Utah Canning Company. Once processed, this collection will be an important addition to the information available on one of Ogden's founding families.

Noteworthy primary sources acquired in the past year by the University Archives include: the Weber Marching Band collection of reels, slides, and scrapbooks from 1916 to 1980; the evolution of Weber Nursing outfits, with fourteen nursing uniforms and a cap, from 1940 to 2015; the Faculty Papers of Sam Zeveloff, Michael Palumbo, Bryant Miner, and additions to the LaVon Carroll and John Lind collections; and significant collections from the President's Office, the Dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, and the Dean of the College of Science.

Goal 2. Implement a web-scale discovery service to expand access to the library's information resources.

A web-scale discovery service enables library patrons to do a search in the catalog and retrieve records for items in all of the library's collections and in all formats. OneSearch, the library's discovery service, was implemented late in 2015, following a longer than anticipated Beta testing process. While the initial feedback on OneSearch has been positive, there is a learning curve to using it effectively. It is especially important for students to learn how to develop focused search statements that narrow the results retrieved to a manageable number. Instructions on how to use OneSearch are available on the library's website, and effective search strategies will be taught in all library courses, and in subject specific and English 2010 sessions.

Goal 3. Complete the design of the library's new website to make it more intuitive and patron-centered.

Very good progress was made on the library's new website this past year. The site's new Drupal based infrastructure, graphics, and content design were completed. There is still much that needs to be done, however, to the content on the secondary and third level pages before the site can be published to Beta production, which is tentatively scheduled for the beginning of Fall Semester, 2017. Work on this goal will continue during the coming year.

Goal 4. Acquire comparative data on student learning in all of the library's for-credit courses by developing and implementing a pre/post test.

Pre/post tests were developed during the Summer of 2015 to be used to assess all LIBS courses. A different test was developed for use each semester so that students who were retaking the course in consecutive semesters would not receive the same test. Each test included a total of 20 multiple-choice questions, with five questions from each of the four general education outcomes. These tests were administered in Chi Tester to all students enrolled in all LIBS classes beginning Fall Semester 2016.

Results showed positive learning gains in all but one LIBS course. Hybrid classes showed slightly higher learning gains than the online classes. Pre/post tests will continue to be administered in all LIBS courses each semester.

Goal 5. Improve the instruction provided in LIBS 1704 by completing the revision and updating of the course textbook.

The LIBS course was redesigned in the Spring of 2015 to; a) increase flexibility for students and instructors, b) address feedback from students on previous versions of the course, and c) revise the content and delivery of the course to coincide with the implementation of *OneSearch*, the library's new discovery system, and the rollout of the new library website. Unfortunately the launch of the new library website was delayed, so the course will undergo further modifications once the new website is up and running in late 2016.

The current revision utilizes a learning object approach, rather than a sequential approach. Instead of the previous version's five lengthy modules that were chronological in nature, the current material is presented with each main topic broken down into smaller components. This allows faculty to teach only the concepts they wish to teach in the order they wish to teach them. The current revision also utilizes more video content to illustrate concepts and processes, as opposed to the former lengthy readings. To better accommodate those with sight and/or hearing disabilities, all video is ADA compliant and the text is designed in a tablet format with larger fonts that can be resized as needed. All videos are available on

the library's newly established *YouTube* channel, which enables them to be viewed on multiple devices, including mobile devices, and on computers with slower bandwidth.

One of the original goals was to transition to a fully digital text that could be downloaded as an app on a tablet or mobile device. A fully digital text incorporates multimodality to a greater degree and enables viewers to select their own path for engaging the material. The challenge we face is that this is still too big of a transition for some. Therefore, we must continue to work with those who do not have the technology to view the material, or who still wish to read the content.

So, while this project did not fulfill the original goal of becoming completely digital, it moved further in that direction by incorporating more choices for students and more freedom for instructors to customize the course. During the coming year, the text and video portions will continue to be refined as the library launches its new website, and additional interactive components will be developed.

Goal 6. Participate in the development of a library renovation design plan, and preparing for the construction phase of the project.

In 2013, the university administration committed funding for a major renovation of the Stewart Library. The three major priorities of the project are:

- * Upgrade the mechanical and electrical systems to meet current WSU sustainability goals and life/safety standards.
- * Provide a better balance of student space and library collections, without reducing the size of the collections.
- * Improve the spatial organization and aesthetics of the facility by clarifying circulation patterns, increasing daylighting, and providing better and more functional spaces for the university community.

Examples of the many improvements that will result from the renovation include:

- * increased quiet study and collaborative work space for students
- * upgraded windows and skylights will allow more daylight in the building
- * a new elevator that goes to all floors and is easily accessible off the west entrance
- * increased number of faculty research offices
- * updated restrooms and a new unisex restroom
- * a new testing center

The design layout was completed and approved in early Spring, 2016, and the construction began on schedule at the end of Spring Semester. The renovation will be done in two phases starting on the south side of the building, which will be closed to the public from May 1, until January 2, 2017. Collections on the south side of the building were boxed, and removed to a secure, temperature controlled facility. The staff from the academic programs moved to temporary offices in Tracy Hall, and library staff relocated from the south to the north side of the building. Phase 1 of the project is scheduled to be completed by the end of Fall Semester, 2017.

Goal 7. Seek additional sources of funding to enhance resources and expand client-centered services.

In 2015/16 gifts to the library totaled nearly \$300,000 and an additional \$35,000 was received in grants. In the coming year, we will continue to work closely with the Development Office to identify and cultivate new donors and with the Office of Sponsored Projects to explore additional funding opportunities.

V. *Library Goals - 2016/17:*

In support of its ongoing goals, the annual goals for 2016/17 are:

- 1. Continue to expand collections focusing primarily on e-resources and primary source materials.*
- 2. Work closely with the Steering Committee, architects, consultants, and WSU project managers during the construction phase of the library renovation.*
- 3. Ensure that high quality services and access to information resources are provided throughout the renovation project.*
- 4. Complete the development of the content for the library's new website, and move the site from the development phase to public Beta testing.*
- 5. Improve the instruction provided in LIBS 1704 by completing the revision of the video and interactive component of the textbook.*
- 6. Increase private and grant funding by five percent.*