![Lakehead University | University Library]

Library Plan

Envision the Future

2018-2023

Word Cloud created from the notes from the May 8, 2018, All Staff Planning Meeting.

Vision

We will be a bold, agile, and essential partner to the learning, teaching, and research aspirations of our students, faculty and staff.

Mission

Lakehead University Libraries is an innovative organisation that anticipates the requirements of the future while respecting the heritage of the past. By providing exceptional services, collections and spaces, the Libraries shape the creation of knowledge, actively preserve and support culture, and transform learning and research.

Values

Client focus	Diversity	Inclusion
Integrity	Empathy	Access
Respect	Communication	
Courage	Collaboration	

Themes

I. Library Environments
II. Social Responsibility
III. Resources and Discovery
IV. Scholarly Communication
V. Prepare Students for the Future
VI. Organizational Renewal

Introduction to the Library Plan: Envision the Future

This plan is the result of the hard work, expertise, and imagination of many people.

On May 10, 2018, we held an all-day planning session with most library staff, facilitated by Dr Rhonda Koster using the Appreciative Inquiry approach. The Library Planning Ad Hoc Committee then drafted a plan that was shared with library staff, Librarians' Council, the Senate Library Subcommittee, Senate Research Committee, Provosts' Council as well as being available to all faculty, staff, and students for feedback. This plan is meant to provide an overall roadmap for the next five years, with more detailed operational plans developed annually.

The previous plan, Library Operations Plan 2013 to 2018 was developed in 2013.

Library Planning Ad Hoc Committee

- Karen Keiller, University Librarian and Vice-Provost (Teaching and Learning)
- Sara Janes, University Archivist
- Courtney Dicke, Law Librarian
- Gisella Scalese, Instructional Technology/Education Librarian
- Chris Tomasini, Online Learning Librarian (Orillia)

About the Libraries

The Chancellor Paterson Library is the main library on the Thunder Bay campus and occupies its own building in the centre of campus. There are four additional libraries: one at the Bora Laskin Faculty of Law, the Learning Commons in Simcoe Hall (Orillia), and the Education Library (one location at the Faculty of Education-Thunder Bay and one at Heritage Place-Orillia).

Lakehead University Libraries is an active member of provincial and national consortia. We provide many services in collaboration with our Ontario Council of University Libraries (OCUL) partners, such as, Ask a Librarian, Scholars Portal, Racer (Document Delivery), Dataverse, and Collaborative Futures. Our involvement with the Canadian Research Knowledge Network (CRKN) as well as other consortia, allows us to expand digital content.

Our staff complement of 30 includes eleven librarians who are members of the Lakehead University Faculty Association. Among Canada's primarily undergraduate universities, the 2018

Maclean's University Rankings placesLakehead first in total Research Dollars, second in Citations (scholarly output), third in Scholarships & Bursaries, and third in Library Acquisitions.

Alignment

This plan was developed in the context of the [Lakehead University Strategic Plan 2018-2023](#) as well as the Academic Plan. Lakehead University's Strategic Plan is built around five interrelated and interconnected strategic themes:

- academic excellence,
- social responsibility
- local and global partnerships
- entrepreneurship and innovation
- capacity development.

Library Plan: Envision the Future supports the mission of the University.

> **Lakehead University Mission Statement**
>
> To be an innovative comprehensive university that provides an education that is about how to think, not what to think.

Themes

I. Library Environments

The library provides physical and virtual environments which support collections, collaboration, quiet study, assistance, and access to equipment, resources, and technologies.

1. Establish the libraries as a welcoming, inclusive, inspiring and comfortable environment for learning, collaboration, creativity, and cultural activities.
2. Encourage and support the use of library space by campus and community groups.
3. Complete the transformation of the Chancellor Paterson Library by renovating the second, third, and fourth floors to provide improved quiet and collaborative study space, resources, and services.
4. Renovate the main floor of the Chancellor Paterson Library to reflect the changing needs.
5. Develop a new University Archives space, with an

appropriate preservation environment, dedicated space for research, and capacity for growth.

6. Provide services and resources that support and advance new and emerging technologies, for example, the use of artificial intelligence, augmented and virtual reality, and gamification.

II. Social Responsibility

Libraries provide free access to information and technology, offer instruction in various forms of literacy, and bridge the digital divide by making computers and the web accessible to our students. We will continue to ensure that we are true to our core values and provide accessible and inclusive environments and services.

1. In response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action, and in partnership, we will actively evaluate our collection, services, policies, practices, and space and make positive steps towards decolonizing the library.

2. Collaborate with the Indigenous Curriculum Specialist to develop, promote, and maintain an Indigenous Learning Resources Portal.

3. Provide a supportive environment and services for members of marginalized / equity-seeking and minority groups (including but not limited to people with disabilities, LGBTQ2S+ people, and racialized people).

4. Provide a supportive environment and services for international students and students for whom English is not a first language.

III. Resources and Discovery

Libraries are building diverse collections and thinking about resources in new ways. We will continue to develop and implement sophisticated search tools and point learners to newly open and accessible information.

1. Implement the Next Generation Library System and Discovery Layer as part of the Collaborative Futures Project in partnership with the Ontario Council of

University Libraries, thereby improving access and discovery, while streamlining workflows and improving operational efficiencies.

2. Respond to changing models of collection development and explore, evaluate, and implement new models of acquisition.

3. Set collections development and maintenance goals appropriate to different fields of study, and align collection development with curriculum, to maintain and strengthen the quality of the collection, both print and electronic.

4. Develop and implement an efficient and effective method of storing print material that balances the need for userspace and access to collections.

5. Support and promote the adoption and creation of open access educational resources, including textbooks, and the common infrastructure needed to create the open scholarly commons, including financial support for open access initiatives.

6. Promote and facilitate the use of print materials, through changes to Library space, collaboration with faculty, and other initiatives.

7. Implement seamless document delivery services, improving student and faculty access to collections from across the world.

8. Increase the digital availability of the Library's unique collections, including archival materials, local publications, theses, and rare books.

IV. Scholarly Communication

The Library works in a transparent and rigorous manner to provide leadership and innovation in the scholarly communication lifecycle at Lakehead University through collaborative engagement with the research community and relevant stakeholders.

1. Provide advice and support for research data management by using best practices for working with data across the research lifecycle: from the data management and planning stage, through data collection and analysis, to support for visualization, publication, long-term curation, and reuse.

2. Support and promote the use of researcher identifiers, e.g the ORCID ID.
3. Assist in the implementation and maintenance of a Lakehead University researcher experts system.
4. Promote and support tools and approaches to help communicate the impact of a variety of research, scholarly, and creative works in increasingly open environments.
5. Enable faculty and students to discover and effectively use online research tools and services.
6. Provide information and tools so that faculty and students can evaluate and identify the highest quality peer-reviewed venues to publish and present the results of their research.
7. Help capture, preserve and showcase Lakehead University's scholarly output by developing and promoting Knowledge Commons and/or other platforms.

V. Prepare Students for the Future

Librarians and library staff have an important role in advancing information literacy outcomes that can help prepare students for the future.

Information Literacy can be organized into six frames:

I. Authority Is Constructed and Contextual
II. Information Creation as a Process
III. Information Has Value
IV. Research as Inquiry
V. Scholarship as Conversation
VI. Searching as Strategic Exploration

1. In partnership with faculty develop and assess an information literacy program.
2. Offer workshops and training to help prepare students for their studies at Lakehead University, in collaboration with campus stakeholders, colleges, local high schools, and other partners.
3. Deploy a team of student mentors to help students learn to use library tools, evaluate information for both academic and everyday purposes, combat misinformation by learning fact-checking skills,

and sharing high-quality information.

4. Recognize student learning with badges and certificates that can be added to the co-curricular record.

5. Measure and improve our students' information literacy abilities and instructional experiences, using the National Survey of Student Engagement, Topical Module: Experiences with Information Literacy.

VI. Organizational Renewal

We recognize that the library of today will not be the library of the future. Innovation and renewal begin with an engaged and empowered staff.

1. Encourage learning and professional growth by offering access to an array of professional development opportunities such as conferences, training seminars, and courses.

2. Implement a succession plan, allowing the library to prepare for changes while sustaining our identity and key values.

3. Create a collaborative working environment where staff can connect professionally and socially.

4. Ensure that staff and librarians are aligned with new work patterns and responsibilities, due to the implementation of Collaborative Futures and other initiatives.

5. Identify and develop data and statistics, and assess and discuss findings in order to continuously improve the library's resources, services, and staff.

6. Develop a comprehensive assessment, marketing, and communications strategy to ensure that Lakehead University Libraries can continue to be an essential partner to the learning, teaching, and research aspirations of our students, faculty and staff.

Please send comments to:

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