

Seattle Pacific University University Library Annual Report 2005-06

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Mike Eisenberg, Dean emeritus of the University of Washington's Information School, talks about library management as knowing the "A, B, Cs". He says:

- **Articulate a Vision**
- **Be Strategic**
- **Communicate Continuously!**

I think that is good advice. During 2005-06 the staff of the University Library accomplished the following in these categories.

ARTICULATE A VISION

The vision for making and sustaining a first-rate University Library is tied to the SPU vision of becoming a "premier, national Christian university". An exemplary library and information technology program is foundational in order for SPU to be a premier, national, Christian university. The SPU library is a significant part of the overall SPU academic effort. The library is housed in a fine building, it is staffed with very skilled people, the information technology is quite good, and the library offers to faculty and students access to 26 million books through its membership in the Orbis Cascade Alliance (33 colleges and universities in Washington and Oregon).

The agenda for the University Library during 2005-06 was set by the need to write the first draft of the ten-year Accreditation Report, and begin the background work for several longer term projects. All of this was preparation work for the Accreditation visit in April 2007 by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities. The longer-term ongoing documents will define the vision for the library in the upcoming years in the areas of:

- Collection Development Policy
- Technology Plan
- Information Literacy Plan.

Collection Development

One significant ongoing task relating to the vision for the SPU library is continuing to realign the understanding of "collection development" with the

reality of being part of a consortium (Orbis Cascade Alliance). The effect of being in a consortium is that SPU librarians can focus most of their collection purchases in areas which:

- Support core library-using courses,
- Contribute to the expected canon of materials which the library should own in that subject, and
- Define signature collections for SPU.

Materials outside of those categories can be obtained from other consortial libraries. This means that librarians can tailor purchases to SPU needs, and at the same time know that faculty and students can obtain almost any title they need. Being part of a large consortium means that librarians use resources differently than pre-consortium, and that faculty and students can operate in an environment where there are almost no limits to the books they can obtain.

Technology Plan

Library materials are both paper (books and journals) and electronic (books, journals and databases). The Technology Plan will outline what library and information resources are needed in the next few years (in conjunction with the overall SPU efforts in technology as led by Computer and Information Services), in order for the technology and library resources to support teaching, learning and research on the SPU campus.

Information Literacy

One role of faculty librarians is to teach information literacy skills. The goals are to teach first-year and transfer students how to use a college library. Students in their junior and senior year need more sophisticated preparation in their subject areas for using scholarly resources. Graduating seniors need to fit the profile of the SPU learning outcomes document, one part of which is the ability to find, evaluate and use information.

BE STRATEGIC

Activities for 2005-06 were either directly related to preparation for the Accreditation visit, or were the beginning of longer-term projects (e.g., the Collection Development Plan, the Technology Plan and the Information Literacy Plan). Or, as other examples of ongoing work which will also have longer-term results:

- An accurate spreadsheet was made of all computing equipment in the library and when it needs to be replaced.
- Budget tracking tools were refined.
- Statistical gathering tools were defined.
- Library staff were identified and trained to be experts on several software applications, and they will in turn train other library staff in the use of productivity applications, such as Microsoft Office.

COMMUNICATE CONTINUOUSLY

Effective communication occurs both within and among the library staff, and then between library staff and faculty and students.

Decision-making and communication

- Areas were identified for library governance, and a lead person was appointed by the Director to work with Director in each area.
- For issues relating to policy or budget, the lead person and the Director write draft language and share that document with affected staff. The point of the Director's involvement at the beginning is to coordinate overall direction.
- Each librarian has an individual biweekly half-hour meeting with the Director.
- There are weekly librarian meetings, with a structured agenda. The Director is present.
- The Director writes a monthly newsletter.
- There are several meetings with staff during the year.
- A new space was created for shared library documents on a CIS server.

Connections to Faculty

- Liaison librarians contact faculty in their areas.
- Liaison librarians contact adjunct faculty about library services.
- Contact all emeritus faculty about library services.
- Director is part of the Dean's Cabinet.

MEASURES OF ACTIVITY

Activity in the library is commonly measured in terms of INPUT and OUTPUT measures. Below are some statistics to give a sense of the amount of resources going into the library program, and the overall amount of usage of the library. The statistics are measured from July 1 through June 30.

INPUT MEASURES

	2004-05	2005-06
Materials Budget	\$478,587	\$474,738
Titles, w/online	170,258	174,555
Volumes, w/online	199,279	205,031
Volumes, added w/online	6,893	6,480
Audiovisual items added	431	297
Items deleted, all formats	1,236	831
Paper serials	1,115	1,112
Microfilm serials	114	112
Databases	85	84

The University Library staff for 2005-06 was as follows:

NAME	TITLE
Barany, Mark	Microsystems Coordinator
Fick, Gary	Liaison Librarian
Fry, Carrie	Electronic Services/Systems Librarian
Gruchala-Gilbert, Liz	Reference/Cataloging Librarian
Hovick, Jackie	Cataloging Technician
Karns, Lori	Access Services Technician
Knudsen, Johanna	Senior Access Services Technician
Lindah, Vance	Inter-Library Loan
Lukasiak, Steve	Liaison Librarian
Lunak, Donna	Acquisitions Technician
Nelson, Bryce	Director
Paulson, Becky	Access Services Librarian
Perisho, Steve	Liaison Librarian
Phelan, Jenifer	Liaison Librarian
Reynolds, Susan	Administrative Assistant
Rubatino, Shelley	Periodicals Technician
Thun, Adrienne	Access Services Technician
Vick, Natalee	Technical Services Librarian

Steve Perisho was given faculty status in the School of Theology.

OUTPUT MEASURES

Compared to 2004-05, there were increases in these areas:

- number of information literacy sessions taught by liaison librarians.
- number of books and media circulated.
- more books loaned from the SPU library to other universities than were borrowed from other universities by SPU patrons.
- number of questions asked at the Reference Desk.
- number of searches on the databases.

	2004-05	2005-06
Information literacy sessions	118	136
Books Circulated	68,164	71,192
Summit/Borrowed in	8,031	8,384
Summit/Loaned out	7,506	11,257
Inter-Library Loan/Borrowed in	4,955	3,403
Inter-Library Loan/lent out	2,210	2,181

Reference Questions	7,323	8,541
Number of database searches	346,000	412,000
Building usage	230,933	231,875
Prof. Dev. Activities		43
Participants in Prof. Dev.		132

The new Clio edelivery software was implemented so that journal articles obtained from other libraries via inter-library loan are now sent electronically to the SPU patron (rather than being printed).

Professional Development activities included:

- cross-training within and between departments,
- demonstrations (setting up blogs, RSS feeds, Millenium features, book mending, Clio edelivery of documents, troubleshooting laptop wireless access),
- job shadowing (UW libraries),
- teleconferences (College of DuPage),
- webcasts (Serials Solutions, PSAIL conference on the future of academic book publishing),
- seminars (EBSCO),
- meetings (OCLC, Orbis Cascade Alliance and PSAIL),
- workshops (public services forum at UW Libraries), and
- conferences (Association of Christian Librarians, American Theological Library Association).

Liz Gruchala-Gilbert and Carrie Fry developed a plan for 2006-07 to create "Super Users" (staff who are experts in specific software applications) among library staff.