Mission / Purpose

The Central University Libraries supports and enriches SMU’s academic mission and heritage. CUL serves students, faculty, staff and the general public by building collections, organizing information, providing high quality research assistance, and preserving, digitizing and showcasing library materials. CUL staff will provide outstanding professional assistance in the access of diverse resources, and create an environment that respects academic freedom, encourages open enquiry and excites the mind.

Goals

G 3: Play an active role in advancing the information literacy aptitude of students at SMU

Play an active role in promoting library resources to students and faculty, an active role in strengthening the working relationships with other learning programs on campus, and an active role regarding the University Curriculum information literacy proficiencies.

Student Learning Outcomes/Objectives, with Any Associations and Related Measures, Targets, Findings, and Action Plans

SLO 3: Expansion of librarian outreach initiatives and involvement in University Curriculum information literacy proficiencies

Develop standard liaison job description to include expectations for outreach. Continue outreach to campus programs including the Academic Bridge Program, the Center for Teaching Effectiveness, the Altshuler Learning Enhancement Center, and the Mast of Liberal Studies program. Provide training and support for liaisons to be active partners with faculty in addressing information literacy proficiencies in the new University Curriculum.

Relevant Associations:

General Education/Core Curriculum Associations:
  1.1.3 Students integrate diverse source material into their essays

Institutional Priority Associations:
  1.1 Enhance the academic quality of the University

Strategic Plan Associations:
  UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT
  1.5 Strengthening of the University Library System as the heart of academic excellence

Related Measures:

M 6: Activity and Initiatives toward Student Learning of Information Literacy
Accounting of library activities, preparations and initiatives toward promoting the Information Literacy proficiency of SMU students, and toward securing institutional commitment to the Information Literacy proficiency of SMU students.

Source of Evidence: Administrative measure - other

**Target:**
Increased activity and initiatives to bring the library to the forefront of addressing Information Literacy proficiencies.

**Findings (2012-13) - Target: Met**
From the Central University Library Strategic Plan Progress Report 2011-2013: Standard liaison job description was developed to include expectations for outreach. The liaisons developed a document outlining general liaison duties. Actions in progress for continued outreach to campus programs: In an effort to establish a relationship with the Center for Development of Student-Athletes, we provided a tour for staff and incoming athletes in July 2012. We presented information on the ATC, Multimedia Center and other services provided by CUL. Staff from the Center for Development of Student-Athletes have agreed to offer the Fondren Library Center tour each year for incoming athletes. Head of Library Research Services served on the advisory board for the Center for Teaching Excellence and attended advisory board meetings. Liaisons held promotional tables at the CTE’s annual Teaching Effectiveness Symposium promoting an upcoming Information Literacy tag workshop for faculty and liaisons. All the liaisons participated in the Teaching Effectiveness Symposium and made efforts to connect with new faculty. Liaison librarian gave joint presentation with faculty at the Symposium about writing effective research assignments. Librarians served as liaisons to the Master of Liberal Studies program. Librarians gave presentations at MLS orientations during the course of the year. Head of Library Research Services worked with ALEC staff on the Residential Commons Academic Mentoring Committee, and discussed possible partnerships with ALEC staff to support them in building students' research skills. Actions in progress for involvement in the University Curriculum information literacy proficiencies: Implemented an Information Literacy Program web page (http://www.smu.edu/home/libraries/infoLit) and Liaison Librarians web page (http://www.smu.edu/home/libraries/liaisons). Created table display and collateral materials to support Information Literacy Program outreach. Throughout 2012 and 2013, the SMU Libraries Information Literacy Subcommittee met 9 times with the management of the University Curriculum. In Fall 2012, the Head of Library Research Services presented liaisons with the Student Learning Outcomes for the Information Literacy proficiencies and where to find the list of courses proposed for the Information Literacy proficiencies. In Fall 2012, a liaison librarian conducted a session for liaisons on how to use curriculum mapping, how to identify key components of departmental curricula and to target critical courses for library instruction within each discipline. In Fall 2012, a liaison librarian developed a workshop for faculty and liaisons to develop assignments and student learning outcomes for Information Literacy-tag achievements. The Center for Teaching Excellence, which sponsored the event, canceled the workshop due to low registration, however, liaisons reached out to faculty who were signed up. The workshop is ready to go anytime. In Fall 2012, a liaison librarian led discussions in liaison meeting about developing Information Literacy assignments, and liaisons created a bank of sample assignments to have on hand to share with faculty. This bank of assignments is available for use. In Spring 2013, a training webinar was conducted for liaison librarians, entitled How to Improve Your Library Instruction: Assessment in Five Minutes (ALA Editions webinar).

**M 7: Activity and Initiatives toward Student Learning of Information Literacy**
Library activities, preparations and initiatives toward furthering and promoting the Information Literacy proficiency of SMU students.
Source of Evidence: Activity volume

Other Outcomes/Objectives, with Any Associations and Related Measures, Targets, Findings, and Action Plans

**O/O 1: Fondren Library Center Reference Collection Review**
The Fondren Library Center print reference collection will be easier to navigate and print resources are consulted more by patrons and library staff.

**O/O 2: Central University Libraries Innovation Grants**
Central University Libraries innovation grants are awarded to library staff. New projects and services are tested and successful projects and services are continued.

Details of Action Plans for This Cycle (by Established cycle, then alpha)

**Announcement of grant program**
The Innovation Grant Program will be announced to Central University staff in the summer of 2011.

- **Established in Cycle:** 2010-11
- **Implementation Status:** Planned
- **Priority:** High
- **Responsible Person/Group:** Pat Van Zandt

**Reduce the number of volumes in the Fondren Library Center reference collection by at least 60%**
Fondren Library Center reference and subject liaison librarians will review print reference titles and either withdraw or transfer non-essential, out of date materials.

- **Established in Cycle:** 2010-11
- **Implementation Status:** Planned
- **Priority:** High
- **Responsible Person/Group:** Bill Jenkins, Access Services Librarian

Analysis Questions and Analysis Answers

What specifically did your assessments show regarding proven strengths or progress you made on outcomes/objectives?
Assessments show that Library Liaisons successfully developed a general document that defined expectations for outreach activities. Assessments show that Library Liaisons played an active role in the expansion of outreach efforts to students and faculty regarding Information Literacy aptitude. Assessments show that several advancements were made in strengthening working relationships with other campus learning programs. Assessments show that Library Liaisons played an active role in addressing University Curriculum information literacy proficiencies.

What specifically did your assessments show regarding any outcomes/objectives that will require continued attention?
Assessments show that although several advancements were made in strengthening working relationships with other campus learning programs, challenges exist that need to be bridged in order to more effectively promote Information Literacy through the working relationships with other campus learning programs. Assessments show that although Library Liaisons played an active role in addressing University Curriculum information literacy proficiencies, challenges exist and more comprehensive work needs to be done. According to the SMU Libraries Information Literacy Sub-committee Interim Report, "It is the committee's belief that a comprehensive plan for Information Literacy at SMU would be the ideal outcome for the benefit of the students. This goal would require a significant amount of information gathering and analysis to create a clear picture of the current state of library instruction and curriculum integration at the university, followed by the creation of a formal Information Literacy Plan complete with goals, objectives and strategies."