

2017 Dean's Annual Report: University Libraries

I. Achievements and Contribution to Top Tier Goals

Goal 1: Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activities

- **In May 2017, a study in the prominent journal *College and Research Libraries* ranked the Libraries' faculty as 15th in the nation for productivity in library scholarship.**
- For Research Week 2017, the Libraries hosted 439 participants at 13 events illustrating the Libraries' role in the research lifecycle of faculty and students, one of our key strategic initiatives.
- **Three new grants were funded \$152,837 in 2017, including \$100K from NEH for *Latino Voices in Southern Nevada*.**
- While over 95% of surveyed students reported that the library's collections meet their course and research needs, 75% of faculty rated our research collections as above average.
- **The Libraries created the UNLV Bibliography, which reflects the full current scope of UNLV faculty research and creative activities (2015-forward). It is hosted on Digital Scholarship@UNLV and will be updated annually.**
- The Libraries completed the grant-funded project, "America's Great Gamble: A Project to Promote the Discovery of Sources About the Expansion of Legalized Gambling Across the United States," resulting in four archival collections (450 cubic feet) now available for research.
- The Libraries presented two major exhibits, *Writers Imagine Las Vegas: Our City in Fiction* and *50 Treasures for 50 Years: Celebrating 50 Years of Special Collections & Archives*.
- Five Eadington Fellows from around the world conducted gaming research in the Center for Gaming Research (Special Collections and Archives) and delivered public lectures on their findings.

Goal 2: Student Achievement

- **The Libraries led a multi-institutional research study of how student interactions with libraries affects their retention, progression, and completion (RPC). This research showed a statistically significant correlation between library instruction interactions and 1) first-year student retention, 2) credit hours earned, and 3) GPA. First-year students at UNLV enrolled in a class that included a library instruction component had a strong positive correlation in all three measures.**
- Students are impacted by our co-curricular programs, such as the Student Employee Leadership (SEL) program that teaches professional, academic, and life skills. 204 students participated in 16 SEL workshops in 2017, with 6 students completing program certificates.
- 4,098 students attended 30 other co-curricular outreach programs, learning about banned books and intellectual freedom, engaging with materials selected to support and enhance heritage celebrations such as Black History Month, Latinx Heritage Month, and more.
- **The Libraries' Faculty Institutes on course design hosted 35 non-library faculty participants.**
- In a 2016 survey, over 98% of UNLV students agreed that the Libraries contribute to their academic success.

Goal 3: Academic Health Center: Health Sciences Library

- Health sciences librarians served on the Curriculum Committee and its subcommittees for the School of Medicine. They collaborated as faculty instructors in the design and delivery of evidence-based medicine content within the Analytics in Medicine course, using an information mastery curriculum and flipped classroom techniques.

- As of December 2017, the library director, three health sciences librarians, a multimedia and emerging technologies coordinator, a library technician, and seven part-time student workers have been hired and are providing a full range of services.
- Opened two interim health sciences libraries: the InfoCommons at Shadow Lane (5K sqft) is dedicated to our medical students, while the Health Sciences Library at 2040 W. Charleston Blvd (3K sqft), is available for all UNLV health sciences programs, community clinicians, and the public.
- HSL's foundational collection budget of \$1.6 million has been established by SOM managed by the Libraries (compare to national mean \$2.2M and median \$2.0M for academic health sciences libraries).

Goal 4: Community Partnerships

- In 2017 the Libraries hosted 15 events with 743 attendees, including the successful three-part *Building Las Vegas Summer Series* that featured speakers who have shaped the growth and development of the region, including Pat Mulroy, Don Snyder, and Chris Giunchigliani. These activities brought in 109 new donors and over \$355K total donations to the Libraries.
- The Libraries spearheaded a collaboration with the region's museums to document the 1 October tragedy, with Special Collections and Archives leading efforts to collect tweets, websites, and oral histories.
- UNLV librarians engaged with Clark County School District teachers and librarians through events such as History Day Night at the Library. The Libraries provided workshops and resources for teachers and students working on creative projects for the national History Day competition. The Libraries also offered research workshops for 400 additional CCSD high school students.
- The Libraries collaborated with VegasPBS to create the 60-minute documentary *African Americans: The Las Vegas Experience*, which aired in February 2017, and an accompanying curriculum guide for K-12. The Libraries hosted a premiere for the documentary at the Westside School in conjunction with an exhibit of historical photographs of the neighborhood.

Goal 5: Infrastructure and Shared Governance

- The Libraries implemented the cloud-based Library Services Platform, Alma, to replace its existing integrated library system (in use since 1999). This enterprise system streamlines workflows, simplifies processes, and makes collections easier to find.
- UNLV's graduating seniors indicate high satisfaction with library resources and support. A cross-campus survey (GSES) indicated that among 17 educational experiences and resources, seniors were most satisfied with the Libraries for 13 years in a row (2005-2017).
- A renovation of Lied's second floor was completed in 2017, resulting in 26 more power outlets and 52 USB outlets, along with additional zones with different kinds of seats.
- Made multiple enhancements to Libraries' website, our gateway to collections and services.

II. Constraints and Obstacles to Top Tier

- Shift the focus and required funding to build research collections that compliment strong undergraduate collections.
- Sustain collection (acquisition) funding against 3-5% annual inflation.

- reduce search times and improve information usage for students and faculty by developing more intuitive discovery and delivery services
- Increase unique collections through digitization, acquisitions, and new technologies to create new knowledge and improve access to the Libraries' unique resources.
- The main Lied Library is at capacity during peak times; however, there are limited options for expansion of student spaces.
- **Libraries' staffing has remained flat for several years and is not keeping pace with student growth, which limits our ability to fulfill information literacy needs across the curriculum.**
- **New expertise is necessary to support faculty and graduate research in areas such as data management, open scholarship, intellectual property, publishing, and promoting UNLV research and visibility.**

III. Other Issues and Suggestions: Summary Statistics & Satisfaction

- The Libraries see high use; Lied Library experienced approximately 1.7 million total visits to the building in 2017. The four additional library branches (Architecture Studies, Music, Teacher Development Resources, and Health Sciences) totaled about 170k visitors. The 607 public-use computers at these libraries also had 489,803 logins during 2017.
- In 2017, our robust instruction program thrived; UNLV librarians taught 682 sessions with 15,882 participants, with 91% of undergraduates and 92% of graduate students reporting they are satisfied or very satisfied with library instruction.

IV. Goals for 2018 (Dean/Libraries)

- Finalize implementation of new Alma system (acquisitions, collection budget, processing, discovery, and delivery infrastructure for nearly all library operations).
- Upgrade LASR, replacing worn machinery and outdated software. Integrate software with Alma.
- Finalize Lied Knowledge Production Lab planning and begin construction. Purchase and install new hardware and software for alternative knowledge creation.
- Develop and integrate Knowledge Production Lab services within university curriculum.
- Expand research services for faculty and students in support of university research goals.
- Sustain instruction program and expand to additional courses.
- Expand activities to assist teaching faculty to incorporate primary research materials, information literacy, data, and emerging technologies, and more within the curriculum.
- Increase private donations to the Libraries, focusing on the NEH Latino Voices match grant and Knowledge Production Lab.
- Examine and expand role of the Libraries' Advisory Board to contribute to fundraising success.
- Apply for new grants particularly in the area of digitizing unique collections, increasing oral histories, and supporting research partnerships.
- Examine organizational structure and vacant positions to focus on Libraries' priorities.
- Negotiate best deals for library collection purchases (Taylor/Francis, Elsevier, etc.).
- Increase collection funding through state and private revenues.
- Use Workday as an opportunity to examine internal budget processes and reporting.