

# RUTGERS UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES PRIORITIES, 2017–2019

## Clarify Communication and Decision-Making

Overarching goals: To connect decisions and activities to associate university librarians, assistant vice presidents, and library directors and to improve the effectiveness and communication of Cabinet.

### Activities initiated in previous years

1. Establish unit priorities and goals, metrics, and additional budget accountability. (2016)
2. Develop an assessment framework that measures success and sets benchmarks in all areas. Must have metrics for “number of courses with library component” and “use of collections.” (2016)
3. Align the organizational structure and budgets for local vs. central, particularly in areas of interlibrary loan, instruction, Access Services, shipping, media support, software and services for reference and instruction, and communications and marketing support. (2016)
4. Ensure that policies on the website reflect current practice. (2016)
5. Align support for health sciences community on Piscataway campus that acknowledges the funding source and the current organizational structure.

### New activities for 2017–2019

1. Continue to increase budget transparency. Work toward regular reports to Cabinet for operational and collections expenditures.
2. Charge a group to recommend a process to prioritize cataloging projects that takes into account the available staff.
3. Charge a group to recommend a transparent process to prioritize collection management projects (weeding, moves, etc) that takes into account the available staff.
4. Directors meet with university librarian and director of communications to clarify and prioritize items that need central support.
5. Charge a group to recommend a process and template for routine digital projects.

6. Charge a group to recommend a transparent process to prioritize routine projects and estimate costs for non-routine digital projects.

## Strengthen Information Control

Overarching goals: To provide our users with intuitive access to the most reliable source of content. This covers discovery, library services platform, and Libraries websites.

### New activities for 2017–2019

1. Procure and implement a library services platform that integrates discovery, e-resources management, and analytics across the collections.
2. Complete the OCLC reclamation project to facilitate the implementation of a new library services platform and to improve collection assessment and access.

## Optimize Collection Development and Management

Overarching goals: to create systems by which we can identify and address needs in the university community and leverage our internal efficiencies and cost effectiveness to meet those needs in a collaborative and equitable way.

### Activities initiated in previous years

1. Strengthen collection assessment and achieve better efficiencies by developing an assessment framework that measures success and sets benchmarks in all areas. (2016)
2. Address structural deficit in collections budget. (2016)
3. Improve support for academic program accreditation and reporting. (2016)

### New activities for 2017–2019

1. Clarify roles of directors/AUL/selectors in balancing and allocating collections to support university programs and initiatives.
2. Procure and implement a library services platform that integrates discovery, e-resources management, and analytics across the collections.
3. Develop a realistic budget for collections and streamline fund codes to improve administration, reporting, and purchasing process.

## Enhance Student Support

Overarching goals: With a focus on undergraduate success, the Libraries will provide robust and comprehensive reference services and assess and support in-person and online library instruction.

### Activities initiated in previous years

1. Assess instructional participation across the undergraduate curriculum. Negotiating new metrics with the Assessment Council for Student Assessment that better reflect library participation in the undergraduate curriculum. (2015)
2. Develop an assessment framework for instruction that measures success and sets benchmarks in all areas. Must have metrics for “number of sessions with library component.” For university goals: identify current metrics and propose new metrics. Add additional measures for teaching and assessment. (2016)
3. Implement and establish support for virtual reference services. Define and hire the virtual references coordination position, charge a group to recommend policies, procedures, and ongoing support. (2016)

### New activities for 2017–2019

1. Refine Open and Affordable Textbooks Program.
2. Charge a task force to investigate the acquisition and implementation of information literacy modules in order to provide a sustainable online tutorial.
3. Library directors will articulate which instruction- and student support-related “priorities” are central and local and draft a roadmap for implementation.

## Determine Strategies and Capacity for Advanced Services

Overarching goals: To determine capacity for advance services, including scholarly communication, advanced research support, and special collections.

### *Special collections*

#### New activities for 2017–2019

1. Charge a group to recommend standards, policies, and procedures where appropriate for special collections.

### *Advanced research support and scholarly communication*

Overarching goals: To build an infrastructure that leverages the Libraries expertise, services, and resources to reflect and advance the mission of the university. We are one piece in a larger strategy and our activities should support localized university goals. We need to apply resources in ways that

consider local partnerships, infrastructure capacity for new work and existing obligations, and available resources and technology.

### New activities for 2017–2019

1. University Librarian will appoint a strategy group.