

# Folke Bernadotte Memorial Library 2017-18 Annual Report

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## 1. Mission and Student Learning Outcomes

### Mission Statement:

The library advances the teaching mission and intellectual life of the College by selecting and facilitating access to information and by instructing in its use, interpretation, and evaluation.

### Student Learning Outcomes:

Students will be able to...

1. Locate, interpret and build upon the literature of a particular field of study, understanding that scholarship is a conversation and the form information takes is socially negotiated.
2. Seek out and analyze information from multiple perspectives, understanding that authority is constructed and contextual and that exploring a diversity of perspectives enriches our understanding.
3. Use information effectively to develop original and creative solutions to problems, recognizing that answers to complex questions are proposed and tested rather than simply found.
4. Demonstrate the ability to communicate evidence-based reasoning for a variety of purposes and audiences.

## 2. 2017-18 Goals

- Migrate to OCLC's Worldshare Management System (WMS), includes staff training, workflow reconfiguring, checking that all bibliographic and patron data migrated correctly, updating procedures, training work study students, providing documentation to patrons, communicating changes with campus, ongoing support of users.
- Continue to communicate the value and vision of libraries – and our Library in particular – across all areas of campus, in order to form partnerships with other faculty and with student support offices and programs, like CARE and the Writing Center, to better support students learning the essential and sophisticated research skills necessary for undergraduate research and lifelong learning.
- Ongoing development of spaces within the Library to support student learning and collaboration, as well as the College's mission, such as gender neutral bathrooms, technology upgrades and optimal student work spaces
- Archives: Continue to make archival materials more discoverable; continue the process of moving materials in the basement of Norelius to Beck; develop and sustain existing and new relationship with various departments and offices to promote student learning related to archival materials.

A discussion of the Library's long-term goals can be found in our 2017-2018 Intermediate Review and Reflection, accessible from this page: <https://gustavus.edu/library/Pubs/>

## 3. Successes

- We successfully migrated to WMS, providing enhanced information-seeking and retrieval services to the community, as well as streamlining library workflows.
- We received a non-tenure track position to cover an upcoming sabbatical. This was enormously appreciated, as it allows us to maintain current instruction offerings.

- We received an Innovation grant from the Provost's Office to further explore the Library's role in digital scholarship; a potential full time hire next year will support initiatives that grow out of the grant and support the Gustavus Strategic Plan (especially 2.1.1, 2.1.2, and 2.1.3).

#### **4. Challenges**

- The chronic leanness of library staffing levels continues to stress existing services, as well as hamper creativity and growth of library initiatives. As highlighted by an upcoming retirement, staff departures require the library to reassign duties, as well as potentially cut services. We have a tremendous staff who are willing to take on additional work temporarily; we are also optimistic that the campus does and will support the Library with replacing open positions as they arise, both faculty and staff lines.
- We are fortunate to work with a Provost Office that understands our budgetary constraints, although the limited purchase power of the Library's budget remains a chronic issue that limits the entire campus' ability to provide access to scholarly materials to support undergraduate research.
- We work hard to develop and maintain relationship across campus, whether it is with liaison roles to other academic departments, formal connections with various offices or informal partnerships. These relationships are central to reaching students. These relationships also require a tremendous amount of energy and resources. The Provost Office can help identify and promote those relationships, especially when we have not been brought to the table ahead of time.

#### **5. Students and Alumni**

- As an academic department that does not offer a major, the Library plays a key role in supporting the learning of *all* students, helping them develop the skills and mindsets for both undergraduate research and lifelong learning. We also make special effort to connect with students interested in library science. We value the Library as a mentoring space, especially for our student employees, and maintain important connections with Gustavus alums who are librarians.

#### **6. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**

- As a core library value, diversity is prioritized at the Gustavus Library. One of our special restricted budget lines is used to purchase diversity-related materials. The Library's Diversity Interest Group continues to explore how we can better support diversity initiatives to support our students and broader community. Initiatives from the past year include continued advocacy for the gender neutral bathrooms, displays and online research guides to highlight DEI topics, a presence during international student orientation and a library workshop during the Summer Institute for Academic Success.

#### **7. 2018-19 Goals**

- Hire a full time Digital Learning Media Collections Manager; development of the position is currently in process with Human Resources. The position supports the Gustavus ACTS Strategic Plan, especially 2.1.1, 2.1.2, and 2.1.3. Mentor and support our non-tenure track hire.
- Continue to fulfill our mission by enhancing spaces that support student learning, especially a makerspace, and spaces that uphold justice and inclusivity, including gender neutral bathrooms. Plans for both have been in the works for years. We hope to seed the maker space with equipment purchased via library funds and creative partnerships with other departments and offices across campus. Our Innovation Grant consultant will be key in helping us identify priorities and plans. We will likely explore additional funding opportunities, both from internal and external sources. The bathrooms will require outside funding and support.

- Continue to form important connections across campus to better reach students, faculty, departments and offices; these outreach efforts will both explore new relationships and revitalize existing ones with the goal of connecting with students in meaningful ways
- Archives: Explore and enhance partnerships both on and off campus to make archival materials more visible

## **8. Priorities**

- Create and staff a makerspace designed to support student learning and the creation of knowledge
- Increase spending on scholarly materials that support student learning and undergraduate research
- Hire a 7<sup>th</sup> faculty tenure track line specializing in digital scholarship

## **9. Additional Information**

We refer readers to the Library's Intermediate Reflection and Review, which we also completed this year, and which contains deeper discussions of Library goals, successes and challenges:  
<https://gustavus.edu/library/Pubs/>