

LIBRARY AND LEARNING RESOURCES

Description of Library Facilities and Information Resources

The A.P. Guillermin Integrated Learning Resource Center (ILRC) at Liberty University incorporates the University's main library and academic computing facilities. The ILRC's mission is to support teaching, learning, and research by providing information, technology, facilities, and related services for Liberty University faculty and students.

In pursuit of this mission, the ILRC's pursues the following goals:

- design, deploy and maintain classroom, conference, and study spaces suitable for teaching, learning, research, and other activities relevant to the mission of Liberty University
- design, develop, and maintain computing facilities and services that support instruction, research, productivity, community-building, and other activities relevant to the mission of Liberty University
- identify, acquire, organize, and preserve information resources to support the curriculum and mission of Liberty University
- provide access to information resources and services through appropriate interfaces
- provide outreach and support services to ensure that students and faculty use information and technology effectively
- participate in resource-sharing and other forms of interlibrary cooperation
- respect and value people—our employees and the patrons we serve

The ILRC engages in broad range of assessment and planning incorporating the university's strategic plan. All budgeting is formulated and tied to the Strategic Plan and the ILRC participates in the ongoing evaluation and planning led by the university's Office of Institutional Effectiveness. The ILRC regularly surveys the students of the university and recently completed a nationally-normed LibQual survey incorporating the feedback from residential and online faculty and students. The ILRC also collaborates with the Faculty Senate Information Services committee and leaders of the university's Student Government. The university and the ILRC are also engaged in planning a new library facility in response to the Strategic Plan. It involved students, faculty, staff, administration, and national leaders in library design and assessment.

The ILRC is under the direction of a Dean that reports directly the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs/Provost and contributes to the governance of the University through participation in the Deans' Council and other university committees. Vital to his/her role is the development and maintenance of relationships with campus and community leaders, alumni, and local, regional, and national library organizations. Additionally, the Dean leads a team of department heads and managers to provide services, resources, and technologies, offered to both residential and distant student populations, to support the University's research, instruction, and

collaborative learning endeavors. University faculty participates in the formation of library policy through the Faculty Senate Information Services committee and by working with the library's administration and appointed liaison librarians. Each liaison works with faculty in their appointed departments to determine specific needs in services, instruction, and resource collections. The library allocates book funds each academic year to departments based on enrollment, programs, and specially determined projects to support and enhance resources for their students and faculty. Requests for serial publications and electronic databases are received at any time and incorporated into existing subscriptions as funds allow.

Budgeting for the library's collections was recently reviewed in the spring of 2011 as part of the consultation performed in preparation for the new library. Jim Self of the University of Virginia, a nationally recognized library assessment expert, found the library expenditures on electronic collections to be strong but advised a 10 year plan to increase print book holdings. The specific growth recommendations for the print collections were:

- Increase print collections by 5-6% annually for five years, to a maximum of 15,000 added volumes per year.
- Increase by 3-4% for the following five years.
- Reduce the growth rate to 2-3% for the next five years.
- Expect a steady state print collection by FY2027.
- Review the growth program after five years of implementation

The university approved budgeting for that plan and the first year of the initiative was successfully completed. It was also recommended that we continue to devote more funds to electronic resources (approximately 60-40) than print with a continued monitoring of the positive satisfaction ratings of the online collection as the school continues to grow in programs and enrollment. This was also funded by the school to allow for the addition of new electronic resources in support of new areas. Careful attention in budget planning is given to creating a collection that satisfies students and faculty and enhances the strategic goals of academic excellence.

The library provides a wide range of materials and services, and employs a group of well-qualified personnel consisting of professional librarians and trained support staff. The library collection has holdings exceeding 500,000 volumes, 67,000 unique print and electronic periodical titles, and over 300 electronic indexes/databases. Access to electronic materials is available worldwide to the Liberty University community via the Internet. Materials from libraries across the United States can also be obtained through interlibrary loan services. Document delivery is provided to online students of interlibrary loan articles and books from our local collections.

Library Facilities

The ILRC offers over 114 hours of service per week during the academic term and supports instruction, research, productivity, community-building, and other activities relevant to the University's mission. The ILRC offers seating for approximately 1900 in its current location. A new library is under construction which will provide 2400+ seats in a central location, composed of a variety of open, collaborative, and quiet study spaces. Most resources are arranged

in the Library of Congress classification system with plans to provide growth for the physical collection up to approximately 450,000 items in a robotic storage system in the new library

The ILRC provides students with the latest electronic equipment and resources for discovering, creating, and sharing information. The computing resources within the ILRC consist of more than 450 computers in 15 classroom labs, over 350 computers in various open computing spaces. In addition, the campus network infrastructure and a remote-patron authentication server extend library resource access to dormitory rooms and the homes of non-residential students at all times. With the exception of machines reserved for library catalog searching, all ILRC computers are pre-loaded with a variety of software titles available for student use, including Microsoft® Office, Adobe® Creative® Suite, Mathematica, and SPSS. The ILRC also has computer labs that are equipped with specialized software, including Avid Media Composer, Final Cut Studio, Pro Tools, Adobe Audition, Cinema 4D, Finale, and Sibelius. These resources are all available for online students when visiting the campus.

Library Resources

The ILRC owns and maintains a substantial variety and depth of resources for all of the University's academic programs. Table 4: *Library Resources* lists these resources which include the following:

TABLE 4 Library Resources	
Category	Volume Equivalents
Books (includes scores)	232,354
E-books	174,048
Microforms	63,239
Audio-visual	55,402
Print Serials	28,400
Total	553,443

Major electronic databases that are available to Liberty faculty and students are: Academic Search Complete, Academic OneFile, America History and Life with Full Text, APA PsycNet, ATLA Religion Database with ATLA Serials, Business Source Complete, CINAHL Plus with Full Text, Education Research Complete, Factiva, Humanities International Complete, JSTOR, LexisNexis Academic, Literature Criticism Online, MLA International Bibliography, Project Muse, Proquest Central, ScienceDirect College Edition, and SocINDEX with Fulltext.

Curriculum Library

The Curriculum Library houses a media collection of DVDs, CDs, scores, and video and audio recordings. The Curriculum Library also provides access to a variety of instructional resources designed for classroom use in preschool settings through grade 12. Materials include

textbooks, standardized tests, and standards of learning, curriculum guides, educational games and kits. There is also an extensive collection of juvenile literature.

Media Services

Media Services offers support for the audio-visual needs of the University academic community. Media Services supports instruction by providing portable audio-visual equipment to faculty and students, is involved with electronic classroom design and implementation, and supporting the audio-visual equipment located in electronic classrooms. Examples of such audio-visual equipment include overhead projectors, networked workstations employing LCD projectors, TV/VCR/DVD combinations, laptop PCs, camcorders, digital cameras, document cameras, CD players, and portable amplifiers. Media Services provides training on multi-media equipment use and offers immediate support for faculty when there is a problem in a classroom or a question on equipment usage.

Support Staff and Services

The ILRC maintains a professional staff of 20 credentialed librarians with a minimum of a Master's in Library Science (or its equivalent) and three professionals with degrees in other related fields. Five of the librarians have additional graduate degrees and two of these individuals have seminary degrees. The organization employs approximately 46 support staff and 111 student employees.

ILRC personnel are available to assist both students and faculty with research, circulation, computing, and other library-related services. Residential and online students and faculty may contact library staff online, via phone, or via e-mail. ILRC personnel are extended continuing education opportunities to remain current in practice and theories relevant to their areas of service. Workshop and conference attendance/participation is encouraged and supported with adequate funding.

The University Online Librarian provides individualized telephone instruction upon request. Online tutorials providing instruction in off-campus access to resources are also available. Instruction in electronic research and library resources for both students and faculty is offered on an individual and group basis.

Collections of Other Libraries

The ILRC is actively involved in sharing resources with other libraries, both in Virginia and throughout the United States. During the 2011-2012 academic years, 11,788 interlibrary loan requests were either received by the ILRC from other institutions or originated at Liberty University and were forwarded to other institutions.

Student and Faculty Access to Electronic Resources

The computing labs of the ILRC offer access to digital research resources a total of over 114 hours per week during the regular academic semester. The print resource collections of the

ILRC are accessible 99 hours per week. Online students are able to access these resources any time they are present on campus

The ILRC provides students with the latest online resources for searching and acquiring scholarly materials. Discovery tools like Serials Solutions Summon™, 360 Link, and E-Journal Portal provide world-class service to students in quickly identifying and retrieving the electronic and print resources they need. In addition, the library uses Endeavor Information Systems' *Voyager* software, a Web-based product that offers public access to the library's catalog to online students anywhere in the world. Links to electronic books that appear in catalog records are live, enabling users to go directly to digital monographs.

Training for Faculty/Students in Use of Online Resources

An orientation session covering basic research skills and introducing library services is offered to all students entering a residential graduate program. Instruction in electronic research and library resources for both students and faculty is offered on an individual and group basis. Information Literacy modules have been developed by the library to introduce resident and online students to the skills and resources needed for success in academic research and lifelong learning.

The University Online Librarian and library reference desk staff provide individualized telephone instruction upon request. Online tutorials also are provided for instruction in off-campus access to resources. Instruction in electronic research and library resources for both students and faculty is offered on an individual and group basis.

Staffing/Services Available to Students/Faculty

The library staff and services described in the section above entitled "Support Staff and Services" are available and will continue to be available to assist both student and faculty with research, circulation, reference, and other library-related needs. In addition, the library holdings can all be viewed online, and students and faculty may contact library staff online, via phone, or via e-mail.