

**MILNER LIBRARY  
FY 18 PLANNING DOCUMENT**

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Dean

March 11, 2017

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**MAJOR OBJECTIVES FOR FY 18**

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Milner Library's strategic directions and each of the specific goals are intended to enhance the library's ability to support the University's mission in teaching, learning, research and alumni relations. This document originates in a strategic mapping exercise in which Milner Library faculty and staff defined the organization's overarching central challenge, the achievement of which is integrally connected to the four goals of *Educating Illinois 2013-2018*. Six strategic priorities (in bold) were identified as facilitating Milner Library's capacity to address its central challenge of "building a dynamic and multifaceted library integrated into the University learning and research." In addressing this challenge in FY17, Milner Library will pursue these objectives:

**Milner Library will optimize access to information**

- Examine and revise Milner Library's collection philosophy and policies as a basis for sustaining learning and research support for the University, with input from the University Library Committee and other stakeholder groups.
- Pilot a plan for systematic collection assessment in specific subject areas, and report findings and recommendations to library subject specialists, Library Operations Council and Administration.
- Complete the redesign of the Milner Library web site in collaboration with Web and Interactive Communications.
- Continue improving search tools to improve navigability and access to information.
- Conduct an inventory of services provided by Milner Library and its collaborators, which would be communicated to the campus community.
- Create a plan for the integration of library collections that have, over the years, been dispersed and stored in various locations.

- Digitize and provide online access to *The Vidette*, 1888-1963.
- Digitize and provide online access to over 300 circus route books dating from 1842 to 1969.

### **Milner Library will advance transformative teaching and learning**

- In collaboration with CTLT, provide professional development opportunities for classroom faculty regarding the use of Milner Library's new collaboration classroom.
- Investigate the possibility of collaborating with the School of Communication to offer media literacy instruction on news reliability and fact checking.
- Complete planning and implementation of a digital media and makerspace commons.
- Enhance Milner's instructional offerings through collaboration with the Teaching with Primary Sources program.

### **Milner Library will enhance strategic partnerships**

- Investigate and create a plan that integrates the library and library activities more deeply into the curricular, extracurricular and co-curricular work of other departments, all in support of campus teaching, learning and research.
- Continue to expand partnerships in order to provide a broad range of learning support for students.
- Collaborate with college and university Information Technology units in order to provide access to emerging technologies required for teaching, learning and research.

### **Milner Library will design a facility that enhances learning and research**

- Complete the repair of Milner Plaza and the renovation of Milner's first floor. Return collections to Milner's first floor from temporary locations and reopen for public use.
- Implement a near-term plan for the use of spaces on Milner's first floor.
- Complete a library-wide space planning process in collaboration with campus constituents.
- Replace 172 study carrels on Milner's sixth floor.

- Upgrade furniture, technologies and space in two open area classrooms on the sixth floor.
- Create a presentation space to accommodate 100 people on the east side of the second floor.
- Recreate study spaces in the southwest corner of the second floor by relocating the original library tables currently in Special Collections.

### **Milner Library will encourage library faculty and staff excellence**

- Identify and investigate issues around professional development for library faculty and staff in a changing environment, and make recommendations regarding a formal plan.
- Establish community-building task force to make recommendations that encourage library-wide communication, sharing, and collective action.

### **Milner Library will align library resources with strategic priorities**

- Define and develop library-appropriate assessment philosophy, desired outcomes, measures and strategies in order to better understand, and respond to, the changing needs of the campus community.
- Identify Milner Library actions regarding campus diversity congruent with the findings of the ISU Climate Assessment Task Force Status Report.
- Develop scholarly communications program with outreach to campus.
- Extend development and fundraising efforts through the University's capital campaign, hiring of additional help in Milner, and through collaboration with University Advancement.
- Conduct a needs assessment concerning the role of grants in helping Milner achieve its strategic objectives.

February 20, 2017  
 Revised February 23, 2017  
 Revised March 4, 2017  
 Revised March 9, 2017