

**MILNER LIBRARY
FY17 PLANNING DOCUMENT**

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MAJOR OBJECTIVES FOR FY17

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:

Optimize Access to Information

- Continue efforts to better understand the emerging information technologies, resources, and services that Milner Library should provide in support of the teaching and research mission of the University.
- Implement a digital preservation program in order to protect the University's history that exists only, or primarily, in electronic formats. The historical record is threatened due to a continual degradation of electronic data and technological obsolescence (e.g., 5 ¼ inch floppies, floppy drives).
- Promote *ISU ReD* as the University's open access, online repository for faculty and student publications, presentations, creativity, and online journals.
- Complete the redesign of Milner Library's massive web site in order to provide easier navigation and greater accessibility to research collections, services, and information.
- Review library collections in storage in order to insure that important materials are retained and accessible.

- Complete digitization of Illinois State University's presidential portraits.
- Ensure appropriate ADA accessibility for all of Milner Library's electronic journals, databases, and reference collections.
- Contribute to the University's goal of making textbooks more accessible and affordable to students by promoting less expensive alternatives, and by creating a fund to purchase heavily used textbooks.
- Compile and write a photographic history of Illinois State University through efforts of the University Archives.

Advance Transformative Teaching and Learning

- Convert a traditional library instructional lab into a state-of-the-art active learning classroom; this follows up from planning efforts of the previous year.
- Assess and implement task force recommendations to convert the ULab on the main floor of Milner Library into a larger makerspace and multimedia production space.
- Follow up on recommendations of a campus survey concerning emerging information technologies, resources, and services that Milner might support. Outcomes of the survey will impact library space planning, program development and support, and partnerships with key stakeholders.

Enhance Strategic Partnerships

- Through close working relationships with Illinois State University Facilities, continue implementing changes to Milner Library that respond to programmatic and infrastructure needs of the University. Among others, these include restroom upgrades, increasing electrical outlets, space planning, etc.
- Work with Dining Services on a plan to provide coffee and additional food services in Milner Library during the Bone Center building project.
- Strengthen existing partnerships and planning with:
 - American Democracy Project
 - Campus Dining
 - Career Services

- Center for Teaching, Learning and Technology
 - College of Fine Arts
 - Dining Services
 - Facilities Management
 - Graduate School
 - Health Promotion and Wellness
 - Research and Sponsored Programs
 - School of Teaching and Learning
 - Student Government Association
 - Student Affairs
 - University Advancement
 - University College/Visor Center
 - University Galleries
 - Veterans and Military Services
- Seek additional groups, units, and departments with similar, parallel interests in supporting learning and research, pursuing joint projects, combining activities, or co-locating services.
 - Build foundation for future collaborations around such emerging library developments including the active learning classroom, the makerspace, ISU ReD (the institutional repository), and comprehensive space planning.

Design a Facility that Enhances Learning and Research

- Redesign Floor 5, and to a lesser extent Floor 3, including installation of new carpeting and furniture, and a rearrangement of book stacks.
- Begin upgrade of all 12 public restrooms in part to make them ADA compliant.
- Repair water leaks on Milner Plaza, refurbish the first floor of Milner Library and open it to the public.
- Undertake a comprehensive space planning initiative that responds to the changing use of Milner Library spaces for studying, learning support, research and construction of knowledge. The plan will provide a framework for future programmatic and facilities changes to the library.
- Build an enhanced presentation and exhibit space to accommodate the many exhibits, receptions and presentations that occur in Milner Library and continue to increase with our growing collaborations.

Encourage Library Faculty and Staff Excellence

- FY17 opens with a new Library Council that represents broader shared governance within the library by all employee groups. The Council replaces the Library Faculty Council, which becomes, along with other personnel groups, subsidiary caucuses.
- Conduct a professional development needs assessment in order to identify the skills and competencies needed by all library personnel, as well as those required for the emerging academic library environment.
- Implement a more formal and targeted professional/staff development program that focuses on those skills and competencies identified through the needs assessment.

Align Library Resources with Strategic Priorities

- The Library Assessment Team will investigate metrics associated with each department as part of a broader effort to ensure that library resources and personnel are effectively used to support the University's teaching and research mission.
- With the likelihood of declining future budgets, the library will undertake a self-study to determine possible strategies for supporting operations with fewer resources and personnel.
- The library will identify and begin implementing strategies that enhance organizational flexibility in anticipation of continuing budget declines. Such strategies will include teaming, sharing, creating greater redundancy of unit, departmental and library-wide knowledge.
- Complete a review of the reference collection on the main floor in terms of use. This will possibly create the opportunity to choose appropriate online resources, and to use this space in other ways.