

A DYNAMIC NEXUS FOSTERING INNOVATION



Vision

Northwestern University Libraries provide information resources and services of the highest quality to sustain and enhance the University's research and teaching. We are a dynamic nexus fostering innovation in learning, research, scholarship, and creativity. This strategic vision is built upon three key priorities.

Transform Digital Research

We aim to revolutionize digital research methods by leveraging artificial intelligence and machine learning to empower scholars to delve deeper into unique primary sources. This includes establishing a central "Data Library" campus program for the efficient and holistic management of research data across disciplines, and adapting AI models to enable researchers to investigate new types of research questions in our rich collections and datasets.

Initiatives

Data Library: Provide Northwestern with an integrated research data management infrastructure and services in research enterprise for acquiring, managing, storing, and sharing datasets and associated computational AI/ML models, emphasizing ethical AI/ML practices in partnership with NIT and the Office of Research.

Digital Scholarship: Leverage the power of generative AI as well as other computational tools to catalyze interdisciplinary research, and to revolutionize the way libraries provide access to knowledge.

Digital and Data Literacy: Expand instruction and curricular support for computational and data-intensive research and learning across all disciplines by articulating digital and data literacy learning goals, sponsoring relevant training for librarians and technical specialists, and implementing instructional resources.

Advance Access to Resources

We commit to advancing access to scholarly resources by ensuring that our collections support the current research and academic needs of our community, integrating unique collections with academic programs, and contributing to the Big Ten Academic Alliance BIG Collection.

Initiatives

BIG Collection: Contribute significantly and actively to the realization of the Big Ten Academic Alliance BIG Collection, a shared collection of more than 145 million volumes held across all Big Ten institutions.

Leverage Unique Collections: Build meaningful integration between Northwestern's unique collections and academic programs by expanding instruction and research collaboration with our special and distinctive collections, including student-curated exhibits and digitization of collection materials, based on curricular and research needs.

Collection Strategy: Develop a forward-thinking collections strategy that meets Northwestern's evolving research and teaching needs and builds unique and distinctive collections with enduring value to the broader research community.

Enhance Library Experiences

We seek to enhance library experiences by optimizing facilities and adapting services to align with the evolving needs of the University.

Initiatives

Facilities: Complete the renovation of Deering Library with a focus on improving intellectual and community engagement spaces for campus. Complete the Collections Treatment room.

Workforce Development: Align workforce with our strategic vision, emphasizing engagement, professional development, upskilling, and culture enhancement. Complete a comprehensive leadership development program for mid-management team in partnership with SESP ELOC program.

For more information, contact

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