Mission

Gumberg Library provides information resources, educational opportunities and individualized services embodying Duquesne University’s Spiritan identity and commitment to academic excellence.

Vision

Gumberg Library is an essential contributor to successful teaching, learning, and scholarship at Duquesne University.

Core Values

Gumberg Library embraces the University’s mission to serve God by serving students. Inspired by the Spiritan tradition of service and community building, staff endeavor to model the mission in our daily activities. Our vision for turning mission into action centers upon these core values:

Learning: We foster student learning by working to provide excellent library collections and services, and by creating a comfortable learning environment. We collaborate with faculty in advancing information literacy across the curriculum. We value personal learning, and we mentor and collaborate with each other to build shared expertise.

Leadership: We envision the library as an organization that encourages, supports, and provides opportunities for developing leadership skills, and seeks to achieve a position of leadership both at Duquesne and among peer libraries. We lead by providing proactive support for teaching, learning, and the innovative application of technology.

Empowerment: We believe that empowering individuals contributes to the success of the organization as a whole. We seek to cultivate an environment in which individuals can work independently. We value communication and encourage each other to share ideas.

Excellence: We identify and document professional standards of ethics and competency and strive to meet or exceed those standards. We consistently incorporate assessment into our decision-making processes.

Integrity: We try to be fair and honest in our service to library users, modeling positive behaviors and civility. We work to create an environment that is welcoming, non-judgmental, open to inquiry, respectful of diversity and supportive of creativity and innovation.

Community: We treat all interactions professionally, with appropriate thoroughness, and with concern for the dignity and privacy of the individual. We are mindful of the needs of diverse users including the differently-abled, and we are committed to equal access to information.
Strategic Themes

The themes of Gumberg Library’s strategic plan underscore the library’s vision of its role as an essential partner in teaching and scholarship, as a dynamic learning organization, as a provider of vital services, and as a welcoming place.

Gumberg Library will:

- Optimize access to information resources and professional expertise to support teaching, research and scholarly activity.
- Create and maintain user-centered research, teaching, and learning environments.
- Enhance the visibility and reputation of the library.
- Incorporate appropriate assessment measures into all library initiatives.

Strategic Goals

Gumberg Library’s goals reflect the objectives set by the campus strategic plan for improving Duquesne’s library facilities for research and study, and for increasing availability of electronic resources. The five-year plan will be updated and revised to meet the changing conditions within the University and the library, and to take advantage of strategic opportunities as they arise.

Goal 1: Enhance our users’ experience.

- Provide services in ways that meet users’ changing needs and expectations.
- Enhance services to all user groups, beginning with graduate students, distance learners and faculty.
- Expand and improve resource sharing.
- Assess users’ experiences intentionally.

Goal 2: Optimize access to information resources.

- Maximize investment in all resources, with emphasis on electronic formats and interdisciplinary concentrations.
- Encourage use of available information resources, library services, and partnership opportunities through marketing and user education programs.
- Build and preserve unique print and digital collections that support Duquesne’s mission and strategic interests.
- Improve resource discovery and access.
- Collaborate with campus partners to advance the integration of information literacy into the curriculum.

Goal 3: Enhance the library’s physical and virtual environments.

- Improve the library facility and aesthetics through continued renovations.
- Provide for development and sustainability of technologies to advance student learning.
- Ensure safety and security of people and collections.

Goal 4: Strengthen the effectiveness and efficiency of library operations.

- Plan for organizational development and change to sustain excellent service.
- Leverage human, financial and physical resources by collaborating with internal and external strategic partners.
- Increase library visibility at the university and professional levels.
- Develop purposeful and systematic marketing and communication plans.
- Identify additional external funding sources in collaboration with campus partners.