



“I am excited to share the Libraries Strategic Plan and am grateful to its many contributors. Four key directions, reflecting access, environments, connections, and organization will shape our future. Join us, through our initiatives, in advancing Drexel University’s strategic investment in academic excellence, improvement of the student experience, creative research, growing enrollment and enhancing global impact.”

- Danuta A. Nitecki, Ph.D.  
*Dean of Libraries*

## VISION

Drexel graduates and faculty are world-class self-directed learners distinguished by experiential and theoretical knowledge of their profession’s approach to creating solutions. Beyond mastery of their discipline’s scholarship, they are global citizens, with a common Drexel curiosity to uncover questions, create knowledge, and continue to learn.

For current Drexel learners, some new to higher education and others seasoned scholars, the Libraries is responsible for:

- Provision of information access needed to create and contribute scholarship in support of Drexel’s teaching, learning, and service to society.
- Expert guidance to develop self-directed learners’ information literacy skills for life-long intellectual passion and civic engagement.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION...

[www.library.drexel.edu/strategicplan](http://www.library.drexel.edu/strategicplan)

## STARTING POINT \*

Drexel University Libraries serves nearly 25,000 students, 4,500 faculty, and various staff and community members.

### ACCESS

Over 1.5 million items were downloaded from the Libraries’s electronic resources during fiscal year 2011, almost nine times the physical items borrowed.

### ENVIRONMENTS

Drexel University Libraries engages with Drexel communities through four physical locations, including W. W. Hagerty Library, Hahnemann Library, Queen Lane Library and the Library Learning Terrace, as well as a vibrant online presence which sees, on average, over 8,000 visits per day.

### CONNECTIONS

More than 12,000 learners attended the 502 instructional sessions conducted by the Libraries.

### ORGANIZATION

Libraries’ staff authored seven scholarly publications, including co-authorship of two monographs, and 25 presentations delivered at professional conferences held in ten states and Canada.

\* Statistics are from Fiscal Year 2011



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STRATEGIC PLAN: 2012 - 2017

## ACCESS

Ensure **access** to ideas and authoritative information sources, regardless of time or geography for Drexel's diverse community to learn, contribute to scholarship, and serve society.

- Design and implement collection management strategies that reflect needs for published information in support of Drexel's teaching, learning, and research.
- Develop tools to simplify discovery of multiple collections across Drexel and beyond.
- Collaboratively build and service an infrastructure for the life cycle of information within Drexel's digital culture.
- Preserve and curate documentation and artifacts of Drexel's history and legacy, including unique archives, institutional records, and scholarship.

“The Libraries helps us deliver historical collection materials to meet the needs of our users, who increasingly expect online access from anywhere, at anytime. As our audience expands, we look forward to new collaborative projects to provide additional means to access and interact with these unique materials.”



- **Margaret Graham**  
*Managing Archivist, Legacy Center  
Drexel University College of Medicine*

## ENVIRONMENTS

Build learning **environments** in physical and cyber spaces.

- Transform existing library spaces as campus environments for self-directed learning, both with and among intentional learners, and with expert guidance of librarians and other educators.
- Embed the Libraries' guidance to support independent learning and group study into campus physical and cyberspace learning environments.
- Establish a focal place to master and experience application of multiple literacies and information technologies, to discover Drexel's unique archives and data, and to create digital scholarship and expression.

“The Learning Terrace has a more active environment and more energy [than a traditional library]. You can tell people are working together far more than if they were sitting somewhere reading a book. People use the whiteboards to do homework and share artwork. A lot of students will go there just to connect with each other.”

- **Christopher Baccash**  
*Undergraduate Architectural Engineering  
Drexel University*



## CONNECTIONS

Deepen Drexel's **connections** with scholarship through expert guidance across knowledge communities, authoritative publications, and unique data sources.

- Introduce learners to information in scholarship that is unknown to them.
- Support teachers' efforts to equip students with information literacy skills to delve into the scholarship of their major.
- Enable researchers to efficiently manage their information sources and resource data.
- Save administrators' time to identify and locate information for decision-making through expert guidance, analytical tools and resources.
- Reaffirm Drexel's place within the scholarly world through recognition of campus intellectual and creative life.

“I've always known the library as a place to connect with knowledge, but Drexel's Libraries also connects individuals from across campus to advance and celebrate our scholarship through new technologies -- it's exciting to watch these new digital efforts evolve.”



- **Youngmoo Kim, Ph.D.**  
*Assistant Dean of Media Technologies  
Associate Professor of Electrical & Computer Engineering  
Drexel University College of Engineering*

## ORGANIZATION

Model a collaborative and entrepreneurial library **organization** that effectively leverages university and external resources to serve students, enhance teaching, and support researchers.

- Develop a learning organization that builds managerial leadership and employee expertise.
- Utilize evidence of client expectations for excellence and other data to manage the Libraries.
- Engage in collaborative services with other academic supporters to transcend campus silos.
- Seek external support to facilitate this work.

“It is an exciting time in the Libraries as we work to transform our organization. The multitude of professional growth opportunities stemming from the strategic directions is exhilarating. In pursuing our strategic goals, staff will acquire new skills and expand on strong foundations of learning, service, and outreach.”

- **Elizabeth Ten Have**  
*Director of Library Academic Partnerships,  
Drexel University Libraries*

