

K-State Libraries: A Living Strategic Plan, 2007-2012
Strategic Planning Progress Report
April 11, 2008
Executive Summary

The K-State Libraries adopted "A Living Strategic Plan, 2007-2012" in June 2007. The plan contains five goals very broadly summarized as collections, communications/user services, digital initiatives/repository services, space, and capacity building. Within those five goals are 60 objectives. Outlined below are selected activities, projects, and initiatives the K-State Libraries have undertaken to address our priority goals and objectives. A full report with a comprehensive summary of progress is attached.

- Identified seven collection priorities based on current collection strengths and research and curricular initiatives at K-State and developed collections policy templates for priority areas to define collection level, scope, subjects included, formats considered, current status of collection, prospective digital projects, potential partnerships, and external funding opportunities. The seven collection areas are biosecurity and food safety; grain sciences and milling; military history; prairie studies, children's literature, cookery; and consumer movement.
- Joined the LOCKSS (Lots of Copies Keeps Stuff Safe) Alliance and Portico electronic archiving service to ensure preservation of and future access to journal content
- Began the transfer of 600,000 books with biweekly shipments to the Regents Annex in Lawrence; 75,809 items accessioned by KU through March 2008.
- Purchased 55 new databases, electronic journals and backfiles.
- Implemented many new technology-based services to connect our users with collections and people including IM (instant messaging) reference service; blogs to communicate information to our patrons and to solicit information from them; the del.icio.us social bookmarking tool in our online catalog; and customizable new books RSS feeds on the library catalog for weekly updates about new materials.
- Installed a Google search appliance funded by students to permit quick searches for information on our website.
- Improved interlibrary loan/document delivery services by delivering articles from K-State Libraries' collection to the desktop of faculty and staff and implementing Rapid, an enhanced document delivery service that increases our ability to resource share with GWLA libraries to improve turnaround time and reduce processing time
- Created a consistent, uniform image to establish the Libraries as a visible, branded, recognizable resource by selecting an official name for the organization -- K-State Libraries -- and an official, updated logo.
- Continued Dow Multicultural Resources Center's (DOWMRC) outreach programs including Movies on the Grass which featured four films, an electric car show and an Afro Reggae concert; participation in Manhattan's Juneteenth celebration; and a hosted luncheon and tour of the DOWMRC for Dow Chemical executives.
- Partnered with other campus entities in the World Bank initiative supporting program development at Kabul University
- Collaborated with the School of Business, Ft. Riley and Senator Pat Roberts' office to send books to Kabul University

- Engaged in numerous outreach activities with Ft. Riley community including a reception for visiting Afghani soldiers; designed brochure to familiarize the Ft. Riley community with the Libraries' resources and services.
- Received funding from CECD to explore barriers to providing cultural and educational opportunities for Ft. Riley soldiers and families.
- Expanded our role as active partners on University multidisciplinary research teams; contributing our information experience to the Beef Cattle Institute Targeted Excellence Grant (creating and maintaining three web sites linked to AGNIC); and the Herbarium/Entomology Targeted Excellence Grant (creating metadata for specimens, contributing information to international database, developing federated search capabilities, and digitizing images of specimens).
- Launched New Prairie Press, an online publishing venture; identified two charter journals: the Online Journal of Rural Research & Policy, and The Baltic International Yearbook of Cognition, Logic and Communication.
- Improved use of library space including consolidated IT services and staff area; expanded special collections/archives area, including new workspace to process unique K-State collections; the Bookend Café (in partnership with the K-State Union/Chartwell's); and a remodeled Hemisphere Room to provide electronic classroom capabilities, and better transmission for broadcast of lectures.
- Re-established our diversity team (LINC - Libraries' Inclusiveness Committee). LINC has represented the Libraries in campus initiatives such as the Tilford Conference and MLK Week activities, contributed to the strategic plan for diversity, communicated regularly to staff and faculty, and conducted diversity training.
- Developed and delivered cultural programs to the university and greater Manhattan communities including "The University Archives: Preserving K-State's Legacy;" "A Voice in the Wilderness: Don Drenner and His Magical Kansas Press," and "Faculty Writes: Books, 1863-1963."
- Dedicated the David J. Williams Science Fiction, Fantasy, and Horror Collection with a week long celebration that included an exhibit from the Williams collection, a short story contest, movies, and "Science Fiction as a Mirror for Reality," a presentation by award-winning science fiction author Robert J. Sawyer.
- Collaborated with Friends of the K-State Libraries to host concerts and the annual Gala; collaborated with Friends and the ATID department on the Nellie Don movie event
- Streamlined internal systems including new chart of accounts and fund accounting software for tracking financial information and implemented Verde system to track the process of acquiring, licensing, reviewing, and renewing electronic resources
- Hired seven staff, six library faculty, and an associate dean

With our strategic plan, we are setting the K-State Libraries' course as the academic research libraries that support the needs of our users. We are working constantly to achieve our goals, actively monitoring and improving our progress. This is the core idea of our living strategic plan: goals and objectives vibrant and forward-thinking enough to allow for the evolution of the environment in which we exist. Our efforts will create a legacy of excellence in service to our communities, our University, and our state. An excellent university requires an excellent library. The K-State Libraries Strategic Plan 2007-2012 can be viewed in its entirety at <http://www.lib.ksu.edu/geninfo/plan/>.