

Assessment Summary

2008/2009

Library Mission:

Nelson Poynter Memorial Library supports the mission and goals of USF SP in three ways: In cooperation with the USF Library System, we provide print, media, and electronic information resources required for teaching, learning, and research. We provide the services and instructional opportunities required for using this information effectively. We support student learning by providing and maintaining classroom technologies.

Administrative Objectives:

1. In cooperation with the USF Library System, we provide print, media, and electronic information resources required for teaching, learning, and research.
2. We provide the services and instructional opportunities required for using this information effectively.
3. We support student learning by providing and supporting classroom technologies.

Assessment Activities Supporting Objective 1:

The Collections and Technical Services librarian conducted assessments of the library's monograph collections using the Association of College and Research Library Formula A and also the Association's revised June 2004 Standards. Formula A results showed an adequate overall number of monographs based on student and faculty FTE and programs offered. The June 2004 Standards use volume counts and fiscal data to establish ratios by FTE. These studies confirmed declining trends in expenditures and acquisitions due to the sizable budget reductions over the past two years. These studies will be used to establish baseline data for future comparisons. A second assessment used a modified WLN Conspectus study to examine the collection by subject categories. Subject categories for USFSP programs were evaluated to determine areas of inadequate resources. This assessment will be used to target collection enhancements and future outcome studies in areas in need of improvement.

Assessment Activities Supporting Objective 2:

Public Services librarians conducted a student survey of reference services with the cooperation of faculty members in classes requiring library research projects. Students reported positive experiences with their reference encounters. However, lack of knowledge of chat, e-mail, and telephone reference services and poor results in identifying research sources will be addressed

through better student outreach and outreach to faculty who require research papers but do not incorporate instruction in library research in their classes. The Access Services department surveyed students in Spring 2009 to gain information on their success with various services offered. Although most students reported positive experiences with circulation staff members, continued public services training will be offered. More outreach will be offered to address lack of knowledge of interlibrary loan and some reserve services. Based on student comments, check-out periods for the popular study rooms will be extended.

Assessment Activities Supporting Objective 3:

A library technology survey was done to determine student use of various software packages and their personal use of various hardware devices. Results will be used for planning for future library technologies. The survey comments also resulted in the planning and installation of a new facility for library laptop use. In response to a 2007/08 assessment, two Public Services and Media Services staff members undertook online training in Blackboard during Summer 2008. After completing their training programs, they offered two training sessions to USFSP faculty. Surveys conducted after the training sessions will be used to improve, enhance, and increase future training classes.