Mission

The University Library System advances the University’s strategic priorities by engagement in the enterprise of knowledge creation, teaching, and learning on our campuses and beyond. Through our expertise, information resources, facilities, and services, we catalyze partnerships and inspire intellectual discovery, critical thinking, creative expression, the free flow of ideas, and the worldwide progress of knowledge.

Values

At the University Library System we are guided by the Core Values of Libraries and those of the University of Pittsburgh. In everything we do, we are deeply committed to:

Diversity
Innovation & Creativity
Teamwork & Collaboration
Customer Service
Adapting to Change and Learning
Goals & Strategies

Be a catalyst for critical scholarly inquiry, innovation, creation, and learning at the University of Pittsburgh.

- Develop robust understanding of the behaviors and needs of our communities.
- Weave our resources and expertise throughout the technical and social infrastructure that supports the research lifecycle at Pitt.
- Provide access to information that meets the changing needs of the University community.
- Be an advocate, partner, and resource for experiential and dynamic teaching and learning at Pitt.
- Promote our libraries as a hub for inquiry, innovation, creation, and learning.
- Integrate information skills and related critical thinking competencies into the curriculum.

Be a leader in active, trusted stewardship of the evolving scholarly and cultural record.

- Strengthen our ability to ingest, preserve, and provide access to born-digital and digitized information.
- Expand our capacity to collect, preserve, and provide access to multi-modal scholarship.
- Actively collect and preserve scholarly and cultural materials that amplify under-represented voices and global perspectives.

Model and champion openness, transparency, and accessibility.

- Promote openness and transparency in decision making processes.
- Invest in open scholarship to enable broader access to information and more open, equitable, and academy-centered outcomes for scholarship.
- Advocate for changes in economic models in scholarly publishing.
- Provide robust public service that is accessible, inclusive, and approachable.

Continuously develop and sustain a culture of professional growth, responsiveness, and accountability.

- Improve access to and support professional development for all ULS personnel to nurture creativity and invigorate our programs and services.
- Improve our processes to ensure efficient and effective use of our resources.
- Develop additional resources to advance our mission.
- Improve our systems for collecting, sharing, and use of data to drive informed decision-making and to demonstrate our impact.
- Develop and demonstrate expertise to deliver unique value to the Pitt community.

Be active creators and connectors in local and global information networks.

- Increase the discoverability, visibility, and usability of the intellectual output of the University community.
- Partner where expertise is complementary and where shared goals exist to achieve mutual benefit.
- Reduce local barriers to participation in global information sharing.
- Work collectively with national and international organizations and movements to effect positive change in the scholarly ecosystem.

Commit to diversity and inclusion in everything we do.

- Provide programming, content, and services that reflect our commitment to diversity.
- Develop diversity-focused leadership in every part of our organization.
- Create an inclusive and equitable work environment where all can reach their full potential.
- Model best practices and recruitment strategies for hiring and hosting diverse library workers.