

LIBRARY AND RECORDS AND ARCHIVES SERVICES STRATEGIC PLAN 2016 to 2020

THE UNIVERSITY CONTEXT

In 2016 there are three key drivers that are influencing the University's strategic planning:

1. The strategy to be the University of Opportunity and Success and to position ourselves as an open and excellent university; pursue a transformational agenda; and ensure financial sustainability
2. Strategy in Action processes to ensure the University is agile and responsive to changing conditions
3. A set of design aspirations that guide our activities and shape how we will be known

Although the Library and RAS cannot significantly influence any of these drivers, we will continue to contribute to the strategies that are crucial to the future of the University.

The Library delivers most of its information resources and services over the internet to all students and staff, including local students who are not on campus and international students in Sydney and Asia. It also provides learning spaces, information resources, equipment and services for the University's students and staff at campuses in the western suburbs of Melbourne and the Melbourne city centre. This strategy describes how the Library will deliver high quality services to meet the future requirements of students and staff, and will engage closely with the Colleges, service areas, students and researchers in order to meet their evolving needs over the next two to five years.

Records and Archives Services is responsible for overseeing the management of University records, including how they are created, stored, retrieved, protected and destroyed. This includes: developing and implementing the University's records management policy and procedures; assisting business units with records management; managing the University Archives; and managing central student records. This strategy outlines how RAS will achieve the future requirements of the University in this area.

MISSION

Our purpose

Victoria University Library is integral to the University's [mission and vision](#) by enabling access to the world's knowledge, providing excellent learning spaces and services, and contributing to the University's learning, teaching and research activities.

VISION

How we see ourselves achieving our mission over the next five years

The Library and RAS will:

1. Support each student pursue a flexible, personalised learning journey
2. Deepen partnerships with the Colleges in learning, teaching, curriculum development and research
3. Constantly renew scholarly information resources in line with the University's research and education distinctive specialisations
4. Enhance the ability of patrons to easily find the information they require and seek new digital technologies to deliver information and services
5. Re-conceptualise virtual services and physical services and learning spaces within Learning Commons
6. Refresh staff capabilities to deliver on this vision and mission
7. Publish open access VU scholarly works including journals and books
8. Grow the University's art collection with a focus on the west of Melbourne
9. Develop research data management services in partnership with Research Services
10. Evaluate the Library's contribution to student success
11. Advocate for and contribute to open access for research data and publications and education resources
12. Implement a discovery system for easy access to the University's electronic records and archives services

STRATEGIC OUTLOOK

Over the next five years VU will focus strategic endeavours to enhance the competitiveness of our current higher education and vocational education courses and test new markets, new business models and new partnerships. This strategic plan will serve to develop, focus and consolidate planning over the next two to five years and identify the areas where the Library and RAS must achieve change in order to fulfil its mission.

1. Education

Information is everywhere, overwhelming and available through a variety of discovery channels. In this environment, the Library will focus on students finding and using information more effectively by working with Academic Colleges, Victoria Polytechnic and VU International. The technologies that support the Library's collections and services sit in a complex web environment and their delivery is increasingly to mobile technologies. In this context Library systems are firmly focused on electronic rather than print resources and will continue to move to cloud-based environments and open systems that integrate an extensive range of information and data sources.

In two years:

- Information resources will be integrated with digital learning environments in 100% of courses
- Library information resources will be mobile compatible
- Information resources will be purchased 90% in electronic formats
- Streamed formats will be sourced for 100% of new video and sound resources
- Student communication and interactions will be two-way, friendly and responsive to students' needs
- The Library will deliver 100% of its enquiry & research skills sessions using blended learning strategies.
- Development of digital literacies, defined as using technologies to find, use and disseminate information, will be integrated into 100% of courses
- The Library will be a leader in promoting open education resources
- The Library will have services that will give VU an edge compared to its competitors, such as extended opening hours

In five years:

- Learning Commons will adapt to meet the requirements of students in 2020
- The Library's new information resources will be 100% electronic: online, networked and customisable for learners within digital learning environments
- Remaining physical collections will be research collections or closed access special collections
- Through services that deliver quality information resources and training in digital literacies and research skills, the Library will be recognised as a mature partner in curriculum development and education.
- Library sourced open education resources will contribute significantly to student learning
- The Library will have a national reputation for providing services and technologies that make a difference

2. Research and Engagement

The University established ambitious research goals to enhance its reputation globally, and the Library will contribute to these goals through our expertise and scholarly information services.

In two years:

- The Library will provide world standard research collections in line with the University's distinctive specialisations and research strengths
- VU Research Repository will raise the impact of the University's research publications by increasing full text 10% annually
- Our expertise will contribute to the University's multifaceted research reporting, ranking and rating activities
- The Library will deliver research training programs that cover the research life cycle in the digital age.
- The Library will be known for its mature and integrated research data management service
- Learning Commons will gain important community use as part of the 'Footscray as a University Town"
- An exhibition of the highlights of the University art collection will be held in Footscray
- The Library will host a scalable, sustainable, open access digital publishing service for University journals and books
- Digital research collections of national significance on indigenous issues and Timor Leste will be developed

In five years:

- 70% of University research data will be linked to published research outputs available through VU Research Repository and other open access data portals.
- VU Research Repository will be ranked in the Top 5 Australian Institutional Repositories for its high proportion of full text open access content
- The Library will be known for its specialist, digital research collections of national significance
- A proposal to construct an art gallery for the University's art collection as part of 'Footscray as a UniversityTown' will be developed

3. Building the underpinning capabilities and ensuring financial sustainability

The University's strategic focus on contemporary capabilities means the enablement of new ways of working and thinking, the development of agile processes and a focus on quality improvement. This will require roles to transition to manage online scholarship, publishing, digital curation, blended learning environments, and new models of service delivery and the Learning Commons to evolve its mix of learning support services, premium learning and computing facilities, and contemporary learning environments to enhance the experience of students.

In two years:

- The capability profile of library staff will be aligned to new service delivery models and services
- The Library will negotiate and acquire e-textbooks and third-party learning resources on behalf the University
- Planning will be underway for a fit-for-purpose Learning Commons in the proposed tower in Melbourne city and Learning Commons spaces in the LTO
- The Learning Commons will include an enhanced wireless network, extensive provision for use of new electronic devices, and high end equipment and specialist software
- Student printing and copying and the cost recovery solution will be extended to other student computing services to provide a consistent quality of service across the University
- The Library's contribution to student success will be evaluated based on learning analytics
- A cloud hosted library system will be organized around workflows for organizing and delivering electronic resources
- RecFind will include over 70% of the University's recent corporate records
- The Library will improve the reputation of the University by benchmarking above median in University student surveys

In five years:

- The Library will have a national reputation for its contribution to the library/information profession
- The Library staffing profile will comprise a diverse, multi-generational, and skilled workforce with specialist knowledge and skills to support the broad range of services delivered by the library
- There will be a new Learning Commons at the proposed tower building in Melbourne city and learning commons spaces in the LTO
- Electronic devices will be ubiquitous with limited provision of "general access" computers
- A new paradigm in resource discovery focused on organizing electronic information resources with a "nextgen" library management system will be implemented
- Through consistent high quality services the Library will have contributed to the University's reputation nationally and international as the University of Opportunity and Success