



# SFU LIBRARY STRATEGIC PLAN

**2017 - 2021**

## VISION

**Open for research.  
Open for learning.  
Open for collaboration.**

## VALUES

### **Openness**

We lead by example in supporting open access, open source, open data, open educational resources, and minimal restrictions on licensed information resources.

### **Diversity**

We respect and value commonalities and differences across race, sex, gender identity, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, ability, nationality, and religion. We understand that mutually respectful relationships across these identities make us stronger individually and collectively.

### **Creativity**

We encourage innovation and intentional risk-taking, and nurture creativity among Library staff and users.



Research libraries are rapidly evolving. Electronic information and digital tools create an increasingly open learning and research environment. We will develop the Libraries on each SFU campus as vibrant centres to build capacity, enhance the student experience, and collaborate broadly.

The SFU Library will build on its solid foundation and work within the framework of the Academic, Strategic Research, and Aboriginal Strategic Plans as well as other key planning documents at SFU. We look ahead with excitement about new possibilities, while continuing to honour the historical imperatives of the library's role at the university. We steward and preserve the scholarly record in its various formats in today's academic environment. We connect across campuses and with our communities, forming meaningful collaborations to extend our reach. We embed essential digital literacy and research skills into the curriculum, preparing students for academic success, lifelong learning, employment, and engaged citizenship.

## We Build Capacity

The Library provides the SFU research and student community with access to collections, digital research tools, and expertise that enable the discovery and creation of new knowledge. We empower researchers by making it easy to access, use, analyze, and share information. We work "from discovery to knowledge mobilization," as described in SFU's Strategic Research Plan.

We will:

- Equip students to be adept users of information, preparing them as graduates, citizens, and lifelong learners
- Integrate research and academic skills instruction at the course, program, and departmental level at the most meaningful points in student learning
- Facilitate development of the digital research skills of faculty members
- Build responsive and enduring collections, including distinctive and accessible Special Collections
- Create interdisciplinary, community-building spaces

## User-Centered Priorities

The teaching, learning and research needs of students and faculty will continue to shape Library priorities. In designing our programs and services we will focus on students and faculty.

We will:

- Cultivate a culture focused on user experience
- Respond to increased demand for digital information
- Use evidence-based assessment to guide decisions

## We Enhance the Student Experience

The Library serves as primary academic space outside the classroom. Here our unique and diverse students connect with knowledge, with the University, and with each other. The Library will work with campus partners to transform the student experience by contributing to the academic success and wellness of students as part of SFU's vision for a Healthy Campus Community.

We will:

- Expand spaces for student learning, interaction, and experimentation
- Prioritize student needs by more actively seeking feedback
- Deepen our commitment to student research
- Offer employment, mentorship, and training opportunities to students to enhance student engagement and employability

## We Collaborate

As a key player in SFU's Engaged University strategy, the Library will lead and collaborate with academic and community partners to share our assets and learn from others. The Library is a catalyst for interdisciplinary research and an accelerator for scholarship.

We will:

- Lead in ensuring that SFU research is shared widely within and beyond the academy
- Support new ways to articulate and measure the impact of research and scholarship
- Integrate Library expertise with related campus partners in the research process
- Participate in and develop shared collections with trusted partners
- Engage our community by creating and hosting vibrant events and programs
- Partner in knowledge mobilization beyond the academy, particularly with community groups

## Positive Work Culture

We thrive in an inclusive workplace characterized by respect, trust, open communication, and continuous learning.

We will:

- Create and support sustained learning and development agendas, with deliberate development of leadership
- Respect and value the diversity of Library staff and actively work to expand it across multiple dimensions
- Contribute to our collective success by actively supporting the wellness of Library staff
- Emphasize clear, timely internal communication

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