University Futures, Library Futures
Aligning library strategy with institutional directions

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Devoted to challenges facing libraries and archives since 1978

Community resource for shared Research and Development (R&D)

Engagement with OCLC members and the community around shared concerns

oc.lc/research
Context

Enormous growth in post-war US higher education
• Mirrored by growth in publications

Rapidly Evolving Scholarly Record
• Shift to (more/types of) information across the network
• Local collections become less important

Collections centered libraries
• Libraries locally managed print materials
• A ‘good’ library was a ‘big’ library, because it offered a strong local collection for use by students and researchers

Shift from collections-based libraries to services-based academic libraries
• Closer alignment with institutional mission
Library excellence should be determined in the context of strategic fit to university interests.

Shift from collection-centric model of excellence to engagement-oriented model supporting distinctive needs of parent institution: research productivity, student success/retention, career preparation, community engagement.

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"Institutional Education Directions" by OCLC Research and Ithaka S+R, from University Futures, Library Futures: aligning library strategies with institutional directions (doi:10.25333/WS5K-DD86), CC BY 4.0
COMMUNITY
- Convene Campus Community
- Include and Support Off-Campus Users

STUDENTS
- Enable Academic Success
- Provide Study Space

RESEARCHERS
- Foster Scholarship and Creation
- Showcase Scholarly Expertise
- Transform Scholarly Publishing

COLLECTIONS
- Facilitate Information Access
- Preserve and Promote Unique Collections
Library activities

- RDM training
- CRIS systems
- Library publishing
- Data repositories

- Support off-campus users
- Online portfolios

- Open education resources (OERs)
- Using special collections to support undergraduate research

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Key takeaways
To serve their populations, libraries must offer services that are customized to their local conditions.
Shift to a service focus

Away from a collections focus
Academic libraries are responding to institutional goals and aligning their missions accordingly.

... And this typology is a tool that can help them with planning and communications.
BUT. . .

Differences in service allocations across different types of institutions weren‘t as great as expected.

In other words. . . much homogeneity remains.

#OCLCMEARC19
What constitutes career-directed library offerings?

- It's much easier to identify offerings for research and liberal education
- Area for additional growth and research
References


