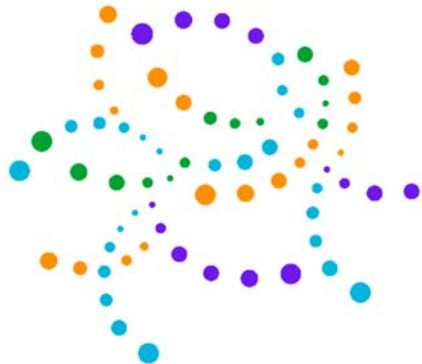


Our Mission

The Smithsonian Libraries promotes new ideas through knowledge sharing. We play a dynamic role in advancing scientific and cultural understanding and in preserving America's heritage. Our expert staff and extensive collections are a crucial resource for research and education communities at the Smithsonian, within the United States, and around the world.



Our Vision

Smithsonian Libraries creates a compelling environment for connecting, collaborating, and exploring across disciplines and information boundaries.

Smithsonian Libraries enhances and eases the discovery of information in our collections for Smithsonian scholars, researchers, scientists, and the larger world of learners.

Smithsonian Libraries understands and meets user needs, serving users where they live and work.

Smithsonian Libraries builds expertise on information discovery, navigation, and management.

Smithsonian Libraries ensures its success through increased financial strength, effective administrative support, and organizational excellence.

Our Values

SERVICE

Connect Smithsonian researchers, the American people, and curious minds around the world to relevant information and resources.

STEWARDSHIP

Develop, sustain, and protect our collections to ensure their continued significance and accessibility.

PROFESSIONALISM

Embrace responsibility, integrity, and a commitment to the ethics and standards of our fields.

COLLABORATION

Build, facilitate, and support partnerships by leveraging the pan-Institutional nature of the Libraries and expanding our connections beyond the Smithsonian.

INNOVATION

Engage in purposeful experimentation with ideas, technologies, and practices for the delivery of value-added information and expert services.



GOAL 1: RESEARCH

Become the foremost provider of authoritative research information services that establish the Smithsonian as a national leader in “Unlocking the Mysteries of the Universe, Understanding and Sustaining a Biodiverse Planet, Valuing World Cultures and Understanding the American Experience.”

- 1.1 Integrate the Libraries’ services more fully into the research lifecycle – from proposal to publication - of Smithsonian scholars and curators.
- 1.2 Take the lead in creating a web-based network of Smithsonian researcher profiles to facilitate discovery of skills and scholarship at the Smithsonian.
- 1.3 Prioritize the experience of our users in decisions regarding staffing, resources, and innovative feedback mechanisms.
- 1.4 Provide an excellent online research experience for our users by optimizing the OneSearch service and Tools for the Researcher gateway.



GOAL 2: EDUCATION

Grow into the leading source of training on research resources for Smithsonian staff and contribute to the Smithsonian’s leadership role in education for learners of all ages.

- 2.1 Reach out to Smithsonian staff via orientations, open houses, and meetings to introduce library services and resources and to provide updates to library users as needed.
- 2.2 Provide innovative training and information tools to build the research skills and knowledge of library users.
- 2.3 Establish both internal and external partnerships and projects to develop educational materials and package our content for K-12 educators.
- 2.4 Offer outstanding internship and fellowship programs to further the development of professionals in library and information sciences and in other academic fields the Libraries supports.



GOAL 3: ACCESS

Broaden access to and promote use of collections for new and diverse audiences using a variety of methods and tools.

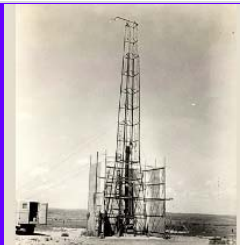
- 3.1** Develop and engage new audiences through social media, exhibitions, and communications.
- 3.2** Enhance discovery of collections by improving collections data and extending availability of that data both inside and outside the Institution.



GOAL 4: COLLECTIONS

Strengthen stewardship of Smithsonian Libraries' vast and diverse collections.

- 4.1** Become better stewards through improved management of physical collections.
- 4.2** Integrate our approach to collections development and management for physical and digital collections, whether owned or licensed.
- 4.3** Increase the number of collections available online and improve stewardship of digital assets.



GOAL 5: FINANCES

Build financial strength and ensure accountability.

- 5.1** Increase income from private sources by strengthening fundraising capability and raising our profile.
- 5.2** Grow earned income through increased business ventures.
- 5.3** Ensure accountability by strengthening internal financial controls.



GOAL 6: WORKFORCE

Develop and sustain staff capabilities and the physical and information technology infrastructure that supports them.

- 6.1 Retain and develop a creative, diverse, future-thinking workforce.
- 6.2 Foster an environment which encourages experimentation, continual education, and staff development.
- 6.3 Ensure work spaces meet Library objectives and provide a safe, healthy, and secure environment.
- 6.4 Align information technology distribution with the Smithsonian's research priorities and directions.



GOAL 7: ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE

Cultivate the Libraries as a learning organization committed to openness, inclusion, innovation, continuous improvement, and efficiency.

- 7.1 Build a culture that encourages and rewards creative and innovative strategies to problem solving.

About this Document

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