The Suffolk County Community College Library Strategic Plan provides a vision and direction for the Library for the next five years. The Strategic Plan aligns with the College strategic plan and institutional goals with careful analysis and attention to the changing information landscape.
Library Strategic Plan 2016-20

The SCCC Library consists of three campus libraries and the central library technical services department. This proactive strategic plan represents the collective vision of the four library units to advance the mission of the College by teaching information literacy, providing access to academic collections, promoting student success and encouraging life-long learning.

Vision

The SCCC Library:

- promotes intellectual freedom, the ethical use of information and academic integrity.
- provides easy access to diverse print, electronic and media resources.
- fosters an educational environment enabling all members of the college community to analyze information needs, locate, evaluate and effectively use information resources.

“Students who receive library instruction as part of their courses achieve higher grades and demonstrate better information literacy competencies than students who do not receive course-related library instruction.”

Assessment in Action: Academic Libraries and Student Success, ACRL 2015.
Library Strategic Plan 2016-20

Environmental Scan

Digital content has secured a dominant place in today’s scholarly publishing landscape. New publisher content offers products with increased search capabilities. Libraries need to evaluate new and emerging discovery platforms and technologies aimed at enhancing information discovery. Digital media content and electronic books will be a focus of digital collection development over the next four years, as the library will need to evaluate how the format meets our user needs.

Textbooks and course reserve material continue to be a valuable resource for the students given the rising cost of tuition and supporting material. The library needs to position itself to support Open Education Resources (OERs) while also determining the cost of OERs to library operations.

SUNY’s migration to a new library services platform within the time scope of this strategic plan will affect processes and workflows in library instruction, reference, circulation & access services, and technical services areas. Therefore, the library faculty and staff will need to adjust operations to facilitate the ease of the transition while also researching and learning added functionalities within the new system. The new SUNY library services platform offers increased opportunities for coordinated collection development and resource sharing with other SUNY institutions. The SCCC libraries will continue to evaluate the benefits of cooperative purchasing, resource sharing and other shared services to our users.

As it becomes more available, the library will evaluate the “demand driven acquisition” (DDA) model—also referred to as “patron driven acquisition” (PDA)—as an option for supplementing collection development activities. Librarians need to evaluate and weigh the benefits of DDA/PDA to the individual user in the overall collection development plan of the College community as some purchase decisions may move from librarian to user. DDA/PDA will also have an impact on library budgets and interlibrary loan operations.

Librarians, as information and data specialists, are a resource to the College to assist with design of data management especially in the area of controlled vocabulary. As the College develops data repositories, the Library can be a resource to consult in matters of
standardizing vocabulary or creating taxonomies. Library facilities need to support not only the consumption but also the creation of information such as student publications and presentations. Makerspaces, for instance, offer an opportunity for students to create objects in support of learning activities. The library needs to explore collaborations with departments and faculty to support active learning through the campus library Makerspaces.

The library “learning commons” should continue to provide the varied spaces (collaborative, as well as quiet study areas) and tools (such as laptop computers) that students need to support their various study needs and learning styles. College libraries provide students with accessibility to resources and services, through services such as interlibrary loan, course reserves and laptop lending that might otherwise be unaffordable to the individual student.

As it becomes easier for users to access information, the library must play an essential role in developing student research skills and fostering their understanding of information literacy concepts through library instruction and reference services. SCCC Librarians are positioned in regional, state and national networks to promote the sharing of research and knowledge in these areas for the benefit of the SCCC, Long Island, and SUNY student communities. Current national assessment data of library services and instruction programs are providing new insight into how libraries influence student success and learning. Using the new assessment methodologies, the library should look for opportunities to measure the impact of library services and resources on student success and retention.
Strategic Goals

1. Promote Information Literacy to the College Community

SCCC Institutional Goal: 1. Student Success

Objective

- Increase by 5% college wide the number of formal and informal opportunities offered to the College community that teach information literacy and information management skills.

- Evaluate and assess the current resources and tools available to students on citing sources and using information ethically.

- Develop a sustainable staffing and growth plan for LIB101 to support programs recommending or requiring LIB 101.

- Develop a comprehensive and systematic plan to assess information literacy instruction at the College.

Actions:

- Communicate to the classroom faculty the ways that the library is able to support and enhance their programs.

- Encourage the interaction of Library faculty and staff with user community and identify new opportunities for collaboration with classroom faculty.

- Promote and education the college community, most specifically those advising students, on the benefits of LIB101.

- Library faculty need to determine which framework/standards to use when creating information literacy assessment rubrics.

2. Provide easy access to collections

SCCC Institutional Goals: 1. Student Success; 3. Access and Affordability; 4. Institutional Effectiveness

Objectives:

- Increase, by 10%, the collective use of the library’s print, electronic and media information resources by the College community.

- Investigate services to increase access to library resources.
**Actions:**

- Investigate new opportunities to incorporate library resources into online course management systems to promote the use of library resources in online courses.
- Continue to maintain and expand a digital repository for locally produced scholarship and creative works by the SCCC community including faculty, staff, students and alumni.
- Increase access to streaming media content to ensure appropriate program support as well as for individual growth and self-directed learning.
- Evaluate discovery service tools to provide ease of access to all quality library content.
- Work with SUNY to implement new library service platform.
- Demonstrate and promote a variety of open learning tools to faculty and provide support to them so that students at SCCC can benefit from the array of affordable options that are emerging at SUNY and elsewhere.
- Continue to assess Demand Driven Acquisition/Patron Driven Acquisition models as a supplement to traditional collection development.
- Foster communication with faculty and technical departments to assess any library service needs.
- Educate faculty on use of the library’s webpage that will improve students’ access to the wide range of resources offered to them.

3. **Foster an educational environment to promote intellectual growth for the user community.**

**SCCC Institutional Goals:** 1. Student Success; 2. Community Development /Societal Improvement; 3. Diversity

**Objectives:**

- Develop plans, and proposal if necessary, for renovation to new or existing library spaces to meet the needs of today’s library user.
- Increase resources or services to virtual learning environments and services to support students and the OpenSUNY initiative.
Provide opportunities for active learning.

**Actions:**

- Communicate with teaching faculty to develop programs for students and faculty that foster innovative ideas for student learning.
- Provide group and individual spaces, classrooms, and adequate technology for students and offer opportunities for members of the Suffolk County community at large to use the library facilities.
- Engage and collaborate with faculty and departments to incorporate the use of the library facilities, including Makerspaces, in courses or curricula to support active learning.
- Inventory library spaces to determine how the library meets the diverse learning needs of the student community.

**Conclusion**

The library’s strategic plan is designed to advance instructional and informational library services to the SCCC community in line with trends within SUNY and nationwide. The plan supports the mission and goals of the College to ensure maximum benefit, present and future for all students of Suffolk County Community College. The library’s annual assessment efforts based on the strategic plan will align with the measurable institutional objectives tied to the six institutional goals of the College. This will ensure that the library is an integral partner in educating tomorrow’s scholars and workforce.