

# Pence Law Library Strategic Plan 2020 - 2023

Fall 2020

## Mission Statement

The Pence Law Library is the vibrant intellectual heart of the AU Washington College of Law and is committed to advancing the academic success, and the scholarly, research, and curricular needs of its students. The Library is dedicated to supporting and promoting the teaching and scholarly work of the faculty in their classes, research, and publications.

The Law Library is the place students learn to use the fundamental tools of the profession, providing the highest quality legal and non-legal resources and outstanding services and facilities.

## Student Learning Outcomes

- a. The Law Library will \_\_\_\_\_ by providing resources in multiple formats to enable students to achieve a mastery of substantive legal knowledge.
- b. The Law Library will assist students through various methods of instruction to evaluate and use resources and information to enable them to access resources efficiently, assess their accuracy, currency, cost, and precedential value, and identify bias.
- c. The Library will provide resources and tools to promote and support legal analysis and problem-solving throughout the curriculum, for example, by working in concert with the Legal Rhetoric Program.

## Library Services

Goal: Advance state-of-the-art teaching, research, and engaged learning by implementing innovative services.

Strategy: Partner with Legal Rhetoric to introduce, teach, and assess the basic methodology of legal research to the first year class.

Strategy: Integrate library programs, tools, and instruction into curricula and research processes to support the ability of all students, faculty and staff to use and evaluate information critically, ethically, and effectively.

Strategy: Partner with other law school offices to provide programs and services that build the professional skills needed by students and faculty to advance their careers.

Strategy: Partner with other departments and centers within WCL to provide a forum for public lectures, colloquia, and other forums that extend and promote their scholarly and creative work.

Goal: Support and promote scholarship at the Washington College of Law.

Strategy: Support WCL faculty research by continuing a robust faculty liaison program. Assist faculty with teaching, learning and using new legal technologies that promote and





during decision-making and augment staff understanding of job duties, workflows, and administrative operations.

Strategy: Document policies and procedures.

Goal: Design organizational systems and structures that enable employee effectiveness.

Goal: Evaluate purchases and processes to reflect a commitment to sustainable practices for all library operations.

### **External Engagement and Communication**

Goal: Understand our target audiences and their diverse communication preferences

## **Services beyond WCL**

Goal: Improve outreach to and services for AUWCL alumni.

Strategy: Continue to support WCL alumni access to journals and other resources through special alumni subscriptions.

Strategy: Provide research support on request to WCL alumni.

Goal: Provide appropriate services to public and government depository patrons.

## **Appendix**

The Library responded to the pandemic by providing remote services and by making more resources available in electronic format to the WCL community. These new approaches will be incorporated into library operations for use in the future.

Goal: Make Electronic Resources the default option for adding materials to the collection.

Strategy: When examining resources to add to the collection determine whether an electronic option exists and whether it makes pedagogical or fiscal sense to purchase it.

Strategy: Plan, develop, and implement processes and procedures to obtain, present, and then evaluate these resources.

Strategy: Make the purchase and evaluation process regardless of format more efficient and systematic.

Strategy: Explore the possibility of adding an electronic reserve system and/or digital casebook collection to meet student needs when the cost of new casebooks are approaching \$300. Work with faculty to adopt or create open access teaching materials.

Goal: Develop effective communication strategies to alert users to the resources and services available to them remotely through the library.

Strategy: The Library must build on its past efforts at communication with our patrons to better utilize our resources without the physical library and without face to face interaction with students. As the pandemic continues we are gaining experience and building on these skills.

Strategy: Determine the best use of library faculty in delivering service and research instruction to our users in the most effective way possible.