

THE 21st CENTURY LIBRARY IN ACADEMIC MEDICAL CENTERS

CHARTING THE FUTURE EXERCISE

November 9, 2002

Education in the Academic Medical Center:

Introduction:

The library has always served as an indispensable partner in the educational activities of the Academic Medical Center by providing collections for use in classes and self-learning, and space for effective study. Recently library faculty have taken responsibility for teaching effective information and technology skills to student, residents and faculty by a variety of means: informal one-on-one consultations, in formal class presentations, through grand rounds, and as part of the ongoing teaching experiences of morning report, rounding, and seminars. Now, as technology changes occur at an ever more rapid pace, the amount of published material and information for scientific use continues to increase to overwhelming levels, the ability to sift and winnow for the best information rapidly becomes ever more crucial. It is imperative therefore, that the professional expertise of librarians be brought to the forefront of medical center attention if health care quality is to improve. Education is truly a life-long necessity in health care.

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| Core Mission Direction Today Education | Future Mission Direction – Education | Comments | Additional Goals |
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| <p>A. Build the institution's primary knowledge repository with a focus on digital library collections. Work with content owners to provide licensed access for academic medical center (AMC) employees.</p> <p><i>Underlying assumptions:</i> Building on the library's expertise in the organization and access to traditional collections, focus on building digital collections and digital curricula. Users prefer digital and the format brings the evidence to the desktop 24/7. Print will become secondary for most students and employees. Big issues include the cost of licensed digital information and permanence of the digital archive.</p> | <p>1) Library staff continues to purchase print as well as electronic and other resources in support of education. This includes licensing for use where education occurs off-site. They are the recognized experts in intellectual property issues surrounding these resources and their use.</p> <p>2) Library staff participates in building the suite of in-house educational resources used at their institution. Participation includes creation of databases for objects, images and information bits; indexing and tagging the information for use, designing user friendly interfaces.</p> <p>3. Library staff is aware of current and cutting edge educational technologies and</p> | | |

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| | <p>implementations in other medical schools and actively inform their teaching faculty of these advances through seminars and demonstrations.</p> <p>4. Library is able to provide access to electronic collections remotely for alumni, residents and staff for continuous learning</p> | | |
| <p>B. Develop the technological infrastructure to support access to and delivery of digital information.</p> <p><i>Underlying assumptions:</i> Includes current automation efforts such as library management system, library web site, bibliographic retrieval systems, image management systems, education management systems, Web collaborations, shared cataloging systems (e.g., OCLC). May include responsibility for the institutional web site, drug information systems or institutional e-formulary, historical archives systems, etc.</p> | <p>1) Library partners with others in, or is responsible for, articulating and ensuring that the AMC's technical infrastructure accommodates needs of teachers and learners, both on-site and off-site. That includes establishing adequate networking support for present and next generation devices.</p> <p>2) Library includes space to accommodate virtual conferencing and distance learning in its small group study rooms and classrooms.</p> <p>3. Library houses and</p> | <p>Comments</p> | <p>Additional Goals</p> |

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| <p>C. Educate employees and future health professionals in essential skills to become life-long learners.</p> <p><i>Underlying Assumption:</i> Educating students and employees in wise use of computer technology for life-long learning, literature research,</p> | <p>administers the educational server for the AMC. Library staff makes sure that all curricular support information is integrated and easily accessible for students, faculty and continuing learners.</p> <p>4. Library includes learning center that houses simulators, computers models, virtual reality machines and practice and testing areas for skills assessment</p> <p>5. Library houses the hardware, software and expertise for experimenting on new educational techniques and curriculum for faculty who need coaching on its use.</p> | | |
| | <p>1) Library informs and teaches AMC individuals to identify relevant information stores and to manipulate the information for knowledge enhancement. This is done through formal coursework that is assessed equally with other skills and</p> | <p>Comments</p> | <p>Additional Goals</p> |

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| <p>and strategies for practicing evidence-based healthcare are core parts of the library's mission.</p> | <p>knowledge tests in the curriculum, and is done informally.</p> <p>2. Library faculty teach entire health care team the skills of using evidence based literature in health care problem-solving through an active informationist program.</p> <p>3. Library curriculum includes CME and seminars on such topics as intellectual property, ethics and economics of scientific publishing, presentation and display of scientific information use of genetic and other scientific databases, census and GIS databases, SPSS or other statistical applications.</p> <p>4. Library faculty develops and offers accredited self-study modules for CME and other professional accreditation needs. These are both on-site and through distance education.</p> | | |
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| <p>D. Deliver scholarly information and knowledge – the library as gateway to print and digital knowledge.</p> <p><i>Underlying assumption:</i> Traditional and digital libraries serve as gateways to the knowledge required for research advances and improved clinical care. Library staff provides guidance and tools to leverage the most authoritative information and knowledge. The AMC library serves as a center of excellence for expert literature retrieval services, user training, and consultation.</p> | | | |
| <p>E. Preserve an historical record of scholarly information to serve future generations.</p> <p><i>Underlying Assumption:</i> Access to the continuum of knowledge of disciplines and institutions and the discovery tools and metadata supporting this knowledge resource will continue to be a key ingredient to future scholarship and institutional history.</p> | <p>1) Library preserves curriculum support materials and educational output of its own institution for the historical record of what has been taught and how it was taught. It gathers videos, interactive modules, and computer-based technologies and ensures their usability for the future through preservation and reprocessing.</p> <p>2) Library digitizes theses and other scholarly byproduct for</p> | | |

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| <p>F. Create an environment conducive to stimulating intellectual pursuits, encouraging collaborative scholarly endeavors, and supporting personal reflection.</p> <p><i>Underlying Assumptions:</i> Centralized facilities which provide space for collaboration, quiet individual study and contemplation away from clinics and labs will remain highly important for research, education, and scholarship. The AMC library serves as an efficient institutional tool to provide this important shared, neutral space available to all employees and students.</p> | <p>preservation and universal access.</p> <p>1) Library fosters faculty/student communication and interdisciplinary activities in its intellectual commons areas. Encourages formal and informal learning through a variety of small group rooms, library café, and exhibit areas, conference facilities.</p> | <p>Comments</p> | <p>Additional Goals</p> |
| <p>G. Serve the wider communities in the state and region.</p> <p><i>Underlying Assumption:</i> Supporting health information needs of the state or region through resource sharing (ILL), contributed e-cataloging records, and shared expertise through publications and collaborations will continue to be a hallmark of academic medical center libraries.</p> | <p>Comments</p> | <p>Additional Goals</p> | <p>Additional Goals</p> |

* Underlying Assumptions developed by University of Maryland Health Sciences Library