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Purdue Libraries General Description

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Purdue Libraries
The Purdue Libraries system on the West Lafayette campus includes 11 subject-oriented libraries, an undergraduate library and an archives & special collections research center. Staff totals more than 200, including 74 faculty and professionals. The campus library system includes 2.5 million printed volumes, over 1 million electronic books, 3,105 print journals, and 12,654 electronic journals. The library is still an important study space for students, door counts have remained consistently just under two million per academic year. Information to complete assignments is accessible 24/7. The Purdue University Press and the University Copyright Office report to the dean of libraries and the work of these units is integrated into the operations of the Libraries. The Purdue e-Pubs digital repository, also a part of Libraries, is an open access software platform which provides access to full-text publications as well as unique previously unpublished scholarly content. It currently contains over 27,910 items and has registered 3,558,432 downloads as of December 2012.

Re-purposing library space away from the housing of collections to supporting and enabling study, teaching, and learning is our objective to better fulfill students’ need for team collaborative learning spaces. Such re-envisioned space is typified by the renovation of the Management and Economics Library (now called the Roland G. Parrish Library of Management and Economics), repurposing of the Hicks Undergraduate Library, and the planned Classroom/Library Facility (aka the Active Learning Center or Boiler STEAM Commons) at the center of campus.

Libraries faculty are instructors who collaborate with disciplinary faculty in the integration of Information Literacy into the curriculum. The goal is for Purdue students to graduate with the ability to critique, evaluate and integrate the best and most appropriate information in order to understand problems and devise solutions in their work and throughout their lives. Libraries faculty also collaborate with University colleagues by applying library science principles to the management of data, whether it is tangible (archives, books, journals) or intangible (scientific and technical datasets). The Purdue Libraries Data Curation Profile is a means by which a dialogue can be structured between a researcher and a librarian about data management needs of the researcher.

Purdue Libraries is taking an international leadership role through DataCite and is assigning Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) to datasets in order to allow attribution and discovery. The Purdue University Research Repository (PURR) is a joint endeavor for the stewardship of research data by the Libraries, Information Technology at Purdue (ITaP) and the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR).

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