

**School of Informatics and Computing,  
Department of Library and Information  
Science Strategic Plan 2017 to 2020**

**Vision**

The Department of Library and Information Science aims to be a national leader in information research and education that address societal and technical needs of libraries, information organizations, communities, and individuals in the creation and use of information.

**Mission**

DLIS is dedicated to educate library and information professionals of the highest caliber. DLIS also contributes to discover and disseminate new findings from rigorous research that advances the quality of libraries services, preserves cultural heritage and scholarship, advocates equitable access to information and its production. Our work is guided by the principles of professional ethics as well as our commitment to the communities we serve.

**Strategic Objectives**

Education - Deliver exceptional distance academic programs that will prepare students to be successful information and knowledge professionals. Advance the Department's status as an exemplary, comprehensive, and professional school of library and information science.

**Research**

Foster scholarship and research through collaboration with diverse communities of practice to enrich society's engagement in the information age: data, information, and knowledge drive science, industry, and community engagement. Our research concerns all aspects of information (or data) lifecycle, from the creation, management, preservation, use, and reuse, in which various stakeholders are engaged.

Service - Provide leadership and service to professional and academic societies in order to impact research and education in library and information science.

## Initiative 1: Optimize Enrollment Strategies

- **Objective 1:** Develop a marketing strategy.
  - **Action 1.1:** Align targeted marketing efforts with enrollments trends of our online program (e.g., professionals who seek advanced degree in LIS).
  - **Action 1.2:** Create strategic plan that identifies marketing venues (e.g., listservs, ads in professional journals).
  - **Action 1.3:** Create an annual schedule of when marketing materials should be deployed.
- **Objective 2:** Coordinate undergrad and grad course development.
  - **Action 2.1:** Develop strategies for attracting undergraduate students across a wider range of disciplines as well as international students.
  - **Action 2.2:** Develop cooperative strategies across all departments to share resources and faculty.
- **Objective 3:** Create metrics.
  - **Action 3.1:** Create a database of enrollment data to track historical trends.
  - **Action 3.2:** Develop targets for future enrollment data to compare against historical data and evaluate enrollment effectiveness.

## Initiative 2. Deepen Our Commitment to Community Engagement

- **Objective 1:** Establish mission and vision for DLIS future work with community partners.
  - **Action 1.1:** Develop mission and vision drafts for work with community partners.
    - **Task 1:** Hold discussion with LIS Advisory Board to gather ideas and opinions.
    - **Task 2:** Parse notes from the Advisory Board meeting and relate as applicable to DLIS Strategic plan.
  - **Action 1.2:** Identify current and potential community partners directly aligned with mission and vision.
  - **Action 1.3:** Create curriculum map of courses and identify and/or create projects that can connect to all types of new/future community partners.
  - **Action 1.4:** Contact, discuss and agree upon future partner work with community partners as related to Action 1.3.
- **Objective 2:** Identify and create outreach efforts between DLIS and LIS institutions across the state.
  - **Action 2.1:** Identify and create informational “Ted”-style talks DLIS can give to other LIS types of organizations and institutions.
    - **Task 1:** Write short descriptions of presentations related to timely topics.
    - **Task 2:** Publish the topical descriptions in various venues to LIS institutions.
  - **Action 2.2:** Present at state and city-level conferences in order to re-establish community face for DLIS.
  - **Action 2.3:** Identify existing needs for research in Indiana communities that could be initiated and carried out by DLIS.

- **Action 2.4:** Establish contact with Indiana DOE to redesign the school library program focus and requirements.
- **Action 2.5:** Conduct on-site visits and exchanges.
- **Objective 3:** Identify role of DLIS internships in relation to Community Engagement.
  - **Action 3.1:** Define and align curriculum requirements to establish which students should be encouraged to pursue internships.
  - **Action 3.2:** Design a support protocol for mentors to ensure internships are mutually beneficial.
  - **Action 3.3:** Develop list of recommended internship sites.
- **Objective 4:** Explore ways to create community within a fully digital program in ways that are fair.
  - **Action 4.1:** Discuss ways that community engagement takes on digital and physical forms.
- **Objective 5:** Work in collaboration with other IUPUI entities charged with community engagement.
  - **Action 5.1:** Contact and discuss common goals with the Office of Community Engagement.
  - **Action 5.2:** Establish support from the OCE, with strong attention to marketing needs.

### **Initiative 3. Increase Capacity for Graduate Education**

- **Objective 1:** Identify our current strengths and distinguish from other peer programs.
  - Action 1.1.: Identify our strengths and specialties.
  - Action 1.2.: Understand our peer programs (or competitors) and learn about niche.
  - Action 1.3.: Conduct a student assessment of our program.
  - Action 1.4.: Understand the department's human capacity for growth (e.g., faculty/student ratio).
- **Objective 2:** Provide a curriculum that meets the evolving demands of professional expectations and the job market.
  - Action 1.1.: Conduct an analysis of curriculum, job-market, and employment trends.
  - Action 1.2.: Design and provide new courses that can integrate new trends, expectations, and skills.
  - Action 1.3.: Cross over with other programs.
- **Objective 3:** Expand graduate education to post-graduate and mid-career professional education.
  - Action 1.1.: Create an opportunity for post-graduate and professional development.
- **Objective 4:** Establish a funding structure for graduate fellowship and tuition support.

- Action 1.1.: Faculty can apply for an educational grant for graduate fellowship.
- Action 1.2.: Build an alumni network and use it as a potential fundraising source.
- Action 1.3.: Work with community partners (potential employers) to subsidize tuitions.
- **Objective 5:** Examine, realign and redesign the courses for the school library track.
  - **Action 1.1:** Evaluate current school media enrollment, course offerings, and projected enrollments.
  - **Action 1.2:** Develop coursework specific to school librarianship
  - **Action 1.3:** Develop certificate program for students with existing teaching license.

#### **Initiative 4: Strengthen Internationalization Efforts**

- **Objective 1:** Connect undergrad degree development with SoIC recruitment efforts.
- **Objective 2:** Promote education abroad programs (e.g., LIS graduate exchange program; international library internship program).
- **Objective 3:** Build an international partnership for joint or dual degree program
  - **Action 3.1:** Work closely with Office of International Affairs .
- **Objective 4:** Internationalize curriculum, particularly at the undergraduate level.
  - **Action 4.1:** Increase international practices, case studies, and/or issues in course materials.
  - **Action 4.2:** Develop a plan to recruit select students from other international institutions.

#### **Initiative 5: Accelerate Innovation and Discovery**

- **Objective 1:** Develop existing partnerships and identify new partners to expand the reach of the impact of LIS research.
  - **Action 1.1:** Partner with other SoIC departments for funding, teaching, and publication.
  - **Action 1.2:** Identify other departments on campus to partner for funding, teaching and publication.
- **Objective 2:** Exploit the strategic advantage of our location in an urban environment and within the larger IU system.
  - **Action 2.1:** Seek research and teaching opportunities that involve community partners and alumni.
  - **Action 2.2:** Partner with IUB SoIC faculty.
- **Objective 3:** Diversify funding streams to support research and teaching.
  - **Action 3.1:** Identify diverse funding sources: federal, foundational, and local.

- **Objective 4:** Explore multi-disciplinary approaches to research in LIS.
  - **Action 4.1:** Develop data curation lab.
  - **Action 4.2:** Develop Center for Personal and Community Heritage Informatics
  
- **Objective 5:** Develop new structures of support for a sustainable research enterprise.
  - **Action 5.1:** Create research advisory board.
  - **Action 5.2:** Create depart library of faculty publications, presentations.
  - **Action 5.3:** Expand mentor program to include formal mentors from other departments.
  
- **Objective 6:** Establish independent reputation and rank from ILS
  - **Action 6.1:** Achieve ALA accreditation separate from ILS at IUB
  - **Action 6.2:** Participate in the iSchool conference
  - **Action 6.3:** Establish ranking in US News

## **Initiative 6. Transform Online Education**

- **Objective 1:** Adopt and deploy educational technologies in online courses to add value to the instructional experience.
  - **Action 1.1:** Invite professionals from the Center for Teaching and Learning to demonstrate to the faculty and adjuncts useful educational technologies that can be integrated into Canvas course sites.
  - **Action 1.2:** Work with SoIC technologists to create workflows in support of developing multimedia-based lectures.
  
- **Objective 2:** Provide initiatives, support mechanisms, and professional development opportunities for faculty and adjuncts to keep abreast of the changes in and instructional opportunities regarding online learning.
  - **Action 2.1:** Establish funds for which faculty and adjuncts can apply to support the redevelopment of online courses to integrate new educational technologies and pedagogies into existing courses.
  - **Action 2.2:** Develop a series of modules in coordination with the Center for Teaching and Learning that can educate new faculty and adjuncts about best online teaching practices.
  - **Action 2.3:** Create opportunities for faculty and adjuncts to share their best practices and failures in online teaching in a constructive, supporting setting (e.g., at special departmental meetings/workshops).
  - **Action 2.4:** Engage SoIC administration in dialogue about the need among online educators to have access to professional educational technologists and instructional designers.
  
- **Objective 3:** Build a sense of community among students and their instructors.
  - **Action 3.1:** Strategically deploy social media to interact with all departmental stakeholders.
  - **Action 3.2:** Research opportunities that could come from developing a custom

social online environment (e.g., using blogs) in support of community building, instruction, and professional identity building.

- **Action 3.3:** Research the feasibility and interest in requiring a one week or less on-campus “boot camp” for new students.
- **Objective 4:** Expand the department’s reach using online education platforms.
  - **Action 4.1:** Develop modules from courses into pay-for professional development courses.
  - **Action 4.2:** Review opportunities to participate in the WISE Consortium.

## **Initiative 7. Develop Faculty and Staff**

- **Objective 1:** Identify and support the diverse needs of tenured faculty, tenure-track faculty, lecturers, and adjuncts.
  - **Action 1.1:** Build department assignments that support the needs of individual faculty member roles.
  - **Action 1.2:** Provide training and support for all those asked to act in an advising role
- **Objective 2:** Use mentors to support faculty.
  - **Action 2.1:** Coordinate teaching mentors to support new faculty.
  - **Action 2.2:** Coordinate research mentors to support new faculty.
- **Objective 3:** Build an online community to support faculty development.
  - **Action 3.1:** Create a set of resources for incoming faculty (i.e., timelines, syllabus template, using IU Box, assigning grades)
  - **Action 3.2:** Build a mechanism to support adjunct mentoring and discussions (i.e., Canvas course).
  - **Action 3.3:** Create a mechanism to share, try out, and discuss best practices and innovative approaches to teaching (i.e., share course materials, activities, assignments, assessments, exemplars).
- **Objective 4:** Support faculty activities that bridge theory and practice.
  - **Action 4.1:** Involve the LIS Advisory committee in making curriculum recommendations based on current trends in LIS.
- **Objective 5:** Develop a sense of community within the faculty.
  - **Action 5.1:** Participate in school and university-wide activities as a faculty group (i.e., regatta).
  - **Action 5.2:** Hold regular department meetings that include opportunities for sharing new ideas and concerns.
  - **Action 5.3:** Encourage common project collaboration among departments.
- **Objective 6:** Identify and develop administrative leadership from with the faculty.
  - **Action 6.1:** Rotate chairing department meetings among faculty members.

- **Objective 7:** Encourage faculty to seek work-life balance.

## **Initiative 8. Promote Undergraduate Student Learning and Success**

**Objective 1:** Engage LIS in undergraduate teaching.

- **Action 1.1:** Identify current areas where LIS undergraduate/graduate courses overlap (e.g., 503).
- **Action 1.2:** Explore possibilities for undergraduate involvement to recruit students to DLIS.
- **Action 1.3:** Explore the possibilities of graduate DLIS students to teach undergraduate classes.
- **Action 1.4:** Engage current DLIS faculty as instructors in SoIC undergraduate courses.

**Objective 2:** Develop Data/Information Literacy undergraduate course

- **Action 2.1:** Design a data/information literacy course for a Data Studies minor.
- **Action 2.2:** Engage University Library staff as collaborators and possible teachers for data/information literacy.
- **Action 2.3:** Build a set of resources for faculty involved with the data/information literacy initiative.
- **Action 2.4:** Map data/information literacy to professional competencies.
- **Action 2.5:** Allow student learning outcomes to drive instructional design .

**Objective 3:** Introduce Library Science to potential students

- **Action 3.1:** Identify feeder courses/programs at the undergraduate level.
- **Action 3.2:** Coordinate advertising and outreach (e.g., conference booth) for student recruiting.

**Objective 4:** Maintain faculty information literacy for effective undergraduate teaching

- **Action 4.1:** Identify current and future information literacy needs.
- **Action 4.2:** Promote additional faculty development.

**Objective 5:** Consider undergraduate sustainability

- **Action 5.1:** Explore accelerated programming.
- **Action 5.2:** Consider 4 in 1 -- start as undergrad on grad degree.
- **Action 5.3:** Develop a 1st-year experience initiative.

## **Initiative 9: Promote an Inclusive Campus Climate**

- Objective 1: Connect professional ethics with campus initiatives
  - Action 1.1.: Provide cultural competency training for students and faculty conjunction with campus
  - Action 1.2.: Increase visibility of diversity & inclusion mission statement

- Action 1.3.: Have a clear visible policy for students, faculty, and staff to share diversity related concerns and suggestions for improvement (e.g., anonymous mechanism)
- Objective 2: Recruit and retain a diverse student community
- Objective 3: Support inclusive scholarship and teaching

### **Strategic Initiative 10: Leverage our Strengths in Health and Life Sciences**

- **Objective 1:** Connect data science course and research.
- **Objective 2:** Connect Science & Technology Information Sources course and research.
- **Objective 3:** Advertise data studies (minor/major) to relevant disciplines and see for a potential collaborative degree program.
- **Objective 4:** With Initiative 3 (Capacity for graduate education), continue to develop graduate curriculum that support data librarianship and science librarianship.