UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY
STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS: FALL 2013 – SPRING 2015
FALL 2014 UPDATE

We are all aware that the information world continues to change at a staggering pace. Meeting the needs of students and faculty in such a dynamic environment is the exciting challenge facing academic libraries today. In Spring 2013, The University Library identified five crucial areas and established short-term goals as a flexible approach to address constant change while, at the same time, keeping a longer-term vision in mind. We developed *Strategic Directions 2013-2015* as guideposts. What follows is a glimpse into the progress we're making in those directions.

1 INFORMATION LITERACY

The Library Instruction Program has evolved from a series of workshops into a structured curriculum that identifies key partners and establishes attainable goals for students at each phase of their academic development.

This year, we hired Caitlin Plovnick as our new First Year Instruction and Outreach Librarian. She will be heading up our first-year initiatives to ensure students have solid foundations in information literacy.

At the upper division level, we are designing creative experiences for students in their majors to learn new media skills and other digital literacies, such as designing and evaluating web portfolios and showcasing their research using the newest presentation tools. We are collaborating with faculty through our *Digital/Critical* initiative to design the best assignments to develop students' skills and values to be critical thinkers and careful consumers of information.
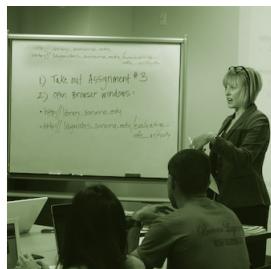
LIBRARY INSTRUCTION 2013-2014

Bus & Econ 5%
A & H 13%
Sci & Tech 4%
Soc Sci 17%
Freshman 54%
Education 7%
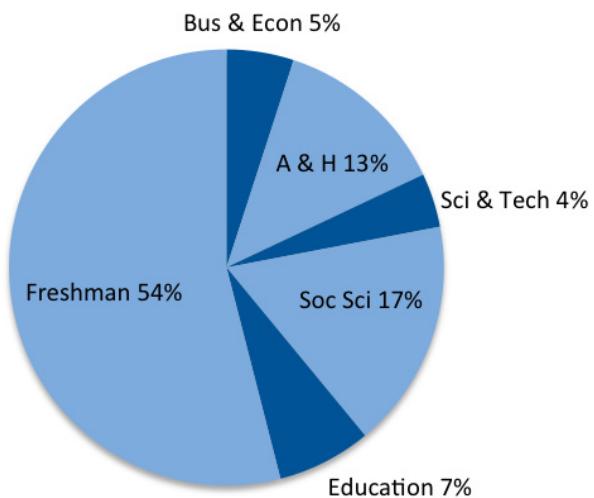
2 USER EXPERIENCE

The University Library is both a physical space *and* an online space. In order to provide the most useful experience for our students, we invited them to share their ideas at several "Design Your Library" sessions. At DYL events, students brainstormed ideas about the library building and gave us ideas about how they use the facility, and participated in activities designed to help us restructure our website.

Some of the things we learned:

- Students are task-oriented when visiting the Library website and don't want distractions.

- Students differentiate between information about the Library and the resources and services they need from the Library.

- Students want to know if group study rooms, computers, and white boards are available before they come to the Library; they want to know if the Library is busy and if they will find a place to study before they come here.

- Students don't have a preference between studying alone or in groups – they require space to do both.

- We need as much flexibility as possible in our furniture, spaces, lighting, and equipment.

3 COLLECTIONS

With an updated policy, we now provide more flexibility and options to select and read eBooks on demand. It is easy to find online reading material on any topic, from any device, anywhere students and faculty are doing research. We increased the scope and diversity of titles available, making it easier for students, faculty, and staff from all disciplines to find what they need.

E-BOOKS ON DEMAND 2013-2014

Criminology & Criminal Justice 1%
Philosophy, Psychology, Religion 6%
World History 8%
US History 7%
Geography, Anthropology, Physical Education 5%
Political Science 12%
Education 6%
Music & Fine Arts 3%
Language & Literature 8%
Math & Sciences 6%
Medicine 7%
Technology 3%
Business, Economics, Finance 9%
Sociology 5%
Family & Gender Studies 14%
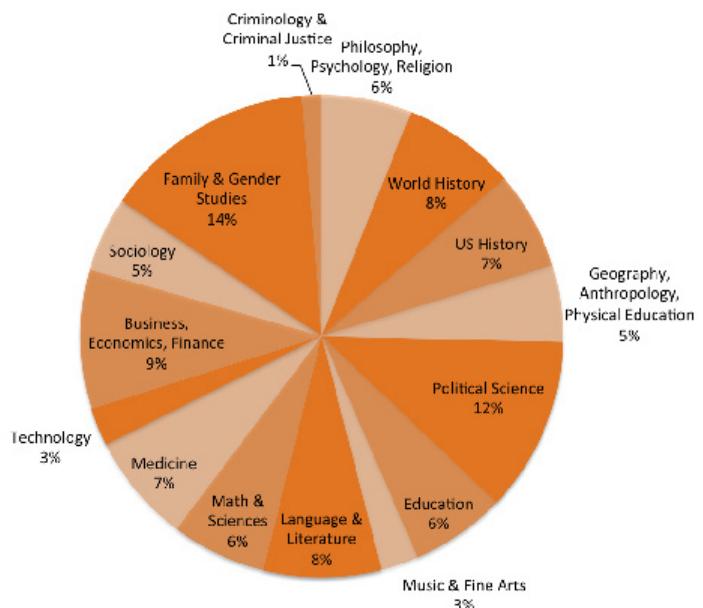
GROWTH OF DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

- 2010-2011
- 2011-2012
- 2012-2013
- 2013-2014

North Bay Digital Collections   ScholarWorks
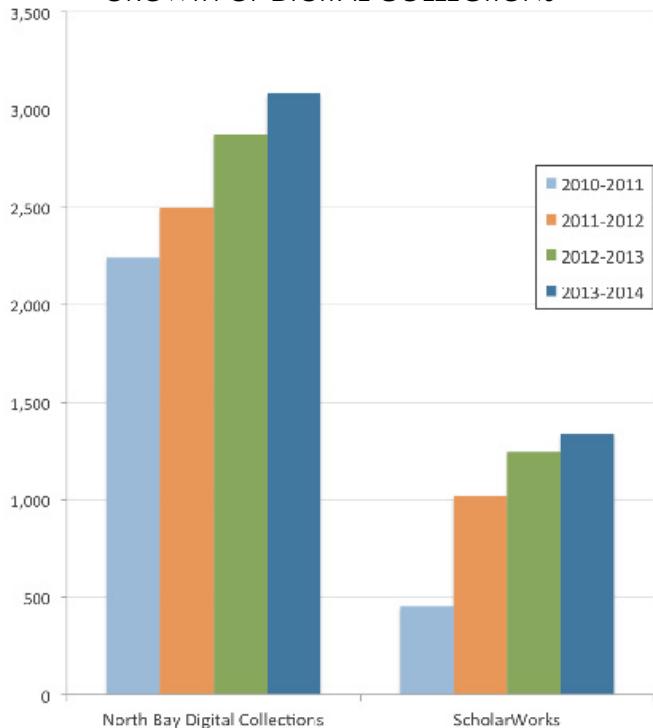
4 SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATIONS

The Library believes in open access to research materials, and we strive to bring SSU scholarship to a larger readership. Each year, more people discover faculty publications, master's theses, SSU journals, and digitized Special Collections materials through simple Google searches. This year, for the fourth consecutive year, we saw an increase in our digitized materials. One of the new additions to our North Bay Digital Collections is the C.O.A.S.T. scrapbooks, which chronicle the effort to provide public access to the northern California coast.

5 EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

The Library collaborated with Academic Affairs last year to successfully recruit for the new position of Director of Educational Design and Curricular Innovation. Ann Steckel, now leading programs in the Faculty Center, is an inspirational and integral part of the future of the Library. Together with Ann we work to expand SSU faculty's body of knowledge of academic technology tools and introduce new ways of teaching and learning. This partnership brings a variety of opportunities for faculty to enhance their classroom pedagogies with current technologies.