

ANDERSEN LIBRARY

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS – GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. Recognizing that Andersen Library serves a mid-size comprehensive university, collection decisions focus primarily on undergraduate education and teaching and learning. It will continue to rely on access to research collections to provide rare, esoteric, or little used materials, when needed, to faculty and students through services such as universal borrowing, interlibrary loan, and online databases.
2. Andersen Library will seek to offer many of the accepted components of a 'learning commons,' important to students, including: varying types of seating and study space; resources for IT support and other tutoring help; group study space; amenities (coffee shop, art work, attractive settings), hardware and software for multi-media & presentation production; limited amounts of recreational materials; events & programs; space for class instruction or work.
3. Andersen Library users do not all have uniform needs for library atmosphere. Quiet study and talking study are both legitimate needs. The Library will attempt to meet these competing needs by dividing the Library into 'talking floors' and 'quiet floors,' with a range of seating and study spaces.
4. Andersen Library materials in older, 'legacy' formats will be systematically removed from the collection on a continuous basis, after reviewing them for condition, circulation, faculty comment, and duplication in other formats. As budget allows, they will be replaced by current formats of exact duplicates, updated versions, or similar resources. Items currently used by faculty in classes will be kept as long as they remain usable and the equipment is available for their viewing or listening. Some examples of legacy formats are 16mm film, film strips, slides, VHS tapes, vinyl records, and audio cassette tapes.
5. Andersen Library recognizes the need and desire for co-curricular materials in its collection, including current books, audio books, films, music, and games. These materials will be selectively collected, tied to curriculum when possible, and will not exceed 2% of the Library's materials budget. Emphasis will be on items that support the curriculum in some way.
6. Andersen Library collections focus primarily on support for the undergraduate student and secondarily on graduate education and faculty research support. In order to keep its collection current and useful, an ongoing program of weeding the collection will take place to remove little-used item and create space for circulating materials.
7. Recognizing its teaching role in the University, Andersen Library will continuously evaluate its reference and instruction program and will accelerate the use of innovative methods and technology in reaching students and in making them information literate.

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