

DCU Library

**Statement of Strategy**  
2020 - 2023

Since the completion of the previous Library Strategy, DCU has grown significantly in terms of physical presence and organisational complexity and the Library played and plays a pivotal role in this through the provision of enhanced information services. DCU Library has developed into a single service based on three campuses with Woodlock Hall and the landmark Cregan and O'Reilly library buildings.

#### **Building on Success**

The previous Library strategic plan resulted in tangible benefits and developments for DCU. DCU Library staff have embraced the challenges and opportunities of strategic changes and comprise a responsive functional structure supporting and delivering a range of academic library services to students, faculty, and the community.

#### **Current Context**

This strategy has been informed by responses to the COVID pandemic. DCU and the Library shifted to a predominantly online offering and developed and deployed a variety of services to ensure continued access to collections, support and content. The challenge now is not to simply revert to a pre-COVID model but reflect on our learnings and refine our services to continue to deliver in a hybrid environment.

DCU Library strives to be a neutral and trusted space, one with equality of access and service. The measure of success for DCU Library is the continued evolution of a flexible, engaged organisation delivering, leading and partnering in supporting the mission and vision of DCU. The centrality of the Library will be obvious, its expertise acknowledged, and its connectedness will be apparent in the range of initiatives and engagements it develops.



## **Mission**

To empower DCU's research, teaching and learning ambitions through the development of innovative services, diverse spaces and the provision of deep and rich collections.

## **Vision**

Our vision is of a library that is vital to the success of students and staff, one that is at the heart of academic life, actively contributing to the transformation of citizens and society.

## **Values**

- We support and celebrate a culture of openness and inclusivity
- We are collegial and collaborative
- We aim to be student and research focussed and are ambitious in our reach and our plans
- We pride ourselves on service excellence and work in an environment that is responsive, flexible and risk taking and strives for innovation in the delivery of our expert services



## Strategic Priorities

We have articulated and agreed three key strategic themes reflective of our current environment and broader sectoral and societal challenges. As a library we prioritise visible, expert and connected services to our users, our communities, and our university.

### Visibility

The Library will be focussed on delivering services that support and encourage active engagement to provide an outstanding student experience. We will ensure our collections, both physical and digital are visible and accessible supporting research, education and outreach.

### Expertise

We will strategically partner on the advancement of open scholarship initiatives and build a comprehensive offering of research services and systems engaging fully with the University's research priorities. We will continue to put the Library at the centre of the student learning experience assisting them in working with scholarly content, delivering diverse learning spaces and providing responsive, flexible and innovative services. To ensure our currency, we will continue to develop and adapt our skills and expertise.

### Connectedness

We will work with colleagues in faculty and research to embed our collections and expertise. Beyond the university, we will contribute to national and international academic library consortia and partnerships and will identify avenues for continuing our outreach activities.

These priorities will be articulated and developed within annual business plans.





## Conclusion

DCU Library has met and overcome significant challenges thanks to the goodwill and resilience of its committed and responsive staff. We will contribute to the articulation of a new DCU strategic plan, one in which our significance and centrality will be clear. DCU Library is a vital hub of infrastructure, expertise and knowledge.



# Find out More

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