

Hartness Library

Since 2000, Vermont Tech's Hartness library has been the shared library system for Community College of Vermont and Vermont Technical College. This relationship has been functioning successfully and has benefited both Colleges with a strong staff, collection and services which could not have been achieved individually.

The Director of the Hartness Library is based at Vermont Tech and manages Hartness personnel working at VTC Hartness, the Hartness budget, and the overall operations of the library. An Assistant Library Director at CCV manages Hartness Library personnel and operations at CCV. The Library Director and Assistant Library Director work closely together to coordinate Hartness staff, all resources and services, ensuring that both College communities are served in their shared and specialized needs. All staff, regardless of where they are based - a CCV site, Williston campus or Randolph, perform some duties which are institution-specific and others which are for the Library system serving both Colleges. The CCV community and VTC students and faculty online and at Nursing sites are served by the library entirely online using 800 service, live chat, text service, and email. Librarians are also embedded online in Moodle classes providing students with research and library help at that point of contact. Because Hartness serves a predominately online population, our website, online services and electronic resources must be reliable since they are core to our mission of helping every student at anytime, anywhere.

The Hartness library budget including all staff salaries and benefits is paid as follows: 70% by CCV and 30% by VTC. This formula was established in 2011, based on an FTE formula and has provided a very stable operating environment.

Current Libraries Trends

The New Media Consortium (NMC) Horizon Report: 2017 Library Edition highlights trends which will affect the Higher Education Library landscape in the coming 5 years. The report identified long-term trends (5 years) as cross-institutional collaboration, and the evolving nature of the scholarly record. Mid-term trends (3-5 years) highlighted patrons as creators, and rethinking library spaces. The short-term trends (1-2 years) were research data management and valuing the user experience. These trends mirror larger trends in higher education in general and are also reflected in the recently released CCV strategic plan and the 6 priorities to support the mission of the Vermont State Colleges. With these trends in mind, the CCV strategic plan and the VSCS priorities, the following outlines the priorities for Hartness Library in the coming 5 years.

- Develop 2018-2022 Strategic Plan based on the Institutional plans at CCV, Vermont Tech and the 6 priorities to support the mission of the Vermont State Colleges System. [Year 1]
- Maintain close integration with other VSCS libraries to ensure seamless access to services especially for cross-enrolled students. Implement and optimize the new shared library services platform. [VSCS Priorities Strategy 5 Operate as a more integrated system] [Years 1-3]

- Work with faculty to support them in using library and open educational resources (OER) in their classes and provide support concerning copyright and applying principles of Fair Use. Develop collection with a goal balancing curriculum support and helping students reduce textbook costs. [VSCS Priorities Strategy 2 Improve the retention and graduation rates at our colleges] [CCV Priority 5 Strategy f] [years 1-5]

- Year 1: Launch OER Pilot Project at Vermont Tech

- Assess pilot project

- Work with VSCS Libraries to advocate for development of a VSCS-wide OER program.

- Years 2-5: Expand pilot project at Vermont Tech. Support broader VSC OER program.

- Optimize access to library resources and services for students accessing from all locations and at all times to accommodate working age students. [VSCS Priorities Strategy 4 Serve well more working age Vermonters] [years 1-5]

- Year 1: Improve response time of all library contacts and print/electronic resource access

- Years 2-5 : Provide more evening and weekend access to online help from the library.

- Advance the College Archives mission to collect, preserve, organize, and make discoverable significant current and historical records of historical and/or administrative value to the College and the VSC.

- Year 1: Assign and train a Librarian to manage the archives part-time.

- Research options for an online institutional repository including funding opportunities.

- Year 2: Advocate for support and funding for an institutional repository and personnel time to support the repository at the College. Explore options across the VSC.

- Develop action plan to build/administer the institutional repository.

- Years 3-5: Implement the institutional repository.

- Critically assess and evaluate our information literacy instruction and assessment at both Colleges to ensure that our efforts are effective and sustainable. [Years 1-5]

- Year 1: Assess impact of embedded Librarian program, instruction and reference services.

- Years 2-5: Continue assessment and evolve the embedded/instruction programs accordingly.

- Engage more of the college community with the services, resources and cultural programming in the physical library. [VSCS Priorities Strategy 2 Improve the retention and graduation rates]

- Year 1: Form focus group to collect feedback on space, resources and programming.

- Years 2-5: Plan and Implement changes to space, resources and programming based on input.
- Examine and highlight how we serve students with disabilities in-person and online. [Years 1-2]
 - Year 1 : Develop a Library guide for students with disabilities. Work with CAS disability services.
 - Year 2 : share guide with other VSCS libraries.
- Work with Vermont's school and public librarians to promote information literacy and college-readiness. [VSCS Priorities Strategy 1 Increase the continuation rate of high school students on to post secondary education] [CCV Priority 6 Strategy c] [Years 1-5]

Year 1: Develop relationships with area High School librarians to discuss building college readiness of Vermont High School students.

Years 2- 5: develop programming with HS librarians to increase college-level research readiness.

References

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