Harvard Library Mission Statement

The Harvard Library advances scholarship and teaching by committing itself to the creation, application, preservation and dissemination of knowledge.

Five Strategic Objectives

Collections and Content
Access & Discovery
Research, Teaching, and Learning
Stewardship
Professional Developments
Our users remain at the heart of our digital strategy and, as we move forward, we will focus on being a trusted partner to our scholars throughout the research lifecycle and keeping the library tightly aligned with the university’s mission.
Collections

Collections Spending

Means of Access: Electronic vs. Print
Collections

Increase acquisition of electronic access to information

● Review serial orders for shift to electronic from print.
● Implement e-reserves option for all schools at Harvard.
● Increase purchase of and access to e-books.
● Increase the availability of electronic access to reformatted materials from our special collections.

Enhance support for the selection, acquisition, and discovery of born-digital materials

● Develop workflows and policies to allow for smooth processing of born-digital sources of information.
● Strengthen infrastructure to allow for the long term preservation of and access to born-digital sources of information.
Base design and customization decisions on user research. Create habit of assessment and evidence based decision making.

Formalize and increase the amount of support we provide for digital scholarship and data management.
Enable users to find, access, and use the content acquired and created by the library without intervention

- Fold user research into all development and enhancement projects
- Design tools delivered online to be responsive and accessible
- Define goals for the library’s web presence and redesign main site
- Deliver library content to users regardless of their means of discovery
Services

Clarify and supplement library support for digital scholarship

- Define our services and clarify points of delivery
- Educate staff for effective referrals
Services

Clarify and supplement library support for research data management

- Provide support for research data planning, organization, and preservation
- Partner with IQSS for the support, use, and maintenance of Dataverse
Services

Increase dissemination of scholarship created at Harvard

● Maintain and enhance DASH

● Investigate the creation of a shared repository for open access content with peer institutions

● Convert journals published by the library to open access

● Investigate ways library can act as an electronic publisher either as a library imprint or by providing a self-publishing platform for users
Services

Enhance support for student learning

- Provide means of self-curation from our digital collections for assignments and independent research
- Integrate library services and tools in Canvas
- Support student directed learning with digital scholarship services and internships
In order to support research data management and digital scholarship demands at the University we will need to ensure that the staff members expected to provide this support are trained to a point where they can confidently offer and provide a consistent level of service to our users.
Staff

- Reallocate staff time from the support of physical materials to support of user engagement with library digital content and tools
- Provide up-front and on-going training for staff to support new services
- Recruit for skills that can be used to support data and digital scholarship services
Next Steps

- Gather feedback
- Revise
- Implement actionable items
- Use to help set priorities for FY18