

Priority of Excellence

2/ Graduate & Professional Education

Goal 1: Promote graduate research by increasing access to quality library resources including collections in the Archives & Special Collections, university theses and dissertations, Honors College theses, and open access resources

Measure of Success: Percentage of digital & electronic resources meets average of regional peer institutions.

Action/Initiative: Collaborate with the Office of Research and Sponsored Program, the Graduate School and IT to implement a freely-available institutional repository to promote UM research including dissertations, theses and other creative achievements.

Action/Initiative: Develop a University policy on digital access and copyright.

Action/Initiative: Invest in necessary hardware, software, and content management systems to support extensive digital holdings.

Action/Initiative: Survey graduate students in History, Southern Studies, African American Studies, Isom Center, and other departments on their research interests and needs to determine selection and prioritization of digitization projects.

Action/Initiative: Make library materials as accessible as possible to distance education students via electronic resource subscriptions, on demand delivery methods, interlibrary loan, and digital collections when possible.

Alignment with Objectives: Enhance the quality of core, research-based graduate programs; Expand access to professional graduate education

Alignment with Planning Principles: Quality & Focus, Beyond Borders, Blue Sky

Goal 2: Create an outreach program specifically for graduate students which will introduce them to research resources, convey practical advice, and foster a sense of community

Measure of Success: Maintain or improve library approval ratings in graduate student surveys.

Action/Initiative: Contact Graduate School, Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, Center for Writing and Rhetoric, and various academic departments to enhance collaboration.

Action/Initiative: Contact Cornell University to learn about their immersion program "Transitioning from Student to Scholar" designed to help graduate students.

Alignment with Objectives: Enhance student persistence and student development programs

Alignment with Planning Principles: Beyond Borders

Goal 3: Develop a graduate assistantship and internship programs for the Library which will provide transferrable skills or disciplinary knowledge

Measure of Success: Increase the number of graduate assistantships and/or internships in the library.

Action/Initiative: Contact Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, Graduate School, and various academic departments to discuss a jointly sponsored graduate assistantship and internship program and identify potential funding.

Action/Initiative: Develop protocol and policies for graduate assistantship and internship program.

Action/Initiative: Investigate potential partnerships with other departments, schools and Universities to create opportunities for graduate students to gain professional and transferable skills.

Alignment with Objectives: Enhance the quality of core, research-based graduate programs; Enhance student persistence and student development programs; Increase graduate and professional enrollment

Alignment with Planning Principles: Blue Sky, Beyond Borders