George A. Smathers Libraries
Strategic Planning
Undergraduate Education Task Force
Questionnaire

For the future of undergraduate education at UF and to explore relevant library roles and relationships, we can look to answering a number of questions, such as the following:

Are we gathering the ‘right’ information about our academic environment and the information needs of our users?

Are there surveys or other studies (LibQual, OCLC WorldCat Collection Analysis, surveys on hours of operation, etc.) that can inform our decisions and actions without prejudicing them?

Is there relevant information available from strategic planning efforts at other Association of Research Libraries institutions?

What expansion is needed
- in collection resources,
- in access to information
- in information delivery, and other services,
- in spaces for reading, research and discovery for undergraduates?

What collections and services do we NOT now provide
- that undergraduate students need now
- or anticipate needing five years in the future
- or ten years in the future?

What collections and services do we provide that are no longer needed and should be discontinued?

What physical spaces are needed or helpful?
- Should we reconfigure / expand / shrink our physical spaces for users?
- For materials?
- Which spaces and services need to be on the main campus?
- Which spaces and services need to be more closely co-located with user groups?

What do our clients expect? Are we meeting their expectations?

What is/is not online and what is the expectation to provide what is missing?

How effective is the virtual library:
- its accessibility,
- ease of use,
- how intuitive is it?
At the end of this first fact-finding process, I hope that we’ll be in a more enlightened position to respond to these three general questions:

- What do we need to do?
- For whom do we need to do it?
- When do we need to do it?

In Rick Yost’s inaugural message to the Senate this year, he highlighted several issues that relate to undergraduate education at UF and that might help inform our responses:

- Renewed focus on undergraduate education:
- Evaluate and revise the University Curriculum Committee
- Evaluate and revise the General Education Committee
- Evaluate and revise the UF Honors program
- Reprise the Student/Faculty Academic Summit

Where else do we need to look beyond library studies that can help us to gather pertinent information? Where did the Future of Libraries Report leave us?