Who We Are

The professional library staff of the 13 UW Colleges campuses and Library Support Services makes up a Library Council with an elected chair and three-person steering committee. Library Council elects members to represent UW Colleges at the Council of University of Wisconsin Libraries (CUWL) and Wisconsin Library System.

Our Mission

The Library Council’s mission is to foster collaboration and to support the UW Colleges’ libraries in their role as the information gateway for the university community.

Our Vision

The Library Council is a strong collective voice of the UW Colleges libraries poised to:

• Provide leadership and support for building effective library staff.
• Anticipate changing environments and trends.
• Position the libraries’ role as the central hub for learning and research.
• Build a community of librarians with shared goals.
• Affirm and communicate the essential value of libraries to the institution.
About the UW Colleges Libraries

UW Colleges employs 22.11 FTE librarians, 13.99 FTE library staff, and 10.54 FTE student assistants to provide services at its 13 campus libraries, UW Colleges Online, and central Library Support Services office. All of our librarians have a Master’s Degree in Library Science, or Library and Information Science, and are equipped to aid students in the development of the following skills; critical and creative thinking, inquiry and analysis, and evaluation and synthesis of information.

24,409* patrons passed through UW Colleges Libraries’ doors during a typical week in the 2012-13 fall semester. That’s an average of over 1,877* library patrons per campus, per week, with UW–Waukesha seeing almost 5,000, and UW–Baraboo/Sauk County over 3,700, patrons during a typical fall semester week.

*Total number and average do not include UW–Marshfield, whose numbers were unavailable.

The libraries added 8,804 print titles, 103 ebook titles, and 1,394 DVDs/CDs to the shared UW Colleges collection during the 2013 fiscal year.

Our students and staff borrowed a total of 63,813 library items in 2012-13. 58,484 of these were borrowed from UW Colleges, 1,232 from other UW System libraries, and 4,097 from libraries around the world.

Through collective UW Colleges and UW System purchasing, as well as through participation in DPI’s Badgerlink, our patrons have access to more than 145 unique databases to support all academic disciplines and areas of interest. This collection of databases includes the ACS Publications database, MLA International Bibliography (via EBSCO) and our streaming video database, Films on Demand.
595 information literacy classes were conducted at the UW Colleges campuses during the 2012-13 fall, spring and summer sessions, providing instruction to 11,624 students across multiple disciplines.

Librarians also answered 21,870 in-person reference questions, and 533 online chat reference questions, throughout the course of 2012-13 academic year. That averages out to 1,723 reference questions per campus per academic year.

Our libraries created 313 online Library Research Guides to assist students and instructors with research, class assignments, distribution of class materials, and the sharing of other pertinent information. Additionally, online Library Course Pages are embedded into all D2L classes. During the 2012-13 academic year, Library Research and Course Guides were accessed 94,995 times.