In January 2015, an ad hoc Strategic Directions Revision Workgroup was charged to update the Library Council’s current Strategic Directions to reflect changes that have occurred since they were approved in 2012. The group completed its charge via the following steps:

- Evaluated progress on all Action Steps from the Strategic Directions 2012
- Identified the parts of the Strategic Directions that directly support the UW Colleges Strategic Plan/Operational Plan 2012-2017
- Using the list of still relevant Action Steps that were not already substantially completed or adopted as regular Council work, conducted a survey of Council members to help identify a smaller set of Action Steps as Council priorities for the next year or two

Below are the Action Steps we recommend as highest-priority for Library Council to address. In addition, we also call attention to the following observations and recommendations which arose throughout our discussions:

- **Budgetary/organizational uncertainty:** When UW Colleges Libraries are reorganized to help address a potential institutional budget reduction, it is assumed that implementation of that reorganization will become the highest priority for library staff, and the final organizational model may affect how any Action Steps are approached. Since those decisions are unknown at this point, reorganization is not addressed in the Action Steps below.

- **Full planning process needed:** A new chancellor now leads UW Colleges, and the institution may look very different in the near future due to budget reduction or other reprioritization. The institution may undergo a new strategic planning or visioning process. Library Council will also benefit from embarking on a full strategic planning process seeking widespread stakeholder input after the next year or two.

- **Responsibility for leading Action Steps:** Some of the Action Steps may align closely with responsibilities of Library Council standing committees. However, we encourage Library Council to consider the benefits of forming ad hoc groups or utilizing other Council members as well in carrying out various Action Steps. The ongoing workload of many of the standing committees is already heavy; some of the Action Steps may require much wider participation; and expertise or interest may exist outside of committee memberships. On the other hand, standing committees should carefully review these Action Steps and consider contributing toward them as priorities instead of other committee tasks that might be lower priority.

- **Definition of Action Steps:** Some of the Action Steps may be open to broad interpretation, and the Workgroup largely left the wording as it currently stood. An important first step to approaching each Action Step may be for Council members or workgroups to explore more specifically what is envisioned and define the smaller component steps. The wider latitude is beneficial right now, but general consensus should be sought before executing much work. Additionally, a more detailed assessment of any progress already made should be conducted and shared.
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.

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.

**Tier 1 priorities**

- **Create multimedia tutorials for key services**
  Action Step d. from Strategic Direction 1.6:
  Develop ways to integrate online and traditional library services to meet patron needs wherever they are.
  Supports UWC Operational Plan, Strategies 2.9, 3.6 and 5.6, and Task 5.6.8

- **Identify or develop tools to quantify impact of library services and collections**
  Action Step d. from Strategic Direction 2.2:
  Expand the role of the libraries as an academic partner in campus recruitment and retention programs.
  Supports UWC Operational Plan, Strategy 3.5

- **Engage faculty in the assessment of student information literacy skills**
  Action Step c. from Strategic Direction 1.4:
  Incorporate information literacy skills into departmental learning outcomes and institutional priorities and support assessment of information learning outcomes.

- **Explore ways to support more frequent discussion and sharing of strategies and materials amongst library staff Colleges-wide**
  Reworded Action Step a. from Strategic Direction 1.3:
  Increase the effectiveness of the libraries’ information literacy program through collaboration and sharing of resources and expertise.

**Tier 2 priorities**

- **Develop required courses in research and library skills**
  Action Step a. from Strategic Direction 1.1:
Promote information literacy as a core component of student success and retention.

- **Compare services offered to on-campus students with comparable services to online, DE, Flex and BAAS students to find gaps**
  
  Reworded Action Step a. from Strategic Direction 1.6:
  
  Develop ways to integrate online and traditional library services to meet patron needs wherever they are.
  
  Supports UWC Operational Plan, Strategies 2.9, 3.6 and 5.6

- **Strategize new funding sources – grants, foundation partnerships, friends groups?**

  Action Step a. from Strategic Direction 3.2:
  
  Establish new areas of funding to expand library resources and programs.
  
  Supports UWC Operational Plan, Strategy 3.7 and Task 3.6.7

- **Work with Central Marketing to come up with Library-wide marketing plan which can then be individually customized by each campus**

  Action Step b. from Strategic Direction 2.4:
  
  Provide centralized support to campuses to market the shared resources and services of the libraries.