



Libraries

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024



MISSION

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Libraries are an innovative partner in the learning community and an active participant in promoting the university's goals of teaching, learning, scholarship and community outreach. The Libraries provide quality academic services and resources that foster intellectual curiosity, promote critical inquiry and encourage awareness of an increasingly diverse and global environment.

The annual report for the UWSP Libraries provides a comprehensive overview of our activities, accomplishments, and progress over the past year. This report reflects our continued commitment to our mission of being an innovative partner in the learning community and an active participant in promoting the university's goals of teaching, learning, scholarship, and community outreach.

Points of Pride

While much was accomplished over the last year, we would like to highlight a few key activities.

- **Demonstrated Fiscal Responsibility:** We thoroughly assessed resources for usage, programmatic needs, and usability. Underperforming resources were replaced with new options that better serve our users' needs, stay within our budget, and accommodate rising subscription costs.
- **Innovated with New Tools:** We embraced innovation by committing to a 3-year pilot program, alongside six other UW libraries, for a new interlibrary loan tool called Rapido. This tool will provide a more seamless user experience, increase efficiency for staff, save costs, and offer resource-sharing alternatives for all libraries in the future.
- **Celebrated Poetry:** We led a year-long programming effort in collaboration with 25 Central Wisconsin organizations, culminating in the distribution of 4,000 poems around the region on *Poem in Your Pocket Day*. This initiative was made possible through the successful receipt of a WiLS Ideas to Action grant.
- **Expanded Internship Opportunities:** We continued to expand high-impact practices by increasing the internships available through our Archives and Area Research Center.
- **Promoted Open Access Publishing:** We increased awareness and provided additional opportunities for UWSP researchers by emphasizing open access publishing as an alternative to traditional publishing models.
- **Fostered Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion:** We created a comprehensive framework for new employee onboarding and mentoring, fostering a culture of equity, diversity, and inclusion within our library team.

Future Strategic Priorities

Our work for the upcoming year will be informed by the broader strategic priorities of the institution and University College, and will include focus on open access and open educational resources, assessment of our credit-based courses, updating our web presence, developing undergraduate research support, developing information literacy Canvas tutorials, fostering EDI initiatives, and continuing to seek new ways to engage with campus and the broader community through partnerships and collaborations.

CONNECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2023-2024

Enhanced and Refreshed Collections

- **Resource Evaluation, Renewal, and Acquisition:**
 - Evaluated and renewed over 50 databases, 3 streaming video collections, 9 journal packages, and 132 individual journal subscriptions.
 - Collaborated with the Universities of Wisconsin Libraries to renew 14 system-wide resources, ensuring comprehensive access for our academic community.
 - Cancelled subscriptions to 9 electronic resources, 2 individual titles, and 1 microfilm newspaper resulting in savings of approximately \$15,000.
 - Used savings from cancellations to acquire 3 new resources that align with academic program needs including *IPA Source*, *PolicyMap*, and *ProQuest Historical Newspaper: Wisconsin Collection*.
- **Collection Refreshment:**
 - Expanded our physical collection with 1,781 new titles and enriched our digital resources with 219 new ebooks.
 - Withdrew 18,678 outdated and lower-use items from our physical collection.
- **Strategic Priority:** Prepared collections for relocation to new building.

Archives and Preservation

- **Material Processing:** Processed 172.48 linear feet of physical materials.
- **Collaborations:** Worked with the Forest History Association to process additions to their collection and continued collaborative efforts on this important project.
- **Records Management:** Supported various campus departments, including the Office of the Registrar, University Advancement, University College Administration, International Education, Human Resources, Risk Compliance, and the Disability Resource Center.
- **Historic Preservation:** The Historic Preservation Collection and committee have been moved from the Common Council to operate under the Archives.

Technology and Accessibility

- **LibKey Nomad Extension:** Collaborated with IT to install the [LibKey Nomad](#) extension on Chrome and Edge browsers across student computer labs, enhancing access to our resources for the UWSP community.
- **Strategic Priority:** Reviewed acquisitions process for efficiency and timely notifications.
- **Strategic Priority:** Participated in pilot program to evaluate and potentially transition to Rapido as a replacement of Iliad to provide a better user and staff experience and save dollars.

CONNECT

Connecting individuals to resources is one of the most effective strategies to foster individual success. Whether they be materials, services, or people, we cultivate deep knowledge of the tools that students, faculty, and staff need. The Libraries will connect users to information and technology resources by:

- Facilitating discovery of information via our search tools
- Providing equitable access to physical and electronic collections that support the curricular and research needs of the institution
- Enhancing local collections with resource sharing, interlibrary loan, and Area Research Center transfer services
- Ensuring preservation of unique and local materials
- Offering a technology-rich environment

➤ **CONNECT STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

Library Action Item: Prepare collections for relocation to new building.

UWSP Strategic Plan Theme 3: Expanding Educational Opportunities for Student Success
Goal 3.2: We will deliver vibrant yet tailored student services that support the retention and success of all students.

University College Priority 2: Retain the focus of our work established in 2022-23.

Selected Actions:

- Continued to relabel, inventory, and shelf-read collections.
- Conducted focused weeding including review of duplicates, outdated editions, poor condition, VHS, and rare books. Withdrew 18,678 items.
- Dispersed withdrawn items and unwanted gift books to Better World Books and Thrift Books. Coordinated freight pickup of four gaylords of materials.
- Finished measuring Main Stacks, calculated approximate linear footage for each section of major collections, estimating total linear footage at 23,081 for Main Stacks.
- Archives consolidated A/V materials into boxes, reducing the footprint.
- Conducted mapping of specific collections to shelving locations in the new building.

Library Action Item: Review acquisitions process for efficiency and timely notifications.

UWSP Strategic Goal Theme 3: Expanding Educational Opportunities for Student Success
Goal 3.4: We will create an enriched learning environment through the use of advanced evidence-based practices and educational tools, innovative technologies, and equity-minded pedagogies.

University College Priority 5: Focus on continuous improvement initiatives to reach strategic goals.

Selected Actions:

- Restructured fiscal ledger and allocations to practicable levels.
- Worked with Rialto to enhance online request form, checking appropriate options to improve notifications.
- UWSP Acquisitions team met with key Rialto personnel to troubleshoot and resolve variety of Rialto acquisitions, receiving/processing, and invoicing related issues.
- Held two Rialto training sessions for Library faculty/staff.

Library Action Item: Participate in a pilot program to evaluate and potentially transition to Rapido as a replacement of Illiad to provide a better user and staff experience and save dollars.

UWSP Strategic Goal Theme 3: Expanding Educational Opportunities for Student Success
Goal 3.4: We will create an enriched learning environment through the use of advanced evidence-based practices and educational tools, innovative technologies, and equity-minded pedagogies.

University College Priority 5: Focus on continuous improvement initiatives to reach strategic goals.

Selected Actions:

- Committed, along with 6 other UW campuses, to a 3-year commitment to Rapido in lieu of OCLC Worldshare and Illiad interlibrary loan systems.
- Worked with UW System Shared Systems support to implement Rapido on our campus.
- Began accepting lending and borrowing requests in Rapido, which went live May 28, 2024.
- Processed items and assisted patrons as Rapido launched, provided feedback on workflows, in preparation for the discontinuation of Illiad (10/31/24) and Worldshare (6/30/25).
- Committed to an agreement with the Department of Public Instruction to facilitate interlibrary loan activity with public libraries in Wisconsin.

ENGAGE ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2023-2024

Engagement and Outreach

- **Orientation Participation:** Actively participated in Pointers Welcome Week, Residence Hall orientation events, new and transfer student orientation programs, and new faculty and staff orientation. Additionally, we engaged in Welcome Week activities such as the Community Engagement Fair.
- **Key Awareness Months/Events:** Highlighted and promoted library resources and services through displays, events, and social media content during significant awareness months and events. These included Banned Books Week, Open Access Week, Hmong Heritage Month, Black History Month, Women's History Month, Hispanic Heritage Month, National Poetry Month, Children's Book Week, Earth Week, Indigenous Peoples' Day, Pride Month, Juneteenth, Study Abroad Fair, and more.
- **Exam Crams:** Hosted two themed Exam Crams for students, featuring carnival and totally '90s themes. These events provided food, games, and a relaxing atmosphere to help students study and unwind. We also promoted our reference services and games collections.
- **Archives Initiatives:**
 - Conducted three video game events.
 - Engaged in tabling for Homecoming.
 - Provided artifacts and information for the Iris alum tour.
 - Assisted with the Women's History Month Exhibit in the DUC, including details about "Take Back the Night."
 - Began blog post articles to tell stories of University history and illustrate how archival collections can be used for research.
- **Branch Campus Initiatives:**
 - Monthly trivia content creation and hosting.
 - Apples to Apples library game sessions.
 - "What Do You Meme" activities to promote student support services.
 - Interactive whiteboard and magnetic poetry board displays.
 - Hosted EqualiTEA in collaboration with the TLC.
- **Strategic Priority:** Implemented the WiLS Idea to Action Grant (Poetry in Your Pocket Day) by collaborating with campus and community organizations to offer year-long programming related to poetry.
- **Strategic Priority:** Promoted Reference, Instruction, and Collections to faculty and staff.

Collaborations

- **Storytimes with the Museum of Natural History:** Provided space for bi-monthly storytimes during the fall and spring semesters. Supplied books for read-alouds and browsing by attendees, enriching the community's educational experience.
- **History 390 Exhibit:** Worked with the History 390 (museum studies) class to explore library history and create an informative display.
- **Food Drive with The Cupboard:** Partnered with the campus food pantry to promote National Library Week and campus resources. Collected a large bin of food donations and distributed information about The Cupboard.

ENGAGE

Engaging students and faculty in activities and curricula brings meaning to education. We develop and advocate for high impact educational experiences that allow our students, employees, campus, and communities to thrive. The Libraries will engage users with our resources and services by:

- Participating in campus orientations, information fairs, and other events
- Communicating with users to generate awareness of library activities
- Offering programming that promotes the libraries' mission
- Offering high-impact experiences (internships, student manager program, student employment)

➤ **ENGAGE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

Library Action Item: Implement the WiLS Idea to Action Grant (Poetry in Your Pocket Day) by collaborating with campus and community organizations to offer year-long programming related to poetry.

UWSP Strategic Goal Theme 3: Expanding Educational Opportunities for Student Success
Goal 3.3: We will build and enhance a community that values inclusion, equity, and diversity.

University College Priority 4: Ensure equitable access to services. All students are welcomed and feel like they belong and we extend ourselves to where the students already are.

Selected Actions:

- Collaborated with 25 community organizations for Poem in Your Pocket Day.
- Rolled and distributed over 4,000 poems.
- Created and marketed [Library Guide](#) related to the day (viewed 586 times since April 2024).
- Hired two UWSP student ambassadors to promote the event through curated videos.
- Received support from UCM for promotional videos, a press release, and campus advertising.
- Event coverage by [City Pages](#) media outlet.

Library Action Item: Promote Reference, Instruction, and Collections to faculty and staff.

UWSP Strategic Plan Theme 3: Expanding Educational Opportunities for Student Success
Goal 3.1 We will prioritize and expand high-impact practices (HIP) to boost student learning, development, and engagement.

University College Priority 1: Engage with faculty on academic belonging and the classroom impact on student success.

Selected Actions:

- Revised [instruction webpage](#), creating a menu of services.
- Hosted a School/Department representatives' session in the fall with 20 attendees.
- Added suggested library language to the [CITL syllabus template](#).
- Developed [resource guide](#) for using artificial intelligence (focused on use in teaching and using responsibility). Developed student-focused tutorial on using AI for assignments and uploaded to Canvas Commons for use in courses.
- Created monthly "Friday Footnotes" update email to faculty/staff. Restarted the semesterly [library newsletter](#). Began a semesterly [Archives newsletter](#).

SUPPORT ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2023-2024

Instruction and Reference

- **Comprehensive Library Instruction:** Conducted 232 library instruction sessions, including 53 upper-level classes, reaching over 4,600 students and dedicating over 227 hours to teaching.
- **Research Support:** Provided 237 research consultations, marking a 30% increase from the previous year. Additionally, we answered over 4,000 reference questions, demonstrating our commitment to student and faculty support.
- **High School and Middle School Engagement:** Beyond supporting UWSP courses through our instruction and reference program, we conducted six research days for high school students and facilitated 16 sessions for over 450 eighth graders in the Wausau area. We also actively participated in the Upward Bound program, broadening our impact on pre-college students.

Instructor and Course Support

- **Course Materials:** Our Course Reserve service provided affordable educational resources, including licensed course content like streaming videos and ebooks.
- **Strategic Priority:** Provided support and advocacy for open access publishing models.
- **Strategic Priority:** Provided support and advocacy for open educational resources.

Student Employment and Internships

- **Employment Opportunities:** Provided employment opportunities for approximately 20 students, fostering professional growth and practical experience.
- **Internship Programs:** Facilitated internships for one LRES 380 student and 12 students in our Archives, offering hands-on learning and career development in library sciences and archival work.

Undergraduate Research Support

- **Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activities (URSCA) Program:** Integrated this revitalized program into the libraries' portfolio of information and research-focused services. The URSCA program provides travel grants and funding for poster printing, supporting students in presenting their research.
- **Promoting Student Research:** Enhanced the visibility and preservation of undergraduate and graduate student work by adding contributions to collections such as the [COLS Undergraduate Research Symposium](#), [Jim & Katie Krause CNR Student Research Symposium](#), [Research in the Rotunda](#), [theses](#), and, [dissertations](#).
- **John Anderson Spirit of Community Award:** Honored Jarita Bavido as the recipient of this year's John Anderson Community of Spirit Award for her outstanding work, [Julia Grignon Mayrond and the Central Wisconsin Ho-Chunk, 1874-1894](#).

SUPPORT

Supporting students and faculty in their academic pursuits is at the core of our mission. Our inclusive and person-centered services guide students, faculty, and staff through their growth and development. The Libraries will support users in the discovery and creation of knowledge by:

- Promoting information literacy and critical thinking through our reference and instruction program
- Providing instructor and student support via course reserves and integration of content/services into the learning management system
- Consulting on research and scholarly activities (scholarly communication, open access publications, copyright)
- Providing safe and welcoming spaces that foster both individual and collaborative study

➤ **SUPPORT STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

Library Action item: Provide support and advocacy for open access publishing models.

UWSP Strategic Plan Theme 3: Expanding Educational Opportunities for Student Success
Goal 3.1 We will prioritize and expand high-impact practices (HIP) to boost student learning, development, and engagement.

University College Priority 1: Engage with faculty on academic belonging and the classroom impact on student success.

Selected Actions:

- Promoted and implemented open access (OA) collections and OA publishing opportunities throughout the year by developing and implementing a marketing plan that included:
 - OA promotion during International Open Access Week through placement of posters campus wide, emails to School/Dept representatives, announcements on social media, and creation of an [educational YouTube video](#).
 - Updated our [open access guide](#).
 - Highlighted UWSP researchers on social media that have authored articles in UWSP OA collections.
 - Offered a 1-hour open access publishing workshop.
- Advocated and negotiated with publishers to transition journal packages to transformative agreements offering both read and publish opportunities.
 - Coordinated a group of 8 UW campuses, attempted to enter a consortia transformative agreement with Taylor and Francis, however, costs were unaffordable, and negotiations ended.
 - Initiated contact with Cambridge University Press on a possible transformative agreement resulting in anticipated subscription in 2025.
 - Beginning conversations with Springer.
- Continued adding high impact open access journal titles to UWSPs high impact/open access e-journal electronic collections in Alma.
- Highlighted and preserved faculty, staff, and student research in our institutional repository, MINDS@UW.

Library Action Item: Provide support and advocacy for open educational resources.

UWSP Strategic Plan Theme 3: Expanding Educational Opportunities for Student Success
Goal 3.1 We will prioritize and expand high-impact practices (HIP) to boost student learning, development, and engagement.

University College Priority 1: Engage with faculty on academic belonging and the classroom impact on student success.

Selected Actions:

- Promoted open educational resources during open access week (Oct 23-29).
- Began conversations with CITL and Text Rental subcommittee about OER strategy.
- Created inventory of OER use on campus.
- Continued supporting affordable educational resources by facilitating access to ebooks and streaming videos.
- Created [best practices](#) for copyright in canvas.
- Added 60,000 records for Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB) to Primo.

COLLABORATE ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2023-2024

Staff Development and Collaboration

- **New Employee Onboarding and Mentoring:** Developed and implemented a comprehensive onboarding and mentoring framework for new employees, ensuring a smooth transition and fostering professional growth.
- **Branch Campus Collaborations:**
 - Partnered with the Point Card Office to streamline the distribution of ID cards.
 - Collaborated with the Bookstore/Text Rental to facilitate efficient textbook returns, enhancing the convenience and experience for students.
- **Recognition of Excellence:** Celebrated the outstanding achievements of Carrie Kline, who received the prestigious Board of Regents University Staff Work Excellence Award.
- **Staff Retreat on Artificial Intelligence:** Organized a staff retreat focused on exploring the implications and applications of artificial intelligence, promoting continuous learning and adaptation to emerging technologies.

Commitment to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

- **Strategic Priority:** Took action on the [Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion \(EDI\) plan](#) we developed and approved in May 2021.
- **Strategic Priority:** Archives engaged in an oral history project documenting university history through lived experiences.

COLLABORATE

Collaborating with colleagues across the university is the foundation of what we do. We foster open dialogue, a willingness to learn more, and a practice of applying collective resources to serve the whole. The Libraries will foster a spirit of collaboration by

- partnering with departments and units across campus on mutual goals
- cooperating with UW System libraries as well as libraries and organizations within Central Wisconsin and beyond

➤ **COLLABORATE STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

Library Action Item: UWSP Libraries will take action on the EDI plan we developed and approved in May 2021.

UWSP Strategic Plan Theme 3: Expanding Educational Opportunities for Student Success
Goal 3.3: We will build and enhance a community that values inclusion, equity, and diversity.

University College Priority 4: Ensure equitable access to services. All students are welcomed and feel like they belong and we extend ourselves to where the students already are.

Selected Actions:

- Approved [Statement on Potentially Harmful Language](#) in the Library Catalog and Archival Descriptions.
- Approved the [General Privacy Statement](#) to follow best practices regarding the retention of information we collect about our users.
- Developed Framework for New Employee Onboarding and Mentoring.
- Embedded EDI in planning of programs, events, and displays.
- Archives processed Native American Center records.
- Archives completed reparative description for archive folder titles.
- Archives implemented reserved parking spot to reduce barriers for access.
- Expanded diversity and inclusivity in collections with focused acquisitions in children’s literature, IMC textbooks, multilingual materials, LGBTQIA+ titles, people with disabilities, and student success.
- Portion of materials included in our shipments to Better World Books and Thrift Books contribute to global literacy programs.

Library Action Item: Archives will engage in an oral history project documenting university history through lived experiences.

UWSP Strategic Plan Theme 3: Expanding Educational Opportunities for Student Success
Goal 3.3: We will build and enhance a community that values inclusion, equity, and diversity.

University College Priority 4: Ensure equitable access to services. All students are welcomed and feel like they belong and we extend ourselves to where the students already are.

Selected Actions:

- Hired and trained 6 student interns to assist with this work.
- Completed 11 interviews that will eventually be put online, along with the transcripts.
- Leveraged artificial intelligence capabilities by using the Whisper program to assist with transcription, making the process more efficient.
- Retiring Collection Development Librarian participated in by doing interviews related to campus history and beer riots.

USE OF LIBRARY RESOURCES AND SERVICES

	AY18	AY19	AY20	AY21	AY22	AY23	AY24
Reference & Instruction							
Reference questions (UWSP)	2,603	2,114	1,489	853	1,260	1,060	1,115
Reference questions (branches)	NA	296	156	84	209	215	118
Archives questions	3,522	2,562	2,328	1,947	3,502	2,957	2,938
Reference questions (Total)	6,125	4,972	3,973	2,884	4,971	4,232	4,171
Research consultations (UWSP)	93	76	63	39	172	161	223
Research consultations (branches)	NA	12	10	9	10	22	14
Research consultations (total)	93	88	73	44	182	183	237
Instruction courses (UWSP)	331	301	217	129	180	216	207
Instruction courses (branches)	NA	25	31	22	32	31	25
Instruction courses (total)	331	326	247	151	212	247	232
Instruction # participants	6,979	6,369	5,152	N/A	4,443	5,074	4,677
LRES 101 sections*	5	5	4	3	2	3	2
LRES 150 sections	NA	NA	NA	NA	1	2	4
LRES 380 interns	2	1	3	2	1	1	1
Other interns	0	1	2	3	2	7	12
Research Guide views	30,307	29,676	31,137	36,341	36,312	45,079	91,184
Collections and Discovery							
Search@UW queries	236,950	232,637	194,880	162,836	159,323	157,001	178,264
Website Visits	236,328	193,747	189,309	143,929	138,632	98,602**	NA**
Total # titles (print and electronic)	NA	1,000,070	927,345	758,228	739,128	752,444	708,187
Total # titles (electronic)	NA	469,399	407,384	235,789	259,043	276,586	245,834
Total # titles (physical)	NA	530,671	519,961	521,837	480,053	462,815	449,823
Total # items (physical)	700,767	754,921	757,206	741,610	681,472	675,007	658,090
Checkouts	20,281	16,756	11,917	7,703	9,300	5,764	6,439
Renewals	7,410	5,091	2,776	2,112	2,714	2,271	2,363
Browses	32,915	44,450	26,340	15,208	18,388	5,595	5,751
Circulation Total	60,606	66,297	41,033	25,023	30,402	13,630	14,553
Resource Sharing requests	7,112	6,484	5,017	3,038	4,164	4,404	4,887
Interlibrary Loan requests	7,740	6,665	5,268	4,568	5,531	4,104	5,140

*AY18-AY21 include one section of the LRES 102 honor's section

**Google Analytics stopped counting April 2023. Migrated to new Analytics interface, unable to obtain library specific numbers.