

Submitted to the Programmatic Sub-Committee of the Drake Planning Council by Cowles Library, October 2007.

Specific Objective #1. Cowles Library Renovation/Addition

Drake University should have a library facility that is commensurate with its aspirations to be a greater university. The main library facility needs to be upgraded and expanded to meet the needs of the 21st century mission of Drake.

Proposals / Activities:

1. Develop a facility that is organized and designed around learning needs; is flexible and adaptable to emerging social/technological trends; provides “people space” for individuals, groups, classes, and community events; has space for “learning clusters” that bring together collections and services for various disciplines; supports Drake archives and special collections. The facility will also be ADA compliant and support both greater security and social interaction, thus allowing extended hours of operation.
2. Develop a facility that promotes integration of services: student assistance and advising; academic technology support; other appropriate academic Centers.

Specific Objective #2: Information Resources for Excellence

The primary focus of this initiative is to take the depth, scope, and quality of the library information resources to the highest level commensurate with the learning and research needs of the academic programs.

Proposals / Activities:

1. Cowles Library will partner with the faculty of each of the academic programs/majors, via the Library Liaison structure, to develop a profile for excellence in each area.

Specific Objective #3:

Establish a Drake University Archives Program, which will foster the preservation of the Drake historical record. Exploit the Drake Digital Repository to advance interdisciplinary programs and global awareness of Drake scholarship.

Proposals / Activities:

1. Help create and preserve electronic portfolios for Drake scholars.
2. Establish a Drake Archives Program, headed by a Drake Heritage Specialist.
3. Develop the Drake Memory Project. This project will provide a unique learning environment for students to interview and collaborate with Drake Alumni and other members of the Drake community.