MISSION

The Brooklyn College Library & Academic IT unit advances knowledge, stimulates creativity and intellectual inquiry, supports education, fosters research partnerships, and engages diverse communities. We provide access to resources and support for their exploration, within facilities that support user needs. We encourage innovation and provide a unified, integrated support structure for teaching, learning, and research.

VISION

We are a strong, unified library and technology organization, primarily dedicated to supporting a broad undergraduate liberal arts and sciences curriculum and select graduate programs, but also supporting faculty research, technology exploration, and community engagement. We prepare students for a lifetime of ongoing learning, discovery, and intellectual curiosity, and give them tools to succeed in these endeavors. We have particularly strong support for research on “all things Brooklyn” - the vibrant borough of Brooklyn itself.

VALUES & GOALS

In the following pages, Brooklyn College Library & Academic IT will describe its values and goals under the 6 general areas of:

- Collections & Services
- Research & Teaching Support
- Technological Leadership
- Community & Collaboration
- Faculty & Staff Development
- Space & Place
COLLECTIONS & SERVICES:

VALUES

• Service excellence
• Stewardship of, and provision of access to, strong collections and resources
• Acquisition and/or creation of unique archival collections, especially those dealing with the Borough of Brooklyn and its history

GOALS

• Expand our licensed/purchased collections through exploration of innovative models to enhance access, such as the proposed CUNY Universal Access model, participation in statewide initiatives such as I2NY, and more.
• Develop a strategy for research data management at Brooklyn College Library.
• Participate in CUNY-wide institutional repository initiatives.
• Develop strategic and workflow plans for existing archival collections.
• Evaluate select archival collections for digitization potential.
• Undertake select initiatives using the new Blackboard Library module.
• Update the Library’s successful LOOP (Library Online Orientation Program) tutorial.
RESEARCH & TEACHING SUPPORT:

VALUES

- Advancement of knowledge
- Fostering research partnerships
- Intellectual freedom
- Open access to scholarly information, within and beyond the library community
- Seamless, integrated support for teaching, research, and academic technology needs

GOALS

- Pilot the development and use of Open Educational Resources in select courses, in partnership with other campus offices.
- Promote Open Access initiatives as appropriate
- Engage the scholarly community at Brooklyn College with events and information on such issues as intellectual freedom, copyright, evolving trends in scholarly communication and scholarly publishing, and related matters.
- Provide “one-stop shopping” for the information and academic technology needs of faculty, staff, and students.
- Evaluate the Minor in Archival Studies & Community Documentation, offered in collaboration with the Department of History, and develop recommendations.
- Examine evolving needs of students in varying environments, such as General Education, capstone courses, experiential or extra-curricular learning environments, undergraduate research seminars, etc.
- Undertake assessment initiatives.
TECHNOLOGICAL LEADERSHIP:

VALUES

• Technological innovation
• Risk-taking
• Entrepreneurial approaches to problem-solving

GOALS

• Expand our existing entrepreneurial programs, by partnering with professional associations and/or private partners as appropriate.
• Continue to offer – and expand - our academic technology products and support to other offices at Brooklyn College and CUNY. Prime examples of high-use support products include our timesheet system (being adapted by HR), our Inventory Management System (being considered by Property Management), our Promotion & Tenure file management system (rolled out College-wide in 2014, and being upgraded and expanded in 2015), and our hosting services (used by Guttman Community College).
• Continue to develop additional entrepreneurial projects, based on our users’ needs.
COMMUNITY & COLLABORATION:

VALUES

- Open and transparent communication across all constituencies
- Respect for diversity within the community and the work environment, and awareness that diversity fosters a dynamic environment
- Collaboration with campus and community partners, and good citizenship within our various communities

GOALS

- Undertake research to examine the needs of our diverse community of users.
- Recruit actively from diverse communities.
- Undertake expanded collaborations with the Center for Teaching, Magner Center, Learning Center, Transfer Nation, and other campus offices to expand the opportunities and services available to students, and to train partners (peer tutors, WAC fellows, etc.)
- Continue to exhibit art and archival collections in the Library and host a wide array of community and campus events.
FACULTY & STAFF DEVELOPMENT:

VALUES

- Opportunities for mentoring and mentorship, individual growth, research support, and participation in leadership opportunities throughout the organization
- Support for professional development

GOALS

- Actively support faculty participation in formal and informal mentoring programs.
- Provide leadership and professional development opportunities via the Council of Campus Libraries, and encourage participation therein by Brooklyn College Library faculty and staff.
- Develop an internship for science students, aimed at showing such students opportunities available to them via a career in library and information science. (There is a longstanding profession-wide shortage of librarians with STEM backgrounds.)
- Partner with the CUNY QC graduate program in library and information science (and other programs) to offer internships and part-time positions, thus enhancing the professional development of the next generation of library and information science professionals.
- Maintain a list of sources of professional development and grant support, and share this list broadly among Brooklyn College Library/AIT faculty and staff.
- Encourage professional development for all faculty and staff, with targeted support.
SPACE & PLACE:

VALUES

- Library as Place
- Supportive and user-centered spaces for a variety of needs
- Campus-wide use of space in library for events
- Community hub

GOALS

- Develop a comprehensive list of space priorities and plans.
- Equip selected group study rooms with technology suitable for practicing presentations and group projects.
- Upgrade equipment and infrastructure in the Woody Tanger Auditorium.
- Upgrade audiovisual equipment and infrastructure in the Multipurpose Room.
- Upgrade infrastructure and audiovisual equipment in select additional teaching/group spaces.
- Enhance the availability of additional power and data at study tables. Currently, most tables have a single outlet; though this was a major recent upgrade (many areas previously had no power or data), it remains not quite adequate, as more users come to the Library with multiple devices.
- Undertake an assessment of Library space.
SUMMARY:

The Brooklyn College Library & Academic IT has woven throughout its plans a series of formative values, including

- Creativity
- Curiosity
- Exploration
- Intellectual growth
- Development of research skills
- Dedication to the student and faculty experience

These serve to inform our plans for the future.