

**GMIT, Castlebar Campus.
The Moore Library Strategic Plan, 2009-2014**

Table of Contents

Mission	3
Background	4
Influences	5
Goals and Strategies	6
Library Service Ethos	7
Library Collections	7
Library Facilities and Equipment	8
Library Staff Development	8

Mission

The Moore library aims to provide a learner centred, quality service to our students, staff and the wider community

- through provision of the necessary learning resources,
 - through provision of comfortable, modern and up to date facilities and equipment,
 - through the efforts of a highly trained, professional and motivated staff.
-

Background

Castlebar Campus has achieved its 15th year as a third level education provider. For the academic year 2008/2009 the campus has circa 810 full time registered students and 600 part time students. The Moore library has grown and developed with the campus.

Heretofore the library has not had a strategic plan document. Planning was done on a weekly, term, and yearly basis. Weekly meetings allowed for operational planning and were also used as a forum where service developments were planned. Library staff would have held formal and informal brainstorming sessions with regard to future planning and policy changes. The library has specifically aimed to improve service delivery each year and this is recorded in the annual statistical library report.

Much of the long term planning centred on improvement and expansion of buildings. Some expansion took place in 2000 and a buildings plan with a 5 year trajectory was compiled in 2003 and amended in 2006.

The library has also carried out numerous user surveys, and has sought feedback each term through the library committee.

The library completed a quality review process in 2007 which focused on the previous five years. The library produced a written review, hosted a site visit by a reviewing panel that in return made recommendations in written format. One of these recommendations was that Castlebar campus library should have a strategic plan.

The library is conscious of the need to structure planning. A written strategic plan guides and directs, and ensures that a planning framework exists for the future.

Influences

-This plan aims to mirror the main thrust of the current Institute Strategic Plan. The GMIT Strategic Plan 2004-2009 has four strategic drivers: the importance of a *student centred* organisation, promoting the development of a *learning region*, emphasising *staff professional development* in support of the above and a *research strategy* integrating research, teaching and regional development. The library strategic plan will be for a five year period, 2009-2014 and it will be reviewed regarding a new Institute strategic plan.

-Castlebar Campus is an integral part of the community of Castlebar and the wider provincial community. Castlebar campus provides third level education to school leavers, mature students, students with special needs and students from different cultural backgrounds. The Moore library strategy must support all programs and learners, and all academic and planning initiatives specific to Castlebar campus.

-The library invited student and staff feedback on current library services, and on future library needs and expectations. This was done in the form of student and staff 'focus groups' and a staff 'e-mail blitz' and student 'comment sheet' appeal for information. All Castlebar library staff have been involved with this process through group sessions.

-The Moore library benefits from being a part of the larger organisation that is GMIT libraries; through the leadership and expertise of senior library management and the sharing of systems and resources. Any strategic plan for the Moore library must reflect GMIT libraries collective future strategy.

-The Moore library strategies will be challenged by the national financial environment. This is evident with the current economic recession and the emphasis on reduction in government public expenditure.

-The Moore library plan will also be influenced by the core values of intellectual freedom, academic freedom, freedom of information, access to information and respect for intellectual property rights.

Goals and Strategies

Library staff identified four core functional areas around which we can set goals and plan strategically.

- Library Service Ethos**
- Library Collections**
- Library Equipment and Facilities**
- Library Staff Development**

Library Service Ethos

The library supports teaching and learning at third level.

Goal

To provide a courteous, focused, quality, *learner centred* service. To support the learner to achieve an academic qualification, to develop as an individual, and to progress further.

Strategies

- Aspire to excellence in one to one contact with learners.
- Continue to develop relationships with Academic staff who will champion and advocate for library services.
- Enhance communication with other GMIT campus libraries and nurture cooperation with Public and Health Library services.
- Work towards stable and consistent opening hours.
- Continue with development of information skills training. Get student input regarding content of information skills programs.
- Extend library remit by using the library for outreach activities.
- Maintain up to date detailed Operational and Millennium procedures.
- Investigate alternative methods of evaluating library performance such as Benchmarking or KPIs.

Library Collections

Collections are the backbone of the library. The library's collections support student and staff learning, research needs, and can also be a resource for the local and regional community.

Goal

To develop and grow the library's collections to support all current and future programs and research.

Strategies

- Get library representation on program boards with a view to improving collection development.
- Assess age and lending categories of book stock.
- Implement system to record and assess use of print journals.
- Identify e-only resources where appropriate.
- Encourage and promote increased usage of current electronic resources amongst academic staff and students.
- Preserve, organise, catalogue and put into stock the special collection of papers, books and journals received from Rev. Professor Enda McDonagh. Make this collection available to internal and external scholars and researchers.
- To prepare and implement a procedure and structure for the supply of past exam papers to the library, both print and electronic.

Library Facilities and Equipment

The campus library needs to provide adequate facilities for work, study and research.

Goal

To maintain a safe, adequately fitted and equipped built environment.

Strategies

- Upgrade student computers and printing facilities.
- Upgrade photocopying equipment.
- Provide more power points for lap top users.
- Improve space and layout of current student computer area.
- Improve facilities for delivering electronic resource training to students. Pursue new space for information skills training and group study.
- Develop easy access to first floor resources for physically disabled.
- Improve ergonomic layout of circulation desk.

Library Staff Development

Staff are the most important library resource.

Goal

To nurture and encourage all staff to excel at what they do, and to further their education and skills.

Strategies

- That all staff would attend at least one external staff development or training course annually.
- Organise skills training on interpersonal communication and conflict management.
- Continue to contribute to and develop annual inter campus staff development day with colleagues on Galway campuses.
- Develop internal training program and use campus Videoconferencing facilities to enable intercampus training.
- Encourage membership of Professional bodies and committees.
- Continue programme of PMDS and carry out review of same.

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.win2pdf.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.
This page will not be added after purchasing Win2PDF.