

Goals and Objectives of the University Library's Government Documents, Maps, and Microforms Department

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Version 1.3

Mission: The mission of the Department is to promote the ability to find, evaluate and use information resources, within the full exercise of freedom of inquiry that is an integral part of teaching and learning at University, and to serve the civic information needs of the University's larger community throughout the Chicago metropolitan area. To meet this mission, it develops and maintains collections, services and reference tools to support, as well as enhance, the information literacy skills critical to independent intellectual inquiry and lifelong learning.

Goal 1 To make deliberative changes to the department's collection development strategy that reflects a new emphasis on local, regional, and state government information.

Thrust

1. To maintain dynamic collections of material and cartographic information (paper, microforms, and digital) which assures citizens of the citizens of the greater Chicago metropolitan area to continued access to this important material.
2. To maintain access to all levels of government information, both current and retrospective, regardless of format, as part of the Federal Depository Library Program, Illinois Depository Library Program, Department of Energy, Chicago Operations office reading room, Earth Science Information Center.
3. To continue to build on the partnership with the Northeastern Illinois Planning Commission.

Goal 2 To develop effective changes to the bibliographic control and access processes used by the department.

Thrust

1. To develop the necessary means of bibliographic control and access which will assure citizens the capability to identify and retrieve government and cartographic information.
2. To assure government and cartographic information is properly cataloged, organized and retrieved to the same standards as other material in the library's collections, whether it is digital, paper, or microform.

Goal 3 To assure a certain level of public service that sustains a high level of access, knowledge, and awareness of critical public information sources produced by government authorities.

Thrust

1. To provide service that is both efficient and effective service to the community interested in how to find and use of government and cartographic information, both current and retrospective, regardless of format, within the scope of the department's collection development policy.

2. To develop specific bibliographic tools, reference guides, world wide web pages, teaching units, classes, and other means of instruction or public awareness.
4. Work with government agencies (through formal depository agreements, partnerships, advocacy and research grants) to assure faculty, students, and members of the public who are served by the University's land grant mission.
5. Work to assure that knowledge produced by government agencies remain a vital and permanent part of the civic dialogue between citizens and their representatives. In particular, the library will focus on the federal, state, regional and local governments in the greater Chicago metropolitan area.