

UVM Libraries' Vision & Values | Working Version | Approved by Dean's Council 07/27/21

As key contributors to the educational, research, and land-grant missions of the University of Vermont, the UVM Libraries are an essential resource for the students, faculty, and staff of our university; the medical professionals of the UVM Medical Center; and members of our local, state, and world-wide communities.

We commit ourselves to professional, person-centered service, guided by these core values:

- **Accessible resources, tools, and physical and digital spaces** that make information and services available to all people, regardless of means and without restrictions, and overcome barriers to learning
- **Digital and physical collections** that represent and preserve the breadth and depth of human thought and action¹ and evolve in response to changing information needs
- **Instruction and consultation** that broaden understanding, teach critical thinking, and develop lifelong learners
- **Research and scholarship** that transform and expand the world's collected knowledge
- **Diverse perspectives, experiences, and thoughts** that enrich learning and strengthen human connections
- **Respectful interactions and collaborations** that encourage exploration, risk-taking, discovery, and growth
- **Sustainable practices** that are environmentally, economically, and socially aware
- **Intellectual freedom principles** that:
 - Protect "the right of library users to read, seek information, and speak freely as guaranteed by the First Amendment"²
 - Preserve "the right of every individual to both seek and receive information from all points of view without restriction"³
 - Ensure the right to privacy, which allows open, unmonitored inquiry and is "essential to the exercise of free speech, free thought, and free association"⁴

As a member of the University of Vermont community, the UVM Libraries also subscribe to the University's community values as expressed in its [Our Common Ground](#) and [Equal Opportunity Statements](#). We honor diversity, equity, and inclusion, and reject all forms of hate, bias, harassment, and injustice.

¹ "The development of library collections in support of an institution's instruction and research programs should transcend the personal values of the selector. In the interests of research and learning, it is essential that collections contain materials representing a variety of perspectives on subjects that may be considered controversial." "Intellectual Freedom Principles for Academic Libraries: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights", American Library Association, September 6, 2006. <http://www.ala.org/acrl/publications/whitepapers/intellectual> (Accessed July 20, 2021) Document ID: 00c2f303-5575-7d64-f1a0-4c42cbff5340

² "Support for Intellectual Freedom", American Library Association, December 18, 2017. <http://www.ala.org/tools/challengesupport/selectionpolicytoolkit/intellectualfreedom> (Accessed July 16, 2021) Document ID: 4f6c0837-3b7d-474c-b992-9927a3f565d9

³ "Intellectual Freedom and Censorship Q & A", American Library Association, May 29, 2007. <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/intfreedom/censorship/faq> (Accessed July 20, 2021) Document ID: e8ae9ed7-a469-f0d4-adf0-f2770d2ca8e8

⁴ "Privacy", American Library Association, June 13, 2008. <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/privacy> (Accessed July 21, 2021) Document ID: 1b8e7062-6f53-8e54-c9ce-87dff34d8008

Suggestions for Further Reading:

["Amplifying Our Impact: Strategic Vision for UVM"](#)

from the Office of the President

["Code of Ethics for Health Sciences Librarianship"](#)

by the Medical Library Association

["Core Values of Librarianship"](#)

by the American Library Association

[Core Values of the Medical Library Association](#)

Medical Library Association fix this link

["First Amendment and Censorship"](#)

by the American Library Association

[*HATE: Why We Should Resist It with Free Speech, Not Censorship*](#)

by Nadine Strossen

New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2020

["Inclusive Excellence at UVM"](#)

from the UVM Office of the President

["Intellectual Freedom Principles for Academic Libraries: An Interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights"](#)

by the American Library Association

["Mission, Priority Areas, and Goals"](#)

by the American Library Association

[Society of American Archivists' Core Values Statement and Code of Ethics](#)

["University Libraries Common Ground"](#)

by UVM Libraries

["University of Vermont Statement on 'Academic Freedom'"](#)

Adopted by the Faculty Senate on September 23, 1954, approved by the Board of Trustees on October 16, 1954 and revised and adopted by the Faculty Senate on November 20, 2008 and approved by the Board of Trustees on February 7, 2009.

[The University of Vermont's "Academic Success Goals"](#)

from the UVM Provost's Office

[The University of Vermont's "Our Common Ground"](#)

from the Office of the President

["UVM Equal Opportunity Statements"](#)

from the University of Vermont

["UVM Libraries Inclusive Excellence Plan"](#)

by the University of Vermont Libraries