

Environmental Scan: Middle Carolina University

Academic Libraries Group - Anastasia, David, Konrad, Matthew

Introduction

Established in 2019, Middle Carolina University Library is an 87,000 sq. ft. building located in Wake County, North Carolina. Middle Carolina University Library joins the UNC School System's over 25 existing libraries with the goal of encouraging learning and creativity and advancing research and innovation.

Mission

Mission Statement

Middle Carolina University Library's mission is to support the university by being a guiding resource that supports teaching, learning and research. The library's goal is to cultivate an environment that aids users in a collaborative and innovative society while encouraging the open exchange of ideas, information literacy, and creativity.

Vision

Inspiring lifelong learning, advancing access to information, and nurturing and growing intellectual and cultural curiosity.

Values

- Learning: We strive to provide an environment conducive of learning allowing improvement, experimentation, innovation, creativity, and intellectual growth.
- Service: We strive to provide excellent customer service by engaging and assessing the needs of our users and responding in a friendly and helpful manner.

- Diversity: We strive to provide a safe and supportive environment of openness and inclusivity for the exploration of diverse cultures and communities.
- Access: We strive to provide access in efficient and innovative ways allowing fair use and intellectual freedom.

Degree Programs Offered

The Middle Carolina University offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in the following areas:

Undergraduate Programs

- Bachelor of Arts
 - American Studies
 - African American Studies
 - Communication
 - Drama
 - Education
 - English and Comparative Literature
 - History
 - Political Science
 - Studio Arts
- Bachelor of Science
 - Biology
 - Biostatistics
 - Business Administration
 - Chemistry
 - Computer Science
 - Dental Hygiene
 - Environmental Science
 - Exercise and Sports Science
 - Mathematics
 - Nursing
 - Physics
 - Psychology

Graduate Programs

- Masters of Arts
 - American Studies
 - Art and History

- Communication
 - Education
 - English and Comparative Literature
 - Political Science
 - Public Policy
- Masters of Science
 - Biology
 - Chemistry
 - Computer Science
 - Information and Library Science
 - Physics
 - Speech and Hearing

Users

The Middle Carolina University Library System serves over 9,300 undergraduate and graduate students of MCU, along with our 311 faculty members and over 600 staff members. The great majority of our students are from North Carolina (85%), but MCU students hail from 42 US states and 35 foreign countries. Approximately 80% of our students receive financial aid of some type, and 40% are Pell Grant recipients

Last year, our 15 librarians and 30 other staff members answered 7,000 reference questions and checked out 50,000 books, journals, DVDs and other materials. Over 7,000 students received instruction in one of 300 instruction sessions and classes offered.

Main Library

The Main Library at MCU serves the majority of our patrons, from all university departments and programs. Main Library sees over 20,000 visits during an average week, and almost 700,000 visits over the course of the last year.

Allied Health Library

Students in the School of Health Sciences and the School of Nursing take advantage of the Allied Health Library branch, with 2 dedicated librarians to help with specialized search requests and research projects.

Early Childhood Collection

Students in the School of Education have access to a collection of books for children and adolescents that are managed by our librarians and staff. These materials may be checked out for use in student teaching programs or other internships.

Collections

The Middle Carolina University Library has a very robust collection. The library currently holds over 200,000 print books. In addition, the library has 500,000 e-books; 50,000 streaming

audio/video titles; and 120,000 journal titles. The physical space of the Main Library contains book stacks, learning commons, study carrels, study rooms, technology/conference rooms, staff offices, and the archives/special collections section. The Allied Health Library is located in the Health Sciences building, and it contains a small book stack area, learning commons, study rooms, and staff offices.

The collections for the library are divided between the Main Library and the Allied Health Library. The Main Library contains the following collections:

- General Collection (Fiction, Non-Fiction)
- Juvenile (Young Children, Young Adults)
- Archives and Special Collections

The Allied Health Library contains the following collections:

- Nursing & Allied Health Collection
- Dental Studies Collection
- Sports Science Collection

Budget

The annual budget for the Middle Carolina University Library is \$2,500,000. Funding for the Allied Health Library is included in the budget. The annual budget, which is approved by the Board of Trustees, is used during the fiscal year of July 1 – June 30.

90% of the library's funding comes from funds allotted to Middle Carolina University by the North Carolina General Assembly as part of the annual North Carolina college and university budget.

Additional funding for the budget comes from two other sources. The first of those sources are Library Service and Technology Act (LSTA) grant awards. These grants, which are funded by the federal Institute of Museum and Library Service (IMLS), are administered by the State Library of North Carolina, which is a division of the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. The library uses funds approved through LSTA grants to provide additional training and professional development for the library staff, and to provide additional electronic linkages to improve access to the library's services (NC LSTA Grants).

The second source of additional funding for the library comes from the Friends of the Library. They provide crucial funding for the library's archival and special collections. In addition, they help to coordinate special programs and fundraising for the library at author book signings and lecture dinners.

The Allied Health Library also receives critical funding from local health organizations (hospitals and physicians offices). They provide funding for textbooks for nursing and Allied health students. These local health organizations also provide funds for a health lecture series program that benefits students in the health majors as well as the local campus community.

Conclusions

Although Middle Carolina University Library exists to serve its university, the library has advanced to become a place of intellectual growth and communal collaboration. The library will continue in its efforts to encourage learning, teaching, and research as well as in creating open minded, explorative, creative, and diverse users.

Bibliographic Assignments

Anastasia - African American Studies

David - Nursing & Allied Health

Konrad - Education

Matthew - Political Science

Resources

NCES College Navigator

<https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/>

Western Carolina University Hunter Library Annual Report 2015-2016

https://www.wcu.edu/WebFiles/PDFs/Library_2015-2016_AnnualReport.pdf

NC LSTA Grants

<https://statelibrary.ncdcr.gov/ld/resources/lsta-grants>

Statistical Abstract of Higher Education in North Carolina 2014-2015

https://www.northcarolina.edu/sites/default/files/statistical_abstract_2014-2015.pdf

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. (2019). Degree Programs. Retrieved from

<https://catalog.unc.edu/graduate/degree-programs/>

NOTES AND INFORMATION

[From the Syllabus:](#)

The group will put together a collection plan for their library that describes the constituents who will use the collection and the current collection issues in that library type. To research current issues, group members can search the literature or do an informational interview with a librarian currently serving that type of library. For example, if your group is going to build a collection for a community college library, then you must describe the users served by a typical community college, the size of the collection, the type of materials that this library collects, etc.

Also, the group will identify a section of a bibliography collection that each group member will be responsible for building as a web-page, wiki, etc. An example might be, that one member of a school libraries group might build a bibliography page describing resources for a teacher professional collection in that library while another does a subject-oriented collection.

Resources:

Recommended Textbook (Johnson, P.), pp. 80-82, Environmental Scanning

[UNC Institutions List](#)

Comparable libraries

[UNCP Library](#)

[UNCW Library](#)

[NC Central Library](#)

[Western Carolina Library](#)