

# 2023 - 2024

Ira A. & Mary Lou  
Fulton Library  
Annual Report &  
Strategic Plan

Fulton Library  
Ira A. and Mary Lou Fulton Library

FL

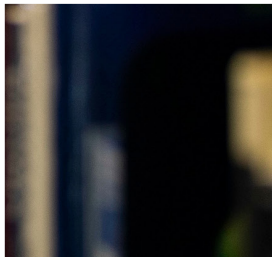
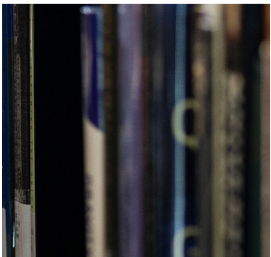






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**The Fulton Library provides user-centered services, various learning spaces, and essential resources that support the university's mission of educating students for success in work and life.**





# LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

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Dear Friends,

One of the most rewarding aspects of my role as library director is hearing firsthand from students about their experiences. Nothing brings me more joy than when students frequently tell me, "I love the library!" These moments reinforce the vital role we play in creating a welcoming and supportive learning environment.

In addition to the heartfelt feedback we receive from students, UVU's annual student survey has provided insights into how our services are really being used. We are excited to share that our study spaces, research materials, and electronic resources are frequently in high demand. Students also shared that our research staff, databases, and study areas consistently exceed their expectations, reflecting Fulton's ongoing commitment to providing exceptional service.

Our mission has always been to offer "user-centered services, various learning spaces, and essential resources that support the university's mission of educating students for success in work and life." This year, we've seen clear evidence of how the library contributes to student success. Recent studies have shown that students who actively engage in and with the library do better in school and are more likely to graduate.

Looking ahead, we remain dedicated to evolving our services and expanding our resources to meet the changing needs of our student body. Fulton Library is more than just a building on campus—it's a cornerstone of the UVU educational experience and a place where knowledge is discovered, created, and shared.

I want to thank our exceptional library staff, whose dedication and expertise make this growth and excellence possible. And to our library supporters, thank you for your continued assistance. Together, we are fostering an environment of intellectual growth and academic success.

Sincerely,



Lesli Baker  
Director, Fulton Library





# BY THE NUMBERS



**467,711**

visitors to the library



**6,724**

research questions  
answered

**1,629**

Research Help Desk  
consultations



**572**

workshops and  
classes

**266**

student research  
appointments



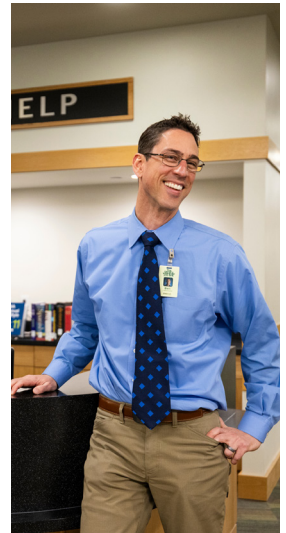
**307,408**

homepage visitors



**2,368**

online chat  
consultations



**1,411,555**

research database  
searches



**511,616**

research database  
article downloads

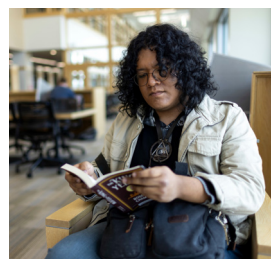


**37,292**

total checkouts

**5,677**

textbooks  
checked out



**12,396**

books  
checked out



**16,801**

equipment items  
checked out

**2,418**

media items  
checked out





# RESEARCH HELP

INTERLIBRARY LOAN

OPEN





# ANNUAL HIGHLI

## SERVICES

### Research Help

The librarians at Fulton Library are available to help with various stages in students' research, including developing a research question, planning search strategies, locating articles and books, and using subject-specific databases.



**6,724**  
research questions  
answered

**266**  
student research  
appointments

**572**  
workshops and  
classes



“ I don't always know where to begin with my research, so knowing that I could chat with a librarian who would help me find a good starting point made things so much easier for me. ”  
—Anonymous, UVU alum

“ I send students from the writing center there all the time. I feel they have a high rate of success in finding sources quickly. They also give research tips that have helped me improve my research. ”  
—Anonymous, UVU staff



**1,629**  
Research Help Desk  
consultations





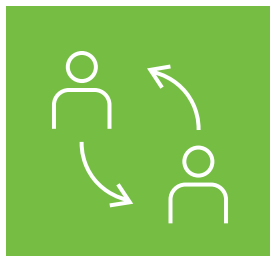


# RIGHTS & EVENTS

## Interlibrary Loan

Interlibrary loan (ILL) is a valuable free service offered by Fulton Library, enabling UVU students, faculty, and staff to request items not available in our collection. Users can obtain digital copies of articles and book chapters or borrow physical books from other libraries, which is one of students' favorite services in the library.

 If Fulton doesn't have it, someone else does! . . . The interlibrary loan system literally puts the world at your fingertips.   
—Eden Black, Art & Design



**3,162**  
items borrowed  
from other libraries

**1,852**  
items lent out to  
other libraries

## AI Workshops and Research Guides

Artificial intelligence is the hot topic right now. To help students cut through the confusion, Fulton Library planned several AI workshops and created a new AI guide for students. AI is a quickly advancing, moving target—students attended workshops and used research guides to stay on top of the conversation. Fulton Library also worked with UVU's AI taskforce to leverage AI innovations responsibly, securely, ethically, and inclusively. One of Fulton's instructional librarians was then able to present on utilizing AI at UVU's Summer University.



**80**  
Art and AI  
research guide visits

**2,039**  
AI tools for student  
research guide visits

**60**  
AI workshop  
attendees



# SPACES

## Roots of Knowledge's Annual Speaker Series

Roots of Knowledge is dedicated to inspiring scholarship, cultivating passion, and igniting curiosity. As part of that mission, *Roots of Knowledge* invited scholars from across campus to speak at the annual Speaker Series. Featuring lectures that explored human developments and concepts shown in the stained-glass panels, this free, public event series fostered intellectual growth and cultivated an interconnected community.



 This is my favorite place on campus!  
—Anonymous, UVU visitor



**486**  
Speaker Series attendees

**14**  
Speaker Series lectures

 **80,005**  
total visitors to  
*Roots of Knowledge*

**1,271**  
private guided tour attendees

**469**  
monthly themed tour attendees

 This will be a great place for me to come whenever I need to be still and to just pause, reflect, and think about the great questions and lessons of life.  
  
—Anonymous, UVU Visitor

**418**  
public guided tour attendees



## Student Educational Programming

This year, Fulton Library invited Utah's K-6 community to participate in a new *Roots of Knowledge* school program: Finding Home. The program leverages the educational potential of *Roots of Knowledge* and encourages students to consider the meaning of home via the content in the stained-glass windows. Consisting of an interactive gallery tour and art-making activity, Finding Home incorporates Utah Core Standards while nurturing creativity, problem solving, and collaboration.



**40**  
field trips

**1,222**  
student attendees

**100%**  
of teachers would return



## Study Spaces

Fulton Library offers a variety of study spaces for students, including individual study pods, group study rooms, and the Gibson Family Foundation Study Suite for those with children.




**10,582**  
visitors to the Gibson Family Foundation Study Suite




**29**  
reservable study rooms

**37**  
personal study pods



My kids love the family study suite. The suite made it possible for me to get homework done when childcare fell through or when I needed more study time than I expected.




—Amy Clement, Anthropology


# RESOURCES

## Sutherland Archives Hosts Traveling Black History Exhibit

The Utah Black History Museum traveling exhibit was displayed at UVU in February. The exhibit was free and open to the public and featured gripping and inspiring stories about local and national Black history. The purpose of the exhibit was to promote the understanding, appreciation, and advancement of the Black experience in Utah, teach local and national Black history, and celebrate the culture of the African Diaspora in the United States.



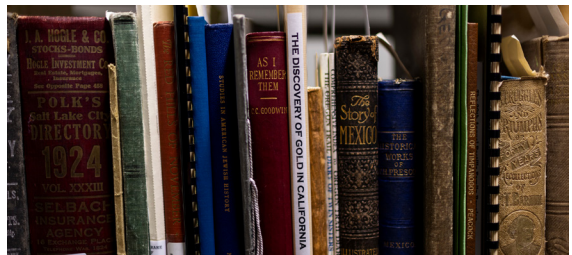
We [loved] . . . seeing and hearing the exhibit's stories of Black frontiersmen, writers, musicians, leaders, and many more whose history has, until now, been rarely shared. It is compelling history that all Utahns should know and understand.



—Jerome Currelley,  
program director of the UVU African Diaspora Initiative



**54**  
research questions answered




**3,900**  
items in the Archives' catalog

**26**  
digital exhibits



## Research Databases

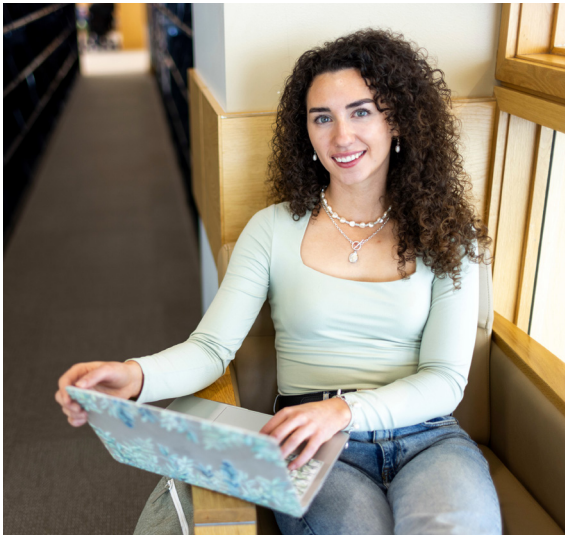
Fulton Library transitioned to a new database vendor this summer and added 48 ProQuest databases to our catalog! These new databases provide robust subject coverage and increase the library's scholarship offerings for the new academic year.

**1,411,555**  
research database searches

**511,616**  
research database  
article downloads

**175,934**  
Ebsco article views

**77,033**  
JSTOR article views



**QQ** The databases are such a lifesaver! Whether it's academic papers I need to write, research for assignments, or I'm simply curious about a subject, the databases offer so many great reliable resources.

—Elisabeth Strickland, Elementary Education

**SS**

## Social Media Goes Viral

A highlight of our social media content was the viral "Study Room" reel, designed to promote our "Ask a Librarian" service and study room reservations. Using a trending audio clip from "Scream Queens," we depicted a satirical take on a common library scenario: a student finding someone in their reserved study room. The video included links to our services, encouraging students to connect with librarians and make reservations. This funny, relatable take on a library service resonated widely with our audience, resulting in 11 million views, 728,000 likes, and 3,700 new followers, significantly enhancing the library's profile within our university community.

**QQ** This is the best UVU social account.

—Halen Hubbard, Instagram user



**8,249,703**  
Instagram accounts reached



**QQ** This account is TOP tier. Being an alum, I still follow primarily knowing I'm getting QUALITY content.

—Jaden Muir, Instagram user

**SS**

**363,008**  
TikTok views

**17,300**  
Facebook accounts  
reached




## Equipment Checkout Upgrades

The library is known for its cozy study spots and thousands of books, but the equipment checkout for current students was one of the most popular resources at Fulton. The library offers free checkouts of everything from cameras and speakers to laptops and telescopes—the library has the tools students need to start a new hobby or ace a class. Some new additions this year include an organic chemistry kit, Cricut machine, and a light box. The most popular items were “desk equipment” checkouts like study supplies, phone chargers, and skeletons.




**16,801**  
equipment checkouts

**10,911**  
desk equipment items

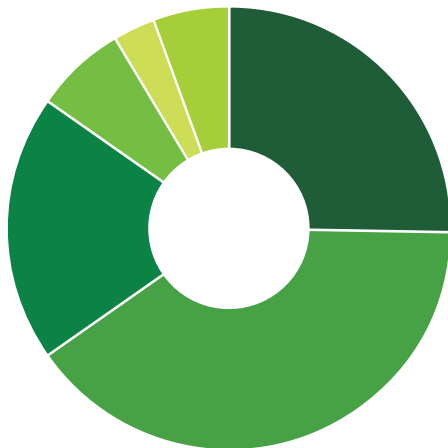


When my laptop broke in the middle of the year, I was able to check one out from the library and complete all of my schoolwork without having to take time away from work to sit in the computer labs on campus.



—Anonymous, UVU student

# FISCAL BUDGET AND NEW EMPLOYEES



- Database Subscriptions: \$1,349,604.62
- Full-Time Payroll: \$2,151,248.84
- Benefits: \$1,041,784.12
- Part-Time Payroll: \$368,670.25
- Book Acquisitions: \$163,295.66
- Other: \$304,016.72

**Total: \$5,378,620.21**




**28**  
new employees  
(1 full time, 4 part time, 23 student)



**12**  
employees rehired  
(3 full time, 4 part time, 5 student)



**2**  
positions reclassified  
(2 full time)



# STRATEGIC OBJECT

## SERVICES

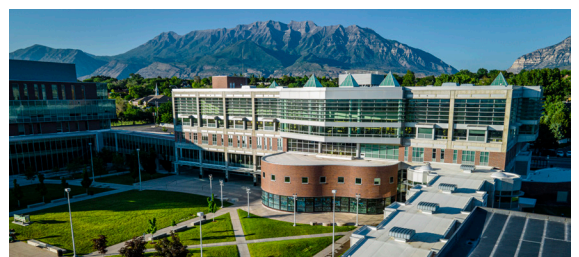
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Our administration is focused on creating a flexible and cohesive workforce by developing an hourly positions plan that aligns job duties across library departments for greater operational efficiency. We will conduct regular training to ensure all librarians understand AI concepts and their applications in library services. Additionally, we are finalizing plans to transition from our media collection to streaming resources and phase out the map collection. To support students, we will develop instructional materials that help navigate AI tools for academic research and create an action plan for Concurrent Enrollment faculty and students, all while enhancing awareness of library services through a new marketing campaign.

## SPACES

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We are committed to improving the library environment by documenting accessible seating options and optimizing our expanded archival spaces through reorganization of exhibits and reading areas. An evaluation of our space needs will establish priorities for future enhancements, ensuring a better experience for students. To facilitate navigation, we will implement a comprehensive wayfinding strategy and assess space usage in Technical Services for improved workflows and efficiency.





# TIVES & PRIORITIES

## RESOURCES

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In our efforts to enhance resource management, we will implement a new electronic resource management system to streamline the acquisition and organization of digital resources. A pilot centralized-acquisition process will be tested, alongside an evaluation of shelving for the score collection to improve user access. We will develop a sustainable funding plan for our laptop loan program and enhance database subscriptions by introducing new statewide resources while evaluating existing ones. Additionally, we will explore future directions for hosting library tutorials and assess the impact of database changes on user experiences.

### Connection to UVU 2030

Fulton Library's strategic plan objectives closely align with Utah Valley University's Vision 2030 plan. The service objective primarily supports UVU's initiative of completion through comprehensively designed curriculum and services. Through our space objective, we assess and remove barriers at every stage of the student life cycle, providing a welcoming environment and technology to enhance student learning. Similarly, the resource objective of supporting curriculum, promoting student success, and removing access barriers aligns with multiple Vision 2023 initiatives. At all levels of Fulton Library planning, we seek to uplift, enhance, and promote Utah Valley University's vision of development and student success.







**FULTON LIBRARY**

**800 West University Parkway**

**Mail Stop #145**

**Orem, Utah 84058**

**801-863-8265**