



Library
& Archives

STRATEGIC PLAN

2026-
2028



MISSION

We deliver expert information services in support of the life cycles of scientific research, technology development, and NSF NCAR and UCAR operations. We enable fundamental science and application development through information science expertise and high-touch library, archives, and data services.

Our mission aligns with the UCAR mission in “Leading world-class Earth system science through partnerships, innovation, and service” and the NSF NCAR mission statements:

- To understand the behavior of the atmosphere and related Earth and geospace systems
- To support, enhance, and extend the capabilities of the university community and the broader scientific community, nationally and internationally
- To foster the transfer of knowledge and technology for the betterment of life on Earth

IMPERATIVES

- Facilitate access to peer-reviewed literature and other scientific research and provide timely information services in response to requests from NSF NCAR and UCAR staff and community stakeholders.
- Ensure the management, preservation, and availability of materials with historical and institutional value that are produced by NSF NCAR and UCAR staff and community partners to enrich the field of the history of science.
- Maintain modern physical spaces and ensure their utility and relevance to research and community needs.
 - Strengthen capabilities in research impact metrics and the tools and processes used to support their collection and analysis.
 - Promote open scholarly communication and the services and technologies that enable openness across the research lifecycle.

VALUES

- **Community.** Offer spaces that enable research, creativity, and collaboration.
- **Knowledge.** Ensure that Library & Archives services and collections support learning and knowledge development for all patrons.
- **History.** Advance and preserve the legacy and unique culture of NSF NCAR, UCAR, and UCP.
- **Patron-centered.** Prioritize improvements to Library & Archives services, physical spaces and technologies that take into account the needs and perspectives of the communities we serve.
- **Service excellence.** Deliver high-quality information and data services through continuous improvement and proactive problem solving.

FRONTIERS

- Build capacity and expertise in Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning within the Library & Archives, in order to integrate these technologies into our services and workflows, and to better support AI/ML-based research at NSF NCAR, UCP and beyond.
- Expand leadership and advocacy efforts for consistent and standards-based digital asset management, especially for A/V materials and less-known scholarly works created at NSF NCAR and UCAR.
- Optimize integration of OpenSky and Impacts to streamline cataloging and discovery of research outputs, and support consistent reporting of research activities.
- Leverage new technologies and systems to capture, preserve, and share born-digital material and at-risk media.
- Dedicated focus on marketing and outreach to raise the profile of the Library & Archives, and improve the community's understanding of our information services.