Next Horizon—The Campaign for FIU is the University’s groundbreaking fundraising effort. The campaign’s $750 million fundraising goal is ambitious and representative of just how high FIU has set its sights. The FIU Libraries play a critical role in achieving this goal.

Through the campaign, we will secure the investment necessary to improve the future of every FIU student, our Miami home, and those we reach across the world through our resources and information technology at the FIU Libraries.

The Next Horizon of discovery and innovation; health and society; environment and resilience; influence and enterprise; and community, arts, and culture will be achieved by focusing on two pillars—student success and research excellence—and attracting investments in the following campaign objectives:

- INCREASE SCHOLARSHIPS AND STUDENT SUPPORT
- OPTIMIZE 21ST-CENTURY TEACHING
- ADVANCE A VIBRANT, HEALTHY MIAMI
- ACCELERATE RESEARCH AND DISCOVERIES
- ESCALATE DISCOVERY TO ENTERPRISE
WE ARE FIU’S RESEARCH AND LEARNING ENGINE, DRIVING THIS LEADING PUBLIC URBAN RESEARCH UNIVERSITY TO EVEN GREATER DISTINCTION.

Uniquely positioned at the intersection of information, technology, and innovation, the FIU Libraries engage with local and global partners to foster student-centered learning and support internationally recognized research.

With our expansive reach—through the Steven and Dorothea Green Library at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus, Glenn Hubert Library at the Biscayne Bay Campus, and the Engineering Center—we are the forum for the free exchange of ideas and a platform for knowledge creation and transfer.

Fueled by FIU’s $750 million Next Horizon campaign, we will evolve services, expand collections, and remodel facilities to meet the changing needs of our student and faculty community, as well as worldwide knowledge seekers.
1.4M  
Total volumes held

130,000  
Average monthly visitors

89%  
Percentage of students who physically use the Library who are retained with a GPA >2.0, compared to 76% of those who do not use the Library

$3M  
FIU Libraries Next Horizon Goal
Embodying the very best attributes of teaching, learning, and research, the FIU Libraries strive to empower students and help them become discerning and analytical researchers—especially critical in an age of information overload. To propel discovery and further FIU’s research mission, we invest heavily in content in all formats. We hold more than a million print volumes; provide print or digital access to more than 100,000 journals, magazines, and newspapers; and offer use of more than 1,000 databases, with content ranging from cutting-edge scientific discovery to fictional characters.

The physical and metaphorical heart of FIU, the Green Library is open 24 hours per day on weekdays in spring and fall, plus weekend hours, and sees an average of 130,000 visits per month. The heart of the Biscayne Bay Campus, Hubert Library is open 110 hours per week. The FIU Libraries are responsive to our community’s changing needs, offering quiet study space and group study rooms. Our lending collection now includes laptop computers, iPads, cameras, and portable chargers. While physical access to the Libraries remains highly important, our FIU community has continuous remote access to our high-quality research materials and data 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

The FIU Libraries are a vital partner in the University’s goal of becoming one of the nation’s top public urban research universities. We are FIU’s headquarters for all those who ask questions, seek answers, and advance knowledge.

“Campaign investment in our facilities and student interns, digital scholarship work, and digitization activities will have a direct impact on learning and student success at FIU and on discovery and innovation here and beyond.”

— ANNE PRESTAMO, ED.D.
Dean of Libraries

397,453
Number of E-book titles held in our collection

127,793
Number of E-serial titles (journals, magazines, and newspapers) in our collection
“I DO” LOVE THE FIU LIBRARIES

You could call it a storybook romance. Craig Del Mundo, BA in Information Technology ’13, proposed to Danahlyn Tamola, BA in Psychology ’11 and MBA ’16, where they first met five years earlier: FIU’s Green Library.

“After the proposal, I confessed to Craig that this whole time I wanted him to propose in the Library because we had so many wonderful memories there,” Tamola says.

With radically different majors, the two didn’t share any classes, and since they lived far from each other, the Library “became where we really got to know one another,” adds Del Mundo. In fact, the first picture they took together was in the Library.

It’s not just the Library, but FIU as a whole that is important to them. In Tamola’s eyes, FIU means growth. “I’m not the same person I was when I started as a freshman in undergrad, and I’m proud of the changes in my life since then.”

Source: ilovelibraries.org
PRIORITY INITIATIVES

EXPANDING STUDENT INTERNSHIPS

Statistics show that students who start at FIU as freshmen and work in the FIU Libraries graduate at higher rates than the general student population (70 percent versus 55 percent, respectively). Further, students with high school grade point averages (GPAs) of 4.0 and higher were particularly likely to benefit from working in the Library: they had a six-year graduation rate of 90 percent, compared to 70 percent for students with similar high school GPAs who did not work in the Library.

Through the campaign, we want to extend this advantage to more students. Creating an endowed fund for internships will enable us to hire additional students, which will help them, the University, and the Libraries. Students will benefit from paid, on-campus internships, and FIU will benefit from increased graduation rates. And with the extra help the Libraries receive from interns, we will accelerate the labor-intensive process of digitizing our archives and special collections.

MEETING STUDENTS’ SPACE NEEDS

Libraries—and their functionality—have changed dramatically over the past two decades. No longer storehouses of existing knowledge, today’s libraries are active hubs of ideas, places of discovery. Stationary rows of shelves must give way to more flexible configurations to accommodate new uses. The FIU Libraries are no different; we find we must rethink our space from the ground up to reflect student and faculty preferences. For example, undergraduates are requesting more collaborative spaces for study sessions and group projects. And FIU’s 8,700+ graduate students are clamoring for more quiet, contemplative space.

Your support will help us develop creative solutions to these space constraints. Campaign investment will allow us to repurpose our existing space so that it better matches the needs of current students and faculty.

22,150

In October 2018, 22,150 students—an unduplicated count of unique individuals—used FIU’s Green Library.
TRAINING DIGITAL SCHOLARS

Academic and research libraries across the nation have become active partners in all phases of the research lifecycle. At FIU Libraries, we support student and faculty researchers and digital scholars by providing the resources, infrastructure, and expertise they need—from discovery to dissemination. Critical areas of research support include data management, curation, analysis, and visualization and new technologies and tools for digital scholarship.

Our GIS (Geographic Information System) Center collaborates with researchers across FIU, providing expertise in the areas of geographic information systems, remote sensing, geospatial web visualization, and geospatial data management. And our Digital Scholar Studios provide the technology, training, and expertise that help students and faculty build digital skills and create digital projects for learning and discovery in the humanities and sciences.

Our expert librarians help these researchers make sense of large datasets, use remote sensing imagery to predict the future, make geographic information more accessible, and curate data and artifacts to tell new stories. Together, we are harnessing technology to probe the human condition, understand the past, and grapple with a changing environment.

With campaign support, we will equip more FIU students with these 21st-century skills. Investments in student internships and graduate fellowships at the GIS Center and Digital Scholar Studios will engage students in rigorous research, give them real-world experience using emerging methodologies and technologies, and support collaborative research projects across FIU.

"Under the direction of its founder, Jennifer Fu, the GIS Center at FIU Libraries is a national and international leader in data curation and visualization. The GIS Center has helped me and many other FIU faculty and their students researching complex problems work at the cutting edge of our disciplines. It has also helped local governments recover and celebrate their histories and has trained scores of public-sector employees in the use of these tools to improve public services."

— THOMAS A. BRESLIN

Professor, Politics and International Relations, Steven J. Green School of International & Public Affairs
Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Center Director Jennifer Fu
FIU’s locally hosted digital library system, dPanther, is home to more than 62,700 items in over 80 collections, which are contributed by University and community partners. Items range from rare books, manuscripts, maps, and photographs to oral histories.
DIGITIZING SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The FIU Libraries hold many significant, one-of-a-kind items in our Special Collections and University Archives. Special Collections acquires, preserves, and provides access to primary source materials pertaining to the geographic, national, and cultural regions of Latin America, the Caribbean, Florida, and Miami. These materials—rare books, manuscripts, archives, artifacts, and media—span disciplines from the sciences to the humanities.

The University Archives serve as the depository of the official records relating to the founding, development, and future plans of Florida International University. Recent additions to the Archives include FIU Magazine and student newspapers. The Archives also collaborate with the African & African Diaspora Program and the Patricia & Phillip Frost Art Museum–FIU to digitize and collect guest speaker recordings.

We work to integrate these collections into the curriculum to support teaching and learning. We provide hands-on archival experiences for students, creating a living and breathing archive that engages the hearts and minds of the FIU community.

Through the campaign, we want to make more of these local treasures findable digitally to draw a wider audience to our collections. This multifaceted process includes capturing high-quality images and creating the "metadata"—the descriptive terms that enable users to locate and sort through specific online materials—as well as user interfaces.

The Next Horizon campaign provides an opportunity to advance these efforts. Your support of digital initiatives will extend our reach, showcasing FIU's resources to audiences worldwide and attracting them to visit our collections. Your investment will ensure technologically up-to-date, interconnected, full-service Libraries that support global access to FIU's rare and unique collections.

“The difference is sometimes astonishing. You can read about format, size, shape, textures, and colors, you can see the publications digitally, but it is never the same as experiencing them physically. . . . To be able to introduce students to archival research and to a local archive is really exciting.”

— NATHANIEL CADLE, PHD

Associate Professor, FIU Department of English
CRISTOBAL DIAZ-AYALA COLLECTION

FIU’s Green Library hosts the world’s best collection of Cuban music. The Diaz-Ayala Cuban and Latin American Popular Music Collection contains approximately 150,000 items, including albums, radio programs, music, and composer interviews; 5,000 pieces of sheet music; 3,000 books; and thousands of CDs, photographs, videocassettes, and paper files. Among its rarest items are recordings made in pre-revolutionary Cuba. This collection was donated by Cristobal Diaz-Ayala, author of the definitive book on Cuban music and producer of a boxed CD set of 100 Cuban Songs of the Millennium.

Campaign investment will help us catalog, preserve, and promote this encyclopedic collection. We will hire staff to bring together the many different, but related, elements into an attractive and valuable web presence. This will include digitized music recordings, biographical data on performers, image galleries, access to their complete discographies, and up-to-date listings of their recordings.

Your support will advance this important project, allowing us to maintain the collection, foster its continued development, promote its use in the scholarly community, and implement new and evolving technologies. It will also open this singular treasure to music lovers worldwide, raising FIU’s prominence and reputation.

150,000

There are 150,000 items in the Diaz-Ayala Cuban and Latin American Popular Music Collection.
UNA MENTIRA PIADOSA

VICENTICO VALDES

CON ORQUESTA

Prod. Joe Cain
DIGITAL LIBRARY OF THE CARIBBEAN

The Caribbean’s rich pre-modern history is largely hidden from public view at institutions and in private collections scattered in more than 25 countries and 7,000 islands. Since 2004, the Digital Library of the Caribbean (dLOC) network has worked to engage institutions throughout the region to make their resources discoverable and accessible online, facilitating new forms of research, collaboration, and teaching.

A founding partner of dLOC, FIU administers the network in coordination with the University of Florida and the University of the Virgin Islands. dLOC’s mission is to build capacity across the Caribbean, equipping our partners to digitize, manage, control, and disseminate their unique holdings. With a vast network of contributing partners unlike any other in the world and 2.6 million pages of content, dLOC’s depth and scope of openly accessible content surpass that of many commercial Caribbean collections.

Campaign investment will strengthen this cultural treasure by funding digitization as well as technology and training for our Caribbean partners. Your support will help build local programs and ensure online access to priceless digital resources for researchers, students, and the general public.

“Access to the materials housed in the Digital Library of the Caribbean is invaluable. And with extensive databases and up-to-date streaming of documentaries and other materials, the Libraries offer faculty a deep wellspring of resources to enhance our teaching and research.”

— HEATHER D. RUSSELL, PHD
Chairperson, FIU Department of English

2.6M

dLOC provides access to 2.6 million pages of content related to the Caribbean and has registered more than 96 million page views.
JOURNEY WITH FIU TO THE NEXT HORIZON

Behind every great university are great university libraries. FIU Libraries are that resource for Florida International University. The Steven and Dorothea Green Library, Glenn Hubert Library, and Engineering Center are paving the way for novel research and innovative learning across the full range of disciplines.

Now we seek the passion and philanthropy of FIU alumni, family, and friends to take our work to new heights. With your generous support, we will grow the Libraries’ collections, both print and digital. We will reconceptualize our physical space to meet the needs of a new generation of learners and researchers. We will expand technology and services to reach knowledge seekers and creators across campus and around the world.
CAMPAIGN FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

STUDENT SUCCESS

PROMOTE STUDENT SUCCESS THROUGH FIU LIBRARIES
- Student Internships
- Expand Library Space for Collaborative Undergraduate Work
- Increase Graduate Student Study Space

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

ACCELERATE RESEARCH AND DISCOVERIES
- GIS and Digital Scholar Internships and Graduate Fellowships
- Support for Digital Library of the Caribbean
- Digitization of Special Collections and University Archives
- Digitization of the Diaz-Ayala Cuban and Latin American Popular Music Collection

AND OTHERS