

USF St. Petersburg SACS Accreditation

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IX. Core Requirement Nine

Statement

The institution, through ownership or formal arrangements or agreements, provides and supports student and faculty access and user privileges to adequate library collections as well as to other learning/information resources consistent with the degrees offered. These collections and resources are sufficient to support all its educational, research, and public service programs.

Library Overview:

The USF St. Petersburg Library was established in 1968, the same year that the Florida Legislature officially designated the Bayboro Harbor site as USF's first branch campus. From its original location in a World War II US Maritime Services building, the library was moved in 1981 to what is now Bayboro Hall. The new library was named for Nelson Poynter, editor of the St. Petersburg *Times*, who participated in its groundbreaking but died shortly thereafter. In 1996, the new Nelson Poynter Memorial Library opened in an 81,000 sq. ft. facility, almost doubling its space. In addition to the students and faculty of USF St. Petersburg, the library serves the researchers in USF's College of Marine Science, the USF Pediatrics Research Center, the Florida Institute of Oceanography and Marine Research Institute, the US Geological Survey Coastal Research Center, and the Florida Humanities Council.

USF St. Petersburg provides the services and collections of a traditional library at Poynter Library. Poynter Library is open 79 hours per week when school is in session, with credentialed librarians staffing the reference desk throughout all hours of operation. In addition to reference assistance, librarians also provide or supervise circulation, reserve materials, interlibrary loan services, audiovisual services, and bibliographic instruction. Library holdings at the end of FY 2002/03 included 204,839 volumes; 1,053 current serial subscriptions; and 6,722 media items. Forty-three public access computers provide access to the USF Electronic Libraries, described below. The library also houses an 8,180 square foot media center, a distance learning studio, 21 group study rooms, and a bibliographic instruction computer lab. See Poynter Library Collections Overview in [Attachment EE](#).

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USF St. Petersburg students and faculty have access to library resources and services through three parallel methods. They may use the campus's Nelson Poynter Memorial Library; they may use their USF identification card to obtain materials and services at any of the USF Library System libraries (or indeed, any of the 70 state university or community college libraries); and, finally, they may access the information and services of the USF Electronic Library from their home computers or other remote sites. (Remote access and circulation privileges at other libraries are restricted to USF faculty, staff, and students.) A full description of Poynter Library Services is provided in [Attachment FF](#).

USF faculty, staff, and students are also entitled to visit other USF Library System Libraries if convenience or specialized research needs require. Combined resources of the system offer over 1,850,000 volumes and 10,000 periodical subscriptions for research or check-out at the individual libraries or through interlibrary loans provided by weekday courier service. The USF Library System consists of the following libraries:

- [de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute](#)
- [Jane Bancroft Cook Library](#)
- [Shimberg Health Sciences Library](#)
- [USF Tampa Library](#)

Poynter Library also participates in the [USF Electronic Libraries](#). These resources include combined OPAC for all USF Libraries, access to catalogs of all SUS libraries; over 450 electronic databases, 3,500 electronic journals; over 20,000 electronic books; help screens; and multiple other electronic resources. Electronic reserve, restricted to students enrolled in a particular class, is the library's latest feature and is increasingly popular with both students and faculty. E-mail and chat reference, online renewal of library materials, and interlibrary loan requests for books or photocopies are other helpful online services. Access to the USF Electronic Libraries is available within the library building for both visitors and university patrons, and remote access is provided for patrons with valid USF ID card numbers. USF St. Petersburg students who take classes at distance learning centers use this service extensively.

USF St. Petersburg Nelson Poynter Memorial Library **Mission :**

The mission of the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library is to support the mission and goals of USF St. Petersburg in three ways: In cooperation with the USF Library System and the Virtual Library, we provide print, media, and electronic information resources required for teaching, learning, and research. We provide the services and instructional opportunities required for using this information effectively. We support student learning by providing and maintaining classroom technologies. The Poynter Library Mission, Vision, Values and Goals document is provided in [Attachment GG](#).

Library Priorities:

In Fall and Spring 2000/2001, library faculty participated in the

campus strategic planning process. With newly developed campus and library missions as starting points, librarians examined the changing environment of USF St. Petersburg to develop goals and objectives for the next five years. A greatly expanded student body and faculty, new curricular areas, new lower division students, the prospect of residential housing, and the changing technological environment were the context for the plan that emphasizes five library priorities:

1. Provide optimum collections to meet the demands of USF St. Petersburg's mission and its expanding curriculum and faculty.
2. Provide appropriate services and technologies to meet the needs of USF St. Petersburg's mission and its continued expansion.
3. Foster campus, community, regional and state relationships that increase awareness of Poynter Library's collections and services and enhance these services and collections through inter-institutional cooperation.
4. Expand funding available for library collections and services through development and grant opportunities.
5. Support USF St. Petersburg's efforts to achieve separate accreditation.

The complete library strategic plan for 2003-2007 is provided in [Attachment HH](#).

Minimum Documentation Required:

1. Information requested in Part A relating to library resources and services.
2. Copies of contracts with institutions which provide library services (written, formal agreements with other libraries for resource materials and services).

Supporting Documents:

Part A	SACS Application, Part A, Pages 13 , 14 , 15
Attachment EE	Poynter Library Collections Overview and Policies includes: Resources Policies Electronic Books, Journals & Databases Organization of Collections Collection Development
Attachment FF	Poynter Library Services Overview includes: Orientation Reference Circulation Circulation Classroom Instruction Research Assistance Programs College Liaison Librarians Interlibrary Loan Media Services Services for Distance Learning Services for Patrons with Disabilities Access Services Physical Resources & Floor Plans
Attachment GG	Poynter Library Mission, Vision, Values and Goals
Attachment HH	2003-2007 Library Strategic Plan
Attachment II	Poynter Library Evaluation/Outcomes Assessment

[Attachment JJ](#) | [Contracts/Agreements to Provide Library Services](#)

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USF St. Petersburg

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