**My Academic Library Is...**

**ANNOTATIONS APRIL 2020**

**THE BEST SEARCH ENGINE**

* A single Google search can return billions of results with contradictory information. Academic librarians have special training and can help you find the most trustworthy, accurate information. They can also help you identify the difference between fake and real news.
* Google isn’t always the best source of information and it’s certainly not the only source. Many libraries offer books, e-books, journals, DVDs, online databases, and other materials not available via Google. Librarians can find the best source of information to meet individual needs.
* It’s difficult to sort through all of the information available today via websites, social media, email, TV, books, newspapers, and magazines. Librarians can guide you through this information overload.

**AN EXCELLENT INVESTMENT**

* Academic libraries benefit everyone on campus, yet they receive less than two cents on every dollar spent on higher education.

American Library Association. “Quotable Facts about America’s Libraries.” January 2019. <http://www.ala.org/advocacy/quotable-facts>:

*Total Academic Library Expenditures (iPEDS/National Center for Education Statistics, 2018): $8,293,263,695*

**THE CENTER OF THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY**

* Academic libraries are the heart of the university or college, serving everyone from students to staff and administrators, to professors and community members.
* Academic libraries provide space for individual study, as well as a place to connect to others on campus and access to shared resources like printers and other technology equipment.
* Academic libraries are open and staffed more hours than most other campus buildings.

**A COLLABORATIVE PLACE**

* Academic librarians assist faculty in creating a well-rounded and robust curriculum that provides students with a more meaningful classroom experience.
* Studies indicate that students who participate in course-integrated library instruction are more likely to use library resources and have a higher GPA than those who don’t.

Association of Academic and Research Libraries. “The Value of Academic Libraries: A Comprehensive Review and Report” September 2010, [*http://www.ala.org/acrl/sites/ala.org.acrl/files/content/issues/value/val\_report.pdf*](http://www.ala.org/acrl/sites/ala.org.acrl/files/content/issues/value/val_report.pdf)

**STAFFED WITH INFORMATION EXPERTS**

* Academic librarians and library staff help students and college/university staff navigate complex resources and plan their research.
* Academic libraries provide electronic resources and remote access, allowing students to use resources 24/7.
* Colleges and universities are increasingly supplementing textbooks with open educational resources (OER). Academic librarians have become even more critical, curating these new resources and teaching students and faculty how to use them effectively.
* Evidence indicates that exposure to fully-staffed and well-funded academic libraries improves academic success, which leads to success in future endeavors: internships, employment, and continuing education.

Association of Academic and Research Libraries. “The Value of Academic Libraries: A Comprehensive Review and Report” September 2010, [*http://www.ala.org/acrl/sites/ala.org.acrl/files/content/issues/value/val\_report.pdf*](http://www.ala.org/acrl/sites/ala.org.acrl/files/content/issues/value/val_report.pdf)

**A SAFE PLACE FOR IDEAS**

* Academic librarians select materials with a wide range of viewpoints to enrich students’ learning and academic expression.