



VALE Three-year Strategic Plan, 2020-2022 ⁱ

Mission Statement

The Virtual Academic Library Environment (VALE), a consortium of 50 New Jersey college and university libraries and the New Jersey State Library, is dedicated to furthering excellence in learning and research through innovative and collaborative approaches to information resources and services.

Core Purpose

To serve as a cooperative to reduce resource costs through shared purchasing and licensing and to foster exchange of ideas and expertise to transform NJ member libraries. While VALE focuses primarily on member libraries, it also partners with ACRL-NJ/NJLA-CUS which focuses on individual member support, and NJEdge, which allows improved communication with higher education administrators and academic leaders and serves as the fiduciary agent to VALE.

Main Areas of Impact

- Collaboration and Community: Fostering a culture of collaboration and community which engages all stakeholders
- Collections and Content: Streamlining electronic content acquisitions and championing consortial savings
- Customization: Leading innovation and leveraging emerging technologies and services to create new directions and impact

Core Values

VALE is committed to:

- Offering exemplary service and leadership to New Jersey academic libraries
- Fostering collaboration and partnership
- Maintaining transparency in communication
- Engaging in opportunities for continuous learning and innovation for libraries to remain agile in the changing information environment
- Adhering to the values of higher education and intellectual freedom

Three-Year Goals and Objectives

Collaboration and Community: Fostering a culture of collaboration and community which engages all stakeholders

Goal 1: VALE ensures transparent communication flow to its membership.

Objectives:

- Update member relations resources and documentation that focus on committee structure - Review committee structure and update charges. (Program Manager with assistance from Planning and Assessment)
- Articulate the distinction and relationship between VALE and other organizations- Codify relationships between NJLA, LLNJ, and other appropriate entities aligning language in Bylaws and website (Executive Committee)
- Update member relations resources and documentation that focus on membership - Create welcome packets for council/director level/board members (Program Manager with Outreach)
- Develop an outreach mechanism/ambassador or mentoring program for new members - Create "Welcome to VALE" materials (Program Manager, Moderator with EC)
- Update member relations resources and documentation that focus on initiatives - Codify a workflow for initiatives from idea to implementation (added to Bylaws) (Program Manager with Planning and Assessment)

Goal 2: VALE encourages continuous learning to benefit its member libraries and organizational partners which serves individual librarians.

Objectives:

- Pilot changes to the annual conference - Hold conference, renamed VALE Conference to "NJ Academic Libraries Conference" (Outreach)
- Provide networking opportunities to meet the needs of member libraries and librarians - Host an event for VALE membership to get together outside of conference and council meetings (Program Manager with assistance from Outreach, OER Taskforce, or other units)
- Develop avenues for continuous learning for member libraries (1) - Hold webinars and other online sessions, including virtual keynotes (Program Manager with assistance from Planning and Assessment for survey development)
- Develop avenues for continuous learning for member libraries (2) - Establish caucus or other special interest group discussion boards (e.g. EdgeXchange) (Program Manager with Outreach for moderation)

Goal 3: VALE benefits from the expertise of our community of practice and supports information sharing.

Objectives:

- Highlight the community of experts that exist within member libraries - Develop Edge Xchange discussion forum and create e-newsletters/blog/social media/Instagram posts (Program Manager and Outreach)
- Develop a forum for common interests and information sharing to occur regularly and in an unstructured manner (e.g., K12 partnerships) - Hold Edge Xchange discussion forum (Member Relations with assistance from Planning and Assessment for survey help)

Collections and Content: Streamlining electronic content acquisitions and championing consortial savings

Goal 4: VALE creates more streamlined acquisition processes to benefit member libraries.

Objectives:

- Review and recommend equitable and sustainable membership fee models - Look into tiered pricing membership fee in order to add more products under VALE umbrella (specifically digital media) (Treasurer, Program Manager, Purchasing and Licensing/assistance from Planning and Assessment for survey help)
- Evolve administrative workflows and negotiation and procurement processes for purchasing and licensing to reduce duplication of effort and collections - Create new workflows and procedures for licensing (Program Manager/assistance from Purchasing and Licensing)
- Emerge as the member libraries' trusted go-to resource for guidance on acquisitions and licensing - Create an FAQ for A&L/Create a screencast for using ConsortiaManager (Program Manager/assistance from Purchasing and Licensing)
- Explore the expansion of collaborative collection development and resource sharing - Investigate Alma-Primo as statewide ILS (Purchasing and Licensing)

Customization: Leading innovation and leveraging emerging technologies and services to create new directions and impact

Goal 5: VALE offers its member libraries the tools to become leaders of their institutions on the adoption of open educational resources and other initiatives.

Objectives:

- Explore options for adopting open educational resources and develop a community of practice to lead this effort - Create a statewide OER Ambassador program (OER Task Force)
- Investigate and sponsor services which enhance member libraries' user experience (e.g., EDUROAM services, institutional repository, and archivist tools) (1) - Review VALE service addition of EDUROAM (NJEdge and Program Manager AND Planning and Assessment)
- Investigate other revenue streams that result from new service offerings that cross sectors (e.g. health, public libraries) - Identify common products or services that would be used by sectors (NJEdge and Program Manager AND Planning and Assessment)
- Investigate and sponsor services which enhance member libraries' user experience (e.g., EDUROAM services, institutional repository, and archivist tools) (2) - Review VALE service addition of an IR (NJEdge and Program Manager AND Planning and Assessment)

Key:

First-year priority

Late first-year priority

Second-year priority

Third-year priority

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