

River Parishes Community College
Library Services Assessment Report
2006-2007

Library Services
Service Unit

Library Services
Department

July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007
Assessment Period Covered

Fall 2007
Date Submitted

Goal #1: Resources: Acquire, develop, organize, and maintain relevant resources to support the College's teaching and learning initiatives.

Core College Initiative(s) Supported:

- Providing students with appropriate education, training, and student services at moderate costs, convenient times, and accessible locations to increase their success in obtaining an Associates Degree at RPCC, transferring to baccalaureate studies, or entering the workforce. (CCI #1)
- Developing responsive, innovative education and training programs that prepare students for immediate employment or transfer to two- and four-year colleges or universities. (CCI #2)
- Making effective use of new and emerging technology to improve teaching and learning in RPCC's classrooms, laboratories, and other learning environments. (CCI #7)

Objectives:

- Continue to acquire relevant collections and resources for RPCC students and faculty through collaborating with faculty in collection development.
- Acquire more online resources to enhance and support e-learning.
- Catalog 1000 collection items including bound serials.

Intended Outcomes:

- Student and faculty satisfaction with Library/Learning Resource collections and services will remain 80% or higher.
- Resources available to online students will increase.
- Increase in collections available to RPCC users.

Assessment Criteria:

- Cataloging statistics
- Acquisition statistics
- Usage statistics
- Student and Faculty Surveys

Data Collection / Results:

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- **Objective:** Continue to acquire relevant collections and resources for RPCC students and faculty through collaborating with faculty in collection development.

RPCC Library Services works cooperatively with instructional faculty to develop useful collections that support the College's mission and programs. Approximately 227 requests for purchases were received in 2006/2007 academic year from instructional faculty as part of on-going collection development activities. Library Services purchased those items at a cost of \$10,978. More than 522 physical items plus subscriptions were purchased overall.

The current physical collection (cataloged books, CDs, DVDs, and VHS Videos) contains over 15,800 titles, which is a 7.2% increase from last year, and includes the following categories:

Humanities and General Works	34.3%	(over 5600 volumes)
Social Sciences	37.6%	(over 6000 volumes)
Physical Sciences and Math	16.3%	(over 2500 volumes)
Biomedical Sciences	9.4%	(over 1500 volumes)
Technology	2.4%	(over 350 volumes)

The print collection supports the College's core curriculum and general education courses, and collection development activities are currently centered on supporting new courses and programs, especially the new Associate of Science in Teacher Education.

The print collection is augmented with online resources, including the NetLibrary E-book Collection (over 55,000 titles) from Solinet/OCLC and electronic databases. The Library provides user access to over 60 databases acquired through LOUIS consortia membership and via direct purchase. Online resources are accessible 24/7 via the internet for RPCC users and cover a wide variety of topics and disciplines to support learning and teaching in all RPCC courses.

Library Services also maintains a vertical file of informative pamphlets and government publications covering various topics, such as college and university catalogs from other institutions, local industry information, consumer credit, women's health issues, smoking issues, etc., which are available for student and faculty use.

The following usage statistics were recorded for the 2006/2007 academic year:

Number of physical items circulated:	6,551	58% increase from 05/06
Number of e-book sessions:	594	40% decrease from 05/06
Number of online database sessions:	5,925*	17% decrease from 05/06

* Only partial statistics available for 2006 through present due to shared user authentication methods via the LOUIS proxy server. Prior to that time on-campus usage was authenticated via IP recognition.

The following survey data was collected:

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Question 2 of the *Library Services Student Survey (Spring 2007)* had these results: 100% of students who used the Library's physical collection were satisfied or very satisfied with the resources in supporting their course work.

How satisfied are you with RPCC Library's print and audio/visual resources in supporting your course work?

Answers	Percent Answered
Very Satisfied	43.243%
Satisfied	35.135%
Dissatisfied	0%
Very Dissatisfied	0%
Have not used	21.622%
<i>Unanswered</i>	0%

Question 3 of the *Library Services Student Survey (Spring 2007)* had these results: 100% of students who used the Library's online resources were satisfied or very satisfied with the resources in supporting their course work.

How satisfied are you with RPCC Library's online resources accessed via the Library's web page (online databases, e-books, tutorials, etc.) in supporting your course work?

Answers	Percent Answered
Very Satisfied	48.649%
Satisfied	35.135%
Dissatisfied	0%
Very Dissatisfied	0%
Have not used	16.216%
<i>Unanswered</i>	0%

Question 13 of the *Institutional Assessment Survey (Fall 2006 – Spring 2007)* indicated that 88.3% of students surveyed agreed or strongly agreed that RPCC provides library resources adequate to meet their needs.

Question 5 of the *Library Services Faculty Needs Assessment and Evaluation* survey (2006/2007), which is administered separately to adjunct and full-time faculty, indicated that 76.5% of those responding agreed that the availability of print collections in supporting the College's teaching and learning initiatives is highly or moderately effective.

Question 6 of the *Library Services Faculty Needs Assessment and Evaluation* survey (2006/2007), which is administered separately to adjunct and full-time faculty, indicated that 81.3% of those responding agreed that the availability of electronic and multimedia collections in supporting the College's teaching and learning initiatives is highly or moderately effective.

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- **Objective:** Acquire more online resources to enhance and support e-learning.

The Library acquired *CQ Researcher* online database from CQ Press in October of 2006. The electronic resource contains unbiased, researched, 12,000-word reports about current events and news items since 1923. It provides users “*with an introductory overview; background and chronology on the topic; an assessment of the current situation; tables and maps; pro/con statements from representatives of opposing positions; and bibliographies of key sources.*” (Quoted from CQ Researcher – About web page - <http://library.cqpress.com/cqresearcher/static.php?page=about>)

The Library purchased NetLibrary E-Book Collection VI in March of 2007. This 6th shared collection contains about 3,000 titles. RPCC Library owns approximately 45,000 titles (access rights into perpetuity for the NetLibrary Shared E-Book Collections I - IV), and leases approximately 11,000 more titles (access rights for five years for the NetLibrary Shared E-Book Collections V – VI). NetLibrary is a division of OCLC (Online Computer Library Center) and the Library’s Solinet consortium membership includes access to all OCLC services and products.

- **Objective:** Catalog 1000 collection items including bound serials.

More than 1,150 titles were cataloged for the in-Library physical collections from July 2006 to June 2007, and approximately 3,000 additional e-books were acquired and added to the Library’s online catalog.

Use / Implications of Results:

- **Intended Outcome:** Student and faculty satisfaction with Library/Learning Resource collections and services will remain 80% or higher.

Student satisfaction with RPCC Library resources, both physical and online, remains above 80%; however, faculty satisfaction falls just short of that intended outcome.

Library staff members continue to encourage collaboration in collection development activities between teaching faculty and librarians with some success, but more efforts and promotion are needed.

- **Intended Outcome:** Resources available to online students will increase.

The number of online resources available to Library users has increased. RPCC users have more online databases and thousands more e-books accessible via the internet than in previous years.

- **Intended Outcome:** Increase in collections available to RPCC users.

The number of physical and online resources available to users has increased. Library services will continue to expand collections that support the College’s mission and goals.