

# University of Rhode Island

## Graduate School of Library and Information Studies

### Strategic Plan, 2023–2028

*Approved by the faculty, Sep. 13, 2023*

## Vision

Produce the next generation of library and information leaders.

## Mission

Ensure a thriving, innovative program that prepares students who serve and transform communities.

## Values

**Prepare.** Relevant, meaningful coursework, intellectual inquiry, and a comprehensive partnership in advising are central for students' academic, personal, and professional growth.

**Care.** Thriving learning communities are built on equity, accessibility, mutual respect, support, and a strong work ethic.

**Share.** Research and scholarship, networking, leading, and advocating as library and information professionals are essential actions to positively impact our global and local communities.

# 2023–2028 Strategic Priorities and Goals

**Our Programs.** Expand our impact by sustainably growing the student population, areas of study, and funding.

- Over the next five years, explore options for expanding the student base.
- Within 5 years, renew and strengthen our course offerings in archival and digital preservation.
- Annually evaluate course rotation, course offerings, and tracks, with a goal in three years to have courses condensed, deleted, or added according to student need and available staffing.
- Within 3 years, streamline all practicum and internship practices, including self-directed tools for students.
- Within two years, increase departmental understanding of the revenue-based funding model in order to develop formulas that help plan for a sustainable future of the program.

**Our Students.** Prioritize a student-focused, personalized education experience.

- Annually work in partnership with students to investigate the best supports for program recruitment and retention of a diverse student body.
- Increase students' sense of community in the accelerated online program over the next five years.
- Annually review student-focused processes and policies.
- Over the next three years, empower students to engage in professional opportunities including membership in state, regional, and national library associations.

## **Our Faculty. Maintain excellence in faculty contributions in research, teaching, and service.**

- Within three years, develop a renewed focus on research communication amongst our program and our larger community.
- Over the next four years, support increased faculty research productivity.
- Annually explore options for expanding program faculty, including joint appointments and new positions with a goal to increase the faculty within three years.

## **Our Larger Community. Continue to increase visibility and collaboration with the broader university and professional communities.**

- Continue to demonstrate our leadership in online education at the University of Rhode Island.
- Over the next five years, continue to build our reputation and position in the larger LIS professional community.