

Systemwide Library Facility (SLF) Long-Range Goals, Mid-Range Goals and Annual Priorities (2026/27)

Process, goals and priorities endorsed by the Systemwide Library Facilities Board (June 16, 2026)

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Introduction

The [northern](#) and [southern](#) Systemwide Library Facilities (SLF; formerly “Regional” Library Facilities, or RLFs) preserve and provide access to the University’s valued physical library collections of enduring scholarly importance, directly advancing the teaching, research and patient care of current and future generations of UC scholars. As primary cultural heritage repositories, the SLF are also core to both national and global efforts to preserve human knowledge.

With a unified service environment and shared technical infrastructure, UC’s high-density, climate-controlled storage facilities are designed and maintained to generate economies and efficiencies at scale. The SLF play a longstanding and continuing role in enabling comprehensive and diverse library collection development across the system, and uniquely position UC leadership in print preservation, collective collection management (also referred to as “shared print”), mass digitization and new approaches to digital access. For further reflections on the role of the SLF in systemwide success, see the Systemwide Library Facilities Board (SLFB) 2023 visioning document, [The Regional Library Facilities \(RLFs\): Essential to core UC shared services & emerging innovations](#).

To support SLF strategic management and planning, the SLFB maintains long-range goals, mid-range goals and annual priorities that reflect the UC Libraries’ operational objectives and advance the work and ambitions of UC faculty, students, researchers and clinicians, systemwide. The SLF goals and priorities also intersect with and augment [the UC Libraries long-range goals and annual priorities](#). The SLFB monitors progress on the annual priorities and may adjust project timelines throughout the year as needed to respond to evolving or emerging needs.

Long-range SLFB/SLF goals

1. Advance sustainable, persistent retention and preservation of valued scholarly materials on behalf of the University (faculty, students and researchers across UC), state of California and partners across the region, country and globe.
2. Expand equitable UC access to SLF collections.
3. Maximize space reclamation and optimization to best serve UC’s local and systemwide needs.

FY26/27 Mid-range goals and annual priorities

Mid-range goals	FY26/27 priorities	Responsible	Target Timeframe¹
1. Conclude initial implementation of the Project to Analyze [SLF] Operations Funding phase II report recommendations to shift the facilities from a regional to a systemwide stance and organization.	i. Conduct a holistic review of SLF finances (revenue and expenses).	SLF director , with support from host campus library financial experts and SLF operations leads	Continued from previous year, concluding September 2026
	ii. Clarify and affirm SLFB budget oversight and reporting practices, including expectations for carryforward and reserve funds, and requirements for reporting SLF budget information to UCOP (continuation of FY25/26 Goal #1.ii).	SLFB Budget Subcommittee	July 2026 – March 2027
	iii. In collaboration with UCOP, establish regular practices for SLF and host campuses to identify, prioritize and resolve deferred maintenance needs, and for SLFB to identify and prioritize capital improvement needs (following on FY25/26 Goal #1.iv).	SLF director and operations leads , in collaboration with host campus facilities maintenance and UCOP Operations experts	Continued from previous year, concluding June 2027
	iv. Develop a mid-range SLF staffing plan, to guide how the SLF navigates vacancies and evolving business needs; define a process and routine timeframe with SLFB for regularly updating the SLF staffing plan.	SLF director , in consultation with host campus ULs and SLFB Steering	July 2026 – December 2026
	v. Update the SLFB charge to reflect the implementation of phase II recommendations; review and, as needed, update charges for SLFB Steering and subcommittees for purposes of alignment.	SLFB Steering	October 2026 – March 2027
2. Continue progress aligning SLF operations and updating SLF service management for systemwide benefit.	i. Review location-specific services and align offerings for systemwide consistency; build on input from operations leads and experts to identify and develop plans to address deposit service disparities between locations.	SLF director and operations leads , in consultation with campus libraries	Continued from previous year, concluding March 2027
	ii. Begin acting on the recommendations of the Strategic SLF Allocation Model task force (following on FY25/26 Goal #2.ii) to implement a new systemwide allocation model; coordinate with SCLG, SPST and UC Shared Print to develop ongoing working groups in service of these processes; build on findings from the Cross-regional Deposits pilot projects to routinize shared capacity.	SLF operations leads and deposits experts , in coordination with SCLG, SPST and UC Shared Print	Continued from previous year, concluding July 2027

¹ All timeframes assume the end of the month unless otherwise specified. For months when SLFB holds their regular meetings (March, June, September, December), responsible parties may seek SLFB review of deliverables, with the remainder of the month set aside for adjustments or refinements based on the board's feedback.

Mid-range goals	FY26/27 priorities	Responsible	Target Timeframe ¹
	iii. Continue persistent deposit deduplication projects at SLF-S, prioritizing deduplication against SLF-N-held WEST and JACS shared print retention commitments (following on FY25/26 Goal #3.i).	SLF-S , in coordination with SLF-N	July 2026 – June 2027
	iv. Frame and initiate an analysis of the exceptional deposit program, including applicable policies and funding model plus anticipated upcoming campus need, to identify recommendations to enhance systemwide benefits.	SLF director and operations leads , with support from SLF deposits experts and in consultation with budget experts	January 2027 – March 2027
3. Explore opportunities to address existing and emerging needs for storage, discovery and access to persistent and special collections.	i. Evaluate committed space, remaining space and current services that support special collections and archives (following on FY25/26 Goal #3.ii); in consultation with SCLG, SPST and HOSC, define shared principles and systemwide strategy for future non-persistent deposit allocations.	SLF director and operations leads , in collaboration with an SLFB-charged group including representation from SCLG, SPST and HOSC	October 2026 – July 2027
	ii. In consultation with CoUL and SILS Leadership Group, and building on previous work completed by the SILS-charged RLF Configuration Project Team (2021-2022), charge a working group to conduct an initial feasibility assessment identifying needs and determining readiness for a potential future standalone SLF Institution Zone (IZ) in SILS.	SLFB-charged group , in consultation with CoUL and SILS Leadership Group	January 2027 – July 2027
	iii. Explore potential SLF support for new or expanded mass digitization opportunities.	SLF director and operations leads , in conversation with CDL mass digitization experts and the Mass Digitization Capacity Project Team	January 2027 – July 2027

Parking lot for future goals and priorities

This parking lot includes potential and likely SLF goals and priorities that are anticipated but where implementation is not yet actively underway.

- Consider the feasibility of additional one-time and long-term projects to reclaim and/or maximize shelving space at the SLF (see [RLF Action Plan](#) for projects to consider).
- Further explore and pursue systemwide SLF efficiency and automation in light of Alma and CAIA (or any future successor shared system) functionality, including process and metadata management improvements to reduce workload related to accessioning and managing collections.
- Consider and integrate new digitized content service models and explore potential opportunities to strategically expand mass digitization as it relates to the systemwide library facilities and access from these environments, drawing on the work of the UC Mass Digitization Capacity Project Team and building on the work of existing digitization operations (e.g., HathiTrust, Google Books Project, FedDoc Archives, etc.) and previous UC research (e.g., [Project LEND](#)).
- Improve consistency of systemwide physical collection management practices by developing systemwide policies governing stewardship of persistent collections, including metadata, collections care, and replacement practices.
 - Determine how to address materials requiring special handling (e.g., circulation policy and digitization priority for materials published before 1901).
- Develop longer-term staffing and services plan contingencies in preparation for SLF-South eventually reaching its maximum storage capacity.
- Prepare long-term facilities and capital planning baselines, in advance of planning for additional SLF storage capacity (e.g., current projections suggest initiating capital planning approximately five years before SLF-North capacity is reached.).

Processes for establishing and managing SLFB/SLF goals and priorities

1. SLFB reviews and, as necessary, revises the SLFB/SLF long-range goals, mid-range goals and annual priorities document on an annual basis, typically in the summer (and updates as needed throughout the year).
2. Prior to each review, the SLFB Steering Committee consults with SLFB members and incorporates their feedback as draft revisions for discussion.
3. The final version is affirmed by the board and posted on the SLFB website.

2026

2027

Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	
Goal #1.i - Holistic review of SLF finances																
Goal #1.ii - Clarify SLFB budget oversight and reporting practices																
			▲		▲	▲			▲							
Goal #1.iii - Establish practices for deferred maintenance and capital improvement																
	Goal #1.iv - Develop mid-range SLF staffing plan															
			▲													
				Goal #1.v - Update SLFB charge												
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Goal #2.i - Review and align location-specific services																
Goal #2.ii - Act on SSAM recommendations to implement a new systemwide allocation model																
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Goal #2.iii - SLF-S persistent deposit deduplication against SLF-N shared print commitments																
							Goal #2.iv - Analysis of the exceptional deposit program									
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				Goal #3.i - Special collections spaces, services, and needs assessment												
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							Goal #3.ii - Working group for an initial feasibility study for a potential future standalone SLF IZ in SILS									
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							Goal #3.iii - Explore potential new or expanded mass digitization opportunities									

Legend:

Led by SLFB Steering

Led by SLF director

Led by SLFB subcommittee

Led by SLF staff

Led by cross-functional teams

▲ SLFB check-point