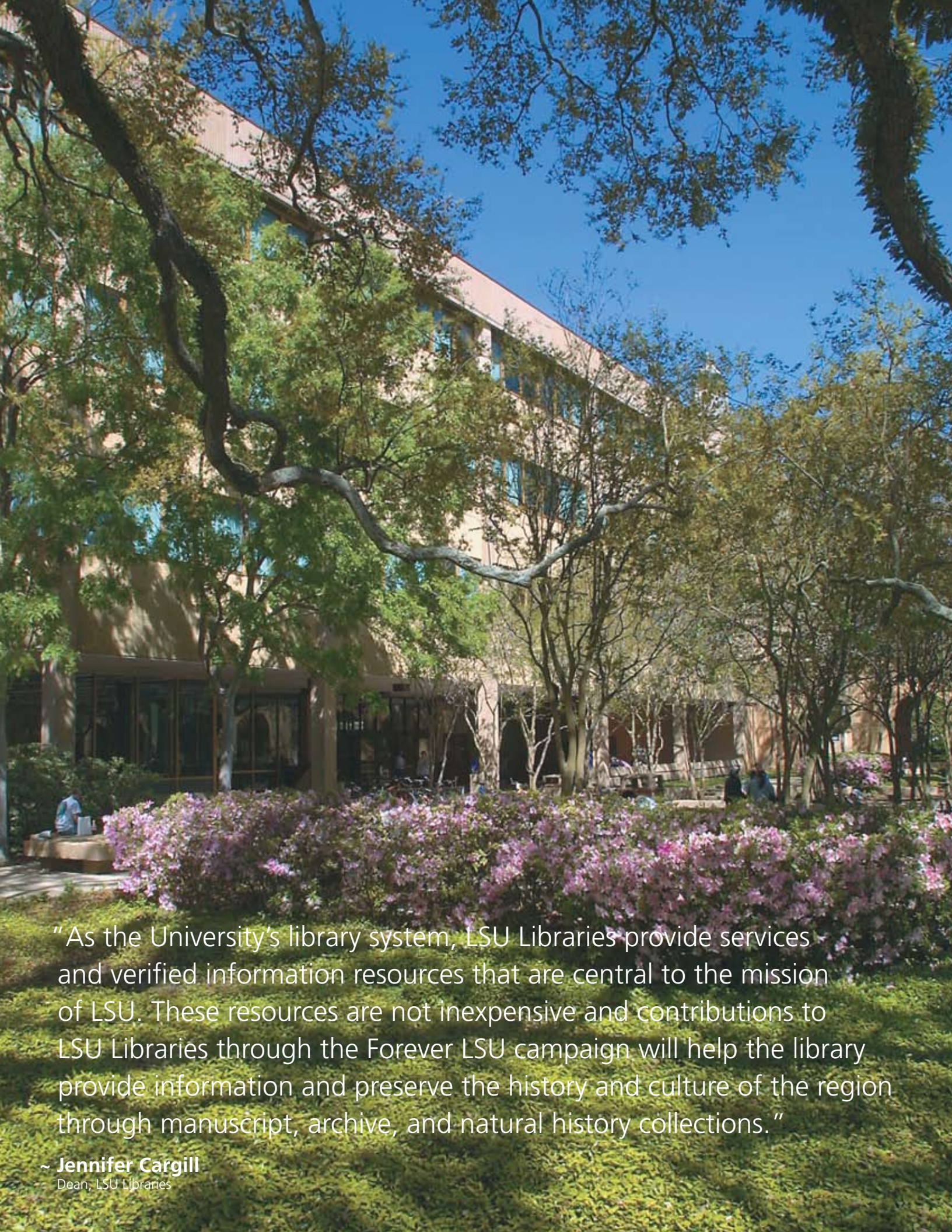




The Campaign for Louisiana State University

# LSU Libraries





“As the University’s library system, LSU Libraries provide services and verified information resources that are central to the mission of LSU. These resources are not inexpensive and contributions to LSU Libraries through the Forever LSU campaign will help the library provide information and preserve the history and culture of the region through manuscript, archive, and natural history collections.”

~ **Jennifer Cargill**  
Dean, LSU Libraries



With ample resources on Louisiana, Southern history, agriculture, sugar culture and technology, petroleum engineering, plant pathology, natural history, and various aspects of aquaculture, LSU Libraries serve as the research libraries for LSU and for the state of Louisiana.

The LSU Libraries system is one of 113 academic research libraries in the United States and Canada affiliated with the Association of Research Libraries (ARL). LSU has been a member of ARL since 1938. The system has more than three million volumes and subscribes to thousands of journals. Many books, journals, and databases are available electronically, and the number of electronic resources continues to increase. The libraries' manuscript collections have also seen steady growth and today number more than 12 million pieces. In addition, LSU Libraries facilitate projects to make rare and manuscript materials available digitally. Several of these digital projects as well as other initiatives have been funded through grants.

LSU Libraries provide resources to more than 30,000 LSU students, more than 6,000 University employees, the community at large, and students of other academic institutions in Louisiana. The library system at LSU was a primary

partner in the development of LOUIS (Louisiana Online University Information System), the statewide automated library network that links most of the state's academic libraries. This network was one of the first of its kind and facilitates the electronic sharing of resources.

For a research university such as LSU, a strong library is critical to both the support of the curriculum and the advancement of research. The libraries at LSU are critical resources to the campus as well as to the state, organizing and providing access to scholarly information and specializing in a variety of topics, such as Southern history, agriculture, and Louisiana history. During the recovery efforts following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, LSU Libraries assisted in saving and conserving materials from the devastated areas. Part of the mission of the library is preserving the history and culture of the state and supporting research that facilitates economic-development efforts.





The LSU Libraries consist of two facilities—Middleton Library and Hill Memorial Library.

### **Troy H. Middleton Library**

Constructed in 1958, Middleton Library is positioned in the heart of the Quadrangle, adjacent to many of the campus' original buildings. It was built during the administration of General Troy H. Middleton, who secured the funding for the initial two-story facility. Two additional floors were added in the 1980s.

Middleton Library houses the general collections, which are used by the largest number of patrons and includes traditional print books and journals, microforms, government documents, musical scores, and patents as well as access to electronic books, journals, and databases.

### **Hill Memorial Library**

Hill Memorial Library was the original library for the present campus and was constructed in 1926.

After Middleton was built, Hill temporarily housed a number of University departments. Then in the 1980s, Hill Memorial Library was renovated and specialized collections were moved from Middleton and consolidated into the new Special Collections division, which provides a center for research in the humanities, social sciences, and fine arts. The primary strength of these collections reside in the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, including materials documenting the history and culture of the region, books on Louisiana subjects by Louisiana authors, state documents, business records, and extensive collections of photography.

Hill Memorial Library also houses several other valued collections, including University Archives, the Rare Book Collections, the E. A. McIlhenny Natural History Collection, and the T. Harry Williams Center for Oral History.

Established in 1991, the Williams Center for Oral History was named for the acclaimed author and former LSU history professor who was well known for his pioneering work using oral history as a research tool. The center focuses on collecting oral history of LSU and Louisiana-related topics and provides workshops to community volunteers who want to conduct their own oral history projects.

## **Forever LSU**

Forever LSU: The Campaign for Louisiana State University presents a unique opportunity for the University family to create a positive, permanent change that will make LSU a top-tier public institution. By partnering together and investing our time, talent, and financial resources, we can create a more robust University, a better-educated and more prosperous Louisiana, and a stronger nation.



Funds generated from this campaign will help to advance the National Flagship Agenda by assisting the LSU Libraries as the system strives to:

- **SUPPORT NEW ACQUISITIONS** for the libraries' general and special collections;
- **SUPPORT RESEARCH** of LSU faculty and facilitate students' course preparation by offering the most comprehensive collection possible as well as state-of-the-art resources;
- **ATTRACT AND RETAIN** a diverse community of top-quality students, faculty, and staff by offering a campus library system of the highest caliber.



## Program Support

As an academic support unit, LSU Libraries support the University's mission of teaching, research, and service. Therefore, the system is vital to the University's future and the success of the National Flagship Agenda. Endowments to the LSU Libraries are needed to support new acquisitions for the general collections and special collections, which include rare books, manuscripts, photographic collections, and other research materials. In addition, endowments support the continuing work of the Center for Oral History. These collections support LSU faculty research and facilitate students' course preparation. Library collections also influence recruitment of faculty in key areas. Donors have the option of contributing to existing library endowments or creating new endowments.

## Infrastructure

Endowments are needed to help support and advance the LSU Libraries' facilities, technological resources, and acquisitions. The library system has embraced information technology, providing the LSU community with many electronic resources. Multi-functional, public-access workstations are highly visible in the Information Commons, and both Middleton and Hill Memorial Libraries provide wireless service, which is heavily used by patrons who bring their own laptops. Middleton Library also has laptops and other technology available for students to check out. In addition, the development of the libraries' electronic and print materials and esoteric collections are critical to LSU's Flagship Agenda.



**Answer the Call** Your support is vital to the future of LSU and the LSU Libraries. To learn more about how you can help, contact a development officer at

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**LSU**