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Mission Statement 2012

Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology The Institute Library

The Institute Library is a core component of JAIST which shall achieve its mission through research and educational activities. The library resources and service activities shall meet a vision of JAIST, particularly its plans which develop and improve uniqueness and functions of JAIST. As a leading part of JAIST, the library is expected to support academic growth of students or creative research activities of the faculty.

As a place to promote and integrate intellectual activities for JAIST, the library is responsible to develop various research support services, to establish a base for accumulation, circulation and utilization of the research results and to provide active information delivery. The central core of research support services is to collect and organize documents, materials and information which users need and to provide them. The recent notable increase of academic materials in electronic media has impacted not only on the selection of electronic media but also on the method of providing the library services such as delivery of research results from JAIST. The central core of support services for academic growth of students is that the library provides a suitable environment to facilitate the learning efficiency of the users.

JAIST was established as the first independent national graduate university without an undergraduate division which specializes in advanced science and technology.

Our mission is, while to promote the highest levels of fundamental research in advanced science and technology, at the same time, to develop the highest level researchers and engineers in the fields and to meet the social needs through education.

To fulfill the mission, the library is responsible to develop support functions by providing documents, materials and information effectively. It is necessary for the library to implement service support activities based on the academic features of advanced science and technology characterized as rapid development of interdisciplinary and innovative nature of fundamental research or integration of science and technology.

Furthermore, the library has been asked for the contribution to society and the local areas. By disseminating academic information or research results from JAIST which have accumulated in the library, we strengthen the collaboration with other libraries and provide the environment of the intellectual exchanges to local residents and community. The library aims to stimulate the intellectual curiosity of all the people involved, nurture it, support life-long learning and research study activities, establish a library rooted in the local area and contribute to its cultural promotion. In addition, the library keeps in close contact with local libraries and asks their cooperation to have the services fulfilled to the faculty members and students.

From these perspectives, the following statements describe the future vision of the library, policies of collecting and providing documents and materials which meet the purpose of JAIST, and the service policies:

1. Future Vision of the Library

The Institute Library shall pursue its future vision with the base of documents, materials and information which develops the following two functions comprehensively: research/study support library and information dissemination type library.

Research/Study Support Library

The mission of the Institute Library is to support research and educational activities for JAIST in order to fulfill the purpose of its establishment. The purpose of JAIST is: “To carry out basic research in the fields of information technology and new materials, and cultivate potential researchers and enterprising engineers with broad basic knowledge of the fields.” The support for research activities in the library means collecting and classifying necessary documents, materials and information and providing them while at the same time promoting delivery of resources through electronic media and networks in recent years. The support for educational activities in the library means providing a library environment which promotes the improvement of user’s learning efficiency. As recently the learning style has been changing from individual learning to group learning, it is important that the library is flexible enough to accommodate the changes as well.

JAIST is a graduate school, and the library shall develop as a research/study support library which takes into account for improvement of efficiency of learning methods as well as supporting research activities. As its ideal, JAIST aims to realize the creative integration of research and education which is available to both of dynamic development of research activities and dynamic change of high levels of educational functions. From this view point, the library needs to establish its identity as being a research/study support library while seeking it.

Information Dissemination Type Library

The Institute Library aims to actively disseminate information, resulting in contribution to JAIST and society. The library not only provides the accumulated library resources but also endeavors to promote the expansion and the utilization of “JAIST Repository for Academic Research Outcomes” while improving the digital library which is enhanced with the function of information dissemination by digitizing literature collections of its holdings, preserving, and opening them up to the public.

Traditional print media resources are important components of the library and it is necessary to maintain the function of a conventional type library in the future as well. We must seek for a new way of library, pursuing comprehensively for the functional divisions of the conventional type library and the electronic library, their mutual complementarity and their synergistic effects. It is necessary for the library to provide a system which can offer both the traditional print media resources and growing number of electronic media resources smoothly in the same manner, and to provide a system which is easily accessible to both types of library resources.

The library aims to guarantee the access to the assets of mankind’s knowledge through collaboration of associating organizations both inside and outside JAIST, disseminate the seeds of intellectual curiosity which the library possesses, moreover, suggest exchanges of intelligence, and establish “the library which nurtures intellectual curiosity”.

2. Acquisition Policies or Collection Development Guidelines

The collection documents and materials are selected based on the following conditions:

- a. Among the research documents and materials in the fields of Knowledge Science, Information Science and Materials Science, those that are related in high level basic research
- b. Among the research documents and materials in the fields of Knowledge Science, Information Science and Materials Science, those that reflect the newest results

However, the following materials should be collected according to their priority:

① Academic journals (excluding back issues)

The typical leading journals of the advanced research trends in the field concerned and in which the highly influential papers are published

② Paper search type databases (secondary materials, reference books, etc.)

Those that grasp the newest research results and research trends, and those that enable document collections widely and accurately

③ The newest published research books and records of proceedings

As a principle, those that were published within the past two years, or the minutes concerning the meetings held within one year

④ The reference books of syllabus specification

⑤ Books on Request

3. Service Policies

- a. The library provides the received documents and materials promptly for users.
- b. When materials for which a user asks are not in its holdings, the library provides the copies of the materials by requesting them from other organizations through the interlibrary loan systems, provides the materials by purchasing them or any other means.
- c. In order to support creative research activities of the users, the library is open 24 hours, offering necessary documents and materials for viewing, copying and loaning while providing reference services upon request.
- d. In order to support the research activities of the users, the library always commits the efforts in providing a comfortable academic research environment through the facility, equipment servicing, maintenance, and management.
- e. The library provides services to researchers outside JAIST and residents in the

area who need the documents and materials in its holdings.

The service must be equivalent to JAIST faculty, staff members and students.

- f. The library strives for digitizing and preserving every possible research result or resource in JAIST while providing the resource widely to society at the same time.

4. Guidelines and Criteria of Document Digitalization

Nowadays, not only in academic journals but also in books, general commercial magazines, etc., the conventional type publication formats which depend on print media have been required to develop into publication formats which utilize electronic media.

“The library is the facility where various media are utilized.” as it is in the establishment plan of JAIST. In order to achieve to be both a research library and an information dissemination type library, we promote establishing an e-library while looking into the change and development in the future to be an e-library which utilizes electronic publications.

According to the above stated concepts, the measures for digitalization are based on the following guidelines:

- a. As long as copyright consent is obtained from copyright owners within JAIST, we digitalize actively and transmit the JAIST’s research outcomes both inside and outside JAIST.
- b. Regarding electronic resources, such as e-journals, we secure the necessary academic information dependably and continuously through the cooperation with college library consortium union (common name JUSTICE), and provide it.
- c. Regarding electronic resources, while reviewing the contents, we actively collect them when they are considered to contribute to save space for the facilities or to contribute to the convenience of a large number of faculty, staff and students, especially the students of distant areas (such as on the Tokyo Satellite Campus).
- d. We strive for development of digitalization at the collection and research of the related information while paying constant attention to the changes of electronic media.