The Texas Digital Library began in 2005 as a partnership among four of the state’s largest Association of Research Libraries (ARL) universities: Texas A&M University, Texas Tech University, the University of Houston, and the University of Texas at Austin. Since that time, the consortium has grown to include 15 members representing both large and small institutions from every region in the state.

The TDL’s goal was to develop and provide infrastructure, tools and services to enhance open access to scholarly materials, preserve digital collections, provide a platform for shaping the evolution of scholarly communication, and encourage collaboration among scholars and researchers throughout the state of Texas. Simultaneously, it aimed to reduce costs for individual institutions through increased efficiencies and sharing of resources.

The first years of the TDL were formative, as infrastructure was put in place, systems were designed and built, and initial services were developed. As it has matured the TDL realizes the need to move from its development phase into a more member-driven strategic operational phase.

This Strategic Plan has been developed within this context. It has grown out of a planning process begun in late 2011 by the TDL Governing Board, to assess the needs of the organization and determine its future direction over the next three years. The Plan is meant to serve as a roadmap for prioritizing the resources and opportunities of the organization as it strives to advance its vision and mission, while staying true to core TDL values.

**TDL Member Institutions 2011**

Angelo State University  
Baylor University  
Texas A&M University  
Texas A&M International University  
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi  
Texas A&M University at Galveston  
Texas A&M University-Kingsville  
Texas A&M University at Qatar  
Texas State University  
Texas Tech University  
University of Houston  
The University of Texas at Austin  
The University of Texas at Brownsville  
The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center  
The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston
Our Mission

The Texas Digital Library enables each of its member libraries to advance a program of digital initiatives in support of research, scholarship, and learning in Texas.

Our Core Values

Respect

The Texas Digital Library respects the talent and expertise of member librarians and staff, drawing on their skills and passion to broaden the capabilities of the Texas Digital Library.

Sharing, collaboration & partnership

As a collaborative organization, the Texas Digital Library partners with others, inside and outside the TDL, to advance digital services for research, scholarship, and learning.

Leadership

The Texas Digital Library is a leader in the development of innovative services that extend the capability to advance digital initiatives to all college and university libraries in Texas.

Member direction

The Texas Digital Library takes its strategic direction from its member institutions and works in cooperation with members to advance the mission of the organization.
The Texas Digital Library will be essential to the success of Texas libraries, to Texas scholars and researchers, and to Texas higher education in general. Its value as a collaborative organization will transcend the efforts of any individual member, and it will be a recognized and respected leader in the national and international digital library communities.

Researchers, teachers, and learners throughout Texas and across the world will consider the resources and technologies provided by the Texas Digital Library to be invaluable. Scholarly materials collected and disseminated through TDL will be used to solve scientific and policy dilemmas; instructional materials will be used to improve the quality of education; and unique digital collections will make learning come alive everywhere.

The TDL will lead the way forward during changing times by working toward a scholarly communication system that makes research and learning materials freely available to anyone, anywhere, and at any time. It will be an advocate for Open Access to scholarly work, and it will be instrumental in leading libraries to a more active role in publishing research materials. Additionally, the TDL will participate in the changing nature of university education, providing crucial support in the development of quality distance learning programs for Texas colleges and universities.

Every library in the state will be a member in the Texas Digital Library, and the Texas legislature will recognize the organization’s value through generous and perpetual funding. During times of fiscal tightening, budget cuts to Texas Digital Library will be unthinkable.
Strategic Initiatives 2011-2014

As the means to achieve our vision of becoming the *library of first choice* for our core audiences, TDL has outlined four strategic initiatives aimed at growing scholarly content, engaging existing member libraries and faculty, encouraging collaborative research projects, and leveraging the skills and experience of members to augment the talent and expertise of TDL staff. These four strategic initiatives will form the foundation for our growth in the three-year period spanning academic years 2011-2014.

**Strategic Initiative #1:**

**Increase scholarly information hosted on TDL platforms by 2000% by August 2014.**

The TDL will determine member needs, identify existing impediments to hosting content with TDL, and develop processes and technology solutions for ingest- ing new content and migrating existing content (including numeric data, text, images, and audio-visual content) to TDL services. As part of this initiative, TDL will offer services for managing numeric datasets for e-science initiatives.

**Strategic Initiative #2:**

**Market TDL services to each member institution, including to 15 academic departments or units within TDL member institutions.**

The TDL will ensure that member libraries have the tools and support necessary to promote the use of TDL on their campuses. TDL will recruit key players within member institutions to host scholarly information on TDL platforms and identify and participate in events on campuses where TDL can have direct contact with faculty and researchers.
Strategic Initiative #3:

Develop 20 additional collaborative special collections.

The TDL will facilitate connections among researchers and the development of research communities within Texas through the creation of valuable, multi-institution collections of research and scholarly materials.

Strategic Initiative #4:

Mine relevant talent and expertise in Texas to extend the capabilities of TDL.

The TDL will leverage Working Groups, User Groups, and Committees as means for all members to contribute to and benefit from the work of the Texas Digital Library, extending the capabilities of TDL through strategic use of both TDL staff and member talent and expertise.

Contact the TDL

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