

MISSION STATEMENT

TO PROMOTE IRISH/IRISH AMERICAN LITERATURE, HISTORY AND CULTURE BY PRESERVING AND MODERNIZING THE COLLECTION OF BOOKS, PERIODICALS, AND MULTIMEDIA AT THE PATRICK J. DOWLING LIBRARY AND BY PROVIDING PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE COLLECITON.

GOALS

Preserving

One year

1. Digitize the microfilm copies of the Leader newspaper and post it online. (The Leader is an important first source for research on early 20th century San Francisco/Ireland.)
2. Develop process for restoring damaged books including seeking a preservation grant.

Five year

1. Provide an appropriate environment for the collection including climate control in the alcove, currently occupied by Shamus, the library Garda.

Modernizing

One year

1. Finish automating the card catalog.
2. Signs
3. Purchase new office equipment including a new chair, more suitable workstation, business router so we can have WIFI, software for second computer, multipurpose printer, vacuum, new cart, and adjustable monitor.
4. Determine which fiction books should be left on the shelves.
5. Hire a librarian who would be responsible for managing the collection, for overseeing the cataloging and for keeping the library open. Or, in the alternative hire a consult who can provide us with a plan which would provide us with guidance on a number of issues such as the preservation of the damaged books, what type of books & other media should we add to the collection, which books we should keep on the shelf, etc..

Five year

1. Provide more space for the collection and for users doing research and/or develop a plan for better use of the space we currently have, including considering the use of movable shelves. NOTE: one year goal is to replace the round table with a folding table and replace the rectangular table with a literature rack.
2. Purchase audiovisual equipment for viewing media other than books.

Community Outreach

One year

1. Start a Friends of the Library program which would be responsible for promoting the library and for fundraising including planning events & classes and publicity.
2. Determine if we want to lend books out to serious researchers
3. Promote the study of Genealogy
 - a. Ancestry.com for librarians
 - b. Have Genealogy classes
4. Integrate the library into the UICC more fully by more joint efforts
5. Liaison with ILHS, Crossroads, etc..
6. Reach out to schools for volunteers
7. Have library open by appointment

