

Association of College & Research Libraries  
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## Board of Directors Discussion Form

**To:** ACRL Board of Directors  
**Subject:** Environmental Scan 2021 DRAFT  
**Submitted by:** Ginny Boehme, Chair, Research Planning and Review Committee

**Date submitted:** February 22, 2021

### BACKGROUND:

The ACRL Research Planning and Review Committee is responsible for creating and updating a biennial environmental scan for the association that encompasses trends in academic librarianship, higher education, and the broader environment, e.g., economic, demographic, political.

The ACRL Board normally reviews the document prior to publication and provides feedback. The committee welcomes your comments and thoughts on the draft Environmental Scan 2021 (Doc 1.1). The deadline for Board review and comments is March 8, 2021.

After Board feedback has been collected, the committee will finalize the document to be posted online by April. The committee is still discussing promotion of the finalized document, and will share it through ACRL marketing channels. The committee plans to present their findings in a future webcast.

Previous Environmental Scans have been published on the ACRL website: [Environmental Scan 2019](#) (April 2019), [Environmental Scan 2017](#) (March 2017), [Environmental Scan 2015](#) (March 2015), [Environmental Scan 2013](#) (April 2013).

### Questions for the Board to discuss:

Review the draft Environmental Scan 2021 (Doc 1.1) and provide comments by March 8, 2021.

### IF PERTINENT: Have other stakeholders been consulted?

Committee members have revised draft sections in preparation for final draft.

### STRATEGIC GOAL AREA SUPPORTED:

Please add additional sheets as needed to explain. (Select the goal area that will be affected most by this action.)

☐ **Value of Academic Libraries**

Goal: Academic libraries demonstrate alignment with and impact on institutional outcomes.

☐ **Student Learning**

Goal: Advance equitable and inclusive pedagogical practices and environments for libraries to support student learning.

☐ **Research and Scholarly Environment**

Goal: The academic and research library workforce accelerates the transition to more open and equitable systems of scholarship.

☐ **New Roles and Changing Landscapes**

Goal: The academic and research library workforce effectively fosters change in academic libraries and higher education environments.

☒ **Enabling Programs and Services**

ACRL programs, services, and publications that target education, advocacy, and member engagement.

### **FISCAL AND STAFFING IMPACT**

Staff will copyedit the final version and will promote through ACRL marketing channels.