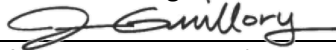
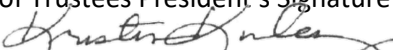
	Title: Library Use Policy	Policy # POL- 401 Revision # 2
Prepared By: Library Director	Preparer's Name/Title Valerie McBeth, Library Director	Date Prepared: 07/19/2023
Approved By: Justin Guillory, President	College President's Signature 	Date Approved: 07/19/2023
Effective Date: 07/20/2023	Board of Trustees President's Signature 	Date Approved: 07/19/23

401.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of the Library Use Policy is to assure that the library is operated according to professional standards as expressed by the American Library Association's Bill of Rights and Code of Ethics and as practiced by library professionals, and in accordance with the college's core themes and the standards of the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities. Those documents are Appendices I and II.

401.2 SCOPE

The Library Use Policy applies to all who use the library, either in person or remotely, and all who work in the library, whether paid or unpaid.

401.4 POLICY STATEMENT

The mission of the library is to support the Northwest Indian College, including students, faculty, and staff in all locations and using all modalities, and the Lummi community with research, informational, tribal, cultural, and recreational resources that enhance life-long learning. The library also serves the students, faculty, and staff of Bellingham Technical College, Whatcom Community College, Western Washington University, and the Skagit Valley College through reciprocal borrowing agreements, and the residents of the city of Bellingham and Whatcom County through the Whatcom Connections program. This policy is written to provide direction for the administration of the Lummi Library relating to library use, consistent with its mission.

401.4.1 Library Staff

The library is staffed by:

- A director with either an advanced degree from an ALA accredited program or a Washington State Lifetime Librarian's Certificate, or both;
- a Library Technician III with expertise in technical services and interlibrary loan;
- one or more Library Technicians I and II with various responsibilities.

401.4.2 Use of Library

The library will be open to the public and all library resources may be used in the library without charge or registering for an account.

401.4.3 Patron Confidentiality

The library protects the privacy of library patrons. Staff members and volunteers will maintain the confidentiality of personal information such as addresses and phone numbers as well as any information which would associate any library patron's name with any specific materials inquired about or used: print, electronic, or other media, and will not give this information to individuals or any private or public agency unless required to do so by law. This is in accordance with the policies of the American Library Association.

401.4.4 Conduct in the Library

Leng-e-sot: We take care of ourselves, watch out for ourselves, and love and take care of one another.

In accordance with this belief, all library patrons and staff are expected to conduct themselves in a safe, legal, and respectful manner, including with respect to food, drink, and noise levels in the library.

Those who do not comply with the policy on conduct may be asked to leave the library and may have borrowing and/or computer privileges revoked.

401.4.5 Children in the Library

Children are expected to comply with the policy on conduct.

Children under the age of eight must be accompanied by a parent or other adult age eighteen or older.

If the staff is concerned about the welfare of an unaccompanied child, or if a child is unaccompanied at closing time, an attempt may be made to contact an appropriate adult to take responsibility for the child. If that cannot be accomplished staff will contact the Lummi Police Department.

401.4.6 Court-Ordered Supervised Family Visits in the Library

The library recognizes that court-ordered supervised visits are special times for families and wishes to support them in ways that are satisfactory for all concerned.

Arrangements for such visits will be made in advance to assure that the library has sufficient staff and space to accommodate them.

Families using the library for the purpose of supervised visits are expected to conform to same standard of conduct as other library patrons.

The library encourages families to use this time to share books together. Library staff will be happy to help families select appropriate books.

401.4.7 Computer Lab Policy

For security purposes there is a video camera in the computer lab.

Some computers are reserved for the use of students, others for the use of community members.

All the computers have Internet and email access, Office software, and are connected to a printer.

There are two computers in the south end of the building which are not covered by video surveillance.

Wireless internet access is available throughout the building.

401.4.8 Borrowing Privileges

An adult may obtain borrowing privileges by filling out an application card and presenting proof of identity and address.

A distance teaching or learning borrower may contact the library with name and address which will be confirmed with the registrar's office.

A child under the age of 16 may obtain borrowing privileges providing a responsible adult (usually a parent or guardian) who has a library account in good standing, signs the application card.

Borrowing privileges and/or use of library computers may be suspended or revoked under the following circumstances:

- Failure to return or pay for overdue materials.

- Failure to pay for replacement or repair of damaged materials.

- Failure to comply with the policy on conduct

401.4.9 Library Circulation

Not all materials in the library circulate.

Responsibility:

It is the responsibility of the account holder to return all items on the account. The account holder will be responsible for paying for lost or damaged items.

It is the responsibility of the parent or other responsible adult to monitor a child's choice and use of materials. The library does not act in the role of the parent.

Overdue materials:

The library does not charge overdue fines except under extenuating circumstances as determined by the library director.

Lost/Long overdue materials:

A patron with long overdue or lost materials may be blocked from checking out additional materials and may be blocked from using the library computers until such materials are returned, paid for, or other restitution as agreed upon by the patron and the library is made.

401.4.10 Challenges Relating to a Patron's Account

A patron may challenge the library's record of the account.

A dispute about a patron's account, if not resolved by the patron and the library director, will be submitted to the Library Advisory Board for resolution.

401.5 RESPONSIBILITY

The responsibility for implementing the Library Use Policy has been delegated to the Lummi Library Director, under the supervision of the Dean of Academics.

A Lummi Library Advisory Board has been established and is composed of voluntary members representing various constituents of the college and the community who advocate for their communities to the library and for the library in their communities. The Board meets quarterly. The Board's functions are to advise on policy, develop long-range plans, review budget activity, monitor grant activity, and address challenges to the library collections and patron records.

401.6 PROCEDURE

Library procedures are documented in the Library Use Procedures Manual.

401.7 REVIEW DATE

The Library Use Policy will be reviewed every five years.

401.8 RELATED DOCUMENTS

Library Use Procedure (PRO 403)

Library Collection Development and Management Policy (POL 402)

Library Collection Development and Management Procedure (PRO 402)

Library Bill of Rights

The American Library Association affirms that all libraries are forums for information and ideas, and that the following basic policies should guide their services.

I. Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, age, background, or views of those contributing to their creation.

II. Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.

III. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.

IV. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.

V. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.

VI. Libraries which make exhibit spaces and meeting rooms available to the public they serve should make such facilities available on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting their use.

VII. All people, regardless of origin, age, background, or views, possess a right to privacy and confidentiality in their library use. Libraries should advocate for, educate about, and protect people's privacy, safeguarding all library use data, including personally identifiable information.

Adopted June 19, 1939, by the ALA Council; amended October 14, 1944; June 18, 1948; February 2, 1961; June 27, 1967; January 23, 1980; January 29, 2019.

Inclusion of "age" reaffirmed January 23, 1996.

Although the Articles of the *Library Bill of Rights* are unambiguous statements of basic principles that should govern the service of all libraries, questions do arise concerning application of these principles to specific library practices. See the documents designated by the Intellectual Freedom Committee as [Interpretations of the Library Bill of Rights](#).

Code of Ethics of the American Library Association

As members of the American Library Association, we recognize the importance of codifying and making known to the profession and to the general public the ethical principles that guide the work of librarians, other professionals providing information services, library trustees and library staffs.

Ethical dilemmas occur when values are in conflict. The American Library Association Code of Ethics states the values to which we are committed, and embodies the ethical responsibilities of the profession in this changing information environment.

We significantly influence or control the selection, organization, preservation, and dissemination of information. In a political system grounded in an informed citizenry, we are members of a profession explicitly committed to intellectual freedom and the freedom of access to information. We have a special obligation to ensure the free flow of information and ideas to present and future generations.

The principles of this Code are expressed in broad statements to guide ethical decision making. These statements provide a framework; they cannot and do not dictate conduct to cover particular situations.

- I. We provide the highest level of service to all library users through appropriate and usefully organized resources; equitable service policies; equitable access; and accurate, unbiased, and courteous responses to all requests.
- II. We uphold the principles of intellectual freedom and resist all efforts to censor library resources.
- III. We protect each library user's right to privacy and confidentiality with respect to information sought or received and resources consulted, borrowed, acquired or transmitted.
- IV. We respect intellectual property rights and advocate balance between the interests of information users and rights holders.
- V. We treat co-workers and other colleagues with respect, fairness, and good faith, and advocate conditions of employment that safeguard the rights and welfare of all employees of our institutions.
- VI. We do not advance private interests at the expense of library users, colleagues, or our employing institutions.
- VII. We distinguish between our personal convictions and professional duties and do not allow our personal beliefs to interfere with fair representation of the aims of our institutions or the provision of access to their information resources.
- VIII. We strive for excellence in the profession by maintaining and enhancing our own knowledge and skills, by encouraging the professional development of coworkers, and by fostering the aspirations of potential members of the profession.

Adopted at the 1939 Midwinter Meeting by the ALA Council; amended June 30, 1981; June 28, 1995; and January 22, 2008.

