

Research and Technology Services

Advancing Student Academic and Career Success

The Division of Research and Technology Services unit serves as a vital nexus for student academic achievement and career preparation, integrating cutting-edge technologies with foundational research support to prepare students for success in an AI-transformed workforce. Through comprehensive programming spanning AI and digital literacy, advanced maker technologies, and specialized research consultation services, the unit has served over 2,000 students during 2024-2025, delivering transformative learning experiences that bridge theoretical knowledge with practical, career-ready competencies.

AI Literacy and Advanced Technology Integration

Research and Technology Services advanced an interdisciplinary AI and Digital Literacy program in Fall 2024, introducing students to generative AI for academic research and introducing deep research and reasoning models as well as AI-assisted coding. The Creat'R Lab, Robotics Lab, and 3DXP Lab served 1,343 students through integrated maker programming, including a Robotics Summer Camp that introduced students to neural network training. Embedded collaborations with Bioengineering, History, and Classical Studies demonstrate successful integration across disciplines. High-visibility student focused initiatives include the Block Party VR Booth (5,000 students), VR-Ancient Rome courses (218 students), and The Flash Helmet 3D printing demonstration (800 participants). The Department's new AI Research Librarian positions will expand capacity with dedicated support for student AI training and ethical AI framework development.

Foundation Services, Geospatial and Data

The Orbach Library Support Desk and Academic Poster Printing service served 490 and 1,352 students respectively since January 2025, strengthening information literacy and professional communication competencies essential for WASC core requirements. The Geospatial Resources unit facilitated 11 meetups (237 registrations, 132 attendees) making historical geospatial resources accessible to researchers. Python workshop development and UC Love Data Week participation provided students with data processing skills across STEM and humanities disciplines.

Strategic Partnerships and Scholarly Impact

Research and Technology Services maintains embedded support relationships with the School of Medicine (LCME accreditation preparation, Master of Public Health program development), clinical sites across the Inland Empire, and academic departments including Music, Native American Student Programs, and multiple engineering disciplines. The Digital Scholarship Certificate program launched in collaboration with the Career Center and the Open Research and Creative Activities Forum partnership with Graduate Division provide emerging technology related certificates for students and demonstrate strong evidence of strategic integration of library services with student career pathways and future student success.

Through this comprehensive portfolio of services, Research and Technology Services prepares students not merely to navigate but to lead in technologically sophisticated research environments across disciplines and career pathways, delivering both the technical competencies and critical thinking frameworks essential for academic excellence and career advancement in the 21st century.