McCartney Library Information Literacy Policy   **December 2016**

Information Literacy "is the set of integrated abilities encompassing the reflective discovery of information, the understanding of how information is produced and valued, and the use of information in creating new knowledge and participating ethically in communities of learning" (ACRL *Framework for Information Literacy in Higher Education*). In practice, this means a student has the ability to locate, evaluate, and use information for problem solving, decision making, and research.

The guiding principles upon which information literacy stands is the belief that all truth comes from God, that fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and that students "should not be sheltered from non-Christian viewpoints, but must become able to evaluate all knowledge critically, to gain from that which is true and to discard error" (*Foundational Concepts of Christian Higher Education).*

McCartney Library's Information Literacy efforts

Information Literacy at Geneva College is an intellectual conversation where students and faculty develop library research skills for using information as part of comprehensive education, lifelong learning, the growth and development of vocational calling, all with the end goal of service to God and neighbor. Information literacy instruction occurs in the blended framework of library-based group research sessions, in-classroom or laboratory integrated research instruction, augmented by one-on-one library reference services, as needed.

The Librarians at McCartney Library will:

- Work with faculty on embedding instruction in the use of information resources in their classes;
- Work toward enhancing faculty's familiarity with and use of library information resources and tools of scholarly communication;
- Assist faculty to integrate curricular assignments using print and digital sources that draw out critical thinking skills;
- Encourage faculty to emphasize and students to employ ethical use and citation of resources by understanding plagiarism and copyright;
- Assist students in learning how to craft a research question and to skillfully search and gather information sources;
- Help students learn to critically analyze and evaluate information;
- Help students to understand that research requires time and effort, and that information literacy skill will be needed in their profession, and it is a component of lifelong learning; and,
- Maintain accurate statistics of our efforts and solicit evaluative feedback from those whom we serve to enable self-analysis and continual data-driven improvement.