

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES¹

At the UCLA Department of Information Studies we are guided by the principle of justice, which commits us to the idea that all persons and communities have full rights of expression and equitable access to the information and knowledge indispensable for their fullest development. It also commits us to environmental and ecological justice when contemplating the impact of information and knowledge inequities and digital information and communication technologies.

- We aspire to genuine relationships of learning and discovery amongst all the members of the Department and those with whom we engage. Such relations develop in an environment of mutual respect, care, pluralism and a commitment to the duty of repair.
- We aspire to excellence, openness and critical appraisal, and recognize that these values will sometimes lead us into difficult conversations, exchanges and debates, which will be engaged in responsibly, civilly and thoughtfully.
- We aspire to meaningful programs of study, with effective curricula, pedagogy and mentoring of students. Our programs are dedicated to developing the knowledge, skills and values necessary for students to become leaders in scholarship and their professions, premised on community best practices and informed by respected scholarship in the information and other relevant fields.
- We aspire to promote a culture of open, inclusive and continuous evaluation and institutional and personal self-reflection in all our scholarly, education and service activities: How are we doing? How can we improve? Why are we doing this? Why are we doing it this way? What is the impact of what we are doing? Are we living in accordance with our principles?
- We aspire to an organizational structure, ethos and culture within the Department that:
 - facilitates efficient decision making and timely execution of those decisions
 - fosters collaboration, team work and a collegial community aspiring towards common and worthwhile goals that transcend individual self-interest
 - promotes individual responsibility and accountability
 - fosters a *learning* organization—one that is tuned and open to state-of-the-art research and exemplary practice (wherever it is found)
 - fosters genuine passion for our work
 - fosters an inclusive environment that is supportive of our diverse community members, and promotes the voices and needs of those who have been marginalized
 - encourages and promotes personal growth and fulfillment along with institutional goals
 - encourages and cultivates courage to challenge and debate “taken-for-granted” fundamentals
 - stimulates and supports initiative, enterprise and resourcefulness
 - kindles and cultivates a spirit of inventiveness, imagination and creativity.
 - promotes awareness and perceptivity of *needs* in the information fields and encourages thoughtful responsiveness.
 - promotes the academic and professional development and individual and collective well-being of all members of our academic community.

¹ This set of aspirational guidelines was adopted by the Information Studies Faculty Executive Committee, March 7, 2019. They are intended to support day-to-day work and relationships within our Information Studies community. They are not a substitute for binding rules and codes that have been established by UCLA and the University of California.