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## Library of Things at IUSB and IUS

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### Library of Things

*Screenshot taken from the [IU South Bend Libraries home page](#).*

Both IU South Bend and IU Southeast libraries have begun a Library of Things program, allowing students to check out items such as cookware, tools, and crafting supplies.

Susan Thomas, Dean of IU South Bend Libraries, noted [that the collection](#) was started at the request of a student and to “foster a sharing economy and to support the campus community.” The collection at IUSB includes kitchen tools (cookware, blender, bakeware, etc.), craft supplies, exercise equipment, venue passes, games, and more. A student survey was conducted to discover areas of need, and the library is still [accepting donated items](#).

The IUSB libraries have promoted the Library of Things at student events, at faculty meetings, through social media and with a large lobby display. The collection has received a positive response.

Kate Ziady, Dean of IU Southeast Libraries noted that they started their Library of Things project this summer, with items selected based on recommendations from their Director of Residence Life & Housing, Abbie Dupay and her staff. Based on previous requests from students, items collected include cleaning supplies, laundry items (steamer, iron and ironing board), kitchen supplies (a blender, toaster, bakeware, and pots & pans), a yoga mat, a toolkit, and some personal care items (umbrellas and a hair dryer).

IUS librarians added provisional records in Workflows for each item and linked to them [from a LibGuide](#).

IUS librarians and staff have advertised through Student Affairs newsletters, at Week of Welcome, and fliers to new students, everyone in the lodges (our dorms), and at all of their food pantry locations. They also sent this information to all advisors and faculty and discussed it at a Staff Council meeting.

“While we have not had a lot of usage, we have received a lot of positive feedback,” Ziady said.