# Annual Report 2016



ROBARTS LIBRARY

READ IT!

# Snapshots



↑ This year, the Libraries launched the STAR (Staff Team Appreciation and Recognition) Awards to recognize team innovation and ongoing excellence. The web team won the inaugural award for innovation for redesigning the library website.



← The Fisher Library and the Archives staff won the STAR award for ongoing excellence for their annual participation in Toronto's Doors Open. In 2016 they welcomed more than 1,500 visitors.



The Libraries and the Centre for Medieval Studies were awarded a grant of $773,000 USD from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to support digital scholarship and foster intellectual collaboration. Pictured are Sian Meikle, Director, Information Technology Services at UTL (left) and Alexandra Gillespie, Associate Professor in the Department of English and Drama at U of T Mississauga (right).



Larry Alford served as President of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) and Katya Pereyaslavska was appointed as a Visiting Program Officer (VPO) for accessibility and universal design.

# Annual Report 2016

# From the Chief Librarian

"Boundless" is a familiar word at this University. Not only is it the name of our historic $2-billion fundraising campaign, but it also captures the limitless vision that we have for the Libraries. We partner beyond the borders of our province, country, and across the oceans to provide leading edge services and extraordinary collections to researchers in person and online, on campus and around the world.



It takes excellent leadership to guide a global research library, and I am fortunate to be surrounded with an extraordinary team. Deputy Chief Librarian Julie Hannaford was reappointed for a seven year term, and Loryl MacDonald assumed the role of Interim Associate Chief Librarian for Special Collections and Director of the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, replacing Anne Dondertman who retired after nearly three decades of dedicated service. Hana Kim was appointed Director of the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library, and we also welcomed many new talented colleagues across our 44 libraries. All staff have exemplified leadership in areas important to the future of research, teaching and learning.

This year, libraries across Canada were tested by the dramatic fall of the Canadian dollar and its impact on purchasing power. I am grateful for the astute work of the Collection Development department, who ensured that we would acquire the resources that are critical to research and discovery.

I invite you to read this report and learn more about the boundless expertise and creativity that shape our work. Highlights include:

- The Archives celebrated their 50th anniversary, and launched Discover Archives.
- Librarians from the Faculty of Music Library discovered a long lost concerto.
- New services and programs were developed to empower student scholars.
- The Gerstein Science Information Centre introduced the Research and Innovation Services Unit.
- We advanced linked data initiatives to make resources more accessible.

These are some of the stories of the past year. I hope that you enjoy reading about how the Libraries are working for the benefit of faculty, students and staff.

As always, I welcome your ideas and input.

With best regards,

Larry P. Alford
Chief Librarian
chieflibrarian@utoronto.ca

Above: Chief Librarian Larry Alford (back row, second from right) with some new members of the library staff.

# The University of Toronto Archives Celebrates 50 years

Take a deep dive into the University Archives and you will find material as diverse as the private papers of Ursula Franklin, the football from Canada's first Grey Cup, and architectural drawings of Robarts Library. These materials, carefully collected and curated over 50 years, are important to the research of a wide range of faculty, students, and community members. In 2015, the University Archives celebrated 50 years of service excellence with a reception that was attended by more than 125 people, including former Chief Librarian Robert Blackburn. It was Dr. Blackburn who originally proposed the creation of the University Archives, and oversaw its official opening in January 1965.



The University Archives acquires, preserves and makes available the documentary heritage of the University, and is responsible for the University's records management program. Back in 1972, the University Archives had just 1,500 meters of materials, but that has grown to more than 12,000 meters of archival records, making it the largest university archives in Canada. The collection includes 300,000 photographs and 39,000 print items, as well as thousands of audio-visual recordings, architectural drawings, and student records. The University Archives also houses the private papers of more than 1,000 individuals and groups.

This past year, the University Archives worked diligently with partners across the institution to improve access to these rich collections. The recently launched Discover Archives website brings together descriptions of archival materials from nine repositories into one

Above: University Archivist Loryl MacDonald with Dr. Bruce Kidd, Vice-President U of T and Principal University of Toronto Scarborough. In July 2016 Loryl assumed the additional role of Interim Associate Chief Librarian for Special Collections and Director of the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library.

consolidated online database. The participating repositories are the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library; University of St. Michael's College Archives; the John M. Kelly Library, Special Collections; Trinity College Archives; University of Toronto Archives and Records Management Services; University of Toronto Media Commons; University of Toronto Scarborough Library, Archives & Special Collections; Victoria University Archives; and Victoria University Library Special Collections. The new site includes more than 25,000 records that describe 1,200 collections and fonds, and is growing as more repositories on campus join and upload their content. Discover Archives, built with the support of the Library's Information Technology Services, uses AtoM (Access to Memory) open-source software that has broad support across Canadian and international archival communities. AtoM is multi-lingual and standards-compliant, supports hierarchical description and multi-repository use, and is crawled by Google, ensuring the rich collections of the archives from across the University are even more accessible to a wide audience.

The Discover Archives project is another example of the innovative work that is taking place within the Libraries to ensure enduring access to collections. Through the use of technology, the University Archives has strengthened its ability to serve the many researchers who rely on its exceptional collections to produce extraordinary cultural and scholarly work.
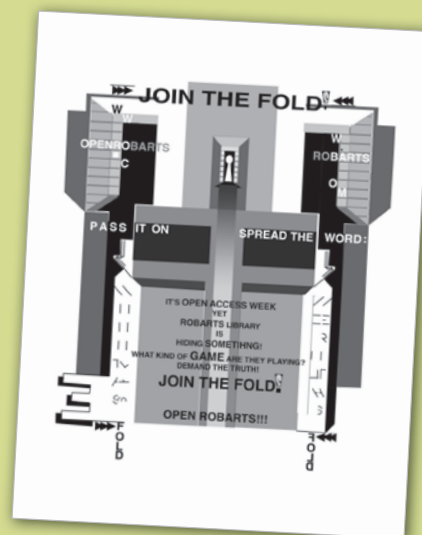
## Libraries Respond to the *Truth and Reconciliation Commission: Calls to Action*

The recently released *Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action* has implications for academic library services and collections. In 2015 a committee of library staff drafted an initial response and recommended that the Libraries support the University of Toronto's Truth and Reconciliation Steering Committee and strengthen our relationships with indigenous faculty, staff and students on campus and in the broader community. Staff also collaborated with graduates from the Faculty of Information and staff from First Nations House to present workshops at the 2016 TRY staff conference. Our newly hired Outreach Librarian for Indigenous and International Students is coordinating efforts to develop services and initiatives to meet the information needs of indigenous communities.

## Open Robarts Alternate Reality Game Reveals the World of Open Access

Secret societies, ancient mysteries, rare books and leading edge technologies were center stage during Open Access Week 2015. The Scholarly Communications and Copyright Office teamed with two Toronto artists to create an alternate reality game (ARG), Open Robarts. The game advocated for open access to knowledge and research through a parallel storyline where an ancient world-spanning secret society dedicated to spreading and preserving knowledge recruited members to help oppose a group who sought knowledge as a means to power. Aligning with the week's theme, *Open for Collaboration*, Open Robarts served as an avenue for collaboration. Players, who included students and the public, worked together via email and social media to progress through eight levels of challenges both in person at Robarts Library, and through online game touchpoints like the university open access research repository TSpace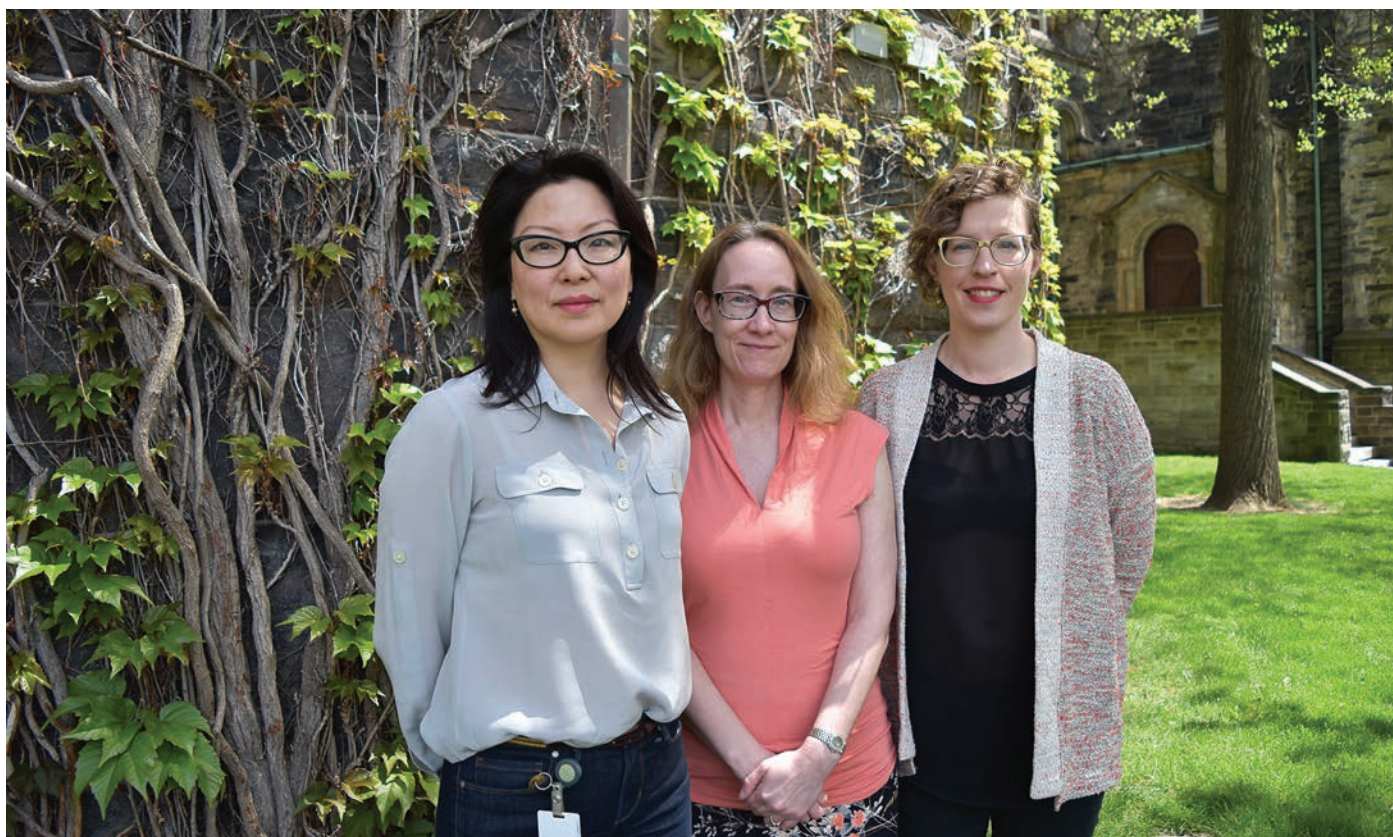. This transmedia game reached individuals in more than 30 countries and attracted wide media attention. Open Robarts revealed the potential in applying gameful learning to library programming to promote open access to the university community in innovative and surprising ways.



Above: Fold-in puzzle, created by David Oxley, revealing the first clues in the Open Robarts Alternate Reality Game.

# Accelerating Research and Innovation in the Sciences

The University of Toronto is one of the world's top 25 research-intensive universities. As research output surges, and as scholars are increasingly taking their discoveries to the global market, Gerstein librarians have seen a marked increase in demand for their expertise. To respond to the demand, this spring the Gerstein Science Information Centre introduced a new Research and Innovation Services (R&I) unit to support faculty research and innovation. R&I will improve our ability to deliver services, while fully aligning library activities with other research and innovation functions across the University.

Above: Christina Kim, Senior Manager of Market Intelligence at MaRS, cross-appointed to Gerstein Library, Heather Cunningham, Assistant Director for Research and Innovation Services, and Carey Toane, Entrepreneurship Librarian, provide pioneering services to faculty and student entrepreneurs through the newly formed R&I unit.

Heather Cunningham, Assistant Director for Research and Innovation Services, is pleased to be leading the new unit, which is providing focused assistance to campus entrepreneurs at a time when the University is embracing and promoting an entrepreneurial spirit. The Libraries have been deeply involved with supporting these efforts through a longstanding partnership with MaRS, a hub in the province and the country which brings together the worlds of research, business and social innovation. Additionally, UTL hired an Entrepreneurship Librarian who, with other librarians, engages with innovators across the university. The librarians are working with students through CLAs (Campus-Linked Accelerators) and other units by providing resources, workshops, and course-integrated instruction.

The second significant initiative of the R&I unit is the Knowledge Synthesis Service (KSS). Knowledge synthesis is an umbrella term used for various types of research conducted within the health sciences, including grant applications, systematic reviews, scoping reviews and rapid reviews. The Gerstein KSS is unique because it aims not only to ensure high quality research, but also to ensure a rigorous methodology by aligning research with reporting guidelines and protocols. Through their work with faculty, librarians working on the KSS initiative promote the ideals of research transparency and reproducibility which are irrevocably intertwined with future advancements in scientific discovery.

The evolution to an R&I unit within the science libraries was a natural transition that builds on the liaison work Gerstein librarians already engage in, while introducing a formal mechanism to streamline future collaborations with faculty. As the unit gains momentum, R&I will continue to grow in response to faculty needs and the emerging opportunities that will invariably spring from a scientific community bent on changing the world.

## Stay the Course

Stay the course. That was the clear message after a review of UTL's strategic plan, *Charting our Future*, at the mid-point of the five year plan. Originally released in 2013 after extensive consultation with students, faculty, and colleagues from across the library and higher education sectors, the UTL strategic plan has identified priorities and guided decision making within the complex central libraries system. For the first six months of 2016, staff from across UTL engaged in a refresh of the document, tweaking language to ensure that the plan aligns with existing and future goals. As a result of the review, the plan was updated to address new realities emerging in a changing scholarly environment, while incorporating fresh ideas to steer the Libraries to meet new needs. Throughout the review, however, it became evident that the core tenet of our plan should remain: to place scholars at the heart of all that we do and to be bold as we make information accessible to all.
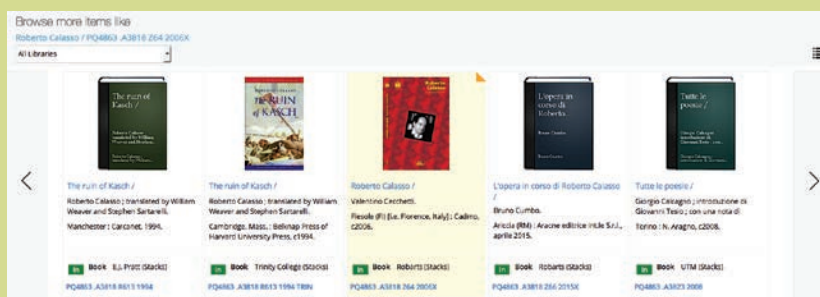
## Shelf Browse Brings Back Serendipity

As Italian writer Roberto Calasso said, "When looking for a book, you may discover that you were in fact looking for the book next to it."* Shelf Browse, an interactive tool within the library's catalogue, allows scholars to view items that appear next to each other on the shelf at a specific library location, or within the entire collection, providing the opportunity for serendipitous discovery in the research process.

Shelf Browse adds an important visual element to the library catalogue. The arrows move you along the virtual shelf by call number, with each item hyperlinked to the record in the library catalogue. At a glance you can see the most important information about each item: title, author, publication/date, format, library location and call number, as well as if the item is checked out or available.
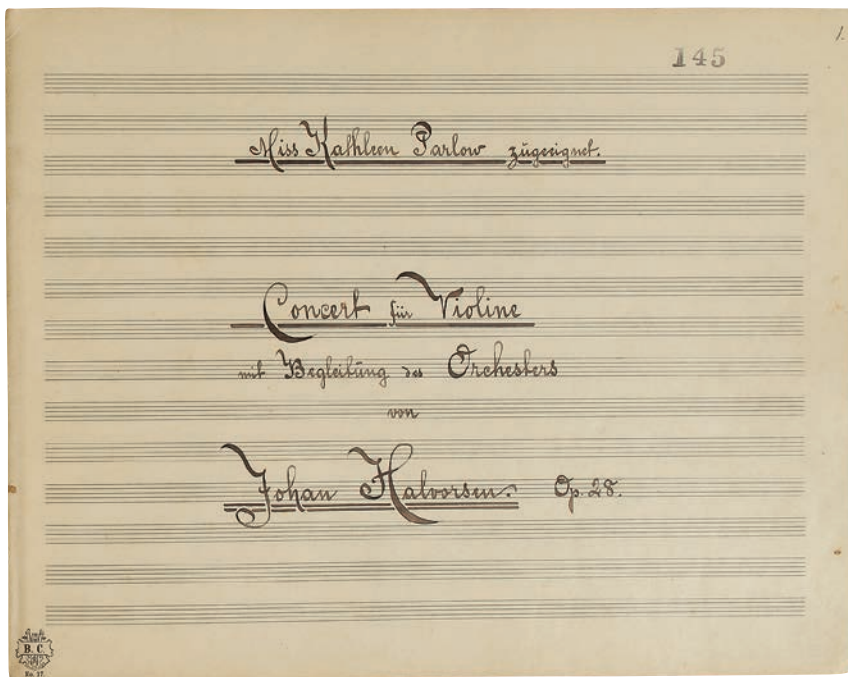
Shelf Browse improves the discoverability of the library's diverse and rich collections, while also making remote research easier for our large population of commuter students and globally distributed scholars. New modes of access become increasingly important as our collections continue to grow and evolve online. Tools like Shelf Browse help support searching for knowledge when and where scholars need it.

*Lila Azam Zanganeh, "Roberto Calasso, The Art of Fiction No. 217," *Paris Review*, no. 202 (Fall 2012).

# Librarians Rewrite Music History

For the first time in more than 100 years, the world has once again heard the stirring sounds of Norwegian composer Johan Halvorsen's (1864–1935) long-lost violin concerto, all thanks to a serendipitous discovery made by librarians at the Music Library.



Since 2014, music librarians Suzanne Meyers Sawa, James Mason, and Houman Behzadi have been working on the physical preservation and digital curation of the papers of world-renowned Canadian violinist Kathleen Parlow (1890–1963). The goal is to build an open access and fully searchable digital library of her archives for the benefit of music scholars everywhere. Parlow's papers, including her letters, photographs, and music scores, were donated to the Music Library, but the Halvorsen violin concerto was inexplicably separated from the rest of the collection. While working on the Parlow project, the librarians unexpectedly stumbled across the concerto, long thought to have been lost after what was believed to be its last performance in 1910. Little did these librarians know that this exciting discovery

would lead to a twenty-first century premiere of the piece in a concert hall halfway across the world.

In July, the music librarians traveled to the 2016 conference of the International Musicological Society in Stavanger, Norway to participate in a panel presentation, sharing their exciting discovery with the world. Attendees were delighted at the opportunity to view an exhibition showcasing the music and other documentation from Halvorsen and Parlow's collaborations. The highlight of the conference, though, was undoubtedly the performance of the concerto featuring one of Norway's most outstanding violinists, Henning Kraggerud, under the direction of conductor Bjarte Engeset. At long last, Halvorsen's concerto, rescued from obscurity by three librarians at the University of Toronto, was in the spotlight once again.

Facing page, clockwise from top: Title page of the concerto. Henning Kraggerud at the 2016 performance in Norway. Kathleen Parlow in 1909. Above: Photograph of Johan Halvorsen with a dedication to Kathleen Parlow. Halvorsen also mentioned the concerto and wrote out the first few notes of the violin entry.

# Librarian and Archivist of Canada Visits Library Staff Conference



## "TRY saving the world: one library at a time!"

That was the title of the keynote address delivered by Librarian and Archivist of Canada, Dr. Guy Berthiaume, on May 3 at the 12th annual TRY (Toronto Ryerson York) Library Staff Conference. The conference welcomed guest partner OCAD University, and was hosted by St. Michael's College in the University of Toronto.

Setting the stage for an engaging day of presentations and networking, Dr. Berthiaume discussed how Library and Archives Canada (LAC) is forging innovative partnerships in academia and the non-profit and private sectors. He also emphasized LAC's ongoing commitment to preserving Canada's documentary heritage and its dedication to serving as the continuing memory of the Government of Canada and its institutions.

The TRY Conference also featured distinguished speaker Melinda Commanda, Aboriginal Liaison Advisor in the Aboriginal Liaison Program with Statistics Canada. She shared highlights from the 2011 National Household Survey, explaining how information about aboriginal communities is collected and organized, and talked about changes to the 2016 Census. These topics were particularly timely with the recent release of the final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, and the reinstatement of the mandatory long-form census.

Staff from each of the participating libraries shared their knowledge through presentations on innovative initiatives and projects, all around the conference theme of *The Responsive Library*. The quality of the work once again demonstrated the dedication of staff to their academic communities.

Left to right: UTL Chief Librarian Larry Alford, conference organizers Dave Hagelaar and Maureen Morin, Dr. Guy Berthiaume and Melinda Commanda.

# Empowering Student Scholars

Ask anyone new to the University what they think about the libraries, and they will tell you that they are sometimes overwhelmed by their breadth and complexity. To help students gain their footing and become more effective scholars, they now have an array of new services and programs tailored to their unique needs.

For novice users, Robarts Library launched the iStaff program in the fall of 2015 to boost student confidence using the library. During the academic year, student staff members roam Robarts Library and assist their peers as they navigate the 14 floors of 'Fort Book.' Equipped with iPads and distinctive blue vests, the iStaff team help out at the point of need, guiding students around Robarts Library or using online resources. Through more than 6,000 user interactions, the iStaff also gathered feedback which will be used to improve UTL's physical and virtual library spaces.

To celebrate undergraduate research achievement and recognize emerging scholars, UTL launched the Undergraduate Research Prize. Students have the opportunity to reflect on their information-seeking experiences and showcase their course-based research to an audience beyond the classroom. The inaugural award winners were thrilled to mark this milestone in their scholarly journeys.

For students interested in taking their research to publication, the library organized a Student Journal Forum that brought together current and aspiring student journal editors. Students heard about the journal publishing process from librarians, faculty members, and peer journal editors. Attendees appreciated having support for this stage of the research cycle.

To help students make the leap from under-graduate to graduate level research, OISE librarians Monique Flaccavento and Jenaya Webb, along with partners from Western University and Queen's University, developed Student2Scholar.ca with funding from the Council of Ontario Universities' Shared Online Course Fund. Students work their way through a series of ten self-paced, interactive, online modules designed for graduate students in the social sciences and openly available through eCampus Ontario. The initiative is helping graduate students develop critical thinking and research skills, as they embark on the next stage of their growth as scholars.

Facing page, left to right: Sami Semmar, Sami Ul Haq, and Vivian Ying Szeto, three of the eight Undergraduate Research Prize winners.

## Snapshots



↑ The Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library hosted a panel of actors from the Stratford Festival in conjunction with their exhibition marking the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death. Pictured in the front row are actors Graham Abbey, Seana McKenna, and Jonathan Goad; in the back is Noam Lior of the University of Toronto's Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance Studies.

↓ Anne Dondertman, one of our most admired and respected library leaders, retired June 30. Anne served as the first Associate Chief Librarian for Special Collections and Director, Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library.



↓ Students enjoying study space in the recently renovated Bora Laskin Law Library. The Law Library has joined the central libraries, along with the Architecture Library (Shore + Moffat), the Business Information Centre (Rotman) and the Music Library.





↑ The U of T Archives digitized 130 years of the student newspaper The Varsity (1880–2010): archive.org/details/varsity



↑ A star–studded panel headlined "Preserving Popular Music in Canada". From left to right: Lorraine Segato, Martin Melhuish, Denise Donlon (Moderator), Rob Bowman, and Alex Lifeson discussed the need to keep valuable records of the Canadian music scene safe for future generations.

# Opening Our Collections to the World through Linked Data

Transformative change. That is the expected impact of the linked data revolution, a change in technology that will cause a seismic shift in libraries as dramatic as the conversion from the card catalogue to the MARC record. Libraries throughout the world are experimenting with a linked data meta-data framework to improve discovery and access to scholarly information on the web.
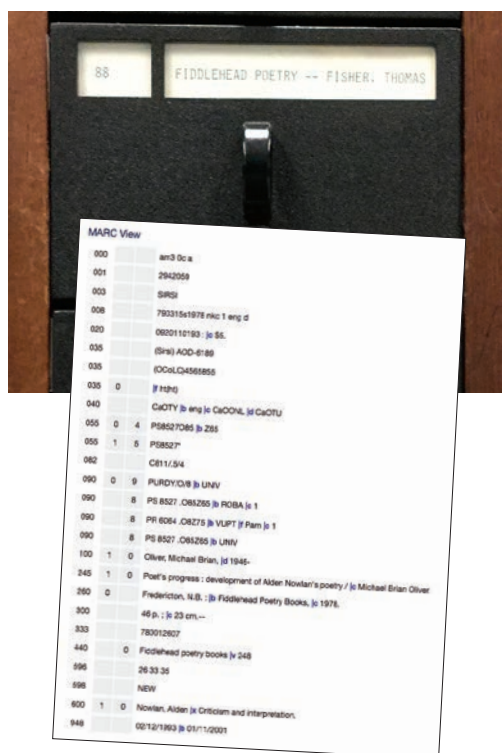


So just what is linked data? Our library MARC catalogue records focus on describing individual resources and can be found only in our library catalogue. Linked data technologies, in contrast, are increasingly being adopted across the web and focus on identifying the relationships among disparate resources, their creators and their context, explicitly and in a structured machine-linkable way. The implications are significant. For libraries, moving to a linked data framework will ensure that the high-quality metadata we have created over the past 50 years to describe the rich resources in our institutions will become part of the growing linked web and more accessible to our users.

To tackle this challenge, UTL is partnering with colleagues from McGill University, the University of Alberta, the University of British Columbia, and the University of Montreal, as well as Library and Archives Canada, the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec, and Canadiana.org through the Canadian Linked Data Initiative (CLDI). CLDI is working to implement linked open data in libraries, adapt to changes in metadata standards, and develop a vision for the role Canadian libraries will play in this worldwide transformation. The partners also started seeking funding for a suite

Members of the linked data team from St. George campus, clockwise from back: Bilal Khalid, Application Programmer Analyst; Alastair Boyd, Head, Cataloguing & Metadata Services; Marlene van Ballegooie, Metadata Technologies Manager; Caitlin Tillman, Associate Chief Librarian for Collections and Materials Management; and Juliya Borie, Cataloguing Librarian.

of projects that will coordinate production of metadata in our libraries, in both English and French. The overarching goal is to work with colleagues in Canada, the United States, and Europe to prepare our institutions for linked data and to provide leadership for the adoption of linked data by libraries across Canada.

The CLDI has made fast progress investigating linked data on a number of fronts during the academic year, forming a connection with the Linked Data for Production (LD4P) group in the United States, a collaboration that includes the Library of Congress and Columbia, Cornell, Harvard, Princeton, and Stanford University libraries. All of these partners, as well as colleagues from Europe, have agreed to participate in the Canadian Linked Data Summit in the fall of 2016. With these key library partners cooperating towards a common goal, library users are sure to benefit from the rich potential of the linked data revolution.



## Library Statistics

### LIBRARY FINANCIALS

| | |
|---|---|
| Collections | $31,449,135 |
| Salaries and wages | $39,763,038 |
| Benefits | $9,406,546 |
| Other expenses | $13,321,341 |
| TOTAL | $93,940,060 |

### COLLECTIONS

| | |
|---|---|
| Print books | 12,150,796 |
| Digital books | 1,929,160 |
| Journal titles | 160,000+ |
| Archival materials (metres) | 29,820 |

### TRAFFIC

| | |
|---|---|
| Questions answered | 314,172 |
| Print items circulated | 1,886,023 |
| Library instruction sessions | 2,227 |
| Library instruction participants | 53,999 |
| Research guide views | 951,151 |
| FAQ queries | 78,583 |
| Number of PokéStops | 2+ |



## LibQUAL+ survey



The Libraries ran the LibQUAL+ survey which helps us gain insights into the needs and sentiments of our users. Survey respondents were entered into a raffle, and prizes were awarded to students Joanna Greer and Anthony Salerno.

Left to right: Head of Access & Information Lari Langford, Joanna Greer, Chief Librarian Larry Alford, Anthony Salerno, and Assessment Librarian Klara Maidenberg.

# Giving

Between May 1, 2015 and April 30, 2016, the Libraries received support from many donors in the form of cash and gifts in kind. The following lists donors of $500 or more. The University of Toronto Libraries are very grateful for their generosity, and for the contributions of all donors of funds and collections.

For the list of donors to the Libraries within the Boundless Campaign, please visit http://www.library.utoronto.ca/support.

**CASH DONORS FROM MAY 1, 2015 TO APRIL 30, 2016**

*Note: Deceased donors are indicated by italics*

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*Harald and Jean Bohne*

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*The Estate of Leon Katz*
*Crad Kilodney*

**25,000–99,999**
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Rocco Mastrangelo

**100,000–999,999**
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Jon and Lyne Dellandrea
Laura E. Dymock
David Eden
Sally Eisner
Adele Ernstrom



Robarts Common, the planned addition to Robarts Library, is a crucial investment in student success. It is made possible because of leading support from a major donor in partnership with the University, and with additional gifts from hundreds of Friends of the Libraries. For information about how you can contribute to this project, please contact Megan Campbell, Director of Advancement, mea.campbell@utoronto.ca or 416-978-7644.
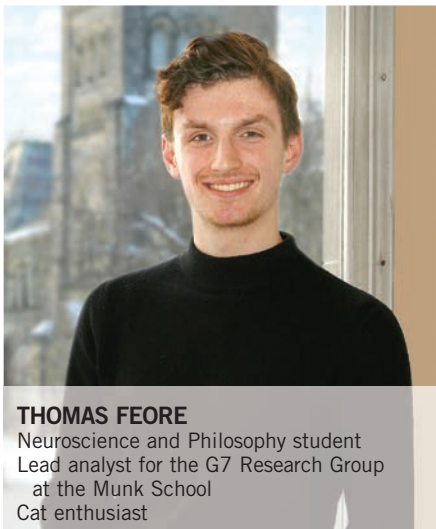
Rendering courtesy of Diamond Schmitt Architects.

# Our Students Say...

"When I need long hours of focus, I study on the 1-below level of the Gerstein Science Information Centre. There's a corner where the light is perfect—it keeps you awake without being intrusive."

**THOMAS FEORE**
Neuroscience and Philosophy student
Lead analyst for the G7 Research Group
   at the Munk School
Cat enthusiast

**BOUNDLESSKNOWLEDGE**

# Your Gifts

Donors' generosity allows us to enhance our collections each year. Below is a letter written by Josef Stalin's daughter, Svetlana Alliluyeva, to her friend Mary Burkett. The correspondence collection was acquired by the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library through the support of the Joan Walwyn Randall Fund.



## QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

Your feedback is important to us. Please contact:
Megan Campbell
Director of Advancement, U of T Libraries
mea.campbell@utoronto.ca
416.978.7644

YOU ARE
WELCOME
HERE