

noteworthy

news from the university of toronto libraries

Summer 2022



How a community
of scholars
came together
to strengthen
a cultural and
historical record

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Cover image: Sunflowers by N Suma on Unsplash. Wikipedia logo used under CC BY-SA 3.0 licence. Above: Robarts Common sparkles in the sunshine. Photo by Matt Volpe, University of Toronto Advancement.

TAKING NOTE

WELCOME TO THE summer 2022 issue of *Noteworthy*. It is such a thrill to present you with our first print copy since the fall of 2020.

In the last issue I wrote about adjusting to the realities of living through the pandemic. I spoke about our extraordinary staff and how proud I was of their quick adaptation to new realities. I reflected on the university community and how we switched overnight to online teaching and learning and about how quickly we transformed as an institution. I thanked our generous donor community during a time of unprecedented crisis.

Reflecting on the past two years, the word resiliency comes to mind. The resiliency of our staff, faculty and students, and our donors and community members has been extraordinary. When I last wrote my welcome letter for the fall 2020 issue, like many, I didn't know just how much longer our resiliency would be tested.

We pushed ourselves even further during the subsequent waves of the pandemic and continued to find innovative ways to keep our community connected.

In February of this year, we gradually began to welcome our community back to in-person activities. I saw resiliency turn to relief. I saw renewed human interactions bring comfort and familiarity. We mobilized to welcome back our students, faculty and researchers to our libraries, creating possibilities for new connections in new and renovated spaces.

I've written over the years about our vision to create more inclusive, collaborative and accessible spaces for our students. After years of anticipation, in March we held a "soft opening" of Robarts Common to accommodate the increase in demand for study space on campus. We are looking forward to the official dedication and



formal opening of Robarts Common taking place in September. Our next issue of *Noteworthy* will feature the wonderful new study spaces made possible by the generosity of Drs. Russell and Katherine Morrison who, together with many other donors, have invested in elevating the experience of our students.

The inspiration I felt on that first day in Robarts Common and seeing the vision of my predecessor, Carole Moore, and Drs. Russell and Katherine Morrison, is truly a career highlight.

Yet, as we found joy in the familiar and in the new, current events once again challenged us. Our community became deeply concerned about Russia's attacks on Ukraine and for the safety and welfare of the Ukrainian citizens and for our colleagues who work in academic libraries, whose values and purpose were and continue to be under threat.

As librarians mobilized in the pandemic, we saw a herculean effort from our community to mobilize and support our counterparts in Europe.

Throughout time, libraries have played a critical role in collecting and sharing Ukraine's history. Once again teams of librarians across the globe are finding resiliency in these already tumultuous times by coming together to make an impact.

I am so proud of the many cataloguers, archivists, librarians and staff across our libraries who, without hesitation, mobilized efforts to safeguard Ukrainian history and culture. Their work is not only making an impact here at the University of Toronto, but across Canada and the globe.

With that, I leave you to read and learn more about these extraordinary efforts. Thank you for your continued support, for your friendship and for your resilience.

LARRY P. ALFORD
chief librarian@utoronto.ca

noteworthy

news from the university of toronto libraries

University Chief Librarian
Larry P. Alford

Editor
Larysa Woloszansky

Designer
Maureen Morin

Contributing Writers
Ksenya Kiebusinski, Alex Jung, Lana Soglasnova, Michael Cassabon, Larysa Woloszansky, Phill Snel, Maureen Morin, Mariya Maistrovskaya, Geoffrey Vendeville, Hana Kim, Maria Lau, Angela Henshilwood, Cathryn Copper, Gregory Eow

Photography
Matt Volpe, Maureen Morin, Larysa Woloszansky, Glen Morales, Emily Ling, Geoffrey Vendeville, David Lee

editorial board

Julie Hannaford
*Deputy Chief Librarian,
University of Toronto Libraries*

Michael Cassabon
*Director of Advancement,
University of Toronto Libraries*

Mimosa Kabir
*Senior Development Officer, Major Gifts,
University of Toronto Libraries*

Maureen Morin
*Graphic Designer,
University of Toronto Libraries*

Larysa Woloszansky
*Director of Communications,
University of Toronto Libraries*

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Comments should be addressed to:

Noteworthy
130 St. George Street
Toronto, ON M5S 1A5

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GLOBAL GUARDIANS



Libraries Around the World Are Helping Safeguard Ukrainian Books and Culture

A conversation with Ksenya Kiebusinski

MY MOTHER WAS BORN IN Sambir, Ukraine, and my father in Przemyśl, Poland. They both spent their childhoods as refugees.

They lived among displaced Ukrainians who fled to Austria and Germany as the Red Army advanced in July 1944. My grandparents' decision to abandon their

homes and leave everything behind saved my parents from the tyranny of Soviet occupation.

They were some of the 200,000 Ukrainians who chose to live in exile rather than be repatriated to the Soviet Union. They organized themselves around civic, education, cultural and political interests.

Within these circles, Ukrainians produced newsletters, pamphlets and books to connect themselves with one another and to inform the world about the country's history.

This publishing effort was in addition to work done by Ukrainians who immigrated for economic reasons to North America beginning in the 1890s, and those who lived abroad for political reasons during the revolutionary era in the early 1920s.

I am the custodian of these publications in my role as a librarian developing, making accessible and researching Ukrainian — and other Slavic-language collections at the University of Toronto Libraries.

Our library's Ukrainian holdings—whether they were published in Ukraine under Austrian, Polish or Russian rule, in independence, or in refugee centres and diaspora communities—offer a perspective on Ukraine's distinct history that sets it apart from Russian President Vladimir Putin's belief that Ukraine was "entirely created by Russia."

UKRAINIAN CULTURE AND HISTORY IN LIBRARIES

Librarians and libraries across the world play a role in preserving and sharing Ukraine's cultural history. They acquire western observations about Ukraine or material printed on its territories. And people can learn a lot from these resources.

French architect and military engineer, Guillaume le Vasseur de Beauplan's map, *Carte d'Ukraine*, first represented the country as a discrete territory with delineated borders in 1660. It was commissioned by King Ladislaus IV of Poland to help him better understand the land and its people to protect the territory from enemies (particularly Russia).

In *Histoire de Charles XII* (1731), Voltaire similarly describes and textually maps Ukraine as the country of the Cossacks, situated between lesser Tartary, Poland and Muscovy. He said: "Ukraine has always wanted to be free."

GLOBAL GUARDIANS

Other material in our libraries bears physical traces testifying to the horrors of Soviet rule. At the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, a Gospel Book printed in Pochaiv, Ukraine, between 1735 and 1758, and written in Church Slavic, bears a notation that it was given to the St. Michael's Golden-domed Monastery in Kyiv, "to remain forever irremovable from the church." However, this monastery was destroyed on Stalin's orders in the mid-1930s and volumes from the library were sold by the Soviet government.

But books also enter library collections through more honest means—refugees sometimes donate their personal libraries to universities. At the University of Toronto, we have a hand-written, water-coloured issue of a Ukrainian prisoner-of-war periodical entitled *Liazaroni* (Vagabond) (1920). It was produced in an internment camp near Cassino, Italy, where tens of thousands of Ukrainians were held captive after fighting in the Austro-Hungarian army.

Among the close to 1,000 books and pamphlets that were published by Ukrainian people displaced after the Second World War, is a children's story I remember reading from my youth, housed at the University of Toronto. The book, *Bim-bom, dzelen'-bom!* (1949), tells the story of how a group of chickens and cats help put out a house fire. A passage from the book can be applied to Russia's war against Ukraine:

"Roosters, chickens, and chicks, and cats and kittens know how to work together to save their home. So, you, little ones, learn how to live in the world, and how in every danger to defend your native home!"

UKRAINIAN PRINT AND DIGITAL KNOWLEDGE AT RISK

Today, teams of archivists and librarians are heeding a similar call and are working to save Ukrainian library and museum collections. Their efforts echo the work of the

Monuments Men who, during the Second World War, gave "first aid to art and books" and engaged in the recovery of cultural materials.

The General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine says Russian military police are destroying Ukrainian literature and history textbooks—Russian forces have also bombed archives, libraries and museums.

They have destroyed the archives of the Security Service in Chernihiv which documented Soviet repression of Ukrainians, and they also damaged the Korolenko State Scientific Library in Kharkiv, Ukraine's second largest library collection.

Archival staff in Ukraine work day and night to scan paper documents and move digitized content to servers abroad. Librarians and volunteers also pack and make plans to evacuate books.

Maintaining and preserving online archives or digital objects during wartime is difficult. They are as precarious as print

material because they rely on infrastructure in the physical world. Computer equipment attached to cables and servers needs power to work. Power outages or downed servers can mean temporary or permanent loss of data.

Over 1,000 volunteers, in partnership with universities in Canada and the United States, are participating in the crowd-sourced project called Saving Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Online (SUCHO) to preserve and secure digitized manuscripts, music, photographs, 3D architectural models and other publications. So far, the team has captured 15,000 files, which are accessible via the Internet Archive.

Just as libraries have collected, preserved and shared knowledge held by their own institutions over the past century, they are now sharing this knowledge globally so that when the war is over, Ukraine can see its cultural treasures rescued and restored.

*Previously published in
The Conversation Canada*



Facing page: Watercolour illustration from *Liazaroni*. New titles in the Petro Jacyk Central & East European Resource Centre.

UTL's Fight TO Save Ukrainian History AND Culture

LIBRARIANS AND LIBRARIES HAVE played a role in collecting and sharing Ukraine's history at moments of cultural peril. Today, teams of archivists and librarians across the globe are working once again to save Ukrainian content and preserve knowledge. The University of Toronto Libraries are no exception. Colleagues from across the libraries are finding creative strategies to protect and preserve Ukrainian Cultural Heritage both physically and digitally.

A WIKIPEDIA EDITING EVENT FOR UKRAINE

Through April and early May 2022, staff at the University of Toronto Libraries were joined by community members and facilitators from across Canada and the United States for a Wikipedia editing event for Ukraine. The event was free and open to the public and sought to improve the recognition and representation of Ukrainian history and culture on Wikipedia.

The event was motivated by a call from John Mokrynskyj, Metadata Creation Specialist, to preserve Ukraine's local history in Wikipedia. It was organised by Ksenya Kiebusinski, Head of the Petro Jacyk Central & East European Resource Centre and Slavic Resources Coordinator, and Alex Jung, Open Knowledge Specialist and former Wikipedian-in-Residence.

The organisers were joined by 33 editors through four virtual editing sessions which took place April 1, 8, and 29 with the final session concluding on May 6. The sessions consisted of Wikipedia 101 training and a facilitated venue for communal editing led by experienced editors from U of T and University of British Columbia. The many participants who were new to Wikipedia editing appreciated the format of the communal sessions, which allowed contrib-

utors to help one another and build editing ability in a supportive environment.

Together the group improved and created articles in English, Ukrainian, and Korean. The editing campaign added 18.6K words and 104 references across 39 articles. Edited topics include:

- Holodomor, also known as the Terror-Famine or the Great Famine
- Krestova, a community of around 150 people in the Kootenay region of British Columbia
- List of mayors of Lviv
- Nehrybka and Pikulice, villages now in southeastern Poland, close to the Ukrainian border
- Okhrim Sodomora, graphic artist, illustrator, and poster artist



GLOBAL GUARDIANS

- Saint Sophie Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Montréal, Québec
- Valentina Kuryliw, historian of the Ukrainian Holodomor
- Volodymyr Sichynskyi, architect, graphic artist, and art historian
- Булатецька Людмила Іванівна, науковиця та педагогиня (Lyudmila Ivanivna Bulatetska, scientist and teacher)
- Євстіфеев Павло Федорович, вчитель-методист (Evstifeev Pavlo Fedorovych, Methodist teacher)
- 마리우폴 (Mariupol, Ukrainian city under Donetsk People's Republic administration)

The organizers are grateful to the participants and facilitators who kindly shared their time to make this virtual editing campaign possible. The team plans to sustain and build on this effort in the coming months.

UKRAINIAN CATALOGUING PROJECT

There is currently a backlog of books and materials in the University of Toronto Libraries system that require professional cataloguing. This has been exacerbated during the pandemic as the university closed and librarians and staff adapted to working off premise.

For Slavic materials, the Metadata Services staff changed gears to prioritize Ukrainian cataloguing. Everyone felt it was critical to give ready access to Ukrainian materials in response to increased demand, as well as for awareness and research purposes. The materials range from books to newspapers to magazines to church pamphlets, all offering critical contents on Ukrainian history and culture that would benefit researchers, faculty and students studying the war or Ukrainian history, as well as community members.

It was not just the number of items which had to be urgently catalogued that posed a challenge: the accuracy of representing Ukrainian language both in the original Cyrillic script and in Roman trans-

literation was an important consideration. Colleagues at Metadata Services with native and scholarly knowledge of Ukrainian language have volunteered to join forces with the Slavic section staff and held working meetings to review cataloguing guidelines. As a result, since February 24, more than 800 Ukrainian titles were collectively catalogued, effectively bringing library holdings of current publications from Ukraine up to date. The Metadata Services Department continues to prioritize Ukrainian cataloguing especially for newly arriving books, as well as for older, often unique publications.

EXPAND AVAILABILITY OF ELECTRONIC RESOURCES FOR UKRAINIAN INSTITUTIONS


As the events in Ukraine unfolded, many at UTL looked for ways to assist researchers in Ukraine access materials for scholarship. They determined that an easy path forward was to ask publishers—who opened up content at the start of the pandemic—if they would be open to a similar response for Ukraine.

To date UTL colleagues have reached out to all library publishing partners and will create a list of participating publishers as they are confirmed.



WithUkraine 24/7
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 One of the largest libraries in Ukraine, the Korolenko Scientific State Library in Kharkiv, was damaged by shelling on March 13

[#StandWithUkraine](#) [#StopRussia](#)



2:13 PM · Mar 13, 2022



8



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GLOBAL GUARDIANS



BETWEEN THE PILLARS PODCAST

The March episode of *Between the Pillars* was centred around Ukraine. Ksenya Kiebusinski joined the podcast to talk about the Fisher Library's rich holdings of Ukrainian materials. Among the items highlighted were the first modern map of Ukraine, printed in the 17th century; an ornate-bound book that was once part of a collection housed in the library of St. Michael's Gold-Domed Monastery in Kyiv; and a children's storybook.

UPDATE TO STUDENT RESOURCE: HOW DO I SPOT MISINFORMATION?

As trained experts in evaluating information, academic librarians are perfectly poised to lead the way in challenging misinformation. Student Liaison Librarian Heather Buchansky has updated the misinformation resource guide for students and U of T community members that can be found on the UTL website.

PROVIDING DIGITAL SPACE TO SAVING UKRAINIAN CULTURAL HERITAGE ONLINE (SUCHO)

In partnership with universities in Canada and the United States, more than 1,000

volunteers are participating in the crowd-sourced project called Saving Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Online (SUCHO) to preserve and secure digitized manuscripts, music, photographs, 3D architectural models and other publications.

Associate Chief Librarian for Digital Strategies and Technology Sian Meikle has offered the group backup storage space

(mirror site) in the amount of 100 terabytes. Currently UTL is hosting 35 terabytes of SUCHO data, which will grow weekly to 100TB over time

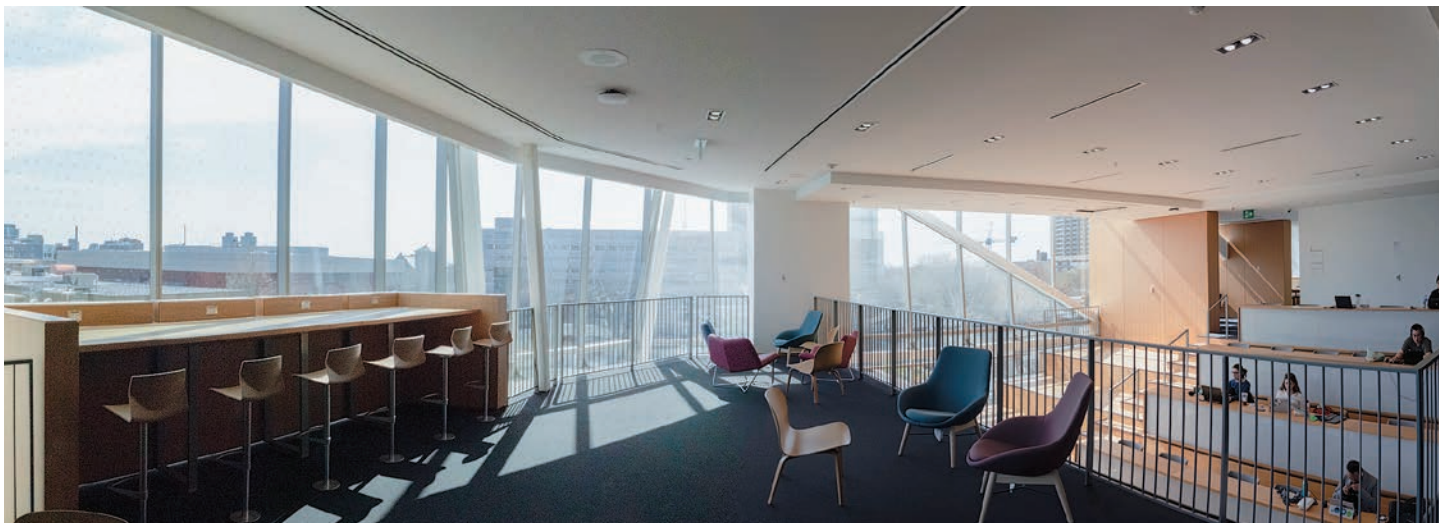
In addition, developers at UTL have also provided support to the volunteer community working with SUCHO on digital exhibits of Ukrainian heritage.



Image by Vlad Kholodnyi (@kholodnyi_vlad)

In a special episode of *Between the Pillars* celebrating Ukraine, Ksenya Kiebusinski, Head of the Petro Jacyk Central & East European Resource Centre and the Slavic Resources Coordinator for the University of Toronto Libraries, talked about the Fisher Library's rich holdings of Ukrainian materials. Watch the video at <https://youtu.be/pZl6zfHwNH8>.

SPOTLIGHT ON SPACES



A Spring Surprise FOR U of T Students

AFTER YEARS OF PLANNING AND much anticipation, Roberts Common—the signature piece of the Roberts Library revitalization project—welcomed students inside on March 24.

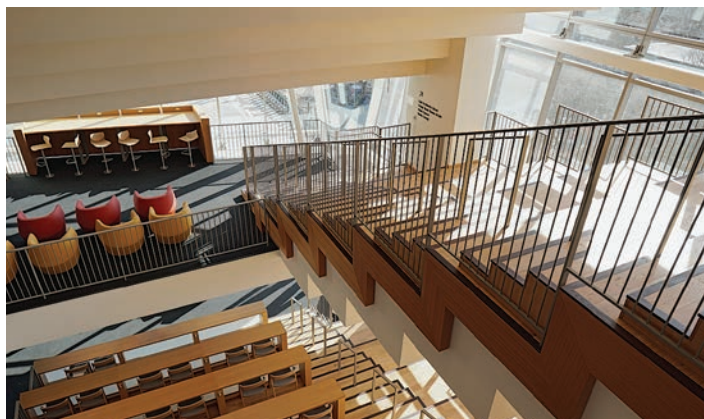
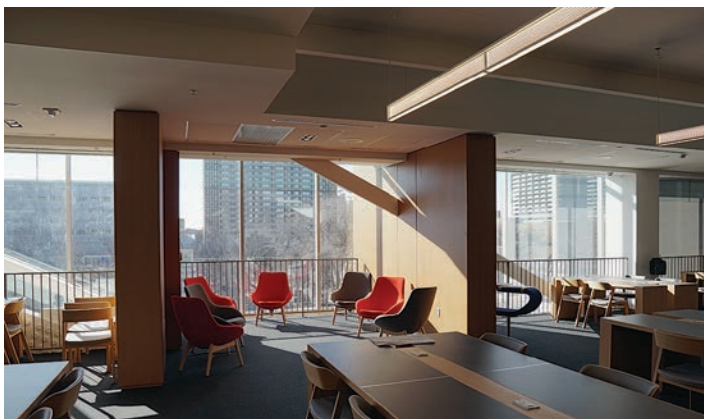
UTL opened the space to accommodate the increased demand for study spaces on campus. This ‘soft opening’ to students anticipates a formal, official opening taking place this September.

This project is the final step in completing the UTL vision to restore, revitalize and expand Roberts Library as a centre for research and learning. Users now have a new way to experience the entire library

complex as a more collaborative and human-centred space—a “campus living room” for students and faculty alike to gather, learn, network, and socialize.

This breathtaking new building would not have been possible without the leadership of former University Chief Librarian Carole Moore and the extraordinary philanthropy of Drs. Russell and Katherine Morrison, along with the generosity of over 1,000 individual donors.

The next issue of *Noteworthy* will be dedicated to the grand opening of the space and will pay tribute to the many individuals responsible for this milestone. Until then.



Photos of Roberts Common by Diamond Schmitt.

SPOTLIGHT ON SPACES



Designed WITH Student Life IN Mind

THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Libraries are increasingly becoming a different kind of destination for our students as we work to revamp and create new spaces on campus. Now more than ever, we are supporting student life, not just academic success. Our libraries are further becoming a place of gathering, communication, and collaboration.

Recently completed renovations demonstrate how we have listened and responded to our students, who have expressed the need for more collaborative and accessible on-campus spaces.

ENGINEERING & COMPUTER SCIENCE LIBRARY

Located in the Sandford Fleming Building, the Engineering & Computer Science Library (ECSL) has completed an 18-month student-centric renovation. Following the lengthy closure, the ECSL reopened quietly on January 10 and hosted a formal open house and opening ceremony on May 10. Already, student users are appreciating the significant changes to the space.

The removal of numerous shelves full of books and journals allowed for the transfor-

mation of spaces to offer more enclosed group study rooms. To make room for the changes, more than 15,000 items representing some 50 per cent of the library's entire collection were removed to UTL Downsvew for off-site storage.

The two-floor library retains its signature sweeping staircase as a centrepiece, but has dramatically changed its floor layout on the first floor's north end and the second floor's south end. There are more enclosed group study rooms, loaded with tech and connections, and an entire new classroom, many new individual study carrels, as well as an enlarged designated quiet study space.

A favourite feature of the renovation is not the addition of any dedicated space or tech, but the new availability of natural light illuminating the interior. Many windows had been blocked by an interior mezzanine, and the resulting source of natural light from ten windows has added a lofty spaciousness to the library ambiance.

CHENG YU TUNG EAST ASIAN LIBRARY

In spring 2021, the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library completed a major interior renovation and revitalization. Located on the eighth floor of Robarts Library, the space now offer users a variety of learning and study spaces, including a place for open collaboration as well as events and exhibits, an active learning instruction space, and quiet study spots.

The East Asian Library is the intellectual and cultural centre of the academic community for East Asia-related studies and programs at the University of Toronto and beyond. University and surrounding communities come together to access and interact with information and people, generate new ideas, and engage with the great questions of our time. With the successful renovation of these spaces, the East Asian Library can now expand its role and visibility to increase its profile both inside and outside the University.



SPOTLIGHT ON SPACES

UTL Makes A Grand Entrance —OR Three

AFTER DECADES OF FAITHFUL SERVICE, the revolving doors that opened into Robarts Library, the Fisher Library and the Bissell Building were deteriorating, failing frequently and causing access problems. The Fisher and Bissell doors dated from original construction of Robarts Library, which was completed in 1973. When Robarts was built there was no street level entrance, requiring everyone to climb the stairs to the second floor to enter. The street level entrance with two revolving doors and central automatic doors opened in October 1993, and was accomplished with the help of the Students' Administrative Council Wheelchair Access funding.

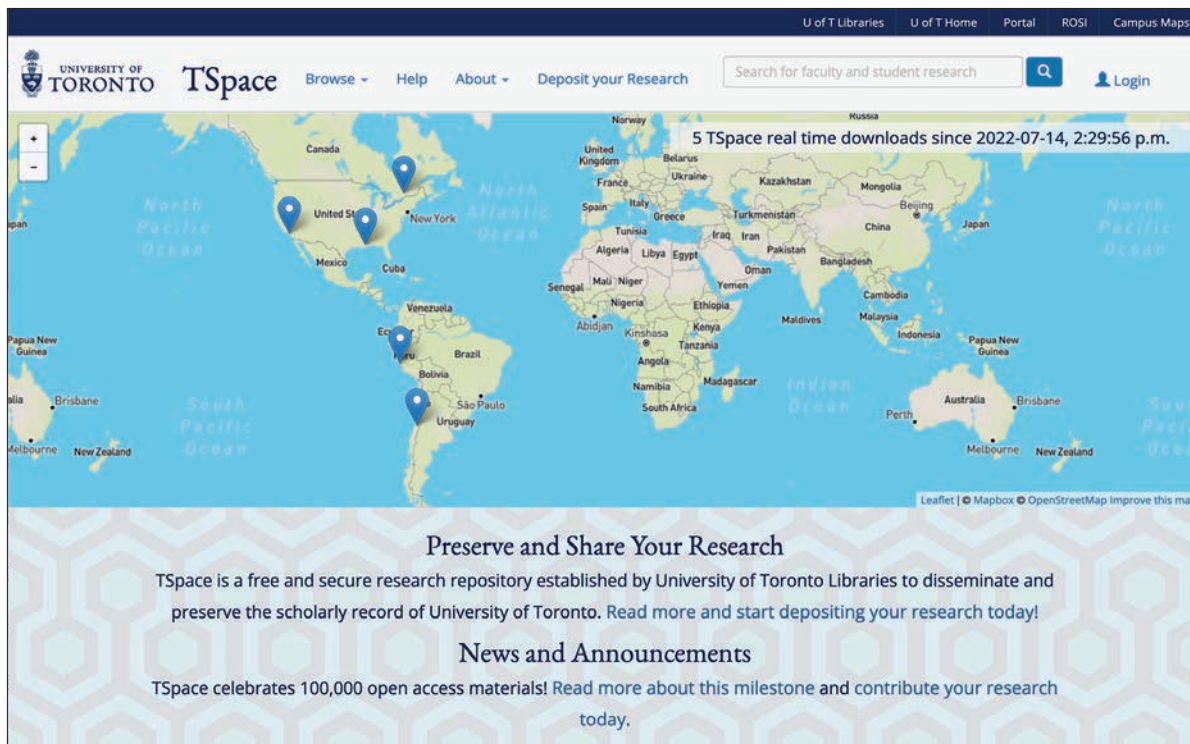
In 2017, UTL embarked on a project to replace the aging revolving doors, taking into account modern requirements for accessibility, functionality and security when redesigning the entrance spaces. And as Robarts is a listed heritage building, architects were tasked with matching existing façade finishes and maintaining the integrity of the original design.

Today, people enter via large, automated sliding glass doors that address issues of access, climate control and security. The new doors are barrier free, provide more visibility and create a welcoming way in for all users.



Facing page, top to bottom: Study space in the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library. Study carrels in the Engineering & Computer Science Library. This page, top to bottom: Robarts Library in 1971 [University of Toronto Archives A2012-0009/033(03)]. The first street-level St. George Street entrance. The new, barrier-free automated glass doors.

SPOTLIGHT ON SPACES



The screenshot shows the TSpace website interface. At the top, there are navigation links for 'U of T Libraries', 'U of T Home', 'Portal', 'ROSI', and 'Campus Maps'. The main header includes the University of Toronto logo, the 'TSpace' name, and navigation options like 'Browse', 'Help', 'About', and 'Deposit your Research'. A search bar is present with the placeholder text 'Search for faculty and student research'. Below the header is a world map with five blue location pins. A text overlay on the map reads '5 TSpace real time downloads since 2022-07-14, 2:29:56 p.m.'. Below the map, there is a section titled 'Preserve and Share Your Research' with a paragraph describing TSpace as a free and secure research repository. Below that is a 'News and Announcements' section with a paragraph celebrating 100,000 open access materials.

100,000 Uploads AND Counting TSpace Repository Celebrates an Open Access Materials Milestone

TSPACE, U OF T'S OPEN ACCESS research repository, celebrated a big milestone at the beginning of 2022: over 100,000 items in its holdings. These items see more than seven million downloads every year.

The repository was established by the Libraries in 2003 to collect, preserve, and openly disseminate U of T scholarship. It holds articles, theses, working papers, book chapters, conference presentations, and many other scholarly and pedagogical materials created at U of T. Submissions from faculty, students and staff are welcome,

search engine indexing, meaning higher discoverability and visibility for U of T research.

Over the past five years repository holdings grew by 66%. In large part this growth was facilitated by automated deposit workflows set up with publishers, such as Canadian Science Publishing, BioMed Central, Hindawi, and others.

In parallel, the TSpace team has also been offering an assisted deposit service to faculty members who need to comply with SSHRC, NSERC, or CIHR open access requirements for publications. This

The key benefit of TSpace is the persistent identifiers it assigns to all items. They ensure that item links won't break, and citations will always point to the cited document. Work submitted to TSpace has priority

service is made possible through collaboration with several departmental libraries. Researchers also have an option to submit materials themselves.

The TSpace team celebrated the 100,000 item milestone by rolling out a feature often requested by readers and authors. While the vast majority of TSpace items are openly accessible right away, a small portion stays under a temporary embargo to satisfy publishers' sharing requirements. Previously such items were completely hidden—but now TSpace displays item information and embargo expiration dates. This allows for better transparency for authors who seek to comply with funders' open access mandates by depositing materials in TSpace within 12 months of publication. Full text copies of embargoed articles are available through the library subscriptions.

We invite anyone at U of T interested in showcasing their research via TSpace to get in touch with the TSpace team at tspace@library.utoronto.ca.

SPOTLIGHT ON SPACES



A Reminder of Japanese Friendship: Robarts Library Cherry Blossoms

EACH SPRING, LARGE CROWDS descend on various locations around Toronto during cherry blossom season. They marvel at the canopies of pink blossoms and cheerfully snap selfies, now a spring tradition in the city.

Robarts Library is one of these locations. This year thousands of people from around the city came to see the various shades of pink and white, which was extra special following COVID-19 lockdowns.

Hana Kim, director of the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library, said “I feel that the pastel colours give me healing power and hope. I feel more hopeful about the future during this uncertain time.”

The University of Toronto received many of its Japanese cherry trees—known as Sakura—from the Consulate General of Japan in Toronto as part of its Sakura Project. They have brought a dash of colour and sprinkle of joy to the St. George campus each spring since 2005.

In April, Michael Cassabon, Director of Advancement at U of T Libraries, attended a 10th anniversary event celebrating the end of the Sakura Project at the Japanese consulate.

“We celebrated this as an enduring symbol of friendship between U of T and the Japanese government,” Cassabon said, adding that U of T Libraries is home to

important Japanese Canadian archives, including materials on the redress movement, a grassroots attempt by Japanese Canadians to hold the Canadian government accountable for human rights violations during the Second World War.

Each spring, Cassabon said, he need only look out his window to be reminded of U of T’s friendship with Japan.

“There’s something magical about it,” he said. “They’re right outside my office. When I look outside it’s like I’m in a pink cloud.”

*Adapted from an article by
Geoffrey Vendeville, U of T News.*

ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH



Vivienne Poy Archive in the RCL-CHKL Chronicles the History of Asian Heritage Month

WHEN VIVIENNE POY was appointed to the Senate by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien in 1998, she became the first person of Asian ancestry to sit in the upper house of Parliament.

The former University of Toronto chancellor and alumna says the honour of being the first came with a sense of duty.

Born in Hong Kong, Poy fled to mainland China with her family when she was seven months old, after Japan attacked the British colony during the Second World War. She moved to Montreal in 1959, where she studied history at McGill. She later earned a master's degree and PhD in history at U of T. In 1981, after studying fashion at Seneca College, she founded Vivienne Poy Mode, which sold high-end knitwear.

Poy, who is the author of several books—about her own family, Sino-Canadian relations and Chinese immigration to Canada—served as U of T Chancellor from 2003 to 2006.

While in government, she put forward a motion to recognize May as Asian Heritage Month, a move that was supported unanimously. Poy donated the motion and other papers from her 14 years in the Senate to U of T's Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library—the largest research collection for Hong Kong and Canada-Hong Kong studies outside of Hong Kong.

Adapted from an article by Geoffrey Vendeville, U of T News.

Above: Maria Lau, director of U of T's Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library, displays the document that declares the month of May as Asian Heritage Month in Canada (photo by Geoffrey Vendeville).

ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH



Sparkle and Shine

CANTONESE OPERA COSTUME EXHIBITION

In celebration of the 20th anniversary of Asian Heritage Month and the 25th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library (RCL-CHKL) hosted an exhibition of Cantonese opera costumes by freelance Cantonese designer Mandy Ka-Yee Tam that ran from May 20–31.

A seminar on May 19 launched the exhibition. Mandy Ka-Yee Tam joined the event virtually to speak about her approach to costume design. Also in attendance were Ms. Emily Mo, Director of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (HKETO), who delivered opening remarks; Ms Alice Chan, Director of Starlight Chinese Opera Performing Arts Centre; and guest master of ceremonies, Mr. Raymond Lam. Maria Lau, Director of the RCL-CHKL and Larry Alford, University Chief Librarian were on hand to welcome guests to the first in-person event at the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library in nearly two years.

This event was co-organized by the Starlight Chinese Opera Performing Arts Centre, with support from the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office.

Top to bottom: Cantonese opera costume designed by Mandy Ka-Yee Tam. Poster for *Have You Eaten Yet?*

Food for Thought

A DISCUSSION WITH CHEUK KWAN

On May 25 the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library hosted a virtual discussion with filmmaker and writer, Cheuk Kwan, about his new book, *Have You Eaten Yet?* The book draws out a global narrative of the Chinese diaspora by linking together personal stories of chefs, entrepreneurs, labourers and dreamers who populate Chinese kitchens worldwide.

The dialogue was led by Dr. Jo (Jayeeta) Sharma, Associate Professor of History, Global Asia Studies & Food Studies at the University of Toronto Scarborough, and Director of the Feeding City virtual research lab at the Culinarium Research Centre. Conversation centered on Chinese diaspora, in Canada and beyond, through the lens of food.



MEMOIRS FROM THE FIRE:

Acts of Salvage by a Holocaust
Survivor, a Scholar, and a Collector

A panel discussion inaugurating the Goldschläger Collection of Holocaust memoirs and literature into the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library.



Joining Our Friends Where They Are: Winter Events at the Fisher Library

CHRONICLES OF THE PAST: THE IMPORTANCE OF PRESERVING TESTIMONIES

On January 27, International Holocaust Remembrance Day, a panel discussion inaugurating the Goldschläger Collection of Holocaust memoirs and literature to the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library. *Memoirs from the Fire: Acts of Salvage by a Holocaust Survivor, a Scholar, and a Collector* took place virtually.

Over several decades, Professor Alain Goldschläger amassed one of the world's largest and most diverse collections of Holocaust memoirs, with over 3500

volumes in nearly thirty languages from forty-four countries from all the populated continents on the globe, and he has recently donated that collection to the Fisher Library. The panel reflected on the gravity of the day while discussing the significance of Holocaust memoirs in the ongoing study and commemoration of the Shoah.

Panelists included Western University Professor Alain Goldschläger, compiler of the collection; Judy Cohen, a survivor and author of a Holocaust memoir, *A Cry in Unison*; and Na'ama Shik, a researcher at the

International School for Holocaust Studies of Yad Vashem who uses Holocaust memoirs.

Nadav Sharon, Judaica Librarian at the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library and Doris L. Bergen, Chancellor Rose and Ray Wolfe Professor of Holocaust Studies at the University of Toronto moderated the conversation.

The event was co-sponsored by the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, the Chancellor Rose and Ray Wolfe Chair of Holocaust Studies, and the Anne Tanenbaum Centre for Jewish Studies.

FISHER LECTURES ONLINE: <https://fisher.library.utoronto.ca/fisher-audio-lectures> • <https://fisher.library.utoronto.ca/fisher-video-lectures>

COMMUNITY



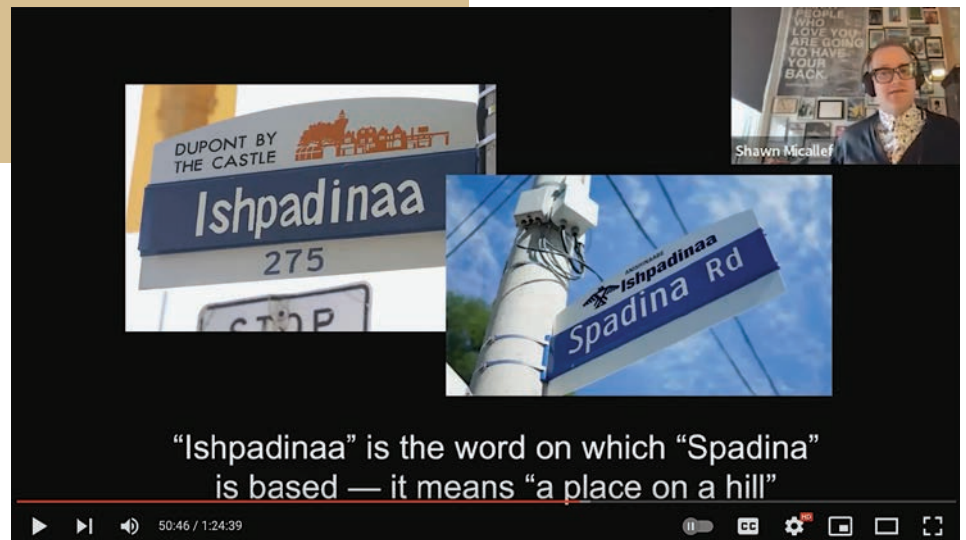
MAKING SENSE OF A METROPOLIS

On April 19, Author Shawn Micallef delivered the twenty-eighth annual George Kiddell Memorial Lecture titled *Understand Toronto: Trying to Figure Out a Confounding City*.

Micallef was a fitting speaker for this year's talk. He is author of *Frontier City: Toronto on the Verge of Greatness*, *Stroll: Psychogeographic Walking Tours of Toronto* and *The Trouble with Brunch: Work, Class and the Pursuit of Leisure*. He's a weekly columnist at the *Toronto Star*, and a senior editor and co-owner of the independent, Jane Jacobs Prize-winning magazine *Spacing*. Shawn teaches at the University of Toronto and was a 2011–2012 Canadian Journalism Fellow at Massey College. In 2002, while a resident at the Canadian Film Centre's Media Lab, he co-founded [murmur], the location-based mobile phone documentary project that spread to over 25 cities globally.

The energy from the virtual lecture was felt by participants. Micallef shared memories of his upbringing in Windsor, Ontario and what sparked his fascination with cities. He reflected on various Canadian cities before speaking passionately about Toronto, its opportunities and its obstacles.

This annual lecture is generously endowed by the estate of George B. Kiddell.



Facing page: Image from the invitation to *Memoirs from the Fire*. Above: Books from the Goldschläger Collection, clockwise from top—Holocaust testimony written in Japanese. Mieczysława Cherszteina, *Ofiary Nikczemności* (Stuttgart, 1945). Raghild Andersen and Helge Larsen, *Vi blev reddet denne Gang* (København, 1945). Anna Molnár Hegedűs, *Miért?: Egy deportált nő élményei a sárga csillagtól a vörös csillagig* (Arad, 1945). Right: Shawn Micallef speaks about the Indigenous origins of the name 'Spadina'.

Media Commons Virtual Event Series

HOME SAFE TORONTO

On February 3, Media Commons Archives held a virtual screening of *Home Safe Toronto* (2009). This documentary film explores how families with children in the Greater Toronto Area live with the threat and the reality of homelessness. It draws a correlation between the housing crisis in Canada and the increasing economic and job insecurity that has devastated the manufacturing sector in the Greater Toronto Area and throughout southern Ontario. *Home Safe Toronto* reveals the consequences of this “new economy”, where families survive on low wages, with no benefits and no job security. With dwindling social support, families are faced with the terrible choice of either keeping a roof over their heads or putting food on the table.

The event featured a screening of clips from this ground-breaking feature film and was followed by a meaningful panel discussion with the film’s director, Laura Sky, anti-poverty activist Rene Adams, and street nurse, and activist Cathy Crowe, who both appear in the documentary.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO LIBRARIES MEDIA COMMONS ARCHIVES
VIRTUAL EVENT SERIES WINTER 2022

HOME SAFE TORONTO
A FILM ABOUT FAMILIES LIVING WITH THE THREAT AND THE REALITY OF HOMELESSNESS

THURSDAY 3 FEBRUARY 2022 | 6-7:30 PM

This event will feature a screening of selections from this ground-breaking documentary film, followed by a panel discussion.

PANELISTS: Laura Sky (filmmaker); Rene Adams (anti-poverty activist); Cathy Crowe (street nurse, activist)

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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO LIBRARIES MEDIA COMMONS

DR. DOOLITTLE'S ADVENTURES ACROSS CANADA

Loryl MacDonald, Associate Chief Librarian for Special Collections and Director, Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, and Christina Stewart, Assistant Media Archivist, Media Commons hosted a virtual screening and discussion about the life and work of Dr. Perry E. Doolittle, founder of the CAA and advocate for the Trans-Canada Highway on March 24.

Dr. Doolittle was a highly influential road and motorist advocate at the dawn of the automobile era. A physician by training, he purchased the first used car in Canada and became the first doctor to make house calls by car in Toronto. In 1920, he amalgamated two organizations into the Canadian Automobile Association, where he served as president until his death in 1933.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO LIBRARIES MEDIA COMMONS ARCHIVES
VIRTUAL EVENT SERIES WINTER 2022

Dr. Doolittle's Adventures Across Canada (1926-1930)

THURSDAY 24 MARCH 2022 | 6:30-8 PM EDT

Join Loryl MacDonald, Director, Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library and Christina Stewart, Assistant Media Archivist in a conversation about the life, work, and archival collection of Dr. Perry E. Doolittle, founder of the Canadian Automobile Association and advocate for the Trans-Canada Highway. The talk will be illustrated with some of the films and photographs Dr. Doolittle shot during his cross country adventures, as well as some local Toronto film footage taken at the time.

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During this time, Dr. Doolittle and members of his organizations lobbied provincial and federal governments for automobile safety, better quality roads, uniform traffic laws, and a national highway system. As part of this work, he filmed and photographed a series of road trips throughout Canada and the United States, including his famous and highly publicized cross-country trips from Halifax, Nova Scotia to Vancouver, British Columbia in the 1920s.

The virtual screening of *Dr. Doolittle's Adventures Across Canada* (1926-1930) featured some of the films and photographs Dr. Doolittle shot during his cross-country adventures, which generated lively discussion among participants.

Left to right: Posters advertising the virtual screenings of *Home Safe Toronto* and *Dr. Doolittle's Adventures Across Canada*.

COMMUNITY

UTL Welcomes New Library Leaders



ANGELA HENSHILWOOD — ENGINEERING & COMPUTER SCIENCE LIBRARY

Angela Henshilwood accepted the position of Head, Engineering & Computer Science Library (ECSL), effective October 1, 2021. Angela had been an Engineering Librarian at ECSL since 2014. She was fortunate to train in ECSL during her graduate studies when she worked as a GSLA (graduate student library assistant) from 2008–2010. Angela has taken on many leadership roles in her time at UTL, both internally and professionally. A few examples are her work with the Faculty of Engineering's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Action Group (EEDIAG,) and her work for the profession of librarianship in Ontario during her four years serving on the Council of the Ontario College and University Library Association (OCULA) as the president-elect, president, and past president.

CATHRYN COPPER — EBERHARD ZEIDLER LIBRARY

Cathryn Copper joined UTL on January 1, 2022 as the new Head of the Eberhard Zeidler Library. Cathryn has a wealth of

experience which will serve her extremely well in her new role. She has been Associate Professor and Librarian at Woodbury University's School of Architecture and most recently, was the Head of the Art & Architecture Library at Virginia Tech. Throughout her career, Cathryn has been forward thinking, exploring a range of technology to support student and faculty endeavours. At Virginia Tech she was doing interesting work to explore augmented reality tools. Throughout her career, she has shown a strong commitment to EDI (Equity, Diversity and Inclusion) and social justice issues; her library team was recognized with the 2019 University Diversity Award for its sustained efforts. Cathryn has been deeply integrated at both Virginia Tech and Woodbury, collaborating, and



partnering with faculty on a range of innovative initiatives. At Woodbury, she successfully co-taught the undergraduate degree project and graduate thesis preparation courses at the School of Architecture, demonstrating her strong teaching and pedagogical skills. She is currently authoring a book on experimentation in libraries under contract with ALA Editions.

MARIA LAU — RICHARD CHARLES LEE CANADA-HONG KONG LIBRARY

After an international search, Lai Che Maria Lau was appointed Director of the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library, effective January 1, 2022. Maria Lau was born and raised in Hong Kong. She completed her undergraduate studies in Hong Kong, her library degree in the United States and doctoral study at the Peking University. Before joining UTL, beginning in 1992 she was with the Chinese University of Hong Kong Library in various capacities, including serving as the Head of Cataloguing, Head of Technical Services, Head of Reader and Learning Services, Head of Research Support and Digital Initiatives, and, most recently, as Deputy University Librarian. Maria also has



deep connections with the Hong Kong community. This exceptional experience has given her an invaluable knowledge base to effectively lead a team of colleagues engaged in a variety of activities at the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library.

CELEBRATE



Meet **6** U of T Undergraduate Students Who Were Recognized for Innovative Research

SIX UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS at the University of Toronto were recognized for their innovative research, including their use of library services, on topics ranging from music, poetry and film to neuroscience and architecture.

The students—Eric Yang, Rion Levy, Sapolnach Prompiengchai, Conorr Norquay, Nicollo Abe and Tessa Di Vizio—are this year’s recipients of the Patricia and Peter Shannon Wilson Undergraduate Research Prize, which is awarded by U of T Libraries to undergraduate students who make effective and innovative use of information sources.

The Patricia and Peter Shannon Wilson Undergraduate Research Prize provides students with an opportunity to reflect on their information-seeking experience while showcasing their research skills beyond the classroom. The award is made possible through an endowment by Patricia Wilson and Peter Wilson that supports U of T Libraries in promoting excellence in undergraduate research.

Larry P. Alford, University Chief Librarian, says he was “deeply impressed” by the remarkable level of research skills demonstrated by this year’s student winners.

“This award allows U of T students to reimagine their undergraduate education through research experiences while also drawing attention to the libraries and our world class collections,” he said. “I’m grateful to faculty across all three campuses who are working to strengthen information literacy in our community.”

Chosen by a panel of six judges, each winner will be awarded \$1,000 and their reflective essays and assignments will be shared on TSpace, U of T’s online research repository, highlighting the extraordinary undergraduate work happening at the University.

CELEBRATE



A bit about the recipients and their papers and projects:

- **Eric Yang**, a first-year student in the Faculty of Music for his project in Musical Theory, entitled: “Three Arias from Nixon in China (1987).”
Sponsoring faculty member:
Associate Professor Mark Sallmen
- **Rion Levy**, a second-year student in Literature and Critical Theory from Victoria College, Faculty of Arts and Science, for his project in Vic’s Independent Studies, entitled: “Peter Orlovsky: The Surrealist Beat Poet.”
Sponsoring faculty member:
Professor Albert F. Moritz
- **Sapolnach Prompiengchai**, a second-year UTSC student specializing in neuroscience for his project in Psychology, Advanced Research Methods Laboratory, entitled: “Combining Music Listening and Positive Reminiscence Reduces Acute Stress Response in Healthy Populations.”
Sponsoring faculty member:
Associate Professor George S. Cree
- **Connor Norquay**, a third-year student in Cinema Studies from Victoria College, Faculty of Arts and Science, for his Film Cultures project, “An Unrealized History of Sound Film: Charles K. Cregier and the Talking Motion Picture Machine.”
Sponsoring faculty member:
Professor Charlie Keil
- **Nicollo Abe**, a fourth-year student at the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design for his project in Mobility and Architecture entitled: “Architecture on Modern European Banknotes: In Search of Stability through Abstract Circulation.”
Sponsoring faculty member:
Sessional Lecturer Ipek Mehmetoğlu
- **Tessa Di Vizio**, a fourth-year student in International Relations and Political Science from Trinity College, Faculty of Arts and Science, for her project in Comparative American, British, and Canadian Foreign Policy, entitled “With More than a Little Help from “Our Canadian Friends”: Canada, the United States, and the Canadian Caper, 1979–1980.”
Sponsoring faculty member:
Assistant Professor Timothy Sayle

CELEBRATE



University Chief Librarian Named to Center for Research Libraries Board

Larry P. Alford, University Chief Librarian of the University of Toronto was elected for a three-year term to the Center for Research Libraries (CRL) Board of Directors at the April 2022 CRL Council of Voting Members meeting.

Founded in 1949, CRL is an international consortium of university, college, and independent research libraries. CRL supports original research and inspired teaching in the humanities, sciences, and social sciences by preserving and making available to scholars a wealth of rare and uncommon primary source materials from all world regions.

From its early days, CRL has benefited from robust contributions and leadership from its colleagues and collaborators at the University of Toronto Libraries (UTL).

In 1963, the University of Toronto became the first Canadian institution to join CRL, a move that changed the nature of the consortium, which is today an emphatically bi-national effort. UTL's leadership in CRL has continued throughout the digital revolution, as experts from UTL position CRL to be an active hub to recast and define the work of research libraries in a radically reoriented knowledge ecosystem.

Speaking to Alford's appointment, CRL president Gregory Eow remarked, "I have long admired Larry's leadership in the research library community, and I am thrilled to have his leadership on the CRL Board as we work to build an equitable knowledge ecosystem that represents the best values of the academy."

Alford has served as the University of Toronto's University Chief Librarian since August 2011. The University of Toronto Libraries system includes 40 libraries and is the largest academic research library system in Canada with a staff of over 700 FTE and a budget of almost \$100 million CAD including allocated costs. University of Toronto Libraries ranks third among North American university research libraries.

F
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Let Us Welcome You!

The 'Friends' organization was founded in 1984 to bring together those who are committed to strengthening the Library's outstanding collections and dedicated to encouraging a greater awareness of the Library's resources. We encourage you to join the Friends and support the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library. Benefits include invitations to lectures and special events, and the Friends' newsletter, *The Halcyon*. Evening lectures are designed to appeal to the interests of the Friends and to highlight the special collections of the Library. Catalogues of exhibitions displayed in the Fisher Library are available upon request.



FOR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:
<http://fisher.library.utoronto.ca/donations/friends> or call 416-978-3600.

YOUR IMPACT

University of Toronto Libraries (UTL) is the heart of the University, the driving force behind why U of T remains one of the world's great research institutions with lasting impact in nearly every field. Drawing on one of the largest repositories of knowledge on earth, UTL provides the lifeblood of U of T's groundbreaking research, teaching, and innovation.

At UTL, students are on the leading edge of life-changing innovations, exciting partnerships and opportunities, research breakthroughs and journeys of self-discovery. Your support makes it all possible.



Photo by David Lee

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