

Strategic Plan

John W. Graham Library
& Trinity College Archives
2024 – 2029



Trinity
College

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

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Library Director's Message

We first began the process of creating a new strategic plan for the Library and Archives in 2019, but like many plans made in 2020, our attention was taken up with the pressing concerns of running a library and archives operation during a pandemic. In 2024, I am pleased to introduce this new strategic plan that lays out a framework for Graham Library and Trinity College Archives initiatives that will take us to 2029.

Since our last strategic plan, much has changed in the world and so have the needs of our users. Building on our historical strengths of high-quality service, collections, and expertise, this new plan has been developed in close consultation with various members of our user communities and with library and archives staff. It is our first strategic plan to address equity, diversity, and inclusion goals, the pressing need to incorporate sustainability into operations, and of course helping our user community achieve academic excellence in an increasingly complex world of information and disinformation that we all face daily.

I would like to thank everyone who contributed thoughtful feedback, time, energy, and effort to prepare this new strategic plan. It was very much a team effort. As we move toward 2029, we intend to provide regular updates on goals and achievements relevant to this plan.



Kate MacDonald

Nicholls Librarian & Director, John W. Graham Library
& Trinity College Archives

Mission

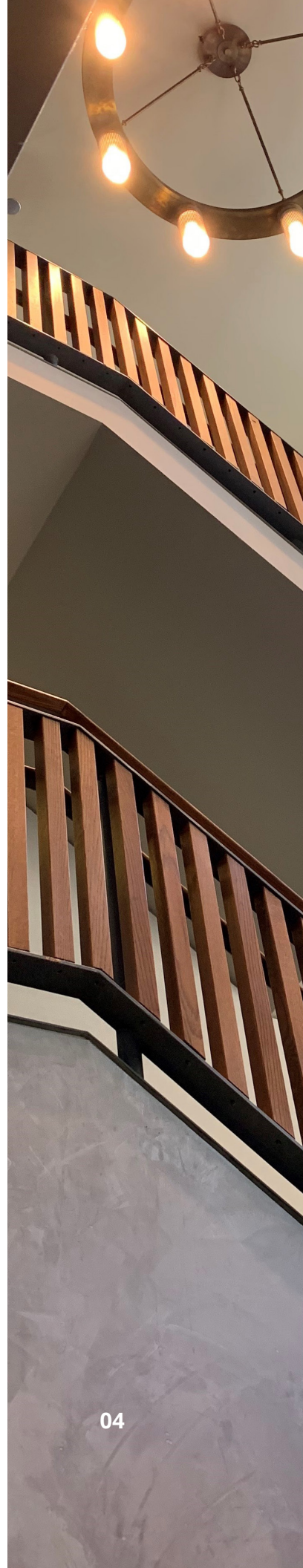
The John W. Graham Library and Trinity College Archives foster excellence in research, teaching, and learning. Building on our past and looking to the future, we connect our users with the information they need to become engaged global citizens.

Vision

The John W. Graham Library and Trinity College Archives are the academic centre of the Trinity and Wycliffe College communities. We are a hub of collaborative learning, knowledge exchange, intellectual inquiry, and research excellence.

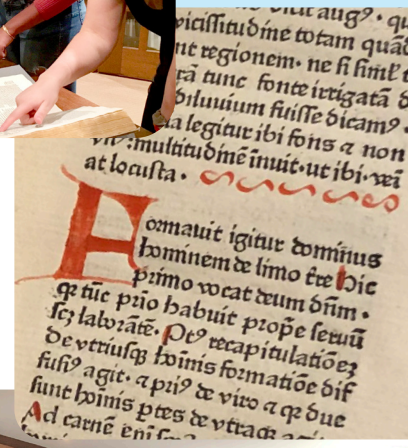
Values

- Ensuring equitable, barrier-free access to resources, services, and information
- Building community relationships to enhance research and generate innovative ideas
- Centring equity, diversity, and inclusion in the services we provide to our communities
- Engaging in self-reflection and assessment to continually improve our services
- Adopting practices of responsible environmental stewardship and an ongoing commitment to sustainability
- Providing welcoming, user-centred spaces and services
- Exploring diverse viewpoints while upholding the principles of academic freedom



Strategic Priorities

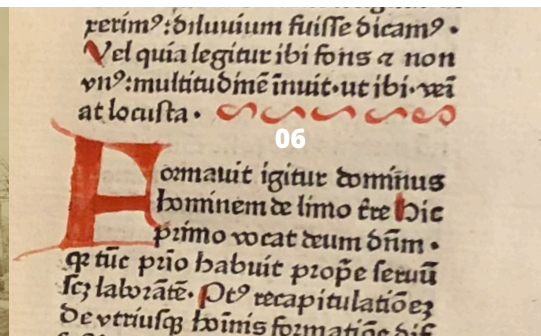
1. Leverage and develop knowledge
2. Create a culture of collaborative teaching and learning
3. Develop inspiring and welcoming spaces
4. Cultivate relationships and engage community



1. Leverage and Develop Knowledge

Objectives

- I Build unique collections and highlight our rare, special, and archival materials by bringing them to a wider audience of researchers and community members.
 - a. Digitize and promote rare, special, and archival collections online to preserve and share with the widest number of users.
 - b. Curate and present collection materials to facilitate discovery and access.
 - c. Connect users to the vast information resources and expertise via the broader University of Toronto Libraries system.
- II Collaborate with our community partners to support the research needs in the programs of Trinity and Wycliffe Colleges.
 - a. Support academic research networks affiliated with our Colleges.
 - b. Increase collection diversity by assessing current holdings and developing a policy to build a more inclusive collection.
 - c. Connect archival, special, and rare collections with faculty members for teaching and research opportunities.



2. Create a Culture of Collaborative Teaching and Learning

Objectives

- I Embed information literacy skills and expertise in the curricula.
 - a. Create opportunities to support faculty teaching, from assignment design to research instruction.
 - b. Draft an information literacy framework for our communities, with a focus on:
 - developing critical thinking skills
 - highlighting inequalities and inequities in information structures and strategies to overcome them
 - integrating marginalized voices into scholarly conversations
 - creating and consuming information in a responsible manner
 - c. Foster primary source literacy in students, particularly through increased special collections instruction and experiential learning opportunities.
- II Cultivate collaborative learning communities, both physical and virtual.
 - a. Support professional development for library and archives staff to participate in research and scholarship directly relevant to the library and archives profession.
 - b. Form reciprocal relationships with college partners in co-curricular teaching and learning opportunities outside the classroom.



3. Develop Inspiring and Welcoming Spaces

Objectives

- I Remove barriers to promote enjoyment of the space and access to services.
 - a. Develop adaptable physical and virtual spaces that can evolve to meet user needs.
 - b. Increase physical accessibility of the library and archives.
 - c. Solicit evidence-based user feedback about the library and archives facilities.
- II Incorporate sustainability features and practices into our existing and future spaces.
 - a. Work with college partners to adapt library and archives facilities for a sustainable future.
 - b. Improve climate control in the library, with a focus on sustainability.



4. Cultivate Relationships and Engage Community

Objectives

- I Strengthen relationships with current users by exploring innovative and collaborative opportunities.
 - a. Identify academic partnerships with groups or individuals that we have not previously pursued.
 - b. Explore fundraising opportunities with Trinity's Development & Alumni Affairs department and expand Friends of the Library activities.
 - c. Develop closer relationships with academic and social groups.
- II Anticipate needs of multiple user groups.
 - a. Engage the community using a variety of communication methods.
 - b. Establish relationships with Trinity and Wycliffe students and the broader student populations.
 - c. Invite our users to collaborate on shared interests and programming that align with our community and educational commitments.





Images

01. Student entering the John W. Graham Library.
02. Kate MacDonald, Nicholls Librarian & Director, Graham Library.
03. The Graham Library and Bosanquet Gardens.
04. Central stairway at the Graham Library.
05. Students in a library workshop.
06. *Historia Scholastica* (1479), an incunable from the Rare Book Collection.
07. Fireplace Room at the Graham Library.
08. Staff, alumni, Friends, and students at a bookbinding workshop.
09. Circulating collections in the stacks.
10. Photo of Trinity College on Queen Street from the Trinity College Archives.
11. Students in an instructional session at the Archives.
12. Students in an instructional session at the Library.
13. Reunion Exhibit at the Trinity College Archives.
14. Friends of the Library at the 2023 Book Sale.
15. Wycliffe College students attend an event at the Graham Library.
16. Students attend a class at the Archives.
17. Mystery Book event at the Graham Library.
18. *Manuale confessorum metricu[m]* (1498) from the Rare Book Collection.
19. *Divine Comedy* (1497) from the Rare Book Collection.
20. Friends of the Library at the Annual Book Sale.
21. Popular Reading Collection at the Graham Library.
22. Book display on Caribbean Literature, curated by Cherryl-Lyn Olamuyiwa.
23. The Graham Library and Bosanquet Gardens.

Images by K. MacDonald, D. Mazić, and R. Bédard

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For updates on this plan, please see: <https://www.trinity.utoronto.ca/library/about/graham-library-trinity-archives-strategic-plan/>





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