

Expand/Collapse All

## Strategic Initiatives

### [AI Augmented Current Awareness and Discovery Tools](#)

This strategic initiative critically assesses the potential contributions of new AI-augmented current awareness and discovery tools to facilitate research. Team members will identify and assess emerging tools, create LibGuides and/or tutorials, run workshops, and showcase and promote institutional research output by collaborating with campus partners. The goal of the initiative is to allow the library to explore novel tools built around artificial intelligence and machine learning. The outcome of the initiative will be assessed by examining usage and gathering user feedback.

[Project Charter](#)

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### [Bibliometrics](#)

Bibliometrics uses quantitative and qualitative approaches to understand and disseminate patterns, trends, and connections between researchers, their domains, and their scholarly works. The statistics and measures that come from these analyses are most valuable when they contribute to deeper insight about the nature of research and improve the stories that can be told about it. Over the next year, this initiative aims to improve awareness of bibliometrics practices and complementary systems (like ORCID ID) across McMaster and collaborate with a wide variety of campus stakeholders to make bibliometric analysis work more effectively, efficiently, and ethically.

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### [Canada Research: Making Canadian research visible to the world](#)

The *Canada Research* aggregator aims to bring together research outputs from Canadian institutional repositories and transforms their metadata so they can be, in turn, harvested directly from *Canada Research* by OpenAIRE, the European Commission funded services that support open access and open science. This strategic initiative seeks to engage with and provide general support to the Canadian institutional repository managers community to drive participation in *Canada Research*. By raising awareness and promoting *Canada Research* and OpenAIRE, we can contribute towards an effective and open global research ecosystem.

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## **Collaborative Futures**

This initiative will lead to McMaster joining the Ontario Council of University Libraries' (OCUL) [Collaborative Futures](#) program. Sixteen of the 21 OCUL member institutions currently participate in Collaborative Futures, a shared implementation of the Ex Libris Alma library services platform and Primo discovery layer (branded as Omni in OCUL's implementation). The initiative will include the necessary procurement steps, migration from the Sierra and EncoreDuet systems currently used by the libraries to Alma/Primo (Omni), organizing training for staff in the libraries, and preparing or supporting the development of communications and resources for the larger McMaster community.

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## **DASH**

The Data Analysis Support Hub (DASH) service supports students in the areas of their research in data analysis, advanced design software, data visualization and general numeracy. The consultation service has seen a growth in advanced methodological inquiries over the past year and uptake from a wider range of researchers and subject areas. As part of this growth, and with the objective of becoming a sustainable service, this initiative will explore the staffing model (and the possibility of hiring a second student consultant), ways of expanding programming by leveraging the expertise of existing Library staff and services and building engagement opportunities with campus partners and beyond.

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## **Diversity**

We will strive to make McMaster's libraries diverse, equitable and inclusive places - both for library staff and for the communities we serve. During 2021/22, we will strike four working groups to review and make recommendations concerning: 1) recruitment practices; 2) inclusive culture (with an eye to retention and job satisfaction); 3) responding to security incidents in the University Library; and 4) enhanced learning opportunities for library staff. The Indigenous Matters Group will

identify meaningful initiatives McMaster's libraries can undertake in support of the Truth & Reconciliation's Call for Action.

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## **Enhancing the Digital Presence of the Bertrand Russell Archives**

Already underway, this work includes a review of the BRACERS database, a critical tool that guides researchers and archivists into the extensive body of correspondence to and from Russell and held in the Russell Archives. In the current year, we expect to review and assess recommendations for further development of BRACERS stemming from interviews with a wide group of stakeholders and pursue funding to implement them. We will begin digitizing and adding to the Library's Digital Archive a selected area of correspondence from the Russell Archives, extending the amount of online content available to students, scholars, and the public.

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## **Indigenous Collections**

This strategic initiative aims to improve internal awareness of collections related to or originating from Indigenous peoples in order to guide acquisitions in this area and support the management of existing resources in a respectful and appropriate manner. Team members will participate in learning opportunities about Indigenous collections and, in consultation with Indigenous campus stakeholders, identify new print and digital resources for acquisition. Effort will be made to source some materials from Indigenous book distributors in Southern Ontario. Team members will also review existing resources and descriptive terminology with an eye to future improvements.

[PDF version](#)

## **Learning Support Collaboration with Student Success**

Learning Support and the Student Success Writing and Tutor Centre will partner to provide support to undergraduate and graduate students who access research and writing academic help in the Library. These partnerships will be embedded within the consultation processes and will also include sharing and collaborating on creation of print and digital learning objects, referrals across the groups, participation in workshops and special events, and enhanced consultation on activities and processes. Learning Support and the Writing and Tutor Centre will explore additional opportunities and partnerships for improving student success in research and writing.

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## **Library Space**

Continue to work on planning for a new and improved Innis Library within the new McLean Centre for Collaborative Discovery which is scheduled for opening in early 2024. Our work will be mostly around furniture selection, including common spaces, group study rooms, staff workroom, service desk, shelving, etc. Explore funding opportunities to complete the renovations on the 2nd and lower levels of Thode Library. Prepare to conduct an updated Master Space Plan for Mills Library.

[PDF version](#)

## **LinkedIn Learning**

The goal of this project is to increase awareness and usage of [LinkedIn Learning](#) (LiL) across McMaster. LiL aligns with the McMaster University's Strategic Plan, Institutional Priority #2: ensuring students are equipped with the knowledge and skills to make a transformative impact on society. Data will be gathered to better understand how and why students, staff and instructors use LiL. This data will be then used to build a plan to focus on increasing the activation rate of McMaster users to 50 % by 2023 and to measure the benefits of LiL as a learning and career readiness resource.

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## **Making Digitized Content Accessible**

Streamlining the workflow for getting digitized content into the library's Digital Archive will make more content available for users faster and to improve accessibility to print resources. This batch ingest process will account for item description needs, display needs, copyright status, and restrictions to ensure everything is going to the right place and being made available in the right way. Workflows will be tested and documented for ongoing usability by both the Digitization Centre and Research Collections.

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## **McMaster Experts**

[McMaster Experts](#)

is a University-wide system that centralizes information about McMaster's researchers, their expertise, scholarly and artistic works, and professional activities, and shares relevant information with the world via individual profile pages. Powering the public-facing website is a Research Information Management system that centralized and connects a wide array of internal and external data. Over the next year, the Experts team seeks to continue expanding the types and quantity of information in the system, increase its accuracy and links to other information, and make its rich, linked data available to an increasing number of university systems in fulfillment of its motto: "Integrate and Reuse".

[PDF version](#)

## **Online Resources and Access**

This strategic initiative focuses on exploring and implementing new models for acquisitions and access to better support off-campus research. Team members will enhance the Library's collection of digital resources including but not limited to books, journals, videos, and primary resources and will streamline off-campus access with additional connectivity software. The Team will work with the Library's Communication Manager to promote resources and software through a variety of channels. The effectiveness of these new approaches will be assessed by examining usage and gathering user feedback, to inform ongoing strategies.

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## **Open Access Collection Funding**

This strategic initiative focuses on clarifying and articulating the Library's priorities for funding open access collections. Team members will establish collection guidelines covering format, content relevance, transformative potential, and type of initiative (content, infrastructure, or advocacy). With the Health Sciences Library, we will provide clear, public information on Transformative (Read and Publish) Agreements and issues surrounding Article Processing Charges and Gold open access. Criteria used to assess publisher offers will be shared via the Library website and potential budget implications will be identified.

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## **Open Educational Resources (OER)**

Take a lead role in building understanding and raising awareness of the advantages of using OER (educational materials that are free to use, adapt, revise, and share without charge) for coursework. ?During 2020-2021, manage the second year of a three-year pilot of an OER Grant Program; continue to establish a service model in support of the grantees; and oversee the successful completion of the awarded projects. Expand the “OER by Discipline Guide: McMaster University” to include Faculty of Health Sciences content. Create communication strategies to promote OER, Open Access and Open Education.

## [Project Charter](#)

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## **Research Data Management**

The University Library will continue to assume a lead role in developing research data management (RDM) infrastructure, strategy, and services, while promoting a culture of data stewardship at McMaster. Collaborating with Research and High Performance Computing Support (RHPCS), the team will expand RDM resources and services for McMaster’s researchers and research support staff. Working with partners across campus, we will develop an RDM institutional strategy that describes the current state of needs and services, articulates an ideal state, and provides a roadmap to bridge the gap between present and future.

[PDF version](#)

## **Staff Engagement**

Project statement to follow

[PDF version](#)

## **Support University's Delivery of Hybrid Learning through Echo360**

Position Echo360, an active learning platform incorporating lecture capture, live streaming, content management and student engagement tools, as an effective solution for hybrid learning by increasing access to hardware units in registrar-controlled classrooms and offering technical support for users accessing Echo360 on their own devices. Work with cross-campus partners to improve agility when adopting new features and integrating with other campus technologies. Increase awareness about Echo360 through outreach initiatives and enhance training resources for instructors and students.

[PDF version](#)

## **Teaching & Learning**

Appoint an Associate University Librarian to set the strategic framework for the University Library's learning and curriculum support program. Adapt what we've learned from the pandemic to support the hybrid delivery of teaching and learning services and resources during the 2021/22 academic year. Actively promote learning and curriculum support services to the campus community.

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## **University Archives**

The University Library will collaborate with the University Secretariat in the development of a university records management program that includes the identification and retention of university records of archival value. With the Secretariat and the Health Sciences Library, we will complete a summary document and business case for university leadership outlining the importance of university archives and the resources required to launch an archives program.

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