

# Inspiring Inclusive Excellence

A strategic vision for  
the University of Toronto  
Scarborough

**Our vision is to make the UTSC campus  
the embodiment of inclusive excellence,  
a bold community of conscientious and adaptable global leaders  
who constructively disrupt the status quo,  
connect the world, and  
advance transformative change for the *good of all*.**

***iRISE***  
***institutes for***  
**Resilience & Inclusive**  
**Societies & Ecosystems**

***i*RISE is dedicated to  
solving complex problems  
facing society.**

# ***iRISE Vision***

To establish U of T as a leading global centre of scholarship on convergence research conducted in pursuit of the goals of sustainable, resilient, inclusive, just, and equitable futures.

# ***iRISE Mission***

To support the pursuit of solutions to complex problems and to catalyze change by facilitating research discoveries, enabling innovators to move discoveries into action, inspiring communities and building their capacity to act, and training future leaders.

**Convergence research is transdisciplinary research that shows deep integration across disciplines and is driven by a specific and compelling problem, whether that problem arises from deep scientific questions or pressing societal needs.**

US National Science Foundation [NSF]





**Four inaugural entities  
to support us to become  
“constructive disruptors”.**

**#1 SDGs@UofT**  
**An UTSC-led, ISI-funded SDGs Scholars Academy**  
**that was approved on May 12, 2023.**





# SDGs Scholars Academy

synthesis and catalyst grants

Establish  
transition  
pathways to  
achieve the  
SDGs

Explore  
tensions and  
synergies  
among the  
SDGs

Measure  
progress  
towards  
achieving the  
SDGs

Design  
instruments  
and  
interventions to  
rethink the  
SDGs

**#2 IECS: Institute for Environment, Conservation, and Sustainability**  
will explore causes/consequences of climate change and  
develop mitigation and adaptation strategies.



**#2 IIESL: Institute for Inclusive Economies and Sustainable Livelihoods** will explore, imagine and share alternative economic futures from unique perspectives.



#3 IHW: Institute for Inclusive Health and Wellbeing will explore the social, economic and environmental determinants of health of people living in the Anthropocene.



# Shared goals

**PRODUCE** knowledge throughout the disciplinary spectrum.

**CREATE** spaces enabling convergence dialogues and encouraging the envisioning of alternative futures.

**EMBRACE** diverse epistemologies and methodologies of different disciplines to generate transformative solutions to problems.

**BUILD** sustainable collaborations and partnerships that engage diverse stakeholders to co-create knowledge infused with social concerns and values.

**TRAIN** scholars and leaders dedicated to creating inclusive, sustainable, and just and equitable societies.

**TRANSFER** and **TRANSLATE** knowledge into public policy and practice.

## ***i*RISE research programs:**

- Visiting scholar/leader residencies.
- Visiting scholar/leader fellowships.
- Innovation tables and design studios.
- International workshops and symposia.
- Distinguished speaker series.

## ***i*RISE training programs:**

- Credentials and certificates.
- Undergraduate, graduate, and postdoctoral research assistantships.
  - Entrepreneurial and experiential learning opportunities.
    - Summer camps for high school students.
    - Global design studios and hackathons.
  - Training in convergence research methods.

# Sustainability:

**2,000+** consultations

**4** research directors

**2** active central portfolios

**3** campuses

**6** active divisional partners

**36** academic units with membership

**97** volunteer internal members

**50** volunteer external advisors

**\$2,190,000** for the SDGs Scholars Academy

**\$1,500,000** for **each** of the research institutes

**\$8,000,000** Canada Excellence Research Chair on sustainability transitions (pending)

Base funding plus:

- competitive research grants
- corporation funding
- donor and sponsorship funding
- fees for training programs/certifications
- fees for participating in design studios
- consultancy

**We want to do things differently.  
We want to be inclusive.  
From discovery to impact.**



UNIVERSITY OF  
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SCARBOROUGH