

FOR INFORMATION

PUBLIC

OPEN SESSION

TO: UTM Academic Affairs Committee

SPONSOR: Prof. William A Gough, Interim Vice-Principal Academic & Dean
CONTACT INFO: vpdean.utm@utoronto.ca;

PRESENTER: N/A
CONTACT INFO:

DATE: April 21, 2026 for April 28, 2026

AGENDA ITEM: 13

ITEM IDENTIFICATION:

Annual Report: UTM Library (2024-25)

JURISDICTIONAL INFORMATION:

Under section 5.7 of its Terms of Reference, the committee receives, annually from its assessors, reports on matters within its areas of responsibility, including statements of current issues, opportunities and problems, and recommendations for changes in policies, plans or priorities that would address such issues.

GOVERNANCE PATH:

1. **UTM Academic Affairs Committee [For Information] (April 28, 2026)**

PREVIOUS ACTION TAKEN:

The annual report was provided to the Academic Affairs Committee on May 8, 2025.

HIGHLIGHTS:

The University of Toronto Mississauga Library leads diverse programs and initiatives, collaborating with faculty, staff, and students to provide engaging instruction, unique collections, and dynamic research support. Through its frontline services and support of instructional technologies, the library is also a critical partner for all who are engaged in teaching and learning activities at UTM. Importantly, the Library is also a crucial hub for interdisciplinary collaboration and the integration of digital methods into the course curriculum and faculty-led research projects. In 2024–25, UTML’s librarians delivered 490 synchronous in-person and virtual sessions to 22,005 attendees. In addition, over the same period, the library answered 90,240 questions across all asynchronous and synchronous service delivery modes through its reference and information desks.

Overall, usage metrics continue to reflect high demand for library services. The data reflect the importance of the Library for both study and support and point to its continued impact on the success of UTM's mission.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no net implications for the campus operating budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

For Information

DOCUMENTATION PROVIDED:

Annual Report: UTM Library (2024-25)



University of Toronto Mississauga Library

**2024 Annual
2025 Report**



Overview of Library Activities

The University of Toronto Mississauga Library leads diverse programs and initiatives, collaborating with faculty, staff, and students to provide engaging instruction, unique collections, and dynamic research support. As part of the University of Toronto Libraries (UTL), UTML also supports access to Canada's largest academic library system, consistently ranked among the top ten research libraries in North America by the Association of Research Libraries.

Through its frontline services and support of instructional technologies, the library is also a critical partner for all who are engaged in teaching and learning activities at UTM. Importantly, the Library is also a crucial hub for interdisciplinary collaboration and the integration of digital methods into the course curriculum and faculty led research projects.

The team of librarians and staff at UTML are recognized across the university for sharing their knowledge and expertise, their strength in teaching, and their delivery of excellent service to all library users. Our staff and librarians also perform important work outside of the Library, contributing to committees, working groups, and task force teams at UTM, UTL, and across the tri-campus.

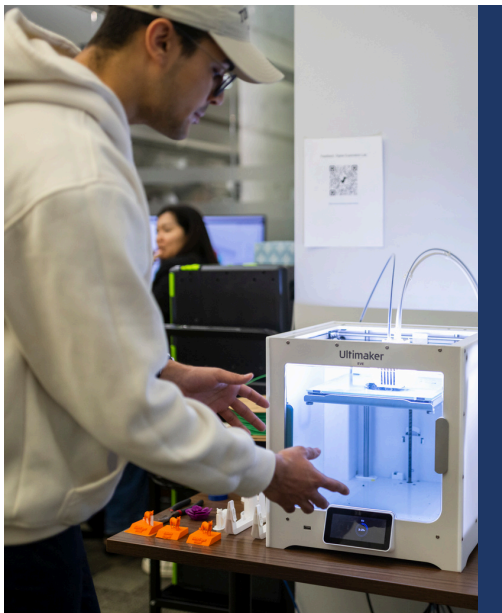
Spaces and Technology

Outer Circle Recording Studio & Digital Exploration Lab

In partnership with UTM Information & Instructional Technology Services and Facilities Management & Planning, the library technologies team expanded access to a state-of-the-art self-serve recording studio that supports student and instructor needs around the completion of audio / video assignments.



The Outer Circle Recording Studio provides a space for activities that advance the university's academic curriculum and research programs. It includes a recording studio, a podcast station, and a digital editing suite.



The technology team has also piloted the development of a Digital Exploration Lab to support access to 3D and virtual reality technologies for teaching and learning. Through this lab, faculty and librarians can integrate these technologies into course assignments and teach students new digital making skills. Over 2024-25, an increasing number of UTM departments have made use of the lab space and staff support to create new assignments and expand their course curriculum.

Supporting Teaching and Learning

Quercus Support for Teaching and Learning

The Library and Instructional Technologies team at UTML continued supporting students and instructors in the effective use of online tools and technologies throughout 2024–25, providing guidance, documentation, and referrals to external resources. The resources created directly by the team were critical for faculty, with over **53,000 unique page views**. The team also consulted extensively with faculty, answering **1,751 reference queries for Quercus**, completing **143 individual consultations**, and hosting **33 group sessions** for **315 faculty members**.

Quercus Faculty Support: Year-over-Year Growth

<u>2023-24</u> 1,542 Reference Queries	+14%	<u>2024-25</u> 1,751 Reference Queries
<u>2023-24</u> 103 Individual Consultations	+39%	<u>2024-25</u> 143 Individual Consultations
<u>2023-24</u> 27 Group Sessions	+22%	<u>2024-25</u> 33 Group Sessions
<u>2023-24</u> 220 Faculty Reached	+43%	<u>2024-25</u> 315 Faculty Reached

Faculty engagement with library technology support grew across every measure in 2024–25

Syllabus Service, Library Reading List, and Digitization

UTML's staff invest significant time and expertise to enable immediate access to course materials, allowing students and instructors to focus on course outcomes and forming an essential support structure for the teaching and learning mission at UTM. The Syllabus Service connects students directly with their course materials, enhancing course syllabi with permalinks to electronic resources and digitized copies of print resources while respecting the University's licensing agreements and Canadian copyright legislation.

Liaison Librarian Program

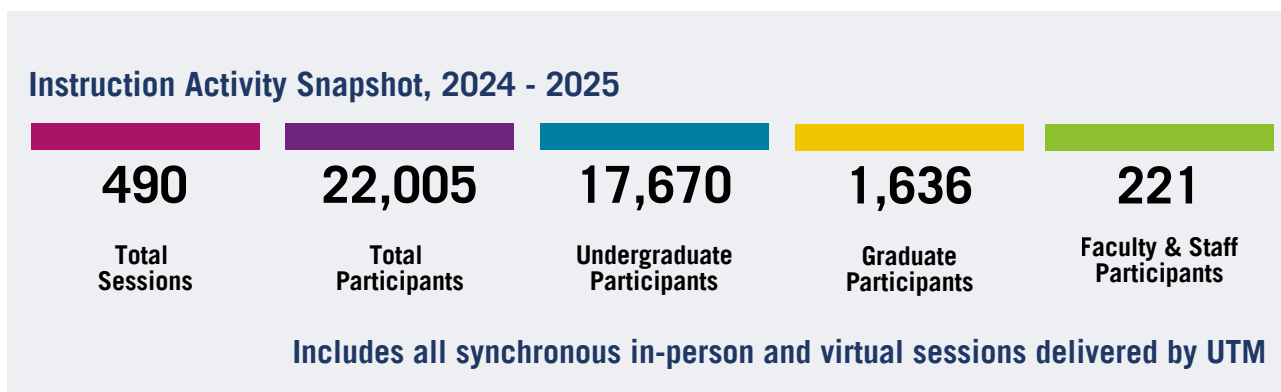
UTML's liaison librarians connect academic departments directly to the Library, creating opportunities for partnership and collaboration that directly impact teaching and learning at UTM.

Liaison librarians are deeply connected with the departments they support, providing in-person instruction in classrooms and Library labs, co-creating assignments with faculty, offering in-depth reference consultations, and developing print and digital collections to support the curriculum. Reference and instruction services are also offered in hybrid and virtual formats.



Synchronous Instruction

Librarians continued to offer technical and pedagogical guidance, as well as referrals for technology-enhanced instruction. Additionally, they collaborated with faculty and course directors to revise instructional approaches and materials to meet the evolving requirements of the UTM curriculum.



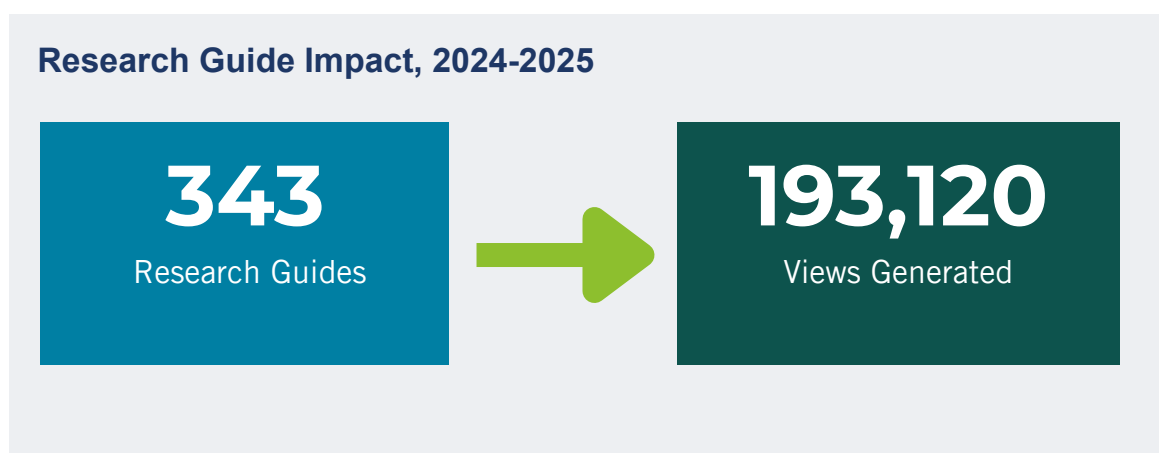
In 2024–25, UTML’s librarians delivered 490 **synchronous in-person and virtual sessions to 22,005 attendees**. This instruction took place in one of three main types:

- **Curriculum-embedded:** Information literacy workshops tailored to specific courses, assignments, and learning outcomes in consultation with instructors; in many cases, librarians co-designed assignments with instructors.
- **Co-curricular workshops:** Instruction on research skills and tools such as identifying fake news, citation management software, and designing research posters (Library 101 CCR Program).
- **Instructional partnerships:** Workshops delivered through campus partner programs; a partial list follows.
 - LAUNCH (Centre for Student Engagement)
 - Program for Accessing Research Training (RGASC)
 - Promoting Academic Skills for Success (RGASC)
 - Professional Skills Development Program (MGT)
 - Scholars-in-Residence (JHI)
 - Instructor Support Drop-ins (TLC & I&ITS)

Asynchronous Instruction - Library Research Guides

UTML's staff and librarians supplement live instruction and reference support with a wide variety of resources that meet students at the point of need, often anticipating and answering questions before one-on-one interaction is necessary.

Liaison librarians create and maintain hundreds of guides that provide discipline - and course-specific guidance on research resources and topics, facilitating student learning and exploration.



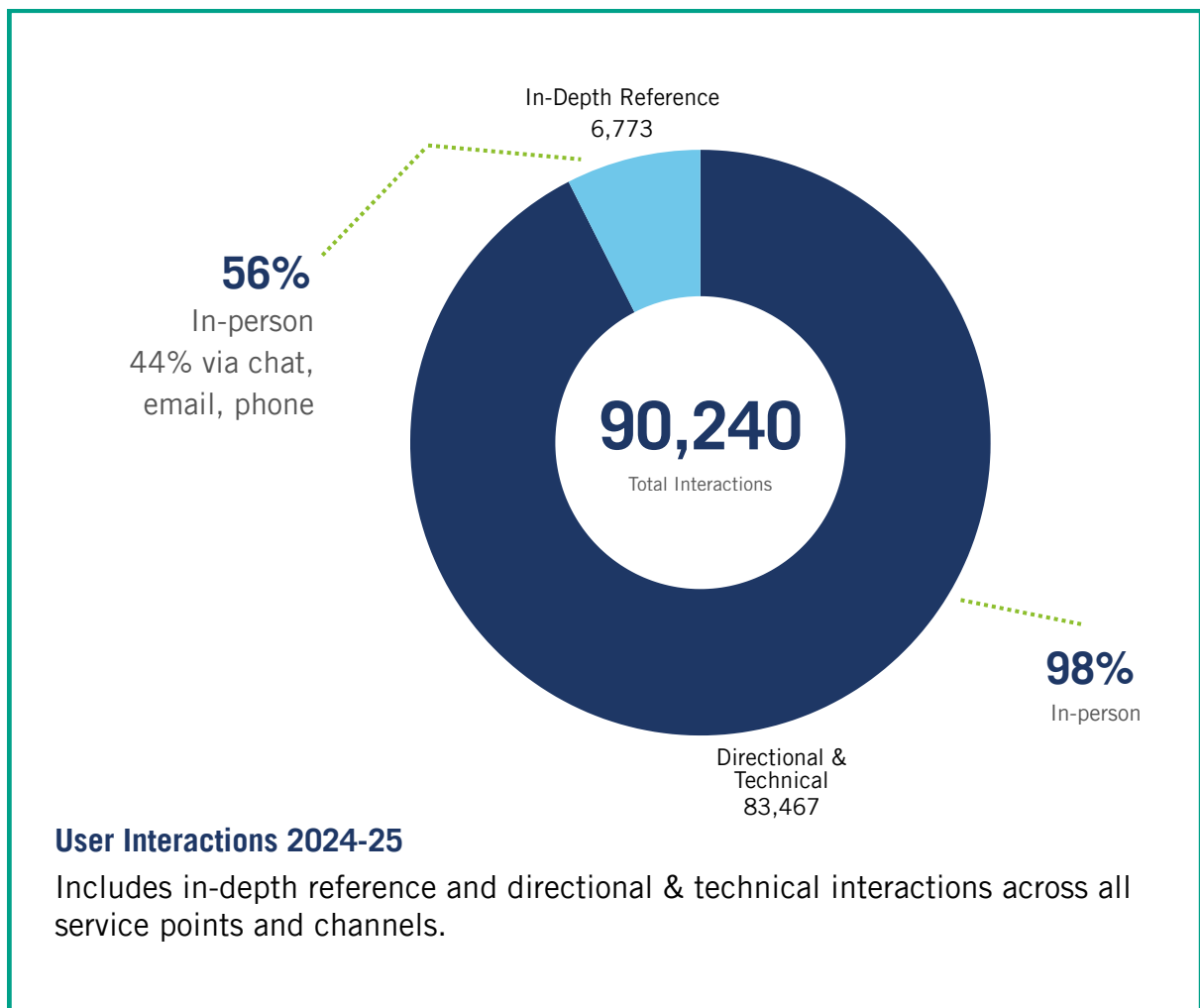
These expert resources see extremely heavy use that demonstrates their value: in 2024–25, UTML's **343 guides received 193,120 views**, and many are among those most heavily used across the three campuses. Some representative examples include:

- [Images and Visual Resource Collections](#)
- [BIO153H5: Diversity of Organisms](#)
- [HIS204H5: History of the Ottoman Empire, 1299-1923](#)

These guides continue to be integrated into Quercus, allowing instructors to give students one-click access to curated resources for their course or discipline.

Reference & Research Support

UTML's librarians and reference specialists met our community's needs through a variety of synchronous and asynchronous modes while continuing to demonstrate flexibility in supporting remote learners. The UTM Library Reference & Research Services staff and librarians support students, faculty, and community members in locating library materials and develop research and evaluation skills.



Reference service is provided in-person at the Reference and Research Desk, online via chat service, and is available through phone and email. Librarians, reference specialists, and graduate student reference assistants (GSRAs) deliver reference services. Over 2024-2025, the library answered 90,240 questions across all modes.

549,510

visits through the door

90,240

user interactions

Roughly 1 in 6 visitors engaged directly with library staff

Supporting Research

Collections - New and Updated Electronic Collections

Each year, UTML contributes to the acquisition and licensing of electronic resources for the entire U of T community through a distributed tri-campus model. However, we also purchase collections of unique importance to UTM researchers.

In response to feedback from our community and their new ways of working and learning, we continued to focus on expanding our eBook and unique electronic resource collections.

Significant UTML acquisitions included:

- Adam Matthew Digital complete primary documents collections
- Public Health and Social Care platform from Coherent Digital
- Comics Plus database of digital graphic novels, manga, and picture books

UTML also contributed to the acquisition of many significant digital collections for 2024–25, including:

- Edward Elgar eBook collections
- Digital Theatre Plus
- Canadian, American, and UK University Presses' complete eBook collections

Collections - New and Updated Special Collections

UTML acquired several rare and unique collections and archives this year, including:

- Professor Danton O'Day's collection of rare books related to Edward FitzGerald's Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam
- Added collections of computer game software and magazines to supplement the Syd Bolton collection

Research Services and Digital Scholarship

In addition to in-depth reference support, UTML's expert staff and librarians support students and faculty throughout the research process via a wide range of programs and services, including support for research data management and data visualization; geographic information systems; copyright and author rights; and open access funding requirements, including deposit into the institutional research repository TSpace.

We also support digital scholarship projects, consulting with researchers about theories, methods, and tools and providing spaces, equipment, technology, and expertise when partnering on projects. We also continued our long-term project of digitizing the Department of Biology's Herbarium Collection, making the massive 95,000 sample publicly available through international biodiversity databases such as Canadensys and the Global Biodiversity Information Facility.

Conclusion and looking ahead

UTML's staff and librarians play essential roles in UTM's mission, leading and innovating impactful services that enable student academic achievement, strengthen teaching and learning, and support faculty research. We look forward to building on our successes and expanding our support of the UTM community as a new academic year begins.

Dany Savard
Chief Librarian
UTM Library
April 2026