Fall semester hours

Regular hours
• Mon.–Thu. 8:30 am – 10 pm
• Fri. 8:30 am – 5 pm*
• Sat. 9:30 am – 6 pm*
• Sun. 1 pm – 6 pm

* Extended hours on Fridays & Saturdays to 10 p.m. from Nov. 23 to Dec. 14.

For a full list of hours, including intersession and holiday closures, see: uoft.me/inforum-hours.

Upcoming events

Aside from being the site of an exciting orientation week, the Inforum will be providing space for several Faculty of Information events this semester:
• Toronto Science Policy Network: Wikipedia Edit-a-thon, Saturday, Sept. 22
• iTea: 5 Ways to Wellbeing for Graduate Students, week of Sept. 24-28, date to be confirmed
• iStudents for Mental Health Panel on UMLAP, week of Oct. 1-5, date to be confirmed
• Information Days, Saturday, Oct. 20 & Saturday, Nov. 17
• Associations Networking Event, Thursday, Nov. 8, 4:30-7:30 pm
• INF2158 Management of Corporate and Other Special Information Centres Course Exhibition, Tuesday, Dec. 4
• Mindful Moments drop-in
sessions, every Tuesday, 12:10-12:40 pm, in room 520, starting Sept. 18
• Quercus drop-in sessions, every Friday in September, 12:30-1:30 pm

iSkills workshops for Fall 2018

Fall 2018 iSkills workshop details and registration information will be distributed by email. Look for an email from Kathleen Scheaffer, Outreach and Instructional Services Librarian, on Monday, September 10, 2018 at 12:15 pm. iSkills workshops are offered exclusively to the Faculty of Information community. These workshops, in conjunction with the MMSt and MI curricula, provide students with a robust résumé-building, graduate-level information and heritage educational experience. See uoft.me/iSkills for a listing of workshops that are being or have been offered.

Welcome back

Nalini Singh, Reference Services Librarian, and Elisa Sze, Collections & Public Services Librarian, returned from their one-year research leave on July 1, 2018. As a result, the Inforum team is pleased to announce that a number of locally-based services have resumed:
• Personal Librarian Program
• Reference services
• ‘Recommend a Title’ service

More details about these services are covered later in this newsletter.

Personal Librarian Program restarting

The Personal Librarian (PL) Program restarts this September. The PL program provides personal academic library support to incoming Faculty of Information Masters students in all concentrations and programs. Each new student is matched to one of the Inforum librarians. PLs can:
• Show students what Inforum services, resources, and facilities exist for their use
• Answer questions about how to use Inforum services
• Refer or connect students with the right person who can help with your question, including other librarians in the 40+ other libraries at the U of T
• Help students find books and articles on their research topic, and help them develop effective search strategies and practices
• Show them how to efficiently and effectively navigate the wealth of resources available across the University of Toronto Library system

For details, see: uoft.me/personal-librarians

Personal Librarians hosted a meet-and-greet on Tuesday, Sept. 4 in the Inforum, as part of Orientation Day.

Looking for help with research? Ask us

With Nalini’s return from sabbatical, reference services have also returned to the Inforum. From answering quick, factual questions, to in-depth
consultations, make use of services such as research consultations and literature searches for research projects.

Graduate students sometimes hesitate to ask us questions, believing that they should already know how to do research. However, we believe that having an approachable, knowledgeable reference librarian specialized in the Faculty of Information’s disciplines can contribute to your success, regardless of how far along you are in your academic career.

For details, see: uoft.me/inforum-reference

**Recommend a title**

The Inforum collects library resources about information and heritage studies in a variety of publication formats. Our team consults many sources in order to acquire the resources. We always welcome your recommendations, whether they are for ebooks, films, kits, or print material. To submit a recommendation: uoft.me/inforum-recommend-title

**New way to pay for printing and copying with TCard+**

Printing or photocopying in the Inforum? Over the summer, the online TCard+ service, with its ‘swipe and pay’ method, was rolled out across the St. George campus, replacing the old chip reader system. Instead of adding funds to TCards through the cash-to-card machines at Robarts Library, you now add funds to your TCard online. Your current TCard is already enabled in the TCard+ system. Visit tcardplus.utoronto.ca, and login using your UTORid and password in order to access your account.

If you are a returning student, and you have money left on your TCard under the old chip system, you will need to visit the Reader Registration Desk at Robarts Library to have your balance transferred to the new system.

**Goodbye Portal, hello Quercus**

Quercus (q.utoronto.ca) replaced Blackboard (portal.utoronto.ca) as the new learning management engine on Sept. 1, 2018. To help you learn the new LME, the Inforum is holding drop-in sessions every Friday, 12:30-1:30 pm in room 418, throughout September. These drop-in sessions are your chance to ask questions. They are hosted by Anna Oh, Course Support and Public Services Technician, who has been working with the University and Faculty of Information instructors on this transition. If you are unable to attend a drop-in session, you can email Anna for help at anna.oh@utoronto.ca.

**Tech Loan highlights**

The Inforum has added new devices to its Tech Loan collection over the summer. Tech Loan purchases are made possible through the Student Tech Fund. Collection highlights:

**Google Cardboard V2 VR Headset**

The Cardboard V2 features a 45° viewing angle and a 50mm focal length. It’s one of the lightest VR headsets around. Available for 2-day loan.
Rode Microphone
This is a compact, directional, on-camera microphone that is great for recording broadcast-quality audio, due to a capsule form that is designed for lower noise and higher sensitivity. Available for 2-day loan.

Logitech k810 Bluetooth Keyboard
This backlit keyboard features triple-device simultaneous connectivity and easy switching between connecting to your laptop, tablet, and smartphone. It can connect wirelessly up to 9 metres away, and supports both Android and iOS mobile devices. Available for 3-day loan.

Apple Lightning to HDMI or VGA adapters
These adapters can output your iPhone’s display to another monitor. The adapters also provide another Lightning port to connect to accessories or to charge your device while connected to a monitor. Available for 1-day loan.

Our Tech Loan collection is available exclusively to currently enrolled Faculty of Information students. Complete list at: uoft.me/inforum-tech-loans.

Specialized software needs
The Inforum maintains a list of available software applications on computers in the Bissell building. Visit our Software page to find out where to go for the software that you need, uoft.me/inforum-software.

Certain applications are only available at other U of T library locations. For example, the Map and Data Library maintains specialized GIS, data analysis, and information visualization software on its reference and computer lab workstations, along with an extensive list of online tutorials.

Visit iRelax, a mindfulness resource area
iRelax resides on the 4th floor of the Inforum. This area aims to facilitate the development and/or expansion of wellness toolkits, by connecting our community to secular mindfulness resources. These include ethically and sustainably made yoga mats, cushions, blocks, and benches, as well as technology and links to on-campus learning opportunities.

The iRelax model was developed by Kathleen Scheaffer, Outreach and Instructional Services Librarian, stemming from research that she conducted during her sabbatical in 2015/16. In partnership with Robarts librarians and staff, she and her colleagues were awarded a Chief Librarian’s Innovation Grant to extend and expand the iRelax model to Robarts Library. Their efforts have resulted in the launch of Robarts’ 8th floor Reflection Room, a multi-use room for religious, spiritual, and secular
practices including prayer, meditation, yoga, and mindfulness.

iRelax has been featured on the UTL Instagram (instagram.com/uoflibraries), U of T Bulletin (utoronto.ca/bulletin), and in the U of T’s 2017-2018 Sustainability Yearbook (uoft.me/SustainYB1718).

Mindful Moments

Kathleen will be sharing her expertise facilitating mindfulness meditation, through the return of the popular Mindful Moments drop-in sessions. These drop-ins will be held every Tuesday, 12:10-12:40 pm in room 520, beginning in the third week of September. Mindful Moments are also offered at other U of T locations. Visit uoft.me/mindfulmoments to find out more about how you can increase your relaxation, resilience, and focus through secular meditation techniques.

Art in the Inforum

This past summer, Lari Langford, Interim Director, worked with the University of Toronto Art Centre (UTAC) to select art for the walls of the Inforum. Erica Chi, Collections Assistant at UTAC (Summer 2018) and Inforum Student Assistant (2018/2019) helped with the selection of the art, and oversaw the installation of the works. Come view the pieces mounted throughout the 4th and 5th floors.

Sustainability at the Inforum

Seed library

Gardeners: if you have been saving seeds from your summer and fall harvest, and would like to donate some of those seeds to our seed library, you can. Simply fill out the brief donation form (located at our seed library on the 4th floor) to tell us something about the seeds. Please include the type, place, and year in which you saved them. (e.g. Borage, Hart House Garden, 2012). Details: uoft.me/inforum-seed-library
Green notebooks
The Inforum has revitalized its 2013 Green Notebook initiative with a new design launched in celebration of Earth Day 2018. Green Notebooks are coil-bound notebooks made with paper retrieved from recycling bins that have at least one side blank. They are free, green, and make for convenient note-taking material for the Faculty of Information community.

We will be giving away a free Green Notebook to the first 20 people who come by the Inforum Information Desk on Friday, Sept. 7, at 12 pm to ask for one. Supplies are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

We continue to collect usable recycled paper for future batches of Green Notebooks. Make a donation in the Inforum, via the bin located at the front, underneath our digital sign.

Criteria:
• Letter size paper (8 ½ × 11 inch) with at least one blank side
• Bearing NO sensitive information:
  □ No names
  □ No personal information, such as address, email, or phone number
  □ No financial information
  □ No academic or other information that would otherwise be confidential

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Research at the Inforum

History of the library of the Faculty of Information
Nalini Singh spent her sabbatical researching the history of the Faculty of Information’s library and its predecessors, from 1928 to 2008. She will continue to work on this project for some time to come, and has just received the welcome news that her research ethics protocol has been renewed for another year. A brief history of the Inforum can be found at inforum.library.utoronto.ca/about/history.

History of settlement house libraries in Toronto
Elisa Sze spent her sabbatical researching the history of Toronto’s
settlement house libraries, using primary sources held at City of Toronto Archives, Toronto Public Library, UTARMS, and UIC Chicago. She presented a poster at the OLA Super Conference 2018, and gave a paper at this year’s Canadian Historical Association Annual Meeting, held at the University of Regina.

**Digital Tattoo**

Digital Tattoo, founded in 2008 at University of British Columbia (UBC), is a digital identity literacy initiative that engages students in critical thinking regarding their online consumption and production. In 2015, Kathleen Scheaffer, on behalf of the Faculty and the Inforum, established a partnership with the Digital Tattoo Project, digitaltattoo.ubc.ca/.

As the U of T Strategic Co-Lead on the project, Kathleen provides strategic direction, structure, mentorship, and guidance for student contributors. This partnership is now in its third year of providing Faculty of Information students with cross-institutional opportunities to collaborate and contribute to the crucial and evolving digital identity conversation, through education, digital object curation, and advocacy endeavors.

Connect with DT via

- digitaltattoo
- DTatUBC
- digital.tattoo.project

**Kathleen Scheaffer elected to UTFA executive as VP, Salaries, Benefits, Pensions & Workload (SBPW)**

Kathleen was recently elected to the University of Toronto Faculty Association (UTFA) Council as Vice-President, SBPW. Her term runs from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2020. She is the first librarian, as well as the first woman, to hold this position at UTFA in nearly 30 years. She previously served from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2018 as the Chair of the Librarians Committee at UTFA.

UTFA is an independent body that represents and advocates for its faculty and librarian members at the University of Toronto, as outlined in the Memorandum of Agreement between the Governing Council of the University of Toronto and the University of Toronto Faculty Association (https://www.utfa.org/sites/default/files/UTFA-MoA-2016.pdf).

**Food for Fines, Nov. 26-Dec. 7**

The Inforum will once again support the U of T Food and Clothing Bank through participation in the ‘Food for Fines’ program. From Nov. 26 to Dec. 7, we will waive $2 of library fines in exchange for a non-perishable food item (maximum $20 waived). Even if you don’t have any fines, you can still donate. Most needed items include: baby food, canned fruits, canned fish, plain beans (no sauce), canned vegetables, juice boxes, salad dressings, and condiments. Details will be posted in the Inforum closer to the date.
Clothing drive

The Inforum will also be participating in the Annual Clothing, Food, and Toy Drive that is jointly hosted by Housing Services, the Family Care Office, and the University of Toronto Students’ Union. The exact dates of the drive, and details on how to participate will become available later in the Fall semester.

Inforum Users Advisory Committee

The Inforum team is pleased to announce the formation of the Inforum Users’ Advisory Committee in 2018/2019. The purpose of this committee is to provide a forum for the community to engage with Inforum librarians, library technicians, and student assistants, and to provide feedback on services, programs, resources, and spaces. Committee members’ input will inform current and future Inforum endeavours. Membership will reflect the Faculty of Information community, including Inforum team members, students, faculty, and alumni. While the Inforum team always welcomes comments and feedback, whether in person, by email, or anonymously through our online Suggestion Box (uoft.me/suggestion-box), the Advisory Committee is part of our ongoing commitment to openness and accountability to our users. More information regarding the Advisory Committee will be made available in the Fall 2018 semester.