

UBC LIBRARY

2023/24 Senate Report



THE UNIVERSITY
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Library

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Message from the University Librarian

2023/2024 has been a year of milestone moments for the library. Our Conservation Space welcomed the inaugural conservator from Fudan University for a 100-day visit, as part of a cultural and knowledge exchange. We celebrated 30 years at X̱wi7̱x̱wa Library with the First Nations Longhouse. Construction on the Chung | Lind Gallery continued throughout the year in anticipation of its official opening in April 2024.

However, these celebrations may feel cut short as the 2024/2025 fiscal year has begun, and the library is left without the same level of financial support we rely on from the university. UBC Library did not receive all of the supplemental funding that has typically been distributed to us by the university each year. Historically, this supplemental funding has covered PTR and merit, 2% of the collection cost towards inflation, and the dollars needed to cover the exchange rate, which was higher than predicted. The library is also a major student employer at UBC, and we rely on the Work Learn program to help subsidize these positions. Due to reduced funding of the Work Learn program and an increase in proposal applications campus-wide, the library did not achieve full funding for our student positions this year, reducing our overall workforce.

All of this has contributed to the library's current situation. Library hours will be impacted to mitigate the loss of funds and increased costs, and more changes may be necessary. Our focus, as ever, is on the basic maintenance of library services and facilities, and we are fortunate to have time to think about solutions this year that will allow us to make deliberate, data-driven choices going forward.

Under these new financial pressures, this report is likely to look very different next year.

UBC Library and the Inclusion Action Plan

The library finalizes a three-year Library Equity and Inclusion Action Plan, based on the principles of the UBC Inclusion Action Plan (IAP). The plan prioritizes 14 different project areas, including updates to hiring, training and professional development, internal operations processes, improving space and accessibility within library facilities, and more. The work identified in this plan can make a tangible, lasting impact on equity-deserving groups who work at or use the library.

UBC Library's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Scholars-in-Residence program enters its second year, welcoming three new Scholars to the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre for the 2023/2024 academic year.



UBC Library and the Indigenous Strategic Plan

The library develops a basic Indigenous reference training workshop to address the growing demand and expand capacity for Indigenous reference help across the UBC Library system. In August 2023, three live training sessions are offered, attended by nearly 50 UBC Library employees, for whom this work directly intersects with their job duties. A second roll-out is offered in March 2023 specifically for student librarians and UBC iSchool students.

In March 2024, the Library Leadership Team participates in the first of three meetings devoted to working through the Indigenous Strategic Plan (ISP) Intent to Action Tool. Through this work, the library can meaningfully engage with the ISP by identifying goals, actions, and activities that fall within our sphere of influence.





**Advance research,
learning and scholarship**

UBC Open Educational Resource Project Virtual Showcase

UBC Library, UBC Okanagan Library and the UBC Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology host a virtual showcase event for open educational resource creators, introducing a new way for faculty, staff, and students to learn about these innovative projects.



Education Library supports community field experience

As a community field experience partner, the Education Library offers teacher candidates the opportunity to explore a non-traditional educational space. Teacher candidates work directly with UBC librarians to develop projects that align with ongoing initiatives at the branch that can tie into their future work as teachers.



William Shakespeare's First Folio being digitized at UBC Library

First Folios Compared

UBC Library supports landmark Open Access project First Folios Compared by contributing the digitized version of UBC's first edition of *William Shakespeare's Comedies, Histories, & Tragedies* to a collection of 47 unique digital folios, sourced from 23 locations. As a participating institution, UBC Library joins a distinguished, global list of contributors.



Shakespeare xR

UBC Library supports Shakespeare xR, an innovative project spearheaded by UBC's Emerging Media Lab and the UBC Department of Theatre and Film. Using the library's digitized version of UBC's First Folio, Shakespeare xR reimagines classic Shakespearean characters across different technological media such as web-based augmented reality, artificial intelligence and an interactive touch table.



William Shakespeare's First Folio



Photographs Conservation workshop

UBC Library's Conservation Space hosts conservator Chloé Lucas for a two-day workshop on archival photograph identification, conservation and preservation. Following a lecture on photographic processes, conservation treatments and condition reporting, participants spend time in the Conversation Space, getting hands-on practice.

Photographs Conservation workshop with Chloé Lucas





Canadian Certificate in Digital Humanities

UBC Library announces a new partnership with the Canadian Certificate in Digital Humanities/Certificat canadien en humanités numériques (cc:DH/HN), which offers a certificate for those participating in non-curricular digital humanities workshops. Eligible workshops offered by the UBC Library Research Commons can now count towards completion of this new certificate.

Fundraising for the future

Donor support enables the library to enhance student learning, helps researchers find answers and advances knowledge to its fullest potential. Donations can help build spaces, connect ideas, and allow the library to provide a margin of excellence beyond what public dollars provide.

HOW DONORS CONNECT WITH US



**Numbers reflect the fundraising efforts for UBC Library's Vancouver campus only*

TOTAL FUNDS RAISED*

\$1.1M

NUMBER OF GIFTS

422

FUNDS RAISED

\$393K

Gifts-in-kind

\$518K

Pledges

\$232K

Outright donations



Engage with communities

WE ARE HUMAN!: Documentary film screening and panel discussion

Air Travel Decision Tree

With greenhouse gas emissions still on the rise globally, faculty and staff at UBC are weighing the ethical impacts of work-related air travel. UBC Library builds a two-page framework document that guides individuals through the decision-making process for work-related air travel. The Air Travel Decision Trees gains momentum through other faculty-led sustainability groups across the university.



Carbon emissions workshop

UBC's Climate Action Plan (CAP 2030) includes goals toward significantly reducing greenhouse gas emissions on both campuses by 2030. With funding provided by a UBC Library Innovation Grant, the library holds a workshop on finding ways to lower carbon emissions. Workshop participants discover where emissions exist in libraries and what changes we can make to have the most impact.



NOIE partnership

UBC Library's Irving K. Barber Learning Centre reflects on 10 years as a funding partner for the Networks of Inquiry and Indigenous Education (NOIE) and the critical role this organization fulfills at participating schools and school districts across British Columbia.



Networks of Inquiry and Indigenous Education (NOIE)

Xwi7xwa Library 30th anniversary

In honour of the First Nations Longhouse and Xwi7xwa Library's 30th anniversary, the First Nations House of Learning and the library jointly hold an open house. The UBC community is invited to participate in self-guided tours and informative talks with faculty and staff.



Xwi7xwa Library



WE ARE HUMAN!: Documentary film screening and panel discussion

UBC Asian Library and the Department of Asian Studies host a film screening and panel discussion of *Watashitachi wa Ningen da!* (*We are Human!*). This award-winning film interrogates Japan's immigration policies and casts reflections on British Columbia's relationship with its migrant foreign workers.

WE ARE HUMAN!: Documentary film screening and panel discussion





Supporting Vancouver Black Library's outreach and expansion

UBC Library and the Vancouver Black Library (VBL) gain grant funding through UBC Community Engagement's Partnership Recognition and Exploration (PRE) Fund, which will support programming and outreach events at the VBL in addition to the expansion of the collection's bookshelves.

Coast Salish Two-Spirit Pride Mosaic installed

A new installation is revealed at an event hosted by the First Nations House of Learning. The Coast Salish Two-Spirit Pride Mosaic is a visual representation of Coast Salish Two-Spirit unity, dignity and respect designed by x̣ṃəθḳ'əỵəm (Musqueam) artist ḳ'əlasəltən (Mack Paul). This installation is a collaboration between the Equity & Inclusion Office, Campus + Community Planning with support from First Nations House of Learning and ̣wi7̣wa Library.



Artist ḳ'əlasəltən (Mack Paul) at the Coast Salish Two-Spirit Pride Mosaic installation



Word Vancouver Reading & Writing Festival 2023

UBC Library and Word Vancouver are awarded a grant of \$5,000 from UBC Connects at Robson Square. Funded by the grant, the Word Vancouver Literary Festival 2023 is part of the university's efforts to host free, accessible programming and help transition UBC Robson Square into a centre of public engagement.



Kayla Lar-Son, Acting Head of ̣wi7̣wa Library



Create and deliver responsive collections

Japanese manuscripts and calligraphy works

PAEI resources

UBC faculty, staff and students now have access to an extensive list of new digital archives, databases, ebooks, print resources and more through UBC Library, thanks to funding provided by the UBC President's Academic Excellence Initiative (PAEI). The PAEI was established to increase the complement of UBC's research faculty and fund much needed academic support and infrastructure investments, including essential new library resources.



Rare Japanese manuscripts and calligraphy works

UBC Library acquires several rare titles as part of its Japanese Collections, thanks in part to support provided by the David Graham Memorial Fund. Digital copies of two of these titles are openly accessible to the public through UBC Open Collections.



Archival descriptions for the Wallace B. Chung and Madeline H. Chung Collection

UBC Library Rare Books and Special Collections library staff translate archival descriptions for the Wallace B. Chung and Madeline H. Chung Collection from English into Chinese. These translations improve accessibility of this collection for Chinese-speaking researchers and community members.



The Paper Trail project digital collection

UBC Library Rare Books and Special Collections partners with The Paper Trail project team to create a digital archival collection of Chinese Immigration (C.I.) certificates. These identity papers were created while Canada's Chinese Immigration Act was in force from 1885 to 1947. Over 500 C.I. certificates were collected as scans by community historian and curator, Catherine Clement, for the Paper Trail project. The digital archive enables community researchers, students and faculty to easily access and learn from this resource.





YWCA Metro Vancouver Archives

UBC Library Rare Books and Special Collections partners with YWCA Metro Vancouver to catalogue and preserve over 125 years of YWCA records, dating back to the organization's origins in the region. With grant funding provided by the UBC Community University Engagement Support (CUES) Fund, this archival project makes these records freely available to the public and research communities.

Malcolm Lowry Manuscripts Collection

UBC Library Rare Books and Special Collections announces the (re) launch of the landmark Malcolm Lowry Manuscripts Collection, one of UBC's oldest keystone research collections. As one of the largest single collections of Malcolm Lowry records worldwide, the collection spans more than six meters of textual records, over 1,000 photographs and a variety of audio-visual materials.

Lowry and Margerie on a street from the Malcolm Lowry Manuscripts Collection



UBC Library at a glance

VANCOUVER CAMPUS

59K

TOTAL PATRON QUESTIONS

9.3K

ONLINE PATRON QUESTIONS

1.1K

GROUP PRESENTATIONS

32.2K

PRESENTATION PARTICIPANTS

4M

TOTAL E-BOOKS

5.7M

TOTAL PHYSICAL ITEMS

2.7M

IN-PERSON VISITS*

8.6M

WEBSITE VISITS

* Excludes UBC Okanagan and Ƴwi7Ƴwa Library

Association of
Research Libraries
ranking, 2022

24

UBC Library
E-Resource usage*

101,943

Unique users

5,679,846

Number of logins

56

Average logins per user

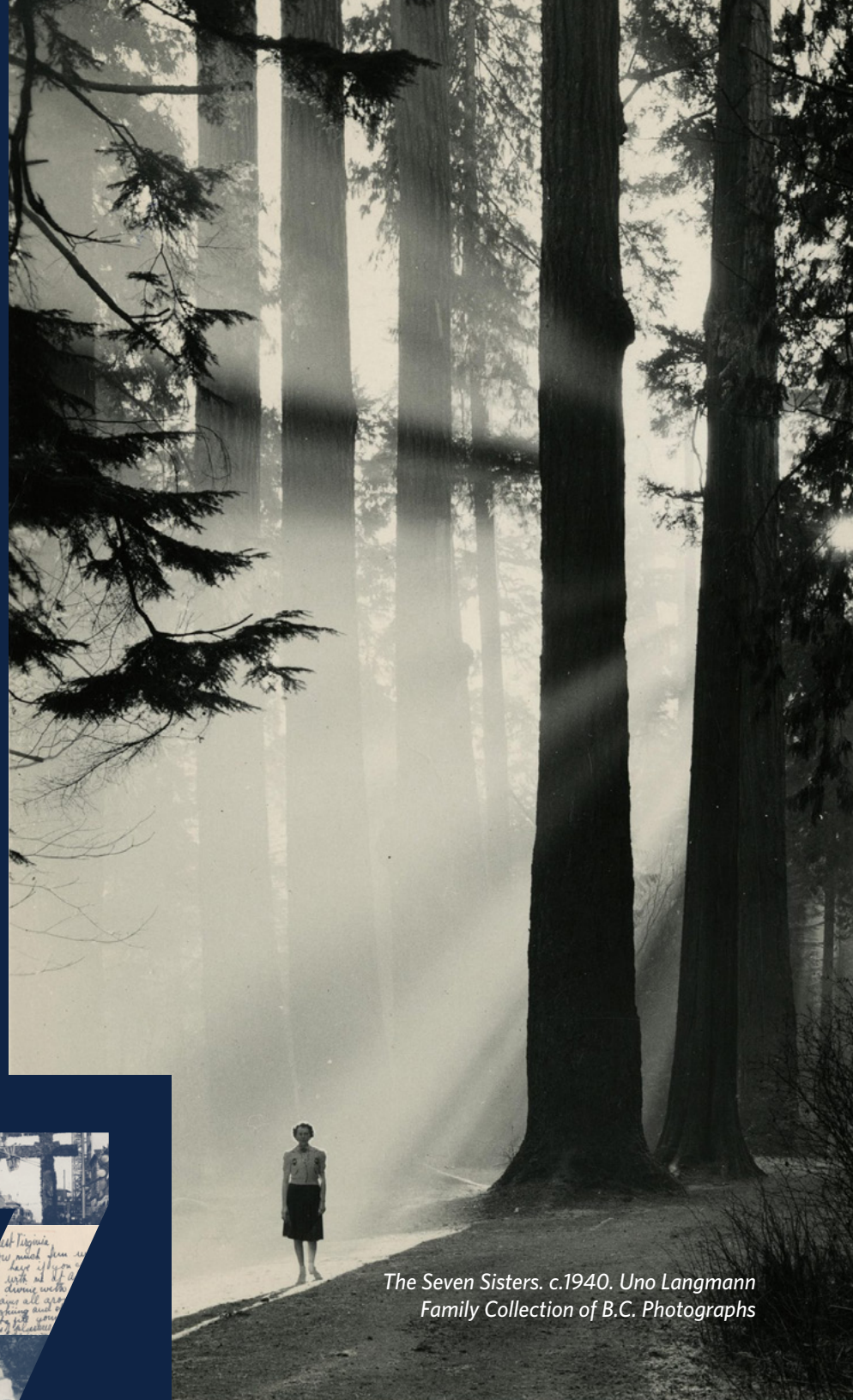
*Based on data for 10 months in FY 2023/24



Langmann Collection Photo exhibition

UBC Library Rare Books and Special Collections launches a collaborative exhibition of photographs from the Uno Langmann Family Collection of British Columbia Photographs on display across UBC Library branches for the 2023 Fall term. The collection, donated by Uno and Dianne Langmann and Uno Langmann Limited, consists of more than 20,000 rare and unique early photographs from the 1850s to the 1970s.

Top: Queen's Academy, Victoria. c.1905.
Uno Langmann Family Collection
of B.C. Photographs



The Seven Sisters. c.1940. Uno Langmann
Family Collection of B.C. Photographs

Statement of revenue & expenditures

VANCOUVER CAMPUS

FISCAL YEAR APRIL 1, 2023 - MARCH 31, 2024

	SALARIES	BENEFITS	COLLECTIONS	OTHER	TOTAL	REVENUE	SURPLUS/ DEFICIT
Programs	21,528,941	4,621,477	19,873,775	3,595,650	49,619,843	50,944,749	1,324,906
Grants	2,811	421	0	148,383	151,615	156,409	4,794
Gifts	230,113	40,737	561,923	71,489	904,262	934,683	30,421
Project	(58,774)	(12,182)	0	188,993	118,037	149,821	31,784
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	21,703,091	4,650,453	20,435,698	4,004,516	50,793,757	52,185,662	1,391,905

LIBRARY EXPENDITURES

43%

SALARIES

40%

COLLECTIONS

9%

BENEFITS

8%

OTHER



Inspire with innovative spaces and services

UBC Asian Library

Meditation at the library

UBC Library hosts lightwork meditation workshops at Woodward Library, and guided meditation walks at UBC's octagonal labyrinth, to help bring together the UBC community in the practice of mindfulness, self-reflection, and meditation. During exam periods, the Chapman Learning Commons pilots a new pop-up meditation space in the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre for students and other patrons to re-group thoughts and pray as needed.



Access to new citation management tool

The Library Technology, Discovery, and User Experience team upgrades all staff and public workstations at the library with a new citation management tool, Juris-M. The specialized open-source tool is created for legal research and multilingual scholarship.



Digital Media Lab and Leith Wheeler Lab upgrades

David Lam Management Research Library and Canaccord Learning Commons make upgrades to three lab spaces, including the Leith Wheeler Investment Research Lab, the Digital Media Lab, and Sound Recording Room, at the UBC Sauder School of Business. Upgrades to the audio-visual system and computer equipment provide users with a faster, more seamless lab experience.

IKBLC Level 2 Learning Concourse upgrades

The Irving K. Barber Learning Centre opens their newly renovated Level 2 Learning Concourse. The space features upgraded seating, larger tables and plenty of power outlets for individual and group study. Students can choose from different types of seating whether they are studying alone, working on a group project or attending an online lecture.



Level 2 Learning Concourse in the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre (IKBLC)



Asian Library renovations

UBC Asian Library benefits from two substantial renovation projects on both the upper and main floors of the branch, completed earlier this year. The reimagined space includes extensive improvements to seating and study spaces, much needed repairs, and an overhaul of the book collection stacks and displays.

Upper floor of UBC Asian Library





Writing Consultation expansion

The Centre for Writing and Scholarly Communication expands to offer in-person writing consultations at four UBC Library Vancouver locations. Students can meet with one of 15 writing consultants from a variety of disciplines to receive feedback on research articles, dissertation chapters, manuscripts for publication and more.



Seed Lending Library expansion

ᐱwi7ᐱwa Library joins the UBC Seed Lending Library and establishes a seed collection, attracting new members to the group. The Seed Lending Library actively supports community engagement and the Indigenous Strategic Plan. Academically, it continues to collaborate with UBC Orchard Garden to support the Faculty of Education.



UBC Seed Lending Library at UBC Education Library



Fudan University Conservator arrives for 100-day visit

Yan Li, librarian and rare books conservator from Fudan University, China, arrives for a 100-day stay at UBC, as part of a cultural and knowledge partnership between UBC Library and Fudan University. This inaugural visit to UBC Library's Conservation Space is the result of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the two institutions that supports the exchange of Eastern and Western conservation knowledge and skills. During her visit, Li works on items from the Puban Collection and other materials held in UBC Asian Library's collections, documenting her process, and sharing techniques with UBC Conservator Anne Lama.



Steward the Organization

Yan Li, librarian and rare books conservator from Fudan University, China



Asian Library Research Lens

UBC Asian Library hosts a new event to highlight how researchers are engaging with the branch's collections and services. Attendees get a view into a Master of Arts thesis in History that explores the aftermath of the 1906 Hong Kong Typhoon, and a presentation on the Japanese Language Program's Tadoku Reading Club at UBC.



UBC librarians contribute to National Advocacy Framework for Open Educational Resources

Erin Fields, Open Education and Scholarly Communications Librarian, and Kayla Lar-son, Acting Head of ̱wi7̱wa Library contribute to the National Advocacy Framework for Open Educational Resources in Canada, a collaborative effort facilitated by the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL) between a diverse group of open educational resource practitioners and experts from Canada's post-secondary education system.



Kayla Lar-Son,
Acting Head of ̱wi7̱wa Library

UBC Okanagan Library highlights

In 2023, Robert Janke became interim Chief Librarian and was later awarded the role of Deputy University Librarian. After staff-wide consultation, UBCO Library's strategic framework was updated and affirmed. The librarians and archivist taught nearly 200 learning sessions, co-authored 14 journal articles, and delivered 32 conference sessions. There was an increase in writing, language, and Academic Integrity Matters appointments and attendance at events in the Student Learning Hub. The Centre for Scholarly Communication provided data and writing consultations, diversified workshop offerings, spearheaded a grant program, bolstered research data support, and developed

online resources. Okanagan Special Collections continued to increase community engagement and partnered with En'owkin Centre to support the Bachelor of Nsyilxcn Language Fluency program. The makerspace saw a significant increase in use, including tours and events. Other highlights included: BC Heritage Walk, a discussion about 2SLGBTQIA+ history in Kelowna, student Zine Fair, and the Legacy of Hope Foundation Exhibition.

Find out more in the:
[2023-2024 Report to UBC Okanagan Senate](#)

Acknowledgments

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University Librarian

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14: Networks of Inquiry and Indigenous Education (NOIIE)
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UBCO Library & Acknowledgements



Exterior view of the UBC Okanagan campus



THE UNIVERSITY
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Library