

Institutional Strategic Research Plan 2018-2023

Executive Summary

The [Institutional Strategic Research Plan](#) expresses our core commitment to supporting excellence in research and innovation across our three campuses and with our community partners. The Plan highlights the scope of scholarship at the University of Toronto (U of T) and identifies seven thematic areas designed to facilitate excellence and collaboration both within U of T and with partner organizations and to address issues of local, national, and global importance. The Plan provides support and direction but is not meant to limit individual faculty member or divisional research priorities.

Themes and Examples of Sub-themes



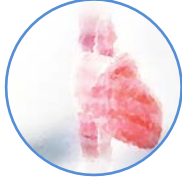
DISCOVER: Our Understanding of Humanity and the Universe

- *Enriching Fundamental Knowledge*
- *Mind, Brain, and the Human*
- *Planet Earth and the Cosmos*
- *Origins of Human Diversity*



SUSTAIN: Societies, the Environment and Natural Resources

- *Global Climate Change*
- *Sustainable Societies*
- *Sustainable Energy and Cleantech*



PROMOTE: Healthy People, Healthy Communities and a Healthy World

- *Human Development and Health Through the Lifespan*
- *Molecular Medicine and The Biology of Disease*
- *Global Health, Public Health and Health Systems*



ENGAGE: Language, Culture, Art, Values

- *Communicating in the Digital Era*
- *Values in Personal and Public Life*
- *Art, Design and Performance*



ADVANCE: Governance, Diversity, and Social Justice

- *The Knowledge Economy and the Global Village*
- *Peace, Conflict, Inclusiveness, Justice*
- *Law, Ethics, and the Digital Interface*



INNOVATE: Technologies for the Future

- *Data, Analytics, Computation and Artificial Intelligence*
- *Simulation and Imaging*
- *Robotics, Autonomous Technologies and Advanced Manufacturing*



BUILD: Community and Livable Societies

- *Liveable Cities*
- *Human Rights and Diversity*
- *Migration, Internationalization, Multiculturalism and Identity*

Strategic Research Objectives

The Plan identifies five strategic objectives to enable U of T to continue to increase its research excellence. These objectives are informed by key societal challenges and demonstrate a commitment to collaborate with key partners in supporting the design and implementation of research programs that will mobilize knowledge and strengthen Canada's position in the global knowledge economy. These commitments and relationships form the backdrop to our strategic research objectives, which will guide our actions and performance measures over the course of the Institutional Strategic Research Plan. The objectives also complement those of the academic divisions, which will continue to develop their own more detailed plans, goals, actions, and performance measures.

- 1. Demonstrate National and Global Leadership in Research and Innovation**
- 2. Foster Collaborations, Partnerships, and Engagement**
- 3. Advance Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Across Research and Innovation**
- 4. Support Integration of Research and Innovation in Student Curricular and Co-Curricular Experience**
- 5. Strengthen the Institutional Supports that Foster Research and Innovation Excellence**

Executive Summary

From Discovery to Impact

University of Toronto's Institutional Strategic Research Plan 2024-2029

From Discovery to Impact: University of Toronto's Institutional Strategic Research Plan 2024-2029 is the key document that expresses our core commitments to research excellence, providing direction for supporting scholarship by identifying strategic opportunities and enabling actions.

This strategic plan is the result of extensive internal and external consultations and builds upon our previous successful plans. It draws upon the strategic plans of our academic divisions and partner hospitals and is informed by the institutional priorities articulated in U of T's [Towards 2030](#) and the [Three Priorities](#). It is a requirement of the Canada Research Chairs (CRC) program and a non-adjudicated component of several other federal funding programs.

Core research and innovation values

These values hold broad consensus and will underpin our institutional research and innovation strategy for the next five years.

1. Pursuing research and innovation that solve global grand challenges
2. Advancing equity, diversity and inclusion
3. Promoting an environment that centres inclusive excellence and integrity
4. Enabling the pursuit of new fields of research and groundbreaking innovations
5. Building collaborations and partnerships with communities, organizations, industry and other universities
6. Working towards reconciliation with First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples and communities

Strategic objectives

Our strategic objectives will inform and propel U of T's research and innovation and performance measures over the next five years.

1. Lead nationally and globally in research and innovation
2. Provide institutional supports to empower scholars to do their best research
3. Enable, train and support the next generation of researchers and innovators
4. Promote all stages of research from idea to discovery, translation and impact
5. Cultivate an environment to leverage opportunities and foster collaboration and partnerships

Research themes

U of T's thematic research areas engage the community and our partners as they work to solve fundamental questions and find solutions to some of the most pressing challenges that face humanity.

1. Expanding our fundamental knowledge of living organisms and the universe
2. Exploring cultures and communication
3. Advancing health and well-being
4. Innovating technology
5. Developing community, policy, pedagogies and governance