The Harvard Libraries reflect the complex world of scholarship and information in the 21st century. Harvard’s libraries acquire, disseminate, and preserve information in all the forms in which it is created. Harvard’s library holdings range from traditional print collections to rapidly expanding inventories of digital resources. It is the work of the Harvard Libraries to provide the University’s faculty, students, and researchers—now and in the future—with comprehensive access over time to all of these materials.

A major part of our task is to integrate our resources with systems and services everywhere. In the digital world, boundaries fall away. One of the great successes of the Harvard Libraries is that boundaries separating the University’s various faculties have fallen, and the Harvard Libraries function as a single library system, shared by all at Harvard. Our continuing task is to break down barriers with the rest of the world.

The University’s library buildings, so significant to the fabric of the Harvard campus, once seemed to exist as monumental repositories for books and quiet spaces for study and reflection. The books are still in the stacks and our students are still reading them in relative peace. But today, Harvard’s libraries function as meeting spaces; as a nexus for technologies, old and new; and as a primary location for academic discourse beyond the classroom.

As Mary Lee Kennedy, executive director of the Business School’s Baker Library, observes, “HBS benefits from the spectrum of information sources provided through the work of Baker Library, and anchored in the building renovation. With both traditional library materials and real-time electronic information available on multiple media devices, the complexity inherent in today’s information environment is reflected in the role Baker plays in the HBS intellectual community. Our students and faculty navigate a rapidly expanding universe of information. Baker librarians are part of the research, course development, and teaching processes to ensure information is provided in the appropriate context.”

Today’s library brings its services directly to the classroom. The College Library is creating a teaching module for the Expository Writing Program, which is required of all first-year students. This module is spearheaded by Lynda Leahy, associate librarian of Harvard College for research and instruction. “This is a tremendous opportunity,” Leahy notes, “to reach all first-year students, instruct them about library resources, and help them to develop essential research skills.”

“Technology,” as Harvard’s Provost Steven E. Hyman reminds us, “will continue to challenge us and to tax us.” What is fascinating about the new role of the Library is that much of it depends on the advent of digital capacity—but digital capacity that is connected to our traditional collections. The news is good and the level of service that we provide—always increasing—is truly excellent. Nonetheless, serious challenges face the Harvard Libraries every day.

Harvard’s library collections must expand in different directions and in added dimensions. The University is committed to collecting traditional materials in print and digital materials for which, in some cases, no printed version exists. Regardless of their format, collections require careful, long-term preservation to ensure that future generations have access to our retrospective holdings.

The collections must support traditional concentrations as well as newer disciplines, such as African American studies and film. Regional collections—notably for Africa and Southeast Asia—must grow, and, in every area of the sciences, they must deepen. The collections overall must reflect and respond to the University’s commitment to globalization.

New challenges will continue to arise. With new levels of support from alumniae and friends—the kind of generous support reflected in this publication—the Harvard Libraries will grow in global importance, and future generations of Harvard students will benefit from its breadth and depth.

“Excellence is not an act but a habit.” I can think of nowhere at Harvard where Aristotle’s definition of excellence is more applicable than our libraries. Harvard’s magnificent holdings of books—15.5 million volumes at last count—are rooted in John Harvard’s bequest of 400 books. Today, Harvard’s library holdings are the result of careful selection, ongoing preservation, and sustained support from alumniae and friends.

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2005 The Year in Review

The Harvard–Google Project

As 2005 began, Harvard University embarked on a collaboration with Google that would harness Google’s search technology to provide to both the Harvard community and the larger public a revolutionary new information location tool to find materials available in libraries. Over the course of the year, Google collaborated with Harvard’s libraries on a pilot project to digitize more than 40,000 of the 15.5 million volumes held in the University’s library system. The successful pilot project led to a continuing collaboration with Google that is expected to bring more than a million of Harvard’s public-domain library books to users of the Internet.

Radcliffe’s Schlesinger Library Reopens Following $7 Million Renovation

After an extensive renovation, the Arthur and Elizabeth Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America reopened on February 2, according to Nancy F. Cott, the History of Women in America reopened on February 2, according to Nancy F. Cott, the History of Women in America reopened on February 2, according to Nancy F. Cott, the History of Women in America reopened on February 2, according to Nancy F. Cott, the History of Women in America reopened on February 2, according to Nancy F. Cott, the History of Women in America reopened on February 2, according to Nancy F. Cott, the History of Women in America reopened on February 2, according to Nancy F. Cott, the History of Women in America reopened on February 2, according to Nancy F. Cott, the History of Women in America reopened on February 2, according to Nancy F. Cott, the History of Women in America reopened on February 2, according to Nancy F. Cott, the History of Women in America reopened on February 2, according to Nancy F. Cott, the History of Women in America reopened on February 2, according to Nancy F. Cott, the

Harvard Libraries Offer “Table of Contents” Service

On March 1, the Harvard Libraries web site launched a new “Table of Contents” service, which provides library patrons with e-mail alerts based on the tables of contents for new issues of approximately 15,000 print and electronic journals purchased or licensed by the Harvard Libraries. Researchers can also request alerts for new article titles containing designated keywords or author names from any journals on the site.

E-Research @ Harvard Libraries

On June 30, the University launched a new set of tools for accessing and searching electronic resources on the Harvard Libraries web site (also known as “the portal”) located at http://lib.harvard.edu. The tools, known as E-Research @ Harvard Libraries, provide a new environment that allows Harvard users to find e-resources and e-journals.

Sidney Verba, the Carl H. Pforzheimer University Professor and Director of the University Library, noted that the MetaLib implementation uses a “Google-like” approach to simultaneous searches, based on keywords, for materials that have been selected and authenticated by the Harvard Libraries. “It’s an important next step,” Verba stated, “in the evolution of the Library’s search mechanisms in an information environment that’s increasingly rich and complex.”

Baker Renovation Completed

In September, Harvard Business School (HBS) reopened Baker Library, the grand historic building capped with a bell tower that has been the symbol of the School for over 75 years, marking the conclusion of an extensive two-year, $53.4 million renovation and expansion project. The iconic building, home to one of the world’s largest and most renowned business libraries, has been expanded from 130,000 to 168,000 square feet to accommodate a range of facilities, activities, and services that will support the preservation and exchange of knowledge and information among the members of the HBS community and that will better serve as a resource for scholars worldwide. “Although Baker has retained its traditional look throughout, it has also been updated to embrace the 21st century,” said Executive Director Mary Lee Kennedy. “In today’s world, the universe of information that must be at our fingertips goes far beyond the four walls of a traditional library.”

Kohane and McCray Will Lead Countway Library of Medicine

Harvard Medical School (HMS) Dean Joseph Martin has announced new leadership for the Countway Library of Medicine. Martin recently announced the appointment of a new director, Isaac Kohane, and a new deputy director, Alexa McCray, as part of a reorganization that will give the facility greater responsibility for new knowledge management resources. Kohane and McCray are recognized leaders in bioinformatics and digital library development. Kohane, HMS associate professor of pediatrics, is director of the Hospital Informatics Program at Children’s Hospital Boston. McCray, former director of the Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communications, directed the development of several national information resources, including ClinicalTrials.gov.

HCL’s Fung Library Opens

The H. C. Fung Library, the newest unit of the Harvard College Library’s Social Sciences Program (SSP), opened in October. Located on the concourse level of the Knafel Building in the Center for Government and International Studies (CGIS) complex on Cambridge Street, the Fung Library’s holdings focus on international politics, foreign relations, foreign policy, economics, and political science. Data reference and instruction services will be offered by Numeric Data Services, another SSP unit, and by the Harvard–MIT Data Center, which is adjacent to the Fung Library in the Knafel Building.

Open Collections Program Develops “Immigration to the United States, 1789–1930”

Drawing on the University’s extensive library and museum holdings, Harvard is developing a new online collection of historical materials entitled “Immigration to the United States, 1789–1930,” which will be freely available on the Internet. The collection is part of the Harvard University Library’s Open Collections Program (OCP), and it will provide Internet users with a multifaceted historical view of immigration to the United States from the American Revolution to the Great Depression. The collection is being developed with the generous support of the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, whose earlier support led to the creation of the Open Collections Program in 2002.

New Leaders for Courtyard: Isaac Kohane and Alexa McCray

Under the leadership of Kohane and McCray, the Courtyard will house a new HMS Center for Biomedical Informatics.

The Reading Room in the Schlesinger Library

Following an extensive renovation, Radcliffe’s Schlesinger Library reopened in February 2005.

A Silk Weaver

This 1913 photograph is by the noted photographer and social activist Lewis Wickes Hine is held in the Industrial Life Photograph Collection at Harvard Business School’s Baker Library and included in the Open Collections Program web site, “Women Working, 1880–1930.”

The Facade of the Business School’s Baker Library

Following the building’s two-year, $53.4 million renovation, Baker reopened in September.
In a world revolutionized by the proliferation of both digital and print information, the role of the Harvard Libraries in identifying, collecting, preserving, and delivering information is more important than ever.
As the digital environment grows more complex, the Harvard Libraries are mandated to simplify that environment for the user.

The global impact of the digital revolution reverberates through the Harvard Libraries. With major shifts in how and what the libraries collect, in the ways in which they care for library materials, and—perhaps most significantly—in the means for delivering information to users, the work of the Harvard Libraries has been transformed. Gone are the massive card catalogs that once filled an entire room in Widener: they have been replaced by online catalogs that provide access to all of Harvard's library resources, regardless of format or physical location.

As the boundaries of location and format fade, the ways in which library materials are used in teaching and research continue to change. Faculty members work with librarians to link electronic versions of course readings to course web sites. Professors utilize these links in the classroom, and students access them for assignments on a 24/7 basis.

Selecting materials to meet student needs and expectations is a growing challenge. Faculty members often ask librarians to teach students not only to search efficiently, but also—and perhaps more importantly—to evaluate digital materials for accuracy, bias, currency, and documentation as well as relevance.

The vast and growing amount of digital information now available has truly created an information overload. The lack of any global system for authentication places special obligations—and new challenges—on Harvard's librarians. As the digital environment grows more complex, the Harvard Libraries are mandated to simplify that environment for the user. To assist students and scholars in navigating this environment, the library must develop:

• new techniques to make searching easier
• more efficient applications to analyze text
• better methods for evaluating the quality of resources

A very different challenge for Harvard's libraries is the long-term preservation of digital information. Due to their relatively brief history, the longevity of digital files is unknown. With the rapid rate at which technology changes, digital preservation is proving to be more complex and more expensive than paper preservation. Unlike books that can be placed on the shelf and ignored for many years, digital materials must constantly be refreshed to prevent loss. As Harvard's digital resources grow, digital preservation looms as an enormous and vital task for the future.

Meeting student and faculty needs in the digital realm is costly. The Harvard Libraries must keep pace with technological advances to guarantee that our systems can store and retrieve digital information today and tomorrow.

“Harvard's libraries are embracing new and powerful means of information management to support innovative ways of disseminating information to users wherever they are. Though serving a diaspora of users, library buildings will maintain unique and inviting havens for direct use of core materials, for scholarly meetings and tutorials, and for peaceful contemplation.”

Paul S. Russell, MD
John Homan Distinguished Professor of Surgery
Harvard Medical School
The Harvard Libraries must dispel the myth that everything published today is in electronic form: it stands as an important fact that the majority of the world’s publishing activity remains in print and paper.

The great depth and breadth of the collections characterize the Harvard Libraries. But it is not magnitude alone that matters: the Harvard Libraries are of worldwide importance because of the quality and the scope of the scholarship that they enable.

In fulfillment of its mandate to support teaching and research at Harvard and around the world, the University’s libraries engage in three ongoing tiers of collecting:

- materials that support today’s curriculum
- materials that provide the record of today’s scholarship for future generations
- primary resources that will support scholarship and instruction as it changes over time

As the University’s global obligations expand, the Library’s collecting will continue to grow and change. Harvard collects from all regions of the world and is traditionally strong in western European languages, in its Slavic collection, and in Middle Eastern and East Asian languages.

Today, the University is expanding its collections of South Asian and Sub-Saharan African materials to serve an ever more internationally oriented faculty and student body. Collecting in less developed countries is a complex process that involves nurturing relationships between Harvard’s area and language specialists and local sources on every continent. Without these personal contacts, many valuable items would be unknown and unattainable.

Around the world, publishing capabilities vary from region to region. Published materials include not only printed books and journals, but “grey literature,” such as political pamphlets, newsletters, reports by governments and non-governmental organizations, and other resources—often of inestimable valuable to scholars—that were never created to be lasting documents. More and more of this grey literature is web-based, adding additional urgency to collaborative efforts—primarily through Harvard’s Library Digital Initiative—to archive online materials.

The cost of collecting for today’s library—and for tomorrow’s—is rapidly outpacing library resources. In every format, the cost of publications has increased tremendously in recent years, and nowhere has this increase been greater than in the area of scholarly journals. Faculty members rely on these journals for teaching and research, and the Harvard Libraries must subscribe to them regardless of cost. The price of rare books has also escalated in recent years, driven in part by a rise in the number of wealthy individual collectors.

Lloyd Weinreb
Dane Professor of Law
Harvard Law School

“Having ready access to materials of every kind, from—in law—the early English Yearbooks to ephemeral, 19th-century pamphlets about police protection, gives professors and students alike opportunities for research that would be impossible elsewhere. On the rare occasions when the Harvard Libraries do not have what I am seeking, their superbly efficient staffs locate it and obtain it quickly. My appreciation for the support of the Harvard Libraries is not lessened a whit by the advent of online searches.”

Lloyd Weinreb
Dane Professor of Law
Harvard Law School
Historically, Harvard has served the rest of the world by training students from all over the world. Once, those individuals might have come to Harvard to learn about America and to study the rest of the world. Today, because of strong global collections in the Harvard Libraries, students and scholars often come to Harvard to study their own countries and their own cultures. In many cases, those individuals have found that Harvard’s collections were perhaps better preserved, better organized, and—often—more accessible than in their countries of origin.

Harvard collects from all over the world in many languages, and scholars come from every continent to use the Harvard collections. Today, the Harvard Libraries are poised to play a leading role in our mandate to make Harvard a greater national and international resource.

Open Collections Program

One major endeavor in this area is the Open Collections Program, which enables the University to make historical materials from libraries across Harvard freely available over the Internet. The goal of the Open Collections Program is to increase the availability and use of historical resources from Harvard’s libraries, archives, and museums for teaching, learning, and research. Selected materials in broad topic areas are digitized and made accessible on the Internet and through Harvard’s library catalogs.

Harvard’s first open collection is entitled “Women Working, 1800–1930.” The collection provides access to a wide range of digitized historical, manuscript, and image resources. This collection explores women’s roles in the US economy between the dawn of the 19th century and the Great Depression. Working conditions, conditions in the home, costs of living, recreation, health and hygiene, conduct of life, policies and regulations governing the workplace, and social issues are all well documented.

Future Open Collections topics will include immigration to the United States from 1789 to 1930, the history of infectious diseases, and Islamic heritage. The Open Collections Program receives generous support from the William and Floea Hewlett Foundation, the Lisbet Rausing Charitable Fund, and Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Bin Abdulaziz Alsaud.

Harvard and Google

The Harvard University Library and Google are collaborating on a project to digitize significant numbers of Harvard’s library books that are not under copyright restrictions and to make them available freely on the Internet. The project could bring more than a million works that are in the public domain to the web.

The project builds on a successful pilot conducted by Harvard and Google in 2005. Harvard provides Google with access to selected works that are out of copyright, which Google then digitizes and makes searchable on the Internet. Using its highly advanced technology, Google optically scans the pages of each volume, converts the resulting images to OCR (also known as Optical Character Recognition), then makes the work available online to users free of charge. Google provides Harvard with a copy of each digital file for purposes of long-term preservation and research. The project will dramatically increase Internet access to the public-domain holdings of the Harvard Libraries.

Realistically, the full benefit of a Harvard education can be offered to only a very few students. Through the Open Collections Program, through the University’s collaboration with Google, and through a host of other library digitization projects, thousands of students, faculty, and scholars all over the world can benefit from Harvard’s outstanding library collections.
Libraries do not collect for today or tomorrow, but for the long term. As Harvard’s traditional collections age, caring for them becomes an increasingly important priority. For example, a number of Harvard’s extraordinary medieval manuscripts are, because of their physical condition, currently unavailable to scholars. Because text and illustrations have deteriorated and are literally falling away from parchment pages, these manuscripts cannot be handled until pigments are consolidated. Even 19th- and early 20th-century books and manuscripts are disintegrating because they were written or printed on acidic paper. Because even the most careful scanning process can cause damage, fragile items must be stabilized before they can be digitized. In short, keeping Harvard’s 15.5 million books in good condition is a continuous, multi-faceted, and daunting task.

Caring for Harvard’s Greatest Treasures

In the University Library’s Weissman Preservation Center, Harvard cares for its most valued collections of unique and rare books, manuscripts, photographs, maps, drawings, prints, and other materials. Scholarly demand for these materials—coupled with classroom use and loans for exhibitions—informs the work of the Center, which was named in March 2000 in honor of Paul M. Weissman AB 1952 and Harriet L. Weissman.

The Weissman Preservation Center operates on a collaborative model: Preservation staff members supported by the University Library and the University’s various faculties work together, leveraging their special skills and knowledge to provide the highest level of care for Harvard’s greatest treasures.

Keeping Books in Circulation

Developing and implementing strategies to care for circulating collections is known as collections conservation. The goal is to maintain valued, but not rare, materials that are in constant use for day-to-day study and research. Each week in Widener Library, more than 10,000 items are returned to the circulation desk—and one item out of every ten becomes a candidate for treatment in the College Library’s collections conservation lab.

“In Widener,” explains Jan Merrill-Oldham, the University’s Malloy-Rabinowitz Preservation Librarian, “we focus our efforts on masses of modern publications currently in demand by the Harvard community.”

Collaborating Across the Harvard Libraries

The Weissman Center’s extraordinarily skilled conservators of books, paper, and photographs work hand in hand with Preservation and Imaging Services in the College Library and with conservators in libraries across the University. The collaborative goal is to ensure that all of Harvard’s remarkable library collections are available for study, teaching, and research for the very long term.

Addressing New Challenges

The proliferation of digital material is adding new and vital dimensions to library preservation at Harvard. Working across the boundaries of library preservation and information technology, the Harvard Libraries are addressing the serious challenge of preserving digital collections for future generations.

“There’s really no more direct way of coming into contact with the past than, with all proper care and precautions, to take a book or any ancient artifact in your hands and puzzle it out.”

Jeffrey F. Hamburger
Professor of the History of Art and Architecture
Faculty of Arts and Sciences
In its more than 350 years, the Harvard College Library (HCL) has gone through many transitions as Harvard itself evolved from a small theological college into a world-renowned university. The College Library presents a landscape of extensive, diverse collections spread across multiple locations. On a daily basis it makes these resources, both virtual and physical, accessible to users from a wide variety of backgrounds. This calls for greater use of staff expertise in developing and delivering services and programs that support the teaching and research activities of students, faculty, and, to the extent possible, the greater scholarly community.

Mission
The Harvard College Library supports the teaching and research activities of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, the University, and the larger scholarly community.

The Library acquires, organizes, preserves, and makes readily available collections of scholarly materials in all media and formats. The Library provides intellectual access to materials and information available at the University and elsewhere, by providing assistance and training in the location and use of the materials, and by providing facilities and services for research and study.

Fulfilling the HCL mission requires an extraordinary complement of individuals who can build upon the strong history of the Library while integrating new technologies and incorporating changes from many sectors within and beyond the University.

Major Facilities
The Harvard College Library, which holds over 9 million of the University’s 15.5 million volumes, is composed of the following libraries and special units.

Cabot Science Library
Cabot has general collections in all areas of science, with undergraduate materials in applied sciences, astronomy, biochemistry, biology, chemistry, physics, zoology, history of science, and agricultural engineering; and research collections in earth and planetary sciences, pure mathematics, and theoretical statistics. In addition, it houses collections that were formerly held in Kummel Library in the fields of geology, geophysics, mineralogy, stratigraphy, geochemistry, and regional geology.

Fine Arts Library
One of the world’s most comprehensive academic art libraries, the Fine Arts collection covers all of Western and non-Western art and architecture, and the Harvard Film Archive.

Harvard-Yenching Library
The most extensive academic research collection on East Asian materials outside of Asia, the Harvard-Yenching collection consists of publications in the humanities and social sciences on traditional and modern East Asia, and is renowned for its rare books and manuscripts.

Houghton Library
Harvard’s primary repository for rare books and manuscripts, Houghton holds collections on the study of Western civilization, particularly European and American history and literature, and special collections in printing and graphic arts and the theater.

Lamont Library
The general undergraduate college library, Lamont supports the humanities and the social sciences curricula and houses the Woodberry Poetry Room, which contains a special collection of contemporary poetry. The library is open 24/5 during Fall and Spring semesters.

Major Collections

Eda Kuhn Loeb Music Library
One of the world’s preeminent libraries supporting music research, Loeb Music collections include thousands of books, scores, and recordings; a world music archive; the world’s largest collection of Turkish and Indian classical music; jazz and African-American music; and an extensive Mozart archive.

Social Sciences Program
Littauer Library
including Environmental Information Center and Numeric Data Services

Huntington Library
Huntington’s collections include books and serials on economics, government, and political science with special collections in manpower and industrial relations; electronic numeric data files; and the Environmental Science and Public Policy Archives.

Government Documents/Microforms
This collection includes US and foreign government publications, some intergovernmental publications (especially those of the United Nations), serials, newspapers, government documents, archives in various microformats, electronic data files, and statistics.

Harvard Map Collection
This is America’s oldest map collection, with over half a million maps, atlases from the 15th century to the present, gazetteers, reference books on the history and science of cartography, and detailed topographic maps.

H. C. Fung Library
The newest HCL library, the Fung has holdings focusing on international politics, foreign relations, foreign policy, economics, history, culture, and political science, with select collections in Russian, Eurasian, and East Asian studies.

Tuzer Library
Tuzer is one of the world’s foremost collections supporting the study of anthropology, extending to all its subfields, including archaeology, and is renowned for collections relating to the indigenous people of the Americas.

Harry Elkins Widener Memorial Library
Harvard’s flagship library, Widener contains more than 5 million books, journals, and other materials that comprise one of the world’s most comprehensive research collections in the humanities and the social sciences.

“Looking into the future, I don’t know what libraries will be like or what teaching will be like, but I’m confident that, wherever teaching and learning occur, libraries will be involved. What we know with some certainty is that each academic year there will be new students arriving on campus, new digital content to master, and new expectations from faculty.

And, to meet those demands, HCL’s staff will continue working with institutions and colleagues around the world, acquiring research materials for our collections, and developing ways for faculty and students to use them successfully.”

Nancy M. Cline
Roy E. Laron Librarian of Harvard College

Students at Work in the Ginsberg Reading Room of Lamont Library

Photo by Justin Ide, Harvard News Office
“Although the Countway Library is widely recognized as a great library of medicine and science, it also collects and preserves a wide range of printed, archival and photographic materials of central importance to research in the history of science and medicine. These resources are also of crucial significance to the contemporary practice of medicine; they remind us of the universal nature of need and compassion in the face of suffering and disease. In this respect, the Countway is also one of the great humanities libraries at Harvard.”

Allan Brandt
Amelie Moses Kass Professor of the History of Medicine
Harvard Medical School and
Professor of the History of Science
Faculty of Arts and Sciences

Andover–Harvard Theological Library
Harvard Divinity School
480,185 volumes

Supports the study of religion at the University and the education of women and men for service as leaders in religious life and thought. A source for research materials on religion for the entire Harvard University community and, to a lesser extent, for graduates of the University; the schools that make up the Boston Theological Institute; clergy in the vicinity of Cambridge; and researchers and laypersons throughout the world who have a scholarly need to consult the collections. Areas of special collection strength include Biblical studies, Protestant Christianity, Christian doctrinal theology, and certain denominations and sects, especially Unitarianism, Universalism, and the Abrahamic religious tradition.

Frances A. Countway Library of Medicine
Harvard Medical School
Harvard School of Public Health
Harvard School of Dental Medicine
705,676 volumes

Supports and advances the research and teaching activities of the Harvard Medical School, Harvard School of Public Health, and Harvard School of Dental Medicine. Countway’s collections are among the most extensive in medical libraries. Included among them are an extensive range of primary and secondary resources supporting scholarly studies in the history of medicine. The library is home to the Women’s Anatomical Museum, one of the oldest and finest collections of anatomical specimens in the United States and the world. The new HMS-wide Center for Biomedical Informatics is housed in the Countway Library. The library, under its new leadership, is committed to reaching out and effectively serving its broad range of constituents, including researchers in the basic sciences, clinicians, and health-care consumers.

Baker Library
Harvard Business School
637,542 volumes

Supports the research, curriculum development, and educational activities of the Harvard Business School. Serves the faculty, staff, and students of Harvard University, as well as HBSP alumni, and visiting scholars and students from around the world. Unique among business school libraries, Baker Library’s historical collections offer a window on the development and growth of business and industry from the 15th through the 21st century. The Business School recently completed a $52.4 million renovation and expansion of Baker Library.

Monroe C. Gutman Library
Harvard Graduate School of Education
203,986 volumes

Supports the teaching and research of the Harvard Graduate School of Education by providing access to information in the field of education; teaching the use of information resources; and supporting the collections, equipment, and staff in a manner ensuring that the library will remain a leader among education libraries. Research collections include one of the largest collections in the United States of historical textbooks, US public school reports, and private school catalogs from the early 19th century to about 1940.

Harvard Law School Library
1,723,645 volumes

Supports the teaching and research activities of the Harvard Law School, the world’s premier center for legal education and research. Functions as the law library for the University and serves as a resource for legal scholars throughout the world. The Harvard Law School Library is the second largest law library among the University’s more than 90 libraries. Collections include legislation and scholarship from all countries and unparalleled holdings in Anglo-American legal history. The library’s staff includes twelve lawyers. Reference staff have become increasingly involved in research instruction, logging over 300 hours in the classroom and over 500 hours in individual research consultations. Special collections include unique holdings of art and memorabilia related to the law. Monroe C. Gutman Library includes legislation and scholarship from all countries and unparalleled holdings in Anglo-American legal history. The library’s staff includes twelve lawyers. Reference staff have become increasingly involved in research instruction, logging over 300 hours in the classroom and over 500 hours in individual research consultations. Special collections include unique holdings of art and memorabilia related to the law.

John F. Kennedy School of Government Library
39,313 volumes

Supports the teaching and research of the John F. Kennedy School of Government. Offers expert guidance to students, faculty, and other researchers in locating, evaluating, and making use of information resources relevant to the interests of the Kennedy School. Provides a working collection of up-to-date and balanced materials in the areas of public policy, government and politics, management, international affairs, and related areas. Facilitates access for the Kennedy School community to global information at Harvard and beyond.

Arts and Architecture School Library
61,978 volumes

Supports the teaching and research of the School of Architecture and Planning. Serves as a resource for academic and professional activities of the Harvard Graduate School of Design as an integral component of the School’s mission to prepare and advance individuals in professional and academic careers concerned with the making of built environments, and to extend the knowledge and skills of architecture, landscape architecture, and urban planning and design. In addition to collections in these subject disciplines, materials in the areas of building technology and materials, public policy, transportation, environmental issues, and real estate are collected.

John F. Kennedy School of Government Library
287,912 volumes

Supports and enhances the educational programs, curriculum development, and research activities of the Harvard Graduate School of Design as an integral component of the School’s mission to prepare and advance individuals in professional and academic careers concerned with the making of built environments, and to extend the knowledge and skills of architecture, landscape architecture, and urban planning and design. In addition to collections in these subject disciplines, materials in the areas of building technology and materials, public policy, transportation, environmental issues, and real estate are collected.

Andover–Harvard Theological Library
Harvard Divinity School
480,185 volumes

Supports the study of religion at the University and the education of women and men for service as leaders in religious life and thought. A source for research materials on religion for the entire Harvard University community and, to a lesser extent, for graduates of the University; the schools that make up the Boston Theological Institute; clergy in the vicinity of Cambridge; and researchers and laypersons throughout the world who have a scholarly need to consult the collections. Areas of special collection strength include Biblical studies, Protestant Christianity, Christian doctrinal theology, and certain denominations and sects, especially Unitarianism, Universalism, and the Abrahamic religious tradition.

Frances A. Countway Library of Medicine
Harvard Medical School
Harvard School of Public Health
Harvard School of Dental Medicine
705,676 volumes

Supports and advances the research and teaching activities of the Harvard Medical School, Harvard School of Public Health, and Harvard School of Dental Medicine. Countway’s collections are among the most extensive in medical libraries. Included among them are an extensive range of primary and secondary resources supporting scholarly studies in the history of medicine. The library is home to the Women’s Anatomical Museum, one of the oldest and finest collections of anatomical specimens in the United States and the world. The new HMS-wide Center for Biomedical Informatics is housed in the Countway Library. The library, under its new leadership, is committed to reaching out and effectively serving its broad range of constituents, including researchers in the basic sciences, clinicians, and health-care consumers.

Baker Library
Harvard Business School
637,542 volumes

Supports the research, curriculum development, and educational activities of the Harvard Business School. Serves the faculty, staff, and students of Harvard University, as well as HBSP alumni, and visiting scholars and students from around the world. Unique among business school libraries, Baker Library’s historical collections offer a window on the development and growth of business and industry from the 15th through the 21st century. The Business School recently completed a $52.4 million renovation and expansion of Baker Library.

Monroe C. Gutman Library
Harvard Graduate School of Education
203,986 volumes

Supports the teaching and research of the Harvard Graduate School of Education by providing access to information in the field of education; teaching the use of information resources; and supporting the collections, equipment, and staff in a manner ensuring that the library will remain a leader among education libraries. Research collections include one of the largest collections in the United States of historical textbooks, US public school reports, and private school catalogs from the early 19th century to about 1940.

Harvard Law School Library
1,723,645 volumes

Supports the teaching and research activities of the Harvard Law School, the world’s premier center for legal education and research. Functions as the law library for the University and serves as a resource for legal scholars throughout the world. The Harvard Law School Library is the second largest law library among the University’s more than 90 libraries. Collections include legislation and scholarship from all countries and unparalleled holdings in Anglo-American legal history. The library’s staff includes twelve lawyers. Reference staff have become increasingly involved in research instruction, logging over 300 hours in the classroom and over 500 hours in individual research consultations. Special collections include unique holdings of art and memorabilia related to the law. Monroe C. Gutman Library includes legislation and scholarship from all countries and unparalleled holdings in Anglo-American legal history. The library’s staff includes twelve lawyers. Reference staff have become increasingly involved in research instruction, logging over 300 hours in the classroom and over 500 hours in individual research consultations. Special collections include unique holdings of art and memorabilia related to the law.

John F. Kennedy School of Government Library
39,313 volumes

Supports the teaching and research of the John F. Kennedy School of Government. Offers expert guidance to students, faculty, and other researchers in locating, evaluating, and making use of information resources relevant to the interests of the Kennedy School. Provides a working collection of up-to-date and balanced materials in the areas of public policy, government and politics, management, international affairs, and related areas. Facilitates access for the Kennedy School community to global information at Harvard and beyond.

Arts and Architecture School Library
61,978 volumes

Supports the teaching and research of the School of Architecture and Planning. Serves as a resource for academic and professional activities of the Harvard Graduate School of Design as an integral component of the School’s mission to prepare and advance individuals in professional and academic careers concerned with the making of built environments, and to extend the knowledge and skills of architecture, landscape architecture, and urban planning and design. In addition to collections in these subject disciplines, materials in the areas of building technology and materials, public policy, transportation, environmental issues, and real estate are collected.

Photos of the Graduate and Professional School Libraries by Brian Smith
Harvard University Library Strategic Programs

The Harvard University Library is the system of libraries that provides comprehensive access to Harvard’s library holdings across the boundaries of individual faculties and disciplines. In another sense, the Harvard University Library is also a department of Harvard’s Central Administration that reports to the president. Known as HUL, this distinct department is headed by the senior faculty member who holds the title of Carl H. Pforzheimer University Professor and Director of the University Library. In addition to serving as the head of HUL, the director interprets the technical and organizational challenges of the library system to the president and serves as chief steward of the collections for the Harvard Corporation.

HUL takes action when there is a case for centralized, system-wide activity. HUL therefore operates a number of strategic programs. In addition to the Open Collections Program (page 13), the Harvard-Google Project (page 13), and the Weissman Preservation Center (page 15), HUL operates three additional programs of strategic importance to the University.

Office for Information Systems
The mission of the Office for Information Systems (OIS) is to develop and maintain computer systems that support library and information services at Harvard. Working collaboratively with librarians across the University, OIS provides technical and user support for HOLLIS (the Harvard Online Library Information System), the Harvard Libraries web portal for electronic resources, and a growing number of additional catalogs and discovery tools.

Since 1998, OIS has operated the University’s Library Digital Initiative. Today the Harvard community has access to a wealth of resources provided through a wide range of systems and services across the Internet. It is a continuing challenge for OIS to simplify the navigation of this increasingly complex environment.

As Harvard continues to invest significantly in course-management systems, OIS is working hand-in-hand with IT professionals across the University to develop integrated systems through which libraries can deliver

- online reserve readings
- visual materials
- datasets
- reference services
- surrogates of hard-to-use materials, such as manuscripts

Harvard University Archives
The Harvard University Archives has a dual mission: to identify, collect, and preserve the documentary heritage of the University and to set and implement policies for the management of University records.

The stories of Harvard University and the emerging American nation are wound together inextricably. As the nation developed and expanded, the contributions of Harvard paralleled and helped to lead growth in many areas: science, technology, the arts and humanities, the social sciences, design, education, religion, law, and medicine.

The Harvard University Archives, the largest of any academic archives in the US, is used by scholars of American social, intellectual, and academic history; by historians of Harvard; by undergraduates learning about history from original documents; and by the general public.

The documentary record of Harvard is increasingly created and maintained in electronic form. If the University Archives is to capture the corporate memory of Harvard’s digital age, it must gather and preserve web resources and other electronic publications created at Harvard from the late 20th century onward. The ability of the University Archives to address the evanescent quality of these electronic materials and the increasingly complex range of technologies used to create them is a vital and urgent challenge.

Harvard Depository
More than a century has passed since Harvard President Charles William Eliot, struggling with the need to replace the inadequate Gore Hall library, proposed off-site storage for materials in Harvard’s burgeoning collections.

Today, the University Library operates the Harvard Depository (HD), a high-density facility west of Cambridge that maintains an archival environment for its growing inventory—currently over 5 million items—of library books and archival materials. Library materials held at the Depository are requested by patrons directly from the HOLLIS catalog. Requests are fulfilled within 24 hours by the HD staff.


Volumes, 1998–2005

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<td>Growth since 1998:</td>
<td>+11.64%</td>
<td>+14.66%</td>
<td>+14.90%</td>
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E-Resources, 1998–2005

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<td>Growth since 1998:</td>
<td>+1,010%</td>
<td>+923%</td>
<td>+874%</td>
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<td>Growth since 1998:</td>
<td>+18.94%</td>
<td>+17.09%</td>
<td>+15.49%</td>
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<td>+13.5%</td>
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Expenditures for library materials adjusted to 1998 dollars. Totals include monographs, serials, microforms, most electronic resources, and other library materials, such as sound recordings, visuals, and maps.
Giving to Harvard Libraries

Beginning with John Harvard’s 1638 bequest of 400 books, gifts have proven essential to the growth of the Harvard Libraries. Today, the generosity of alumni/ae, friends, foundations, corporations, and other organizations is a dynamic and inspiring force among the University’s libraries, whose services to students, and their renowned collections.

Much More Than Books

The need for library support is greater than ever. The expansion of resources to include photographs and other visual images, music, poetry, and other audio recordings, as well as a growing number of resources that exist only in digital formats, has placed increasing demand on the Harvard Libraries. In addition to acquisition of both traditional and new formats, today’s library must preserve its collections and make them accessible both in reading rooms and online.

Unique Opportunities

A gift to the Harvard Libraries gives you the unique opportunity to make a gift to an area of personal interest or intellectual commitment. The extent of Harvard’s library collections, in combination with evolving faculty and student needs, creates an almost limitless array of gift opportunities. Harvard seeks to increase funding for the Libraries in four major areas: 

- preservation and conservation
- digital formats
- positions
- donations

Examples of current needs in the Harvard Libraries include:

- support to digitize library resources and make them freely available on the web
- acquisition funds for new resources in areas of study and research, including South Asia and life sciences, and jazz
- gifts designated to preserve Harvard’s rare and unique materials, including illuminated medieval and Renaissance manuscript collections

For more information on these and other library needs, contact Peggy Davis Molander at 617-495-3064 or molander@fas.harvard.edu.

Meaningful Gifts

The Harvard Libraries will work with you to create a gift that is meaningful to you and meets true needs. Endowment opportunities begin at $25,000. Gifts of any size are greatly appreciated for current support. If you are an alumnus, you will receive full class credit for your library gift or pledge.

All gifts to the Harvard Libraries are tax deductible under the full extent of the law. You may receive additional tax benefits by making a gift of securities. Please contact the Harvard Management Company at 800.446.1277 or security_gifts@hmc.harvard.edu.

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You may make your gift online by visiting the web site http://www.haa.harvard.edu, clicking on “Make a Gift,” and selecting the appropriate option.

Planned gifts provide an opportunity for you to make a significant gift to the Harvard Libraries while preserving income or principal for yourself or your heirs. To learn more about these opportunities, contact the University Planned Giving Office at 800.446.1277 or http://www.haa.harvard.edu/pgo.

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