

INFORUM NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2016

Welcome back to another exciting year at the iSchool! Renovations of the Inforum have been underway this summer, and as we prepare for the Fall 2016 term, we are happy to say that we are also gearing up for our move back into our home at Bissell.

- Saturday, Sept. 10** Collections and Tech Loans will move back into the Inforum. Inforum will be CLOSED.
- Monday, Sept. 12** We will move the rest of our belongings back into the Inforum, and settle in. Services offered: Course Reserves, Tech Loans, and Stacks items available for borrowing.
- Tuesday, Sept. 13** All Inforum services resume.
- Monday, Sept. 26** Inforum Tours for new students begin.

HERE IS A SNEAK PREVIEW OF THE NEW INFORUM

New furnishings

In addition to the Brody study pods (a prototype of which some of you tested back in March!), the Inforum has been furnished with all new chairs and desks for individual studying, and new study hubs to facilitate group work.

New spaces

We have a new event-hosting space in the Inforum, and the result is a brighter area with full audiovisual services that can accommodate a larger audience. The e-classroom has been transformed into the Semaphore Demo Lab. When not used for classes and Semaphore events, it will also be used for other teaching and learning opportunities.

The 5th floor mezzanine area has been re-purposed to accommodate two research labs; conference, teaching, and meeting spaces; a self-serve coffee lounge; a Skype room; and a Museum Studies mounting wall. Our branch of the Toronto Seed Library will be located on the 5th floor, where it will be joined by a beautiful, green living wall. Our collections can now be found on the 4th floor, closer to our information/circulation desk.

Also worth checking out is our new gathering space for Research in Progress talks and brown-bag lunch talks on the 5th floor (schedule of these events coming soon).

24/7 fob access

Later in the term, when renovation work is completed, the Inforum main space will become a 24/7 accessible space for current iSchool students, staff, and faculty for study, research, and collaborating with colleagues.

Food and drink policy

Knowing that some of you will be taking advantage of the 24/7 access, we have revised our food and drink policy to permit food in most parts of the Inforum. The only exceptions are the Inforum collections area, where food is not allowed for collection preservation purposes, and individual research and demo labs, which have their own policy in place. Since the Inforum is a shared space, we kindly ask that aromatic or messy foods be avoided, and that everyone clean up after themselves. Place trash in their appropriate receptacles, particularly organic wastes, which belong in the green bin.

Fall 2016 iSkills Workshops

By using the drop-down menus on the workshop page, you can now access the Fall 2016 iSkills Workshops, <http://uoft.me/iskills>. Full details, including time and location for the workshops, will be posted to the website on Sept. 8. Students are now required to withdraw 24 hours prior to a workshop, in order to allow waitlisted students to fill their spot. Those who fail to withdraw at least 24 hours in advance will be charged \$5 per session on their library account.

iSkills Workshop spots for alumni

The Faculty of Information and Faculty of Information Alumni Association are pleased to pilot an opportunity for students to establish closer ties with alumni (current employers/potential mentors), while giving alumni a chance to acquire new skills. This fall, we are offering a number of seats in some iSkills workshops to alumni. This is a means of learning with and from members of the information and heritage community outside of classes.

Questions, comments, and suggestions relating to iSkills workshops should be directed to Inforum librarian, Outreach & Instructional Services Coordinator, Kathleen Scheaffer. (kathleen.scheaffer@utoronto.ca)

Mindfulness Tech

The Inforum and Tech Fund have partnered to provide students with an opportunity to learn or reinforce what they already know about mindful meditation and yoga on their own time and at their own speed. iPods pre-loaded with secular mindfulness guided meditations and yoga sequences will be available for loan with accompanying sound-cancelling headphones. To ensure that the technology is inclusive of those who are hearing impaired, three devices are iPod nanos, which support closed captioned videos. Stay tuned for the complementing Mindfulness LibGuide.

WE'RE INTRODUCING A FEW CHANGES TO OUR SERVICES.

Hours of service

With the introduction of 24/7 fob access for iSchool students, we will now be closing our information/circulation desk services earlier on Mondays to Thursdays. Our regular Fall term hours are:

Monday-Thursday 8:45 am-7 pm

Friday 8:45 am-5 pm

Saturday 10 am-6 pm

Please plan ahead if you need to use resources from the Inforum collection, or to borrow a Tech Loan item before the end of service hours.

After-hours returns

Coming soon: Tech Loan return lockers will be available so that you can return Tech Loan items after hours. We will back-date your Tech Loan returns the next day, for material returned to these lockers. Books returned after hours should continue to be placed in our after-hours book drop.

Standardizing which Saturdays we stay open

We will remain open on most Saturdays of the term. We will be closing the first Saturday in the Fall and Winter reading weeks.

Course Reserves are now self-serve

You will no longer need to come to the information/circulation desk to request a Course Reserve item. Course Reserves books are now shelved in the open stacks, so you

can browse the shelves and get what you need. We ask that all books removed from our collections area be charged out, as a courtesy to other Inforum users. Simply bring your Course Reserve items to the information/circulation desk for checkout and returns.

Reclassifying our collections

We have begun to reclassify our collection from Dewey to Library of Congress Classification system, beginning with books in our Course Reserves and Reference collections. As we gradually work our way through our Stacks collection, you will see more and more Library of Congress call numbers in the Stacks. Always do a catalogue search in order to ensure that the call number you have for a book is still the most current call number. If you have trouble locating a book, please ask staff at the information/circulation desk for assistance.

Refreshed group study rooms

Our two group study rooms have been completely refurbished, including new soundproof walls. While we are not recommending partying in the group study rooms, you no longer have to worry about keeping your voices low during group conversations.

Workstations in the Inforum

In addition to a robust wireless environment, we offer an equal number of iMac and Windows workstations connected to the University network. UTORid logins are required to use these machines.

Printing, photocopying, and scanning

We continue to provide:

Photocopying (b&w) - \$0.15 per page

Scanning (b&w/colour) - free of charge

Printing (b&w) - \$0.15

Printing (colour) - \$1.00

Please be sure to choose the appropriate printer when you send the file from Inforum workstations or your own device.

Former iSchool network accounts & N drives

With the iSchool migration to central IT Services (ITS), the iSchool's network accounts and N drives have been retired. If you previously saved files on your N drive that you need to retrieve, ITS has set an end-date by which you can log in to your old N drive in order to save your files to your personal flash drive/USB key. There will be dedicated machines in several locations in the building, including workstations in the Inforum.

PhD printing in the Inforum

New printing support systems in the Inforum do not provide for free printing. However, iSchool PhD students continue to have free wireless printing when directed to the 6th floor printer.

Guest access to wireless network

The Inforum does not provide guest login accounts to the wireless network for iSchool visitors. Visitors who are members of Eduroam will be able to connect to the Internet on the 'eduroam' network. Guests of the Faculty who do not have Eduroam privileges will need to be sponsored by an appointed iSchool faculty or staff member for a short-term guest account.

GENERAL INQUIRIES

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