

## **MIT's compass for the future – the Future of Libraries Task Force Report**

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In October 2016, MIT's Institute-wide Task Force on the Future of Libraries released its preliminary report. This report was commissioned by our Provost, Martin A. Schmidt, the year before, and he asked Chris Bourg, our Director of Libraries, to lead the effort. The Task Force included a group of 30 people including faculty, graduate and undergraduate students, and staff. It also sought input from domain experts.

As a result of their findings, the task force produced 10 recommendations for the Libraries, centered on four pillars:

1. an expansive definition of the communities they serve and the relationships and partnerships they encompass,
2. a commitment to radically enhancing the discovery, access, and use of information
3. a responsibility for leadership in the long-term stewardship and sustainability of the scholarly record, and
4. a new initiative to convene interdisciplinary research and development in information science and scholarly communication.

<https://future-of-libraries.mit.edu/sites/default/files/FutureLibraries-PrelimReport-Final.pdf>

This report is a priority at MIT, and is being used to guide us in re-thinking how we are structured, re-imagining our workflows, and encouraging us to get creative in exploring and supporting innovative ideas in the scholarly communication ecosystem with groups that share our values.