

Minutes of the Brown University Community Council (BUCC) Meeting
Wednesday, November 20, 2019
4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Members: President Paxson, Provost Locke, Russell Carey, Cass Cliatt, Al Dahlberg, Beverly Ledbetter, Matthew Harrison, Jung-Eun Lee, Matthew McGarrell, Michael Gianatasio, Claire Heiden, Tenaya McCoy, William Zhou, Alastair Tulloch, Donnell Williamson, Meghan Admirand, Heather Cole, Joanne McEvoy, Olajumoke Akinsulire, Lauren Allister, Thano Chaltas, and Guy Sanchez were in attendance. Eric Estes, Kayla Rosen, Sarah Besky, Lisa Di Carlo, Alla Hassan, Justin Izzo, Margaret Miller, Shipra Vaishnava, Rachael Schmidt, Nathan Blouin, Eloho Akpovi, Chloe Zimmerman, Kim Departie, Shayna Kessel, and Ray Windsor were unable to attend.

The minutes of the October 15, 2019 meeting were approved.

President Paxson began the meeting by providing updates on the Veterans Initiative, Brown Arts Initiative Artistic Director search, and Leadership Institute. The goal of the Veterans Initiative is to more than double the number of U.S. veterans enrolled as Brown undergraduates over the next three to five years – there are currently 21. Plans for the Initiative include: considering all prospective undergraduate students who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces on a need-blind basis; increasing financial support available to undergraduate student veterans; making the submission of standardized test scores optional for undergraduate students with military service; and strengthening recruiting efforts to identify high-achieving military veterans as prospective undergraduates. President Paxson gave an update on the search for an Artistic Director for the Brown Arts Initiative that is currently underway. The Director will be responsible for leading arts programming at the Granoff Center and the new Performing Arts Center. It is expected that the position will be filled next semester. President Paxson spoke about the Leadership Institute, a professional development program for mid- and upper-level administrative leaders, being piloted early next year.

Stephen Porder, Assistant Provost for Sustainability, presented on the Draft Sustainability Plan, which is intended to facilitate a campus-wide conversation about the objectives and goals of Brown's first long-term Sustainability Plan. Mr. Porder provided a summary of the categories and goals of the Draft Plan, as shown below.

Greenhouse Gases

75% reduction in campus greenhouse gas emissions by 2025, net zero emissions by 2040.

Nutrients

15% reduction in nitrogen and phosphorus footprint by 2025, 25% by 2030.

Biodiversity

Over the next two years, Brown will develop a process by which to incorporate biodiversity impacts into purchasing decisions. Brown will immediately cease all purchases of tropical hardwoods, the extraction of which threaten the world's most diverse ecosystems.

Water

Over the next three years, explore whether the benefit of stormwater reduction is sufficient to divert funding from other priorities.

Human Health

Over the next three years, Brown will identify the most problematic and prevalent materials of concern and incorporate a “red list” into Brown’s Building Standards and Purchasing Policies.

Mr. Porder then outlined the next steps for the Draft Plan. It will be revised by a committee consisting of faculty, staff and students who will take into account the community’s input and careful consideration of how any new recommendations might be implemented. It is expected that the Draft Plan will then be finalized with approval from Brown’s senior administration in spring 2020.

Following his presentation, there were group discussions about the Draft Plan. Feedback from the groups included Brown’s role as a global community and the importance of an educational component in the final Plan.

Joseph Meisel, Joukowsky Family University Librarian, gave an overview of the 2019 – 2024 Library Strategic Plan. The Library’s strategy is built around four core objectives: academic integration, knowledge generation, innovative practice, and organizational investment. The objectives align with the Library’s commitment to diversity and inclusion and to scholarship and practice with a positive impact on the wider community in Providence and beyond.

The next meeting of the Brown University Community Council will be held on Tuesday, March 10 from 4:00 – 5:30 pm in the Stephen Robert ’62 Campus Center, Kasper Multipurpose Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Pincince
Secretary of the Brown University Community Council

Brown University Community Council
Wednesday, November 20, 2019
4:00 – 5:30 pm
Stephen Robert '62 Campus Center, Kasper Multipurpose Room

Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes of October 15, 2019 Meeting
2. Report of the President
3. Draft Sustainability Plan
Stephen Porder, Assistant Provost for Sustainability
4. Library Strategic Plan
Joseph Meisel, Joukowsky Family University Librarian
5. Open Time for University Community Members to Present Broad Campus Issues to the Council

A Sustainability Plan for Brown



Brief History of The Plan

2013: Strategic Sustainability Planning & Advisory Committee

Ad Hoc Committees (Energy & Water, Waste, Transportation, Food, Health)

Self-driven priorities and recommendations

Significant staff, student & faculty time but no formal resource allocation

No focus on “what matters?” → Many unrealized initiatives

2018: New Office of Sustainability Leadership

Identifies lack Sustainability Plan as a key barrier

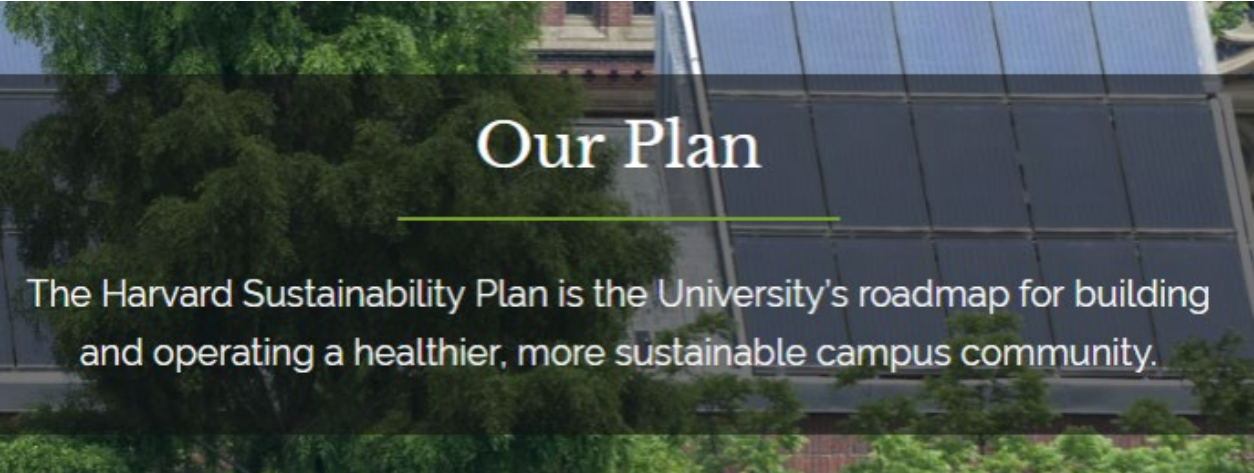
Barrier makes it difficult to focus efforts and allocate resources



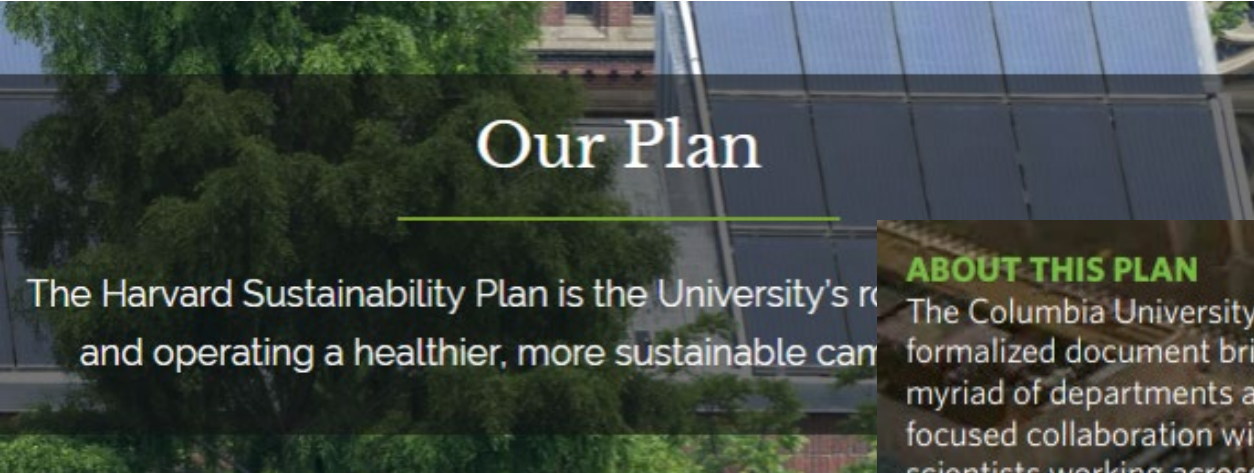
Sustainability Requests



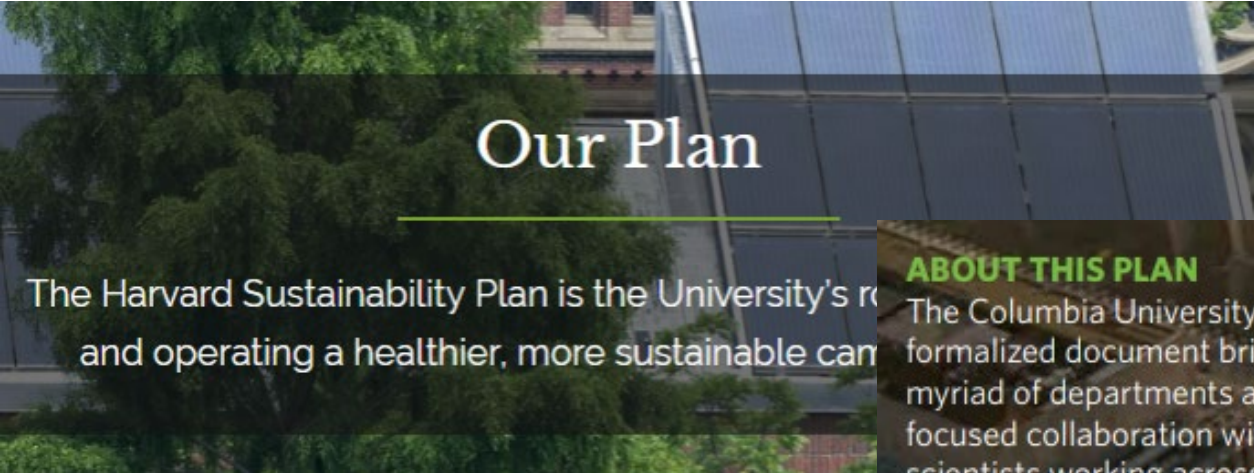
Our Peers Have Plans to Help Prioritize



Our Peers Have Plans to Help Prioritize



Our Peers Have Plans to Help Prioritize



Sustainability Plan (2013-2018)

Sustainability: Today & Tomorrow

The 2013 Sustainability Plan for the Ithaca campus outlines project strategies, governance, and current efforts, including goals and targets for existing sustainability governance groups, grassroots initiatives, and opportunities ahead.

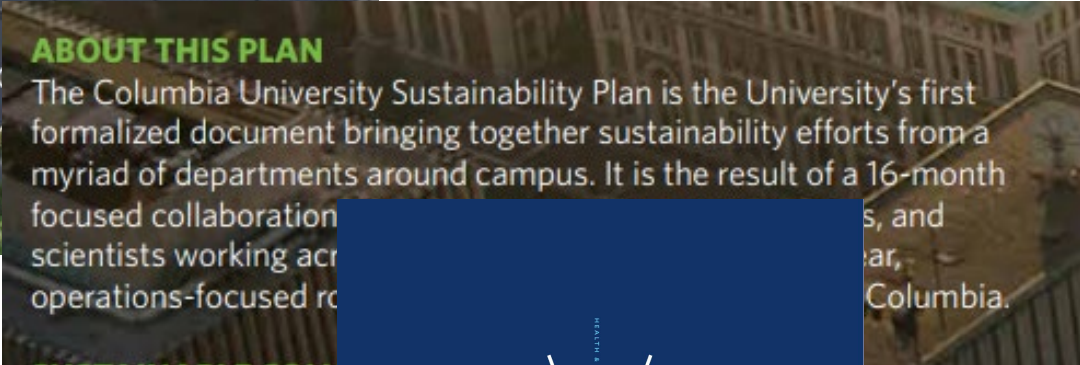
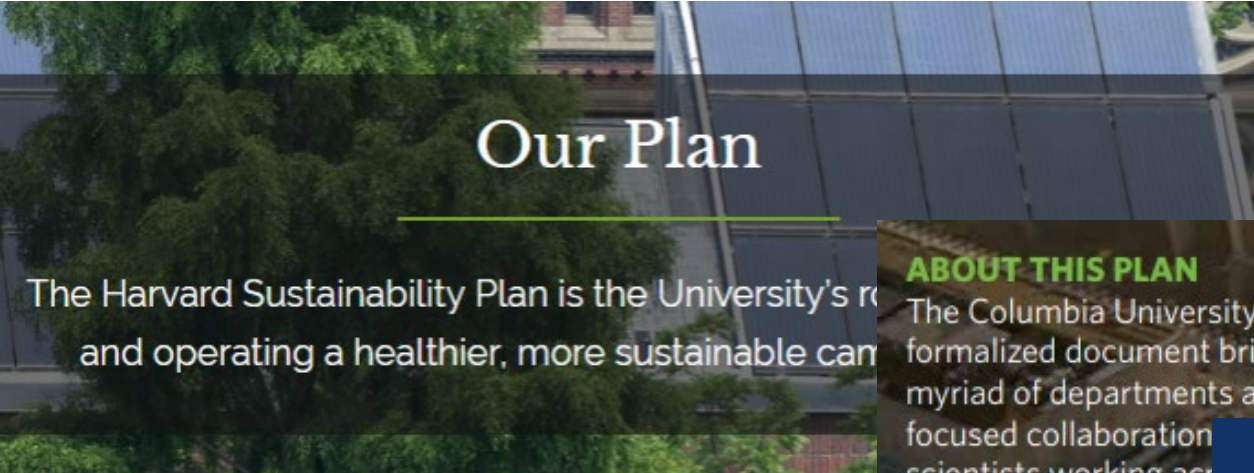
Previous Plans

- (Retired) [Ithaca Campus Sustainability Plan 2011-2012](#) (pdf)
- (Retired) [Advancing Sustainability Action Plan 2009](#) (pdf)

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Our Peers Have Plans to Help Prioritize



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Brief History of The Plan

Mid 2018: Assistant Provost for Sustainability appointed

Partnered with OS Director to flesh out Sustainability Plan Ideas

Mid 2018: Stephen Porder, Leah VanWey, and Jess Berry develop draft

Expert input from working groups on each core area

Draft focuses on articulating focus areas, principles, and targets

Late 2019: Release Draft of University Principles to Brown community



Plan Summary

Greenhouse gases
Nutrient Pollution
Biodiversity Loss
Water Use
Human health



Plan Summary

Greenhouse gases	75% reduction in campus emissions by 2025, net zero emissions by 2040.
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Biodiversity Loss	Over the next two years, Brown will develop a process by which to incorporate biodiversity impacts into purchasing decisions. Brown will immediately cease all purchases of tropical hardwoods, the extraction of which threaten the world's most diverse ecosystems.
Water Use	Over the next three years, explore whether the benefit of stormwater reduction is sufficient to divert funding from other priorities.
Human health	Over the next three years, Brown will identify the most problematic and prevalent materials of concern and incorporate a "red list" into Brown's Building Standards and Purchasing Policies



Moving Forward This Fall

Draft Sustainability Plan – Nov. 5, 2019

Context: This DRAFT plan has been developed by the Assistant Provost of Sustainability (Stephen Porder), the Director of the Office of Sustainability (Jessica Berry) and The Dean of the School of Professional Studies (Leah Van Wey, formerly Associate Provost for Academic Space) in consultation with a variety of members of the Brown Community. The goal of this draft is to facilitate a campus-wide conversation about what should be in Brown's first Sustainability Plan. This draft is intended for comment by the Brown Community. Feedback can be provided online, and Assistant Provost Porder who will host a series of community discussions to receive additional input. Feedback will be evaluated by a committee comprised of faculty, students and staff, who will then revise the plan accordingly. The revised plan will be submitted to senior administration and the Brown Corporation for approval.

Introduction

The mission of Brown University is to serve the community, the nation, and the world by discovering, communicating, and preserving knowledge and understanding in a spirit of free inquiry, and by educating and preparing students to discharge the offices of life with usefulness and reputation.

Sustainability and the Brown Mission: Brown University recently celebrated its 250th anniversary. To continue to serve our community, the nation and the world for the next 250 years, during which we will face unprecedented challenges in a rapidly changing environment, we must integrate sustainability into the physical, operational, and intellectual fabric of our campus. In the 21st century, with climate change, the potential loss of a quarter of the world's species, and social inequality linked to differential exposure to environmental threats, realizing the University's mission requires rapid strides towards a greatly diminished footprint on the planet upon which we all depend. This requires us to learn to live differently than we have, to fuel our campus differently, to use materials differently, and to dispose of things differently. It requires us to reconsider our impacts on the local and global environment and how those impacts affect us all. Finally, it requires educating our students about the sustainability and equity challenges the 21st century will bring. "Sustaining Life on Earth" is a central theme of Brown's push for "Building on Distinction". Our teaching on this topic, through the Institute at Brown for Environment and Society and other units on campus, will need to expand to include students from across all disciplines. Our lasting global contribution will stem from the local actions we take, and curriculum and programming that give our community evidence-based and equity-focused tools with which to make their future more sustainable.

Guiding Principles: Brown will lead by example, and take rapid and aggressive steps to mitigate its contribution to the largest sustainability challenges of the 21st century: climate

Available to the Brown Community
Soon

Online Comments Accepted

Presentations To:

Executive Committee

BUCC

Chairs and Directors

University Faculty

UCS

GSC

Campus Open Fora



Moving Forward This Spring

Draft Sustainability Plan – Nov. 5, 2019

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Committee Incorporates Feedback By May 2020

Carlos Aizenman (Neuroscience)
Jessica Berry (Office of Sustainability)
Joseph Braun (Public Health)
Scott Frickel (Sociology)
Meredith Hastings (DEEPS)
Stephen Porder (IBES/EEB)
One more faculty person (TBD)
Sarah Hsu (Medical Student)
Samanthan Lash (Grad Student – DEEPS)
Two undergraduate students (TBD)



Moving Forward After May 2020 - Phase 2

2020+: Move from goals to actions

Office of Sustainability Works With Key Operational Leaders

Purchasing

Dining

Transportation

Facilities Management

Environmental Health and Safety

Integration of principles/goals into University Operations



Moving Forward After May 2020 - Phase 2

2020+: Move from goals to actions

Assistant Provost Works With Key Leaders On Education

Dean of the College
Campus Life
Office of the Provost

Integration of sustainability into the educational fabric of our University



Questions for discussion

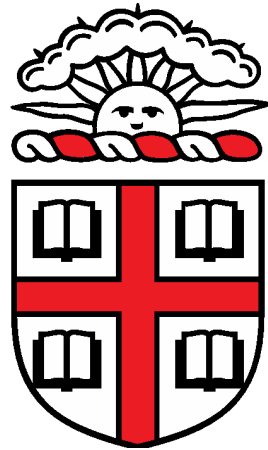
- Are the areas of focus appropriate?
- Are there other important areas where quantifiable goals can/should be articulated?
- What fraction of the university budget/fundraising should go to sustainability?



Plan Summary

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BROWN



Brown University Library Strategic Plan, 2019-24



Brown University Community Council

Joseph S. Meisel

Joukowsky Family University Librarian

November 20, 2019

Senior Leadership Team

Nora Dimmock

Deputy University Librarian

Patricia Putney

**Associate University Librarian for Collections Strategy
and Initiatives**

Amanda Strauss

Associate University Librarian for Special Collections



BROWN
University Library

The Library is Central to Brown's Mission

*The mission of Brown University is to serve the community, the nation, and the world by **discovering, communicating, and preserving knowledge and understanding in a spirit of free inquiry, and by educating and preparing students** to discharge the offices of life with usefulness and reputation. We do this through a partnership of students and teachers in a unified community known as a university-college.*



Brown University Library

7 Locations

- Rockefeller
- Hay (special collections)
- Sciences
- Orwig (music)
- Champlin (medicine)
- Annmary Brown
- Annex



BROWN
University Library

Mission

Expertise
Collections
Technology
Spaces

What we offer
(and what we are)

Instruction
Learning
Research

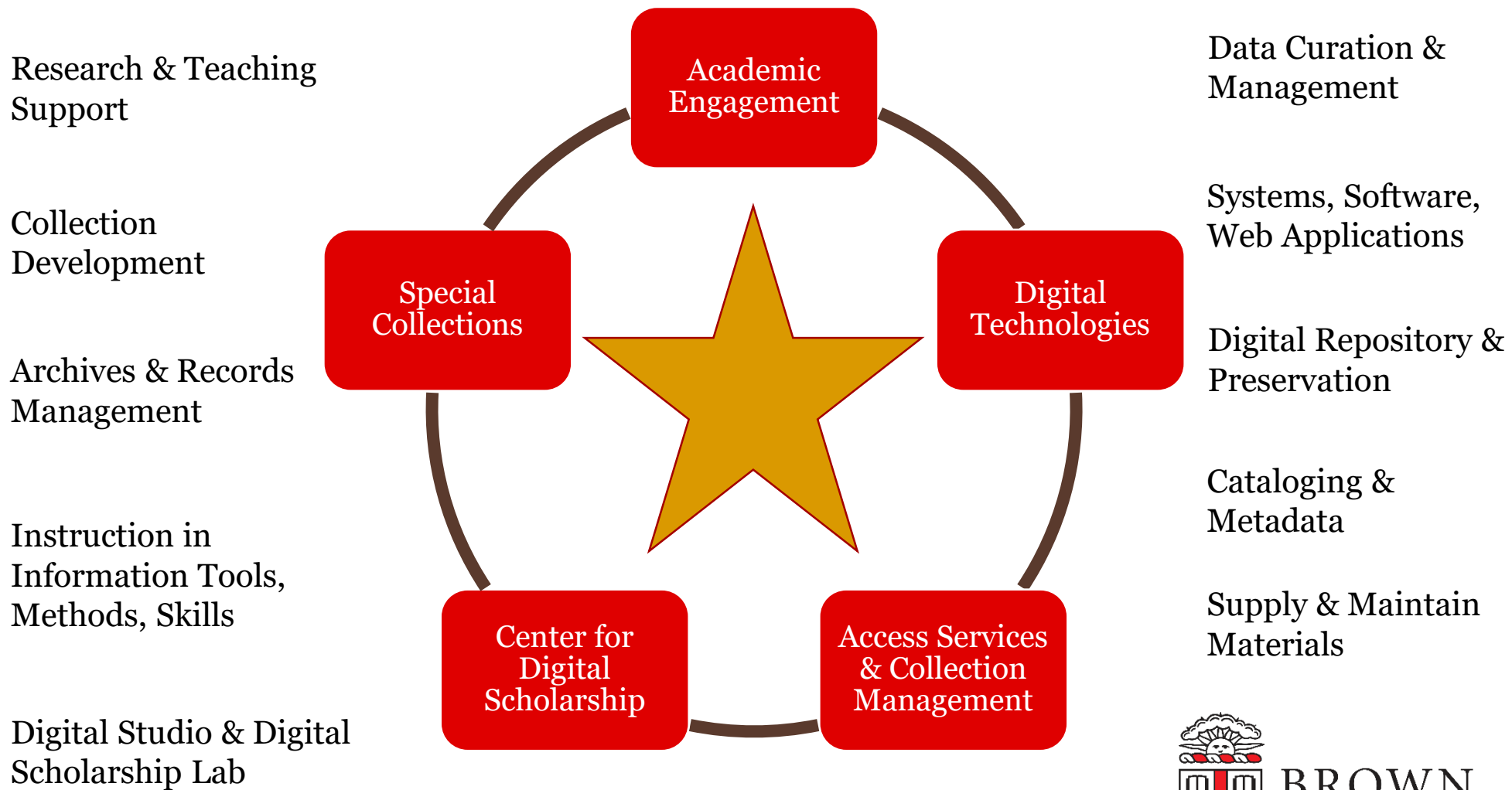
What we support
(and what we do)

Creativity
Inclusivity
Partnership

What we enable
(and how we work)



Departments and Functions



Assets

- **Budget:** \$26+ million, incl. \$12+ million for collections
- **Endowment:** \$80 million; 354 accounts
- **Staff:** 125; plus c. 150 student workers
- **Materials:**
 - 6 million volumes
 - 80,000 subscriptions (electronic & print)
 - Resource-sharing partnerships (access to 90 million titles)



Campus Impact

- **Visitors (Rockefeller and Sciences):**

- c. 1 million/year
- 97% of undergraduates
- 74% of graduate students
- 62% of medical students

- **Access to Resources:**

- *Items Checked Out:* 111,000 items + 16,000 reserves
- *Interlibrary Loans:* 35,000 lent; 36,000 borrowed
- *E-Resource Downloads:* 2 million+
- *Homepage Visits:* 700,000 from 112 countries

- **Teaching and Learning:**

- 200+ class sessions, workshops, etc.
- 3,700+ participants
- 4,7000 research consultations





Strategic Plan 2019–2024

Excellence + Diversity • Collaboration + Openness • Expertise + Innovation • Recognition + Impact



Mission: We foster and guide the creation, acquisition, preservation, and dissemination of knowledge at Brown and beyond in a spirit of free and open inquiry.

Values: support the academic mission; diversity and inclusion; free speech, open inquiry, open access, and impartiality; innovation, creativity, and engagement

Operational Planning



- Collections
 - Academic Alignment
 - Physical and Digital Ecosystem
 - Acquisitions/Sharing Strategy
 - Technical Services
- Curricular Integration
- Digital Scholarship
- Special Collections
- Support Infrastructure
 - Communications/Website
 - Organizational Development
 - Budget and Fundraising

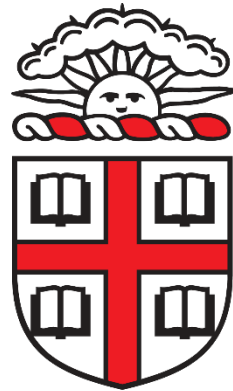


Questions?



BROWN
University Library

**Discovering, communicating, and
preserving knowledge and understanding
in a spirit of free inquiry.**



BROWN
University Library