



# HATHI TRUST

2019-2023

## STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

## introduction

HathiTrust stands apart for its collection, breadth of programs, and fiscal strength, all developed and supported by a diverse set of member libraries committed to its mission. HathiTrust advances collaborative efforts among cultural heritage organizations and serves a broader public good.

The organization manages programs to find and open public domain materials, to expand access to U.S. federal publications, to develop a distributed, shared network of print collections, and to develop services that support advanced computational research. HathiTrust holds the largest set of digitized books managed by the academic, research, and library community, which offers an unprecedented opportunity to steward the cultural record.

*HathiTrust's 2019-2023 Strategic Directions*, developed in consultation with member institutions, lays the path for HathiTrust and its membership to transform research libraries in the service of the wider scholarly enterprise.

## strategic intentions

The following intentions will guide work in the coming years:

- ▶ Responsibly steward collections and resources.
- ▶ Include many voices and perspectives in collections, services, and governance.
- ▶ Embrace new opportunities in an evolving information landscape.
- ▶ Focus on strengths when identifying new activities.
- ▶ Take risks that help achieve HathiTrust's vision.
- ▶ Promote interdependence among libraries.

## strategic themes

To realize the vision, HathiTrust will emphasize work designed to **transform** how libraries work together to manage scholarly resources their users require, **enhance** the quality of HathiTrust's collections and services to provide more meaningful access to scholars and learners, and **empower** our organization and membership to tackle major strategic challenges. Each theme is supported by objectives that will define our investments and activities in support of the strategy.

transform  
*scholarship • collaboration*



enhance  
*access • programs + services*



empower  
*membership • infrastructure*



# empower

HathiTrust empowers its member libraries and their patrons through a durable, sustainable, and transparent organization and open infrastructure.

## Objectives:

- ▶ Align our membership growth and financial strategies with long-term goals to steward the cultural record and sustain the organization.
- ▶ Develop new analytic capacities to support service improvements, collection development, and member engagement.
- ▶ Strengthen and support our member libraries' efforts to engage users of HathiTrust.
- ▶ Engineer the HathiTrust infrastructure as a more open platform for distributed activities and services.

## Potential Investments and Activities:

- ▶ Develop plans for membership recruitment, engagement, and ongoing support.
- ▶ Expand existing training and outreach programs.
- ▶ Reengineer and update HathiTrust repository and access services.
- ▶ Expand staffing to provide technical leadership across the HathiTrust enterprise.

# enhance

HathiTrust bolsters content discovery and diversifies uses of the scholarly record through services that improve the quality of the collection and the user experience.

## Objectives:

- ▶ Deepen and add breadth to the HathiTrust collections.
- ▶ Expand computational research services to support scholarship and pedagogy.
- ▶ Improve the ways people discover, locate, and engage with our collection.
- ▶ Invest in understanding the needs of users and members of HathiTrust.
- ▶ Address quality issues in the collection and associated metadata.
- ▶ Enable robust transformative uses of the corpus, and open for reading more of the collection wherever lawfully possible.

## Potential Investments and Activities:

- ▶ Accept, preserve, and provide access to additional standard ebook formats.
- ▶ Streamline existing services for those with print disabilities and focus on increasing accessibility overall.
- ▶ Define access and analytic services that build upon the initial phases of the Shared Print program.

# transform

HathiTrust addresses significant challenges libraries cannot independently confront to advance innovative forms of research, pedagogy, and public engagement.

## Objectives:

- ▶ Inspire collective action to ensure durable access to the cultural record.
- ▶ Lead transformations in the information landscape through strategic partnerships in North America and abroad.
- ▶ Develop robust frameworks for large-scale collection management, access, and preservation.
- ▶ Advocate for public policy that enables libraries to fulfill their missions and users to readily access information they need.

## Potential Investments and Activities:

- ▶ Work with key allied organizations to define a coordinated, coherent, and sustainable networked preservation and access infrastructure.
- ▶ Help develop U.S. and international connections among shared print programs.
- ▶ Extend the access program for users with print disabilities.



HathiTrust is a growing, global partnership of 140+ major research institutions and libraries working towards its mission to ensure that the cultural record is preserved and accessible long into the future.

## mission



*The mission of HathiTrust is to contribute to research, scholarship, and the common good by collaboratively collecting, organizing, preserving, communicating, and sharing the record of human knowledge.*

## vision



*HathiTrust will be a vital catalyst for emerging forms of research, teaching, and learning that engage the scholarly and cultural record.*

[www.hathitrust.org](http://www.hathitrust.org)