News from New Brunswick

News from Université de Moncton’s Bibliothèque Champlain
Marc Harper, Health Sciences Librarian

Switch to Zotero

In the fall of 2016, l’Université de Moncton and Bibliothèque Champlain joined the nationwide trend of adopting an open access citation manager. The conversion from RefWorks to Zotero has been a great success. Citation managers save students and professors an unquantifiable amount of time by storing citations, eliminating duplicates, and creating bibliographies in Microsoft Word. When Bibliothèque Champlain made the switch to Zotero, it was essential to continue offering a quality product in addition to being free of cost.

Thankfully, Zotero has proven to be efficient, user-friendly, and well received by library users. Bibliothèque Champlain’s website features a variety of tutorials on Zotero which also appear on our YouTube channel.

Bibliothèque Champlain offers training sessions on how to use Zotero. Sessions are available in groups or individually. They are also offered during scheduled intervals or on demand.

Combatting Predatory Publishing

Beginning in the summer of 2016, Bibliothèque Champlain has been offering presentations on how to detect and avoid predatory publishers. Like many other universities around the world, professors at l’Université de Moncton are often targeted by this unfortunate phenomenon. It is not uncommon for faculty members to receive invitations to submit their research from predatory publishers posing as legitimate publications. Researchers often have difficulty distinguishing legitimate and illegitimate publications. The consequences of these practices can include: a researcher’s reputation being tarnished, publication fees going to perpetrators of scams, and faulty research being published due to weak or non-existent peer reviewing.

Presentations, aimed at professors and students alike, include “red flags” to look out for when judging a publisher’s credentials, helpful websites to consult, and library resources at their disposal. Thus far,
presentations have been well received and several professors and graduate students have subsequently reached out to the library when they have been unsure of a publisher’s credibility.

Return from a Sabbatical Leave

by Victoria Volkanova, Reference and Scholarly Communication Librarian

Victoria Volkanova, Bibliothèque Champlain’s Scholarly Communication Librarian, has just returned from her sabbatical leave. Temporarily relocated to Montréal and generously welcomed by Vincent Larivière of the Canada Research Chair on the Transformations of Scholarly Communication at the Université de Montréal, she spent the year broadening and expanding her knowledge of different aspects of scholarly communication. This included taking courses on Open Access, bibliometrics, and the history of sciences. Victoria also conducted an original research on the publication practices of researchers in French-language minority settings in the digital era, and participated in the Sustaining the Knowledge Commons project at the University of Ottawa with Heather Morrison.

She took full advantage of the vibrant research, library and information resources, and cultural scene of Montréal, having attended numerous workshops, training sessions and conferences (as well as festivals, exhibitions, concerts, and other events). She presented the preliminary results of her research at the Open Access Workshop at the University of Ottawa, the 15th Concordia Library Research Forum (a poster), the Congrès de l’ACFAS, as well as at the Colloque international en éducation.

She came back energized, super enthusiastic, and full of ideas for a very successful academic year at Université de Moncton!