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From the President's Desk

My term as President began at the annual conference of the Association in beautiful St. John's Newfoundland, from June 10-13, 2015. The Conference provided a great opportunity for me to network with regional colleagues, share ideas and experiences, and take away new approaches and information from the very interesting sessions I attended. Congratulations to Kate Rose and her planning team who made the conference in St. John's a very successful one.

Crystal Rose, Chair of the 2016 conference planning committee, and her team are busy organizing next year's conference to be held in Halifax, Nova Scotia. The theme of the conference is "Libraries: Supporting Bodies and Minds," inspired by the Gwent Five Ways to Wellbeing, five simple ways to feel happier and healthier, which are: Connect, Be Active, Take Notice, Keep Learning, and Give! Libraries play an important role in supporting physical and mental wellness in our communities. This is sure to be a very engaging and relevant conference for the Atlantic Canadian Library community, and hopefully will spark interest and involvement from the national community. We are especially excited that the opening reception for the Conference will be at the fabulous new Halifax Central Library, which made the shortlist for the prestigious 2015 World Building of the Year Award.

APLA was represented at two events in September. We had a table at the

Dalhousie School of Information Management Associations Display for new students on Sept. 11. APLA also participated in the exhibits at the Nova Scotia Archives, Libraries and Museums Conference held in Halifax on Sept. 26. I truly believe this type of exposure helps raise public awareness of our Association and builds new membership from communities and people we may not traditionally reach.

VP President Elect Suzanne van den Hoogen and I attended the August meeting of The Partnership, a national network of provincial and territorial library associations, held at the OLA office in Toronto on August 18-19th. This forum provided a very rewarding and informative experience, especially as we talked about our individual and collective challenges, showcased our successes, and discussed future priorities and directions. Some common themes that emerged from our discussions included website development, advocacy, association governance and alignment, and strategic planning. As well, Canadian Library Association representatives were present and provided a status update on the future structure of CLA, with the intent of finding a more strategic and sustainable way forward. Past President Crystal Rose serves on the Future CLA Working Group, providing an Atlantic Canadian voice for this very important work. In summary, through the Partnership, APLA members are seeing more and more value from this national effort

A good deal of my time in this first quarter as President had been spent working with VP President Elect Suzanne van den Hoogen and Past President Crystal Rose on developing priorities for this year, including communications and marketing plans, a review of executive member responsibilities, and a review of funding streams for awards, grants and prizes. The APLA executive is investigating a more streamlined approach to help support literacy, community reading and lifelong learning initiatives and projects, and for providing conference support to those associations that APLA shares joint memberships with. Also, the new Advocacy Standing Committee will be pulling up their sleeves working to identify and deliver key advocacy initiatives for this upcoming year.

The Executive held its first in-person meeting on Saturday, October 3, in Halifax. It was fantastic to get the Executive together and discuss collaboratively the many programs and services we offer. It was an exhausting, yet very productive day.

I would like to thank members of the executive who have finished their terms this past year, and extend a warm welcome to the newcomers. To all of our executive members, conveners and other volunteers, your valuable contributions have been and continue to be so critical to the success of APLA. And to our dedicated members, we couldn't do it without you! Here's to a great year ahead.

All the best,

Lynn Somers

lynn.somers@novascotia.ca

APLA President

Announcement

Call for Proposals for APLA 2016

The APLA 2016 Annual Conference, Supporting Bodies & Minds, is May 29-June 1 in Halifax. Please see our conference website for more information: <https://apla2016.wordpress.com/>

We invite you to submit a proposal for presentation at our 2016 annual conference. This year's theme, Libraries: Supporting Bodies and Minds, was inspired by the important role libraries play in supporting physical and mental wellness in our communities. Tell us about how your library connects people, supports physical or mental wellbeing, lifelong learning or engagement!

We are seeking: oral presentations or panel discussions (60 minutes), lightning talks (10 minutes) and poster sessions. Deadline for submissions is **Friday, December 11, 2015**. Submit online: <http://goo.gl/forms/l4cCxiG0cs>

If you have any questions, please contact Program Sub-Committee Chair, Louise McGillis.

Take advantage of our special conference rate and the convenience of staying on-site. Use APLA's online reservation portal to book your room, before April 28, 2016. APLA has reserved a block of rooms, but please book early to ensure availability.

Announcement

Games in the Library – Seeking Convener for October 2016

Games in the Library is a popular event! Many have asked what happened to it this year. Although we could not offer it in 2015, we hope to bring it back by popular demand in 2016. If you're a Games in the Library enthusiast with a knack for organizing, we need to hear from you. To offer the program in 2016 we will need a convener to help with updating the promotions, arranging the prizes and draw, liaising with the provincial APLA VPs and reporting on the 2016 program to the APLA executive. We anticipate a commitment of about 10 hours. If you're interested in convening Games in the Library 2016 please contact Suzanne van den Hoogen at svandenh@sffx.ca.

Announcement

Collaborative Research and Innovation Grant, Call for Proposals 2015

The Council of Atlantic University Libraries / Conseil des bibliothèques universitaires de l'Atlantique (CAUL/CBUA) is pleased to announce the Call for Proposals for the 2015 Collaborative Research and Innovation Grant. Two grants of up to \$1,000 each are awarded annually, to support the research projects of librarians working at CAUL/CBUA member institutions. The Collaborative Research and Innovation Grant aims to achieve the following objectives: to support members conducting research with the intent to share results through publication and/or conference presentations; to encourage and support collaborative research in the field of academic librarianship; and to promote evidence-based research in the field of academic librarianship that is applicable to the Atlantic region.

The **deadline for applications is Friday, October 30th, 2015**. Proposals should be submitted via email to kreddy@caul-cbu.ca.

For more information on the application procedure and criteria for the grant, please visit the links below or contact Kathryn Reddy, Manager.

English: <http://caul-cbu.ca/committee/award-procedures>

Français: <http://caul-cbu.ca/committee/award-procedures-fr>

Announcement

Membership Drive for Grow a Library Fund

Submitted by PEGGY McEACHREON, VP Membership

2015 Membership Drive Raised \$100 for Grow a Library Fund!

In fine APLA tradition, 20% of all APLA memberships paid for from January to April of 2015 were collected as a donation towards the Grow a Library Fund, which is our partnership with CODE Canada. The APLA Executive would like to extend sincere thanks to all members who renewed or joined during these months allowing us to donate \$100 to the Burt Award for First Nations, Métis and Inuit Literature.

2016 APLA Membership Drive and Grow a Library Fundraising Initiative!

If you join APLA or renew your APLA membership between January 1 and April 30, 2016 APLA will once again direct 20% of your membership fee to the Grow a Library Fund. In 2015, the Standing Committee chose the Burt Award for First Nations, Métis and Inuit

Literature as our fund raising project. The award recognizes excellence in First Nations, Métis and Inuit literature for youth and provides engaging and culturally-relevant books for young people across Canada.

Your donations will put books by indigenous Canadian authors in First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities in Atlantic Canada. APLA's goal is also to sponsor an indigenous author visit to a community in our region.

To donate online directly to this fund, please go to our website <http://apla.ca/grow> click on the donate online link under "How to Donate, " then click on the "Donate Now" box and fill out the online form.

Announcement

Partnership Membership Has its Rewards

**Membership has its
rewards!**

Check out everything the Partnership has
to offer!

<http://apla.ca/> Member Benefits

Partnership
The Canadian Journal of Library and Information Practice and Research



the **PARTNERSHIP** JOB BOARD
The Provincial and Territorial Library Associations of Canada



Announcement

Provincial and Territorial Public Libraries Council

Atlantic representatives of the Provincial and Territorial Public Libraries Council (PTPLC) gathered at the Archives, Libraries, and Museums (ALM) Conference, held in Halifax, NS, from Sept. 25-27, 2015.



From left: Kathleen Eaton, Director, Libraries and Archives, Province of PEI; Jennifer Evans, Director, Nova Scotia Provincial Library; Shawn Telford, Executive Director, Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries; Sylvie Nadeau, Executive Director / Directrice générale New Brunswick Public Library Service (NBPLS) / Service des bibliothèques publiques du Nouveau-Brunswick (SBPNB).

News from New Brunswick

Submitted by MATHIEU LANTEIGNE – VP New Brunswick / Reference Librarian, Moncton Public Library

On September 22nd, the Saint-Antoine Public Library reopened its doors to the public after moving to a new location. The new and modern facilities will greatly increase the total space available to library patrons. The library has also changed its name and is now known as the Omer-Léger Public Library.

News from Nova Scotia

Cape Breton Regional Library

Submitted by ROSALIE GILLIS, TARA MACNEIL AND CHRIS THOMSON

New Storyteller in Residence at the Cape Breton Regional Library

We are pleased to announce the latest addition to our library team – Storyteller in Residence, Ronald Labelle.

Ronald Labelle has a passion for storytelling and draws on a wide range of work, research and personal life experiences to inform his storytelling. He is a specialist in Acadian traditional culture and has spent much of his working life in positions that have played an important role in collecting, preserving and showcasing the richness of Acadian culture in the Atlantic Provinces.

After completing doctoral studies in Ethnology at Université Laval he worked at the Université de Moncton's Centre d'études acadiennes, first as Folklore Archivist and then as Director. He later held the McCain Research Chair in Acadian Ethnology in the same institution, before becoming Associate Professor of French and Acadian Studies at Cape Breton University. Ronald has been both a participant and organizer of storytelling workshops and symposiums at such venues as the Frye Literary Festival, the "Stars and Stuff" stargazing celebration in Moncton, CBU's storytelling symposium, as well as the "Nuit international du conte" in New Brunswick.

With such a rich background, the Library is looking forward to see where Ronald will take us as Storyteller in Residence, and we've already seen some unique program ideas and an eagerness to explore stories from the whole community.

This September, Ronald participated in two library events. First, hosting a 'Remembering School Days' evening program where he shared the stage with audience members and their memories of school days past, and the second event was spent on one of our

bookmobiles, meeting the public and sharing stories during Sydney's Lumiere (art at night event). We are looking forward future programs with Ronald including 'Haunted Tales' at the end of October and storytelling workshops for parents this winter. – Tara MacNeil

Creative Chemistry at the Library

There was a full house for a Creative Chemistry hands-on science program at McConnell Library in Sydney at the end of September! Cape Breton University chemistry professor Stephanie MacQuarrie and several of her students helped 60 elementary and junior high



students and parents understand that everything is chemicals! They explored chemicals in food (nutrients and flavours) and in everyday products by mixing the gel that makes disposable diapers absorbent, linked arms to make polymers from their individual child monomers, made their own Silly Putty Goop in a bag using Borax and glue, and got to play with hydrophobic sand. The group started out very attentive and keen, but the quiet attention drifted away as the energy level rose and the kids got more and

more excited about the experiments! Everyone went away happy and enthused about science. Dr MacQuarrie was a great role model for encouraging students to explore science and have fun with chemistry. –Chris Thomson

***Katharine's Island* (a play written by Lindsay Thompson) ~ Library Fundraiser**

A unique fundraiser for the Cape Breton Regional Library, *Katharine's Island*, took place on September 19. Based on the life of Katharine McLennan, the play focused on the extraordinary contributions Katharine made throughout her life. For example, in her early 20s, Katharine worked as a nurse's aide for the French Red Cross during World War I. Katharine also made great contributions to her community, especially to historical culture in Cape Breton. One of the most visible contributions she made was her work in preserving the history and helping to push for the reconstruction of the Fortress Louisbourg. She was a long time board member and patron of the James McConnell Library, buying and donating the property for the site where it now stands.

Katharine's Island, written by local actor and playwright Lindsay Thompson, was dedicated to Katharine McLennan's memory and to all women who serve their communities with passion, intelligence, and heart. – Rosalie Gillis



Feasibility Study for New Sydney Library

The Cape Breton Regional Municipality (CBRM) and the Cape Breton Regional Library recently announced a Library Feasibility Study to explore the needs of a new public library in Sydney. The consultants have been engaged and the study is underway.

In 2009, a community group led by the late Dr. Robert Morgan, came together to work towards attaining a new library facility for Sydney. The twelve person New Sydney Library Committee is made up of local citizens, and includes representation from Library staff and Board. This dedicated Committee has continued to work on the Library project, and was active in getting this study underway.

The McConnell Library is the central Library for the Region (consisting of the CBRM and Victoria County), and holds the largest circulating collection of library materials, a special local history collection, the regional storage collection, and government documents. In addition, it houses the central office for the Region's twelve branch libraries and the Cape Breton County Bookmobile operations. A 2012 Library Feasibility Study, which looked only at renovating the current building, determined that the building did not meet standards for a library serving a community of our size. The cost to renovate would be significant and even with renovation, some existing problems with the building would remain unresolved.

As part of the study, there will be community outreach that will include key stakeholder interviews, a variety of focus groups, and a public consultation session. The results of this study are due in January 2016. –Rosalie Gillis

News from Nova Scotia

Dalhousie University Libraries

Submitted by MICHELE CHARLTON

Summer Shine 2015

The Summer Shine Series, introduced in 2012, was designed to give the interns that the Dalhousie Libraries hire from the School of Information Management an opportunity to present projects they have been working on during their summer internships. This year's event was full of varied and interesting presentations, which included:

- Archival processing multi-media collections: Centre for Art Tapes and Women in Media Foundation, by: Mariah Blackmore
- Learning by Instructing: Building a Systematic Review Subject Guide, by: Leah Boulos
- Virtual Tour of the Sexton Design & Technology Library, by: Alanna McLellan
- Collections Management in an Academic Library: From Acquisitions to Weeding, by: Michelle Boychuck and Kat Felix
- Get Me the Data--STAT!: Creating Videos to Help Students Find Health Data and Statistics by: Amy Sutherland

You can learn more about our amazing interns on the LibVine, the Dalhousie Libraries blog.

The Open Library of the Humanities Launches



The Open Library of the Humanities (OLH) has just launched after two years of planning and preparation! The platform starts with seven journals, supported by 99 institutions, at a cost of \$6 per institution per open-access article.

OLH is similar in many ways to the PLoS model in that OLH functions as a multidisciplinary journal itself, but also consists of seven discipline specific journals. Articles are released on a weekly rolling cycle, which means there is always new content

being released.

Read the full launch announcement here:

<https://about.openlibhums.org/2015/09/28/olh-launches/>

Here is the list of journals currently being produced:

<https://www.openlibhums.org/site/journals/>

Welcome!

John Yolkowski:

Welcome our new Copyright Services Coordinator, John Yolkowski!

John is not a stranger to the Dalhousie Libraries. For the past year, he has been the project manager for the Elisabeth Mann Borgese Digitization Project, working with the Research & Scholarly Communications / Archives team on the fifth floor of the Killam.

John's educational background includes an MLIS from Western and an MA from Guelph. He has previous experience working in archives, research, teaching, and providing chat reference service with OCUL's Scholars Portal.

Jackie Phinney:

It is our pleasure to welcome to Jackie Phinney to the Dalhousie Libraries. Jackie has been the Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick (DMNB) Librarian since August 2012. She will continue to work in Saint John as a member of our team.

Prior to her position with DMNB, Jackie worked as an MLIS intern at the Kellogg Library.

Nicole Tanner:

Nicole Tanner is our new Reference and Electronic Services Librarian at the Sir James Dunn Law Library. Nikki is a familiar face to Law Library users. In the summer of 2010 she was the summer Reference Assistant, and in the summer of 2013 she served as an Instructional Designer and provided reference and circulation assistance. Nikki will now be providing reference and research assistance to students and faculty in the Law Library. She is a graduate of Dalhousie's School of Information Management.

Welcome!

Erin MacPherson:

We are thrilled to welcome Erin MacPherson to the role of Research & Instruction Librarian at the MacRae. Prior to her new role, Erin worked at the MacRae Library as our Reference Assistant.

Erin has a Plant Science Technician Diploma (minor in Horticulture) from the Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC), and a B.Sc (Agr) in Plant Science from Dalhousie/NSAC. She received her MLIS from Dalhousie in October 2015.

Dal Reads

The Dal Reads program was developed in 2009, and is designed to encourage people in the Dalhousie community to share their love of books by reading the same novel.

This year, the Dal Reads Steering Committee has chosen to focus on first-year undergraduate students. By selecting this group of students, the Dal Reads program aims to provide a common intellectual experience that will serve as both an introduction to Dalhousie University and to post-secondary academic life in general. Our hope is that this new format will encourage lots of discussion and the development of exciting new and innovative programming during the Fall 2015 term.

The 2015 official Dal Reads selection is *A Year of Living Generously* by Lawrence Scanlan

A Year of Living Generously follows Scanlan as he volunteers with 12 different charities, among them well-known institutions *Habitat for Humanity*, the *St. Vincent de Paul Society* and *Canadian Crossroads*. Drawing from first-hand experiences, he tests the ideas and theories on global aid and charity and makes a compelling case for greater commitment and real connection, in the form of on-the-ground volunteer work, from us all.

A copy of the book was purchased by the University for each of our first year students. They have been available to be picked up in each of our libraries.

Lawrence Scanlan came to Dalhousie on October 14. This included visiting some classrooms, a public reading of the book, and a book signing.

Dalhousie Libraries acquires online access to Oxford Arabic Dictionary

The Dalhousie Libraries have recently acquired online access to the *Oxford Arabic Dictionary*.

This is the most authoritative English-Arabic/ Arabic-English dictionary ever published. Based on real modern evidence and computational analysis of hundreds of millions of words in both English and Modern Standard Arabic, the dictionary boasts more than 130,000 words and phrases and 200,000 translations. It has been designed for both Arabic and English native speakers and includes up-to-date vocabulary from computing, business, the media, and the arts, across both languages.

The Oxford Arabic Dictionary can be accessed through the Novanet Online Public Catalogue and the Databases page on the Dalhousie Libraries website.

Truth and Reconciliation Commission Documents to be added to Dalhousie Libraries Catalog

On June 2, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, led by the Honourable Justice Murray Sinclair, released a summary of its final report, *Honouring the Truth, Reconciling for the Future*. Over the course of six years, the commissioners heard from nearly 7000 survivors and witnesses who spoke about the abuse that had taken place at residential schools.

The four most recent documents available include an Executive Summary, a statement of Principles, the Survivors Speak, and Calls to Action.

These items will be added to the Libraries' catalog in mid-July and will be available through the Canadian Electronic Library (ebrary). You can download them today from the Truth and Reconciliation Committee website.

1. *Honouring the Truth, Reconciling for the Future: Summary of the Final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada* (**Executive Summary – English only**)
2. *What We Have Learned: Principles of Truth and Reconciliation*
 - English
 - French
3. *The Survivors Speak*
 - English
 - French
4. *Calls to Action*
 - English
 - French

In order to increase the number of ways people can learn about the Truth and Reconciliation Commission findings, an informally organized group of Canadians has provided video recordings of the Executive Summary on YouTube.

If you would like to learn more about First Nations at Dalhousie, visit:

- Native Student Services
- Aboriginal and Indigenous Research
- First Nations Research Guide (Transition Year Program)
- Retelling Canada First Year Seminar Research Guide

News from Prince Edward Island

PEI Public Library Service

Submitted by TRINA O'BRIEN LEGGOTT

Summerside Rotary Library on the Move

In August, it was announced that the Summerside Rotary Library would be moving to a new location to become the anchor tenant in the future Rotary Regional Community Learning Centre. The move means the library will almost double its existing space to 7500 sqft. The Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency committed \$791,498 to the project and the Rotary Club of Summerside has committed to fundraising the additional funds needed for the proposed \$1.5 million centre. The Learning Centre will provide much needed space for the library, including program and meeting space for community groups.

2015 has been a significant year in terms of library anniversaries

Among rural branch libraries, those in Borden-Carleton and Breadalbane celebrated 80 years of library service in their communities. The original Borden Public Library opened on January 9th, 1935 in the local Town Hall, while the Breadalbane library opened on May 18th, 1935 in the upstairs portion of the local Mackay and Todd Store.

The library in the community of Morell celebrated its 70th anniversary. Originally located within a room in the home of local resident Mrs. Duncan Coffin, Morell initiated its long history of library service in 1945.

The Confederation Centre Public Library in Charlottetown marks 50 years in its current location in 2015. Free public library service in Charlottetown can be traced back to the 1700s. Since 1905 that service has been available in the downtown core, first in the Legislative Library under the auspices of the Trustees of the Dodd Library Fund, later in the Harris Memorial Library and Art Gallery on Grafton St.

Following the fire of 1958 that destroyed the Market Building and impacted the Harris Memorial Library, plans proceeded for the memorial to Confederation which became the Confederation Centre of the Arts. Construction of the Centre was due to be completed in 1964 and a royal visit was scheduled in order to have Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip launch the new national centre. When they arrived to launch the new building, the library was not yet furnished; all that was available were some tables and chairs in the Children's Library, according to Doug Boylan, Chief Librarian at the new site. Photos were duly taken and have graced displays this past year to celebrate the anniversary.

Patron appreciation and anniversary celebration events for the 50th were marked on September 1st and 2nd this year.

News from Prince Edward Island

University of Prince Edward Island

Submitted by MARK LEGGOTT

The Robertson Library will be launching a new website in October called BookLives (booklives.ca), which highlights books from our collection and the lives they intersect. From the site:

"The discovery of the book *The Early Days of Christianity*, by Frederic W. Farrar, in the UPEI Robertson Library opened up a conversation about provenance within our collection. The book had a beautiful bookplate signed to Ethel Hodgson for memorizing Scripture at the Clergy Daughters' School in Casterton; a school that the Bronte sisters attended. Upon further research we were able to track down Ethel's niece, Christina Millest, and she provided us with the story of her aunt. It came to our attention that so many of our books have lives and their stories were worth telling!"

The project will be launched with a presentation by Sarah Fisher at the "Books, Publishing & Libraries" Conference in Vancouver this month.

UPEI will be promoting open access and open data during Open Access Week (October 19-25) with the launch of the new data.upei.ca site, which provides access to a research data management planning tool, a Drop-Box-like file synchronization tool, and the ability to publish datasets. This effort was led by Dawn Hopper and Donald Moses in response to the emerging Tri-Agency mandates, as well as UPEI's own Senate-approved Open Access Policy. There will also be a public presentation by Mark Leggott (University Librarian) and Peter Rukavina (Robertson Library Hacker in Residence), posters and of course, bookmarks!

Rosemary (Rosie) Le Faive was the successful candidate for a continuing appointment as Digital Infrastructure and Metadata Librarian, starting in her new role July 1 of this year. Rosie was previously at the Robertson Library building the Bowing Down Home website with Ken Perlman (a Musicologist and author of "Couldn't Have a Wedding Without the Fiddler," a history of fiddling on the Island. You can see the site at bowingdownhome.ca). Rosie's new position reflects a shuffle of duties for the Librarians after the retirement this year of Suzanne Jones, who had 25 years of service with the Library. The shuffle included Rosie assuming responsibility for Cataloguing, and Mark Leggott for Circulation and Suzanne's subject areas.

Lindsey MacCallum started a 10-month term, also on July 1 of this year, as a sabbatical replacement for Betty Jeffery as the Instruction and Reference Services Librarian. Lindsey is also finishing up a project to catalog our complete collection of Lucy Maud Montgomery publications, with an emphasis on those donated by Donna Campbell. This project will also digitize the complete set of stories and poems published in magazines,

as well as Montgomery's books. We are planning to launch this new resource, along with a new website for the Lucy Maud Montgomery Institute, in 2016.

The Library launched a new website this summer, which includes look and feel changes along with some new functionality. You can see the new site at library.upei.ca.

The Library and the University were hosts for the 1st Islandora Conference, which was held on campus and attracted close to 100 people for what will be a regular event.

News from the Dalhousie School of Information Management

Submitted by SANDRA TOZE

SIM was happy to be a part of the first ALM Conference (Archives+Libraries+Museums) in Nova Scotia.

We were thrilled with the participation in our panel *Working Together – Connecting Academia and Practice*. SIM Faculty highlighted their innovative research related to GIS, digitization, exploring place and space with mobile devices, user-generated cataloguing and classification, reading cultures of teens and youth, collaboration, information use and influence, user engagement, digital humanities, and data management. The interactive discussion highlighted the connections with Archives and Libraries, and led to the discussion of partnerships with Museums. We look forward to continuing to collaborate with all our community partners. To hear more about SIM's research take a look at our Research Roundup –Summer edition at our SIMCAST blog:

<https://blogs.dal.ca/sim/2015/08/28/research-roundup-summer-edition/>

Ideas about LIS education – Let SIM know

SIM is currently in the process of reviewing our two Graduate Programs, our Master of Library and Information Studies (MLIS) degree and our mid-career Master of Information Management (MIM) degree. We look forward to working with APLA members to ensure our degrees fit the changing needs of the information professions. If you have particular ideas you are passionate about regarding LIS education please send an email to SIM Interim Director Sandra Toze at stoze@dal.ca.

SIM congratulates Susan Cleyle – this year’s recipient of the 2015 Dalhousie School of Information Management Outstanding Alumni Award

Sue accepted this award at the 2015 SIMAA Welcome Reception and Awards ceremony on October 1st. To a packed crowd, Sue highlighted her “Top 10 Reflections on What Makes a Great Career in Library and Information Management.” Sue joins an impressive group of winners that includes Lou Duggan (2014), Barbara Shuh (2013), Patrick Ellis (2012) and Margaret Murphy (2011). Start thinking now about who you might want to nominate for next year’s award.

Thanks to SIMAA Chair Lou Duggan, Vice Chair Sarah Visintini and Marianne Hagen, The Faculty of Management’s Alumni Relations Officer for organizing such a great event.

SIM welcomes Dr. Lori McCay-Peet

This fall, the School of Information Management was pleased to welcome Dr. Lori McCay-Peet, who has joined us in a limited term position as of August 1st, 2015.



Dr. Lori McCay-Peet has an interdisciplinary PhD (Management and Computer Science), MLIS, BA (History), and Diploma in Costume Studies from Dalhousie University. Dr. McCay-Peet has been postdoctoral fellow at the University of Western Ontario in the SocioDigital Lab, interned at Yahoo! Research in Barcelona, and earned a SSHRC Joseph-Armand Bombardier Doctoral Scholarship and the Thomson Reuters Information Science Doctoral Dissertation Proposal Scholarship for her PhD work.

Her research focuses on new and emerging media such as social media and examines topics such as the information-rich phenomenon of serendipity, user engagement, and scholarly communication. Dr. McCay-Peet is currently teaching in both our MLIS and MIM programs.

Spend October with SIM

Looking for stimulating talks to inspire? We have a great line up of leading professionals in our IM Lecture series this year. Upcoming talks include:

- Dan Russell, Senior Research Scientist, Search Quality & User Happiness, Google - ***Mindtools: What Does it Mean to be Literate in the Age of Google?*** Wednesday, October 21st, 2015 from 5:30pm-6:30pm, Room 3089, Kenneth C. Rowe Management Building, 6100 University Avenue
- Matthew Herder, Associate Professor of Medicine; Cross Appointed in Law, Dalhousie University- ***Fraud Forgotten? What the History of Drug Regulation Teaches Us About the Importance of Transparency Today.*** Wednesday, November 4th,

2015 from 12:00-1:00pm, Room 3089, Kenneth C. Rowe Management Building,
6100 University Avenue

Not able to join us in person? You can listen to all our lectures through our website:
<http://www.dal.ca/faculty/management/school-of-information-management/news-events/information-managementpubliclectureseries.html>

Start planning now for Information Without Borders 2016

The 10th annual IWB conference ***Managing Health Information: Technologies and Strategies for the 21st Century*** will be held on February 10th, 2016. Discussion at the conference will consider the following aspects of health-related information:

- How the management of health care data and records is evolving
- Where consumers turn to for reliable and accessible health information
- How Health Informatics and emerging information technologies transform health care
- The role of Information Managers in supporting evidence-based health decisions

To keep up to date by following the conference on Twitter [@IWBConference](#), and like [iwbconference](#) on Facebook.

Academic Librarians as Successful Researchers: Discussion with Kristin Hoffmann

LINDSAY McNIFF, Dalhousie University Libraries

This year, APLA's General Activities fund has impacted more than just the 90-minute event it helped to sponsor. The event prompted the founding of an exciting library research support group in Nova Scotia whose eventual impact we can only await.

As part of my OLA Superconference experience this year, I volunteered to be a mock interviewer. A yearly initiative of the OLA Career Centre, the mock interview exercise is designed to allow MLIS/MI students the experience of a job interview. I was paired with Kristin Hoffmann, Head of Research and Instructional Services at the D.B. Weldon Library, University of Western Ontario. As we bid our interviewee good luck and prepared to return to the conference, Kristin mentioned an upcoming family trip to Halifax and wondered whether any librarians or librarian groups would be interested in hearing about her research. She described her research, which focuses heavily on the role of academic librarians as researchers, and asks questions such as *how have librarians successfully embraced the role of researcher? How can we best support and encourage each other to develop as researchers?* I found myself nodding furiously – almost too furiously. We're interested, I said. We are so interested.

As librarians, we support research. Whether we are helping researchers to locate vital information to inform decisions or change the course of their research area, helping students make connections between their own ideas and the published literature, or assisting scholars in managing their research output, we feel confident supporting others in their work. But when it comes time to produce our own research (whether for professional interest, career advancement, or both), some of that confidence can wane. Much of the literature on librarians as researchers focuses on the barriers. Some of the key inhibitors include lack of time, insecurity about our perceived lack of training, lack of support from our administrators and/or peers, and lack of confidence (the famous imposter syndrome) – Brian Detlor and Vivian Lewis from McMaster actually summarized some of this research in a 2015 presentation at the OLA Superconference. The barriers, which come from both internal and external places, can seem numerous and prohibitive. They can be particularly tough obstacles for those of us who are new to the profession, and who have only begun to navigate the complexities of being a professional librarian.

Kristin Hoffmann's research takes a different approach. Instead of focusing on the barriers to librarians'

research success, she investigates the factors affecting research success. By first analyzing the literature, Hoffmann and her research partners Selinda Adelle Berg and Denise Koufogiannakis are working toward developing an instrument to measure the impact of these identified factors.

The Dalhousie colleagues I spoke to were all enthusiastic about the possibility of an event with Kristin (Robin Parker, in particular, was a great help with the event planning). We all agreed that librarians beyond Dalhousie would be interested in hearing what Kristin had to say, so we decided on a central location. With sponsorship from APLA's General Activities Fund, as well as additional support from the Canadian Association of Professional Academic Librarians (CAPAL) Dalhousie Student Chapter, the Halifax Library Association (HLA), and the School of Information Management Student Association (SIMSA), we were able to hold the event at the Central Library and provide sandwiches, coffee/tea, cookies, and a lovely speaker gift from a local bookbinder. I am grateful to each of the above organizations as well for helping to promote the event.

We had an excellent and diverse turnout – academic librarians from a number of the Novanet libraries, Capital Health librarians, government librarians, as well as MLIS students and recent graduates (approximately 30 attendees in total). The topic clearly resonated with people from a number of sectors. Intent on facilitating a collaborative discussion, Kristin asked us each to talk for a moment about our research interests. As many of us were meeting for the first time, this was

a great opportunity to hear about some of the research librarians at other institutions and in other contexts were working on (or thinking about working on). Prior to the event, participants were asked to read Kristin's article, "Examining success: Identifying factors that contribute to research productivity across librarianship and other disciplines" (Hoffman, Berg, & Koufogiannakis, 2015). The article, which analysed existing literature on the subject, describes these success factors as grouped under three broad umbrellas: individual attributes (such as academic rank, personality traits, experience, and commitment to research), peers and community (opportunities for support, collaborating, and mentoring), and institutional structures and supports (such as access to resources, institution quality, and workload). As a group, we discussed some of these attributes, and how they are or are not represented in our specific institutional and personal contexts.

Participants found the discussion with Kristin to be productive and refreshing. The discussion seemed emblematic of a desire to work together and to support one another. Some attendees saw within the room a latent opportunity, and were not ready to leave until some "next steps" had been established. Given the great turnout and the sense of possibility generated by the event, Lou Duggan from Saint Mary's University asked if there was any interest in establishing a librarian research support group in Halifax. Following enthusiastic consensus, Lou began the process of gathering interested names and investigating possibilities for online hosting. Lou eventually applied to

Libraries Nova Scotia for hosting support and his application was ultimately successful. While the LibrariesNS Research Support Group (RSG) is the subject of another article, I wanted to note its origins at this APLA-sponsored event.

Clearly there is an interest in producing and supporting new research among

Nova Scotia information professionals. The event with Kristin Hoffmann helped to open the discussion, and the new Research Support Group will hopefully inspire new projects and partnerships that might not have happened otherwise. I am very grateful to APLA and our other sponsors for supporting this event.

References

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Fall 2015 Contributors and Credits

- MICHELE CHARLTON – Communications Coordinator, Dalhousie University Libraries
- ROSALIE GILLIS – Coordinator Community Support, Cape Breton Regional Library
- MATHIEU LANTEIGNE – VP New Brunswick / Reference Librarian, Moncton Public Library
- MARK LEGGOTT – University Librarian, Robertson Library, UPEI
- TARA MACNEIL – Programs Coordinator, Cape Breton Regional Library
- PEGGY McEACHREON – VP Membership / Librarian Educator, Nova Scotia Health Authority
- LINDSAY McNIFF – Learning and Instruction Librarian, Dalhousie University Libraries
- TRINA O'BRIEN LEGGOTT - Chief Librarian, Confederation Centre Public Library
- LYNN SOMERS – APLA President / Manager, Client Services, Nova Scotia Provincial Library
- CHRIS THOMSON – Programs, Cape Breton Regional Library
- SANDRA TOZE – Interim Director, School of Information Management (SIM)

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Alison Ambi, Co-Editor
Memorial University Libraries

Patricia Langille, Co-Editor
Patrick Power Library, Saint Mary's
University

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Laurinda Matheson
Instructional Services Librarian
Angus L. Macdonald Library
St. Francis Xavier University
(902) 867-4883
lmmathes@stfx.ca