News from Prince Edward Island

News from Holland College

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September came and passed in a whirlwind of library tours, sessions, and new students. With the first two months of the academic year completed, students and staff have settled into a routine. However, while the rest were settling in, our main library saw some changes!

• October 1st was a big day for the Charlottetown Centre Library because we received a new name AND began a pilot project for the Writing Centre. The Charlottetown Centre Library is now the Regis and Joan Duffy Library. We are proud to be named after prominent members within the Island Community, whose generosity has supported the growth of Holland College as a whole.

The Writing Centre Pilot Project is a free service available to students at the Charlottetown, Tourism and Culinary Centres! This service allows students to receive feedback on their writing to ultimately boost their marks and gain more insight into the writing and editing process. As the paper writing season is upon us, I predict it will be swamped!

• This month, Holland College was also fortunate enough to host The Council of Atlantic University & College Libraries “Forum Serving the Needs of the LGBTQ2S+ Community.” It was amazing to hear about the projects going on at Dalhousie, such as the LGBT Seniors Archive project. During the panel discussion, it was enlightening to hear about Treena Smith, Rory Starkman, and Jay Gallant’s experiences on PEI. This conversation reminded us how simple language can affect people and that libraries are key players in creating inviting spaces for the LGBTQ2S+ community.

• The excitement does not end there! As Leslie Holt has taken a secondment with the International Office, the Regis and Joan Duffy Library has welcomed Mary Busch to our team! Mary graduated from the University of the Fraser Valley (UFV), with a Diploma in Library and Information Technology/Records Management Concentration. Since graduating, Mary worked
within the British Columbia School District, supporting students and staff by maintaining daily operations within the Langley School District #35 library. It has been a pleasure getting to know Mary over the past few weeks.

- Finally, for Halloween week, student employee Allen Boland put a lot of work into decorating, and did a fantastic job transforming the library into a spooky space! Check out the pictures (I love the little ghost cut-outs).

**Upcoming at the Regis and Joan Duffy Library:**

In November, we are hosting two Lunch and Learns for the students related to career development. The first session, on November 19th, is going to focus on what information to include in cover letters and resumes then provide time for students to workshop their own resumes with the new skills acquired. The second session, on November 20th, will focus on dressing professionally, interview preparation, and interview demeanor. These skills are crucial for college students as they are either close to graduation or heading out on their OJT in the second semester. The library is partnering with the Student Union and has bought prizes for the event, so I hope students bring their lunches to the library and learn some valuable skills that will set them up for success outside of academia!