

News from Robertson Library, University of Prince Edward Island

Donald Moses, University Librarian, UPEI Robertson Library

COVID-19

We had a brief closure in March 2021 - a “circuit-breaker” period to address concerns related to a rise in COVID cases on the Island, from March 1-3rd. More information about our operations during COVID-19 are available on our [website](#).

Staffing

Advertisement for a Systems Librarian will be posted shortly.

In March we hired a new staff member, Shawne Holcomb. Shawne works in the Circulation and the Metaliteracy and Student Engagement units.

We also have two summer students, Samantha Daley and Ali Alhakeem, who are at the Service Desk and helping out in various library projects.

Health Sciences and Scholarly Communications Librarian, Kim Mears, was awarded permanency.

In April/Early May UPEI hosted a virtual practicum student from Dalhousie's Master of Information program. Ashley MacKinnon helped update and tidy multiple guides including [Religious Studies](#) and [Philosophy](#). Her biggest accomplishment was the creation of the [Asian Studies](#) guides from scratch. Through a Young Canada Works grant we were able to hire Maggie Gordon for the winter 2021 semester to work on the L.M. Montgomery research collections hosted on [KindredSpaces](#). Maggie was able to add more content to the collections and enhance existing metadata.

New Databases/Ebooks

Through participation in the Canadian Research Knowledge Network consortium, the Robertson Library benefited from license negotiations that resulted in lower annual subscription costs. With these savings the library was able to purchase the *Human Kinetics Library*, *Sage Research Methods (SRM)*, *SRM Foundations*, and *SRM Practical Research and Academic Skills video collection*. We were also able to subscribe to the *Children's Literature Comprehensive Database* and *Scopus*.

Digital Collections & Collaborations

We continue to digitize content as part of our collaboration with the Confederation Centre Art Gallery and Museum and the L.M. Montgomery Institute with the Virtual Museum Canada project related to L.M. Montgomery and her original manuscript for *Anne of Green Gables*. We've had the privilege to work on the digitization of the original manuscript and have digitized VHS tapes from a previous project, “The Bend in the Road”.

We continue our ongoing project of digital collection migration.

Funding

Our data.upei.ca repository was successful in obtaining the [NDRIO-Portage CoreTrustSeal Certification Support Cohort & Funding!](#)

Open Textbook Initiative

As part of the Library's Open Education Resource Development Program, librarian Kim Mears has developed a [Textbook Champions Program](#) which was launched during the **Open Education Week, March 1-5th**. The program profiles UPEI faculty who have created, adapted, or adopted Open Education Resources for use in their courses.

IslandScholar

[Dr. Pamela Bastante](#) recently made her book, *La fundación de un convento novohispano: el Real Convento de la Purísima Concepción en San Miguel el Grande*, [open access on IslandScholar](#) with permission from her publisher.

Archives News

The exhibit on PEI nursing heritage, noted in the last APLA Bulletin, continues to make progress: display cabinetry has been installed in the UPEI Health Sciences Building, and we hope for a Fall 2021 launch for the display.

The library is also engaged in a project this summer to update and modernize an online inventory of the University's Art Collection. Funding for a student project assistant has been provided by Young Canada Works.