

News from New Brunswick

News from Mount Allison University Libraries & Archives

Laura Landon, Teaching & Research Librarian

MountAllison Libraries & Archives



Concept drawing of exterior of soon-to-be-renovated R.P. Bell Library Centre for Innovation & Learning

News & Events

Mount Allison has unveiled concept drawings for both the R.P. Bell Library renovation and the space that will serve as a temporary library while the major renovation is underway from 2027-2030. A project timeline and details of the design are available on the [R.P. Bell Library: Centre for Innovation and Learning website](#). Construction of a temporary library space begins in Spring 2025. The temporary space will be located behind the university's Athletic Centre, and will serve as a multi-sport complex when the R.P. Bell Library renovation is complete. The temporary space will house the main print collection, with additional storage space for lesser-used items in another building on campus.

Anne LePage, Technical Services and Systems Librarian, just returned from a sabbatical during which she began a project on a comprehensive bibliography of all faculty publications at Mount Allison. The bibliography will enable the library to create a more complete and detailed repository of the university's institutional output throughout its history.

Dr. Stephen Geier (STEM Librarian) and **Elizabeth Stregger** (Data and Digital Services Librarian) received a \$33,000 [CEWIL](#) grant to work on improving discoverability and preservation of Open Access journals edited by Mount Allison University faculty and students. Students in CHEM/BIOC 3991 (Research and Communication) and DATA 3101 (Data Acquisition and Organization) are developing and comparing workflows for metadata transformation using three approaches: human metadata work, AI-assisted work, and webscraping. Students have learned about open science, persistent identifiers, and publishing workflows in a series of guest lectures. The workshops for each course are designed to be complementary, with the results of one class creating examples for the other. The questions, problems, and solutions developed in these courses will help the library launch Open Journal Systems as a new digital service that supports faculty and student publishing.

Dr. Rachel Rubin, Dean of Libraries and Archives, is serving as co-lead of the university's new Strategic Planning Facilitation Team. She joins Economics professor **Dr. Craig Brett** in leading this venture to engage the university community in strategically thinking about the choices, actions and priorities that will inform a new strategic plan. The Strategic Planning Process (SPP) was launched by Mount Allison's new president, **Dr. Ian Sutherland**. "The SPP will help define our future – who we want to be as Mount Allison University, how we mould a future of excellence rooted in our academic mission to advance knowledge of all forms, nurturing the human condition," said Dr. Sutherland.

Staffing:

Librarian **Mike Roy** joined Mount Allison in August on a two-year term as Humanities and Student Success Librarian. He holds an MLIS from Dalhousie University (2020) and is an alumnus of Mount Allison University with a BA in English Literature (2016). Mike worked four years at Calgary Public Library and two years at Saint Mary's University before joining Mount Allison. He is originally from Moncton, NB on the traditional territory of the Maliseet and Mi'kmaq, and his professional and research interests include digital equity, information literacy, information access, and teaching.

Janice Stockall accepted a position as Manager of Access Services in October after serving in an interim capacity in this position for two years. Janice has 25 years' experience in academic libraries, including roughly 10 years at Mount Allison followed by another nine years at University of New Brunswick libraries.

The library welcomed **Robin Lightfoot** into the role of Access Services Assistant in September. Robin recently completed the Library and Information Technician program at Mohawk College, working in the Mount Allison Library during her practicum in Winter 2024. A Mount Allison alumna, Robin holds a Bachelor of Music with a major in Voice and a minor in Fine Arts. After working for several years in Toronto, Robin is happy to begin a new career in libraries and return to the Maritimes.

Alexandra Tome left the library in November for a new role as Library Technician: Academic Support and Technical Services at George Brown College. In her three years at Mount Allison, Alex led or played a key role in many initiatives, including outreach ventures such as [Plant Summer Camp](#), a program that cares for students' plants while providing entertaining social media posts to keep the Mount A Library community engaged over the summer. We will miss Alex's creative flair and skill as a library ambassador who inspires enthusiasm in others.