

News from Nova Scotia

News from Dalhousie Libraries

Marlo MacKay, Communications Coordinator

Transformative Renovations for the MacRae Library

The **new Student Learning Commons on the third level of the MacRae Library** will be a space unlike any other on Dalhousie's Agricultural Campus. It will combine academic library services and bookable student collaboration spaces in an open-concept design with plenty of natural light, glass, and bright colors.

Features of the new Student Learning Commons include:

- an intercultural room
- a meditation space
- gender neutral washrooms
- hand and foot washing stations
- a self-serve café
- a bookable video conferencing room for students
- a dividable program room with capacity for up to 60 people, available to student societies, staff, and faculty
- a living wall
- an Aboriginal mural
- Dalhousie Agricultural Students' Association offices
- a variety of seating options



The Student Learning Commons is expected to open in April 2018.

Enhancing the Impact of the Halifax Explosion with 3D Mapping



The Dalhousie Libraries' GIS Centre explored the geography of Halifax's past with their recreation of historic images in 2- and 3-D to mark 100 years since the Halifax Explosion. Curated by James Boxall, *From 2D to 3D: Mapping Halifax Over Time*, allows you to view streets, buildings, and other topographic features depicting the north-end of Halifax after the explosion on December 6, 1917.

The Devastation Map in 3D shows three categories of damage to buildings: blue for totally collapsed, red for burned ruins and orange for badly wrecked.

The three-dimensional image of the Halifax Explosion site was created using the original fire insurance plans from 1914. These were reformatted in ArcGIS to create building and road footprints. The maps were then 'joined' to the 'real' world, forming a database which included street addresses and building heights. The time to generate new data from the original map was two months of painstaking work by student interns Cam Robertson (MPLAN) and Shanni Bale (MREM).

The structures were then georeferenced and attached to the Devastation Map where the outlines of buildings that were either totally or partially destroyed could be seen. Once the maps were joined into one database, the GIS Centre was able to use building heights and locations to match with the full digital elevation model (DEM) which uses bare earth altitude from LiDAR Data (light detection/lasers from aircraft surveys). That gave the GIS Centre a 3D form to attach all data sources.

Other researchers added data which expanded the benefits of what was being created within the GIS Centre (e.g. information related to the Halifax Explosion Relief Commission). This project was also the GIS Centre's first Historical GIS under the rubric of providing information and data access, and knowledge translations within digital scholarship.

Additionally, the project gave students the opportunity to test new software and data formats along with historical images, maps, and recreated data. At completion, the students involved saw this effort as the beginning of a historic atlas framework for Halifax.

The exhibit wrapped up at the Dalhousie Art Gallery on December 17, but the web app can be viewed here: <https://dalspatial.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=cbbdab75bf07439a97cd16408ed81920>

Celebrating 50 years at the Kellogg Library

To mark this milestone, the Dalhousie Libraries hosted a reception in the library on October 12. Thank you to friends, colleagues, students, and staff who came to help us celebrate and especially to our special guest and long-standing supporter of the Kellogg Library, Dr. Vivien Boniuk.

Dr. Boniuk traveled from New York for the occasion and delivered a speech where she talked about her passion for books, love of medicine, and appreciation of her parents' sacrifices. These sacrifices inspired Dr. Boniuk and her siblings to establish the Hyman & Rachel Boniuk Memorial Fund to support the W.K. Kellogg Health Sciences Library in 1989. A portrait of her parents still hangs in the Kellogg Library, along with a plaque in memory of them.

This year, the earnings from the fund were used to purchase 600 electronic medical books, which will benefit medical students on Dalhousie's Halifax and Saint John campuses.

Officially opened on July 14, 1967, the Kellogg Library opened along with the Tupper Building as a major Centennial project and with the assistance of a significant grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation.

More information about the history of the Kellogg Library can be found here:
<http://dal.ca.libguides.com/c.php?g=673497&p=4742825>



Student Jill Forbes addresses the crowd, detailing the Importance of the library to students.



Familiar faces from the past came out to help us Celebrate. Former Kellogg Library Heads Betty Sutherland and Patrick Ellis.



The crowd enjoying some live classical guitar music and refreshments.



Ann Barrett, Dalhousie Libraries' Associate University Librarian Scholarly Communications & Head of the Kellogg Library, donor Dr. Vivian Boniuk, and University Librarian Donna Bourne-Tyson

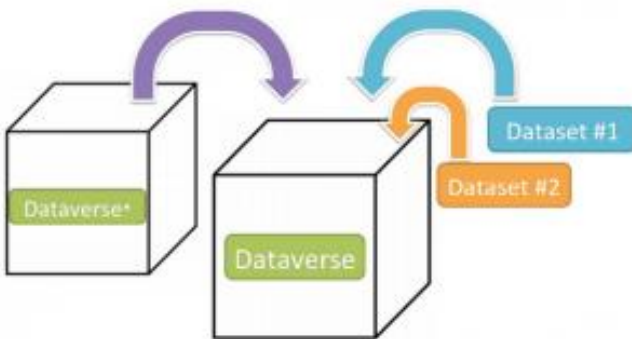
Managing your Research Data



The Dalhousie Libraries have given researchers one less thing to worry about when it comes to their datasets — we can store it for them, locally. Dataverse, the Harvard-developed open-source data repository software, has come to Dalhousie.

“As researchers, we are increasingly called upon to share the data that underlies our research — or even to publish the data as a standalone product,” says Dr. Mike Smit, Acting Associate Dean Research and associate professor in the School of Information Management. “Having a Dal Dataverse ensures every Dal researcher in every field of study has a place to deposit their data, to describe and document it, and to share it with the world. Students graduate, projects end, researchers retire — a data repository is a way to ensure the data lives on.”

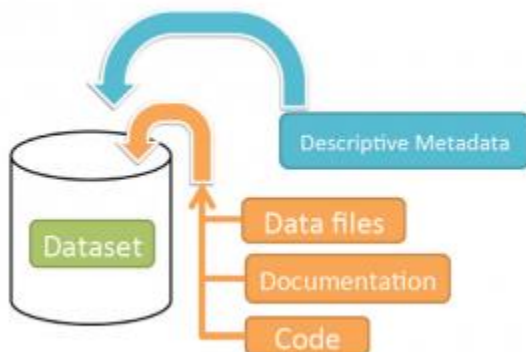
Schematic Diagram of a **Dataverse** in Dataverse 4.0



Container for your **Datasets** and/or **Dataverses***

* Dataverses can now contain other Dataverses (this replaces Collections & Subnetworks)

Schematic Diagram of a **Dataset** in Dataverse 4.0



Container for your data, documentation, and code.

Hosted by the Dalhousie Libraries, this free service allows a researcher to create and manage their own account on the Dalhousie Dataverse, and manage their own project files (dataverses within Dataverse) and datasets. “Dataverses are also the names of the individual containers that are set up in the space to hold datasets. A dataverse can be set up for an individual researcher, project, lab, or even entire department. The individual dataverse contains datasets, which include the code, documentation, and metadata that goes along with your data,” explained Sarah Stevenson, Associate University Librarian Research Services and Head of Killam Library.

Besides the obvious convenience of this service, there are other benefits:

- Sharing and discoverability of your data (open access)
- Protection against data loss by depositing in Dataverse
- Currently, the *Tri-agency Statement of Principles on Digital Data Management* states that it is expected that grant-funded research data be stored on a publicly accessible repository

More information on dataverse and related research data management (RDM) services offered by the Dalhousie Libraries is available

-here: <http://dal.ca.libguides.com/rdm/daldataverse> and

-here: <https://libraries.dal.ca/services/data-management-services.html>

Contact the Dal Libraries RDM team at data.managemet@dal.ca for more information, or get started using Dataverse: dataverse.library.dal.ca.

You can learn more about RDM on the Portage website <https://portagenetwork.ca/resource-library/>, a service provided by the Canadian Association of Research Libraries.

Digital Journal Publishing Services by the Dalhousie Libraries

Geoff Brown, Dalhousie University Libraries



The Dalhousie Libraries provide digital journal publishing services to the University community by providing access to hosted online journal software. The software we use is Open Journal Systems (OJS), a collaborative, open source software project maintained by the Public Knowledge Project.

We handle the initial set-up of journals, answer questions about how to use the software, and can make recommendations about how to implement the journal. The journal owners are responsible for publishing content, managing subscribers/readers, and customizing the design of the journal.

Some of the faculty-led, scholarly journals we host online are:

- [Canadian Journal for the Study of Adult Education](#)

- [Canadian Journal of Law and Technology](#)
- [Dionysius](#)
- [International Journal of Georesources and Environment](#)
- [Proceedings of the Nova Scotian Institute of Science \(NSIS\).](#)

The journal hosting service is also available to student journals. Some of the student journals that we host are:

- [Dalhousie Journal of Interdisciplinary Management](#)
- [Dalhousie Journal of Legal Studies](#)
- [Dalhousie Medical Journal](#)
- [Pseudo-Dionysius](#)
- [Verso: An Undergraduate Journal of Literary Criticism](#)
- [YA Hotline](#)

Puppy Room

The Killam Library hosted a puppy room on December 4, with thanks to volunteers from Saint John Ambulance for bringing their pooches. Many students stopped in to socialize with the dogs and take a break from studying for exams.



Pop Up Library

On November 16, we hosted a pop-up library in Shirreff Hall (a student residence) from 4–6 p.m. The pop-up library attracted lots of delighted students who borrowed from the selection of novels we brought and registered their DalCards. Many were pleasantly surprised to learn that an academic library had fiction in its collection.



Staff News

Phil Laugher is the newest staff member at the Dalhousie Libraries. For seventeen years, he was the day manager at the iconic bookstore, John W. Doull, affectionately known by many as JWD's. Phil is excited to be carrying on the family tradition of working in libraries, with his grandparents working in libraries as well as his father.

Longtime librarian Ian Colford retired this fall, after a career spanning 32 years at the Killam and Sexton Libraries. Ian is also a successful writer, having been recognized with multiple awards and nominations for his published fiction.

Very sadly, we said goodbye to Robert Higgins this fall. Robert passed away suddenly in October. He had worked at the Killam Library for seventeen years.

