

News from Nova Scotia

News from Dalhousie Libraries

Marlo MacKay, Communications Coordinator

Dal Libraries Wins Healthy Workplace Award

In June, the Dal Libraries proudly accepted the Healthy Workplace Award. Sandy Dwyer, Chair of the Dal Libraries Health & Wellness Committee, accepted the award on the Libraries' behalf.

Throughout the year, the staff of the Dal Libraries take part in numerous activities that touch on the seven pillars of health: physical, mental/emotional, interpersonal/social, intellectual, spiritual, environmental, and workload management. Some of the initiatives we have done include: organizing a session of the Blanket Exercise through the Dal Elders-in-Residence, fundraising for various charitable causes, the creation of a Diversity & Inclusion Committee, and participation in various activities such as lunchtime baseball leagues, Walktober, and the Spring into Action Challenge.



The award itself was hand-crafted by two Nova Scotian artists: Lisa Martin-Cole, owner of The Jeremiah Tree, in Amherst; and Allan Carver, an artist from Hubbards.

Celebrating Milestones

In June, Dalhousie recognized dozens of employees who have reached milestones of 25, 35, 45, and 50 years. Among those employees, five staff from the Dal Libraries were celebrated at the event hosted by Dalhousie President, Dr. Richard Florizone.

Congratulations to David George (35 years), Paul Duffy (35 years), Andrew Finch (35 years), Michelle McDonald (25 years), and Kelly Casey (25 years). Thank you for your service to the Dal Libraries!



Left to right: Andrew Finch, David George, Michelle McDonald (all pictured with Dr. Richard Florizone)

Spring into Action Challenge 2018

Spring into Action is an annual event sponsored by Horizons Community Development Associates. The goal of the challenge is to get participants moving at least 30 minutes each day, five days each week, for improved and sustained health and well-being.

Across Nova Scotia, 34 teams participated. The Dal Libraries entered three teams into the challenge, which ran from April 9 to May 18. Two of the teams won one of the weekly draws. Congratulations to the Law-Di-Das, the Mission SlimPossibles and The Hip Flexors on your active lifestyles!



Pictured above: The HipFlexors and the Mission Slimpossibles



Pictured to the left: The Law-Di-Das

Congratulations to Three Staff Graduates!

Three staff members from the Dalhousie Libraries graduated in 2018 with their Master of Library & Information Studies (MLIS). Congratulations to Sarah Davis, Margaret Vail, and Brian Lesser! Brian was also recently [profiled](#) by the Faculty of Management about his degree.



Left to right: Sarah Davis, Margaret Vail, & Brian Lesser

Cloud Powering Digital Humanities Workshop

Compute Canada/Acenet and Dalhousie Libraries teamed up to offer a two-day workshop on using Compute Canada's cloud environment for researchers in the social sciences and humanities, with a particular focus to those who might be thinking about, or currently working, in the Digital Humanities. The workshop was open to faculty members and graduate students at Halifax-based universities affiliated with Compute Canada.



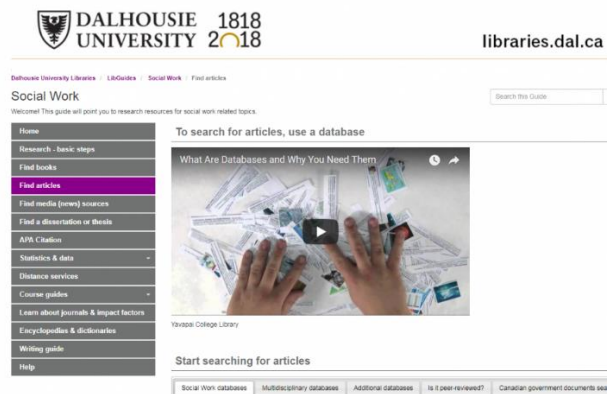
LibGuides – Revamped & Refreshed

We've revamped the layout on our LibGuides to make them easier to use. Check them out, and happy researching! dal.ca.libguides.com

The old layout featured gold accents and a two-column layout. The new layout features the purple from Dalhousie's extended colour palette as an accent and favours one wide column over two.



Out with the old



In with the new

Dal Libraries Launch Assessment Page

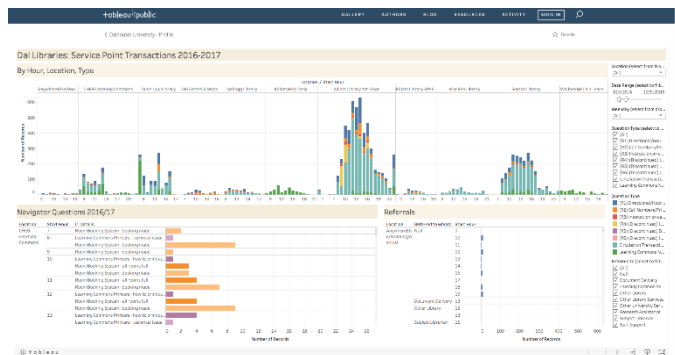
At Dal Libraries, one of the ways we exercise accountability to the community we serve and to the goals of Dalhousie is through our assessment program.

Through assessment, we evaluate the needs and behaviors of our user community; how our services, resources and spaces meet those needs; and what impact the Dal Libraries have on institutional goals.



Linda Bedwell: Coordinator of Assessment

A full description of our assessment program, along with links to current projects, reports, recommendations, follow-up actions, and interactive data visualizations, can be viewed on the new Library Assessment section of the Dal Libraries website. Content will be regularly added and updated, so visit the [assessment page](#) often.



Research Bootcamp

For the fourth year in a row, the Dal Libraries offered Research Bootcamp, a suite of popular sessions designed for graduate students as well as teaching and research assistants.

Librarians lead sessions on topics such as: library basics; literature reviews (searching and writing); citation tools; writing abstracts & grant proposals; copyright, open access & predatory publishers; legal resources; business and competitive intelligence resources; PubMed and other health sciences databases; humanities resources; Canadian data and stats; grey literature; research data management; Excel; data visualization; and conference posters.



Dal Libraries at Doors Open Halifax

In June, the Dal Libraries participated in Doors Open Halifax, an annual event that makes free access to buildings of historical, contemporary or architectural significance to the general public. We welcomed nearly 1,500 visitors to our exhibit over the weekend.



Since we're celebrating Dal 200 all year, the team in the Archives pulled out all the stops and put together a display including historical documents and binders of hundreds of photographs from Dal's history, as well as materials from some of our other collections such as items relating to Neptune Theatre, the Olands, the Bluenose, and the Nova Scotia Tattoo.

Pictured left: Ann Barrett, Head of the W.K. Kellogg Library

We were thrilled to be in Halifax Hall at City Hall for this special event, which was, in itself, a nod to Dal's history as City Hall sits on the site of the original Dalhousie College. Thank you to our friends at City Hall for sharing your venue with us. Thank you also to our friends at the Dalhousie Art Gallery for loaning us the beautiful cases that allowed us to safely display some original documents that we generally don't get to put on display.



Various displays from Doors Open

Dal Libraries Supporting Dal's 200th Anniversary

Libraries are much more digital these days, but the Dalhousie Libraries are getting back to their roots of books and archival materials to celebrate Dal 200.

In September 2018, Dalhousie will have a bigger-than-ever presence at Halifax's Word on the Street, a festival designed to encourage discussion on the value of literature and literacy.

"Word on the Street is a perfect place for Dalhousie to be, especially for Dal 200," says Donna Bourne-Tyson, University Librarian. "Thousands of people come out for the festival, many of whom have some connection to Dalhousie. For those who don't, it's a chance for us to make a connection with them by showing them what we have to offer, whether it be programs, events, or books."

At the Word on the Street festival, Dal will have an author's stage. Marlo MacKay, communications coordinator for the Dalhousie Libraries, says they've got an exciting line-up of five authors, including several current faculty members, all with a connection to Dal.

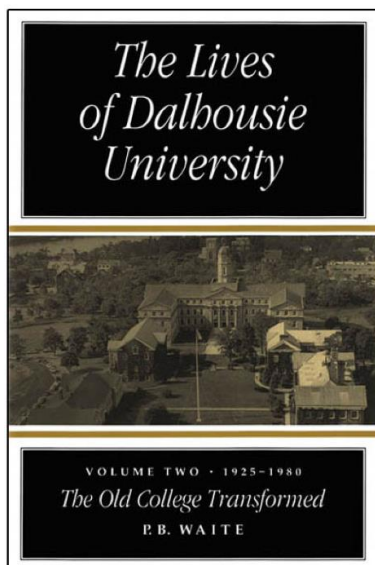
"We want to ensure that Dalhousie's diversity and community impact are reflected in the chosen authors," says MacKay.

Connecting with History

The Dal Libraries' Archives has been buzzing with activity for several years in preparation for Dal 200. Michael Moosberger, Dalhousie's associate university librarian for archives, special collections, and records management, is also a member of the campus-wide planning team for Dal 200.



"The Archives hold a wealth of Dalhousie history, and of course, to celebrate a milestone like this, we want to look back on it," he said.



The Archives have taken a digital copy of *The Lives of Dalhousie*, Volumes 1 (1818-1925) and 2 (1925-1980) and made it available for online viewing on GitBook, an open source online book-hosting platform. The digitized versions will also be uploaded to DalSpace, Dalhousie's institutional repository. The final phase of the project includes creating an enhanced digital edition of the original volumes, with additions such as links and images, in an online exhibit format to complement and enhance the print volumes.

"As the Archive of the university, we digitize significant university publications and photographs on an ongoing basis, but we are putting some extra resources into this effort in time for 2018," says Moosberger. "At present, we have digitized copies of the *Dalhousie*

Gazette, Pharos, university calendars, as well as photographs from Dal's Athletics and Communications & Marketing departments.”

In addition, the Dal Libraries have provided significant archival research support to the Dal 200 anniversary website's historical timeline, their daily *This day in Dal* social media posts, and a book called *Dalhousie University: a 200th Anniversary Portrait*. To view the timeline, visit dal200.ca

