

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

Bulletin



From the New President's Desk

Happy New Year! I realize that this seems like a strange statement in the middle of the summer; however, this is how it feels to me right now. This period of time, after "conference season," often feels this way to me. It is a time when executive council members are charged with new endeavours put forth by the association's members, inspired by keynote addresses and preparing for another year of exploration and ideas. I believe that it, like the new year, is also a time for thanks and reflection, and though many people are thanked at events like the Ordinary General Meeting, sometimes these events are poorly attended (heaven knows why, don't feel bad, just come next year). So, I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank many people for their contributions to APLA over the last year.

I would like to extend sincere thanks to outgoing members of the Executive: Denise Corey-Fancy, Patricia Gallant, Laurette Mackey, Shirley McLeod and Erin Patterson for their dedication and hard work over the last few years as well as outgoing Interest Group conveners and committee representatives: Susan Harris, Diane Taylor-Harding and Gillian Webster. The grace under pressure awards go to the Halifax Conference Committee: Peter Webster, Darlene Beck, Hansel Cook, Debbie Costello, Leo Deveau, Jennifer Evans, Joyline Makani, and Heather Sanderson as well as all the speakers and volunteers. Great job,

folks! Current members contribute greatly to our association. This year, I would like to specifically note: Tanja Harrison for her work extensively rewriting the standing orders for the Memorial Award; Gwendolyn MacNairn for first bringing "The Partnership" to our attention; and John Teskey and UNB for taking on next year's conference.

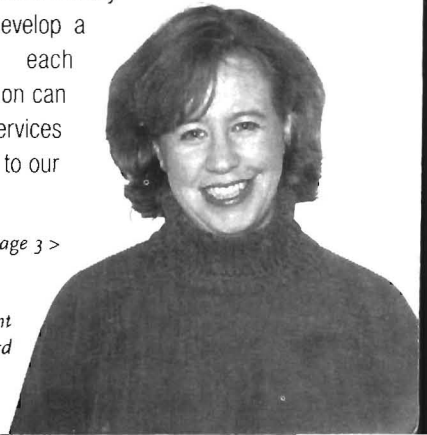
"This is also a wonderful opportunity to tell you about the exciting initiatives we have planned for the coming year."

I'd like to welcome our new members of the Executive: Katie Furlotte, V.P. Prince Edward Island; Ewa Piorko, Treasurer; and Ivan Douthwright, Vice-President/President Elect; and our new *Bulletin* editors, Diane Taylor-Harding and Stacey Penney.

This is also a wonderful opportunity to tell you about the exciting initiatives we have planned for the coming year. First off, activities surrounding "The Partnership" continue to grow and expand. In fact, Ivan Douthwright and I will be attending a summer retreat, courtesy of the Ontario Library Association, to develop a plan so that each member association can offer enhanced services and opportunities to our members.

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*APLA President
Jennifer Richard*



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From the New President's Desk

APLA and NSLA have jointly appointed Michael Colborne as the Education Institute programme developer for the region. During our Calgary meeting in June, the Provincial and Territorial Library Associations Council met and discussed the e-journal initiative, a web-based career clearinghouse service and the potential for new bilingual services.

APLA is currently in the process of purchasing a dedicated server for our website. Once the technical details are worked out, our new website, showcased at the Halifax conference, will be up and running. We encourage all institutional members to send in a photo of their library to be highlighted on the website. During the conference the Executive also voted to begin accepting VISA and Mastercard for both membership renewals and conference fees. We will let you know via the listserv when this is ready to go.

And finally, I would like to announce a very exciting initiative in development. It is called the "Grow a Library Project." Inspired by Steven Lewis's OLA keynote address, an ad hoc committee set up by APLA agreed that we should start a charitable fund to support projects in the Global South. This charitable fund will allow members from APLA, NSLA, Dalhousie's School of Information

Management and other regional library associations to partner with international aid organizations to support the building and maintenance of libraries, including staff and collections. Potential partners for APLA and NSLA are the University of Western Ontario's Librarians Without Borders, the Nova Scotia Gambia Association and CODE Canada. Current committee members are Elaine MacLean, Michael Colborne, Lisa Wilson, Trudy Amirault, Sue Adams, Madeleine Lefebvre and me. The ad hoc committee will now become a standing committee. This committee will fundraise and determine the direction of the projects. Please contact me if you are interested in participating on this committee. Your participation, at any level, is encouraged and appreciated.

If you are a current member, APLA is happy to be able to offer you enhanced services and opportunities. If you are pleased with our efforts, share this information with friends who are not members and encourage them to join and reap the benefits. If you feel there is something else we could be doing or doing better, please contact me directly as all input is welcome.

Submitted by Jennifer Richard

The Canadian Electronic Library

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From St. Jerome's Den

Who would have ever thought that such an uncomplicated activity as reading a comic book could be just one part of a very complex subject? To begin with, you have to consider the difference between a collection of comic strips, a comic book, and a graphic novel. Generically they are often referred to as comics. A comic strip is "a sequence of drawings in boxes that tell an amusing story" (*Concise Oxford*). So a collection of them would be just that, a book of these strips and different than comic books or graphic novels.

If you have not enjoyed the comic strip format since the golden days of the 50s, then you may not recognize the comics of today. However, you may recognize the debate on whether or not they should be in libraries. Forget about comic strip collections. We have come a long way since the days when some libraries cut the strips (a.k.a. the funnies) out of the library's newspapers, but libraries probably aren't ready to invest significant portions of their collections' budgets into acquiring compilations of these strips.

Rather, consider comic books and graphic novels which, for decades, were judged to be a format inferior to traditional literature. They are now coming into their own as a method of storytelling akin to film, picture books, or recorded books. And, they are increasingly seen as a way of attracting young readers—especially boys. Both comic books and graphic novels use the comic strip format. If you have trouble telling the difference between a comic book and a graphic novel, you are not alone. Keith R. A. DeCandido describes the graphic novel as "a self-contained story that uses a combination of text and art to articulate the plot," which really doesn't help, but the rest of his article goes on to provide examples of graphic novels, why a library should collect them, and how to acquire them.

Whether or not a library decides to purchase graphic novels will be based on local considerations; however, if you are looking for some of the current debate on the subject, check out Heather Sokoloff's article in the April 25 *National Post*. Even if you decide against adding comic books or graphic novels to your collection, you might be interested in another aspect of the

story where librarians relate the results of enlisting input from students as to what they want in the library.

If you decide to add this format to your collection, DeCandido's article offers a good overview of the topic of graphic novels in the library and Leslie Bussert offers a review of Internet resources which would be of value to libraries thinking of starting a graphic novel collection. DeCandido, Charbonneau, and Brenner offer suggestions for core collections and Gatley, Wallace and Waye tackle the subject of cataloguing and displaying graphic novels.

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NEW BRUNSWICK / NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK

PEOPLE / GENS

In the Saint John Library Region, new appointments have been made to the staff. Joann Hamilton-Barry has been appointed City Librarian / Director of the Saint John Free Public Library. She has over 20 years of experience as a librarian, first as a children's librarian, then as Acting Public Services Librarian and, prior to this appointment, as Acting Director for the York Library Region. Renee Roy and Carrie Totten have joined the circulation staff of the Saint John Free Public Library, and Victoria Laskey has joined the staff at the Kennebecasis Public Library in Quispamsis.

At the Albert-Westmoreland-Kent Library Region, Jeanne Maddix, the Library Director of the Moncton Public Library and City Librarian for the past 20 years, has decided to steer towards new pursuits as Director of the Michel Bastarache Law Library at the Université de Moncton. Jeanne had previously worked as director of the Edmundston Public Library and the Riverview Public Library. Nadine Goguen was appointed Acting Public Services Librarian. Nadine is completing an MLIS at Dalhousie University and has a varied work background in the library field. She worked as a library technician in the reference department at the Bibliothèque Champlain of the Université de Moncton. She also worked at the Bibliothèque Gabrielle-Roy in Québec, the Dieppe Public Library, the Moncton Public Library and the Richibucto Public Library in various student projects.

On June 16, the Ward Chipman Library of the University of New Brunswick Saint John hosted a gala retirement party for Susan Collins, Director of Information Systems and Services. UNB Libraries Director John Teskey toasted Susan via videotape and Susan presented a spirited dissertation on her 30-plus years at the University of New Brunswick. Friends and colleagues from UNB, Saint John Public Library and Susan's book club enjoyed fine wine, gourmet treats and live violin music as they congratulated Susan and admired her many gifts. Ward Chipman Library's Reference Librarian Jennifer Edgar has had her contract renewed up to May 1, 2006.

At the New Brunswick Legislative Library, Jean-Claude Arcand, the Technical Services Librarian for the past 14 years, is retiring at the end of June, and Anthony Lovesey, who has worked with there for the last two years—full-time during the summers and part-time during his university terms—has been hired on a contractual basis. Anthony is very adept at database management, as well as deciphering library systems. Another addition to the staff is Judy Laaper. She has been hired to assist with the conservation work involved in maintaining the New Brunswick Collection. This year 11 summer students have been hired. Some of the projects on which they are working include: completing the NB History Checklist database which was begun last summer; final editing of the MLA Biographical database; creating a finding tool for MLA maiden speeches; researching and preparing constituency packages for each of the 55 ridings with histories, election results, annotated bibliographies, etc.; revamping the Library's web page; and completing the book *NB Election Results 1984-2003*. In addition, they are helping with the migration to the new integrated library system; since Horizon was chosen as the circulation system, the entire collection must be bar-coded, and inevitably there are record and holdings checks to tidy up before the transition.

CONFERENCE / CONFÉRENCE

The Association of Professional Librarians of New Brunswick will be holding their Fall AGM and Conference in Moncton on September 30 and October 1. The theme is: "Preserving Recorded Knowledge in a Digital Age" and the keynote speaker will be Mr. Pierre Gamache, Director-General of the Care of Collection Branch at Library and Archives Canada.

MEETINGS / RÉUNIONS

The Library Managers and Directors of the Albert-Westmorland-Kent Library Region met for their regular meeting in May. In June, they also attended the Revenue Canada Charities Directorate workshop in Moncton. The regular meeting of the Albert-Westmorland-Kent Library Regional Forum took place at the end of May. The meeting included a presentation by Anthony Knight, Executive Director of the New Brunswick Public Libraries Foundation, on the recent activities of the Foundation. It also welcomed

Sylvie Nadeau, Executive Director of the NBPLS, who shared information about upcoming provincial projects, such as the Kindergarten Library Card Project that will take place in the fall.

Les bibliothécaires en chef des bibliothèques des universités de l'Île du Prince Édouard, de Mount Allison et du Campus de Moncton se sont réunis pour former le Caucus Northumberland du Conseil des bibliothèques universitaires de l'Atlantique. Dans un tel esprit de collaboration avec des partenaires régionaux et tout en tenant compte de notre spécificité, les bibliothèques pourront réaliser des activités concrètes et échanges de services qui seront profitables à tous les usagers. Sous le thème Diriger le changement / Piloting Changes et pour souligner ce nouveau partenariat, près de 90 employés des trois bibliothèques se sont rassemblées, le 28 avril dernier, dans la salle Tweedie de Mount Allison University pour discuter du changement en milieu de travail et de l'impact de ce dernier dans la vie personnelle. M. Richard Ellis de Memorial University de Terre-Neuve a commencé la journée en prononçant une conférence intitulée Change, Choice and Two Monks suivi de Dr. Ginger Grant, de Creativity in Business Canada, avec The Power to Choose. Mme Annie Lepage de Service à la famille Moncton a clôturé cette journée avec l'atelier Humour et plaisir au boulot, c'est drôlement productif!

PROGRAMS / PROGRAMMES

On March 23 the Legislative Library hosted the unveiling of a new series of Canada Post postage stamps featuring bird paintings from the Library's treasured Audubon collection. The reception, attended by over 200 guests who were entertained by a five-piece musical ensemble, received much local news and media attention, including an interview and photo of the Librarian. March 29 saw the Library again playing host, this time to "21 Leaders for the 21st Century," sponsored by the University of New Brunswick President's Office and attended by several MLAs. The young people honoured at this reception came from around New Brunswick and represented urban and rural voices, both of our main language groups and the Aboriginal Community. Displays have included the publications of Canada Post, Audubon and Birds of America, Louis J. Robichaud (upon his death, Jan. 6), Junk Food in the Schools and Childhood

Obesity, and Celebrating Women (Part 1, Women's Health and Social Issues).

In May, New Brunswick Public Library Services (NBPLS) distributed library cards to all children enrolled in a registered daycare in New Brunswick in cooperation with the Department of Family and Community Services. This project aims to encourage preschool age children enrolled in a daycare to go their public library or bookmobile to activate their cards and take advantage of services that they offer. This project is part of the Government of New Brunswick's "Quality Learning Agenda" and aims to help parents ensure that their children are ready to learn when they enter school. Library cards will also be included in the Born to Read bags that are distributed to parents of newborns in hospitals. In the past 14 months, NBPLS has distributed library cards to children from newborns to grade 12. More than 12,000 library cards were activated during that period. From April 1, 2004, to March 31, 2005, the percentage of New Brunswickers with a library card went from 36.9% to 40.5%.

En mai, le Service des bibliothèques publiques du Nouveau-Brunswick (SBPNB) et le ministère des Services familiaux et communautaires ont procédé à la distribution de cartes de bibliothèque aux enfants inscrits à une garderie autorisée au Nouveau-Brunswick. Ce projet vise à inciter les enfants d'âge préscolaire qui fréquentent une garderie autorisée à se rendre à la bibliothèque publique ou au bibliobus le plus près de chez eux avec leurs parents afin d'activer la carte et de profiter des services qui y sont offerts. Ce projet s'inscrit dans le cadre du Plan d'apprentissage de qualité du gouvernement du Nouveau-Brunswick et vise à aider les parents à faire en sorte que leurs enfants soient mieux préparés à apprendre dès leur entrée à l'école. De plus, des cartes de bibliothèque seront aussi fournies dans les sacs Le goût de lire que reçoivent les parents de nouveau-nés à l'hôpital. Au cours des 14 derniers mois, le SBPNB a distribué des cartes de bibliothèques aux enfants de la naissance à la 12e année. Durant cette période, plus de 12 000 cartes de bibliothèque ont été activées. Du 1er avril 2004 au 31 mars 2005, le pourcentage de Néo-Brunswickois et de Néo-Brunswickoises possédant une carte de bibliothèque est passé de 36,9 pour cent à 40,5 pour cent.

SERVICES & COLLECTIONS

The New Brunswick Legislative Library has renewed its EBSCO and NewsScan subscriptions. NewsScan has a new fee structure that allows more articles per month in addition to three user accounts instead of one. Unfortunately the new interface is extremely cumbersome and the server speed is exasperatingly slow, so we are impatiently waiting for improvements that we have been assured are in the works for both these problems. NewsScan does have the New Brunswick content we need, and thus we are obliged to remain with this product.

In March at the New Brunswick Legislative Library we weeded and re-shelved our Reference Collection and used the space gained to ease the shelving crisis (at least for a few more years) in our always expanding New Brunswick Collection. We have taken advantage of Lehmann Bookbinders' production of phase boxes to protect our fragile New Brunswickana. They are very well constructed and are reasonably priced, when you take into account the staff time and materials needed to construct them ourselves. We are also overhauling our Periodicals Collection. Each title is being evaluated for its "fit" within our collection, cost and usage, and we are attempting to find some new, more recreational titles for MLAs who just want a break from the business of the House. For the same reason, we have begun a small collection of recreational reading material, targeted solely at the Members. So far we have a selection of bestsellers and award-winning fiction as well as some hobby selections, such as books on gardening or stargazing, and some how-to books on subjects such as computer applications. These sorts of initiatives have resulted in a marked increase in the number of MLAs using the Library over the last year. The Library has become not only a place to find the information they need, but also a place to rest, reflect, or even read something totally unrelated to their jobs.

DONATIONS AND FUNDRAISING / DONS ET LEVÉES DE FONDS

The New Brunswick Legislative Library's efforts to obtain donations of New Brunswickana have been very successful. The Library was the beneficiary of a collection of books from the estate of Don Gammon, a former librarian at the Legislative

Library. Most of these were additions to our New Brunswick Collection.

FACILITIES / LOCAUX

The project to relocate the Dieppe Public Library within the planned Dieppe City Hall has been confirmed. It will be able to grow in surface space close to six times its actual size. Plans and blueprints are currently being drawn to better serve the needs of this larger, modern library. Regular programs and services have continued to be offered in the Dieppe Library without interruption thanks to its staff. The Memramcook municipality funded an inside book chute for their public library, prompting slight adjustments in the layout of the library. Weeding and moving things around made for contented results. Also, the Salisbury Public Library was closed from May 3 to May 10 to get new ceramic floors installed.

TRAINING / FORMATION

The Albert-Westmorland-Kent Library Region Summer Reading Club Student Training took place at the Moncton Public Library on June 7. Children's Librarian Nancy Cohen facilitated the workshop while adding lots of humour and offering useful tips for activities surrounding the 2005 theme, Safe-Read. Fourteen summer students attended. Two students from Shédiac and Hillsborough shared their prior experiences with SRC and presented their ideas for decorations, story hours and crafts.

EVENTS / ÉVÉNEMENTS

Crowds of people once again gathered at Market Square outside of the Saint John Free Public Library for the annual Saint John Library Region's Book Sale. This popular event, now into its 18th year, brings people from around New Brunswick and neighbouring provinces as well. This year the event raised \$15,219.53 and \$1,193 from its Silent Auction, held as part of the launch for the sale, making a grand total of \$16,412.53. This money will be used to purchase materials for the 10 libraries in the Saint John Region's system.

On May 11 Bibliothèque Le Cormoran in Saint John celebrated its 20th anniversary. To celebrate, the library hosted a poetry and song show. For the evening the library was transformed into a cabaret with the stage behind

and on the circulation desk. The spectators were seated at candlelit (battery candles!) tables. It was interesting to hear electric guitar in the library and to see the library in a completely different light.

This is a year of copious celebrations in the Albert-Westmorland-Kent Library Region. The Shédiac, Port Elgin and Dorchester public libraries all commemorated their 45th anniversaries with special events to the great delight of their communities. Many who attended the festivities were overheard expressing their surprise at the magnitude of the crowd turnouts. Patrons, boards, volunteers and staff surpassed expectations in planning and organizing these events.

EXHIBITS / EXPOSITIONS

In honour of the 60th anniversary of VE Day, the Archives and Research Library of the New Brunswick Museum has produced the virtual exhibit "Mark Our Place: Images and Memoirs of New Brunswickers in Wartime," which is accessible for viewing on the New Brunswick Museum's website at www.nbm-mnb.ca. This virtual exhibit portrays the many faces of war, including the experiences of those on the front lines and on the home front, the impact of war and the customs of war. Financial support for this project was provided by the Department of Canadian Heritage through the Canadian Culture Online Program, Library and Archives Canada, and Canadian Council of Archives.

Along with the usual monthly exhibits of paintings, pottery, etc., the Moncton Public Library hosted two special exhibitions. The first was an historical display of various items and photographs for the Collège de l'Assomption. Many former students visited this display and had a great time trying to find themselves in the old school pictures. The second was an exhibit of work by art students at the Université de Moncton. As usual this art show had some very interesting pieces. One piece featured shards of broken glass scattered on the floor. When a two-year-old who was walking with his mother saw this, he was heard to say "Oh no—broke!"

SUMMER READING CLUB / CLUB DE LECTURE D'ÉTÉ

The Provincial Launch of the 2005 New

Brunswick Public Libraries' Summer Reading Club took place on June 2 at the Atholville Public Library. This year's theme is safari and the slogan is Let's Go on a Safa-Read. The artwork features jungle animals assembled to get ready for their "safa-read." Children participating in the Summer Reading Club will receive a sticker, a bookmark and, at the end of the summer, a certificate signed by Education Minister Madeleine Dubé. The Summer Reading Club will also include online activities on the New Brunswick Public Libraries' website at www.gnb.ca/publiclibraries.

Le lancement provincial du Club de lecture d'été 2005 des bibliothèques publiques du Nouveau-Brunswick a eu lieu le 2 juin à la bibliothèque publique d'Atholville. Le thème de cette année est le safari et le slogan est Partons en Safa-Lire. Le matériel promotionnel montre des animaux de la jungle rassemblés en vue de partir en "safa-lire." Les enfants qui participeront au Club de lecture d'été recevront un autocollant et un signet. À la fin de l'été, les enfants recevront un certificat signé par la ministre de l'Éducation Madeleine Dubé. Le Club de lecture d'été comportera aussi une sélection de jeux interactifs sur le site web du Service des bibliothèques publiques du Nouveau-Brunswick au www.gnb.ca/bibliothequespubliques.

HACKMATAK

With the help of their parents, a very excited group of fourteen young Hackmatack readers from the Saint-Antoine Public Library made their way to the award ceremony on April 22 at Pier 21 in Halifax. They had prepared posters illustrating their favorite novel for the ceremony. Their Hackmatack Club was hailed an outstanding success due to the number of participants this year.

NEW EQUIPMENT / NOUVEL ÉQUIPEMENT

On January 11, the Legislative Librarian rewrote a proposal for funding for a new Integrated Library System to replace our 11-year-old Sirsi system. This proposal made extremely fast progress through the approval hierarchy and funding was granted by the Executive Council on January 26. A tender was written and advertised and by April we had made our selection and taken part in our conference "welcome call" from the Dynix people. Our choice was clear-cut due to Dynix's ability to produce for us a bilingual

interface, as well as their experience with, and therefore knowledge of, the special needs of a Legislative Library. We were very fortunate to find a demo ScanPro reader/printer/scanner for less than half price. It will replace our dying reader/printer and also allow us to begin digitizing our earliest clippings collection (1986-96) from the microfilm. Other digitizing projects are planned as well with this equipment. We have also purchased two new Dell computers (and installed the corresponding new internet lines). This brings our number of "public access computers" up to eight in the main reading room.

Submitted by Mireille Mercure

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

MARGARET WILLIAMS TRUST FUND AWARD

Stephen O'Leary of Mount Pearl has been named the winner of the 2005 Margaret Williams Trust Fund Award, valued at \$1,000.00. Mr. O'Leary holds a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) with a major in History and a minor in Political Science from Memorial University of Newfoundland and is currently pursuing a Master of Library and Information Science degree at the University of Western Ontario. The Margaret Williams Trust Fund was established in 1982 by the family and friends of the former University Librarian of Memorial University to promote the development of librarianship in Newfoundland and Labrador. Funds are awarded on a competitive basis to applicants seeking assistance in pursuing studies in the field of librarianship, research, special projects, funding for scholarship, and work exchange opportunities. Annual awards generally approximate \$1,000.

WHITE PAPER

On July 8, the Government of Newfoundland & Labrador released a white paper on public post-secondary education. One specific strategy outlined was to "establish a Working Group of the Department of Education, Memorial University, College of the North Atlantic and the Public Libraries Information and Resource Board to identify opportunities to enhance use of the

Queen Elizabeth II Library at Memorial by other communities and library structures within the Province." Full text of the white paper can be found at www.ed.gov.nl.ca/edu/whitepaper/.

ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

Memorial University of Newfoundland

(contributed by Karen Lippold)

On the evening of April 15, slightly more than two years after the death of Joy Tillotson, 30 friends and colleagues gathered at the Queen Elizabeth II Library to commemorate Joy's life. "Seawrack," a watercolour painting of Twillingate by Dr. Christopher Kovacs, was presented to the Centre for Newfoundland Studies in memory of Joy.

Dr. Kovacs, a Professor of Medicine in Memorial's Medical School, is also a professional artist. After settling in Newfoundland, Dr. Kovacs began focusing on painting scenes of Newfoundland and Atlantic Canada. Typical subjects include sea and landscapes, boats and buildings and wildlife. Persons interested in his artwork should check out his website at christopherkovacs.com.

Kim Chenier of Eli Lilly was instrumental in the Library's receipt of this painting in memory of Joy and what she meant to us and to the Library. I met Kim through my work with the Osteoporosis Society of Canada. Shortly after Joy's death, I was talking to Kim about Joy and what a loss her death was. Kim suggested that it would be nice to have a picture in the Queen Elizabeth II Library in memory of Joy. Knowing Dr. Kovacs' art, Kim asked if a piece would be appropriate.

With Newfoundland land and seascapes featuring so prominently in Dr. Kovacs's art, Joan Ritcey, Head of the Centre for Newfoundland Studies, was pleased to have a piece in honour of Joy to hang in the Centre. Having this piece of fine art continues the tradition of the Centre for Newfoundland Studies being a showcase of art in the Library.

Danial Duda has been appointed to the position of Information Services Librarian (Maps) in the Queen Elizabeth II Library. In addition to reference and instruction work in the Division, Dan will be responsible for the Map Library. Dan began his position April 1. He was on staff as the acting Map Librarian.

In the Collections Division of the Queen Elizabeth

II Library, two librarians, Christopher Dennis and Laura Scott, are on sabbatical. Laura is continuing her bibliography on vernacular architecture. Chris is doing further work on Adorno's position of the beautiful in nature and investigating the academic status of librarians in Canadian universities.

Elizabeth Browne, Bibliographic Control Services in the Queen Elizabeth II Library, is taking a half-year sabbatical to continue her research on Moses Harvey and other related Newfoundland topics.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Provincial Information & Library Resources Board

Central Division

(contributed by Ron Knowing)

Botwood Public Library completed its new extension in February of this year. The project was a team effort by the Botwood Library Board with Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRDSC) and the Provincial Information and Library Resources Board (PILRB). It added over 600 square feet to the branch. The extension also allowed for the construction of a new circulation desk, shelving, and a reading area and made both levels of the Library wheelchair accessible.

Carmanville Public Library, which was devastated by fire last year, has been operating successfully out of the Carmanville Fire Hall since the fall. Story time and other library events have continued at the new venue. The library was the recent recipient of a munificent grant from the Department of Education, Early Childhood Education Program to support children's programming and the rebuilding of the branch's extensive Children's Book Collection. Additionally, Musgrave Harbour, Baie Verte and Glenwood received generous grants under the same program.

Centreville is working hard on a fund-raising initiative with the Centreville Academy that has raised over \$1,000.00. Centreville Public Library also declared May 4, 2004 to be Senior's Day. Arch Collins, author of *The Water Nipper from Newport* was the guest speaker for the event.

The "Books for Babies" program continues. Centreville Academy is participating in the "Leaders are Readers" Program and recently asked Veronica Rogers, the Community Librarian, to read to the students.

The Glovertown Public Library hired a Community Access Coordinator with the assistance of HRSDC, Job Creation Partnership funding. Glovertown is currently planning its 50th anniversary. An open house has been scheduled for September 15 and over 100 hundred guests have been invited to help celebrate! The Board also raffled off a quilt made and donated by the Glovertown Women's Institute. The draw was held on June 24.

Harry's Harbour held a Children's Easter Contest this year. Children were asked to design a poster on the theme "What Easter means to me." The winner received a basket of goodies.

Harmsworth Public Library in Grand Falls-Windsor was closed for three weeks in February this past winter in order to allow the installation of new carpeting. This involved packing all the books in the library into boxes so that the workmen could move the stacks. This was a monumental task. After the books were packed there was not a single spare cardboard box to be found in the town. Happily, the reshelving went quickly and the branch reopened at the end of February.

This winter the Harmsworth Library also participated in the Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Awards. Because of the closure only three votes were submitted. Robert Hunter read 10 books for the Awards and was given a prize; he admitted to having a difficult time making a choice as he enjoyed all the books so much!

Gander Public Library received new light filtering blinds this spring. These have been a great help in reducing the glare of light which makes it difficult for staff to work at the main desk in the afternoon. Ten children registered for the Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Awards. The Library is getting its front entrance renovated by the Library Board. The plan calls for a new walkway and raised flower beds. Gander is also the proud recipient of a new sign erected on the corner of Bell Place and Elizabeth Drive.

Gander and Harmsworth Libraries also hosted displays from the Department of Health and Community Services this spring promoting the Cervical Screening Initiative. We are hoping to move these displays on to other libraries in the region over the summer.

Western Division

(contributed by Ron Sheppard)

Owing to the hard work of local library boards and staff, Western Division is very pleased to announce that it has received four Level III C@P grants worth \$10,000.00 each. The successful applicants for Level III status are Corner Brook Public Library, Kindale Public Library in Stephenville, Deer Lake Public Library, and Labrador City Public Library. The money provided by C@P will provide much-needed hardware upgrades for the libraries and will greatly assist these branches with their C@P-mandated public computer training. We wish them all the very best of luck!

Western Division was very pleased to host award-winning Newfoundland author and performer Ed Kavanagh as he toured the region's public libraries and schools this last April. Ed provided a variety program that thrilled adults and children alike. He read from his successful "Amanda Greenleaf" series of children's books and played music from his popular harp CD as part of his program. It is of special note that his Amanda Greenleaf series of books is now combined into a single volume, *Amanda Greenleaf: The Complete Adventures*, which will be used in the province's public schools as a regular part of the curriculum. Ed's first CD of harp performances with accompanying cello, harp and other instruments is entitled *Weaving the Wind*. It is finding a wide audience and his live performances on the harp caught the imagination of young and old during the tour.

Shawn Tetford, Sandy Chilcote, and Ron Sheppard represented the PILRB at the official reopening of the Blow-Me-Down School at Lark Harbour on May 26. Also in attendance were Susan Harvey of the local library board and the local librarian Norma Pickett. Blow-Me-Down School has undergone massive renovations that include a new public library facility. There were many distinguished guests, including the Minister

of Education, the Honorable Tom Hedderson. Shawn Tetford, the PILRB's Executive Director, was invited to speak. Mr. Tetford praised the mutually beneficial relationship that exists between the public school board and the library board in the running of joint facilities. Mr. Tetford was very happy with the new library.

In addition to the new library facility at Lark Harbour, Western Division has made extensive library renovations at the Corner Brook Public Library and the Kindale II Public Library in Stephenville. Corner Brook Public Library is currently having a new, highly functional circulation desk installed on the second floor. Kindale II Public Library has had many improvements made through the dedicated work of Katimavik volunteers. Under the guidance of library staff and local library board members, these young people have repainted much of Kindale's interior, built new shelves for children's books, and done a wonderful job of sprucing up the interior and exterior of the library with murals.

NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

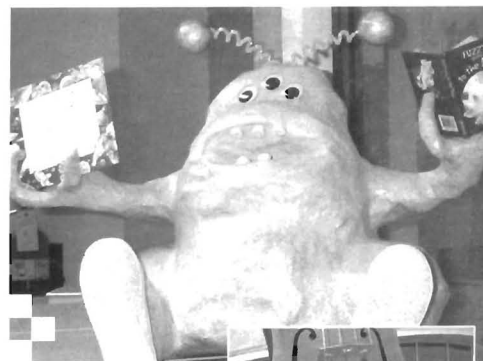
The Newfoundland & Labrador Library Association held its annual general meeting on May 6. The pre-conference social was held at the Basilica of John the Baptist Museum. Archivist Larry Dohey gave a mini-tour of the museum, highlighting the very old books and the unique display items. The conference opened with a keynote address from Victoria Pennell titled "Canadian Children's Literature in Motion," which was an account of award-winning children's literature in Canada over the past 30-40 years as well as her experiences in publishing *Resource Links* for the past seven years. Other presentations during the day included "Building and Moving a Special Library" by Trish LeBlanc, "Library Services in New Zealand" by Heather Myers, "Patron Saints of Libraries" by Suzanne Sexty, "Is our two-way communication a one-way street?" by Louise McGillis and Gillian Byrne and "Roaming Librarians" by Dianne Taylor-Harding and Lisa Wilson. Some of the presentations can be found at staff.library.mun.ca/nlla/conf2005speakersslides.html.

Submitted by Trish LeBlanc

NOVA SCOTIA

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Cape Breton Regional Library



The TD Summer Reading Club has begun at the CBRL with a wonderful reception from children and parents. In keeping with this year's



theme, Blast Off!, the CBRL has decided to adopt a mascot for this year's program. After little success shopping for a space creature, Donna MacLeod, the Summer Reading Program Coordinator, created a fabulous papier mâché alien who is spending time at every branch over the summer. There is a contest to name the mascot, and a weekly email of an "alien sighting" goes out to CBRL branches to be posted. The alien is very popular!

An in-service program was presented by Elizabeth Morrison from Integral Training and Consulting Services. Ms. Morrison visited the McConnell library to speak to staff members on the topic of "Communication in Challenging Workplace Situations." Approximately 40 staff members participated in one of the morning or afternoon sessions. The feedback from those who participated was positive; they found the presentation offered a useful arena to learn about, as well as discuss, the challenges of communication.

Thanks to a Canada Council Hackmatack grant, the Cape Breton Regional Library was able to host an author visit from Vancouver-based author Ainslie Manson. Unfortunately, there was a labour dispute in the Cape Breton Regional School Board

at the time that affected the author's school visits. She was very accommodating and the elementary schools who were able to host the author thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity. She read from her book *Leaving the Log House* and spoke to the children about how she researches and writes her books.



The McConnell Library's final spring information session was held on May 18. The evening's presenter was our very own Reference Librarian, Donnie Ward. Donnie gave a PowerPoint presentation on the library's history, as well as a guided tour of the

McConnell library. A major portion of Donnie's talk was on the life and achievements of the library's namesake, James McConnell. Donnie's depth of information on the Library's history, its supporters and its place in the community was extremely well received by his audience.

It was a successful season of information sessions. Thanks to everyone whose time and energy went into each one.

The New Waterford Library has expanded! With the new expansion comes a program room; a larger staff/circulation area; a separate study area; and, in general, more light and space. The fresh new look is a welcome change for staff and patrons. The library was closed for two weeks in June. There was a Grand Opening on July



21. Thank-you to the Rotary Club in New Waterford for choosing the library as their Centennial Project; the Club was a major force in the library's expansion.

DALHOUSIE SCHOOL OF INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

New Professionals for the LIS Community

In May, 41 students graduated with their MLIS degrees, of which two graduated from dual degree programmes (Ryan Deschamps, MLIS/MPA and Shain Widdifield, MLIS/LLB). Several students were honoured with a variety of awards and ten students were nominated for membership in the library science honour society, Beta Phi Mu.



Prospectus of New Graduates and Current Students

A new feature of the School of Information Management's website is Prospectus2005 (students.library-school.dal.ca/prospectus/). MLIS students have created this collection of profiles to connect employers to potential employees. Student profiles describe individual career aspirations and provide background experience and acquired skills. Profiles can be searched by category or by keyword. Prospectus2005 was created by Sarah Jones, Jonathan Lewis, Jennifer Knowlan, Kate Thompson, Rebecca Bartlett, Jocelyn Harnois, and Kristen Kruse.

Other News

JoAnn Watson joined the School of Information Management in the role of MLIS Programme Coordinator in May. In this role, JoAnn will support students in the School's ALA-accredited MLIS programme and will foster wide professional connections in the LIS community regionally and nationally. JoAnn is from Halifax and has over 20 years experience in the field working with both the federal and provincial governments, as well as having held positions in the corporate and non-profit sectors. She graduated with her Master's of Science in Library and Information Science from the Palmer School

of Library and Information Science, Long Island University. As Head of the Sound and Moving Image Division at the Public Archives of Nova Scotia, JoAnn developed a keen interest in issues relating to preservation and audio-visual media. An active participant and member in local, national and international professional associations, JoAnn has organized professional conferences and workshops in Halifax, Montreal, Miami, Los Angeles and Portland, Oregon. She is an enthusiastic new member of the School and will share her considerable professional expertise with future generations of MLIS students and graduates. JoAnn can be contacted at (902) 494-2471 or at JoAnn.Watson@dal.ca.



ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

Information Literacy Coordinator for Dalhousie

The Dalhousie University Libraries are pleased to announce that Fran Nowakowski has accepted the new position of Information Literacy Coordinator for the Libraries, effective July 1, 2005.

Fran Nowakowski was previously a Reference Librarian/Subject Specialist at the Killam Library, and also acted as Coordinator of Orientation & Instruction in the Social Sciences and Humanities. Nowakowski has distinguished herself at Dalhousie University as an innovator and advocate of Information Literacy. Over the years, she has consistently demonstrated a high level of involvement in service initiatives, a remarkable skill for collaboration and an uncanny ability to get new ideas heard by the people who can act on them.

Fran Nowakowski has 24 years of professional experience with Dalhousie Libraries. During this time she has actively pursued and developed lifelong learning skills in the areas of instruction/education, technology and web/graphic design. Recent projects include the integration of information literacy instruction into target courses in Sociology and Social Anthropology; the development of a suite of online tutorials; and the creation of websites for information literacy and for plagiarism.

Patrick Ellis Appointed Health Sciences Librarian at Dalhousie

The Dalhousie Libraries are very pleased to announce the appointment of Patrick Ellis as Health Sciences Librarian for a five-year term effective July 1, 2005.

Patrick is no stranger to the Dalhousie community and especially the Faculties of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Professions, which he has served since 1979, initially as a Library Assistant. After obtaining his Library degree from Dalhousie in 1988 he was hired as a professional librarian in the Kellogg Library.

Dalhousie is well served by Patrick's enthusiasm and dedication. He is a member of the University Librarian's Council; Council, Faculty of Health Professions; Council, Faculty of Medicine; the Faculty of Dentistry, Academic Resources Committee; and the University Libraries Policy Advisory Committee. He has served on the President's Advisory Committee on Students with Disabilities for several terms and on the President's Advisory Committee on Sexual Harassment.

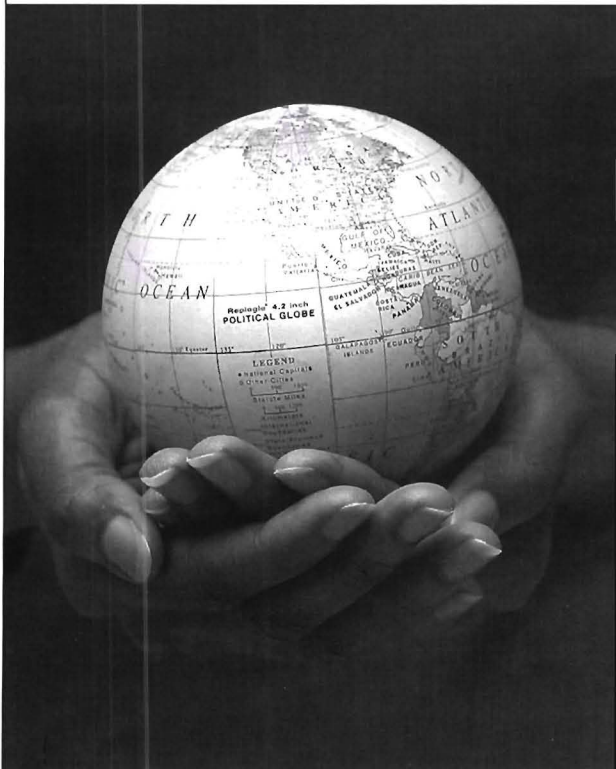
Patrick has been very active in the Canadian Health Libraries Association, serving as President in 2000-01 and as Co-Chair and co-author of the CHLA/ABSC Survey of Canadian Health Science Information Professionals, 2001-present. He received the CHLA/ABSC Award of Outstanding Achievement in 2003 in recognition of all his contributions.

He currently serves as Chair of the Atlantic Health Knowledge Partnership, is a member of the Advisory Committee of the Nova Scotia Health Network, and was recently appointed to EBSCO's Biomedical Advisory Board. He has always been an active and contributing member of Novanet.

Having worn out several Health Sciences Librarians before him, we are delighted Patrick has agreed to accept the position and put into practice all he has learned from that experience. We look forward to working with him in his new capacity!

Submitted by Gordon Bertrand

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President's Annual Report 2004-2005

It has been a pleasure to serve as President of the Association over the past year. The members of the Executive have made the duties easy as they have a lot of enthusiasm and energy that allows them to get things done.

The past year has seen a few activities take place that will begin to pay dividends for the Association over the next several years. For example, we signed on to the Education Institute which has broadened the educational opportunities available for our members. Members may learn from a whole variety of speakers on a wide range of topics that have not been available before. The Institute will provide some opportunities for revenue generation for the Association beyond the teleconferences. I am hoping that this initiative will generate greater enthusiasm for continuing education and for activities in the interest groups.

Activity (or the lack thereof) in the interest groups is a concern. A major redesign of the website occurred, partly to provide blogging capabilities for interest groups. Once the new site is live after the conference, I encourage interest groups to use the site to further the interests of their members. Issues, debates and announcements will be facilitated; at the least, it's a way for members to learn about the capabilities of blogging.

We will soon begin talking with the Canadian Library Association regarding a conference in St. John's, Newfoundland for 2007. So far, CLA has been playing a lead role in developing relationships with the venues. We will soon begin talking about the structure for the conference. Indications are that the Newfoundland library community is willing to step up to take on responsibilities to host our part of this conference.

There are two issues that will need to be dealt with in the future; they are not urgent, but are looming on the horizon. The Association continues to spend more than is received in revenues in a given year. There is money in the bank to cover this difference for the short term. Two changes have been talked about regarding this: having the *APLA Bulletin* online only may realize some savings, and raising membership dues would realize greater revenues.

I'd like to make a pitch for groups to access General Activity Funds for continuing educational opportunities. Various groups have availed themselves of funds. The opportunity is there for groups that need funds to make stuff happen.

Other activities have occurred that will be covered in other reports from the Association, including the announcement of a new philanthropic initiative. I look forward to working with the incoming President in the business of the Association to make these activities happen.

Submitted by Allan Groen

Vice-President, Membership Annual Report 2004-2005

Members and Subscribers

	2004/05	2003/04
Personal	240	208
Life/Honorary Life	28	27
Institutional	27	26
Subscribers, Paid	20	20
Total	315	281

Members and Subscribers by Location

	NB	NL	NS	PEI	Other	Total
Personal	78	25	106	15	16	240
Life/Honorary Life	8	2	13	2	3	28
Institutional	9	1	14	1	2	27
Subscribers, Paid	1	2	2	0	15	20
Total	96	30	135	18	36	315

Personal Members (Including Life/Honorary Life) by type

	2004/05	2003/04
Librarians	199	179
Library Support Staff	40	31
Trustees	2	2
Students	19	14

Other	8	9
Total	268	235

Personal Members (including Life/Honorary Life) by workplace

Academic	96
Public	34
School	4
Special	23
Other	11
Not Working *	62

* Includes students, unwaged, and retirees

Institutional Members by type

Academic	10
Public	9
School	0
Special	5
Other	3

Membership on APLA Committees and Interest Groups

Communications and Public Relations	11
Memorial Awards Committee	2
Access to Government Information	28
Collections Development	45
Computers and Connectivity	35
Conservation of Library Materials	15
Continuing Education	32
Groupe d'intérêt francophone	11
Information Literacy	48
Library Technicians	29
New Librarians and Information Professionals	27
Newspaper	3
Youth Services	16

Submitted by Ruthmary Macpherson

Vice-President, Newfoundland and Labrador Annual Report 2004-2005

As the end of my first year of my term as VP for Newfoundland and Labrador approaches, I look back on a very fulfilling year.

Taking on this role has allowed me to network with many libraries and librarians in the province that I wouldn't normally have the opportunity to meet or interact with.

Starting at last year's Newfoundland and Labrador Library Association conference, contacts were made with librarians across the province during the year who contribute regularly to the Newfoundland & Labrador news column for the *APLA Bulletin*.

During the year, I have contacted APLA members in the province that I haven't met, introducing myself and encouraging them to contribute information for the *Bulletin* news column or to consider contributing an article, and contacted APLA members whose membership was expiring, encouraging them to renew. I also served on the Margaret Williams Trust Fund Award Board.

Submitted by Trish LeBlanc

Vice-President, Prince Edward Island Annual Report 2004-2005

Spring has arrived (not weather-wise, but it *is* May) and that means Atlantic library staff have the opportunity to meet at APLA to network and learn about the latest advancements in our library world. I would like to highlight some achievements and progressive activities that have taken place in Island libraries in the year 2004-2005.

Holland College was the recipient of the 2004 Community and Technical College Libraries (a subdivision of CLA) Innovation Award. This award is sponsored by Micromedia and recognizes libraries that have demonstrated significant achievement in either an ongoing program/service or a special event/project. The IsleAsk project, the collaborative e-mail-reference service, met all the criteria of innovation, currency, utility and long-term impact and hustle!

Both Holland College and UPEI have focused efforts in 2004-2005 on their library instruction programs. Robertson Library at UPEI saw a 25% increase in the number of PCs available in the library Instruction Centre and a heavy (overflowing) use of this centre. Improvements to the proxy service at UPEI have meant better off-campus access to databases and e-journals.

While talking about digital access, I must mention Robertson Library's first virtual exhibit celebrating the history of one of UPEI's forebears, St. Dunstan's University, as well as the work being carried out to digitize a full-text database of the *Prince Edward Island Magazine*. Roberston also created PEI PAD, a database indexing locally-published newspapers and periodicals.

Access to Island news and information just keeps getting better as the Provincial Library has recently added content information to all 56 issues of *The Island Magazine* to the online catalogue, Abbycat.

As Vice President, Prince Edward Island, my activities over the past year included gathering library news from library representatives for submission to the *APLA Bulletin*, contacting potential and lapsed members to invite them to join our Association, and performing other duties as required. I attended the APLA conference in Moncton and the Executive meeting held in Moncton in October. Upon receiving an APLA GAF grant, I also hosted a joint APLA/CISTI-sponsored event in May. Librarians from UPEI, Holland College, the Public Library, the hospital library and the Agriculture Canada library gathered to view a replay of two SLA Virtual Learning Series, "Competitive Intelligence Building Blocks: Research" and "Competitive Intelligence Building Blocks: Analysis" by Cynthia Chen Correia. Each session concluded with an hour of discussion of our respective library initiatives.

Another GAF grant from APLA and co-sponsors UPEI/PEIPLA has allowed Island library staff to take advantage of nine audio-conferences offered by OLA. All sessions thus far have been well attended!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed library news items over the past year!

Submitted by Shirley MacLeod

Aims & Objectives Committee Annual Report 2004-2005

Upcoming for 2005/2006:

- Focus on increasing and improving the services and opportunities we provide to our members. (This has already been started by joining The Partnership and redesigning our website.)
- Launch the Grow-a-Library Initiative and set up a standing committee to administer the fund
- Hold a membership drive in the fall highlighting our new services
- Collaborate further with other library associations in the region

Submitted by Jennifer Richard

Communications/ Public Relations Committee Annual Report 2004-2005

The major project undertaken this year was the redesign of the website, which was launched at the conference. The redesign was done by the website manager, Gordon Bertrand. Thanks to his tireless efforts, the new website will not only have a new look, but also lots of new functionality, including:

- A jobsite
- Blogs for the interest groups
- An administrative section

The major work on the website is complete, with work on the blogs and jobsite waiting on the possible purchase of a new server.

Documentation for the website is also forthcoming.

The major business still outstanding for the Committee is the revamping of the brochure. After many starts and stops, work will continue on it this year with an aim to have it ready by September for distribution to the library schools. One further outstanding issue is the duties and responsibilities of the web manager.

This is my second and final year as convener. While overall it's been a pleasant and interesting experience, lines of communication between the Executive and the Committee could still be further improved. As it is, there are many APLA members who sign up for this committee who never get a chance to participate. If the next convener and Executive find a way to better involve these members, there is no doubt the organization as a whole would benefit.

Submitted by Gillian Byrne

APLA Memorial Awards Committee Annual Report 2004-2005

Members of the 2004-2005 APLA Memorial Awards Committee included the Convener (Tanja Harrison, Acadia University) and four other members: Betty Jeffery (University of Prince Edward Island), Barb Phillips (Saint Francis Xavier), Helen Prosser (Northern Lakes College), and Ann Smith (Acadia University). APLA President Allan Groen served as an *ex officio* member of the Committee in accordance with APLA Standing Order 4.05.

Advertisements for the award were communicated over the APLA and Dalhousie School of Library and Information Studies Alumni listservs on February 1, 2005 and March 6, 2005. A call for applications was also advertised in 68(2) and 68(3) of the *APLA Bulletin*. From these, four applications were received on or before the March 15, 2005 deadline.

The Committee met on March 29 via a chat room created by the Convener for the purposes of discussing the applications. Allan Groen sent his regrets. After an hour of deliberations, it was decided to support two applications with the \$1,000 award.

The Committee recommends that \$500 be awarded to Patricia Parsons, Manager of the Central Division of the Newfoundland Public Library system, for her proposal to study school-housed libraries in Newfoundland and Labrador. The other \$500 is recommended to be awarded to Ruthmary Macpherson, Technical Services Librarian at Mount Allison University, for her proposal to investigate how electronic resources are managed in relation to teaching and research in the academic environment.

It was noted by the Committee that timelines, selection criteria, and other general procedures do not exist in the APLA Standing Orders. The Committee recommends that a motion be brought to the APLA Annual General Meeting to amend the Standing Orders. Please see the following for recommended amendments.

Thank you to the members of this year's APLA Memorial Awards Committee, the President, and the Vice-President/President Elect for their assistance and advice throughout the process.

Recommendations for the APLA Standing Orders

The Standing Orders currently read:

6.02 APLA Memorial Awards Committee

Terms of reference:

- to solicit contributions to the APLA Memorial Awards Fund
- to select the award recipients

The Committee recommends the following revisions/additions (in bold) to the Standing Orders:

6.02 APLA Memorial Awards Committee

Terms of reference:

- to solicit **applications** to the APLA Memorial Awards Fund.
- to select the award recipients.

Continued on next page >

Membership:

1. The Committee shall consist of four Members and one Convener.
2. The Convener and Members shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees and Interest Groups when necessary. (Standing Order 5.02)
3. The President shall be an *ex officio* member. (Standing Order 4.05)
4. After three years the convenerhip will normally rotate to another province. (Standing Order 4.04)
5. Members may serve up to three years on the Committee.
6. Members or Convener will step down if a conflict of interest arises.

Terms of the award:

1. The award supports the project of any APLA member who successfully proposes to contribute to their professional development, as well as to the library profession as a whole, through research.

2. Applications will be judged based on various criteria including, but not limited to: clarity of the proposal, originality, creativity, budget outline, stated/implied impact on profession, and the dissemination of results.
3. Award recipients will submit a report after completing their research to be published in the *APLA Bulletin*.

Form of the Award:

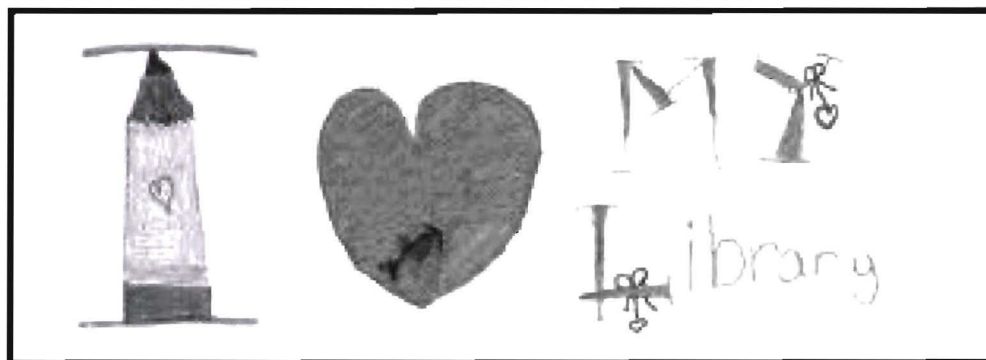
1. Up to \$1,000 will be awarded annually.
2. Normally, only one award will be given in each year.

Procedures:

1. Applications will be solicited through appropriate means, such as advertisements in the *APLA Bulletin* and over relevant regional listservs.
2. The deadline for applications shall be March 15.
3. Each application must include a letter outlining the research proposal, a detailed budget, and current curriculum vitae.

4. Applicants from previous competitions may re-apply.
5. The Executive will be asked to approve the recommendation of the Committee at the Spring Executive meeting.
6. The Convener will communicate results to all applicants in writing following the decision from the Executive.
7. The Convener will provide the Treasurer with mailing information to send monies to the award recipient.

Submitted by Tanja Harrison



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Bookmark Contest, 2004.

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Computers & Connectivity Interest Group Annual Report 2004-2005

The Computers & Connectivity Interest Group has 35 members. There was a good round-up of IT sessions at APLA 2005 and two Interest Group members, Penny Logan and James Watson, presented papers: respectively, Unique and Special Libraries and One-Stop Shopping, Tying it all Together with Open URL Linking and Metasearch. Jill would like to thank all those who provided input for session ideas and those APLA participants who agreed to help convene a number of the IT sessions.

This was my second and final year as convener, and while I am stepping down from this position, I enjoyed the opportunity to work with a number of very helpful members on some worthwhile topics. I especially appreciated the opportunity to offer input into two IT APLA sessions for the 2004 conference in Moncton.

This Interest Group tries to focus on practical technology (new and emerging) and its integration into the library environment. For example, in the past, we've done sessions on controlling email spam, IT trends in Atlantic Canada Libraries, and e-books. So if you are interested, or know someone else who is, please feel free to pass on the message that the group is looking for a new convener and fresh blood!

Submitted by Jill Webster

Wireless Networks in Libraries

Jamie MacKenzie, University of New Brunswick

Jamie discussed the details of the wireless experience at UNB, as the Harriet Irving Library has gone through the stages of setting up a wireless network during the past five years. Jamie became involved in this program two years ago, and he discussed both the benefits of having wireless internet access in the library and the concerns which must be taken into account when setting up a wireless network. The lending of laptops has been extremely popular, and the program exceeded every hope, which led to some frustrations that naturally occur when a program tends to take off. With the aid of his excellent PowerPoint slideshow, he also looked at wireless principles and hardware in general. Jamie emphasized that the pressure on the laptop program is expected to lessen soon at UNB, as an information commons is to be set up in 2006, which will add to the resources available to students.

Submitted by Jill Webster

Welcoming Community to Your Library with Design and Colour

Meg Wallace, President, Nova Interiors

"Colour is light, and light is energy" declared Meg Wallace, the interior decorator who gave a fascinating talk about using colour in public spaces. Illustrating with paint cards, colour swatches and baskets of fabric samples, she explained the psychology of colour. For instance, we should not use dark blues and greys in our libraries because they too closely resemble the damp wet Maritime climate (no further explanation was necessary that day!) and induce the end-of-the-day tired feeling. She stated that green has a calming effect, but seafoam green was definitely 80's (along with dusty rose) and lime green and olives are very trendy now but won't have staying power, while neutral or grey greens will. Colour also changes perception: dark colours on floors or furniture make them appear

larger; on walls make the room smaller; and on ceilings appear to reduce its height.

For Reference and Circulation desks, she suggests we stay away from strong colours like black, red and dark blue and instead use rust tones, terracotta, golds and beiges as they are more welcoming. She also suggests that, rather than aiming for uniformity, colour schemes in different areas of the library, such as the Children's Area, could be varied to make them stand out. I noted three don'ts: don't choose a paint colour in the store; don't place your paint swatch against an existing colour, but against a white surface, even if it's just a sheet of paper; and don't try to buy furniture or carpet to match your paint, always choose the paint last.

Submitted by
Alison Mews





Gwendolyn MacNair, Dalhousie University

Gwendolyn gave a presentation on the use and impact of Google to a group of approximately 70 people at APLA on May 28. The attendees were eager to learn how to get across better searching principles in an easy-to-use way to their own user groups. Gwen also spent some time demonstrating Google Scholar, with a few well chosen techniques that help users reach search goals in an easy-to-remember manner.

with a thousand students: there are 650 undergraduate students and 350 graduate students in the Faculty of Computer Science, many coming from countries outside Canada. She is also, not surprisingly, given her missionary-style zeal, convener of APLA's Library Instruction Interest Group, recently renamed the Information Literacy Interest Group to describe the transferable skills that are being learned by students as they progress through various stages of learning, i.e. through K-12 and on to university.

This popular session addressed the best use of simple instructional techniques that can be used in schools and universities. Gwendolyn works

Submitted by Jill Webster

Proper Planning Prevents Poor Performance

*Paula Saulnier and Janet Channing,
Halifax Public Libraries*

The title of this session brings time management to mind, and even after reading the "promo/blurb", I was still thinking time management. The introduction to this two-part session proved it was actually "project planning," which is not something I am usually involved in; however, I stayed.

Part one was an overview of project planning, with examples of what was involved, such as the "timeline template." We also learned how to deal with conflicting priorities and deadlines; the importance of identifying potential problems and risks before starting a project; and the importance of a facilitator.

After sitting through this first part and trying to wrap my head around the aspects of project planning, I debated going back for the second half. I don't do project planning, so was this going

to help me or give me the insights for time management that I was looking for? Having gone to the second half, I'd say "yes," although how I got from "do you mind if I sit in the back row and observe" to being the "facilitator of the project" at the head of the room, I'm still not sure. Apparently by saying I merely wanted to observe and not participate, I was on Paula and Janet's radar.

In the second half, we completed a group project planning exercise: The Wedding. I started to groan right away, as this has nothing to do with libraries except "wow, what a large, detailed project!" The basic scenario was as follows: due to a promotion for the husband-to-be, you are moving to Paris and your wedding has to be moved from five months down the road to six weeks from today. According to Janet and Paula, this sort of session is usually a full day, so they organized and listed the tasks and risks ahead of time. This would normally be part of the project planning; however, time constraints had to be considered. The result: 30-plus tasks to arrange and do in the six weeks, but the facilitator of the project (the bride/me) had to arrange this first as though doing it alone. Yikes!

As with any project, certain things have to be done before others. For example, all RSVPs must

be received before you can order the food and alcohol; the location and minister have to be confirmed available before the invitations can change; and due to timing, invitations have to be delivered by hand. Multi-tasking is not allowed (and I think all the participants agreed that this was a bit of a stretch). However, with suggestions fired left, right, and centre, we worked through all the tasks, dealt with the problems thrown at us (above and beyond the 30-plus tasks already assigned) and with some behind-my-back manipulations of the timeline (you know who you are ☺), all the tasks could be accomplished (in theory) by that one person. I assume that after this initial timeline is established, tasks could then be assigned to the rest of the team, but we ran out of time at this point. When asked what we learned, I said "Elope! Take the plane tickets and bolt!" And although I stand by that, the project planning, and especially the timeline aspect of it, was very educational.

The whole thing was very enjoyable, and I did get so much more out of the second part by being the facilitator than I probably would have had I been a mere observer. But I'll never make it as a wedding planner.

Submitted by Melissa Kendrick

Bringing Science and Technology Together: CISTI's Competitive Technical Intelligence Service

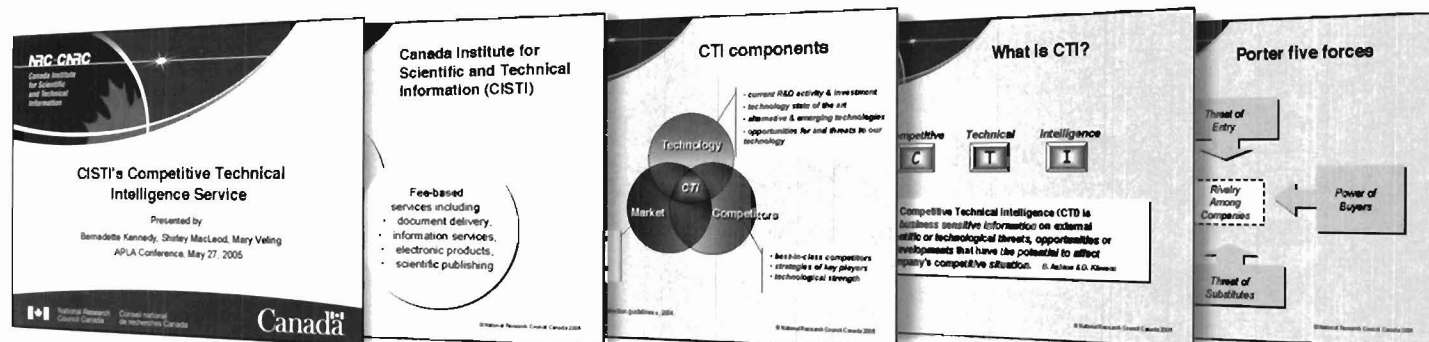
Bernadette Kennedy, Mary Veling and Shirley MacLeod, CISTI

The three speakers presented a fascinating look at some of the detailed services they provide for CISTI clients to an audience of approximately 20 at an APLA conference session on May 27.

In 2000-2001, CISTI initiated a competitive technical intelligence (CTI) service in Atlantic Canada. The CTI team consists of information specialists and business analysts working as a single unit to provide value-added information services to the National Research Council (NRC)'s Industrial Technology Advisors. These advisors deliver NRC's Industrial Research Assistance Program (IRAP), helping companies in Atlantic communities to define their technical needs, identify technical opportunities, solve product and production problems, and acquire technology and/or expertise.

The PowerPoint for this "intelligence service" program is available, complete with bibliography, at www.smu.ca/administration/archives/apla/presentations.html.

Submitted by Jill Webster



First-Timer's Report

Arriving in Halifax this past May for my first APLA conference, I was greeted by what seemed like a deluge of Biblical proportions. Luckily, the torrential rains couldn't dampen the good time had by all. Looking back, I am amazed at how much I managed to cram into such a short span of time. Since it was my first conference, I tried see and do as much as I could in the three days I had.

I had volunteered to spend some time at the School of Information Management booth, giving me the chance to show off some of my work from this past year. Whenever I could spare a moment, I visited the other booths and talked to the representatives. I was amazed at how much I learned from them. Who knew there was such a thing as a microfilm viewer-scanner that you could hook up to your computer?

The sessions themselves were also enlightening, and I tried to attend as wide an array of topics as possible. I learned everything from how to put Flash animation on your library's website to government lobbying. The highlight of those sessions was definitely the enthusiasm conveyed by all

the speakers. Everyone was so eager to talk about their work that it gave me the feeling I was entering the right profession.

Overall, the most important thing I gained from this conference was a sense of connecting to a community. I was told that over two hundred people attended the conference, and I think I met every one of them! I felt pretty special being introduced at my first OGM, and those of us who stuck it out to the end of the dance will know that nothing brings people together quite like grooving to Jerry Lee Lewis. I think it's safe to say that winning the APLA first-timer's grant was only the icing on the cake of a busy, enlightening (and wet!) weekend.

Submitted by Kathryn Howe

Merit Award Winner for 2005 – Michael Colborne

At the Merit Award Banquet on May 28, Laurette Mackey, APLA Past President, bestowed the Association's greatest honour, the Merit Award, on Michael Colborne, Acting Provincial Librarian and Coordinator of User Services at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library.

Michael Colborne started his library career as a library assistant after obtaining his undergraduate degree at Mt. Allison University. He is a graduate of the College of Librarianship, University of Wales, Aberystwyth. Over the last thirty years, Mr. Colborne has held a variety of positions at the Dartmouth Regional Library, the Halifax City Regional Library, the Halifax Regional Library, and most recently the Provincial Library. He has been instrumental in the Professional Partnering Programme offered by Dalhousie University's newly named School of Information Management and he has held executive positions on the boards of the Nova Scotia Library Association and the Canadian Library Association. He has just been named the regional developer for the Provincial and Territorial Library Associations' Education Institute. Nominator Jennifer Richard describes Michael as "a leader, a mentor to young librarians, an advocate for libraries and community access programmes, and a friend to the library community."

From those who supported Mr. Colborne's nomination, Ms. Mackey highlighted the following remarks:

"Michael loved his work as a

reference librarian; he at least enjoyed his part-time stint cataloguing in Technical Services. It was there that I met him and over several years was much influenced by him. It would have been hard not to be as our desks abutted and we had only to look up to see the question on the other's face. I'm sure we worked hard in Technical Services but at the same time I learned a lot about Michael's reading and music, about baseball, about his family... Only recently, I read *Letters from the Manse* by Joan Archibald Colborne published by the Island Press in 2003, a wonderful book about the early married life of Michael's mother and father. And there you will find Michael. Complete with baby pictures. An inspiration from the start!" Mary MacLeod

"I couldn't exactly remember when I first met Michael, though he was a great mentor to me when we served on the CLA Executive together. At the time, there was no orientation for new members of Council. I was lucky; Michael just naturally took on the role of mentor. He gave me copies of all the files, tracked down the former member and got all her files for me and he provided support and guidance for our time together. During times of turmoil on Council, I could count on him to get a well-thought-out, clear opinion and picture of a situation, often bringing issues to the forefront that I hadn't considered. I believe Michael is an excellent candidate for the award and just a wonderful person to boot!" Jennifer Richard

"Michael has been a driving force in the provincial and national library scene for his more-than-20-year career. He has worked hard to implement cooperative ventures like the Chebucto Community Net. He has held positions in library associations at the local, provincial and national level. His unerring good humour and positive outlook make him an outstanding example of what we all aspire to be." Penny Logan

"Michael and I first met in 1974 when he was working at the Dartmouth Regional Library where I was a patron. Since then I have gotten to know him much better through our partnership in APLA, NSLA and CLA, together with his involvement with the mentoring programme for the students at the Dalhousie School. I have seen him grow professionally over the years so that now he is one of the leaders in our field. Earlier this month Michael was in Boston at the American Library Association Midwinter Meeting where he was helping to staff the CLA booth in the exhibit area—an ambassadorial role for Canadian librarianship for which he is well suited. Last year, I was delighted when the Nova Scotia Library Association made him the first recipient of its Norman Horrocks Leadership Award in recognition of all that he has done within the Province. I think his work and influence deserve the wider recognition which the APLA Merit Award embodies." Norman Horrocks

On being presented with the Award, Mr. Colborne shared his thoughts on receiving this honour and some reminiscences of his career in libraries.

When Laurette called to tell me about this award, I was totally

surprised and thrilled. I'd like to thank the APLA selection committee because this really means a lot to me. I'm looking forward to calling my mother and telling her that I've received the Merit Award. She'll be happy that her firstborn is finally amounting to something.

I've been in this business for 34 years. I know it's a cliché, but it just seems like yesterday when I was applying for my first library job.

I can tell you exactly where my library career started. It was in a gravel pit in Tantallon, just off the 103 highway on the Hammonds Plains Road. We were building the overpass at Five Island Lake, and my job was to sit in a tiny scale house and weigh trucks of gravel. I had just written Eleanor Magee, University Librarian at Mount Allison University, to see if she had any positions available. HR has changed a lot since then, because she wrote back to me to tell me that she did, in fact, have a position open, and if I wanted to show up in Sackville in September it was mine. No interview, no due diligence. At the same time two friends of mine were planning an extended trip to Europe in September, and I can remember spending several weeks in that scale house thinking about whether to take this job or go to Europe and struggling to make up my mind. I made a good choice that summer and accepted the library job.

So I spent the next year and a half cataloguing, and I absolutely loved it. I know that many people think of cataloguers the same way that Samuel Johnson defined lexicographers, as "harmless drudges." I was a cataloguer for many years and enjoyed every

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Report from the Associated Alumni of the Dalhousie School of Library and Information Studies

The Associated Alumni of the Dalhousie School of Library and Information Studies held its second silent auction at the APLA Conference in Halifax this May. Bidding was open to both vendors and library professionals. There was fast and furious bidding over this year's two most popular items, a black and white photo of the Halifax MacDonald Bridge, graciously donated by Richard Dennis and Heather O'Brien, and a large (30"x 30") colour framed print donated by Cambridge Scientific Abstracts. When the bidding wars ended, organizers had collected \$589.00 in successful bids. A warm thank-you is extended to all businesses, organizations and individuals who generously provided items and support for this year's auction. A sincere thank-you is also extended to Cambridge Scientific Abstracts, OCLC and especially to the APLA 2005 Planning Committee who provided the space and two tables for the silent auction. A special thank-you must also be extended to the following people: Heather Sanderson ('03), Tanja Harrison ('96), Michelle Paon ('98), Ruth Cordes ('03), Lori Leger ('05), Collette Saunders ('05) and Steve Lelievre ('04) for organizing the space at the auction and the items for the auction, creating bidding sheets, and for setting up and monitoring the auction.

Earlier in the year, in April, the Associated Alumni held another fundraiser in the form of a flea market at the Penhorn Mall in Dartmouth. This event realized \$954.00 in sales, which is more than double the amount raised last year. Many thanks to alumni and friends who donated their treasures to the flea market. The Executive is pleased to report that all proceeds from the flea market and the silent auction have been donated to the Dalhousie School of Information Management for student scholarships.



*Past Chair Tanja Harrison and
Outgoing Chair Michelle Paon*

On May 28, during the APLA conference, the Associated Alumni held a well-attended AGM and reception. An enthusiastic crowd of about 30 alumni, students and observers showed up to conduct association business. Guests included CLA Executive Director Don Butcher and SIM MLIS Program Coordinator Jo-Ann Watson. A highlight of the AGM was the pinning of 20-year pins on four 1985 grads—Ian Colford, Patricia Gallant, Penny Logan and Phyllis Ross—who were attending a 20th anniversary reunion at APLA. Another special moment during the AGM was when Steve Lelievre presented, on behalf of the alumni, a gift to outgoing SLIS Graduate Coordinator Judy Dunn to thank her for the assistance she has provided to the Associated Alumni over the years. As the business concluded, a gift was presented to outgoing Chair, Michelle Paon, to thank her for an extremely successful year of leadership.

A very successful alumni dinner, arranged by Marnie MacGillivray, was held at the Calgary Tower Panorama Restaurant during CLA 2005. There were 28 people in attendance including Michael Gorman (from



*20-year alumni Phyllis Ross, Ian Colford,
Penny Logan and Patrica Gallant*

ALA). Ms. MacGillivray had this to say about the event: "We had a clear sunny evening so you could see all the way to the Rockies. We enjoyed a lovely dinner and lively conversation with a lot of catching up. Every kind of library was represented as well as most of the provinces. It was great to see everyone!" Norman Horrocks also organized a lunch for alumni at the ALA Conference. In attendance were Terri Tomchyshyn (Head, Library Information Services, Communications Security Establishment, Ottawa) and Peter Fletcher (Serials & Electronic Resources Catalog Librarian, Slavic/Germanic Bibliographer, Tulane University, New Orleans).

The Alumni Executive for 2005-2006 is:

Chair: Sandy Dwyer ('91)
Past-Chair: Michelle Paon ('98)
Vice-Chair: Ryan Deschamps ('05)
Secretary/Treasurer: Heather Sanderson ('03)
Program Convener: Collette Saunders ('05)
Member-at-Large: Mary Virtue ('75)

In addition, new alumni representatives to SLIS Standing Committees include the following:

Admissions and Scholarships: Bill Laurence ('98)
Curriculum and Continuing Education: Sarah Stevenson ('01)
Appointments, Promotion and Tenure: TBA

The following list of nominees has been approved by the membership and has been forwarded to the School as alumni candidates. The School will select one nominee who then serves a one-year term on the committee.

Gwyn Pace ('83)
Jane Archibald ('76)
Steve Lelievre ('04)
Ruth Cordes ('03)

The Executive of the Associated Alumni of the Dalhousie School of Information Management is dedicated to advancing education for librarianship and promoting the School and the interests of its alumni members. For more information about the Associated Alumni please see the SLIS alumni website at sim.management.dal.ca/PeopleGroups/alumni/.

Submitted by Sandy Dwyer

Chat Reference at Grenfell College

by Todie Winter

What is Chat Reference?

Chat Reference offers immediate, real-time online reference and is a faster, more efficient version of email and webform reference services. Chat reference technology permits the extensive use of library services beyond the walls of the building. This virtual service allows librarians to deliver quality reference to patrons with the following advantages: it provides immediate assistance for remote users, enables the librarian's instructions to be followed by the patron immediately, allows for more efficient reference interviews than email, ensures the patron's anonymity and raises awareness of the library among the user community. Alternatively, the following challenges should be considered: staffing the chat service has the potential to place greater demands upon already busy librarians, communicating can be difficult as the librarian receives no visual or auditory cues during the reference interview, budgeting for the service may be challenging as some chat software can be expensive, and typing to communicate can take time.

Project Background

In February 2005 the Ferriss Hodgett Library of Sir Wilfred Grenfell College, Memorial University of Newfoundland, launched a two-month chat reference pilot project using a free trial of QuestionPoint, the OCLC basic chat reference software. The Live Chat: Online Help service was offered 20 hours a week from 9:00am until 11:00am and from 2:00pm until 4:00pm, Monday through Friday, from February 1 until April 31, 2005. Staffing was provided by two librarians, each of whom worked two-hour shifts daily throughout the project.

The concept for this project was developed in fall 2004 semester with implementation in February and March 2005. A key element of the project was the procurement in October 2004 of a free two-month trial of the Basic version of QuestionPoint, the OCLC Chat Reference

software. The Basic version allows for straightforward chatting between patrons and librarians and includes the ability to push URLs back and forth, but does not have the co-browsing and application sharing features available in the Enhanced 24/7 version of QuestionPoint, useful for more in-depth research questions. Both versions of the software include statistical reports that provide transcripts, number of chat requests, missed chats, chat lengths, time of day, and day of week and other information of use to libraries in the evaluation of chat reference services.

Both Grenfell College librarians reviewed training materials and software tips that had been downloaded from the QuestionPoint website. One librarian had experience with QuestionPoint from

than the word 'reference'. Additional marketing included posters, bookmarks, promotional emails, notices in the College newsletter and promo labels on all College computers.

While the Live Chat service was promoted first and foremost to students, faculty and staff of Sir Wilfred Grenfell College, it is important to note that with no authentication process in place, members of the public were free to use the service, just as they are able to telephone, email or visit the reference desk.

Project Findings:

Nature of Questions

All Live Chat questions received were relatively simple, each taking no more than a few minutes



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previous employment and was able to act as the software administrator to set up librarian accounts, print statistical reports, download chat transcripts, provide chat reference and deliver hands-on training.

Logo and Promotion

Prior to developing promotional material, a Live Chat: Online Reference logo was created. The logo was placed on the main Ferriss Hodgett Library webpage and on the Grenfell College homepage, with links to the Live Chat question webform and information page. Upon completion of the first month of service, the logo was changed slightly to include the word 'help' rather than 'reference' as it was felt the word 'help' would be more intuitive or recognizable to patrons

to answer. The questions may be categorized into four main types: research (62%), Grenfell College related (16%), off-campus login (16%) and intercampus loan /interlibrary loan (6%). All research questions were fairly straightforward inquires regarding the use of article indices, book reviews, catalogue searching and locating articles, e.g. "Do you have the collection of *Newfoundland Quarterly*? I am looking for editions before 1986." Grenfell-related questions were asked regarding job opportunities at Grenfell College, application questions and biographical information about Sir Wilfred Grenfell, e.g. "How or where can I find more about hiring at your university?" Off-Campus login questions referred to patron passwords and Library PINs, e.g. "Can you give me a PIN for the off-campus sign in, so I can look for an article

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The Way We See the World: Geography, Libraries, and Outreach

by Elizabeth Hamilton

Introduction

Getting the word out that libraries are dynamic, relevant places and worthy of deep community support is a constant imperative in a society characterized by rapid technological advances. The issue of what we can contribute to such a society is one that we can and should be demonstrating every day. While there are many effective strategies and initiatives, from literacy programs to CLA's Library Advocacy Now!, one of our more energetic initiatives recently has used geography to involve the community in discovering the excitement of the library.

Earlier this year, UNB Libraries staff had preschoolers in the library viewing maps of the area of the world affected by the December 26 tsunami and assisted in a Geographic Positioning System (GPS) exercise for the local YMCA on Fredericton's UNB campus. In 2004, we established an award for the "Most Outstanding Map of New Brunswick" created by a UNB student, and participated in the Champlain discovery week at the Fredericton Public Library's summer reading program. But one of the most rewarding outreach programs has been to use library resources in an exercise with 730 students in eleven District 18 schools.

Genesis

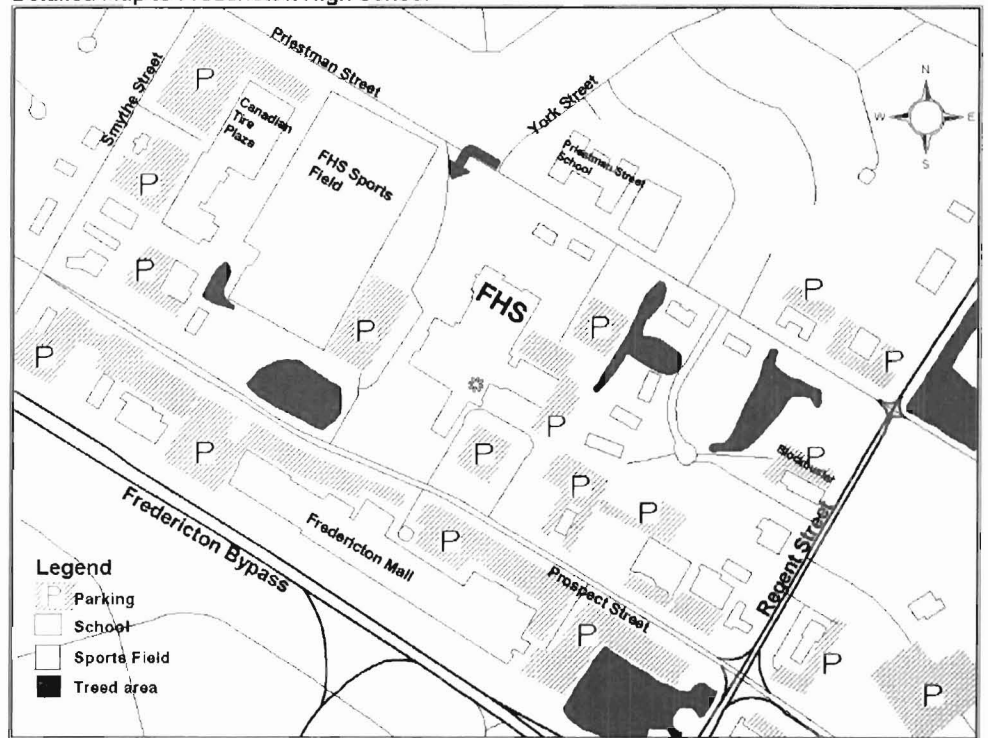
The impetus for our outreach program came in 2002 with the acquisition of spatial data products and the negotiation of a license with Service New Brunswick (SNB) for provincial spatial data. At the end of lengthy negotiations, UNB Libraries signed an academic license on behalf of post-secondary institutions in the province for SNB spatial data. In discussing the celebration of a workable license, we became aware of the exquisite timing provided by the negotiation's conclusion and Geography Awareness Week (sponsored by the National Geographic Society and others). We did not have much time for planning but we felt that, with SNB and the Dept. of Geodesy and Geomatics as our partners, putting together a program would be an easy matter.

The formal event was not difficult to plan. We booked the Wu Centre at UNB and contacted speakers to build a program around the presentation of awards for Excellence in Education, provided by the library. Invitations went out to the geomatics community and the event was advertised in local media outlets. The UNB President opened the session and the closing session was presented by students from New Brunswick Community College in Moncton and

The Plan

In the week prior to the celebrations of November 20, 2002, an energetic team from UNB Libraries (Siobhan Hanratty, Elizabeth Hamilton, and John Neilson) gathered up an impressive pile of maps from the library map collection and went into five elementary, middle and high schools in the Fredericton area. Volunteers from the UNB's Department of Geodesy and Geomatics

Detailed Map to Fredericton High School



Special Thanks to: **caris** 

the University of New Brunswick talking about the role of digital spatial data in their work. There was cake too, of course.

But the formal event did not seem to really capture the spirit of leadership of Service New Brunswick in this first academic agreement for provincial spatial data in the country. Perhaps, we reasoned, we should try something a bit different, something for the wider non-professional community. We came up with a plan that was so rewarding that we repeated it in November 2004, with similarly positive results.

Engineering, Service New Brunswick, CARIS, and the City of Fredericton were also brought into play as needed. Encapsulated maps were flung onto desks, lab tables and, occasionally, the floor as groups of students scanned the varieties of maps available, reporting their findings on appealing features and effective map design elements.

The students then decided what their audience would be, and what design elements would be featured on a map of their own creation. Thanks to the amazing cooperation and commitment of software companies (ESRI and CARIS) and data providers (SNB, DMTI and Statistics Canada), we

had age-appropriate software and data files for the construction of maps on the computer.

Since the single most important component of map creation is the intellectual activity, students were encouraged to work in groups on the design elements for their own maps of the school area, including choice of scale, cultural and topographic information, and selection and use of symbols and colours. With the assistance of the teaching teams, designs were moved into a draft map using software provided by ESRI (using ARCView 3.2 for elementary and middle schools) and CARIS (at the high school level). The results were astonishing and the feedback was positive. Some of the maps designed through this program

can be viewed by clicking on "Participating Schools" at www.lib.unb.ca/gddm/maps/gday/geoday2002.html.

We wanted to give the students a tangible product of their experience, and issued formal invitations to students for their parents/guardians. Along with the general public, students and parents/guardians were welcomed at the Wu Centre on November 20, 2002 to launch the web-based versions of the maps created. The MLA for Fredericton, the Hon. Brad Green, spoke about the promising future that lay ahead of these geo-savvy students, and representatives of both the UNB Department of Geodesy and Geomatics and the City of

Fredericton brought GIS to a basic level for the audience

When the exercise was repeated in November 2004, we broadened our linguistic coverage to include École Ste-Anne, a school that provides K-12 classes for Francophone students in District 18. And, instead of a large session in the Wu Centre, we provided a large paper copy of the map designed by the class for mounting in the school as well as a smaller version that was suitable for in-class use.

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Chat Reference at Grenfell College

online?" Intercampus loans/Interlibrary loan questions related to ICL/ILL forms, e.g. "I have some order forms for ILL and I was wondering where it was that I had to bring them so that they would be ordered for me?"

Total Requests

Sixty-two patrons requested chat sessions during the pilot and thirteen chat reference sessions occurred. Of the 49 unanswered chat requests, 41 chats were requested outside the scheduled hours of service, leaving eight unanswered requests. Two reasons may account for these eight unanswered patron requests: 1) patrons logging off before a librarian responded to their requests, as time delays are inherent in chat software, and 2) campus network downtimes and interruptions.

Hourly Analysis

An hourly analysis of the number of chat sessions requested during the pilot clearly indicates that the busiest service hours were weekdays between 11:30am-5:30pm, with the peak periods of 11:30am-2:30pm accounting for 36% and 2:30pm-5:30pm for 25% of the requests respectively. The times between 8:30am-11:30am and 5:30pm-8:30pm are also worth

noting as they each accounted for 14% of chat session requests. An extremely low volume of requests occurred between 10:30pm-8:30am.

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday were the highest volume days and accounted for 75% of all chat requests. In contrast, Saturday and Sunday were the slowest with only 5% of requests.

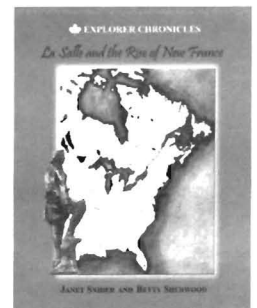
Conclusion

By examining chat reference services in general and looking at the specific details of the pilot project including background, software, promotion, hours, staffing, and statistics, the overall conclusion is that this two-month pilot project achieved its goals of evaluating chat reference software and testing the service on patrons. While the sample size was small, the number of chat requests demonstrated that this type of outreach is attractive to patrons of Sir Wilfred Grenfell College, that expanding the hours of chat reference service is essential and that, at least initially, a basic form of chat software is suitable for handling inquiries.

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Canadian History by Canadians

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Merit Award Winner for 2005 – Michael Colborne

minute. My mind was always actively engaged. When I speak to library school students I always tell them that no matter what type of library they are going to work in, the single most important tool at their disposal is the catalogue, and it's so important to learn how it works and why it's organized the way it is.

Another thing I tell library school students is the story of how I chose a library school. I was working at Mount A, enjoying the work but thinking that I'd like to make more than \$4200 a year. I looked under library schools in the Commonwealth Universities Yearbook and the first entry was Aberystwyth, part of the University of Wales. I wrote them a letter and a year later I was there. Talk about due diligence! I didn't apply anywhere else. I did no investigation into whether it was a good school, or even whether the qualification was recognized here.

When I tell this story to students, I don't suggest that they approach their career the way I did. Career planning is important. But I encourage them not to over-plan. I encourage them to leave room for serendipity. I fell into that experience in Wales, and it was one of the best things I ever did.

My career in libraries has always been marked by serendipity. I was always fortunate to have the encouragement of inspirational people. I think of Eleanor Magee, taking a chance on a young guy she'd never even seen before, welcoming me into her library and starting me on my career, and I thank her for that.

I spent over 15 years working at the Halifax City Regional Library. Diane MacQuarrie and Pauline Hildesheim created a climate of encouragement and opportunity there, and I thank them for that. I was lucky to have that experience. For many years I worked for Laura Jantek in the reference department on Spring Garden Road. I really enjoyed going to work in those days; Laura was an excellent mentor and the best librarian I ever worked with.

I want to say a few words about the value of

associations. When I was a younger librarian, Norman Horrocks once referred to me as a "notorious non-joiner". That all changed about 15 years ago, and since then my involvement in associations has been very important to me. I hope I've been able to make worthwhile contributions. I've had the opportunity to participate in several associations, and I've met a lot of fabulous people across Canada. Associations have enriched my professional life, and provided me with opportunities to travel and to get involved in some interesting activities that further the causes of libraries and librarianship. Awards like this one are just one of the many important things that associations do.

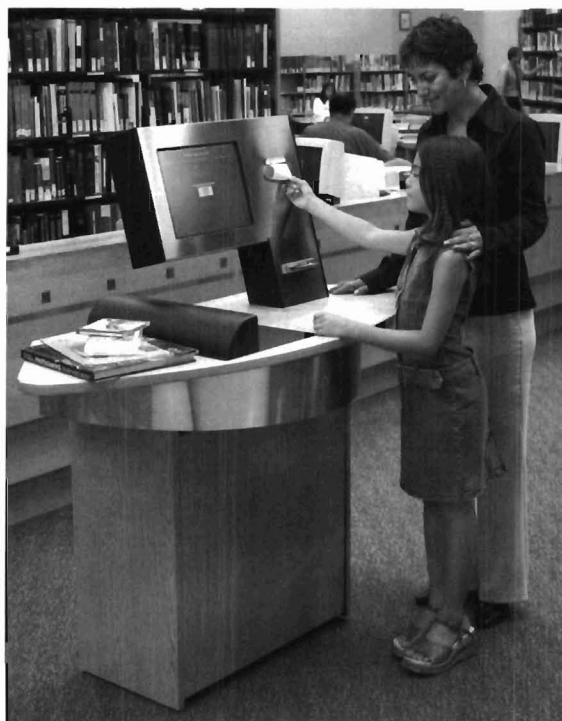
I do feel very fortunate to work in a profession where we recognize the importance of awards, of paying attention to a body of good work. And I appreciate the idea of recognizing people when they're still doing their best work. There's a part

of me that thinks that awards are things that people get at the end of their careers, as they're nudged out the door. There's a scene in *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* where a plague victim wails, "I'm not dead yet!"

I too don't feel like I'm done yet.

Thank you for considering my work worthy of this award.

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Join the APLA Discussion List

APLA-L is an unmoderated discussion list for people who are interested in library issues in Atlantic Canada. The APLA list is:

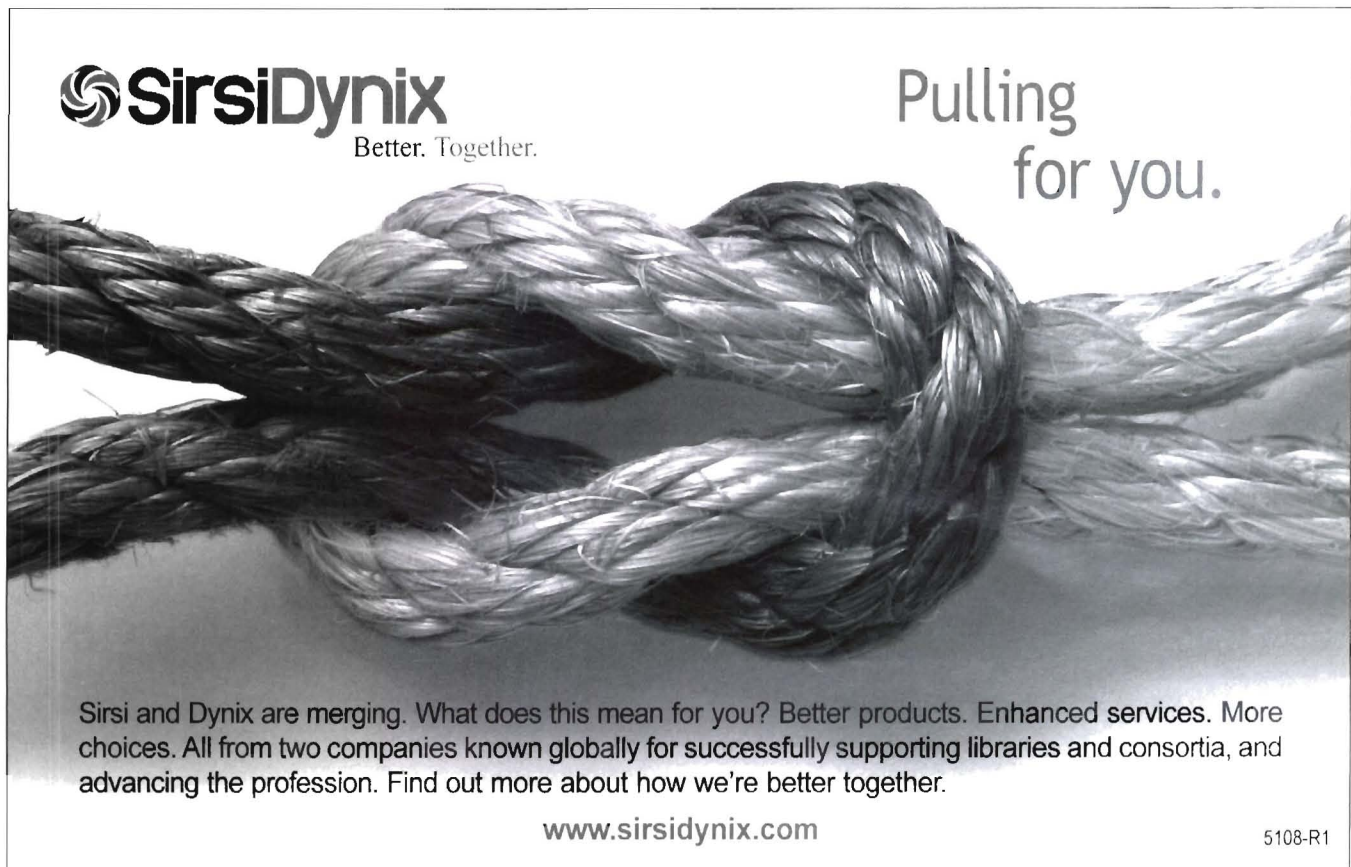
- a place to post notices about workshops, seminars, and other events
- a source of current information about the actions of the APLA Executive
- a forum for sharing questions, comments and ideas about library services
- a place to post job advertisements

To subscribe to the APLA list, send the command "sub apla-list" to listserv@lists.dal.ca.

To send a message to everyone on the list, use apla-list@lists.dal.ca.

To stay on the list but suspend your messages (while on vacation, for instance), send the command "set apla-list nomail" to listserv@lists.dal.ca. When you want to receive message again, send the command "set apla-list mail" to listserv@lists.dal.ca. To unsubscribe from the list, send the command "unsub apla-list" to listserv@lists.dal.ca.

If you have any questions about the APLA list, please contact the postmaster, Suzanne Sexty, at ssexty@mun.ca.



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From the Editors' Desk

This issue of the APLA Bulletin marks Erin and Patricia's last as editors. By the time this issue arrives in your hands, incoming editors Dianne Taylor-Harding and Stacey Penney from Memorial University of Newfoundland will already be hard at work on the September/October issue. We are delighted to report that Ruth Cordes will be continuing on as Advertising Editor. Anyone who has had the pleasure of working with Ruth will not be surprised to hear that she has brought enormous energy to the position and has singlehandedly and successfully wooed several new advertisers to our pages. Advertising revenues have failed to meet expectations for some years now, but Ruth's focus and persistence will no doubt reverse the trend.

Editing the *Bulletin* has been a significant commitment over the last three years, and Erin and Patricia are looking forward to new projects. But working on the *Bulletin* has been a source of immense professional and personal satisfaction, and we are grateful to have had the opportunity to serve the Association in this capacity. The greatest pleasure of all has been, of course, working with all the members of those three years' Executives and getting to know—even if only by e-mail, in some cases—so many APLA members. Our thanks to all of you.

Patricia Gallant
Erin Patterson

The APLA General Activities Fund

The APLA General Activities Fund (GAF) provides funds for projects or activities that will further the aims and objectives of APLA. Applications will be considered based on the availability of funds. Applications should state the topic and date of activity, the relevancy to the Atlantic library community and APLA, any sponsoring bodies, estimated costs and revenues, and a contact person. Send applications by September 15, 2005 to:

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The Way We See the World: Geography, Libraries, and Outreach

Conclusion

With this outreach program, we left our place in the library to move into the culture of the schools, from K to 12. When geography shifts, so do attitudes and conventions. When asserting that everyone associated green with grassy areas, one student noted sagely that aliens do not know that. That is why a legend explaining the use of colour is important. There were arguments over whether the presence of shopping malls was more culturally relevant to the map's audience than the local hospital. Shopping malls took the day but we found out that there was room for both. There was no uniformity among the type of maps favoured, although there were fierce arguments over whether a bathymetric-based fishing map or a historical map of an area was more useful.

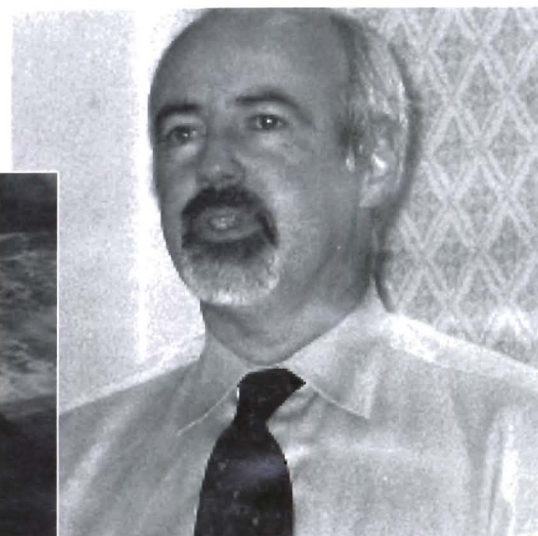
There have been many maps created in the outreach program, but the students and teachers alike are struck by the number of different types of maps that exist within library collections in their community—and how the collection has expanded to include the tools needed to design maps to illustrate geographically linked matters of interest to them. For our part, demonstrating our passion about the possibilities of geographically linked information is a sheer joy. We have heard positive reactions from parents, teachers and from co-workers who have come with us to help out with the larger groups (our largest thus far has been a 60-member design team). All groups need to be reminded that libraries are dynamic and relevant places. For those libraries with map/GIS collections, geography can be a tool to opening doors of exploration and discovery to the community, revealing richness and sparking imagination.



Outgoing APLA
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