

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

Bulletin

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Patron Driven Acquisition: boon or boondoggle?

By Geoff Brown

Why buy e-books?

E-books are experiencing an unprecedented growth in academic libraries. This is due, in large part, to the fact that academic and reference books lend themselves well to the kinds of usage afforded by the electronic medium. Patrons search these books for keywords and topics, they copy passages to support arguments and they generate citations for bibliographies. None of these activities is important for a recreational reader. As a result, while e-book sales might be flat for general readers, academic readers are flocking to them.

With the pressure to purchase e-books growing, the Dalhousie University Libraries have been looking at the various options for purchasing them. As is the case with the e-journals that have preceded them, e-books can be purchased individually or in packages, from vendors or directly from publishers, and even as part of consortial deals. For many of us involved in such things, each scenario presents its own set of disadvantages. Selecting individual titles is time-consuming and expensive; packages and aggregated content take control of collection growth out of the hands of librarians but offer economies of scale; consortially arranged deals are often strange to administer (does anyone actually know precisely what titles we purchased?) but

also offer economies of scale. Will these scenarios remain as the only purchase models for e-books or is there a better way to buy them? Well, the answer is ... maybe.

What did we hope to accomplish?

In the summer and fall of 2006, the Dalhousie University Libraries dabbled with a new method for selecting e-books for our collection. Our goal was simply to supplement, rather than replace our current method. The hope was that we would generate additional goodwill with our users while allowing them to select some items for the collection. Patron Driven Acquisition (PDA) is unlike anything we have embarked on for either e-journals or e-books in the past. Even though PDA programs have been around for several years, nobody at our institution had any experience using this method to acquire e-books. With few examples of the merits of PDAs, but a yearning to explore options, we decided on a targeted project to use a PDA program to add to our monograph collection in the arts and social sciences subject areas.

The concept is appealing and represents a significant departure from our normal selection process whereby subject specialists select items to add to our collections. With a PDA, subject specialists make the initial title selection based on a fixed dollar amount, the

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broad subject areas we would like users to purchase in and the range of titles available from the vendor running the program. From there the users take over and vote for a title by using it. What better way to add items to the collection that meet the needs of our users?

In our case, we were able to choose 500 titles for potential purchase. We started with books representing broad subject areas such as the Arts, Economics, History, Language & Linguistics, Literature, Philosophy and Religion. However, our subject specialists further refined their choices by selecting books in specific areas of study. These included, but were not limited to the following:

- Italian Studies
- Latin American studies
- Women's studies
- International development
- Canadian studies
- Middle East and Islamic history and politics
- Film studies
- Aboriginal studies
- English literary criticism
- Music

How did we do it?

The program that we ran was offered by OCLC / NetLibrary and was fairly simple. We started with a pre-determined budget that we deposited with NetLibrary. The program expires once this deposit account is spent out or 12 months has passed (whichever occurs first). The account is debited as users trigger purchases by viewing e-books. Once a book has been viewed twice, the library automatically purchases a license to that book and all fees associated with the book are deducted from the deposit account. That's the basic structure of the program, but there are other details.

For patrons to use an e-book they must discover it. The vendor provided MARC records for all 500 titles that we chose for the program. We loaded these records in the Novanet catalogue and waited for users to find the books in the course of their regular catalogue searches. An additional wrinkle for us was the fact that we participate in a union catalogue with an existing collection of e-books from NetLibrary. We had to create a note on all of the records from the PDA program to indicate that they were for Dalhousie University users only. With all of this in mind we loaded our records in June 2006 and had 12 months to spend out the deposit account. In retrospect, our timing for this project could have been better since summer is not the most active time on campus.

Timing and promoting the program

During June, July and August we managed only 15 purchases and 63 views. Once the fall term started we saw usage increase. We purchased 18 titles in the period from September 1 to October 31 and saw average use increase from 21 views per month over the summer to 89 views per month for the beginning of

the fall term. This was an improvement, but we felt we could do better. With the start of November we decided to embark on a small scale PR campaign to raise the profile of the program. This consisted of an email to all of our students via our student listerv as well as promotional slides on all of the TV monitors in our Information Commons. Our message was simple; "You use it and we buy it". The impact of this campaign was immediate. Usage for November alone increased to 303 uses of 111 e-books. This triggered 39 purchases and spent out our remaining budget. Overall, our timeline for the project proceeded as follows:

Action	Date
Approach OCLC for background information on the PDA program and how it works	March 2007
Review and approve list of available publishers	March 2007
Review e-book contract and PDA addendum	March 2007
Fill out PDA worksheet (Dal IPs, authentication method and logo)	April 2007
Decide on dollar amount to place on deposit	April 2007
Go through the NetLibrary Title Select file and pre-select potential titles for the program	April 2007
Load MARC records for selected e-books into the catalogue and commence the program	May – June 2007
Concern over rate of selection. Marketed the program to students via message to the student listserv and TV monitors in the information commons	October 2007
Massive uptake of our message, the remaining ? of the funds in the program are spent out in a single month.	November 2007
MARC records for titles purchased are removed from our catalogue and the program is officially ended.	December 2007

What did the people buy?

Of the titles purchased, roughly 73% covered one of the specific topics initially identified (see above) by our subject specialists as important. This isn't bad, considering there was a lot of general content in the original list of 500 titles that we loaded into the catalogue. Books that covered Women's Studies, International Development, Music and Canadian Studies topics were purchased most often. On the flipside, 0 Film Studies books were purchased and only 1 book on English criticism and 2 on Aboriginal Studies books were purchased.

We also noticed that users didn't care if we had a print copy of a particular book. If they liked the content, they went ahead and used it online. This was not particularly surprising, given the advantages of e-books over their print counterparts for academic use. Ultimately, just over half of the titles purchased were duplicates of print items in our collection. So, it appears that people want e-books as much for the convenience as for the content.

What did we learn?

We learned a number of valuable things about PDA programs by running this pilot project. The logistics are not difficult. The records are easily loaded into the catalogue at start-up and records for non-purchased items were removed in one morning (using 2 staff members). We also learned that pre-selection is important to steer users towards the kinds of topics that you hope and expect they will select.

Another surprise was the effectiveness of our PR campaign. While it is good to know that people are listening, we might have been better served if we had timed our message a little differently. Perhaps near the beginning of the program rather than about half way through. Once the deposit account was spent out, the remaining books in the program are no longer available for viewing. So, if you can keep the program going for as many of the 12 months as possible you increase the use that your patrons have of the entire pre-selected collection.

I think we were a little more panicked than we needed to be about the rate of purchasing. Given the size and budget for our program, we probably could have just done a little PR to announce the program, followed-up by a post program synopsis to generate some goodwill.

Concluding Remarks

The Oxford English Dictionary defines "boondoggle" as "a trivial, useless, or unnecessary undertaking; wasteful expenditure. To engage in trifling or frivolous work." While e-books aren't cheap, I wouldn't call our experience a boondoggle. This pilot project was worth the experience. We wouldn't do everything the same the next time, but the concept behind PDA is exciting. It was fun to see what people would purchase and it is a useful way to connect users to our collections in a direct manner. We won't be ordering all of our e-books this way, but it is a patron-friendly option to consider for a portion of your collections budget.

From the President's Desk

submitted by Ivan Douthwright

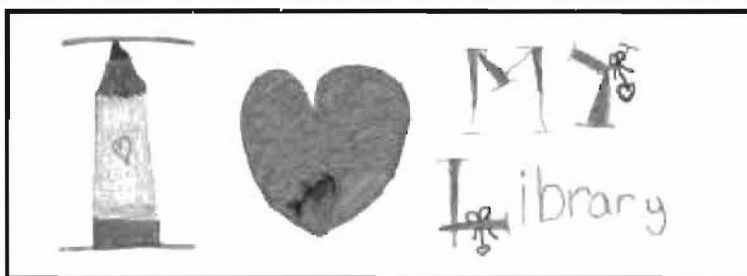
Well winter is quickly passing by and things are very busy. Its amazing how quickly the time goes. So what has been happening at the executive level? I presume you have all received my e-mail of the preferred rate for APLA members at the Delta hotels... I know... the trick is to be able to get away to use it but hopefully at some point it will be helpful to you.

The end of January, Donna and I attended the Partnership winter meeting and the Ontario Library Association Super conference in Toronto. It was a wonderful opportunity to continue working with that group and attend an excellent conference. (Read my article outlining the efforts of the Partnership and how it affects you... I think you will find the whole concept quite amazing.) Of course, we are focusing on finishing up the final details for the CLA/APLA/NLLA National Conference in May.

making plans to attend. March will be busy with budget preparation, election nominations and other matters getting ready for our April executive meetings. So have a good rest of winter and hopefully we will see you in St. John's in May.

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By now you have received your preliminary programs and are hopefully



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*Illustration: Ada Du.
Winner: Category -
Grade 1-3, Brompton
Library 6th Annual
Bookmark Contest, 2004.*

ASIN News from the Council of Atlantic University Libraries

By Donna Bourne-Tyson, Mount Saint Vincent University Library
February 2007

At last year's Atlantic Provinces Library Association conference, a five-year-old vision became a reality with the launch of the Atlantic Scholarly Information Network (ASIN) Portal. While it doesn't look like a portal, it is a virtual and metaphorical gateway to the academic library resources in Atlantic Canada.

ASIN was built upon a foundation of user-centred policies for collections, services and communications. In terms of user-centred resources, the vision of 2000 states that these include: co-ordinated collection building; a common access interface to all collections; enhanced access to regional special collections in all subject areas; a regional bank of skilled library personnel.

User-centred services will include: co-ordinated services for timely information delivery throughout the region; a regional technological infrastructure consistent with national and international standards for information exchange; and on-going regionally co-ordinated development of library services in co-operation with other Atlantic regional user groups.

Almost a year after the launch, librarians and library staff continue to develop and further the vision, working collectively to complete the implementation and enhance the functionality of the suite of applications that make up ASIN. ASIN includes a link resolver (1Cate from OCLC Openly Informatics), a metasearch engine (SingleSearch by SirsiDynix / Muse Global), an interlibrary loan system (Relais Enterprise from Relais), a citation manager (RefWorks) and coming soon, a content management system (Rooms by Sirsi).

A new ASIN steering committee has formed to help coordinate the work that various university libraries are doing. This group works with the East Coast Relais Consortium which oversees Relais and related document delivery policies. The ASIN steering committee has set up a wiki for project management, several technical committees to oversee the various modules, and there are upcoming plans which include user consultations. Part of the committee's mandate is to spread the word regarding the status of the initiative, to celebrate milestones, and to profile various system features and the people making it all work behind the scenes.

Read on to learn more about three unsung ASIN Action Figures around the region, and to find out what an OpenURL is according to our favourite wiki encyclopedia.

ASIN Action Figure



Lou Duggan
Digital Librarian
Cape Breton University

Your role with ASIN, both at your institution and regionally?

Institution: interface design and technical support for Sirsi Resolver interface design and technical setup for SingleSearch currently exploring Relais implementation

Regionally: Member of the ASIN Steering committee; Member of the Novanet IT committee

What ASIN functionality do you find most useful for you and your users?

My users and I like it when a citation database can know what is held in full text somewhere else. A URL resolver and federated searching are the Rosetta Stone of modern librarianship. Finally our catalogues, databases and search engines can talk to one another! We've been waiting for this since the first electronic full text!

The first job you ever held and at what age?

Little League baseball umpire at 15 years old.
Your first position in the library and/or information services field?

I started photocopying document deliveries for the Kellogg Library during my lunch hour and worked my way up from there.

Your favourite or most used expression?

1. We will live the rest of our lives in the future.
2. "...Because that's the way we've always done it..." is not a reason.

Books you are currently reading?

The Treasure of the Sierra Madre
Cormack McCarthy's, "Border Trilogy"

Techie toy you most value?

Simple but effective: my thumb drive – I don't know how we functioned with floppies and CD-RW's.

What is: OpenURL

OpenURL is a type of URL that contains resource metadata for use primarily in libraries. The National Information Standards Organization (NISO), has developed OpenURL and its data container (the ContextObject) as international ANSI standard Z39.88. On 22 June 2006, OCLC was named the maintenance agency for the standard.

The OpenURL standard is designed to support mediated linking from information resources (sources) to library services (targets). A "link resolver", or "link-server", parses the elements of an OpenURL and provides links to appropriate services as identified by a library. A source is generally a bibliographic citation or bibliographic record used to generate an OpenURL. A target is a resource or service that helps satisfy user's information needs. Examples include full-text repositories; abstracting, indexing, and citation databases; online library catalogs; and other Web resources and services. OpenURL was originated by Herbert van de Sompel, a librarian at the University of Ghent. His link-server software, SFX, was purchased by the library automation company Ex Libris which popularized OpenURL in the information industry. Many other companies now market link server systems, including Openly Informatics (1Cate — acquired by OCLC in 2006), Endeavor Information Systems, Inc. (Discovery: Resolver), SerialsSolutions (ArticleLinker), Innovative Interfaces, Inc. (WebBridge), EBSCO (LinkSource),

Ovid (LinkSolver), SirsiDynix (Resolver), Fretwell-Downing (OL2), TDNet (TOUR), Bowker (Ulrichs Resource Linker), KINS (K-Link) and Infor (Vlink).

OpenURL is usually implemented by information providers by dynamically inserting an appropriate base URL into web pages sent to an authenticated user. OpenURL COinS is a new specification that allows free services like Wikipedia to provide OpenURLs by cooperating with client side software agents. Federated search software presents OpenURL links in record fields by employing the library's subscriber links to link servers facilitating access to full-text resources from bibliographic record hyperlinks.

From Wikipedia

ASIN Action Figure



Gillian Byrne
Information Services
Librarian
Memorial University

Your role with ASIN, both at your institution and regionally?

Lead Developer for Rooms at Memorial University and Chair, Memorial University ASIN Portal Committee. Specific tasks currently involve developing content standards for Rooms, creating workflow for populating Rooms, conducting usability studies on all aspects of ASIN web products.

What ASIN functionality do you find most useful for you and your users?

Don't suppose you can ask me that question in two years? Currently, the Resolver.

The first job you ever held and at what age?

Diving coach when I was 14 years old.

Your first position in the library and/or information services field?

Records Manager, Telefilm Canada Atlantic office (contract).

Your favourite or most used expression?

Not one that can be printed.

Books you are currently reading?

Books? What are these things called books?

Techie toy you most value?

Changes everyday. Right now I'm loving Firefox's Web Developer extension

ASIN Action Figure



Peter Webster
Information Services Librarian
Saint Mary's University

Your role with ASIN, both at your institution and regionally?

Rolling out ASIN Single Search and Resolver tools for SMU students. Working to make Novanet and ASIN tools snap together. I seem to have found myself on the ASIN steering committee.

I have customized Single Search interface to add links to host databases, and help buttons. We also customized direct searches to Single Search from local library pages, and from Web browser toolbars. We are working on customizing a single sign on connection to the link resolver from the Banner campus portal software. I am working on adding Novanet libraries local holdings to the ASIN Link Resolver at the moment.

What ASIN functionality do you find most useful for you and your users?

Both the Link Resolver and Single Search are useful tools. Single Search is most useful as a search service we can send queries to from what ever interface we like, webCT, Banner, Browser Toolbars, Subject pathfinders, or any library webpage.

The first job you ever held and at what age?

Globe & Mail Paper Boy, age 12.

Your first position in the library and/or information services field?

Caused substantial trouble in various school libraries. But first paid by the Edmonton Public Library, as a General Duty Page (shelver) 1975 ?

Your favourite or most used expression?

Uummm ?

Books you are currently reading?

Macmillan, Margaret. Paris 1919. Something by Andy McNab involving a lot of shooting. Not his best work.

Techie toy you covet most?

Trek 4300.

News from the Provinces

NEW BRUNSWICK

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Albert-Westmoreland-Kent Library Region

On January 12th, a Library Managers' and Directors' Meeting of the Albert-Westmoreland Kent Library Region was held at the Moncton Public Library. Two professional writers were invited from Words That Work, facilitators who addressed the issue of Writing Reports. They offered tips and tricks on how to nail the perfect "lede" and write the best story for newsletters and make annual reports feel less like a chore.

The Moncton, Dieppe, Salisbury, Riverview, Memramcook and Dorchester public libraries offered a "Babies in the Library" program in December or January. A Saturday afternoon family program, Dramatic Readings of Children's Classics, ran between September and December at the Moncton Public Library. This was done in partnership with the Atlantic Baptist University's students enrolled in a children's literature course.

At the Shediac Public Library, the Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award Club is striving with more than 60 participants registered. In February, this library also hands out a certificate of achievement to every child enrolled in the first grade of five local elementary schools. The certificate congratulates them on having learned how to read and states that the library will always be their friend.

Family Literacy Day was promoted in the region with a kiosk of activities, books and information for parents at the Champlain Place Mall in Dieppe. Many family story times and other programs were held in the region's libraries that day or during the week prior. The Dieppe Public Library also offered a family chocolate-making program in early February.

Many adult programs are taking place in the region. A 55+ Coffee Club met at the Moncton Public Library to hear presentations on themes

from financial planning to the art of making great coffee. During an evening adult program at the Moncton Public Library, nutrition and fitness experts spoke on "Surviving your New Year's Resolutions". A writers' circle also met at the Richibucto Public Library. The Dorchester Memorial Library held an evening history program for a local Victoria Cross fallen soldier and participated in a huge community wave as the VIA War Brides' Train passed behind the library.

A ten-year old Book Lovers' Club continues to meet at the Salisbury Public Library. A new French Adult Book Club meets at the Moncton Public Library, and an Adult English Book Club is beginning at the Riverview Public Library. The Saint-Antoine Public Library invited adults to paint their own ceramic snowman in January while the kids made real snowpeople outside.

At the Moncton Public Library, Support for Single Parents and the UNB Faculty of Nursing partnered together to showcase a community-based action research project called Single Mothers and Photovoice. It depicts a process of having single mothers share their photos and their voices. They were able to record, reflect and act on their community concerns and strengths that influence health and well being, and sensitize policy makers and the public about the realities they face.

During the month of February, the Moncton Public Library invited the public to view the latest photographic works by Maurice Henri, "People of Sierra Leone", as well as a display of African communications tools called "Messages in Black". Maurice Henri's photographs are the result of his recent trip to Sierra Leone. His latest project is "Cameras for Healing" which uses photography as a tool to help bring together victims of postwar trauma. To commemorate Black History Month, display cases featured a collection of African communication tools, ancient and modern, beautiful, practical and fun. The display included drums, Swahili fabrics, traditional sayings, cell phones and Nollywood movies.

The York Library Region

The York Library Region is pleased to announce the recent appointment of Denise Corey-Fancy as Director of the Nashwaaksis Public-School Library. Denise was Acting Director of the Nashwaaksis Library since November 2006 and joined the New Brunswick Public Library Service in May 2006 as Acting Reference Services Librarian at the Fredericton Public Library. Denise holds a Master of Library and Information Studies (2006) from Dalhousie University in Halifax and a Diploma of Library and Information Technology (1999) from the Nova Scotia Community College. Previous Nashwaaksis Library director, Judy MacLean, joined the New Brunswick Public Library Service's provincial office team to work on a children's literacy special project. The York Library Region also reports the departure of Veronique Deniger, the Director of the Médiathèque Père-Louis Lamontagne, in mid-November 2006. Veronique managed the public-school library since 1999.

During Canadian Children's Book Week, Nov. 16-24, 2006, Public libraries and schools across New Brunswick were privileged to host Alberta children's author, David Poulsen. David arrived early for readings hosted by public libraries in Moncton, Sussex, Campobello Island, St. Andrews, Perth-Andover, Saint John, Minto and Fredericton. Readings were also hosted by elementary schools in Woodstock and St. Stephen. Mr. Poulsen's hilarious tales of becoming an author were enjoyed by children and adults alike. The tour was definitely a 'team' project, with many library staff planning wonderful library visits and volunteering to drive David to and from his readings. David left with a lasting impression of our province often talking about how he would love to come back to New Brunswick to tour again. Julie Cole, Public Services Librarian of the York Library Region, acted as regional coordinator for the tour this year and would like to send a huge thank you to the many staff from across the province who helped to make the 2006 Canadian Children's Book Week

News from the Provinces

tour such a huge success.

Three libraries in the York Library Region recently celebrated the launch of their Adopt-A-Book programs. This program is a fundraising initiative for boosting the collections of a local community library or bookmobile by offering a direct way for patrons to buy books and other items. The Chatham Public Library, Minto Public Library and the Doaktown Community-School Library hosted successful campaigns adding many new items to the provincial collection for all New Brunswickers to enjoy.

The Doaktown-Community School Library celebrated its 20th Anniversary on November 30, 2006. The Hon. Herménégilde Chaisson, Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick, was invited to celebrate the launch of the library's Adopt-A-Book campaign during the celebrations. Other special guests included past library board members, as well as representatives from the library system, municipality and province. The Doaktown Library prepared for their anniversary throughout the year

with renovations, including a new circulation desk. They also produced a commemorative CD with images from library events hosted over the past 20 years and it was unveiled during the festivities. The York Library Region was pleased to celebrate two library grand re-openings this past fall. The Nashwaaksis Public-School Library and the Minto Public Library celebrated recent renovations to their locations, including new flooring and paint. The staff and library patrons welcomed the changes to their library spaces.

Jill Katherine Foster was appointed to the position of Regional Director for the York Library Region effective on July 4, 2006.

York Technical Services Librarian Joyce Newman assumed the position of Acting Technical Services Librarian for the Saint John Library Region from May 23 through November 10, 2006, replacing Tanya Eindiguer during her maternity leave. During her leave, Anne LePage assumed the responsibilities of the Technical Services Librarian position on an acting basis until the end of November.

Kimberly MacLean was appointed to the position of part-time Library Assistant in the Children's Department of the Fredericton Public Library effective on July 17, 2006.

Loralie Boyle was appointed to the full-time position of Library Assistant in the Children's Department of the Fredericton Public Library effective on August 8, 2006.

Camilla Ratelle retired from the Bibliothèque Dr-Marguerite-Michaud (Fredericton) in September after 19 years.

Brian R. Steeves was appointed to the position of Director of the Fredericton Public Library effective on October 2, 2006.

Jennifer Wilcox was appointed to the half-time position of Acting Reference Librarian at the Fredericton Public Library and as half-time Technical Writer responsible for the update of the provincial circulation manual at the NBPLS provincial office effective on September 11, 2006.

Joleen Richards was appointed to the position of half-time Circulation Clerk at the Fredericton Public Library effective on September 25, 2006.

Lorraine Suley was appointed to the position of Library Assistant at the Dr. Marguerite Michaud Library in Fredericton effective on October 23, 2006.

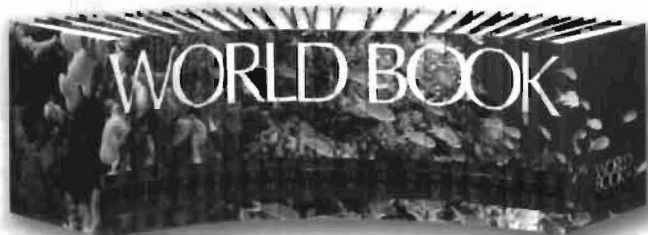
The provincial launch of the Cochrane Library medical database, hosted by the Fredericton Public Library, occurred on December 6. New Brunswick Public Library Service (NBPLS) has entered into a partnership with the University of New Brunswick libraries (UNB) and the Regional Health Authority libraries of the province to offer the Cochrane Library to our patrons. Access to the resource is available to all public library card holders through the NBPLS website.

The Cochrane Library is offered by the Cochrane Collaboration, a not-for-profit organization that provides information about health care treatments. The Cochrane Library contains studies and systematic reviews on the treatments. The systematic reviews are the synthesis of the results of many studies on a particular treatment method. Each of these reviews contains a "Plain Language Summary" which gives a conclusion as to whether or not a treatment is effective.

Médiathèque Père-Louis-Lamontagne (Miramichi) celebrated its 20th Anniversary on June 7. Lieutenant-Governor Herménégilde Chaisson and NBPLS Executive Director Sylvie Nadeau attended the celebrations.

Children and libraries enjoyed another very successful year for Summer Reading Club in York

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News from the Provinces

Library Region. There were 447 children registered in the Read-to-Me program, reading over 16,600 books. The Summer Reading Club saw 1036 children registered reading 21,268 books. Libraries in the region gave 359 programs for Summer Reading Club with almost 4000 participants.

Libraries in the region celebrated Canadian Library Month in October with many programs. This year's theme was "Libraries: The world at your fingertips." Special programming included library orientations, special book displays, browse and brunch programs for seniors, Meet the Author events, library grand re-openings, Adopt-A-Book launches, and many programs for children, adult and seniors throughout the region.

TRANSLATION BUREAU

/ BUREAU DE TRADUCTION

Véronique Deniger is the new librarian at the NB Translation Bureau. She started working there in late 2006. The carpet of the library will soon be replaced, therefore everything (books, shelving, etc.) has to be moved.

NB LEGISLATIVE LIBRARY / BIBLIOTHÈQUE LÉGISLATIVE DU N.-B.

Kenda Clark-Gorey was appointed Legislative Librarian in 2006. On January 26th the library held an open house for government employees. Despite the sub zero temperatures over thirty people attended from various government departments.

ACADEMIC LIBRARIES / BIBLIOTHÈQUES ACADÉMIQUES

Université de Moncton

La bibliothèque Champlain à l'Université de Moncton accueillera un nouveau bibliothécaire en chef le 19 février 2007. Il s'agit d'un ancien gradué (1968) de l'Université de Moncton, Monsieur Alain Roberge, originaire de Charny, P.Q. À titre d'information, parmi ses expériences antérieures, M. Roberge a travaillé comme bibliothécaire dans le comté de Kent en tant que responsable du Centre

de documentation de Relance Nouveau-Brunswick (1970-74), puis responsable du service de bibliothèque pour le comté de Kent sous l'égide de la Bibliothèque Régionale AWK (1974-75). De 1975 à 1990 il fut responsable des ressources didactiques du Cégep de Rivière-du-Loup et enfin de 1990 à octobre 2005, il était à l'emploi du Collège Jean-de-Bréboeuf à Montréal, plus particulièrement comme directeur du Service des ressources didactiques de 1995 à la fin de sa carrière. En plus de ses responsabilités comme directeur de bibliothèque, Monsieur Roberge a été activement impliqué dans des associations et regroupements professionnels. Il a été, entre autres, président de l'Association pour l'avancement des sciences et des techniques de la documentation (ASTED) de 2004 à 2006 après avoir été membre du conseil d'administration

Mount St. Vincent University Library

LibQUAL+ at MSVU

The MSVU Library is conducting the LibQUAL+ survey in the winter term of 2007. This is possible in part because MSVU is one of five libraries in North America to receive a \$3000 US grant to cover the registration cost for the highly regarded library service assessment tool LibQUAL+. Produced by the American Association of Research Libraries, the LibQUAL+ survey is a web-based assessment tool that provides Library staff with methodologically sound customer satisfaction data, upon which to base future plans for service improvements. Students, faculty and staff will be asked to complete a web-based survey which probes for opinions about Library resources, services and about the Library as a space for independent learning.

Professional Communication in Second Life

Educators and business leaders are racing to develop a presence in Second Life (<http://secondlife.com/>), a 3-D massively multi-player online gaming environment, because of the opportunities presented for creativity and effective communication.

Universities have set up virtual campuses, companies are designing and marketing products and services, and more than one million people have logged on for a variety of social, educational and commercial reasons.

During the winter term, MSVU is taking small steps to investigate the potential of this online world as a learning platform, by creating a pilot program as part of Employee Relations PBRL 4101, a Public Relations course taught by Dr. DeNel Rehberg Sedo. The module will be created and delivered by Dr. Rehberg Sedo, with pedagogical and technical assistance from Extended Services Librarian Denyse Rodrigues and additional research support from University Librarian Donna Bourne-Tyson. Learning outcomes will include:

- Heightened awareness of the potential of a virtual online environment for effective internal business communication;
- Mastery of basic 'in-world' skills in Second Life;
- A set of assessment skills necessary to analyze and critique the value proposition for professional communication inherent in a gaming environment.

Findings from this pilot project will be presented at the APLA / CLA conference in St. John's in May 2007.



(Extended Services Librarian Denyse Rodrigues in Second Life)

Nova Scotia Community College Library Services

The Nova Scotia Community College Library Service will be conducting a LibQUAL+™ survey to obtain benchmarking data on how the NSCC library service is meeting the expectations of students, faculty and staff. NSCC librarians have been measuring performance since 1999 by recording

News from the Provinces

the number of questions library staff received on the information desk, number of items checked out and other related public service indicators. Although this data collection allows the Service to identify some trends and comparisons across the 14 libraries, the LibQUAL+™ survey provides an opportunity to gauge the College community's perception of the quality of library services and facilities. The results of the survey will be used in many ways: to foster a climate of service excellence, to identify best practices as well as areas where there are deficiencies in order to allocate resources more strategically and also to compare data with peer institutions.

Additional staffing is underway for the new Dartmouth Waterfront Campus and there is much excitement as more than 150 boxes of new books arrive for the collection.

Mount Allison University Library

contributed by Bruno Gnassi and Carol Wilson

Mount Allison University's Libraries and Archives grateful for student support

Through last year's referendum, students at Mount Allison voted to renew, for the tenth year, the fee which enables the Libraries and Archives to support the acquisition of materials for new courses. The Mount Allison University Libraries and Archives recently completed a series of discussions with the Students' Administrative Council (SAC)'s President, Erica Hendry, and Vice President Academic, Kirsten Cornelson, to confirm the guidelines framing the spending of these funds.

The new approach provides greater flexibility to the Libraries and Archives when acquiring new materials with these monies. Instead of just focusing on purchases to support new and substantially revised courses, the Libraries and Archives can now also make purchases to strengthen collections in topical or emerging sub-

ject areas where added depth in the collection may be needed. As the University Librarian points out, "This doesn't mean that new, revised or special topic courses are no longer a priority they are, but now once these priorities are addressed, collections librarians can look to spend some of these monies to provide greater depth to topical areas that budget commitments may otherwise have prevented us from doing."

Like all libraries, Mount Allison University's Libraries and Archives acquisition budgets are constantly being stretched. The cost of purchasing books and journals is always on the rise. In addition, the Libraries and Archives buy digital resources such as e-journals as well as films, videos and audio materials to support the needs of the faculty and students at Mount Allison. The Student Referendum monies give the Libraries and Archives an added measure of flexibility to address new collection needs as they arise. Without this, notes the University Librarian, the Libraries and Archives could not easily capitalize on unexpected opportunities to acquire useful materials.

Silverberg Exhibition at Mount Allison University Archives

From 22 October to 5 November, the Mount Allison University Archives exhibited drawings by engraver/printmaker David Silverberg, entitled Silverberg. The Fine Line: An Engraver's Drawings.

Silverberg has traveled extensively, always with a drawing book in hand. Wherever he went, he found people, architecture and events that appealed to him and that he was moved to capture in pen and ink studies. Over the years, this has amounted to 1000s of line drawings the first stage in a process that might result in an engraving. Two years ago, Silverberg donated 140 drawing books to the University Archives many of which are filled with images from his travels. The exhibition featured a select sample from those drawing books, and focused on the faces, costumes and activities of the people he encountered in Peru, China, Japan, Turkey, Portugal, Papua

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News from the Provinces

New Guinea, Russia and elsewhere.

Silverberg was born in Montreal in 1936. After graduating from McGill University, he studied art in Paris, Grenoble and London. In 1963, he moved to Sackville, NB to establish a printmaking program in the Fine Arts Department at Mount Allison University. He taught at Mount Allison for 32 years before moving to Wolfville, Nova Scotia, his current home. Silverberg's works are represented in more than 25 public, government and corporate collections and he has had more than 200 solo shows around the world.

Cook Books at Mount Allison

Mount Allison University Libraries completed the assessment of a major collection of books. The trust of the estate of Jeffrey Cook, a noted architectural and design scholar who attended Mount Allison, donated a significant collection of materials to the University Libraries. One hundred twenty eight boxes containing more than 4300 items were inventoried and evaluated. Subjects covered by the materials included primarily architecture, but also design, fine art, history and engineering.

Recent library school graduates, Wei Hsin Lee and Rebecca Bartlett, worked under the supervision of Peter Higham and with the support of Young Canada Works over the course of two summers toward the completion of the project. More than 550 titles are being catalogued and added to the collections of Mount Allison University Libraries and Archives, all items that the Libraries are delighted to obtain and which would not, in all likelihood, have otherwise been acquired.

NOVA SCOTIA

Submitted by Debbie Costelo

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Annapolis Valley Regional Library

Automated Library System

A recent upgrade of the automated system has corrected some longstanding issues with the Collection Exchange module. The module and its

integration with other functions of the automated system will be evaluated by the Provincial Library. The Collection Exchange module is new for the SIRSI company. Its development has been slow; thus, there have been delays in the implementation of other services. This evaluation will include advice whether or not it is feasible to continue the use of the Collection Exchange module. Our region uses this module more than any other region. Therefore, we are hoping any development issues have been resolved.

Community Access Program (CAP)

As a result of some wonderful community support and lobbying, CAP has been extended to the end of March of 2007. The federal government is looking at a more permanent solution to funding the program.

Six youth will be working in libraries throughout the region from January 2 to March 3, 2007 through the CAP program. These positions have been made available through Industry Canada and the NS Office of Economic Development. Each

youth will be working twenty hours per week. Other CAP sites throughout the province are also taking advantage of this program. Our youth will be conducting one-on-one computer tutorials, computer workshops, and computer camps as well as other much needed programs in the region.

Equipment

An assessment of library equipment for public and staff use is continually being evaluated. The use of the public computers is quite heavy. Recent CAP funding will allow us to upgrade some of the existing equipment. One workstation in each branch will be configured with some assistive technology. Each workstation will include a twenty-inch flat panel LCD monitor with an adjustable arm, a trackball and large print keyboard. These workstations will assist those with some visual disabilities as well as those with some limited mobility.

Branch Services Report

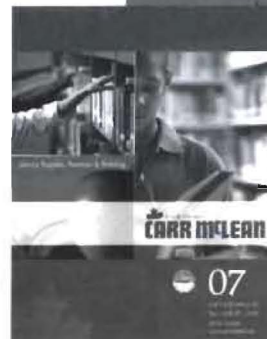
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News from the Provinces

The Friends of the Kentville Library kicked off their building campaign with a Slogan-Building Party at the library on October 26, asking the question: How does the library make my community a better place to live? After input from the public, the following slogan was established "Your New Kentville Library: your passport to . . . a World of Ideas." An anonymous donation of \$10,000 was announced at the event.

The Dr. Frank W. Morse Memorial Library in Lawrencetown has offered two new programs. A once-a-week Teen Lounge Evening is being held during the winter months. We are fortunate to have a co-op student placement who is assisting staff with this new venture. During November and December, Belly Dance classes proved to be very popular with registration numbers at the limit.

A Guy's Night program series was held again this fall at the Wolfville Memorial Library. This was a time and area set aside for dads, brothers, uncles, etc. to bring their kids, nephews or little guys for some one-on-one time in a great environment. Members of the Acadia Axeman football team have been active participants and special guests.

The Windsor Regional Library held a variety of Christmas programs in December, including a Puppet Show for the whole family, Christmas story time, and Craft programs for kids & parents. The activity room was made available on Wednesdays for anyone in the community wishing for a quiet, private area to wrap their Christmas gifts.

We are pleased and grateful to report that the response for calls of sponsorship of library pro-

gramming is proving fruitful. A gift of \$300 was made to the Port Williams Library; \$300 to the Rosa M. Harvey Library in Middleton; and two separate donations of \$300 and \$600 to the Wolfville Library.

Family Literacy Day is coming up on January 27, and we will be holding the official launch of the Talk Sing READ! Project at the Kentville Library. In 2006, our library received a grant from the Family Learning Initiative Endowment Fund in the amount of \$6,000 for the development of this early literacy initiative for the Valley area. As part of the project, posters have been produced which include a checklist of 100 suggested titles to be read prior to starting school, and Children's Librarian Angela Reynolds is preparing early childhood literacy workshops for parents, childcare facility staff, as well as library employees. (The School Board and the Annapolis County Family Resource Centre are partners in the project)

Eastern Counties Regional Library

Nova Scotia Canada Volunteerism Initiative

Eastern Counties Regional Library recently hosted a series of volunteer information sessions in the counties of Inverness, Richmond, and Guysborough thanks to funding from the Nova Scotia Canada Volunteerism Initiative (CVI) Network. The purpose behind the sessions was to show people how to access the volunteer-related materials that had been developed in the past five years since CVI and the Network are slated to close their doors before the end of this fiscal year following a September announcement by the

Federal government.

The 3-part sessions included a summary and overview of the Canada Volunteerism Initiative and the NS CVI Network, a description of the Knowledge Transfer Project, and a demonstration on how to access the CVI resources online through the www.novascotianetwork.org; a demonstration of the Library's online catalogue and databases of particular interest to volunteers; and the opportunity for community groups to network with each other and share information. Thirty-six volunteers attended the sessions held in Margaree Forks, Petit de Grat, and Guysborough.

Management staff recently attended a noon hour Lunch 'n Learn session entitled "Tips for Effective Supervision," sponsored by the Strait Area Chamber of Commerce and presented by Robert Sampson of Sampson Training and Development Services. Topics included management styles, effective planning, communication, and motivation capitalizing on staff productivity. The Library has been a member of the Chamber for the past few years and has found it to be an excellent partnership within the community in terms of promoting library services and special events.

Nova Scotia Provincial Library

Exploring the Potential for the Nova Scotia Library

The Nova Scotia Provincial Library is planning to host a one-day meeting in April 2007 to explore the potential for greater cooperation between public and academic libraries in the province. The Council of Regional Librarians and the Novanet Policy Board members have expressed a desire to meet to discuss possibilities for cooperative initiatives. These two groups represent all public libraries and most post-secondary libraries in the province.

Following on the success of provincial multi-type library partnerships in Alberta, Ontario and BC, the Council of Regional Librarians and Novanet, in conjunction with the Nova Scotia Provincial Library, will begin to investigate the possibilities for increased public and academic library cooperation in this province. The main goal is to move toward universal access to a core suite of informa-



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News from the Provinces

tion resources and services for literacy, lifelong learning, teaching, research and leisure purposes, for all Nova Scotians.

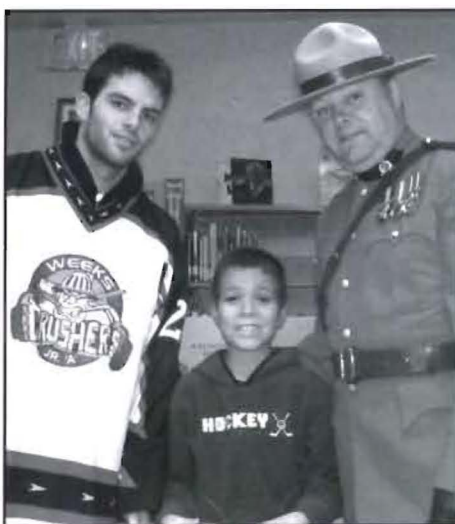
The initiative could result in benefits such as:

- province-wide access to a core suite of full-text digital journal and book collections
- the creation of digitized materials important for Nova Scotians
- electronic repositories to manage and preserve born-digital Nova Scotia content
- seamless linking to full-text content across libraries
- management of a province-wide authentication system
- improved interlibrary loan services
- coordinated information literacy programs
- expanded virtual reference services.

Pictou Antigonish Regional Library

In late January, members of the Pictou Antigonish

Regional Library staff attended the Ontario Library Association's Super Conference 2007. In December, the Adopt a Library Literacy Program held a launch ceremony for the Adopt a Literacy Program Reading Challenge.



Program founder, John Kennedy, poses with a young reader and a member of the Crushers Jr. A Hockey team.)



Peggy Hiscock and Constable John Kennedy of the Adopt a Library Literacy Program on Young Street, both looking resplendent in serge. PARL headquarters staff held a caption contest for the picture, with the winning entry being, "John, where did you park the horse?"

Cape Breton Regional Library

New Staff

The Cape Breton Regional Library is pleased to welcome new program staff member Chris Thomson and co op student Xiaoying Yu (Sharon)



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News from the Provinces

to the McConnell Library in Sydney. Chris has experience in biology teaching and research,

event planning, and fibre arts business (she spins and weaves), as well as some library experience in the volunteer, school and public library sectors. She is looking forward to supporting Story-times at the Cape Breton branch libraries, encouraging youth literacy through March Break programs and Summer Reading Programs, and adult learning through the Adult Programs at the McConnell Library. Sharon, originally from Dalian, China, is filling a co-operative work term from the School of Business at Cape Breton University and will provide computer sessions and support to patrons until mid April 2007. She is an enthusiastic worker and her genuine desire to help is a great asset.

School Visits

In early January 2007, Chris spent a day at Boularderie Elementary School as a visiting fibre artist to help kick off a school wide Art Enhancement project. The project is being coordinated by Douglas Arthur Brown, Writer in Residence, and art teachers Megan MacInnes and Colleen MacIsaac. Over the next term, each class will learn about one country, its culture, landscape and animals. The project will have each student creating their own book about the country, covering it with fabric made from the fibres produced there (recycled from old sweaters). Primary grades one and two will study New Zealand, Iceland and Cape Breton and the wool produced by sheep in each area. The grade 3-4 class will study Peru and alpaca, grade 4-5 will study Turkey and angora rabbits, and grade 5-6 will study Afghanistan and cashmere goats. During Chris's visit, the children were able to see and feel all the lovely fibres, learn where they came from, see

what resources the library has to help them with their project, and try their hand at spinning wool. There will be an open house in June 2007 to celebrate the children's work at the end of the project. Several other, not quite as elaborate, visits are planned for this spring, to elementary schools and day-cares, to introduce students to the library.

Family Literacy Day

Family Literacy Day was celebrated on January 28 at the McConnell Library in Sydney in collaboration with the Adult Learning Association of Cape



Breton County, and the Family Place Resource Centre, Sydney. Almost 250 visitors enjoyed fun, stories, puppet shows, crafts and games with Klutzy the Klown, Blair Hill from Family Place Resource Centre, and Bev McGee, Janet Gillis, and Tara MacNeil of the McConnell Library staff. There were refreshments and prizes, face painting, as well as visits with several of the Therapeutic Paws dog teams. The highlight of the day was a special visit by Clifford, the Big Red Dog! Even the older children enjoyed talking to and shaking Clifford's hand. Everyone had a great day!

ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

Dalhousie University Libraries

Dalhousie Libraries Launch New Website

The Dalhousie Libraries are ringing in 2007 with a launch of a brand-new website. In response to comments from Dalhousie students and faculty in our 2005 LibQUAL+ survey, the Libraries have completely redesigned the site to make it much easier and more efficient to use. And we're very proud of the results!

When patrons visit www.library.dal.ca now, they see much more than a whole new look, which is in line with university branding standards. Wherever possible, information from all four Dalhousie Libraries has been brought together to streamline usability (for example, check out the

"Services" and "Contact Us" pages). The most exciting feature of the new site, however, is its focus on subject-specific access to all resources from anywhere on the website. Backed by a more intuitive search engine, the site boasts a drop-down Subject Guides box on every page. After clicking on these links, patrons are taken to subject pages packed with librarian-recommended resources in each specific field of interest. In addition, they can now search Novanet directly, not only from the homepage but from any page on the site!

Another extremely useful new feature is the "Find Information" page, which allows patron searches for books, articles, databases and journals held by all of the Dalhousie Libraries from one spot. And the "How Do I...?" page now offers a list of 108 options, from accessing library resources from home to how to write an outline. Users who are really stuck can click on "Decide Where to Find Information" and see a detailed information retrieval chart guaranteed to unblock their creative processes.

News from the Provinces

Explore www.library.dal.ca.

Integrated Document Delivery at Dalhousie

As of January 1, 2007, the Dalhousie University Libraries are establishing a single, integrated, campus wide document delivery service. With the imminent implementation of the Relais Enterprise document delivery management system including the capability to deliver articles to users' desktops, the development of the new library website, and potential links with Serials Solutions, it is an opportune time to reorganize the four current services into one streamlined service for the benefit of Dalhousie users.

What's in it for Our Users?

- It's FREE! Document Delivery and Novanet Express fees have been eliminated for Dalhousie faculty, staff and students for items picked up at a library
- Delivery fees to registered Dalhousie Distance students have also been eliminated
- A single online request form allows patrons to

choose a preferred Dalhousie "pick up" library and includes request tracking capabilities

- "Return to any Dalhousie Library" feature for Document Delivery items

Although most document delivery functions will be based at the Killam Library, it will be through the cooperative efforts of staff at all Dalhousie libraries that the new integrated document delivery will continue to offer the exemplary service which the Dalhousie Libraries have always been committed to providing.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Submitted by Donald Moses

ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

University of Prince Edward Island, Robertson Library

New "integrated service model"

A library reorganization plan was unveiled in November, establishing an "integrated service model" of eight collaborative units, namely:

Administration and Systems, Collections and eResources, Reference and Circulation, Cataloguing and Metadata, Instruction and Education, University Archives and Special Collections, Data and Research, and Outreach and Communications. To help support this new collaborative model, the Library is using the open source Moodle programme [the emerging courseware of choice at UPEI] as an intranet for the sharing of information, documents, etc.

islandlibraries.ca

The Library recently hosted a meeting of the partners in islandlibraries.ca (Holland College Libraries, the Robertson, and the PEI Provincial Library Service) to discuss the establishment of a shared virtual reference programme for PEI. In other [islandlibraries](http://islandlibraries.ca) news, the Robertson Library has been pleased to contribute to the success of the Adopt A Library campaign, with nearly \$600 raised at UPEI to date. The proceeds of campus "casual day" for January and February are still to come. Much of this money was raised from raffle tickets for a gift basket created by Library staff.

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News from the Provinces

The winner was our very own Jolene Reid, seen



here receiving the basket from UPEI Vice President Academic Development Vianne Timmons (at left), who kindly assisted with the raffle draw. Thanks to everyone who has helped with the success of this campaign.

LibQual+

The Robertson Library has received funding approval to begin LibQual this year. It will also be

setting up Library Innovation Fund and a Staff Development Fund in the coming fiscal year.

Contributed by Simon Lloyd

Provincial Library Service

Life Long Learning Calendar

The P.E.I. Provincial Library Service launched a new 16 month 2006/2007 calendar to help Islanders learn more about the services available at public libraries and encourage lifelong learning.

"Anytime you want to learn more about anything, your local public library is the place to go," said Community and Cultural Affairs Minister Elmer MacFadyen. "At the library you will find books, magazines, DVDs, videos, audio books. Public libraries offer programs that will help you develop new skills and abilities, and the friendly staff will help you find what you are looking for."

The calendar, which will be given free to 3,000 Islanders, was developed locally as a project for

Canadian Library Month in October to promote and encourage lifelong learning. It will help raise public awareness about the valuable role that libraries play in the lives of both children and adults. Minister MacFadyen presented the first copies of the calendar to adult learners participating in the Literacy and Adult Basic Education Program in Morell. Adult educator Anne Morrison, who recently received the 2006 Council of the Federation Literacy Award from Premier Pat Binns, accepted the calendar on behalf of the adult learners and thanked the Library Service for their work on the project.

"You will find many lifelong learning ideas in this calendar, and I encourage you to use it as a daily tool," the Minister added. "This calendar will help demonstrate just how much our public libraries have to offer and how far reading can take one on this life journey."

Contributed by Norma Collier, Branch Services Librarian

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News from the Provinces

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

Submitted by Pat Parsons

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Central Division

Family Literacy Day

Many Libraries in Central Division took advantage of Family Literacy Day on January 27 to plan some fun activities to help chase away those winter blues. Staff members planned events including inter generational readings by grandparents and grandchildren and panel discussions. These panels involved local business people and students to chat about the importance of literacy skills in getting ahead in today's high tech information society.

Staff also took advantage of the free materials on offer by ABC Canada. They handed out pencils, bookmarks, tickers and notepads to the public. Central Regional Libraries gave boxes of donated and duplicated children's books to the local food bank to put in grocery bags. The philosophy they had in mind was that "If people cannot afford to buy food, they certainly can't afford to buy books."

Workshops

Five staff "mini" workshops have been successfully offered, with a sixth planned for early March. Everyone seems to be enjoying them, and it has provided a long overdue opportunity to review many new procedures and policies that have come on-stream in the past few years.

Eastern Division

Family Literacy Day

St. John's City Libraries also celebrated Family Literacy Day by launching the second annual "Brain Food Project". Lots of lovely board books and easy reading books were donated to the Community Food Association which will be distributed to families in need. The "Cards for Kids" Program, designed to get library cards into the hands of all kindergarten children is nearing completion, and has proved a worthwhile literacy outreach effort.



On Wednesday, January 17, 2007, the A.C. Hunter library was pleased to host a reading by Dr. Peter Hart, author of the book "Mick: the real Michael



Collins." Approximately 16 people were in attendance. They were captivated for more than two



hours with a reading from the book as well as questions and observations. Dr. Hart spoke of conditions in Ireland at the time of Michael Collins and the myth behind the man. Refreshments were served and all who were present thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Western Division

Library automation is "going full steam ahead" in Western Division with five branches now using Horizon.

The Corner Brook City Library held a very successful

used book sale before Christmas, netting a "nice little bundle" for all those extras that every library needs.

Assistant Manager Darrell Squires has been doing book reviews on a local CBC program and for a local newspaper. This promotional work has been well received by many patrons.

Funding was awarded through the Writers Alliance of NL to enable Sonja Dunn, children's poet, to visit Deer Lake Public Library, where children found her very entertaining. Corner Brook Librarian Lynne West coordinated a tour of Maxwell Newhouse during Children Book Week in November. He was also well received by all schools and libraries across the island. While Maxwell was raking up the miles on the island part of the province, Maxine Trottier visited some rather remote locations on the Labrador South Coast. She braved all sorts of wintry weather to do her readings in celebration of Children Book Week.

Provincial Public Library Board, Head Office

Library Automation

With the Horizons Automated Library Management System up and running well, Administration is now planning to implement a new Inter Library Loans Module and a new Serials Module. All staff members are eagerly looking forward to the implementation of both modules. Also, the upgrading of Horizons to Version 8 is on schedule for the summer of 2007. This will provide enhanced video capability and will improve, even further, public library services in the province.

PPLB has partnered with the CBC Community Events Program Division to promote various library activities in the province. The first of these promotional segments will feature events at the Holyrood Public Library. It aired on February 13 on the afternoon program "Newfoundland Lifestyle".

Strategic planning is well underway with the public library system. Committees have been set up to deal with all aspects of operation and governance. The goal is to have a three year plan in place for 2008-2011, in compliance with government

News from the Provinces

requests.

ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

Memorial University Libraries

Queen Elizabeth II Library

Dorothy Milne has retired from the Collections Division. She has served as the Science collections librarian for more than twenty-five years. She has been a leader in developing collections management techniques and managing collections projects for the University Library. She will be missed in the Collections Division, but she remains on as a lecturer in Celtic languages.

Wendy Rogers has arrived at the Library to fill a new position which is cross-appointment between the Collections Division and the Information Services Division. Wendy comes from

the University of Guelph where she was Web Content Coordinator at the McLaughlin Library. Wendy's collections responsibilities at Memorial include Classics, Religious Studies, Photography, Art and Film.

Both Shannon Gordon and Heather Pretty have had their term positions in Information Services extended through April 2007. In addition to their reference assignments, both are devoting much of their energy to local arrangement for the upcoming APLA/CLA/NLLA Conference in St. John's.

ASSOCIATIONS

Newfoundland and Labrador Library Association

In January, Darrell Squires, NLLA President, was in Toronto to attend the Ontario Library Association conference. On the night of

Wednesday, January 31, OLA honoured members of 'The Partnership' with a Special Achievement Award. This award recognized the recently formed "association of Associations," and the success of the Education Institute, which provides long distance learning opportunities for library professionals. Darrel accepted the Achievement Award on behalf of the NLLA.

Contributed by Darrell Squires



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From St. Jerome's Den

Brutalism isn't a term that most librarians would like to see associated with their place of work. However, it is something that is shared by those who work in the Weldon Library (University of Western Ontario), the John P. Robarts Research Library (University of Toronto), Memorial University's Queen Elizabeth II Library (the interior especially), and the Biblioteca Nacional de la República Argentina (National Library of the Argentine Republic) in Buenos Aires.

Brutalism is a style of architecture which was introduced in continental Europe by Le Corbusier before becoming a major movement in the institutional and commercial buildings of England during the 1960s and 1970s. Béton brut, literally "concrete in the raw" or concrete with no formal finish, is a dominant characteristic of this architectural style. When the formwork is lifted from the poured concrete, the rough, naturally textured surface, sometimes enhanced with other materials, is the final finish. The impression created by this technique is usually complimented by the smoother texture of glass windows, painted door frames, and curved furniture. As the buildings are supposed to be completely climate-controlled, the windows in Brutalist buildings do not open. Because of its reliance on a rough form, the style provides an inexpensive construction with a finish which is relatively impervious to the ravages of weather and vandalism.



Photo credit to Hermina Anghelescu. Original photo at www.lisp.wayne.edu/lisponline/ifla2004.html

Armed with this architectural explanation, let's look at a famous example of the Brutalist style, the National Library of Argentina.

Argentina's national library is a child of revolution, born as it was from a government decree following the May Revolution of 1810 and situated

on a locale closely associated with the Perons. In 1810 it was called the Bibliotheca Pública de Buenos Aires (Public Library of Buenos Aires) and was a collection of books which had been either seized from the opposition or donated by the public. Its first director was entitled "protector" and, like all of his successors, seems to have been a political appointment. In 1884, when Buenos Aires was declared the capital of Argentina, the public library was renamed the National Library. The following years saw the library grow in size if not stature. In 1960 the government passed a law which provided for a new library building. However, construction was slow to start, and even slower to finish. Although the then director, Horacio H. Hernández, optimistically reported that the new building, which had been started in 1971, would be inaugurated in 1986. The opening did not actually take place until 1992 - 30 years after its inception on paper and 21 years after ground was broken. By contrast, the massive television station which is nearby took only one year to complete.

The building stands on the land of the former Presidential Residence where Eva Perón died. The residence was demolished after Juan Perón's exile so that it would not become a holy site to Evita's millions of supporters. When the political tide again turned, a statue to Evita was erected on the site and can be seen in front of the library. The building is supposed to

resemble a book lying on its side, but, locals refer to it as "the mushroom."

With its underground levels, the library's 13 floors can store up to five million volumes. Among its collection, the library stores 21 books dating from 1440 to 1500. When IFLA met in Buenos Aires in 2004, Hermina Anghelescu, a professor in Wayne State University's library and information science program, was one of those who toured it. She came away with the following impression of the National Library.

The international group passed by a series of closed stack areas, and visited several reading rooms situated on various floors, including the catalog room, a large room with card catalogs. We were told that the retrospective conversion was on its way. However, during our tour we did not see one single public terminal. Through a glass wall, from the catalog room we could see an empty vast reading room with hundreds of seats and no user which made us wonder where the researchers were.

We also visited an exhibition with rare books and unique documents of high historical value. The walls of the exhibit room displayed portraits of national librarians. The "Galeria de Directores" included prominent literary figures, politicians, and scholars who were appointed to serve as national librarians. To our surprise none of these library leaders had a library degree despite the fact that there is a library school at the University of Buenos Aires. Maybe this explains why the building looks so unwelcoming with no attempt to promote customer oriented services we take for granted in the Western world. In my opinion the NLA stands for a repository that preserves the national written heritage rather than a place that fosters the nation's access to Argentina's cultural values.

For those of you who want to see more of the Brutalist style, visit MUN during CLA, or check out the Ontario examples at <http://www.ontarioarchitecture.com/Brutalist.htm>

Sources

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CNIB Talking Books Go Completely DAISY!

Toronto, ON, January 15 – CNIB approaches the final phase in the transition from audio books on cassette tape to audio books on CD. On March 27, 2007, the CNIB Library will cease circulation of books on tape.

This change has been occurring in phases over the last two years to ease the transition to digital services for CNIB Library clients and ensure that they had time to acquire DAISY talking book players.

DAISY (Digital Accessible Information SYstem) is the “next generation” audio format, providing a higher quality, fully navigable talking book experience for readers. Also, since DAISY is a global standard, libraries providing DAISY talking book services for people living with vision loss can now explore resource sharing opportunities around the world.

The Library began producing DAISY titles in 2000, recognizing that cassette tapes and players would become obsolete within a few years. The Library has thousands of DAISY talking books available to lend to CNIB clients or partner community libraries in Canada, and continues to convert its analogue collection to digital. A full transition to DAISY for CNIB will allow for a more streamlined and efficient service. In addition to DAISY on CD, clients also have access to online audio books at the CNIB Digital Library.

Response to the DAISY format has been positive. Graham Stoodley, an avid reader who is helping CNIB clients, many of whom are seniors, make the move from cassette players to DAISY books on CD, speaks to the benefits:

“The sound quality of any DAISY player is strikingly superior to the quality

of cassettes. There's no tape hiss, no cross-talk from other tracks on the tape, and the frustration of twisted or damaged tape is gone. Better still, one DAISY book fits on a single CD that can stay safely in your machine until you finish the book. You don't have to fiddle with four or five cassettes or with changing sides, tracks or tapes.”

A number of public libraries are now offering DAISY talking books to patrons who cannot read regular print due to a disability. The Library's Public Library Sales Program offers both DAISY and two-track cassette titles.

CNIB is a nationwide, community-based, registered charity committed to public education, research and the vision health of all Canadians. CNIB provides the services and support necessary to enjoy a good quality of life while living with vision loss. To find out more, visit www.cnib.ca or call 1-800-563-2642.

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2007 CLA/APLA/NLLA National Conference

May 23-26, 2007, St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador

Join us for some fun! Register today through APLA

Conference ONLINE registration

Register today!

After April 20, CLA will accept registration on site only at a rate of \$585 for members and \$785 for non members.

The member rate is available to the following groups: APLA, ASTED and CARL. NLLA Members, please contact Darrell Squires, NLLA President at (709) 634-0084 to register through the NLLA Secretariat. This does not apply to Pre-Conference Events. Check out our conference site - now live at <http://www.cla.ca/conference/2007/index.shtml>

You definitely don't want to miss your chance to visit some of the local libraries around St. John's!

Library Tours

Please note that the following Tours are full:

-Canadian Broadcasting Corp.

-Provincial Archives

-National Research Council

Space is very limited for the following tours. Register today!

-Archives of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of St. John's

-Dr. Cr. R. Barrett Library

Take advantage while you are visiting St. John's to register for one of the exciting library tours offered to you. For more information, see page 38-41 of the preliminary program:

http://www.cla.ca/conference/2007/preliminary_program2007_1.pdf

APLA Sponsored Events at the Conference

Thursday, May 24, 2007 6:30 – 8:00 APLA Executive Meetings - the annual business meeting of the Executive of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association

Thursday, May 24, 2007 8:00 – 10:30 APLA Past-Presidents Reception – This traditional reception is open to all conference delegates and is simply an opportunity we take to honor our past association Presidents, many of whom are known to many both inside and outside the Atlantic Provinces. At the end of the first full day of the conference, it is a good opportunity to join us in honoring those who have served our association so faithfully in the past and a good opportunity to network with many at the end of the day. There will be light refreshments and a cash bar available.

Friday, May 25, 2007 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. APLA Keynote – details to be announced as plans are finalized

Friday, May 25, 2007 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. Interest Group Networking Meeting – Anyone interested in being involved in an APLA Interest group can meet with members of the executive and conveners of the interest groups to discover the importance of the interest groups in the association and how they can become involved.

Friday, May 25, 2007 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. APLA OGM Part 1 – The first part of the annual business meeting of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association. This is the opportunity for APLA members to have their say in the future of the association.

Saturday, May 26, 2007 6:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. – APLA Merit Award Banquet- open to all delegates, please join us for this tradition of honoring one of our outstanding librarians for their work. The full banquet and cash bar will be followed by a dance and the entire event has always proven to be a very enjoyable evening at the end of the last full day of the conference. Ticket Prices and more details will follow as plans are finalized.

Sunday, May 27, 2007 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. – APLA OGM Part 2 – The last part of the business meeting of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association.

Sunday, May 27, 2007 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – Champagne Brunch – Open to all delegates, this tradition of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association is a very informal closing to the conference. Ticket prices to be announced as plans are finalized.

IFLA General Conference and Council

Only 18 months left before the 2008 IFLA Conference in Quebec - "Libraries without borders: navigating towards global understanding". But first IFLA goes to Durban, South Africa, in August 2007. The 2008 organizing committee wishes a strong Canadian presence in Durban. . .

WORLD LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CONGRESS: 73RD IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE AND COUNCIL

Theme: "Libraries for the future: Progress, Development and Partnerships
International Convention Centre, Durban, South Africa
19 23 August 2007, Durban, South Africa

Web site:
<http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla73/index.htm>

Wish to meet you, hopefully in Durban, but even more surely in Quebec in August 2008,
Claude Bonnelly, Chair
National Organizing Committee, National Advisory Committee IFLA Conference 2008:
"Libraries without borders: navigating towards global understanding"

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WELCOME NEW APLA MEMBERS!

APLA extends a warm welcome to these new members. We hope that you will find your association with APLA enriching and valuable in your own professional life.

- Alexandra Care
- Ian Colford
- Erin Alcock
- Catherine Sinnott
- Sarah Gladwell
- Julia Stewart
- Stephanie Milbury
- Nadine Goguen

**Going to the
CLA/APLA/NLLA 2007
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in St. John's in May?**

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**We look forward to
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The Partnership, APLA and You What is it all about... Really What is the Partnership?

The Partnership is a joint venture of the Presidents and Vice-Presidents of each provincial and Territorial library associations and the four Executive Directors in those associations (British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Ontario have Executive Directors). The Partnership was developed to deliver programs and services that are the natural activity of provincial (or in our case regional) associations. The programs and services are chosen by the Partnership and are designed to increase the value of membership in each association. While most associations cannot afford the infrastructure to develop and deliver chosen programs and services, they are able to contribute in kind through participation of their members. The infrastructure and management of programs and services comes from the Ontario Library Association. There is no governance structure to the Partnership. There is no formal agreement. It is TOTALLY collegial.

What are the services I can use?

Currently, the Partnership has three major initiatives that are open to participation from all members of all associations:

The Education Institute: You receive my e-mails about the Education Institute offerings on a regular basis. The Education Institute is a continuing education program for all library workers offering a slate of audio and teleconferences in

the fall and spring each year. Members of any association can develop and present these conferences and people register for which ever ones they want to participate in. A percentage of your registration fee is returned to your association as their revenue so your participation is not only an educational benefit to you but also a financial benefit to your association. Revenues from this initiative also help support attendance of your President and Vice-President to Partnership meetings in August and in February. The spring catalogue is hot off the press so have a look and sign up.

The E-Journal Partnership: It was felt that librarians across Canada needed an avenue for publication in a scholarly, peer-reviewed journal so with that idea came the online open access journal called Partnership. Check it out through the link from our website. Its first issue came out in the fall and our own Jennifer Richard is Editor-in-Chief. It is already getting a lot of attention across the country and the editorial board has done an excellent job.

The Career Center: This initiative is the third project which is still in the final stages of development. It is designed to be a one-stop shop for everything related to careers in librarianship. This will not only be a place to post and respond to job openings across the country but will also be a source of information for many aspects of careers in librarianship. Again, check it out through the link on our website.

So as you can see the Partnership services are developed by you and for you. It has been exciting for me as President to be involved in it for the last two years. It is a great way for you to participate in both sharing and gaining expertise to all your counterparts in the country so CHECK IT OUT AND GET INVOLVED!

Ivan Doughwright

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