



The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

Bulletin

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LibQual+: The Dalhousie Libraries' Story

*submitted by Geoff Brown and Tina Usmiani,
Dalhousie University Libraries*

TELL US WHAT YOU REALLY THINK!

In the summer of 2004, the Dalhousie University Libraries decided to embark on a sustained program of self assessment by adding our name to the long list of libraries who have participated in the LibQual+ quality assurance survey. Our goal for the survey was quite simple: we wanted our users to tell us exactly what they thought about our libraries, the people who work in them, and the resources and services we offer.

LibQual+ is a rigorously tested instrument designed specifically to allow libraries to do just that. Created by the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), LibQual+ is a web based survey that provides a framework for libraries to solicit, track, understand, and act upon users' opinions of service quality. The survey can be really simple to administer, as long as you take care of a few issues up front.

Before actually becoming involved with LibQUAL+, the Dalhousie Libraries LibQual+ team conducted a very informal survey of previous Canadian participants. This consisted of a short email sent out to Queen's University, University of Alberta, University of Northern British Columbia, University of Western Ontario and University of Manitoba, asking them about their experience with LibQUAL+. Without exception, all were pleased with the

support provided by ARL for the survey and believed that the experience was a positive one. Encouraged by this response, we decided to move forward.

EARLY CHALLENGES

In addition to the survey itself, ARL provides a number of resources to guide participants through the process of running LibQUAL+. One such resource is a suggested time line of events. In one of the planning stages that make up the LibQUAL+ time line, ARL encourages participants to "identify and initiate steps needed to obtain clearance for human subjects research if needed at your institution". We urge potential participants to follow this advice and determine early on in the process whether or not you need approval from your local Research Ethics Board (REB). In September of 2004 we sent an email message to Dalhousie's Office of Human Research Ethics Administration, stating that we were planning to run a "quality assurance / customer satisfaction survey" for the Libraries:

"...Our goal is to target aspects of our library service that need to be improved and to identify areas where we are particularly strong. Network addresses and emails will be the only personal information that is captured on the web survey and this information will be separated from responses before they are stored."

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From the President's Desk

submitted by Jennifer Richard

THE VALUE OF ASSOCIATIONS:

I heard recently, at an 8R's session during the OLA [Ontario Library Association] Super Conference, that only 6% of students in Faculty of Information Studies at University of Toronto would be interested in running for or holding office in associations. I was surprised by this low number and it made me sad, as I reflected on what associations have given me over the last ten years. This bit of information got me thinking about how to encourage library workers to get involved, so I have developed a "Top Ten" list of reasons to join an association, many associations, any association (preferably APLA). Note: As I write in the Bulletin, I do realize I am preaching to the choir or converted, as they say, but here goes anyway:

The Top Ten Reasons to Participate in Library Associations:

10. Attend conferences more cheaply or for free
9. Meet and work with people in other types of libraries that you wouldn't normally interact with
8. Level the playing field: develop relationships with colleagues that are senior to you in your normal work environment
7. See the country (personally I've been to 8 provinces on association business)
6. Get inspiration and always take home one great idea from every meeting or conference
5. Catch up with old friends and make new ones (seems a little corny but it is true)
4. Lobby various levels of government on issues that are near and dear to us all
3. Get involved with conference planning, it allows you to hone another set of marketable skills
2. Enhance your resume – get involved with committees, interest groups, boards or councils
1. Make a Difference in your profession!

Now back to our regularly scheduled update of activities.

Mid winter is definitely not my favourite time of year. Winter blues may bring us down, but it is not downtime for librarians. That's for sure! Especially for those involved in conference planning. This spring will be a busy time in our region, with both our annual conference from May 26-28 in Fredericton and WILU35 [Workshop on Instruction and Library Use] to be held at Acadia University, May 10-12. Our APLA Planning Committee is hard at work in Fredericton, tracking down vendors for the exhibit hall, polishing off the programme and planning the social events. The conference website was launched on March 1st and is available from the APLA website.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE:

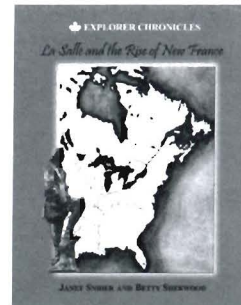
In keeping with the conference theme, "Make a difference! Grow a library / Ayez un impact! Développez votre bibliothèque," our association is changing and growing. Membership continues on an upswing, as do our activities and opportunities. "The Partnership" is now truly a coast to coast to coast national network of the Provincial and Territorial Library Associations, with the recent addition of Newfoundland and Labrador and Nunavut. This relationship affords a small association like APLA many opportunities. APLA can now offer a plethora of professional development and training sessions and workshops through the Education Institute, as well as career information and the ability to disseminate our research and practices through an exciting new e-journal project. I encourage you to come to Fredericton in May to hear about the exciting initiatives that are blossoming in Atlantic Canadian Libraries. Conferences are times for inspiration and innovation. I hope that you too will be inspired by Steven Lewis, as I was last year, and help APLA "Adopt a Library" in Ethiopia by contributing to our Grow A Library Fund.

MORE ABOUT THE PARTNERSHIP:

I reported in the last *APLA Bulletin* that the Dalhousie School of Information Management is now receiving free teleconferences for their

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current students. The Nova Scotia Community College Library Technicians Programme has accepted the same offer and we are pleased to be providing free audio conferences to all the library technician students in Halifax. For more information about this please contact Joanne Doucet at NSCC.

Once again, representatives from all of the Provincial and Territorial Associations met before and during the Ontario Library Association's Super Conference, at the beginning of February. These meetings were very productive. We learned a lot about the activities from other associations and The Partnership continues to work through consensus to create, or improve, opportunities that benefit us all. The affiliation remains very organic and we decided to continue our peaceful co-existence without any bylaws, constitutions or formal rules. We will continue to work on the activities that are currently in progress, like the addition of Atlantic content to the Education

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From St. Jerome's Den

The problem with surveying can be how you do it; but, even more importantly it is what you do with the results. Henry Ford is often quoted as having said, "If I'd asked people what they wanted, they would have said faster horses."

Whether or not Ford ever said the above is somewhat suspect. However, it can serve as a starting point for a scenario of innovation based on an understanding of one's customers. Henry Ford was one of the greatest entrepreneurs of all time and it is unlikely that he achieved such success by ignoring his customers. Suppose that he had asked a customer "What do you want" and the customer had replied that he wanted faster horses. One can imagine Ford using this as a starting point for using the 5-whys approach to root cause analysis. By repeatedly asking the question "Why" (five is a good rule of thumb) you can peel away the layers of symptoms which can lead to the root cause of a problem.

So let's continue our scenario between Ford and his customer:

Ford: "Why do you want a faster horse?"

Customer: "So I can get to the store in less time."

Ford: "Why do you want to get to the store faster?"

Customer: "So I can get more work done at the farm."

Wait a minute, the customer really didn't want a faster horse and it didn't even take five whys to get to the root. The customer wanted to get more work done. One can well imagine that the car that Ford created provided that benefit.

Continued from front page:

LibQual+: The Dalhousie Libraries' Story

The response we received was brief but it cuts to the heart of the REB issue:

"Do you intend to publish the results, or is this a quality assurance exercise for the purpose of improving service delivery?"

When we responded that the latter was the case, we were informed that an REB submission was not required. For us, this was a minor victory since we had been informed that the REB submission process can take some time to prepare. Since our primary purpose in running the survey was to guide internal decision making, we had no objections to not being able to publish the results. Other libraries might feel

differently; if so, be prepared to invest the necessary time and resources into drafting an REB submission. The point is that you have options. If your time is limited and you do not wish to undertake an REB submission, be very specific in your communications with your local REB office.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT SAMPLING

Much of the discussion on listservs about LibQUAL+ revolves around sampling methods. In particular, libraries often encounter difficulties as they attempt to figure out which sampling procedures will help them obtain responses that are representative of their overall campus populations. Unfortunately, with a self-

administered web-based survey, you cannot guarantee that your actual responses will be representative, even if your sample is. Aware of this and of the amount of work involved in using a time-intensive sampling technique, we opted for self-selection sampling by inviting all members of our population to participate in the survey.

Our formal announcement/invitation consisted of two emails. One was sent out on the Dalhousie student listserv via our Vice President for Student Services; while the other went out to all faculty and staff via the "Notice Digest" mailing list. Since the student population was our primary target we wanted to be certain that every student had an equal chance to complete the survey. At Dalhousie University all official communications between the university and its' students are carried out via Dalhousie email addresses, so we felt confident that the majority of students would at least receive our announcement. We were very pleased with the results of this method, as our respondent population ended up being very representative of our entire campus population. This was true in terms not only of status (e.g. undergrad by year, Master's student, doctoral student etc.) but also of discipline. The only group that was considerably under represented was first year undergraduates. However, rather than change our sampling method to deal with this problem



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in future surveys, we will make this group the target of additional publicity efforts.

GETTING THE WORD OUT

Beyond the simple self-selecting method we chose for sampling, we also encouraged participation by heavily publicizing the survey on campus. We focused our publicity almost entirely in the month before the survey went live – for us, this was the month of January 2005. Our public relations campaign included posters, follow-up email announcements, the use of the Dalhousie University Libraries online news pages, developing a LibQUAL+ FAQ [frequently asked questions] web page, and prizes. To encourage people (especially impecunious students!) to take the survey, we offered a grand prize of dinner for two at a popular Halifax restaurant (a \$100 value) and twenty \$20 gift certificates to Chapters bookstore. The folks at ARL took care of randomly selecting winners for us after the survey was closed.

We timed each of our public relations announcements carefully, so that the chronology worked this way:

■ Late fall 2004

Placed posters in all four of the Dalhousie Libraries, and in key spots around campus (Student Union building, student residences, Arts and Administration building, etc.).

■ Beginning of January 2005

"Heads Up" notice sent to Dalhousie's electronic news bulletin "Notice Digest" and to the Student Services listserv announcing that the survey would be run from January 31 to February 18, where to find it at that time and why we were running it.

LibQUAL+ FAQ web page uploaded to the Dalhousie University Libraries website.

Brief news item about the upcoming survey placed on all Dalhousie University Libraries "What's New" pages, with a link to the LibQUAL+ FAQ page.

■ January 31

Live link to survey placed on LibQUAL+ FAQ web page.

"It's Here!" notice sent out on "Notice Digest" and student listserv with a link to FAQ web

page (to enable people who had not heard about the survey to read about it before taking it).

LibQUAL+ logo link to the survey placed on the desktop of every publicly accessible computer in all of the Dalhousie University Libraries.

■ During the survey

Each Monday while the survey was running we emailed reminders about it to "Notice Digest" and the Student Services listserv.

■ After the survey

As soon as the survey was over, we sent out one last email thanking the entire Dalhousie community for participating.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

The LibQUAL+ survey provided the Dalhousie University Libraries with valuable feedback from more than 1000 of our users from all segments of the university population. A feature of the survey that has turned out to be a particularly rich source of information has been the *Comments* section. The main survey identified

general strengths and weaknesses, but the comments have really helped us hone in on specific issues that are important to our users. In fact, we have already developed more targeted surveys of our own to follow up on some of the issues raised by LibQUAL+.

It has definitely been a positive experience implementing the LibQUAL+ survey here at Dalhousie University. Our initial impression was that this would be a great way to assess public services activities however we have since discovered that the survey provides feedback on all aspects of library operations. Technical Services, Collections and Systems functions have all been covered and issues in all of these areas have been raised by our users. Furthermore, we now have the foundation of a broader ongoing quality management program. This feedback will provide us with direction related to the resources we purchase, the ways that we provide access and the web infrastructure we develop to support our activities.

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News from the Provinces

NEW BRUNSWICK / NOUVEAU-BRUNSWICK

submitted by Mirielle Mecure

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Albert-Westmoreland-Kent Library Region

The Albert-Westmoreland-Kent Library Region is very pleased to welcome two new librarians to the team:

- Chantale Bellemare will be taking the helm at the Moncton Public Library, as Director and City Librarian on March 6, 2006. She holds a Masters of Library Science and Bachelor of Arts in French Studies from the Université de Montréal. She had been employed since 2002 as the French Services Librarian for the Prince Edward Island Public Library Service. In this capacity, she was responsible for library services in French for the entire province, supervising three French libraries and managing the library of the city of Summerside.
- Emanuela Chiriac was hired as the Director of the Dieppe Public Library. She holds a Masters of Library and Information Science from the Université de Montréal. She also holds a Masters in Social Sciences from the Cole des Hastes Tudes en Sciences Sociales (School of Superior Studies in Social Sciences) in Paris and a Bachelor of History from the University of Bucharest. She brings a varied background to her new position, as she has worked for seven years as an archivist at the National Archives of Romania also.

Donations and Fundraising / Dons et Levées De Fonds:

The Riverview Lions Club presented a monetary gift of \$1000.00 to the Riverview Public Library, as they have in the past.

The Petitcodiac Public Library was the charitable organization that benefitted from the Salisbury Big Stop Restaurant charity table program in November, and by such, secured more than \$900.00.

The Shediac Public Library received more than

one thousand books that were donated in less than one hour. The biggest box received was a used propane barbecue box.

Facilities / Locaux:

The Moncton Public Library was able to buy much needed new materials, due to increases in their municipal / library board budgets. This included new chairs and computers for staff, a new sound lectern, a digital camera, two microfilm readers and new screens for the meeting room. During the next few years, interior renovations are also planned.

Programs / Programms:

The Riverview Public Library kicked off an Adopt-A-Book program. The Moncton Public Library is offering another Babies in the Library Program, this time in French.

Workshops, Courses / Cours, Ateliers:

In mid-December, a dozen or so staff members from the Albert-Westmorland-Kent library region participated in a workshop for Adult/Teen Book Clubs offered by a Saint-John Region librarian.

A meeting for regional library managers and directors took place on January 27 at the Moncton Public Library.

More than a third of all staff members in the A-W-K region attended "First Aid in the Workplace" training. Future training is scheduled for Infant CPR courses. This resurgence of training is offered in compliance with the new Health and Safety Guidelines in the workplace.

The new Sirsi System is up and running in the A-W-K region. Library closures during the Holidays were planned and patrons were advised.

York Library Region

The York Library Region is excited to announce a few new additions to its management team - Jill Katherine Foster and Bill Mitchell have joined the Regional Management Team and will be working at the York Library Region Headquarters in Fredericton.

- Bill Mitchell is the new Acting Assistant Regional Director and brings vast experience in the public library field, having worked in various libraries across Canada and in the United States.
- Jill Katherine Foster has been hired as the Regional Director for the York Library Region. She brings more than 25 years of experience in public librarianship. Jill Katherine's appointment with the New Brunswick Public Library Service will take effect in July 2006.
- Young Lark Jin has been hired as the new Library Director of the Chatham Public Library and will be joining the Miramichi team in March. We look forward to working with our new colleagues as we continue to offer the highest quality of public service to our many library patrons.

It has been exciting time for the York Library Region, having successfully migrated to our new Sirsi / Unicorn library automation system. The staff was trained before the migration and everything seems to have moved along quite smoothly. With the new Sirsi system, the staff is able to provide even more efficient service to our patrons, including access to a faster and easier-to-use online catalogue that has increased reliability, increased hours of availability, and advanced search features that will permit patrons to find even more precise results to their library queries.

Haut-Saint-Jean Library Region

The Haut-Saint-Jean Library Region (HSJ) is pleased to welcome three staff members to the regional office:

- Pierrette Charette has been appointed as the new bookmobile driver for HSJ. She has worked as a library assistant at CCNB Edmundston and has been employed as an on-call and casual staff member for the region in previous years.
- René Lavandier has joined the regional office personnel as Acting Technical Services Librarian. He holds a Masters of Library Science from the University of Western Ontario and a Bachelor of Arts from the

University of Maine at Fort Kent. René worked as a student on the bookmobile in the summer of 1998.

- Also new is Andrée Boutot-Cyr, who is serving as Acting Bookmobile Supervisor. She is temporarily replacing Jocelyn Ouellet who is on sick leave. Andrée's regular position is at the Mgr. W. J. Conway Public Library in Edmundston.
- Rosalind Smith, of the L. P. Fisher Public Library in Woodstock, has been teaching for the past several months at an International School in Kiev, Ukraine. She had 13 students, aged five, from eight countries in her class. HSJ receives news of her excursion on a regular basis. Over the Christmas holidays, she and her family spent 10 days in Egypt. Rosalind will resume her duties in Woodstock this summer.

Programs / Programs:

Events for Family Literacy Day, January 27, were held throughout the Haut Saint-Jean Library region:

- The Dr. Walter Chestnut Public Library in Hartland held Library Family Night on January 26. The theme was "Promoting Literacy from the Library to Your Home." In addition, a salute to Canadian children's author Robert Munsch was held with "Measure a Munch."
- Grand Falls Public Library celebrated Family Literacy Day with a special story time. Local MLA, Ronald Ouellette, read to the children.
- A presentation, made by Julie Boucher, introduced the new "Talk With Me" program. The "Talk With Me" Program is an innovative program that serves preschoolers (age 0-5) and their families / care givers. This program is a community-based service that targets prevention of communication delays and focuses on promotion of healthy communication skills.

The next issue of HSJ's regional newsletter, "Point du Vue / View Point," is currently being put together by Public Services Librarian, Leigh Ann Cumming. Libraries regularly contribute items of interest including events, programs and ideas to share with their colleagues. The

newsletter regularly features such articles as: Management Corner, Smile and Say "Cheese," New Releases, and Staff Recommended Web sites.

Workshops, Courses / Cours, Ateliers:

The New Brunswick Public Library Service is launching a new provincial program entitled "Babies in the Library." This initiative is designed for children aged 0 - 18 months and their parents / care givers. The program features songs, lap bounces, nursery rhymes and finger plays. Regional training in Haut Saint-Jean will be given in February to library managers / directors and staff responsible for delivering children's programming.

New Facilities, Renovations / Nouveaux Locaux, Rénovations:

The Mgr. Plourde Public Library in Saint-François de Madawaska reopened its doors on January 24, 2006 after more than six months of expansion and renovation. The official opening will be held later in the year.

Continued on next page >

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News from the Provinces

Libraries in HSJ reopened on January 3, 2006 after a two-week closure. Unicorn, the New Brunswick Public Library Services new library automation system, was brought online during the closure. All staff members received training on the database during the fall of 2005.

Saint John Library Region

The Saint John Library Region has welcomed new staff:

- Keith MacKinnon is now the Head of Reference Services, and he brings experience from various libraries in Nova Scotia, and at Mount Allison University.
- Kim Hughes also joined the Reference Services team after working many years at the West Branch of Saint John Free Public Library.
- Jocelyn Paquette began in November as the Acting Children's Librarian, and brings experience as a Children's Librarian from Thunder Bay, and other experience as a specialist in the field of community development.
- Lesley Wells is now the Library Manager at the Ross Memorial Library in St. Andrews. She has more than a decade of experience after working as a library assistant in different libraries in New Brunswick and Ontario.
- East Branch staff of SJFPL welcomed Trevor Driesbeck as a part time component on their service team. He brings library and customer service experience from prior employment.

Programs / Programs:

Literacy Week in January fell at an opportune time for one special program offered by the Saint John Free Public Library (SJFPL) at Market Square. While library managers around the Saint John Library Region planned events to commemorate Literacy Week and Family Literacy Day, staff at SJFPL realized the **Bookwagon** program was about to celebrate its 100th visit during Literacy Week, so arranged an event to mark this special anniversary.

The **Bookwagon** program evolved as a result of the Story Tent project set up by the Library a few years ago to ensure that New Brunswick's

Summer Reading Club program reached a segment of the community that could not easily get to the public libraries. Literacy workers, who brought the story tent around the neighborhood during the summer months, realized how popular the program was in the community. So, to keep the children and adults reading all year long, they volunteered to take a wagon filled with books to the families on Saturdays. Thus the Bookwagon project was born, and is now receiving support from other organizations besides the Library.

On Saturday, January 28, Cheryl Brown and Wendell Dryden brought their wagon full of books around the neighborhood for the 100th time. They estimate they have traveled about 350 miles with the wagon, which serves 80 - 100 families in the north end of Saint John. Dignitaries, those involved with literacy in the greater Saint John area, staff and the public gathered in the main lobby of the library to learn more about this special program, and to thank everyone who worked to make these commendable projects possible.



New Brunswick Public Library Service / Service des bibliothèques publiques du Nouveau-Brunswick

Le 3 janvier 2006, le Service des bibliothèques publiques du Nouveau-Brunswick a complété l'installation d'Unicorn, son nouveau système automatisé des bibliothèques.

Le nouveau système va rendre le catalogue plus accessible, plus rapide et plus fiable. Le

nouveau système est disponible en ligne à l'adresse suivante: <http://vision.gnb.ca>. Dans tout le réseau des bibliothèques publiques, le personnel a travaillé fort sur la mise à jour durant les 9 derniers mois. Nous sommes fier de dire que l'installation a été un grand succès.

New Brunswick Public Library Service completed the installation of Unicorn, its new automated library system on January 3, 2006. The new system will see the catalogue available longer hours and it will be faster and more reliable. Access to the new system is available online at <http://vision.gnb.ca>. Staffs throughout the public library system have worked hard on the upgrade throughout the last nine months. We are pleased to report that the installation was very successful.

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

Submitted by Trish LeBlanc

ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

College of the North Atlantic

Recent months have been particularly busy ones for Library Services at the College of the North Atlantic. A White Paper on Public Post-Secondary Education for Newfoundland and Labrador, released by the Minister of Education in July 2005, recommended that a "Working Group" of the Department of Education, Memorial University, College of the North Atlantic, and Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries be established "to identify opportunities to enhance use of the Queen Elizabeth II Library at Memorial by other communities and library structures within the Province."

Such a Steering Committee is already in place and two documents, a discussion paper and a draft operational plan, have already been developed. To view these documents and the White Paper itself and to get specific information on the Steering Committee and its activities, please refer to the following web site: <<http://staff.library.mun.ca/staff/staffdir/FoundforSuccess>>. While the Committee continues its

Continued on page 10 ~

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News from the Provinces

work, College Library Services staffs have been encouraged to consider the implications of greater cooperation among other communities and library structures within the province as they purchase new resources, in particular electronic resources.

The effects of this cooperation are already in evidence. The College was a long-time subscriber to eLibrary Canada and its precursor, Electric Library Canada; but the availability of this database through the public library system has prompted Library Services staff to consider other options. Just recently, College libraries and learning resource centres have made available a package of databases from EBSCOhost. The package includes Academic Search Premier, Business Source Premier, and a selection of health and professional development resources. As College libraries and learning resource centres are open to the general public, this EBSCOHost package and other subscription databases are available to community users.

Library Services staff are also involved with moving to the next stage in their implementation of the Sirsi integrated library system. The initial implementation of Sirsi in January 2002 involved the integration of operations at libraries and learning resource centres at 19 sites that had previously used four different automation systems. As one of those former systems was not MARC-based, and as all the participating libraries and learning resource centres had established local practices that made smooth integration difficult, the decision was made at the outset to be broad, rather than restrictive, in what would be permitted in terms of such things as item types, locations, and quality issues pertaining to catalogue records.

Under this next stage of implementation, Library Services staffs are moving forward in three key areas:

- Cleaning up the Sirsi policies by removing unnecessary item types and locations, revising confusing or outdated descriptions, and generally streamlining the system.

- Establishing a standard for all catalogue records in the system and a protocol for revising older records which are deemed to be of poor quality or which require updating.
- Establishing a standard and a protocol for adding new records to the system.

The second and third areas are particularly important, because there are no current plans to implement centralized cataloguing. All sites (currently 18) will remain largely responsible for their own cataloguing.

There have been some significant staff changes over the past few months:

Three library technicians have retired recently: Katherine Keeping (Port Aux Basques); Rona Colbourne (Corner Brook); and Sophie Colbourne (Carbonear).

Darrell Squires, the Librarian at the Clarenville Campus, has taken a position with Newfoundland and Labrador Public Libraries; and

Joanne Deluney, the librarian at Happy Valley-Goose Bay, will be taking up Darrell's position in Clarenville.

In addition, Kelly Matheson, the librarian at the Carbonear Campus, is taking a year's leave of absence. Neither the permanent position at Happy Valley-Goose Bay nor the temporary position at Carbonear has yet been filled.

On a local note, the library at the Seal Cove Campus has just gone through an extensive renovation. Begun in early August 2005 and completed by the end of January 2006, this renovation included new carpeting, fresh paint in a colour scheme that complements the views of nature outside, separate reference and circulation desks, additional group study tables and computer workstations, a cozy "reading corner" close to the current serials and paperbacks, a media room for the viewing VHS tapes and DVDs, and a silent reading room with study carrels. Librarian Bonnie Morgan reports that faculty and staff are overwhelming positive about the changes, with the word "welcoming" most often used to describe the new space. Bonnie will be reporting on the renovation at the Annual Conference of the Newfoundland and Labrador Library Association in May.

Contributed by John Whelan, Lynn Cuff

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Memorial University of Newfoundland

The First Space Art Gallery at the Queen Elizabeth II Library is displaying a new exhibit this semester. "A Medley of Works" is a beautiful display of art by recent graduates of Sir Wilfred Grenfell College. This exhibit is being curated by Carolyn Reddy and will be on display from January 6th to April 22, 2006.

Contributed by Karen Lippold

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Provincial Information & Library Resources Board

The Provincial Information and Library Resources Board started a selection process for a replacement integrated library management system in the fall of 2004. The Horizon System from the SirsiDynix Corporation was selected; implementation has begun and is anticipated to go-live in the spring.

Western Division

Darrell Squires started as the new Assistant Manager on February 6th, and the region is very happy to have him aboard.

Ron Sheppard moved on to a position in Lacombe, Alberta in September.

Sandra Batstone came on as a new Library Technician III in the Corner Brook Public Library, and a hearty welcome to her in her new position.

The Division had a very active fall with a storytelling tour (6 sites) by Elinor Benjamin, and Children's Book Week tours by Genevieve Cote (10 sites) in Labrador and by Jan Andrews (3 sites) in the Corner Brook area. All were very successful contributors.

127 new computers are being placed in the libraries through the CAP programme. Nancy Janes and Bob Brake are working hard to upgrade all the hardware. CAP funds were extremely important for computer services, as these services are essential to all branch locations, many of which are remote. It is hoped that the present funding level continues for the Community Action Project.

Contributed by Sandy Chilcote, PILRB

St. John's Public Libraries

Newfoundland author Kevin Major gave a reading to a full-house at the A.C. Hunter Library December 3rd from his books The House of Wooden Santas and his picture book, Aunt Olga's Christmas Postcards.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES

Canada Institute for Scientific & Technical Information

Jennifer Mersereau started at the NRC Information Centre St. John's in January as the Client Services Officer. She formerly worked for the Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre (BC) and Ocean Nutrition Canada.

CONFERENCES

Be the Change: a Report on the Literacy Conference

Capital Hotel, St. John's, NL (Dec. 1-3, 2005)

Apart from the dedication of doing one's job in librarianship every day, many of us are pulled strongly in other related directions - literacy, story telling, writing groups, and so on. Over the past 20 years, here in Central Region, I have been involved closely with the various literacy groups that have come and gone, as funding levels rose and fell. Consequently, I was invited to an exciting provincial literacy conference held in December in St. John's. Just over 70 people, from every region in the province, gathered to plan the new direction in which we felt literacy should take.

The theme was very appropriate: *Be the change you want to make - Mahatma Gandhi*

The Literacy Network Ad-Hoc Group (LNAG) took over where the Literacy Development Council left off in 2004. Now, LNAG's life span is coming to an end, and there is a need for another organization to oversee literacy development in

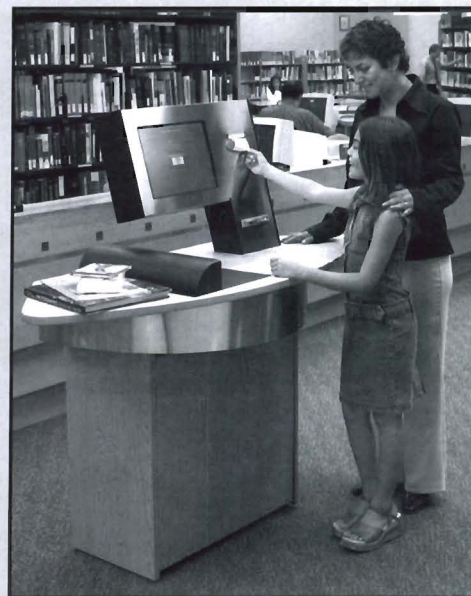
Continued on page 12 >

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Continued from previous page:

News From the Provinces

the province of Newfoundland & Labrador. As a group we looked at other Literacy organizations across the country- provincial and territorial, to see if we would choose a similar model of governance. We brainstormed about the roles a new organization would have such as:

- Public Awareness / Relations
- Advocacy / Monitoring Policy
- Training and Capacity Building
- Information and Resource Sharing
- Research and Resource Development

Also, a fair bit of time was spent on what we felt would be the best structure for a new Literacy Organization. I am pleased to report that consensus was gained though a fair voting process and the new name the group is: *Literacy Newfoundland and Labrador (LNL)*.

There will be a Board with members, including learners, representing each region. Nominations for board members would be held in early 2006.

For more information on the conference and the future "lay out" of literacy, you can get contact Kim Gillard of the former LNAAG at 1-800-563-1111 or by e-mailing: infor@literacynl.com

I'll sign off with another great quote: "A person who chooses not to read is no better off than a person who cannot read" ...Mark Twain

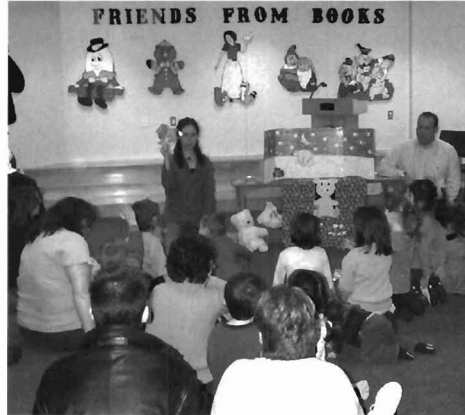
Contributed by Pat Parsons,
PILRB, Central Region
Gander, NL

NOVA SCOTIA

Submitted by Gordon Bertrand

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Cape Breton Regional Library



On Sunday January 29, the CBRL celebrated Family Literacy Day with the help of Family Place Resource Centre and the Adult Learning Association of Cape Breton County. The afternoon event started with the Family Literacy Day Proclamation read by Sydney's Deputy Mayor and Library Board Member, Claire Detheridge. Following the Proclamation, there were stories shared by special guests: Blair Hill and Kathy Milburn from the Family Place Resource Centre, Constable MacGillvray and local music teacher Donalda Wescott. Our special guests did a wonderful job of entertaining both the young and the old, and warming the crowd up for songs and rhymes with Library Assistant Bev McGee. Story sacks, crafts, and a computer activity for children 6+ were included on the afternoon agenda. The day finished with cake and a prize draw for donations from local businesses. Over 100 people filled the library, on what is normally a quiet Sunday afternoon (We're usually closed!). Everyone involved agreed that it was a wonderful way to spend a Sunday afternoon.

Many of the Winter/Spring Adult Programs are scheduled. One of the programs offers an author reading with Lesley Crewe, who has recently published her first novel Relative Happiness. Crewe's debut novel is quickly gathering praise among readers, and the library is very excited to have her read and discuss her novel on April 18.

For lovers of local wildlife and the great outdoors, the library has scheduled a program on Cape Breton birds. Guest speaker Cathy Murrant will show a collection of photos she has gathered while birding around the island. At the end of March, fishing enthusiast Gordon MacKinnon will give a talk on fly tying. A complete list of Winter/Spring Adult Programs can be found on our website www.cbri.ca.

Ten Years of CAP

In 1995, computer and Internet use was minimal. In an effort to support the new Knowledge-based economy, the Canadian government, through Industry Canada, established the Community Access Program (CAP) to provide Canadians with affordable public access to the Internet, as well as the skills they would need to use it effectively. In 1995, the University College of Cape Breton (now Cape Breton University) was involved in promoting and moving technology forward to help develop new ways to do economic development and create more jobs on the Island. In this atmosphere, CAP was very quickly adopted by community groups, libraries and schools as a possible way to improve technology access in Cape Breton communities. On January 19th, the Tenth Anniversary of CAP in Cape Breton was celebrated at the McConnell Library in Sydney. Over 50 people were on hand to celebrate the past successes of CAP and look to the future.

Since 1999, CAP sites in Cape Breton County have worked together through the umbrella group, the CAP Society of Cape Breton County, to develop a variety of technology related projects that deal specifically with IT needs and services in our community. These include VoINet, the Cape Breton Seniors Learning Network, Web-4-All and so much more. The CAP Society of Cape Breton County is a regional working group that has also collaborated with other CAP Societies on the Island. These other societies include Victoria County's (VCCAPs), Richmond (RCAS) and Inverness Counties (ICCNS). Along with the Tenth Anniversary celebration, the CAP Society developed a virtual time capsule that can be seen at <http://www.capcbco.ca/~timecapsule/index.htm>.

Continued on next page >

ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

Dalhousie University, School of Information Management

Accreditation:

The American Library Association Committee on Accreditation (COA) has voted to approve continued accreditation of the Master of Library and Information Studies degree program. The program underwent a regular comprehensive review in the fall of 2005. The next comprehensive review is scheduled for fall 2012. The program has been continuously accredited since its first graduating class in 1971.

As stated in the official letter from the COA, "The decision to grant continued accreditation to the program is based on the 'totality of the accomplishment and the environment for learning ... (Standards, p. 5).'" Furthermore, the report from the External Review Panel, members of which visited the School in October 2005, emphasized many of the program's strengths relating to curriculum, teaching, research and the School's wonderful new facilities in the Kenneth C. Rowe Management Building. Of special note, the Panel recognized the high calibre and enthusiasm of the School's alumni and current MLIS students – both very positive indicators for the future of information and library management.

Research Award:

Dr Louise Spiteri, Associate Professor in the School of Information Management at Dalhousie University, has been awarded a \$9000 grant for 2006 from the Library and Information Science Research Grant Program of the Online Computer Library Centre (Dublin, OH) and the Association for Library and Information Science Education. Dr Spiteri's project, "The Use of Collaborative Tagging in Public Library Catalogues," examines leading-edge methods by which members of the public might enhance their information seeking and information organization. Collaborative tagging, or "folksonomies", allows anyone to freely attach keywords or tags to content. Folksonomies have the potential to add much value by enabling users to organize personal information spaces, supplement existing controlled vocabularies such as the Library of Congress Subject

Headings, and to create online communities of interest. The term "folksonomy" was created by Thomas Vander Val in a discussion on an online information architecture site (<http://Atomiq.org>), and represents a merging of the terms "folk" and "taxonomy." Dr Spiteri's published research focuses on, amongst other topics, the use of facet analysis in information retrieval thesauri, word association testing and thesaurus construction, and the information architecture of e-commerce Web sites.

Teaching Award:

Professor Vivian Howard, Lecturer in the School of Information Management at Dalhousie, has been honoured by a prestigious new teaching award in the Faculty of Management. Professor Howard's achievement is significant. Committee members noted the thoroughness of Professor Howard's teaching dossier. She was invited to submit this dossier on the basis of her consistently high ratings in Dalhousie's Student Ratings of Instruction data. Professor Howard is noted for her subject knowledge, her enthusiastic teaching style and her longstanding commitment to students in both the MLIS program in the School of Information

Management and the Faculty of Management's Bachelor of Management program. In the MLIS program, Professor Howard teaches: Collections Management; Services and Resources for Young Adults; Services and Resources for Children; Users and Services; and, Information Sources in the Humanities and Social Sciences. In addition to teaching, she is pursuing doctoral studies at the University of Wales at Aberystwyth, with a research focus on teen reading.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Submitted by Donald Moses

ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

Robertson Library, University of Prince Edward Island

It seems we are off to a less hectic start this term than we have seen typically in recent years, but things are still very busy, with the usual full slate of instructional sessions and tours, and plenty of demand for reserves, study

Continued on page 23 >

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Take a break from your everyday work, and get inspired by a program dedicated to meeting the interests of our APLA membership.

Take home practical ideas to use in your library:

APLA 2006 offers more than 30 stimulating programs that reflect the exciting initiatives occurring in our profession. Come early and take in a pre-conference session on Thursday, May 25.

Learn about the latest products:

Visit with our exhibitors and learn more about their innovative products and services and how they are being implemented in libraries throughout North America.

Get inspired by our keynote speaker:

Stephen Lewis, the UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa, is our keynote. Stephen was recently named by *Time* magazine as one of the 100 most influential people in the world. As Jennifer Richard (APLA President) noted, "I hope that you too will be inspired by Stephen Lewis, as I was last year, and help APLA 'Adopt a Library' in Ethiopia by contributing to our Grow A Library Fund."

Discover all that Fredericton has to offer:

Fredericton is a happening place! Explore the beautiful surroundings. Catch up with old friends and meet new people. Enjoy a few of the social events we have planned.

Register early and save money:

The early-bird registration deadline is April 15, 2006. Online registration is available at the APLA 2006 Conference website.

Bookmark the APLA 2006 Conference website:

For complete details, visit the APLA 2006 Conference website at: <http://www.lib.unb.ca/APLA/>

- Register for the conference (and pre-conference) online
- Find information on hotel bookings
- View the complete program
- Sign up for our social events

We look forward to welcoming you to Fredericton, May 26-28, 2006!

John Teskey

APLA 2006 Conference Chair

One Person's Junk is Another's Treasure!

The Associated Alumni of Dalhousie's School of Information Management (SIM) will be holding their 3rd annual fundraising flea market this year!

Date: Sunday, April 2, 2006

Time: 9:00-2:00

Location: Penhorn Mall, Dartmouth, NS

Here's your chance to get a jump on spring cleaning! If you have questions or would like to donate and arrange for pick-up, please contact Tanja Harrison (tanja.harrison@acadiu.ca) before the flea market date.

All proceeds from the sale will be donated towards SIM scholarships. Clean house while helping to assist students achieve their educational goals!

Dr. Norman Horrocks, Ian Colford ('85) and Collette Saunders ('05) at last year's flea market.



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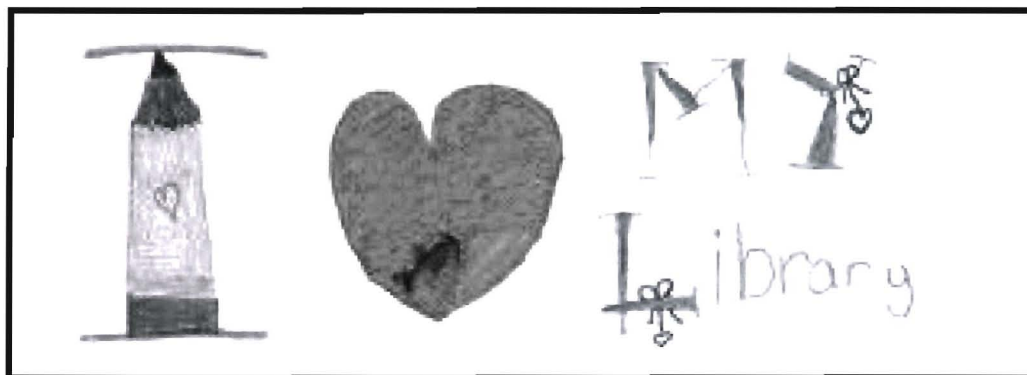
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Please contact Ruthmary Macpherson (rmacpherson@mta.ca) for membership inquiries.

Hackmatack Award Nominations 2006-2007

The 2006/2007 nominations for the eighth year of the Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award have been selected by committees in three Atlantic provinces:

ENGLISH FICTION

1. *Action!* / by Carol Matas, Key Porter Books, 2005. ISBN:155263678X \$14.95 (pb)
2. *Any Pet Will Do* / by Nancy Shouse, Orca Book Publishers, 2005. ISBN:1551433540 \$7.95 (pb)
3. *The Crazy Man* / by Pamela Porter, Groundwood Books, 2005. ISBN:0888996950 \$9.95 (pb)
4. *If I Had a Million Onions* / by Sheree Fitch, Tradewind Books, 2005. ISBN:1896580785 \$18.95 (hc) Note: paperback is not yet available, but looks likely -- pb ISBN already assigned
5. *The Latch: An Acadian Adventure* / by Joyce Grant-Smith, Brun Creek Books, 2004. ISBN:0973530502 \$7.99 (pb)
6. *Mable Riley: A Reliable Record of Humdrum, Peril and Romance* / by Marthe Jocelyn, Tundra Books, 2004. ISBN:0887767672 \$14.99 (pb)
7. *Martin Bridge: Ready for Takeoff!* / by Jessica Scott Kerrin, Kids Can Press, 2005. ISBN:1553377729 \$5.95 (pb)
8. *One on One* / by Don Aker, Harper Trophy Canada, 2005. ISBN:0006395317 \$12.99 (pb)
9. *Out of Bounds* / by Sylvia Gunnery, James Lorimer and Company, 2004. ISBN:1550288261 \$8.95 (pb)
10. *Peggy's Letters* / by Jacqueline Halsey, Orca Book Publishers, 2005. ISBN:155143363X \$7.95 (pb)

ENGLISH NON-FICTION

11. *Animals Hibernating: How Animals Survive Extreme Conditions* / by Pamela Hickman, Kids Can Press, 2005. ISBN:1553376633 \$6.95 (pb)
 12. *Atlantic Puffin: Little Brother of the North* / by Kristin Bieber Domm, Nimbus, 2005. ISBN:1551095181 \$8.95 (pb)
 13. *Backyard Birds; An Introduction* / by Robert Bateman, Scholastic 2005. ISBN:0439957842 \$19.99 (hc)
 14. *A Bloom of Friendship: The Story of the Canadian Tulip Festival* / by Anne Renaud, Lobster Press, 2005. ISBN:1897073356 \$8.95 (pb)
 15. *Coming To Canada: Building a Life in a New World* / by Susan Hughes, Maple Tree Press, 2005. ISBN:1897066465 \$19.95 (pb)
 16. *Hayley Wickenheiser: Born to Play* / by Elizabeth Etue, Kids Can Press, 2005. ISBN:1553377915 \$7.95 (pb)
 17. *Harry Houdini A Magical Life* / by Elizabeth Macleod, Kids Can Press, 2005. ISBN:1553377702 \$7.95 (pb)
 18. *Scholastic Canada Biographies: Canadian Artists* / by Maxine Trottier, Scholastic, 2005. ISBN:0439957567 \$5.99 (pb)
 19. *They Did What! Your Guide to Weird and Wacky Things People Do* / by Jeff Szpirglas, Maple Tree Press, 2005. ISBN:1897066236 \$12.95 (pb)
 20. *Transformed: How Everyday Things are Made* / by Bill Slavin, Kids Can Press, 2005. ISBN:1553371798 \$24.95 (hc)
- ## FICTION FRANÇAIS
21. *L'Atlas perdu* / par Diane Bergeron, Soulieres, 2004. ISBN:2896070079 9.95\$ (pc)
 22. *Derrière le mur* / par Camille Bouchard, Dominique et Compagnie, 2004. ISBN:2895123861 9.95\$ (pc)
 23. *En pièces détachées* / par Martine Latulippe, Fou Lire, 2005. ISBN:2895910065 8.95\$ (pc)

24. *Les fantômes bleus sont les plus malheureux* / par Roger des Roches, Québec Amérique, 2005. ISBN:2764404271 10.95\$ (pc)
25. *La grande aventure de Gabi* / par Lorraine Pelletier, Vents d'Ouest, 2005. ISBN:2895370931 10.95\$ (pc)
26. *Les impatiences de Ping* / par Andrée Poulin, Québec Amérique, 2005. ISBN:2764403879 8.95\$ (pc)
27. *Mission périlleuse en Erianigami* / par Alexandra Larochelle, Trécarré, 2005. ISBN:2895682577 8.95\$ (pc)
28. *Plouk le raton laveur qui ne voulait pas laver* / par Gil Courtemanche, Les 400 Coups, 2005. ISBN:2895402434 12.95\$ (pc)
29. *Twister, mon chien détecteur* / par Sylviane Thibault, Pierre Tisseyre 2005. ISBN:2890519244 8.95\$ (pc)
30. *Vive le nombril libre!* / par Sarah Lalonde, Loup de Gouttiere, 2005. ISBN:2895291179 8.95\$ (pc)

NON-FICTION FRANÇAIS

31. *A la découverte de Félix Leclerc* / par Marie-Josée Plouffe, Trécarré, 2004. ISBN:2895681961 29.95\$ (pc)
32. *Carajou, démon des bois* / par Geneviève Mativat, Isatis, 2005. ISBN:2923234111 9.95\$ (pc)
33. *Le Castor* / par Sylvie Roberge, Dominique et Compagnie, 2005. ISBN:2895124574 12.95\$ (pc)
34. *Cléo Clic Clic au Maroc* / par Julie Paquet, Courte Échelle, 2005. ISBN:2890217345 10.95\$ (pc)
35. *Les compositeurs* / par Claudio Ricignuolo, Fides, 2004. ISBN:2762124468 24.95\$ (hd)
36. *Léon et les expressions* / par Annie Groovie, Courte Échelle, 2004. ISBN:2890217116 20.95\$ (pc)
37. *La lune* / par Professeur Génius (Martine Podesto), Québec Amérique, 2005. ISBN:276440834X 12.95\$ (pc)

Continued on page 19 >

38. *Les mocassins* / par Michel Noël, Dominique et Compagnie, 2005. ISBN:2895124582 12.95\$ (pc)
39. *Mon album de la vie* / par Professeur Génies (Martine Podesto), Québec Amérique, 2005. ISBN:2764408331 18.95\$ (hd)
40. *Mon album des découvertes et inventions* / par Professeur Génies (Martine Podesto), Québec Amérique, 2005. ISBN:2764408188 18.95\$ (hd)

Submitted by -

Norene Smiley, Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award

The Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award is a literary program designed for young readers in Atlantic Canada. Each year, thousands of children aged nine to twelve (grades four to six) read from the selection of outstanding Canadian books and vote for the winners.

The Hackmatack Selection Committee nominates renowned Canadian books for young readers to the Hackmatack shortlist. Books are chosen for their literary, cultural and enjoyment factors. The books have generally been published within two or three years of selection.

Children in registered reading groups read the nominated books and vote for the winners of the award in the spring of each year. Students, especially those at non-participating schools, may participate on-line through the P.E.I. Provincial Library Service's on-line book club.

The winners of the Hackmatack Award in each category are announced at the final award ceremony in April.

For more information about the award - how to register a group, the award ceremony, author tours and former winners, visit the web site <<http://www.hackmatack.ca/about.html>>.

SIM Alumni Events @ APLA 2006

The Dalhousie University School of Information Management Associated Alumni is pleased to announce that they will be holding their 3rd annual Silent Auction extravaganza at the upcoming APLA conference in Fredericton, NB!

New item donations are greatly appreciated and are now being accepted. Please contact Sandy Dwyer (Sandra.Dwyer@Dal.Ca) for more information.

All proceeds will be donated towards SIM student scholarships. Watch for the alumni booth and let the bidding begin!

Also, don't forget to join us for the School of Information Management Associated Alumni Annual General Meeting during the conference on Saturday, May 27, 2006. Refreshments will be served. Come connect with old friends and meet new ones!

2006 Outstanding Alumni Award

submitted by Donna Bourne-Tyson

The SIM Associated Alumni invites nominations for the 2006 Outstanding Alumni Award. This award honors a member of the Associated Alumni who has made an outstanding contribution to Library and Information Studies.

Please help us to select the next illustrious recipient of this award. Past winners include Judy Dunn (2004), Marie DeYoung (2003), Catherine Quinlan (2002) and Marilyn Rennick (2000).

Full details for eligibility and criteria for nominations are available at: <http://tinyurl.com/7hvg8>.

Nominations may be submitted by mail, e-mail or fax addressed to:

Selection Committee, Dal SIM Outstanding Alumni Award

c/o School of Information Management

Faculty of Management

Kenneth C. Rowe Management Building

6100 University Avenue

Halifax, NS B3H 3J5

Fax: (902) 494-2451

E-mail: sim@dal.ca

All nominations must be postmarked, faxed or e-mailed dated no later than May 31, 2006.

Nominations of persons previously nominated but not chosen may be resubmitted. Receipt of all submissions will be acknowledged by e-mail.

For further information, please contact Donna Bourne-Tyson, Chair, Selection Committee, Dal SIM Associated Alumni - Outstanding Alumni Award at:

Donna Bourne-Tyson

University Librarian

Mount Saint Vincent University

166 Bedford Highway

Halifax, NS B3M 2J6

e-mail: Donna.Bourne-Tyson@msvu.ca

Posted on behalf of the Dalhousie University - School of Information Studies Associated Alumni

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.

Applications should be submitted by March 31, 2006 to:

Jennifer Richard, Librarian
Vaughan Memorial Library
Acadia University
PO Box 4
Wolfville, NS, B4P 2R6
Tel: (902) 585-1403
Fax: (902) 585-1748
Email: jennifer.richard@acadiau.ca

MERIT AWARD

Nominations are sought for the APLA Merit Award.

This award honours an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to library service in the Atlantic Provinces. If you know of someone who has made an outstanding contribution to the library community, please consider nominating this person for the award.

A candidate for the award would be someone who has shown;

- a. leadership in library associations at the local, regional, and provincial levels;
- b. contributions to the development, application and utilization of library services and library systems; or,
- c. significant contributions to library literature.

Names of persons previously nominated but not chosen may be resubmitted.

To recommend someone for the award, please send your nomination along with documentation of the nominee's achievements to Allan Groen at the address below.

The deadline for nominations has been extended to March 31.

Allan Groen, Provincial Librarian
Province of Prince Edward Island
PO Box 7500
MORELL, PE C0A 1S0
902-961-7316 (voice) 902-961-7322 (fax)

It's that time of year to start thinking about the APLA Memorial Award!

This year's award committee would like to help fund your research project or professional development opportunity! We invite all members to submit an application, and welcome submissions from all previous applicants and winners to date. Up to \$1,000 will be awarded.

Applications should demonstrate how your idea will contribute to the development of your career and at the same time benefit the library profession. Examples of recently funded APLA Memorial Award projects include:

- Studying school housed libraries in Newfoundland and Labrador
- Investigating electronic resource management in academic teaching and research environments
- Exploring the attitudes and teaching methods of academic instruction librarians in the Atlantic region
- Surveying the continuing education needs and practices of library workers
- Researching the history of literary awards in Canada
- Participating in the Library of Congress Serials Cataloguing Cooperative Training Program

Interested applicants should send (preferably by email) a letter outlining your proposal, a current curriculum vitae, and estimated costs of your project by March 15, 2006 to:

Tanja Harrison
Chair, APLA Memorial Award Committee
Vaughan Memorial Library
Acadia University
Wolfville, NS B4P 2R6
tanja.harrison@acadiau.ca

First Timer's Conference Grant

Have you never been to an APLA annual conference? Do you want to go to Fredericton but cannot afford it?

Why not apply for APLA's First Timer's Conference Grant?

To be eligible, an applicant must be a personal member of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association, residing in Atlantic Canada and planning to attend her/his first APLA annual conference.

Grants are allocated, consistent with general APLA guidelines, to help meet conference-related expenses. If more applications are received than can be met by the fund, money will be awarded by drawing from the names of all eligible applicants. Recipients will be expected to write a short report for the Executive and the Bulletin summarizing their conference experience.

Applicants should include name, business address, chosen means for contact (mail, e-mail, telephone, or fax) estimated costs (travel, accommodation, meals, and registration), and a signed compliance with eligibility requirements.

Applications should be submitted by March 31, 2006 to:

Jennifer Richard
 Librarian
 Vaughan Memorial Library
 Acadia University
 PO Box 4
 Wolfville NS
 B4P 2R6
 Tel: (902) 585-1403
 Fax: (902) 585-1748
 Email: jennifer.richard@acadiu.ca

Carin Alma E. Somers Scholarship Trust

Applications are invited for the 2006 Carin Alma E. Somers Scholarship.

This annual award provides funding to a Canadian citizen who is a resident of the Atlantic Provinces needing financial assistance to undertake, or complete, the academic requirements leading to a degree of Masters of Library and Information Science. Funds are available on a competitive basis and financial need is a consideration.

Please note:

Application forms are available online in both English and in French on the APLA website at www.apla.ca.

Applications should be submitted by March 31, 2006.

Further information can be found on the APLA website at www.apla.ca or please contact:

Ivan Douthwright
 Librarian
 George A. Rawlyk Library
 Atlantic Baptist University
 P.O. Box 6004
 Moncton NB
 E1C 9L7
 Email: ivan.douthwright@abu.nb.ca

Education Institute

By Michael Colborne

This year there are many more continuing education opportunities from the Education Institute. Since APLA is a member organization of the Partnership, all APLA members are eligible for preferred registration rates. You will notice that there are also some 6/8 week courses offered along with the regular teleconference schedule.

For a full description of courses offered through the Education Institute, check out:

<http://www.thepartnership.ca/cgi-bin/site/showPage.cgi?page=education/calendar.html>

And remember...if you have any suggestions for sessions, please let me know. I will pass along your ideas and comments to the teleconference organizers. We are very interested in providing content for future sessions and it is a great opportunity to showcase some of the innovative things we

do in Atlantic Canada. We would like to make the Education Institute a truly national initiative, with ideas and content from all parts of the country.

Please contact me with your suggestions and ideas:

Michael Colborne
 Coordinator of User Services
 Nova Scotia Provincial Library
 3770 Kempt Road
 Halifax, NS B3K 4X8
colbormb@gov.ns.ca
 902.424.2455
 902.424.0633 fax

Education Institute Programs

MARCH 2006

- MAR 15 Culturally Appropriate Treatment of Sacred Materials
- MAR 16 Exploring the Information Ecology
- MAR 20 Effective Library Board Meetings
- MAR 20 American and International Government Publications on the Web (six week on-line course)
- MAR 21 Library Terms that Users Understand
- 23 MARS Recherche: sites, trucs et astuces
- MAR 27 Getting the Most Out of Blogs, RSS and Other Web 2.0 Technologies (six week on-line course)
- MAR 28 Library Fun for Emerging Readers... Literally!
- MAR 29 Libraries Post 9/11: Privacy and Security Issues
- MAR 30-31 TORONTO OCUA Spring Workshop: Reference in Academic Libraries - Current Issues

APRIL 2006

- APR 03 Beyond Google: Searching Faster and Smarter on the Web (eight week on-line course)
- APR 03 Strategic Budgeting (five-part program)
- APR 04 Making Federated Searching More Usable
- APR 05 Literacy Services in the Public Library
- APR 10 Did I Answer Your Question? Techniques to Recharge Your Reference Interview (six week on-line course)
- 10 AVRIL TORONTO: La réingénierie du traitement documentaire
- APR 11 Library Programming for Genealogy Patrons
- APR 12 Strategic Planning for Library Boards
- APR 18 Wikis and Libraries: a Winning Combination
- 19 AVRIL Les habiletés de leadership et leur expression dans les milieux d'information

- APR 20 Promoting Your Library's Services: Top Tips
- APR 20-22 BURNABY: British Columbia Library Association Annual Conference
- APR 24 Basics of Web Site Management (six week on-line course)
- APR 24 An Inquiry Model as an Instructional Strategy
- APR 25 You Have Rights! Librarians and Unions
- APR 26 Becoming a Knowledge Entrepreneur
- APR 27 JASPER: TONGUE FU@.... the art of dealing with difficult people without becoming one
- APR 27-29 JASPER: The Alberta Library Conference

MAY 2006

- MAY 01 Canadian Children's Literature: An Overview (six week on-line course)
- MAY 01 The Myth of the Plagiarism-Proof Paper
- MAY 02 Project Management for Libraries
- MAY 02 Library Automation Update
- MAY 04 Personas and Knowing Library Communities
- MAY 04 REGINA: Oral Tradition to Written Text
- MAY 04 REGINA: Copy Right! Words Beyond Value
- MAY 04-06 REGINA: Saskatchewan Libraries Conference
- 08 MAI TORONTO: L'élaboration de politiques et procédures en bibliothèque
- MAY 09 Literature Circles Beyond the Novel
- MAY 11 Search Engines 101: How Search Engines Work
- MAY 12 TORONTO: Digital Odyssey 2006: Creating the Future Together
- MAY 15 Running a Small Library

Margaret Williams Trust Fund Award

Applications are now invited for the Margaret Williams Trust Fund Award which has been established to promote the development of librarianship in Newfoundland and Labrador. Funds are awarded on a competitive basis to applicants seeking funding for library-related projects or assistance in pursuing graduate studies in librarianship, archival studies, or teacher librarianship.

Annual awards generally approximate \$1000

Deadline for applications is Friday, March 31, 2006

For further information and an application form contact:

Mr. Richard Ellis
Chairman, Board of Trustees
Margaret Williams Trust Fund
Queen Elizabeth II Library
Memorial University of Newfoundland
St. John's, NL, A1B 3Y1

Continued from page 13:

The Provinces

rooms, etc. The Library will be staying open until 11:00 pm most week-nights this term, and staff are exploring how best to accommodate a request from the Student Union to stay open until midnight at exam time. In other developments:

- We recently received great news - the Library was named in the University's 2005 Graduating Student Survey as, "the most beneficial office or service unit on campus to the graduate personally".
- The Search Committee for the UPEI University Librarian has just announced a short-list of three candidates. Candidate visits are scheduled for late February into early March: we look forward to welcoming them all, and thank the Committee members for their hard work to date.
- Work is underway on improvements to the Library's Web page and catalogue interface. For the moment, these changes are relatively minor, but a more substantial overhaul is in the offing.
- The Library's University Archives was pleased to accept a generous donation in late January. This comprised a collection of degrees and diplomas from Sister Bernice Cullen. The event attracted much favourable attention in the local media as Sr. Cullen was a leader in Island education. She taught at St. Dunstan's University and UPEI, and was recognized among the first group of UPEI Founders in 2000. The highlight of Sr. Cullen's gift was her 1941 St. Dunstan's BA degree, the first awarded in the name of an Island university, and all the more remarkable for being awarded – with high honours – to a female graduate, at a time when relatively few women pursued higher education.

- The Library continues to expand its collection of electronic resources: *Academic Search Elite* was upgraded to *Academic Source Premier*, the *Naxos Music Library* was acquired, and, via the Canadian Research Knowledge Network, Sage *Full-Text Collections*, the digitized *Globe and Mail* from 1844, and *JSTOR Arts & Science II and III Scholarly Journal Archive* were added.

Contributed by Simon Lloyd

Holland College

Holland College anticipates a busy and interesting year of collection development and instruction with the launch, in September of 2006, of two new program areas: bioscience technology and the new applied degree in culinary management. The former program will train technicians to work in emerging fields such nutraceutical development, while the latter will combine business, science and culinary arts to produce food product developers, marketers, and managers.

The College's Library Services division is also the lead player in a project to heighten the profile of "internationalism" on campus. As well as acquiring a small collection of materials on diversity and inter-cultural communication, Library Services will publish a suite of web pages on topics such as internationalism across the curricula, teaching challenges, and the needs of foreign students in Canada. We will also host a series of brown bag lunches on international topics from February-April 2006.

Contributed by Brenda Brady

Continued from page 4:

From the President's Desk

Institute. The APLA Executive will be discussing some possible changes in the association regarding Continuing Education, and how to maximize our input to this growing and worthwhile initiative. The Partnership was congratulated by the Canadian Library Association during our meeting with them on its successful continuing education programme.

APLA ACTIVITIES:

Letters offering one free audio conference from the Education Institute were sent to all Institutional Members. Give it a try and let us know what you think. For a list of sessions being offer this Spring please see the news section of the APLA website or the Education Institute article in the issue of the *APLA Bulletin*.

A letter with accompanying materials was sent to the Nova Scotia Minister of Education, Jamie Muir, outlining APLA's concerns about the state of school libraries. The letter was written in response to a resolution from the last APLA Ordinary General Meeting. The letter was also sent to the Education critics. No response has been received.

Investigation of the state of the Archives continues, and it appears there is a lot of work to do. I hope to pass a motion at the OGM this Spring, to move the archives to Acadia University where we will be better able to keep them up to date and, as well, to create electronic path finders or documentation during the coming year.

The APLA Executive will be meeting the last weekend in March in Wolfville, to get ready for the OGM and to plan for next year's activities. Interest Group Conveners don't forget to get your activity reports into Ivan Douthwright before the end of March.

It's been a great year, thus far. Any thoughts or queries? Please drop me, or any member of the executive, a line.

Jennifer.



looking to get involved in your professional association?

INTEREST GROUPS

ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

John Neilson, Documents Librarian,
Harriet Irving Library,
University of New Brunswick,
P.O. Box 7500,
Fredericton, NB E3B 5H5
Phone: (506) 453-4752 Fax: (506) 453-4595
E-mail: neilson@unb.ca

COLLECTIONS DEVELOPMENT

Mary MacLeod, Academic Librarian,
Vaughan Memorial Library,
Acadia University,
P.O. Box 4,
Wolfville, NS B4P 2R6
Phone: (902) 585-1734 Fax: (902) 585-1748
E-mail: mary.macleod@acadiu.ca

COMPUTERS & CONNECTIVITY

Hansel Cook, Librarian/Archivist,
Patrick Power Library, Archives,
Saint Mary's University,
5932 Inglis Street,
Halifax, NS B3H 3C3
Phone: (902) 420-5508 Fax: (902) 420-5561
E-mail: hansel.cook@smu.ca

CONSERVATION OF LIBRARY MATERIALS

Simon Lloyd, Special Collections Librarian,
Robertson Library,
University of Prince Edward Island,
550 University Ave.,
Charlottetown, PE C1A 4P3
Phone: (902) 566-0536 Fax: (902) 628-4305
E-mail: slloyd@upeu.ca

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Heather Sanderson, Information Literacy
Librarian,
Patrick Power Library,
St. Mary's University,
5932 Inglis Street,
Halifax, NS B3H 3C3
Phone: (902) 420-5541 Fax: (902) 420-5561
E-mail: heather.sanderson@smu.ca

FRANCOPHONE

Chantale Bellemare,
Bibliothécaire des services en français,
Affaires communautaires et culturelles,
5, avenue Maris-Stella,
Summerside, PE C1N 6M9
Phone: (902) 888-8370 Fax: (902) 888-8055
E-mail: cxbellemare@gov.pe.ca

INFORMATION LITERACY

Gwendolyn MacNairn, Computer Science
Librarian,
Faculty of Computer Science,
Dalhousie University,
6050 University Ave.,
Halifax, NS B3H 1W5
Phone: (902) 494-3129 Fax: (902) 494-2062
E-mail: g.macnairn@dal.ca

LIBRARY TECHNICIANS

Karen Darby, Library Technician,
Dr. C.R. Barrett Library, Fisheries & Marine
Institute,
Memorial University of Newfoundland,
Ridge Rd.,
St. John's, NL A1C 5R3
Phone: (709) 778-0662 Fax: (709) 778-0316
E-mail: karen.darby@mi.mun.ca

NEW LIBRARIANS AND INFORMATION PROFESSIONALS

Elizabeth Millar, Librarian,
Mount Allison University Libraries and Archives,
49 York Street,
Sackville NB E4L 1C6
Phone: (506) 364-2562 Fax: (506) 364-2617
E-mail: emillar@mta.ca

NEWSPAPER

Elizabeth Browne, Cataloguing Librarian,
Queen Elizabeth II Library,
Memorial University of Newfoundland,
Elizabeth Ave.,
St. John's, NL A1B 3Y1
Phone: (709) 737-7433 Fax: (709) 737-2153
E-mail: ebrowne@mun.ca

YOUTH SERVICES

Nancy Cohen,
Children's and Young Adult Librarian,
Moncton Public Library,
644 Main Street, Suite 101,
Moncton, NB E1C 1E2
Phone: (506) 869-6036 Fax: (506) 869-6040
E-mail: nancy.cohen@gnb.ca

COMMITTEES

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

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Memorial University of Newfoundland,
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St. John's, NL A1B 3Y1
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E-mail: gbyrne@mun.ca

MEMORIAL AWARDS

Tanja Harrison, Librarian,
Vaughan Memorial Library,
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Wolfville, NS B4P 2R6
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E-mail: tanja.harrison@acadiu.ca

