



TABLE OF CONTENTS

FRONT MATTER

[Publication Information](#)
[Join the APLA Discussion List](#)
[APLA Executive](#)
[From the President's Desk](#)
[From the \(New\) Editor's Desk: Why Volunteer?](#)
[Notices and Calls for Nominations](#)

FEATURE ARTICLES

[Inspiring Information Entrepreneurship](#)
[Dal Libraries "Unzip" for Faculty](#)
[Mendeley and Researchers: An Observation of a Collaborative Bibliographic Management Tool](#)
[Librarians Who Think Together, Learn Together](#)

NEWS FROM THE PROVINCES

[New Brunswick](#)
[Nova Scotia](#)

LIBRARY EDUCATION NEWS

[News from the School of Information Management, Dalhousie University](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

[Submission Guidelines / Call for Articles](#)
[Looking to get involved?](#)

APLA BULLETIN

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

Fall 2011

PUBLICATION INFORMATION

The APLA Bulletin (ISSN 0001-2203) is the official organ of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association.

Frequency: The APLA Bulletin is published five times per year.

Availability: The APLA Bulletin is an open access periodical. Claims for missing print issues should be sent to the Bulletin co-editors (see below for contact information). Back volumes are available from UMI, Ann Arbor, MI.

Submissions: Submissions should be sent to the editors. Deadlines for submissions are: October 1, November 30, February 1, April 1 and July 1.

Advertising: Correspondence regarding advertising should be sent to the Advertising Editor. A rate card is available upon request.

Copyright: Individual authors hold the copyright to articles published in the APLA Bulletin. Under the copyright laws, those who wish to reprint articles for any use must contact the individual author for permission. The opinions expressed in articles are not necessarily those of the editors or the Association.

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APLA BULLETIN

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

Fall 2011

JOIN THE APLA DISCUSSION LIST

APLA-L is an un-moderated discussion list for people who are interested in library issues in Atlantic Canada. The APLA list is: a place to post notices about workshops, seminars, and other events a source of current information about the actions of the APLA Executive a forum for sharing questions, comments and ideas about library services a place to post job advertisements.

To subscribe to the APLA list, send the command "sub apla-list" to listserv@lists.dal.ca. To send a message to everyone on the list, use apla-list@lists.dal.ca. To stay on the list but suspend your messages (while on vacation, for instance), send the command "set apla-list nomail" to listserv@lists.dal.ca. When you want to receive message again, send the command "set apla-list mail" to listserv@lists.dal.ca. To unsubscribe from the list, send the command "unsub apla-list" to listserv@lists.dal.ca. If you have any questions about the APLA list, please contact the postmaster, Anita Cannon, at acannon@mta.ca

APLA BULLETIN

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

Fall 2011

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APLA BULLETIN

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

Fall 2011

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Jocelyne Thompson

In my first President's Desk column, I wrote that demonstrating value is a (if not *the*) major challenge facing libraries today. I want to return to that theme.

In a world where commerce is king and the public good is a poor second on a good day, libraries are struggling. The recent threat to the Toronto Public Library is just one example of the uphill battles we're facing. Other examples abound, with some coming to us from other countries: the UK, where up to 800 public libraries (a fifth of total) were earmarked for potential closure earlier this year; the US, where 42% of academic libraries (once considered the heart of the university) have been subjected to budget cuts this past year. Closer to home, in my province, a community college just opened its doors without a library, suggesting the administration felt that one was not needed. School libraries have been under attack for more than a decade. And what about our national library and its 10-month moratorium on book purchasing (followed by the reinstatement of a thoroughly inadequate acquisitions budget), along with the reduction of professional librarians in LAC's administrative ranks? How many government libraries exist anymore?

I don't mean to be depressing. But I feel strongly that we cannot ignore what's going on, and more, that we need to openly discuss the issue amongst ourselves with a view to finding our way through to the other side, where libraries can not only survive, but thrive once again. We cannot afford to sit on the sidelines, wringing our hands. If you are like me, you firmly believe that the world needs libraries and that even though these are chaotic times and we need to figure out what we'll look like down the road, we also need time and support to get there. So how do we convince our funders to believe in us enough to provide that support, at a time when money is tight and all levels of government are looking for savings?

I suppose what I'm really thinking about is advocacy: effective advocacy. Are we doing all we can? I don't know. I'm not convinced we are. That's not a criticism; advocacy is tricky when so much of our support comes from governments – local, provincial, and to a lesser degree, federal. We don't want to be seen as biting the hand that feeds us, as it were, nor do we want to appear merely self-serving. Perhaps we need to consider all the ways we “do advocacy” in the course of our everyday jobs and try to figure out how to be more effective at it. I referred to this as “demonstrating value”. Some would say we demonstrate value everyday through our services, and that's true. So maybe I really mean “articulating value”. I think we need new ways to describe what libraries are all about and why they matter; we need fresh lines of argument and we need to invest the time and effort to develop them. Sometimes I even think we need a new language altogether because it appears that our standard mantras are falling on deaf ears.

APLA BULLETIN

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

Fall 2011

Have you ever been caught out blathering inadequate and defensive responses to a question about the future of libraries in the face of technological advance? I know I have; so I bear personal responsibility with respect to this issue.

We also need the public behind us. Some very eminent people agree on both the importance of libraries and the subject of advocacy. Witness the following from an article about the UK situation:

The Archbishop of Canterbury, no less, queried the level of proper public advocacy for libraries when he reflected on the closures as part of his recent Easter sermon. Referring to a visit he'd made to a clearly very successful library in a deprived area of Manchester, which was offering support and encouragement to many young people, he asked: "Space, opportunity, the time to discover a larger world to live in – where are the clearly articulated priorities in public discussion that would spotlight all this, so as to make us think twice before dismantling what's already there and disappointing more hopes for the future?"

(The Guardian, May 10, 2011)

It's the idea that something of value will be dismantled before the ramifications of these actions are fully realized that scares me. It's much easier to dismantle than to build. Does anyone believe the census long form will ever be reinstated? No, because it would cost too much even if a new government decided this was desirable. (May I be proven wrong!) In the case of libraries, there's not just out-and-out closure to fear; there is also the terrible fate of diminished relevance from benign neglect reflected in persistent underfunding that impedes our ability to evolve with the times.

So can we work collectively to help each other frame our own individual responses to the question of why libraries matter? Our esteemed VP/President Elect puts it this way: "What is your elevator speech on the value of libraries?" Indeed. I suggested at our fall executive meeting that we might want to consider the establishment of a standing committee on the Value of Libraries. I wonder what those of you reading this column might think about that? I'd love to hear from you.

Of course, there's philosophy and then there's real life. In real life, our days are full with fall activities and ongoing issues. The return of faculty and students in academia and the preparation for fall programming in public libraries – the APLA-initiated Games @ the Library, Canadian Library Month, reading clubs, etc. For administrators, budget time is looming. Copyright legislation is being re-tabled in Parliament. Indeed, daily pressures are very effective

APLA BULLETIN

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

Fall 2011

at keeping us from thinking too hard about the future. But the future is coming at a relentless pace, with us or without us.

I posted to the APLA-List a report on the September meeting of the executive and some of the directions we have set. Promotion of libraries through various initiatives is topmost in our minds and I see today that Pamela Maher has posted a call for content for the Spotlight section of the new website under design. I hope many of you will send in photos and profiles of your libraries.

Let me conclude by congratulating the Nova Scotia Library Association on their successful fall conference in beautiful Sydney, and by wishing all the best for a successful event to the Association of Professional Librarians of New Brunswick/l'Association des bibliothécaires professionnel(le)s du Nouveau-Brunswick which holds its AGM and conference in Moncton on October 21 and 22.

Do you remember the film *Amadeus* and the Emperor's comment to Mozart that his work had "simply too many notes"? I hope you will pardon my "too many words!" I will attempt to be briefer next time!

FROM THE (NEW) EDITOR'S DESK: WHY VOLUNTEER?

Nicole Dixon

Greetings and hello! My name is Nicole Dixon and I'm the new Bulletin Co-Editor. I will be working alongside Alexandra Brooks Robinson, primarily taking over (from Ian Gibson) the tech side of Bulletin editing. I thought I would take this opportunity to not only introduce myself but to also talk briefly about why I decided to take on this position—to, in some capacity, explain why unpaid work is a great opportunity.

When I was asked in the spring if I would be interested in co-editing the Bulletin, I must admit I did at first hesitate. Because I've done volunteer work in the past (teaching, editing for [The Antigonish Review](#), starting a school garden, selling cake and coffee at the Advocate Harbour, NS Farmers' Market), I know that volunteer work can be time-consuming, and can eat into the hours I'd like to devote to my writing. You see, along with my MLIS, I have an MA in creative writing, my first book will be released next fall (with [The Porcupine's Quill](#)) and I'm now at work on a novel. Writing takes time. A lot of time. Years of time. And it's often very difficult to find that time in between, well, everything else. I also know what it's like to be spread too thin, or "sort of stretched, like butter, scraped over too much bread," as Bilbo Baggins feels in *The Lord of the Rings*: last year, during the final year of my MLIS at Dal, I was not only a full-time student, but was also working five jobs. From that experience I learned two things: how precious time is, and how important it is to sometimes say no.

In the end I did say yes to editing the Bulletin. Here's why, and what I've so far learned:

- as an unemployed a yet-to-be-employed recent (2011) MLIS grad, it's a great way to get my name out there. Now, when I apply for jobs, hopefully I'll no longer be Nicole Dixon: Who? but instead, Nicole Dixon: APLA Bulletin Co-Editor!
- since I really want to keep living in Atlantic Canada, I mostly limit my job applications to libraries out east or online. Luckily, APLA is the *Atlantic Provinces* Library Association, so the people I'll meet as Co-Editor are the best people to meet!
- ideally I'd like to also work with technology in some capacity. During my MLIS I worked as a research assistant for Vivian Howard (one of SIM's professors at Dalhousie) to build [Sea Stacks](#), a web-resource of Atlantic Canadian books for children and young adults (you may have seen my Sea Stacks presentation at APLA or CLA last spring). I also design websites for clients. Working on Sea Stacks, I learned to use (and fell in love with) [Drupal](#), an open source CMS. But, as anyone in tech will tell you, like a second language, it's easy to forget the skills you've learned if you don't keep up an active practice. Luckily, the APLA Bulletin (and website) is a Drupal site—in fact, our new website (coming soon!) is being built with Drupal 7. Technology changes rapidly; editing the APLA Bulletin will keep my skills fresh.

APLA BULLETIN

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

Fall 2011

- finally, as we know, research is an integral part of librarianship. I was just asked by the gorgeous and sometimes polemic journal [Canadian Notes and Queries](#) to write an essay on the value of today's libraries, so where better to begin my research than right here, by reading and editing your feature articles?

So, to answer the question, why volunteer? here's why:

- get your name out there
- make contacts
- keep your skills fresh
- keep informed

Convinced? Eager to get involved? Visit our [get involved](#) page. Who knows—you may find a committee or group that interests you. And, we've got a couple of vacancies, too!

Happy Bulletin reading!

Cheers,

Nicole

nicole@nicoledixon.ca

nicoledixon.ca

NOTICES AND CALLS FOR NOMINATIONS

APLA Memorial Award

Financial assistance is available, from the APLA Memorial Trust, for study and research. Projects which contribute to the professional development of the applicant and benefit the profession are encouraged. To apply, send a letter outlining your proposed research and estimated costs and a copy of your curriculum vitae.

Applications must be submitted by March 31, 2012.

Applications, questions and/or donations should be sent to:

Heather Sanderson
Information Literacy Librarian
Patrick Power Library
Saint Mary's University
923 Robie Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 3C3
Phone: (902) 420-5541
Fax: (902) 420-5561
Email: heather.sanderson@smu.ca

APLA Merit Award

The Merit Award Committee is now accepting nominations for the award to be presented at the annual conference at Acadia University in Wolfville, Nova Scotia.

The Merit Award honours an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to library service in the Atlantic Provinces. This can include leadership in library associations, involvement in the development, application and use of library services and library systems, and significant contributions to library literature.

Each recommendation must be accompanied by documentation of the nominee's achievements (resume, curriculum vitae, letters of reference). Names of people who have been nominated but not chosen may be resubmitted.

The deadline for submissions is March 31, 2012.

Please direct nominations to:
Sarah J. Gladwell

APLA BULLETIN

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

Fall 2011

Reference Department
Saint John Free Public Library
1 Market Square
Saint John, NB E2L 4Z6
Phone: 506-643-7224
Email: Sarah.Gladwell@gnb.ca

Carin Alma E. Somers Scholarship Trust

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association administers the [Carin Somers Scholarship Trust](#). The trust provides an annual scholarship, valued at approximately \$2,000, in her name to assist a Canadian citizen who is an Atlantic Provinces resident needing financial assistance to undertake or complete the academic requirements leading to a degree in Library and Information Studies.

Selection of the recipient will be recommended by a committee of the four Provincial Vice Presidents and the President-Elect to the Executive Committee.

The successful applicant will have been accepted in a School of Graduate Studies as a candidate for a Master's degree in Library and Information Studies accredited by the American Library Association. The award will normally be announced at the Annual Atlantic Provinces Library Association Conference.

Application forms are available online in both [English](#) and in [French](#).

Nominations should be submitted by March 31, 2012 to:

Lou Duggan
Cataloguing & Metadata Librarian
Patrick Power Library
Saint Mary's University
923 Robie Street
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 3C3
Phone: (902) 420-5174
Email: Lou.Duggan@smu.ca

FEATURE ARTICLES

INSPIRING INFORMATION ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Erin O'Halloran

APLA's General Activities Fund (GAF) awarded money to the Information without Borders (IWB) 2011 conference last fall. It was an award that helped the conference committee plan the full-day event featuring ten engaging speakers from across Canada. Although it took place the day after the year's biggest snow storm, participants travelled from within and outside the Atlantic region to learn from one another, network, and build relationships.

The conference did even more for me. The keynote address by Pam Bjornson, Director General of the Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information (CISTI) inspired me over the past six months. In her presentation Ms. Bjornson spoke about the massive downsizing her organization experienced in 2008; it decreased the budget and staff by approximately two thirds. Ms. Bjornson also spoke about how cuts to government institutions such as CISTI create opportunities for information entrepreneurs.

Information entrepreneur was a new concept to me at the time. I was compelled to look into it further, in part because I was nervous about the post-graduation job search. It wasn't long before I was speaking to people at Dalhousie's School of Information Management about it and asking how to find resources for entrepreneurs. I received some interesting advice, namely:

- starting a business is not something you do while you wait to be hired full-time;
- you have to have an entrepreneurial spirit to make it work; and
- there are opportunities on the horizon.

I continued researching information entrepreneurship after graduation by borrowing books considered mandatory reading by members of a LinkedIn discussion group I follow, called LIS Career Options. The books were *Building and Running a Successful Research Business* by Mary Ellen Bates and *Four Steps to Epiphany* by Steve Blank.

After weeks of reading and seemingly endless coffee meetings with friends, former colleagues, and advisors, I approached a local non-profit organization to talk about how to get my own small business off the ground. They told me about programs that assist eligible applicants with business coaching and financial aid. Since then I've applied for a number of programs and registered my new business, [CloudScout Information Services](#).

APLA BULLETIN

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

Fall 2011

Looking back at IWB 2011, I am surprised with how Ms. Bjornson's hour-long presentation made such an impact on me. Although I have been a strong supporter of the IWB conferences since 2009, I'm now more than ever convinced of its capacity to inspire and challenge APLA's members.

This year's conference, IWB 2012 will no doubt be just as influential. The theme is [Open Access & Closed Content: The Information Dichotomy](#) and will be headlined by two keynote speakers, Jeff Shelstad from Flat World Knowledge and Leslie Chan from the University of Toronto.

For more information on Ms. Bjornson's presentation, non-profit business support organizations, or CloudScout Information Services, I'm happy to chat and share information. Email me at ErinOHalloran@CloudScout.ca

DAL LIBRARIES "UNZIP" FOR FACULTY

Tina Usmiani



On September 1, the Dalhousie Libraries showcased some of our special services and resources at an event dubbed *Dal Libraries UnZipped*. Billed as “lightning sessions for faculty and researchers,” the program consisted of 12 brief (maximum 15 minutes) presentations by librarians and library staff, preceded by a “meet your librarian” breakfast.

Dal Libraries UnZipped was designed to demonstrate how the libraries support teaching and research and was intended as part of a 2011-12 outreach campaign to faculty. Presentations featured RefWorks, open access, RSS feeds, creating persistent URLs, how to identify who is citing your articles, and mobile-friendly library resources. A staff member from the Dalhousie University Archives highlighted primary source material. The Head of Special Collections talked about using the music collection as a teaching resource. Presentations on document delivery, putting materials on reserve, and extracting statistical microdata rounded out the full morning's program.

The format (not only the short sessions, but the fact that people could stay for the whole program or come only for topics in which they were interested) was both a novelty and an experiment; we had never tried anything quite like this before. We were very pleased with



APLA BULLETIN

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

Fall 2011

the response. Nearly 40 faculty, researchers, and grad students showed up, and in verbal and written feedback gave us a unanimous thumbs-up. We also received some very helpful comments and suggestions which are guiding us in planning future “unzipped” events; this January, we will hold more discipline-specific sessions in the Killam Library and the Kellogg Health Sciences Library. Clearly, this is a great way for us to get the word out.

The inaugural *Dal Libraries UnZipped* was videotaped and links to both videos and PowerPoints are on the [program web page](#).

We're hoping to make *Dal Libraries UnZipped* a regular part of our communications and marketing initiatives. Anyone interested in learning more is welcome to [contact Tina Usmiani](#), Dalhousie Libraries Communications Officer.

MENDELEY AND RESEARCHERS: AN OBSERVATION OF A COLLABORATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHIC MANAGEMENT TOOL

Amanda Rose Horsman

It started with a researcher with one reference question: how to collaboratively work on citations between researchers using RefWorks? The best answer I could come up with was to create a common RefWorks account. This question begged for a better answer, so I set off to find out if there are any reference managers that do allow for collaboration and is not on an American server. Thus, I discovered Mendeley.

[Mendeley](#) is an online bibliographic reference management with desktop, iPhone, and Android (in testing) applications. It is like Facebook for researchers: you have your own individual profile and can create groups to share common interests. The groups can be public or private. People can even share their individual citations for the whole world to search without sharing the PDF file. Outside of private groups, the PDF files of the citations can be accessed through Mendeley's link-out to WorldCat, the worldwide web, and even to a local library's link resolver. Most of all, researchers can collaborate: truly collaborate and share ideas and articles. I know that Mendeley made it easier for me to work with researchers on the topics with the ability to create groups and share the citations and PDF documents. Soon after, more researchers got wind of this tool and wanted to learn more. This led to presenting workshops to a couple different groups of researchers.

It has been interesting to watch how the groups use Mendeley. There is one group of researchers that are using it to collaborate on an article with all the references for the article shared through their Mendeley group account. At one point, the article they are writing was even shared through Mendeley. The references are loaded automatically in the article and then they are free to work on it and add to the article before saving it back into Mendeley Desktop, to be synced with the other members of the group. Another advantage is that each member can add notes to the PDF documents within their group so other members can see the markups and add their own notes, too.

Mendeley is an effective tool both for bibliographic reference management and document management. Mendeley is one solution for anyone that has PDF articles in many different computer folders to get them organized, stored, and searchable in a single tool. Mendeley can be configured to watch the folders for new documents. It extracts the metadata from the PDFs as bibliographic data, so the citations are automatically added to Mendeley. This automation saves a lot of the time and energy required to enter the bibliographic data and then attach the file.

APLA BULLETIN

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

Fall 2011

Mendeley, however, is not perfect. It does work very well with Microsoft Word but not with the 64-bit version of MS Word 2010. The citations do sometimes have to be verified for errors. Nevertheless, Mendeley is continuously being developed with user ideas and feedback. The features mentioned in this article are only the tip of the iceberg. Personally, I look forward to seeing how it advances in the future.

LIBRARIANS WHO THINK TOGETHER, LEARN TOGETHER

Alexandra Brooks Robinson

Librarians deal every day with the challenge of defining their profession. One only need read [Annoyed Librarian's blog](#) and the comments posted thereon to gather that the need to define our purpose is seen in many different lights. On the positive side, some feel that constantly striving to define our purpose and our role keeps us on our toes and ensures we don't "go soft". On the other hand, others feel that the act of having to prove we are indispensable merely demonstrates our dispensability. Still, we continue the discussions and life goes on.

If we cannot all agree on what the boon of a "professional" librarian is to society, may we agree that libraries are much-needed institutions at the core of our communities? At least, that is the resolution put forward by the Fundy Library Region's librarian cohort, as evidenced in a recent exercise led by Ian Wilson, Regional Director.

Last year, one Tony Horne wrote [a scathing assessment](#) of the purpose (or should I say, purposelessness) of libraries in *Chronicle Live*, the web version of the UK's *Evening Chronicle*. At a librarians' meeting a little while later, Wilson distributed the article and asked each member of the group to respond to it. The instructions were no more than that: just to write what you feel.

Below are excerpts from the submissions.

- "Individuals who might otherwise have never crossed paths are brought together in a welcoming space in which they can talk, exchange ideas, study, and play."
- "Just because library patrons now participate in virtual communities does not mean they forsake their real communities. In many places, libraries are community hubs and function as a gathering place."
- "I believe that the ability to make a human connection and the culture of professionalism of librarians affects how people view the information they receive from libraries."
- "[The library] is one of the first stops made by newcomers seeking information, recreation, resources, and to build a personal community."
- "Sitting at the library waiting for people to come to us is a luxury we can no longer afford."
- "Libraries are one of the only places that are free for everyone and put everyone on an equal footing, giving everyone an equal chance at success."
- "Has Tony Horne ever been to a library?"

APLA BULLETIN

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

Fall 2011

The submissions from the group members ranged from the haughty to the humorous. Where some chose to quote facts and figures discounting Horne's views, others focused on the manner in which governing bodies treat public services such as public libraries in times of financial crises. Certain staff members took the view that some of what Horne wrote rings true, while others dismissed his comments outright. All submissions were circulated freely amongst the librarians, so that we could benefit from each other's insights.

Apart from the opinions expressed by each librarian, this exercise demonstrated a core truth: we value deeply our libraries, but it is not everyday we take time to stop, think, and communicate that conviction. Spending a few minutes responding to such an article and then poring over those of our colleagues was a valuable exercise in checking in with the team, seeing where we all stand, and most importantly, learning from each other. The fact that the topic of discussion was a gleefully pessimistic article about the future of libraries is somewhat irrelevant; the topic could have been anything, from whether to continue investing in print materials to the contributions made by support staff.

The point is that our professional and creative energies were focused in the same direction and valid ideas resulted – all for the cost of some photocopies and a few hours spent together discussing a topic prescient to the future of our institutions. I highly recommend other library systems try such a simple exercise among their teams; it is always helpful to take time out from the day-to-day business of running libraries and zone in as a team on our mission, our purpose, and our value.

As one of Fundy's librarians wrote: "I think we owe [Horne] a thank-you for motivating [our] library community to create several very eloquent, articulate responses ... which can stiffen the community's resolve to survive and grow."

NEWS FROM THE PROVINCES

NEW BRUNSWICK

Mount Alison University Libraries and Archives

Christin Sheridan

David Johnston has been hired as a six month sabbatical replacement for J. Lilburn.

Rhianna Edwards has retired from her position as University Archivist and the position has been filled by David Mawhinney.

Tom Eadie has been appointed University Librarian for 2011-2012, replacing Bruno Gnassi who has taken up the position of University Librarian at Bishop's University.

NOVA SCOTIA

Annapolis Valley Regional Library

You can access the latest newsletter from AVRL [here](#).

Cape Breton Regional Library

Chris Thomson

NSLA Conference a Success

During the weekend of September 23 to 25, the Cape Breton Regional Library, with assistance from the Cape Breton University Library and the Canadian Coast Guard College, was proud to host the 2011 NSLA/LBANS Conference. One hundred and five delegates from around the province gathered at the Delta Sydney Hotel to exchange ideas, enhance their skills, and keep abreast of library issues.

The theme of the conference, *Strong Roots, New Growth*, was selected to recognize that libraries are a traditional and integral part of communities they serve, and are continually changing and growing as well. The theme was also selected to complement Cape Breton's strong cultural heritage. Feelings of Cape Breton pride were evident throughout the conference's activities, which included a walking tour of Sydney's historic north end and musical entertainment and step-dancing lessons from Howie MacDonald during the annual awards banquet.

APLA BULLETIN

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

Fall 2011

The Conference festivities began on Friday evening, with a Meet & Greet Reception at the James McConnell Memorial Library, where delegates joined staff members of the branch and the Cape Breton Regional Library Board members for an evening of conversation and refreshments. The following morning, the conference officially opened with the keynote address by Dan Christmas, the Senior Advisor for the Membertou Band Council and the Membertou Corporate Division.

The conference sessions explored many diverse topics. Delegates had the opportunity to attend programs that focused on ways to provide effective service to a variety of different groups, with sessions dedicated to providing service to youths, individuals with disabilities, and those with mental illness, respectively. Those who attended the conference were also able to learn about the innovative projects taking place in libraries around Nova Scotia, such as the growing use of social networking and media sharing websites in public libraries, which were explored in the session on Twitter by Danielle McKinley (Canadian Coast Guard College Library) and the session on YouTube by Laura Emery (Eastern Counties Regional Library). The conference organizers would like to thank all sponsors, speakers, vendors, and volunteers for their generous support, which contributed to the success of the conference!

Discover Yourself @ the Cape Breton Regional Library

During October, the Cape Breton Regional Library celebrated all things library-related with *Discover Yourself @ the Library*. All 13 library branches and the two bookmobiles had programs and contests happening, with over 70 events in total during the month. Libraries have a wealth of information to find and our theme celebrated that, with each community holding events that were relevant to them. Programs included such topics as “Duct Tape Madness” which explored using duct tape to make wallets, flip flops, and even a prom dress. There were Tween Games Nights, Halloween crafts, painting, and gardening programs. We also promoted downloadable ebooks and audiobooks with a contest to win an ereader, and library staff instructed the public on using these devices. October was a busy month at the Cape Breton Regional Library!

New Staff

CBRL recently welcomed Amanda Andrews to our staff. Amanda will take over Erin Phillips’ duties while she is on maternity leave. She will work on the Reference and Circulation Desks at McConnell Library, be responsible for supervising the Baddeck and Ingonish branches in Victoria County, and be in charge of acquisitions of audiovisual materials for the region.

APLA BULLETIN

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

Fall 2011

Amanda has an undergraduate degree in Psychology from Cape Breton University and St. Mary's University and recently graduated from the University of Western Ontario with a Masters of Library and Information Studies. Libraries have always played an important role in Amanda's life, both throughout her studies and through visiting the McConnell Library as a child. She has also enjoyed volunteering at the Sydney River Elementary School Library, organizing and assisting the children with books. CBRL is happy to have Amanda on board as she starts out her professional career.

Eastern Counties Regional Library

Lesley Carruthers



For the first time in the library's history of fundraising initiatives, ECRL was the recipient of the proceeds from a charitable golf tournament held this summer.

The NuStar Point Tupper Fairways to Success Charity Golf Classic, initiated by NuStar Energy LP as a reflection of the corporation's commitment to supporting communities in which they have operations, was held at Bell Bay Golf Course in Baddeck.

The tournament attracted over 25 teams for a day which started with a shot gun start and included a reception and ceilidh, dinner, an auction, and prize presentation. At the end of the day, it was announced that \$40,000 had been raised for the library.

The library was chosen to be the recipient of the fundraising initiative following a presentation by Chief Librarian Laura Emery to NuStar staff. Ms. Emery proposed that the corporation fund the "Path to Success" project, with the focus on helping youth to develop essential skills. The multi-faceted proposal targeting youth between the ages of 12-18 will contribute to the health, well-being, and education of students across the ECRL region.

With the success of the golf tournament exceeding the original goal by \$15,000, the 7-month project will begin in October. A Youth Services Coordinator has been hired to implement the 3-part project :

- visiting all the middle and high schools in the region teaching youth how to research;
- launching a virtual real-time info desk and training staff to work with this technology; and
- promotion of reading through the purchase of relevant materials for youth to instill a love of reading, such as newer materials in greater quantities and in more exciting formats, e-readers, and a gaming collection.

APLA BULLETIN

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

Fall 2011

Mount Saint Vincent University Library

Donna Bourne-Tyson

Mount Saint Vincent University Archives Receives National Archival Development Grant

Thanks to the diligent work of Archivist Roger Gillis, the Mount Saint Vincent University Archives is the recipient of a National Archival Development Program grant, receiving a grant of \$7,035.00 to process the records of Canadian poet, Sonja Skarstedt. The grant will provide the necessary funds to process the collection and create finding aids that will make the collection available to researchers. Additionally, a sample of the material from the collection will be incorporated into a virtual online exhibit.

Sonja Skarstedt (1960-2009) was a writer, poet, and artist from Montreal, Quebec. Her poems, stories, and illustrations have appeared in a number of publications including *The Antigone Review*, *Canadian Literature*, *Poetry Canada Review*, *The White Wall Review*, among others. She has also published several collections of her poetry in book form. Preserving Skarstedt's records is important considering the importance of having quality archival collections that reflect the development of Canadian literature, and poetry in particular. Skarstedt's archives include correspondence; unpublished manuscripts; records from Empyrean press, the publishing company that Skarstedt ran alongside her husband, Geof Isherwood; as well as a host of other material that will be of interest to researchers. Notable among the correspondence are exchanges with prominent Canadian poets Phyllis Webb and Louis Dudek, with whom Skarstedt corresponded regularly.

Archivist Roger Gillis observed "Skarstedt's records encompass her entire professional life, demonstrating her maturation as a writer, and it is this comprehensive perspective that makes the collection particularly compelling."

University Librarian Donna Bourne-Tyson added "this collection will be of interest to a variety of users, including post-secondary students at the Mount and other institutions, writers, scholars, and other researchers. The researchers to whom this material may appeal include those interested in literacy, the writing process, Canadian poetry, women's writing, as well as other themes that may be evident in Skarstedt's writings."

The funding obtained as part of this grant is being used to hire an Archives Assistant to accomplish the work necessary to make the collection accessible to researchers: Sherri MacQuarrie, a 2011 graduate of the Master of Library & Information Science program at Dalhousie University, was recently hired to work on the project starting in September. Sherri has

APLA BULLETIN

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

Fall 2011

experience processing collections in various university archives across the province and will be a welcome addition to the Archives team.

The acquisition of this unique collection affirms the Mount Archives' commitment to preserving and making available not only archival collections relating to the history of the Mount, but also to women's issues, the education of women in Canada, and related social justice and gender topics.

The Mount Saint Vincent University Library acknowledges and thanks the Government of Canada for supporting this initiative, the financial support provided by Library and Archives Canada, and administered by the Canadian Council of Archives.

LIBRARY EDUCATION NEWS

SCHOOL OF INFORMATION MANAGEMENT, DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

Jennifer Cox

Margaret Murphy Chosen For 2011 Outstanding Alumni Award



The Dalhousie School of Information Management (SIM) Associated Alumni (AA) is delighted to announce that Margaret Murphy (MLIS '76) has been chosen as the recipient of the 2011 Outstanding Alumni Award. The award was presented on September 22 at the Associated Alumni Welcome Reception.

Ms. Murphy has served as the Nova Scotia Legislative Librarian for 26 years. During this time she has revolutionized the Legislative Library, ushering in automation, digitization, preservation, and greater access to the public. She has been recognized by the Nova Scotia Legislature more than once for her many efforts. Prior to her long tenure at the Nova Scotia Legislative Library, Ms. Murphy worked for six years as Librarian at the Nova Scotia Department of Attorney General (now the Department of Justice) as well as a stint as the Head of Cataloguing at Dalhousie University's Faculty of Law Library.

"I am surprised and very honoured to be nominated this year for the Outstanding Alumni Award," says Ms. Murphy. "To have my career assessed so generously by the people who nominated me and by the School of Information Management Associated Alumni is extremely gratifying and something that will always mean a lot to me. To be included in the ranks of those people who have received this Award in other years is also very humbling."

The school means a lot to her: "[It] not only gave me a solid foundation for the positions that I have been privileged to have in the library field all these years, but it is also the place where I have forged my strongest friendships and professional relationships that endure and sustain me today. As someone who is in a position to hire librarians, I know that the graduates of SIM have the skills, abilities, and values that I think are important in today's libraries and it's wonderful to be in a place where there is such a strong library community."

The full news release is available on [SIMcast](#).

Vivian Howard Appointed Associate Dean (Academic)

Vivian Howard began her appointment to Associate Dean (Academic) on July 1, on a two-year renewable term.

Vivian has been teaching in the Faculty of Management since 1996. She has a strong research record and has been successful in a number of major research grant applications. She was appointed as the Academic Director of the Bachelor of Management program in 2007. As Academic Director of the Bachelor of Management Program, Vivian successfully introduced seven interdisciplinary majors to the program and co-developed a unified undergraduate office team along with the Director of the Bachelor of Commerce Program.

Vivian currently serves on the Associate Deans' Council Committee and the Bachelor of Management Program Committee, working to improve student and program success through reviewing processes, policies, vision, and goals within each of these committees. Vivian has also served on the advisory board for the College of Sustainability and the Faculty of Management Rapid Task Force on Teaching Quality, showing her commitment to our students and our programs in the Faculty of Management and beyond.

Bertrum MacDonald Appointed to the Public Archives of Nova Scotia Board of Trustees

Bertrum MacDonald has been appointed Chair of the Public Archives of Nova Scotia Board of Trustees effective August 13, 2011 to September 7, 2013. This is an exceptional honour for both Dr. MacDonald and the School of Information Management.

Anatoliy Gruzd awarded MITACS research grant for a new health informatics initiative

Anatoliy Gruzd, Assistant Professor at SIM and Director of the Social Media Lab, has been awarded a Mitacs-Accelerate Grant in the amount of \$15,000. Mitacs-Accelerate is Canada's premiere research internship program; it connects Canadian companies to top-notch students and researchers at research-based universities. Students and researchers selected for this program will apply skills and theory to real-world problems and find solution to business research challenges. This initiative is in partnership with the Capital District Health Authority (CDHA) of Nova Scotia and Dr. Calvino Cheng Incorporated, a health informatics company founded by Dr. Calvino Cheng from the Department of Pathology at Dalhousie Faculty of Medicine.

The full news release is available on [SIMcast](#).

Graduate Students Play Critical Roles in Marine Piracy Project



Jennifer Charney and Suzuette Soomai hold positions as information managers with the newly-launched Marine Piracy project at Dalhousie University. This project, led by Dr. Lucia Fanning of the Marine Affairs Program, includes three research teams investigating operational, socio-economic, and governance factors that relate to piracy internationally. The fourth team, led by Dr. Fiona Black in the School of Information Management, is responsible for information and knowledge

management for the project. Jen Charney, with a strong background in information organization generally and geographic information science in particular, is contributing expertise in web design, online community development and GIS. Suzuette Soomai, an interdisciplinary researcher with special expertise in coastal areas, is taking the lead in database design, content analysis, and thesaurus development. Both students' roles are central to the success of the project, contributing research for setting the intellectual boundaries of the project, and offering expert guidance about research methods, information ethics, and knowledge management.

Donna Bourne-Tyson Appointed Dalhousie University Librarian

Please join us in congratulating Donna Bourne-Tyson (class of 1990), who has been appointed the University Librarian at Dalhousie, effective November 1, 2011. The complete press release from Dalhousie President, Tom Traves on [our blog](#).

Sandra Toze Recipient of Teaching Award

Sandra Toze was chosen for one of the Faculty of Management's teaching awards. Dean Peggy Cunningham comments:

"It is with great pleasure that I announce this year's winners of the Faculty of Management's Teaching Awards: Ms. Tammy Crowell, Mr. Dan Shaw, and Ms. Sandra Toze. Please join me in congratulating each of them. Formal presentation of the awards will take place at our annual Faculty retreat in November.

A wide range of factors were considered for granting the awards – students' assessments of teaching quality, letters of reference from colleagues, the applicant's use of innovative teaching methods and technologies to support learning, his/her support of students inside and outside

APLA BULLETIN

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

Fall 2011

the classroom, and contributions to knowledge related to teaching practice. This award is funded through the generosity of Mr. Bill Black, a long-time supporter of the Faculty and a passionate promoter of teaching excellence. I am delighted to report that he has agreed to fund the award for the next five years.

The Committee tasked with selecting the award winners faced a daunting task this year. Ten of our colleagues were invited to apply for the award. Each application was of extremely high quality. To me this is clearly indicative of our Faculty's devotion to and expertise in teaching quality. Thus, while there are not enough awards to recognize all of our excellent teachers, I wish to congratulate and thank each and every one of them for the incredible work they do as instructors and mentors of our students."

APLA BULLETIN

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

Fall 2011

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES / CALL FOR ARTICLES

<i>What are we looking for?</i>	Dynamic News Stories	Feature Articles	Book Reviews, etc.
<i>Who can submit?</i>	<p>Anyone with something to say! Information professionals, librarians, library staff, students, and scholars are all encouraged to submit works for the <i>APLA Bulletin</i>.</p>		
<i>What are the guidelines?</i>	<p>Up to 500 words on an event/activity presented by your institution. Submissions must be timely, contain a description of the event, and discuss the outcome.</p>	<p>Up to 1,500 words on any topic related to libraries and information. The article must be timely and include a thorough description and analysis of the issue.</p>	<p>Up to 500 words on a recently-released book, article, or study. The work must be introduced and evaluated with respect to its value to the APLA readership. We're open to reviews of any books, but if you're uncertain about your book, contact the Co-Editors.</p>
<i>What's the deadline?</i>	<p>One month in advance of the issue in which you would like your article to appear.</p>		
<i>How do I submit?</i>	<p>Directly to Alexandra Brooks Robinson or Nicole Dixon, Co-Editors of the APLA Bulletin. Please see their contact information, below. You can also submit via the Submission Form.</p>		
<i>Anything else I should know?</i>	<p>Picture files are welcome, but must be kept to a manageable size by not exceeding 500 x 500 pixels.</p>		

APLA BULLETIN

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

Fall 2011

The News from the Provinces section is getting a facelift!

The APLA Bulletin will gladly link to your institution's most recent newsletter or any other online content you wish to bring to the attention of Bulletin readers. The Bulletin also accepts point-form descriptions of events that you would like to highlight on behalf of your institution.

Please submit such activities directly to your **Provincial VP** one month ahead of the next issue's publication. You can find contact info for your VPs [here](#).

For more information, please contact the Bulletin Co-Editors:

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The APLA Bulletin is published five times per year:

November, January, March, May, and August

APLA BULLETIN

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

Fall 2011

Looking to get involved?

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APLA BULLETIN

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association

Fall 2011

	<p>YOUTH SERVICES</p> <p>Vacant</p> <p>Please contact Lou Duggan (lou.duggan@smu.ca)</p>	<p>GROW A LIBRARY FUND</p> <p>Donald Moses Librarian Robertson Library University of Prince Edward Island Charlottetown PE C1A 4P3 Tel: (902) 566-0479 Fax: (902) 628-4305 Email: dmoses@upei.ca</p>
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