

## News from Dalhousie Libraries

Marlo MacKay, Communications Coordinator, Dalhousie Libraries

### Congratulations and Goodbye to Michael Moosberger

Please join us in wishing our Associate Dean Archives, Records Management and Special Collections and University Archivist, **Michael Moosberger** all the best on his retirement. During his 21 years with the Dalhousie Libraries, the Archives has had tremendous success on many fronts.

Here are some highlights:

- **Number of new accessions:** University Archives – 490 accessions, Private Manuscripts – 579 accessions.
- **Total Increase in holdings:** Approx. 1,900 metres of material.
- **Number of collections appraised for monetary value and appraised value:** 179 appraisals valued at \$2,178,447.
- **Number of grants and bequests received by the Archives:** 64 grants/donations – just over \$710,000.
- **Transitioning the Archives** from paper-based finding aids and lists to a stand-alone database, to web-based finding aids, and finally to the development of our online holdings system AtoM – currently over 274,000 unique descriptive records documenting 887 fonds/collections with over 22,000 digital objects available online.
- **Building the Archives staff** complement from 2.5 staff in 2000 to 9.5 staff in 2020 including the appointment of the Digital Archivist, the University Records Manager, and the Digitization Coordinator.
- **Creation** of the University Records Management Policy, the University Records Committee, and the ongoing development of the records management program including the creation of DalCLASS, university-wide records management training, and the development of a transfer tool application that will allow for the transfer of digital university records to the Archives.

Additionally, under Michaels' leadership, the Archives was a key participant in many of the University's 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary activities including the [Dal Originals](#), the [production of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary publication](#); the digitization of a number of historical university publications; and the creation of the [University time capsule](#). He also provided professional work experiences to over 50 graduates from the Dalhousie School of Information and other programs through internships and contractual work; many of whom have gone on to gain professional success in various archival, library, and information management positions. In his time with the Dalhousie Libraries, Michael has had five title changes and has overseen five moves of the collection, but his dedication to the Archives has remained a constant.

Thank you, Michael!

## Deaccession news from the Dalhousie Archives

NAME: Michael Moosberger  
CREATOR: Mr. and Mrs. Moosberger  
INCLUSIVE DATES: [ca.1957 - ]  
DATE AND SOURCE OF ACQUISITION: 2000 ; U of Manitoba Archives  
EXTENT: don't ask  
CONDITION: excellent  
RESTRICTIONS: of course  
FINANCIAL APPRAISAL: priceless  
DISPOSITION: retirement



## Sarah Stevenson: New Associate Dean Archives, Records Management, and Special Collections

Please join us in welcoming **Sarah Stevenson** to the role of Associate Dean Archives, Records Management, and Special Collections. In addition to this new Associate Dean portfolio, Sarah will also remain as the Head of the Killam Memorial Library, a role she has been serving in since 2016.



Although this is a new title for Sarah, she is not an unfamiliar face in the Archives. In 2021, Sarah took on the duties of the Associate Dean Archives, Records Management, and Special Collections while **Michael Moosberger** was on leave. We are grateful to have an experienced leader transitioning into this role to work with the fabulous Archives, Records Management, and Special Collections team.

In this role, Sarah plans to build on the previous Associate Dean's accomplishments, with the ultimate goal of making it easier for researchers to discover what we have by increasing the visibility of our collections and services in the Archives and Special Collections. Sarah's aspirations include increasing the number of our holdings that are represented in the catalogue (AtoM), improving the promotion and discovery of our special collections, building on the success of our fledgling records management program, and providing support and a renewed vision for the digitization program.

As Head of the Killam Memorial Library, Sarah will continue to provide leadership in the development and provision of knowledgeable and flexible library services and sustainable collection development.

## Welcome Louise Gillis, Research Data Management Librarian

We are pleased to announce that **Louise Gillis** is the new Research Data Management Librarian for the Dalhousie Libraries.

Louise is a familiar face to many of us at Dalhousie from her time in the Libraries as a limited term librarian, which wrapped up in December 2021. In that term position, Louise served in several librarian roles including Data, Psychology, Post-Graduate Medicine/Medicine, Pharmacy, and Research Data Management.



Before joining the Dal Libraries, Louise worked as a research librarian in Australia and as a bookmobile librarian in Nova Scotia. In addition to holding her Master of Library and Information Science, Louise holds a Bachelor of Science in Psychology.

In this new role, Louise will be responsible for supporting research data management throughout the research life cycle. She will be available for individual consultations, workshops, and presentations while also serving as a resource on national policy and best practices to keep the Dal community informed and involved with the changing landscape for research data management planning, preservation, discovery, and reuse. Louise will be a key part of the Research and Scholarly Communications Team, led by the Associate Dean Research & Scholarly Communications & Head of the Kellogg Library. The Research Data Management Librarian is also responsible for delivering liaison librarian services to the College of Pharmacy including instruction, reference and research support, and collections development.

Thanks very much to the selection committee chaired by **Robin Parker** and including **Jackie Phinney, Shelley McKibbon, Erin MacPherson, Julie Marcoux, and Dr. Jennifer Isenor.**

Please join us in welcoming Louise back to the Dalhousie Libraries!

## Phil Laugher: New Digital Asset Technician

Please join us in welcoming **Phil Laugher** to the role of Digital Asset Technician.

Previously, Phil worked as a Library Services Assistant in the Killam performing front-line Access Services duties at the KLSP and performing Resources work, which included organizing, searching, and appraising gifts and donations and training colleagues in how to do so. Phil was also responsible for retrieving and sending MARC records for Federal and Provincial OA government documents to the Novanet Office for loading into the catalogue for the benefit of all Novanet libraries as well as for doing EBSCO serials renewals for the Killam and Sexton libraries. He also did a lot of cataloguing, including fixing or verifying name and subject authorities and upgrading subpar MARC records. We know Phil will be sorely missed by the Access Services and Resources Teams. Thanks to Gail Fraser for supplying many of these details!



In this new role, Phil will coordinate the digital collection activities across the Dal Libraries and the daily operations of the digitization facilities. He will also be digitizing and disseminating library and archival materials, training project team members, and contributing to the development of policies and technical documentation for digitization and digital collections development.

Welcome to the Archives, Phil!

## In Memory of Phil O'Hara



We are saddened to share the news of the passing of **Phil O'Hara**. Phil joined the Dal Libraries' team in 2013 when management of Dalhousie's Learning Management System came to the Dalhousie Libraries from Dalhousie's Integrated Learning Office (ILO). Phil brought with him tremendous experience and a passion for providing the best service possible. Under Phil's visionary leadership, Dalhousie implemented our first learning management system, Blackboard, and a team of instructional technologists was developed to support online learning. A natural mentor, Phil's influence can still be felt by those he worked with. He retired from Dalhousie in 2014.

## Honouring a Special Donation

On December 7, the Dalhousie Libraries held an event to thank **Dr. Jock and Mrs. Janet Murray** for their very special gift to the Dalhousie Libraries.

To help us celebrate, we were joined by speakers **Dr. David Anderson**, Dalhousie's Dean of Medicine; **Michael Moosberger**, Associate Dean Archives, Special Collections & Records Management and University Archivist; **Sarah Stevenson**, Associate Dean Planning and Head of the Killam Library; and **Melissa Helwig**, Associate Dean Research & Scholarly



*Janet and Dr. Jock Murray*

Communications and Head of the Kellogg Library. Dean of Libraries **Donna Bourne-Tyson** was the MC, and Jock and Janet closed the event with their remarks. In the virtual audience were many friends, family members, and colleagues of the Murrays.

To say that Jock and Janet love books and libraries would be an understatement. The importance they place on both is obvious when they speak about their life together, whether it's talking about their beloved book club or their twice-a-year research trips to a special library in London. As a result of their passion for books, it comes as no surprise that the Murrays have spent their lives building an extraordinary book collection.

The breadth of subject matter covered in the books donated to the Dalhousie Libraries by the Murrays is emblematic of the extraordinary donors themselves. From the esoteric to the general, there is something for everyone in this collection. In addition to the many wonderful books we received from the Murrays, their donation also includes archival materials.

These materials will continue to give in the years to come, benefitting generations of students and researchers.

## Two Dalhousie Libraries Interns —Vinson Li & McKenzie Young —chosen as 2021 recipients of the Dalhousie-Horrocks National Leadership Fund\*

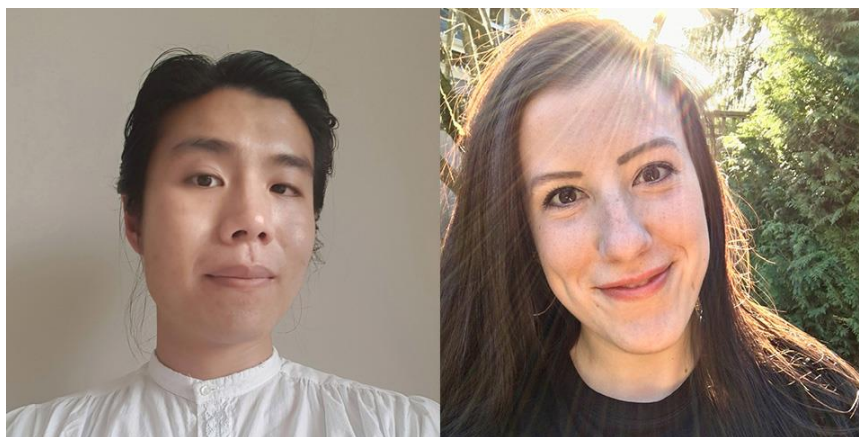
The School of Information Management is pleased to announce that Master of Information (MI) students **Vinson Li** and **McKenzie Young** have been selected as the ninth and tenth recipients (respectively) of the [Dalhousie-Horrocks National Leadership Fund](#).

This Fund was established in 2007 to honour Dr. Norman Horrocks, OC, PhD, FCLIP (1927-2010) for his outstanding leadership in the field of librarianship in North America, Australia, and Europe.

Over several decades Dr. Horrocks, former Director of the School of Information Management and Dean of the Faculty of Management at Dalhousie University, pursued a distinguished career of very active involvement in professional associations in the United Kingdom, Cyprus, Australia, the United States, and Canada. His many contributions, for which he received local, national and international recognition, have advanced the field and the careers of countless individuals. The fund supports a scholarship and an associated lecture series through an endowment donated by the many former students, colleagues, friends and admirers of Norman Horrocks.

*This award was presented at the Dalhousie-Horrocks National Leadership Lecture in January 2022.*

\*(originally published on [INFORM](#), News from the School of Information Management blog)



Vinson Li & McKenzie Young

## **Books & Bees: Dal Reads presents a conversation with Francesca Ekwuyasi and Cooper Lee Bombardier**



On February 10, we hosted a conversation between **Francesca Ekwuyasi**, author of this year's Dal Reads book *Butter Honey Pig Bread* and author and amateur beekeeper **Cooper Lee Bombardier**. The two discussed books, writing, bees, and beekeeping. Francesca read passages from her novel on the topic of beekeeping.



**Francesca Ekwuyasi** is a writer and multidisciplinary artist from Lagos, Nigeria. Her work explores themes of faith, family, queerness, consumption, loneliness, and belonging. Her debut novel, *Butter Honey Pig Bread* was longlisted for the 2020 Giller Prize, was

a finalist for CBC's 2021 Canada Reads competition, the 2021 Lambda Literary Award, the 2021 Governor General's Award, the 2021 Amazon Canada First Novel Award, and the 2021 ReLit Award.

**Cooper Lee Bombardier** is a queer, trans American writer and visual artist living in Canada. He is the author of the memoir-in-essays *Pass With Care*, a finalist for the 2021 Firecracker Award in Nonfiction. His writing appears in *The Kenyon Review*, *The Malahat Review*, *Ninth Letter*, *CutBank*, *Nailed Magazine*, *Longreads*, *Narratively*, *BOMB*, and *The Rumpus*; and in 19 anthologies, including the Lambda Literary Award-winning anthology, *The Remedy—Essays on Queer Health Issues*, and the Lambda-nominated anthology, *Meanwhile, Elsewhere: Speculative Fiction From Transgender Writers*, which won a 2018 American Library Association Stonewall Book Award. He teaches in the MFA in Creative Nonfiction program at University of King's College and in women and gender studies at Saint Mary's University.

### **The Secret Admirers' Society**

On February 15, we partnered with the Writers' Federation of Nova Scotia to present **The Secret Admirers' Society** with six local authors. We started with an author reading a passage from a work by a writer they admire, and then that author would read a passage from an author they admire, and so on.

We were joined by **Donna Morrissey**, **Nicola Davison**, **Stephens Gerard Malone**, **Sherri Fitch**, **Andre Fenton**, and **Abela Beloved Green**. Each participant was very moved by hearing their words being read by the author who had selected their work.