

News from New Brunswick

News from Mount Allison Libraries & Archives

Laura Landon, Teaching & Research Librarian, Mount Allison Libraries

Staffing

MountAllison Libraries & Archives

Fiacre Ó Duinn joined the library in July as a half-time Technical Services Librarian, filling in for librarian **Anne LePage**, who is on sabbatical. Fiacre has worked as a librarian since 2006 in a variety of roles, including as Metadata Librarian at Hamilton Public Library for nearly eight years, and Metadata & Systems Librarian at Capilano University for four years. In addition to his MLIS from Western, Fiacre holds an MA in Religion & Culture from Wilfrid Laurier University.

Kevin Burke joined the Libraries in August 2023 as a Creative Arts Librarian. Kevin is a recent graduate of the University of British Columbia's iSchool. He has a background in music with a BMus and MMus from the University of Ottawa, where he studied French horn and voice. Having worked for The Leading Note, an independent print music retail store in Ottawa, for several years, Kevin is excited to be starting his career at Mount Allison, where he will serve as the subject librarian for Music, Fine Arts, Drama & Screen Studies, Classics, Visual & Material Culture, and Museum & Curatorial Studies.

Dr. Stephen Geier began a new position in August 2023 as a half-time STEM librarian for the 2023-24 term. Steve worked for nine years in Mount Allison's Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry as a Research Associate before getting his MLIS from the University of Alberta in 2020. Steve has worked in the Mount Allison Library previously as a Data & Digital Services Librarian and Public Services Librarian.

Creative Arts Librarian **Gavin Goodwin** left Mount Allison in July to accept a position at Global Affairs Canada as Portfolio Librarian. In his role at Mount Allison for two years, Gavin made many contributions to the Libraries & Archives and the broader university, leading many classes, workshops, and orientation events. He quickly made himself an invaluable colleague, and his can-do attitude and Excel superpowers will be missed.

Christine LeBlanc's term as a Public Services Librarian ended in June 2023. During her contract as a sabbatical replacement for **Elizabeth Millar** as History, Rare Books & Special Collections Librarian, Christine immediately became an indispensable member of the library team. Her experience as a Mount Allison alumna shone when colleagues unexpectedly asked her to lead library orientation tours during her first days of work—a task she performed with skill and enthusiasm. We are grateful for Christine's knowledge of library and archival resources, her deft hand with difficult reference questions, and her remarkable abilities to pinch-hit in an emergency. We wish her best of luck in her new position at the Atlantic School of Theology.

The R.P. Bell Library's longtime Assistant Head of Access Services, **June Hicks**, retired in August after more than two decades in the Library. June joined Mount Allison in 2000, and became the kind, ever-present face of Access Services on the evening shift, which she worked for most of her 23-year career. June's unflappable, calm nature and genuine care for students made her an invaluable part of the Access Services team, and a rock for generations of patrons and student employees. June's contributions to the library include training countless student employees on the mysteries of the ancient switch panel that powers all lights in the building, and teaching new employees how to use the Integrated Library System. A steadfast bluegrass music fan, June received a bluegrass festival travel kit at her retirement party, including deluxe folding chair, sling bag, portable phone charger, and hat.



June Hicks switches the library lights off during her last shift, and poses with her retirement tiara.

News & Events

Mount Allison launched its [Digital Skills Institute](#) this summer, with online and in-person sessions including a Digital Humanities Day, a day-long Exploring Excel session, a two-day Data Carpentry for Sciences workshop, and a workshop on Data Visualization and Infographics. Data & Digital Services Librarian Elizabeth Stregger led and participated in sessions at the Digital Skills Institute, teaching digital competencies such as data organization, analysis, and visualization, and how to make a stellar infographic.

Sleeper summer hit: Plant Camp! The Libraries & Archives launched its Summer Plant Camp as students departed for home in the spring. The idea: look after students' plants in the library for the summer so they can pick them up when they return to campus in September. Library staff Alexandra Tome, Janice Stockall and Caroline Kaszar took Plant Camp to the next level, however, organizing "events" to keep the

plant campers (and their humans) entertained. The plants had a fiddle concert from Mount A honorary degree recipient and ECMA winner Ray Legere; story time with authors Jennifer Harris and Renée Belliveau; and they engaged in a cloak-and-dagger game of Clue. One lucky plant even went up in an airplane with Aviation students. Follow #plantsummercamp on [Instagram](#).



Dean of Libraries & Archives Rachel Rubin engages in a game of Clue with the summer Plant Campers.