

News from Newfoundland and Labrador

News from Memorial University Libraries

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University News:

Dr. Robert Bailey has been appointed Interim Dean of the School of Science and the Environment at Grenfell Campus. Dr. Bailey began his term on Monday, May 6, 2024. The appointment is for a period of one year (May 5, 2025) or until a dean is recruited, whichever occurs first. [Read More.](#)

Dr. Ken Jacobsen has been appointed as Interim Vice-President (Grenfell Campus). President Neil Bose made the recommendation to the Board of Regents following consultation with the Grenfell Campus community. [Read More.](#)

Memorial University is pleased to announce the appointment of **Alison Randell** as Chief Information Officer. The appointment was approved by the Board of Regents, on the recommendation of the president, on March 7. [Read More.](#)

Dr. Ian Sutherland, Vice-President (Grenfell Campus) accepted an appointment as the next president and vice-chancellor of Mount Allison University in Sackville, N.B., starting July 15, 2024. [Read More.](#)

Research:

Chelsea Humphries gave a presentation “Undergraduate Understanding of Generative AI” on March 26 as a part of the AI in Libraries Brown Bags Series for MUNL library staff ([recording available through SharePoint](#)). She delivered a related presentation, “How are your students using generative AI?” to Grenfell faculty in coordination with the Grenfell Teaching and Learning Committee on April 22.

Crystal Rose gave a presentation “Introduction to Canadian Copyright” to a local Writers Group at the Corner Brook Public Library on April 4.

Crystal Rose was interviewed on CBC Radio’s *Morning Show* on May 1, about our Bowater Oral History Collection and promoted the Digital Archives Initiative. [Clip here.](#)

Project Learn Book Club was officially launched. The first event included a wonderful conversation with author Elizabeth Yeoman. The second Project Learn Book Club Gathering included books:

Sterritt, Angela. *Unbroken: my fight for survival, hope, and justice for Indigenous women and girls*. Vancouver: Berkley, 2023.

Walter, Emmanuelle. *Stolen Sisters: The story of two missing girls, their families and how Canada has failed Indigenous women*. Toronto: Harper Collins, 2015.

There was also a beading workshop held on April 30th to make red dress pins in preparation for Red Dress Day on May 5th.



The Digital Archive Initiative (DAI) received a refresh and upgrade. You can check it out [here](#) if you haven't already. Thanks to the DAI team for making it happen: **Oscar Evans, Gordon Little, Don Walsh, Colleen Quigley, Colleen Field, Stacey Penney, David Bradley, Patrick Gamsby**, project sponsor, **Louise White**, and also special thanks to **Nailisa Tanner** (who is now working at McGill Library). A special event to celebrate the DAI is scheduled for May 21, 11pm-12:30pm in the Centre for Newfoundland Studies.

Dr. Patrick Gamsby was interviewed on the [New Books Network](#) about his book *The Discourse of Scholarly Communication*.

Public Services Librarian **Chelsea Humphries** presented at the OLA Super Conference in Toronto on January 26th with Teaching and Learning Librarian **Justine Cotton** from Brock University on the topic of "Community Building in the Academic Library."

The Centre for Newfoundland Studies hosted another successful Celebrating Memorial's Research. The annual event recognizes publications and creative works by the Memorial Community. This year featured library representation:

Gamsby, Patrick. *The Discourse of Scholarly Communication*. Lanham, Maryland: Lexington Books, 2023

Little, Gord. Paper Dungeon Mazes 2

Lindsay Alcock. *Bricolage: The Art of Natural Remedies in Newfoundland and Labrador*.

McGrath, Jay. *We'd Rather Fight than Eat, a Novel*. Paradise, NL: Flanker Press Ltd., 2023. Jay is a former CNS student worker.

The **OA Author Fund** officially opened to students (as of May 1st), and will open to faculty and staff on May 14. More info on the fund can be found in the spotlight section of the [website](#).

Dr. Patrick Gamsby published a piece titled '[On the Sociology of Boredom](#)' in [Sociology on the Rock](#):

Keep@Downsview Update: The first shipment of items from the QEII collection to the University of Toronto Libraries (UTL) preservation facility in Downsview occurred on April 18th. Included in that shipment, and representing much work on the part of staff in Acquisitions & Serials and Cataloguing & Metadata, were 14,410 journal volumes which were held by Memorial but not by UTL. The [Keep@Downsview](#) partners are building a shared single copy collection in Downsview. That collection is available to Memorial library users through document delivery.

The [Memorial University Research Repository](#) has been selected as an early adopter for a collaborative initiative lead by Scholars Portal to develop a national repository service infrastructure called Scholaris. Through participation in this initiative, the Reimagining the Research Repository strategic planning team will implement the recommendation to convert Memorial's research repository platform from EPrints to DSpace. Work will begin in September.

The Libraries recently acquired 451 digital Newfoundland and Labrador titles that we didn't have in that format. A few noteworthy titles: [Don't have your baby in the dory!](#), [Come from Away : An Inside Look at the Hit Musical](#), [Lament for an Ocean : The Collapse of the Atlantic Cod Fishery](#).

Employee News:

Courtney Crocker, the new librarian at the Education Library, starts her term appointment on June 3, 2024.

Jackie Hillier of the CNS reached her 30 years+ service award, as did **Dennis Flynn**, from LITS.

Welcome to **Mike Foley** who is starting with LITS on May 21st as a new IT consultant.

Cathy Taylor has retired from LITS. We wish her all the best on her new adventures.

Congratulations to Health Sciences Library's **Sherry Squire-Grace** who just completed her 40th year with Memorial! And also, **Patrick Miskell**, **Don Walsh**, and **Colleen Woolgar** of the QEII Library who were recognized for 20 years of service. **Sharon Thompson** of the CNS was recognized for 25 years of service.

Welcome **Jordan Pike**, Health Sciences Library's newest librarian.

Cool Stuff:

Congrats to QEII Library's **Don Walsh** who was inducted into the Order of Folk (a new initiative of the Canadian Folk Music Awards) on Friday, April 5th.

The Libraries' Archives and Special Collections hosted two successful events: **The Video Journey of Disability Rights Activists** – a celebration of a project by the **History of Disability Rights – NL** organization that is now on the DAI. It features a timeline of milestones in the disability movement, as
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well as the oral histories of key activists. You can watch the videos [here](#). And also **Unboxing the history of social work in NL -- Dr. Donna Hardy Cox, Dr. Michelle Sullivan, and Colleen Quigley** presented on an archival collection that was recently added to the Archives and Special Collections Division. This event highlighted the collaboration between the archives and the School of Social Work to document the important history of social work in the province.

Health Sciences Library's *Decompress* room is open. Students are loving the new space for relaxing and de-stressing. Soft lighting, fuzzy pillows & blankets, comfy seating, and a yoga/stretching area provide a quiet oasis for a nap, a cuppa, or quiet study. It's open whenever the library is open and doesn't require booking.

The Libraries Fundraising Committee delivered a cheque for \$5,450.00 to the Gathering Place in April. Additional bags and boxes of donations included everything from hand warmers to toiletries to Dollar Store gift cards. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed throughout the year. And to the committee members for organizing the events and leading our efforts. The Committee currently is **Donna Doucette, Lesley Squires, Nicole Cahill, Cindy Cranford, Krista Ryan, Terri Lynn Condon, Heather Fowler, and Kristine Power.**



The QEII addressed the growing need for more graduate student study space by piloting a project that involved revamping a space off the main Commons area. The space is a mix of study carrels, desks and soft seating. It is accessed by proxy card and designed for students who are in the intense study/writing period of their graduate program. The pilot will be assessed in August and fully implemented in the fall with any lessons learned.

On March 14th, to celebrate Pi Day and raise funds for the student food bank, Grenfell Public Services Librarian **Chelsea Humphries** participated in “Pi Your Prof”, organized by the Grenfell Math Society. (She was thankful for goggles!)

On February 2nd, the Grenfell Library hosted the launch of *Antlerman*, a graphic novel by local author and student **Jeremy Wills**, published by Horseshoe Community Press.

For Valentine’s Day, the Grenfell Library prepared a Valentine-making station, a “Blind Date With A Book” display featuring disguised titles from our popular reading collection, and on the 14th, screened romantic movies all day (silent, with subtitles) from their DVD collection. The Valentine-making station was particularly popular with students, who were eager to make cards for their friends!

On March 8th, Grenfell hosted their Grenfell Authors event in celebration of International Women’s Day, featuring female faculty members with recent book publications.

The area known as the Fiesta Deck in the QEII Library on the third floor has received an overhaul that includes fresh paint, new furniture, and some sound buffering panels. The project was done in conjunction with funding from the Office of the Associate Vice-President (Academic) Students.



May 5th is **Red Dress Day**, a day to honour the missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls and two-spirit people (MMIWG2S) of North America. It is a day to raise awareness and education about the disproportionate rates of violence and number of MMIWG2S. There was a display of red dresses in the QEII Library lobby from May 5th-10th led by **Michaela Doucette**.

The Archives and Special Collections Division has two student summer CO-OP students. **Caroline**

Boone, from the University of Toronto, will be working mostly with the map collection during her 12-week placement (May-August). **Ruva Mushati**, from the College of the North Atlantic's Records & Information Management program, will be interning for six weeks (May-June).

Archives and Special Collections' archivists **Colleen Quigley** and **Michaela Doucette** are headed to the Labrador Campus in Happy Valley Goose Bay from May 13-23 to work with the team there concerning archival materials.

Also from Archives and Special Collections - **Matthew Keels** and **David Mercer**, as part of the CLB Regimental Band, played at the funeral of legendary sports broadcaster **Bob Cole**.

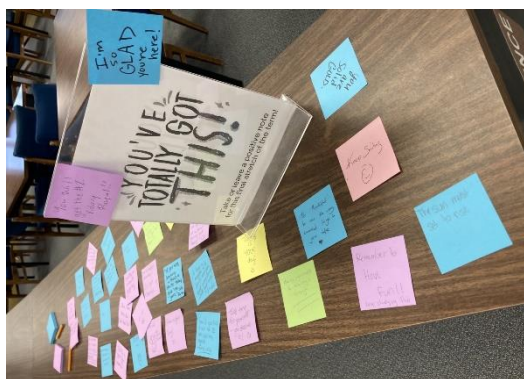
Between April 1-8, the Grenfell library distributed 100 solar eclipse glasses, donated by the Office of Public Engagement, to students, advertising the glasses with a mini-display featuring books about the sun.

A bunch of enthusiastic primary/ elementary kids from St. Bon's were invited to the Education Library by faculty member **Dr. Jan Buley** to experience the book displays that were created for her Language Arts course. Roughly 50 school-aged children and teacher candidates read, sang and got very excited about lessons in Language Arts paired with Music.

The Labrador Campus hosted a night of fun and connection with their Adult Storytime program. CBC host **Rhivu Rashid** read *Aparichita*, by **Rabindranath Tagore**. The Bengali Nobel laureate poet wrote this story of star-crossed lovers in 1916, and Rhivu promised it would be as relevant today as ever – and it was. Rhivu grew up in Bangladesh and had always loved the story, and was excited to share it.



From April 1-5, the Grenfell Library ran “The Final Countdown Snackdown,” to support students through the final week of classes, serving all-day free coffee and tea and a surprise snack every afternoon, including popcorn, cookies, and ice cream!



From March 22 – April 19, the Grenfell Library created a positive note station where students could take or leave a positive note to encourage themselves and others through the final weeks of the term.

Melissa Hefford of the Health Sciences Library did a display that featured current women in medicine at the Faculty of Medicine to honour International Women’s Day.

The Labrador Campus Library celebrated spring with an open house and “Grand Opening” on March 20th. Librarian

Sarah Papple hosted the community in two events. The midday event highlighted local collections and invited people to explore with a scavenger hunt, and featured music from the Big Land. The evening was the first of their storytelling events with special guest **Mina Campbell**. Mina is a Labrador leader, artist, and source of story and information that many go to. She read from Sketches of Labrador, which are a selection of writings of her grandmother Lydia Campbell.

Librarian **Sarah Papple** was [interviewed on Labrador Morning](#) by **Rhivu Rashid** to introduce the Labrador Campus Library to Labrador through a fun and fruitful early morning conversation.

Health Sciences Library staff member **Lori Fleming** did a display about measles. It’s a fascinating collection of research and information about the virus, the vaccine, and the recent increase in cases.

The Health Sciences Library created a conversation board. **Laura Baggs** is asking users about various types of topics from what their favourite book is to interesting medical terms they know. The next time you get brain freeze you can say that you have sphenopalatine ganglioneuralgia.

The First Space Gallery in the QEII Library is exhibiting its annual Faculty and Staff show from May 10- August 31. The opening was held on May 10 from 5-6pm.

Gazette Stories that feature the Libraries:

[Creative Showcase: Celebrating Book Publications by the Memorial University Community](#)

[Campaign of Remembering: History of Disability Rights--N.L. Project Aims to Improve Policies](#)

[People, Place and Books: Labrador Campus’s First Academic Librarian Blends Campus with Community](#)