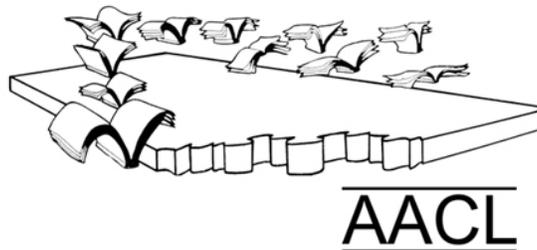


ALBERTA ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE LIBRARIANS



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Photographs By Karen Hering, and Nancy Goebel

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Hi Everyone:

There is no such as thing as too many holidays but there is such as thing as too much food. So, from that point of view, it is good to be back at work. And, I must admit, new terms are always exciting with new projects and new students. So now, I feel I need to tell you something new. Hmm.

As a result of motions passed at November's AACL meeting, Ross Thrasher presented three motions on behalf of the membership to the Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library Steering Committee.

The first motion read as follows:

The Alberta Association of College Libraries (AACL) on behalf of the directors and staff of Alberta's college libraries whom it represents would like the LHCADL Steering Committee to know that we are very pleased with and excited about the Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library initiative and the work of its committees.

The second motion read as follows:

The Alberta Association of College Libraries (AACL) on behalf of the directors and staff of Alberta's college libraries whom it represents requests that the AACL members listed below be added as participants in the LHCADL. If it is not possible to add these libraries, AACL would like a written

explanation of why they do not qualify for participation and what can be done to ensure they do qualify.

Prairie Bible Institute
Canadian Southern Baptist Seminary
Peace River Bible College
Rocky Mountain College
Vanguard College

Steering Committee members discussed the topic of membership requirements. A description of the APLEN structure was given as a frame of reference. Following further discussion by the Steering Committee the consensus was while participation in the LHCADL is not precluded, the initiative will begin with the existing list of participants. Once the initiative is underway, participation by other institutions will be considered.

S. Schafer went on record to support the inclusion of the faith-based post-secondary institutions immediately.

The third motion read as follows:

The Alberta Association of College Libraries (AACL) on behalf of the directors and staff of Alberta's college libraries whom it represents requests that the following wording be considered for item #7 of the draft Working Principles document circulated by K. Wilson for meeting on November 17.

Creation of digital content determined by the four Universities, in consultation with the LHCADL participants, will encompass Alberta material and material for Albertans

With the intent of increasing the digitization capacity, enriching, and preserving the knowledge base in Alberta.

The Steering Committee felt that this was a reasonable modification. To avoid excluding the public library sector, the phrase "LHCADL participants" was changed to read "partners."

If you have any comments or concerns about these motions or the responses, please let me know.

I'm sure the minutes of the last meeting will be included in this newsletter so I will not repeat too much of what was discussed. However, one final and very heartfelt thank you must go to Medicine Hat College for hosting the AAAL listserv for 10 years and to NAIT, and specifically Dianne Clarke as webmaster, for hosting the AAAL website. James Rout, Banff Centre, very kindly offered to take over both of these responsibilities. The AAAL listserv is back in operation and you can post to it at aacl@news.banffcentre.ca

Finally, the next AAAL meeting will be held Thursday April 20 at SAIT in Calgary (not April 6 as was previously announced – thanks Susan). See you there.

Robin Minion
AAAL Chair



**Minutes of the
Alberta Association of College Librarians
Fall 2005 Meeting
Northern Alberta Institute of Technology
Thurs., November 17, 2005, 9:15 am – 4:00 pm
Governor's Board Room, NAIT, Edmonton**

Meeting Attendance

Name	Institution
Nora Robinson	SAIT
Keith Walker	Medicine Hat College
Barbara Palmer	Portage College
Sandy Ayer	AUC/NUC/CBC/CTS
Fiona Dyer	Lethbridge Comm. Coll
Wayne Wicks	Prairie Bible Institute
Christine Sammon	ACAD
James Rout	The Banff Centre

Diane Clark	NAIT
Helga Kinnard	NAIT
Jerremie Clyde	St. Mary's University College
Robin Minion	Olds College
Judy Dixon	Lakeland College
Nancy Goebel	Augustana
Maureen Toews	Red Deer College
Lillian Teh-frenette	Red Deer College
Michelle Edwards	Red Deer College
Kristine Plastow	Red Deer College
Erica Hebert	Concordia U.C. of Alberta
	Grande Prairie Regional College
Ann Gish	MacEwan
Debbie McGugan	MacEwan
Joyce VanScheik	Canadian University College
Carol Nicks	Canadian University College
Dave Weber	SAIT
May Chan	SAIT
Kat Johnston	SAIT
Geoff Owens	Mount Royal College
Yvonne Rezek	MacEwan
Karen Hering	MacEwan
Jim Dunbar	NAIT
Roxy Welter	MacEwan
Karen Shelgl	NAIT
Isobel Rancier	NAIT

Meeting Minutes

9:15 – 9:45 COFFEE

9:45 – 11:30

1. Welcome. Roundtable Introductions and Update on Anything 'New' in Your Institution.

Robin delivers introduction and update. Members provide short updates about the happenings in their own libraries.

2. Approval of Agenda

Approved

3. Approval of Minutes of the Spring 2005 meeting

Approved

4. Executive Report:

a. Chair: Robin Minion

A review of the website and listserv and their role in facilitating communication was conducted. Helga and her staff were thanked for hosting us. Portage College and Olds College were thanked for hosting the coffee breaks. Next Meeting will be April at SAIT in Calgary. Congratulations given to Dan Mirau on his ALT award. Group was informed of the business side, had a college session at LAA, and that we need to keep the idea in mind, the call

for proposals goes out very soon after the May meeting. We may need to reactivate the committee. Important items AAAL website. Stats and Kit will talk regarding LHCADL. Moved by Robin moved, Barbara seconded, all in favor

b. Secretary/Treasurer: Jerremie Clyde
Finances are in good shape. Renewal letters and invoices have gone out.
Moved by Jerremie, seconded by Diane, all in favour

c. Director-at-Large – Karen Hering
Karen has been representing the Association us at SALA and LAA meetings, done so twice, spring and fall. Committee that works to share advocacy things in all library sectors. LAA liaison. Will have something for next LAA letter.
Moved by Karen. Seconded, Keith, all in favor

5. Committee and Working Group Reports

a. AAAL listserv: Robin Minion/James Rout
MHC supported our list service for 10 years, which is great, but on the 10th year, it started going downhill. It is felt it is time for somebody else to carry the torch for a while. James at Banff Centre has offered to take it on.
aacl@news.banffcentre.ca, James is slowly populating the listserv. He hopes to have it up and running soon. Once everybody is in, he will send out a message. E-mails to that address will go to the group and a page to subscribe and unsubscribe. James will add existing members to it. James will act as a moderator.
Debbie suggests we print off the directory and update at lunch. MHC was given a round of applause for supporting us. A round of applause was given to James for taking it on.

b. Website Review Committee: Diane Clark/James Rout
James is the new Webmaster. People commented on aesthetics, more photos, and some suggested drop down menus for navigation. We need to send content to the Webmaster, such as photos etc. for the site. James is suggesting a Web log, a great way for us to learn to use and apply them, as our patrons engage in them etc. so it would keep the site current have more content as well. James described the differences between a BLOG and a listserv. James also mentioned RSS service. James will host it through his server. The AAAL is happy with paying for the Server. James will have something up fairly quickly, the structure is together, and he will hammer it out shortly after with

content supplied by Diane. Logo question. At spring meeting, we determine if it can be simplified. We need to thank Diane at NAIT for putting the last eight to nine years into the site, and James for keeping it going.

c. Workshops: Geoff Owens and Erica Hebert
We will need new things for the next meeting. Ann Gish of GPRC volunteered to take over for Geoff on the workshop committee. They requested future workshops ideas. Federated searching, copyright, advocacy, colleges in the institution, info lit trends, funding, cultural diversity, leaning objects, WebCt, portals, wireless, statistics, collection assessment, donor recognition. Staffing issues, info commons issues, are all from old lists and have not yet been covered. May 5th, full day on Canadian Copyright, Banff Centre, worth going to (Mentioned by Debbie) Feb. 2, symposium on federated searching at UofC, well along in the planning phase. Spring meeting we will do another overview

d. Strategic Alliance for Library Advocacy – Karen Hering
SALA report given on their activities. The next meeting is Feb., they meet twice a year, once in the north, and once in the south, they need a rep for south meetings, Nora put her name forward for that.

e. Library Association of Alberta Liaison – Karen Hering

f. Newsletter – Dave Weber
Dave encouraged everybody to send content to dave.weber@sait.ca; send photos in particular. Hopes to send it out before the New Year. Deadline for content submission is December 16.

g. The Alberta Library – Jerremie Clyde

h. LAA: Karen's report. April, A. Lewis is the keynote for LAA. Joan Fry Williams, \$8,000 conference grants and subsidies available,

i. E-Campus Alberta – Barbara Palmer
Barbara gave an update and report. Library survival guide, www.ecampusalberta.ca, then on home page click on login, on authentication page, at the top in a blue bar is a link to library support. FAQ, research tips, finding what you need, evaluating what you need, avoiding plagiarism, citations etc.

j. Statistics – Keith Walker

Keith: reported on behalf of Susan. We got our stats request today, and they want them back by December 1. The stats are very important to all of us. Really need everybody to participate to make them truly useful. Fill in the electronic version and e-mail it. Mentioned that the word form has old definitions and should be ignored. E-Library transitions, question 7, electronic database usage. Counter level 2 compliancy, not all the vendors are quite there yet. Ignore question seven until you hear from Susan as we might get it from TAL. Faculty status question is still being tweaked.

k. CTCL – Keith Walker

Keith reported for Susan. Davison of CLA, Susan is the secretary. She did a good job with the communiqué, (the newsletter). She really wants to make it good. Let Susan know if you haven't seen it. They have a space at the next CLA conference; this year is marketing the college library as a social space. Ann Marie Watson, Algonquin College from Ontario, Madeleine Lefebvre, and Saint Mary's University in Halifax, and someone from BC. We are encouraged to go to the CTCL annual general meeting schedule for 10AM on Thursday of the conference. Keith has been nominated for the position of CTCL chair. It was felt we should get our memberships and vote for Keith. It will come out in the March elections. AAAL has a good reputation within the CTCL. Robin expressed thanks to Susan for stats, and CTCL. Thanks to everybody on the stats group. Keith wanted to thank Tom Skinner (SAIT) in particular, as he had to do a lot of behind the scenes work.

Robin adjourned business part of the meeting.

Lunch - 11:30 – 12:45

Afternoon Workshops

12:45 – 1:15 – Kit Wilson – Lois Hole Campus
Alberta Digital Library update

Kit was unable to attend the meeting so we proceeded with recommendations.

Motion to recommend re wording on draft principles #7, moved by Debbie McGugan, seconded by Ann Gish. Ross will take wording forward.

Participation in LHCADL. AAAL should support its member. Moved by Christine (ACAD), seconded by Joyce, unanimous, give them a list of who is excluded; request their inclusion in the program. If for some reason this is not possible, we request a written explanation concerning what we can do to bring them up to date.

We need a motion saying we are pleased to have the program. Moved by Jerremie that Ross communicate to the LHCADL Steering committee that we are very pleased and excited about the LHCADL program. Seconded by Keith

1:15 – 2:30 – Joanne Kemp, MacEwan College and Ross Thrasher, Mount Royal College – Program Accreditation and the Transition to becoming a University College.

2:30 – 2:45 COFFEE

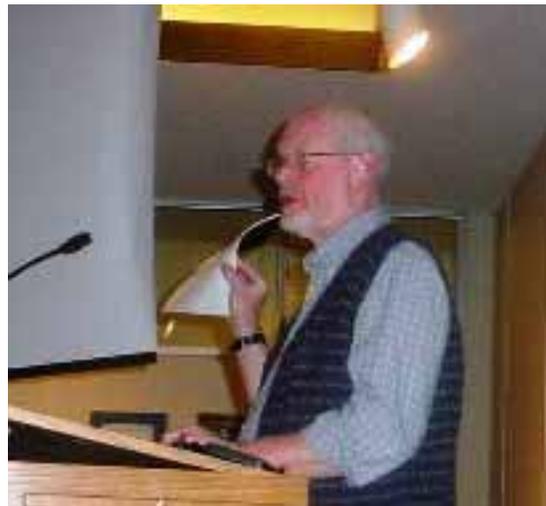
2:45 – 4:00 Geoff Harder, Kenton Good, University of Alberta and James Rout, Banff Centre – The Librarians' Emerging Technology Survival Guide
The presenters will provide a brief overview of emerging technologies that will affect you and your library. Topics will include social software, Web 2.0, Google Scholar and other new Google services, FireFox and Greasemonkey, Instant Messaging, and Wiki-pedia



WORKSHOP SUMMARY

Submitted by Geoff Owens

Program Accreditation and the Transition to Becoming a University College with Joanne Kemp (GMC) and Ross Thrasher (MRC).



(Ross Thrasher, Mount Royal College)

With these two colleges beginning to offer degrees, a number of issues are affecting their institutions and libraries. Joanne discussed how GMC began the process with the passing of the Post-Secondary Act in 2003. There were few guidelines and the college had to determine the path it was going to take. The library hired an external consultant and

carried out a detailed collection assessment. She emphasized that this is an evolving process. Ross Thrasher spoke about the formation of a library transition task force and its subsequent report. The task force looked at ten-year targets for collections, facilities, services and staff; conducted a gap analysis; and, recommended strategies to bridge identified gaps. Contact Ross Thrasher if you'd like a copy of the report.



(Joanne Kemp, Grant MacEwan College)

The Delectable Delights of Social Bookmarking with James Rout (Banff Centre), Geoffrey Harder (UofA), Kenton Good (UofA)

This technology-focused session explored the recent trends in the areas of social bookmarking, tagging, Blogs and RSS. User created searchable keywords are appearing on a number of sites across the web and there is a great deal of debate around this unmediated cataloguing of the internet. Discussed were the ideas of whether any OPAC vendors were ready or seemingly interested in allowing a tagging feature to be added to OPACs (Georgia Pines library system is developing an open-source ILS that will allow patron tagging). As of last week, Amazon has begun experimenting with user-applied tags. It is felt that most vendors - including Ebsco and OVID - will very shortly also allow tagging.

Sites of interest:

- Delicious (<http://del.icio.us>) - the premier site for sharing/exploring tagged websites and making your bookmarks portable.
- Absolutely Delicious (<http://pchere.blogspot.com/2005/02/absolutely-delicious-complete-tool.html>) - tips, tools, tricks, news about Delicious

- Livemarks - (<http://sandbox.sourcelabs.com/livemarks>) kill some time watching a scrolling list of recently added Delicious websites.
- Furl (<http://www.furl.net/>) - an alternate to Delicious.
- Shirky.com - Clay Shirky - a strong proponent of tagging the web
- Flickr - (<http://www.flickr.com/>) - tagged, shared photos
- Audiosrobbler (<http://www.last.fm/>) - Let the world know how great your musical taste is. Type in the name of one of your favorite musical acts and find out what other fans of that band listen to. Find music buddies.
- Yahoo 360 (<http://360.yahoo.com>) - Yahoo's venture into blogging, photo sharing, friend finding etc
- CiteULike (<http://www.citeulike.org>) - a site where users can share links of online academic papers
- Technocrati (<http://www.technorati.com>) - find out the latest blogosphere buzz
- LibraryThing (<http://www.librarything.com/>) - catalog your books online; share your collection; visit others' collections.
- Minding the planet (http://novaspivack.typepad.com/nova_spivack_weblog) - Nova Spivak's blog of unusual ideas
- Tag Cloud - a feature found on several sites that allow tags. It is an alphabetical list of keywords with the more used ones appearing larger and, therefore, easier to spot. Used on flickr (<http://flickr.com/photos/tags/>) and Delicious (<http://del.icio.us/tag/>).



(Left to right- Geoff Harder, Kenton Good-U of A, James Rout-Banff Centre)

Thanks to all participants for an enlightening and inspiring fall workshop!

Joining Geoff on the workshop committee is Erica Hebert of Concordia. You can send your workshop ideas to either Geoff or Erica:

Geoff Owens [gowens@mtroyal.ab.ca]
Erica Hebert [erica.hebert@concordia.ab.ca]



NEWS @ your library™

Concordia University College of Alberta
Submitted by Dan Mirau

Two important developments have taken place at Concordia in recent months. The October groundbreaking for the new Hole Academic Building was followed closely by the announced approval of Concordia's first graduate level program, a Masters in Information Systems Security Management. The library will be significantly affected by each of these developments and is looking forward to setting an even higher standard of service within this changing physical and academic setting.

Within the library, through the hard work and dedication of library staff members, we have made significant progress on our space redesign plan. A new reading area has been created, complete with inviting leather chairs, coffee tables, plants and a 500 book recreational reading collection filled with genre fiction and best-sellers. We have also enhanced range-finder and policy signage and moved student shelving areas to improve elevator

access and workflow. We have all been very gratified by the enthusiastic community response to these improvements.

Library services also continue to evolve. The recent "Food for Fines" campaign improved student morale, brought in food for the Edmonton Food Bank, and increased fine payments (humble thanks to AACL members for the roundtable discussions from which we "borrowed" this idea!). A newly created Faculty Resources website provides simplified access to important library forms, procedural checklists, revised policies, and new book lists. Bulk catalogue loading of Net-Library titles, along with the ability to offer simplified access to off-campus users, has improved usage of this growing e-book collection. This technology improvement goes hand in hand with the recent articulation of the services that the library provides to Concordia's distance learners.

Library collections are also being cultivated with continued growth of both physical and online materials. Damaged items are being methodically replaced and out-dated materials removed from the physical collection. A recent inventory of all A/V items has led to recommendations for improved damage control and security procedures. Our first year of CRKN membership has been accompanied by a significant increase in online journal use and decline in document delivery borrowing. Recent online acquisitions include the Naxos Music Library, PsycBooks from the APA, the Canadian Poetry Database from Chadwyck-Healey, and the Institute of Physics journal archive. We are also looking forward to adding online journal packages from Sage, Wiley, and Project MUSE in early 2006.

Overall, it has been a very exciting fall term and we are embracing the promise of the coming New Year. All the best to our AACL colleagues in the winter academic term!



Grant MacEwan LRC
Submitted by Roxy Welter

Grant MacEwan College LRC has had a busy six months with staff changes, exciting technological initiatives, and a frenzy of book ordering in preparation for degree granting.

LRC staff were on hand to welcome over 600 students to the new MacEwan residence, providing library-themed doorknockers and good cheer. The residence, which was opened in early September, is the largest single-building student residence in

Western Canada. Future plans include offering an on-site reference service to residents.

In technology news, new computers were added to the reference area, providing access to the catalogue, databases, and web. One of the most popular resources is the MacEwan Student Portal, which has had over 10,500 unique logins as of December. The portal provides access to a number of services including the library catalogue and databases, email, registration, and WebCT—with single authentication. CodeBaby, a virtual agent, was added as a help feature to the portal. In addition, the LRC has partnered with the University of Alberta to offer the GetIt! Link Resolver Service (SFX). Students and staff alike have received this service enthusiastically. Technology has also enhanced the information literacy program at MacEwan. Many students have diligently worked through the Searchpath tutorial, which contains six modules on critically thinking about information, choosing a topic for an assignment, and effective searching of the catalogue and databases. Students often complete the tutorial before library instruction sessions. Students are further engaged in sessions with an interactive quiz program called Classroom Performance System.

The LRC has had some staffing changes this fall. Janet Day, a recent graduate from the Library Information Technology Program at SAIT, joined the South Campus LRC. Roxy Welter joined the City Centre LRC Reference Department in August for a term position involving reference, collections, and information literacy. Two second-year students from the School of Library and Information Studies at the U of A joined the Reference Department in September—Sarah Mead-Willis and Jade Shepherd. Kat Johnston has left City Centre to accept a permanent position at SAIT. Kat made significant contributions to the Student Portal and SFX projects, Ask a Question, information literacy, and reference. She is greatly missed by staff and we wish her well in her career. City Centre LRC has recently advertised for two six-month term librarian positions. The positions involve reference, library instruction, and collection development. We look forward to new librarians joining our team.

With new staff members coming on board and a multitude of books coming our way, space is at a premium at the City Centre LRC. The LRC received one-time funding of 3.1 million to develop collections and services in support of the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Child and Youth Care degrees, which will commence in fall 2006. As such, space is at a premium and a team of

architects and librarians is working on a space reallocation project. Stay tuned for more exciting changes at Grant MacEwan College LRC!



Medicine Hat College

Submitted By Sheila Drummond

Medicine Hat College is eagerly awaiting government response to a collaborative proposal put forward by the College, Keyano College, and the University of Alberta. If approved, Medicine Hat College students would be able to complete a BEd degree on campus. In anticipation of this, we have begun to plan and budget for the selection, cataloging, and housing of the necessary curriculum resources. We have proposed that the College add a new curriculum lab onto the existing library, or that a nearby classroom be used for this purpose.

Maternity leaves...always challenging for those left behind! In March, we said goodbye (temporarily) to Lilian Li, who began a nine-month leave with daughter Lynna, and welcomed back Joanne Mokry into her old position. In July, Joanne left to become the Librarian at Confluence Campus (Red Deer College) in Rocky Mountain House. Enter David Buchanan from Vancouver into Lilian's/Joanne's position in time for the madness that is September. In January, the circle will be complete when Lilian steps back into the role of Information and Technology Librarian.

During the summer months, the Library staff continued to work on two projects that expanded the kinds of materials under our control. Over 900 maps from the Geography Lab were catalogued and relocated to the Library. Over 1,100 music scores are also included in our database now, with more to be added next summer. These are housed at the nearby Cultural Centre.

The Library and the College at large continued to struggle with two issues during the fall semester: printing, and the increased theft of computer and AV equipment. A decision by the College in August to eliminate the pay-for-printing card system at use in the Library and replace it, first with free printing for the month of September and more recently by a system requiring student username and password to access 250 pages of free printing per person, has kept Library staff on their collective toes. Of course, the amount of printing in September was phenomenal. With regard to the second issue, the Library's AV department is doing everything in its power to prevent further loss of valuable equipment

due to theft but despite their best efforts, eight projectors have been stolen so far this year. This is discouraging for all concerned.

On a lighter note, the College Library continues in its role of collaborative partner in Medicine Hat's *One Book One Community* reading program. 'The Hat' is only the third city in the country to offer such a program, and plans are well under way for our second annual weekend of activities on 3-4 February 2006. *A Complicated Kindness* by Miriam Toews is this year's citywide read. February activities will include a talk by poet and playwright Patrick Friesen, a dramatic reading by College students, and a traditional Mennonite meal along with choral singing (in recognition of the novel's Mennonite context) and, of course, organized discussion groups.



Mount Royal College

Submitted by Ross Thrasher

Personnel – (a) Senior Administration – Dr. Robin Fisher was appointed as Provost and VP Academic in August. Dr. Fisher, a historian, was formerly Dean of Arts at the University of Regina and UNBC.

(b) Librarians - Ian Watt has retired this fall after more than 30 years with MRC Library. Ross Sherwin and Carol Sinanan are on half-time appointments in 2005-06. Alice Swabey, Brad Neufeldt and Peggy French have been hired as term-certain replacements. Meagan Weber is now on the tenure track, and Janet Monteith has just been awarded tenure. Geoff Owens continues as a member of Academic Council – and the AAAL Workshop Committee!

(c) Library Support Staff – Jane Roberts has been hired as a Technical Services Technician.

MRC Library Task Force – As reported at the Fall AAAL meeting, Mount Royal seeks to become predominantly a degree-granting institution, and preferably an undergraduate university. A number of internal task forces and ad hoc committees have been created to guide this transition. The Library Transition Task Force (LTTF), chaired by Director Ross Thrasher, delivered a ten-year plan in September, which called for substantial growth in the Library's budget, collections, staffing and facilities. The LTTF report was presented to the Transition Steering Committee and several other groups during the fall semester. This report has been endorsed by the College administration, and additional funding has already begun to flow to the Library. Furthermore, the College's Academic

Council has established a Library Advisory Committee as recommended by the LTTF.

Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library – Ross Thrasher was appointed to the LHCADL Steering Committee in June, and has attended several meetings in subsequent months at which the business plan has been developed. Discussions are also under way with the University of Calgary regarding the establishment of a Campus Calgary Digital Library as a local partnership to complement the Lois Hole initiative.

Professional Development Activities – MRC Library was well represented at the CLA conference in Calgary this year, by registrants and volunteers. Several MRC librarians and support staff attended the Access and Netspeed conferences in Edmonton this fall, and the Augustana Information Literacy Workshop in December. Also in December, Librarian Margy MacMillan was invited to deliver a paper at NELINET in Boston on her Information Skills Résumé project with MRC Journalism students.



NAIT Library

Submitted by Helga Kinnaird

■ A major planning initiative within Technology & Curriculum Innovation (TCI) was completed in June 2005. One of the outcomes was reorganization. NAIT Libraries are now part of TCI's Academic Learner Services department that also includes the Centre for Teaching & Learning, Learning Innovations, Media Design & Production, the Project Factory, and the NAITSA Computer Commons.

- During the summer, McNally Library was updated with new carpet, fresh paint, new counters and a comfortable lounge seating area for students. We were very pleased to show the new look to our AAAL colleagues during the fall meeting held at NAIT.
- After many years of dedicated library service, Anita Luck retired in August. Jim Dunbar took over from Anita and is now NAIT's Northwest Regional Librarian.
- In addition, library staff welcomed:
 - Isobel Rancier, who is working on an applied research project as well as providing reference service and information literacy instruction
 - Brooke Bevan, who is Assistant Supervisor, Lending Services

- Diane Clark, who returned from maternity leave
 - Theresa Hrab, who joined the Fairview Library staff
 - Angela Halwas, who offers library support at the High Level Campus
- Two applied research projects are underway. The first project is intended to investigate, evaluate and implement an interactive support system to complement the current methods of delivering reference service. Technologies being investigated include co-browsing, chat and video conferencing. The second project, funded by Advanced Education, involves placing thin client computer workstations in student common areas and residences on all NAIT campuses except Main Campus. The research component of this library initiative will investigate the efficiency and effectiveness of this technology for delivering library information resources to students across the Supernet.
 - NAIT Libraries staff has completed the library related portion of the institutional self-assessment, as part of the process required for NAIT to obtain approval for Bachelor of Technology degree granting status.

NAIT and Northern Lakes College entered into a Program Enhancement Agreement in June 2005 to “further enhance and expand learning and career opportunities in Northern Alberta.” NAIT Libraries staff has been pleased to work with Helen Prosser to provide library service to Northern Lakes College students on NAIT campuses.



Olds College

Submitted by Robin Minion

‘They’ say to be careful what you wish for and I think the reason is you could end up very busy! Starting in the fall of 2006, Olds College will be offering two programs on the Calgary Stampede grounds – Fashion and Land Administration. Where there are programs, there need to be Library resources so Library staff are busy working with faculty to work out the best way to offer them – first in a temporary setting and then in a more permanent one.

Also looming on the horizon is ISO 9001:2000 accreditation. Olds College Library and the Registrar/Student Services Office presented a

proposal to the Olds College Common Issues Group for funding to work towards ISO accreditation. This proposal was supported and we are now investigating whether other units on campus as interested as well. The Information Systems Department is one group that will likely make the journey with us.

In the fall, the Library hosted a weekly Lunch & Learn session for staff, students and community members. Speakers came from both the community and on-campus. We learnt how to become clowns, make funeral arrangements, create Christmas floristry, redesign the interior of our homes and use Geographic Positioning Systems. The sessions were popular with those attending varying weekly according to the topic. After the Christmas break, we’ll learn how to de-stress at work with a mini-spa and tie flies for fishing!

Wireless also came to Olds College last fall with the installation of a wireless network in the Library. Students and staff could either borrow laptops from the Library or bring their own. Helping the students from Mexico connect their laptops to the network was often a challenge since their laptops spoke Spanish. Error messages were a trifle difficult to understand.

Olds College and Chinook’s Edge School Division have collaborated to form the Community Learning Campus (CLC). The CLC is a \$47 million project that will see four structures built on the Olds College campus: the Core High School (grades 9-12), eLearning Core, Health & Wellness Facility, and Fine Arts & Multi Media Centre. Olds College Vice President Rob Mackenzie has taken a 2-year position as Executive Director of CLC, which means the Library will start the new year reporting to a new Vice President – Stewart MacNabb.



Red Deer College

In the last 6 months, we have launched a number of initiatives, which have long been in the works. It is satisfying to see them come to fruition!

Confluence Campus opened to great fanfare in September, 2005. This partnership between a public high school, a Catholic high school, and a college, is unique in North America. The philosophy behind the project is one of cooperation, and it is hoped that students will have a seamless transition from high school into post-secondary education, all at one campus. The exciting part for us is that we manage the Library. The Library is strategically

placed at the centre of the campus, and serves all three partners. Read more about this exciting new venture in the January 2006 *Letter of the LAA* (and see the pictures).

This fall Red Deer College Library officially launched RELAIS in conjunction with SFX. These two products allow for a seamless search and request function for our students. Results from database queries are automatically parsed into the RELAIS request form, while patron authentication allows student information to automatically parse into RELAIS, too. Absolutely no typing is required for students to request articles - a couple of clicks and their ILL request is sent to us for processing. The results have been miraculous! Students love the functionality and ease of use, while ILL staff are enjoying the easy management of requests. All the correct bibliographic information is sent with the request, making verification much easier. ILL traffic at RDC has tripled over the same period last year.

Along with most other post-secondary libraries, we moved over to SFX as a link resolver solution this fall. At the beginning of December, we finally have all of our databases functioning with the "find it" button, but are anxiously awaiting the time when our print holdings are also included in the search results.

We undertook a major overhaul of our website, for the first time in a few years. The process began in early 2005 with feedback sessions attended by all staff. A small committee worked the feedback into a new design, in conjunction with the college's Web Services. The actual rebuild took place over the summer, and the new website was live by the end of August, in time for the first day of classes. Have a look at <http://library.rdc.ab.ca>.

As a staff, we've been talking about internal communication tools, and have launched a new staff "blog." Using "Geeklog" software, our new portal is a place where all library staff can post news, events, questions, problems, and even rants or fun things. Named "Chatalogue" by the staff, our blog includes a calendar feature where we post all library events and staff flex days/holidays, so all library staff can see at a glance what's happening each day. This is also a place where we can upload documents and information.

Now that all these projects have wrapped up, we're looking forward to what's next. The staff have been meeting weekly over coffee to discuss trends such as distributed learning, e-reserves, and technology directions. Exciting times are ahead!



SAIT Library

Submitted by Nora Robinson & Dave Weber

New Staff

The Library has added two new staff to help handle its expanded service hours and its growing and diversifying information resources that include more E-Resources such as electronic books. Audrey Farch, Library Technician, and SAIT LIT grad, joined the Library in September and will be working evenings and weekends at the Information Desk. Kat Johnston has filled the new instructional librarian position. Kat brings a wealth of classroom and web application instructional experience obtained during her work at Grant MacEwan Community College and University of Alberta libraries.

Kristian McInnis, one of our sessional evening/weekend staff, is currently working as the cover off for Michelle Racine who is on maternity leave until the summer of 2006.

Exhibits

The SAIT Library hosted its first ever SAIT staff artwork exhibit from November 14 to December 16. Fourteen instructors and staff from six departments displayed photographs, wood sculptures, fabric art, paintings, blown glasswork and mechanical sculptures.

Library Renovations

Lowering shelving to many 1.5 meters and reorienting some high 2 meter shelving have improved sight lines across the library and to windows on both floors. To improve circulation and in-library use, the English as a Second Language and Children's Literature collections were pulled from the main circulating shelves and given dedicated shelving.

Planning is underway to incorporate approximately 300 square meters of space adjacent to the library entrance into desktop/laptop access space. This renovation will necessitate two new sets of library doors, a new library information desk, and new book drop, plus workstations, a printer, a photocopier and a print release station.

Wireless Access in the Library

The SAIT Library has installed wireless technology. This service is designed to match laptops leased by SAIT students from the Information Systems Department. Non-compatible personal laptop wireless access has not been a high priority for the SAIT Information Systems Department. However, they do acknowledge that personal laptop use is

growing on campus and will require greater support in the future.



Events and Activities around the Province

Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library Committees and Teams Membership

Standing Committee

Ernie Ingles, University of Alberta (Chair)
 Steve Schafer, Athabasca University
 Mary McConnell, University of Calgary
 Ross Thrasher, Mount Royal College
 Marinus Swanepoel, University of Lethbridge
 Alice McNair, Red Deer College
 Bedford Wells, Red Crow Community College
 Jennifer Thomas, Grande Prairie Regional College
 Joanne Griener, Edmonton Public Library (APLEN)
 Karen Adams, University of Alberta
 Dean Wood, Alberta Advanced Education (*ex officio*)
 Lucy Pana, Executive Director, The Alberta Library (*ex officio*)
 Kit Wilson Program Manager (*ex officio*)

Resource Negotiation Team

Jerremie Clyde, St. Mary's University College (Chair)
 Helen Clarke, University of Calgary
 Ernie Howe, University of Alberta
 Louise Frolek, Edmonton Public Library
 Bedford Wells, Red Crow College
 David Larsen (TAL, *ex-officio*)

Technology and Infrastructure Team

Mary Westell, University of Calgary (Chair)
 Doug Poff, University of Alberta
 Peter Binkley, University of Alberta
 Maureen Toews, Red Deer College
 Neal Shade, Red Crow College
 Steve Thornton, University of Alberta

Accountability Team

Mary-Jo Romaniuk, University of Alberta (Chair)
 Joanne Kemp, Grant MacEwan College
 Darlene Warren, University of Calgary
 Fritzi Woods, Old Sun Community College
 Pam Ryan, University of Alberta

Information Literacy and Awareness Team

Diane Clark, NAIT (Chair)
 Marinus Swanepoel, University of Lethbridge
 Pam Ryan, University of Alberta
 Jennifer Thomas, Grande Prairie Regional College
 Kay Johnson, Athabasca University
 Peggy McKenzie, Olds College
 Shuana Rutherford, University of Calgary
Digitization Team
 Ernie Ingles, University of Alberta (Chair)
 Ann Davis, University of Calgary
 Marinus Swanepoel, University of Lethbridge
 Steve Schafer, Athabasca University

The 5th Annual Augustana Information Literacy Workshop

The Workshop was held on Dec 12-13, 2005 at the Augustana Faculty (Camrose, AB) of the University of Alberta:

Judy Peacock (Information Literacy Coordinator at the Queensland University of Technology in Brisbane, Australia) presented 2 days of interesting, useful and challenging material on integrating Information Literacy into the curriculum and professional development strategies for librarians. On Monday December 12, the theme was: "Embedding Information Literacy into the Curriculum: Proven Method or Potential Madness?" (93 registrations). On Tuesday December 13 the theme was: "Intentional Professional Development in Information Literacy: Librarian as Leader and Learner" (78 registrations). The difference in the registrations for each day was primarily comprised of Augustana teaching faculty being unable to attend the Dec 13 portion of the workshop because of a Faculty meeting.



(Left-Judy Peacock, Queensland University of Technology. Right-Nancy Goebel, Augustana Faculty, UAlberta)

Overall, the feedback from the workshop was great. The speaker provided a good balance of background information and practical ideas to challenge and broaden perspectives and thinking. She kept the participants' attention with chocolate koala prizes!

There was an interesting variety in the participants which meant for great conversation. We had library school students, school librarians, Augustana teaching faculty and academic librarians from across North America.

The first annual "Teaching Award for the Support of Information Literacy" was presented to Augustana psychology professor Paula Marentette.



Update your bookmarks!

The AACL website address has changed to:
<http://www.nait.ca/libresources/aac/>

The new AACL ListServ address is:
aacl@news.banffcentre.ca



Upcoming Events

Art Libraries Conference

Christine Sammon of the Alberta College of Art and Design and James Rout of Banff Centre continue to work hard planning the 34th Art Libraries Society of North America (Arlis/NA) Conference to be held in Banff May 5-9, 2006. A pre-conference session on Canadian Copyright will be held on May 4, 2006. See <http://www.arliscanada.ca/banff2006/> for further details.

Spring AACL Meeting

Southern Alberta Institute of Technology
April 20, 2006
Tentative Room Booking MD 321