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ALBERTA ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE LIBRARIANS

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Editor – Dave Weber

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

It was great to see everyone at the fall meeting of AACL at Grant MacEwan College on November 23rd. A big thank you must go out to Karen Hering of GMC for planning and organizing the hosting duties. Great lunch and good times.

I received a number of positive comments on this fall's workshop so I'd like to pass on this appreciation to Workshop Committee members Ann Gish and Alice Swabey. I'm glad no one minded the slight altering of the schedule due to the needs of those who had to venture home to points outside the city during this traditional Edmonton autumn day.
I have noticed an increase in postings to our blog since the meeting so I hope everyone becomes comfortable with visiting and sharing ideas. Thanks to James Rout for all of his work on this great communication tool (http://aacl.engineseven.com).

In August, I acted on behalf of AACL to fill out the Questionnaire for Affiliate Members of The Alberta Library in order to provide information concerning and our perceptions about the benefits, issues and trends that need to be considered in the 2007-2011 TAL Strategic Plan. Luckily, I was able to consult with some other provincial College librarians in answering the questionnaire. Some of the trends and issues we identified included digitization, succession planning, mandate transformation, social networking, distance delivery, and information literacy. I indicated our great satisfaction with the databases, TAL's role in advocacy, collaboration and how we have been able to positively link with other types of libraries in the province.

I hoped everyone enjoyed the festive season and the New Year.

In the spring, we can look forward to the end of the semester, blizzards accompanied by slightly warmer temperatures and the AACL meeting at Mount Royal College on April 19th, 2007.

Geoff Owens
Mount Royal College

Alberta Association of College Librarians
Fall 2006 Minutes
6-313H of 106 St. Building
Grant MacEwan College
Thursday, November 23rd
9:00 am -3:00 pm

9-9:30 Coffee and refreshments

9:30-10:45
Welcome and introductions

Approval of and additions to agenda
TAL report – Keith will do the report instead of Helga Kinnaird

Approval of Minutes of the Spring 2006 meeting
Alice Swabey from Mount Royal College moved for approval of Minutes of the Spring 2006 meeting
Kathy Zarft seconded the motion.
Minutes approved.

Executive Reports:

Chair: Geoff Owens
Geoff reported to the association regarding an email request from TAL to him asking for college perspective for the TAL Strategic Plan. In the overview he gave to TAL about what AACL thinks TAL's directions should be, he mentioned the transition issues (Google Scholar, digitization, succession plan, social software technologies); AACL's priorities (information sharing, be ready to meet the online distance learning trend); AACL's 8-year-long good relationship with TAL; and the appreciation to TAL for their effort of supporting resource sharing especially the databases.

Secretary/Treasurer: Lilian Li
Lilian gave a brief report on the financial status of AACL. The last statement Lilian received indicated that AACL had a balance of $2,247. In addition, the 2006-2007 membership fees have been deposited so that would add another $1,000 to the account. Out of the 34 members, 28 had paid their membership fee. Lilian will send out a second invoice to those institutions that have not paid. Lilian also circulated a sign-up sheet for attendance and an AACL directory for updates.

Committee and working group reports:
Newsletter: Dave Weber
The deadline for the Winter Newsletter is the end of December. Dave will send out an email reminder. It was suggested to post the Newsletter to the new website, which is http://aacl.engineseven.com

Workshop: Alice Swabey and Ann Gish
The committee was not successful with the application for CACUL grant to support workshop. Alice and Ann would like input from the members for workshop ideas.

AACL listserv and website: James Rout
James gave an overview of the new website. It is a matter of raising awareness of the new website to get people involved. The new website has RSS feed and blog features that James encouraged the association members to take full advantage. James will talk to NAIT, who is the host for the old AACL website, to auto forward the request to the old website to the new address. A discussion about whether we want to publish the AACL Librarians Directory followed.

AACL statistics: Susan Brayford
Susan commented that the AACL statistics helped her a great deal with SAIT Library's self-assessment. She expressed appreciation to her assistant (Nadia Nastov) for her hard work on putting all the stats together. It is a very time-consuming job and maybe it is turn for somebody else to take on the task. We would need to think about the succession plan for the statistics and the websites as well. Some options were discussed: a defined term for committees and working groups, what we should do with other situations in which we feel the need to acknowledge the work. It was suggested to review the guidelines of the Association at the next meeting. To acknowledge Nadia's hard work, the Association recommended a direct amount to Nadia as an honorary gift. It was suggested at $100 the first time. Keith Walker moved the motion and Dan Mirau seconded the motion. The motion was amended and the amount then was increased to $200 with Keith Walker to move the motion and James Rout to second the motion. All in favour.

10:45 Break

11:10 Geoff announced the change of the plan due to the poor weather conditions. The meeting will end at 3pm so that attendees who need to travel back would get sufficient time. There will be no roundtable report. Dave Weber's workshop will be moved to the morning. Acknowledgement was given to Carol Sinanan to wish her best for her retirement after serving Mount Royal College for almost 30 years.

***TAL report*:** Keith Walker
TAL directors will be meeting tomorrow to talk about physical delivery and the draft of the strategic plan for 2007-2011. There will be one position coming up for election to serve on the board as college representative. TAL has been expanding from 30 members to 47 right now and will be celebrating its 10-year milestone next year.

LHCADL report: Ross Thrasher
Ross circulated a report to update the members with the Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library project.

CTCL report: Susan Brayford
Susan reminded the members of the CTCL publication -- Communiqué. It is available to CTCL members with hard copies and on the member site of the CLA website. She invited everyone to attend the 2007 CLA in St. Johns. CTCL thanked AACL for sponsoring the session at CLA. Susan encouraged nomination for CTCL awards.

ECampus Alberta: Meagan Weber
Meagan reported that eCampus Alberta is developing its 5-year strategic plan and a new business plan is under development too. The library committee will update their webpage and will add LHCADL.

***LAA & SALA*:** Karen Hering
Karen reported that LAA just had a meeting with the following updates: LAA is developing policies for risk-assessment; LAA is encouraging membership so that we can participate in the Educational Institute; LAA will change its Newsletter to e-format; and there will be major grant to literacy programs. For SALA, the Learning Resource Council Committee and LAA were the only ones that showed up in the last SALA meeting; October 25 is Focusing on Libraries Day; AACL will need volunteer to go to the next SALA meeting in Edmonton in February since Karen will be out of town by that time. It was agreed that we should invite the First Nation colleges to attend AACL and Geoff will follow up with this. Meagan will be able to provide a list of the names of the colleges.

Workshops:

11:30-12:00 Reserving rooms in cyberspace: SAIT's web-based study room booking service by Dave Weber

12:00-1:00 Lunch

Workshop (Continued):

1:00 – 2:00 Pondering the 8Rs Canadian Library Human Resource Study – Allison Sivak, 8Rs research associate

2:00 – 3:00 "Clicking" in the Classroom: Using remote responder technology in the library instruction classroom – Meagan Weber, Mount Royal College

Next Meeting: April 19 in Calgary at Mount Royal College

Attendance

Name	Institution
Christine Sammon	Alberta College of Art and Design
James Rout	Banff Centre
Carol Nicks	Canadian University College
Joyce Van Scheik	Canadian University College
Dan Mirau	Concordia Univ. College of Alberta
Ann Gish	Grande Prairie Regional College
Joanne Kemp	Grant MacEwan
Karen Hering	Grant MacEwan
Debbie McGugan	Grant MacEwan
Tim Janewski	King's University College
Wanjiku Kaai	Lakeland College
Sheila Drummond	Medicine Hat College
Keith Walker	Medicine Hat College
Lilian Li	Medicine Hat College
Geoff Owens	Mount Royal College
Alice Swabey	Mount Royal College
Ross Thrasher	Mount Royal College
Meagan Weber	Mount Royal College
Carol Sinanan	Mount Royal College
Shannon D'Agnone	NAIT
Christine Bourchier	NAIT
Isobel Rancier	NAIT
Liz Pegoraro	NAIT
Danessa Picklyk	NAIT
Wendy Chivers	Norquest College
Kathy Zarft	Norquest College
Diane Reid	Norquest College
Joan Morrison	Norquest College
Helen Prosser	Northern Lakes College
Robin Minion	Olds College
Barbara Palmer	Portage College
Terry Donovan	Portage College
Wayne Wicks	Prairie Bible Institute
Nora Robinson	SAIT
Dave Weber	SAIT
Kat Johnston	SAIT
May Chan	SAIT
Susan Brayford	SAIT
Brad Neufeldt	St. Mary's University College

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AACL Newsletter Workshop Summary
Submitted by Alice Swabey

Following the November 2006 business meeting, there were three interesting and informative workshop presentations.

Reserving rooms in cyberspace: **SAIT's web-based study room booking service**

Dave Weber from SAIT gave a demonstration of his library's new web-based room booking software. With their seven study rooms becoming an increasingly hot commodity on campus, managing manual bookings had become a logistical challenge for SAIT library staff, and the search for a self-serve, online solution began.

SAIT considered several options, Dave explained, including the possibility of developing software in-

house. They ended up negotiating with Software Solutions, a company that has designed booking systems for health clinics, conference and sports facilities, who designed a custom product for SAIT at an affordable price.

The result was ORB, the Online Room Booking service. Before booking, SAIT students must register in person at the Library Information Desk, where library staff members enter them in the ORB software as authorized users. Student identification numbers serve as usernames, and Library PINs as passwords, so log-on information is familiar and easily memorized. Once registered, students are able to check study room availability, book rooms for up to two hours per week, and cancel reservations, too.

Because so far, the software is unable to prevent students from exceeding the two-hour limit, Dave explained that library staff members monitor the schedule regularly to ensure compliance with the booking limit, and manually remove anyone who is "over the limit."

Just introduced in fall of 2006, ORB has been a success for both students and staff at SAIT, Dave reported.

For more information on SAIT's study room policies and booking service, visit their website at <http://library.sait.ca/onlineroombooking.asp>

Pondering the 8Rs Canadian Library Human Resource Study –

Allison Sivak, research associate with the 8Rs research project and assessment librarian at the University of Alberta, presented on this nation-wide study that sought to determine if there would be a shortage of librarians in the next 5 – 10 years. The project examined a number of library human resource issues, including recruitment, retention, remuneration, reaccreditation, repatriation, rejuvenation, retirement and restructuring.

Allison introduced some very interesting statistics, including the fact that 41% of Canada's existing college librarians, and 39% of paraprofessionals, are predicted to retire between 2004 and 2014. She emphasized the importance of succession planning and leadership building in preparation for this exodus, and reported that in spite of our aging workforce, only 3% of college libraries have succession plans in place.

Related to succession planning, it seems recruitment of librarians is an increasing challenge in our libraries. Allison spoke about recruitment barriers identified by library administrators. These include budget restraints, hiring freezes, geographical location and small size of a library, an inadequate candidate pool in terms of qualifications and size, and inadequate pay. Administrators also identified several important competencies, which are difficult to fulfill when recruiting, leadership potential, managerial skills, innovativeness, flexibility, and both generalist and entrepreneurial skills.

(Allison Sivak, University of Alberta Libraries)

Allison reported that, when asked about their interest in management positions, 37% of non-manager college librarians indicated interest in middle management, while only 11% stated interest in becoming senior managers. It seems we have some work to do to whet the managerial appetite of librarians in the years to come!

Finally, and on a more reassuring note, when asked how their jobs today compare to 5 years ago, 60% of librarians said they were more rewarding, 70% said more interesting, and 76% said more challenging. 81% of college librarians are satisfied with their jobs, with the key contributors to job satisfaction being the opportunity to grow and learn new skills, and being treated with respect. So far, it seems college libraries are meeting the challenge.

More information on the 8Rs study, and the full-text of its reports, is available at http://www.ls.ualberta.ca/8rs/

"Clicking" in the Classroom: **Using remote responder technology in the library instruction classroom**

Meagan Weber from Mount Royal College gave a hands-on session in the use of Classroom Performance System (CPS) or "clicker" technology in information literacy instruction. Clickers are hand-held, numbered keypads that allow users to answer multiple choice and yes/no style questions anonymously, via a receiver attached to the instructor's computer station. The CPS software receives each clicker's "vote" and tabulates the results of each question, allowing the instructor to display them immediately as a chart to the class.

What may result, says Meagan, are a series of excellent classroom opportunities, from increased student engagement and participation, to quick pre- and post-tests, and peer-teaching moments. The spectrum of practical applications depends on the nature of the questions being asked by the instructor. Meagan explained that questions can be prepared by the instructor in advance, can be created "on-the-fly" in the classroom, and CPS' default Yes/No function is always available for students to respond to questions delivered verbally by the instructor.

According to Meagan, the key is to state questions clearly and simply, and to use clickers sparingly in the classroom. Sometimes, clickers are used at the end of each section of an information literacy class; to help the instructor gauge whether her/his point has been understood before moving on. Alternatively, Meagan indicated that she would frequently ask a single controversial or tricky question in a class, "Is this source scholarly?" for instance, with the sole intention of stimulating debate among students. In these cases, she might ask students to discuss their answers in small groups, then ask the question again to see if this peer teaching elicited the correct, or a more informed answer.

CPS has taken off at MRC, with some instructors conducting quizzes with them, and some even requiring students to buy their own clickers to ensure there are enough to go around. The college has acquired its third set of clickers, and interest continues to grow. The clickers have seen success all the way from English as a Second Language to Master's-level students. One MRC instructor even reports that, in a class with more students than clickers, since he started leaving the clickers on the desks at the front of the room on a first come, first served basis, students arrive early and race for the front of the class, a sure sign of enthusiasm!

Thanks to Dave, Allison and Meagan for an informative fall workshop!

In December 2006 and January 2007, the committee administered a survey of AACL members, to solicit ideas for upcoming workshop topics. The top five topics identified in the survey were:

1. Assessment of library services
2. Collection analysis
3. Information literacy theories and standards
4. Marketing
5. Library design and architecture

Thank you to everyone who participated in the survey – a whopping 32 AACL members! The committee is now on the lookout for possible speakers to present on these topics. Your ideas are welcomed, send them to either Alice Swabey or fellow workshop committee member Ann Gish.

Ann Gish – agish@gprc.ab.ca
Alice Swabey - aswabey@mtroyal.ca

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NEWS @your library™

Augustana University College
Submitted by Nancy Goebel

1) Augustana was happy to receive an honor from Ebsco recently, highlighting Augustana's Information Literacy program as an "Ebsco Customer Success Story". The article is available at http://www.epnet.com/successStories.php?topicID=334&marketID=20 (scroll down to the bottom of the list - we are the most recent entry).

2) The "Augustana Information Literacy in Academic Libraries Workshop" was held on November 16, 2006 - just in time before the snow came! Beth Dupuis was the featured speaker. Beth is the Associate University Librarian for Educational Initiatives and Director of the

Doe/Moffitt Libraries, University of California, at Berkeley and has a wealth of experience in many contexts and associations in the United States. Beth's topic was *Supporting Undergraduate Research Experiences*. The banner hanging behind Beth is Augustana's new "Information Literacy People Logo" - we invited students to lie in the snow and form the letters of the logo. We have printed in on cloth (shown) and on large banners for hanging around campus. It is great fun to watch the students pick out themselves and their friends!

(Beth Dupuis Doe/Moffitt Libraries, University of California, Berkeley)

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The Banff Centre
Submitted by James Rout

Library Expansion:
The Banff Centre received a $27 million investment by the Province of Alberta to continue the campus Revitalization Project that is currently underway. Included in this project are plans for a new home for the Paul D. Fleck Library and Archives, with building construction tentatively scheduled for 2009.
http://www.banffcentre.ca/about/revitalization/learning_centre.asp

Staffing Update:
With recent organizational restructuring at the Centre, James Rout assumed responsibility as Head of Library and Archives Services, and Patrick Lawless was promoted to a new position as Director of Participant Services and Registrar. The Banff Centre also has a new Music Librarian. James Mason recently moved from the New York Public Library to join the library department, bringing a wealth of knowledge and experience to that role. James has an MLS and MMus from the University of British Columbia.

Collections:
In July, the audio/visual collections in the library were opened for circulation. Previously they had only been available for in-house use. CD and video recordings are now available for 3-day loan, and the library has received very positive feedback regarding this service. Materials from the library's Artist's Book collection have been exhibited several times this past year, most recently at the University of Lethbridge. The 'Bibliomania' exhibition will showcase materials from this collection at the Helen Christou Gallery in Lethbridge from February 2 to March 16, 2007.

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Concordia University College of Alberta
Submitted by Dan Mirau

Service is always at the core of what we do at Concordia and we were very pleased to have received high marks from our students in the recently published Globe and Mail post-secondary rankings. Of the eight institutions in our size range, Concordia tied for second in the country in the overall library ranking. In service – we tied for first!

As usual, change is a way of life at Concordia. The Concordia Lutheran Seminary Library has recently joined the NEOS Library Consortium as a branch of the Concordia University College. This will mean broader community access to the seminary's 22,000-item collection, and improved service to the students in the Master of Divinity program. As part of this change, Concordia Bibliographic Services staff have valiantly taken on the added responsibility for all acquisitions and cataloguing of seminary materials. The centralization of bibliographic services, along with the improved circulation tracking that can be done using the SIRSI system is already having a very positive impact on the campus.

Concordia continues to build its online collection and has recently added licenses to Project MUSE, Safari TechBooks, and the Ebrary Academic Complete collection. Continuing membership in the Canadian Research Knowledge Network has made the addition of Wiley InterScience, Sage-CSA

online journal collections, Elsevier's SCOPUS possible, and of course, the Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library is going to make a huge and lasting impact on our campus. Of course, much work remains to be done on integrating these with the library's website, and ensuring that students and faculty know of all the great new collections. As we head into the start of this exciting year, marketing and promotion are going to be increasingly important.

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Canadian University College
Submitted By Joyce Van Scheik

What Have You Read Lately?

We started a contest in September to encourage students to read books from our library – not just skim them here and there for an assignment. We made it very simple to start with, just a very brief personal summary and evaluation of a book (DVD, Video, and CD) in our library.
It got off to a very slow start, but now that the students have seen the winners of the draw actually winning something, the participation has picked up. We make the draw generally the first Tuesday of each month in a student assembly. The prizes have been donated by the college advancement office as well as gift certificates from restaurants in Lacombe. We also announce the winner in the CUC Weekly newsletter.
It has brought a little more notice to the library!

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Grant MacEwan LRC
Submitted by Chris Miller & Valla McLean

Renovations
Grant MacEwan City Centre LRC is planning to begin renovations in the spring of 2007. The first phase of this project will include remodeled Borrower Services and Learning Technology desks as well as new entrances and exits to the LRC. Public access to the LRC will be limited and some services will be relocating to adjacent areas for four months. We expect a noisy few months next year, but look forward to these new changes as we continue to adapt and build upon the services we offer to our students.

Self-Checkout
MacEwan's City Centre campus installed a 3M V2 6420 self-checkout system in the fall of 2006. Feedback has been positive, with students saying they appreciate the anonymity and autonomy it offers, in addition to the opportunity to bypass lineups at the borrower services desk.

New Staff
January saw some staff changes among MacEwan's librarians. Sandy Stift has moved from the City Centre campus to the Center for the Arts where she will be acting Campus Librarian while Eva Revitt, who recently had a baby boy, is away on maternity leave. Chris Miller, who previously oversaw a data management project at the University of Alberta, has been hired on a one-year contract to cover her position at the City Centre campus. Karen Hering has also moved from the City Centre LRC to MacEwan's South Campus, where she is acting Campus Librarian, as well as handling duties from her recent appointment to the Lois Hole Information Literacy Awareness Committee. Virginia Pow has been hired for the coming six months at the City Centre campus while Karen is away. Virginia comes to MacEwan from corporate information management with the Alberta government and, prior to that, from the University of Alberta Library system. The City Centre campus has also welcomed Gordon Bertrand as the new Coordinator of Library Technology. Coming from St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia where he was a systems librarian, Gordon will be responsible for managing the Learning and Information Systems Department, as well as identifying and implementing new technologies for use within the LRC.

Margaret Atwood
More than 1,500 people filled the City Centre gymnasium on January 25 for a talk by renowned Canadian author Margaret Atwood, whose novel Oryx and Crake was selected as MacEwan's book of the year. The sold-out address, entitled *Oryx and Crake: How Long Have We Got?* addressed the dystopic themes raised in her novel. The library also hosted her in a ceremony to install a framed copy of Oryx and Crake on the College Book of the Year Wall of Fame. This event marks the 10th anniversary of MacEwan's College Book of the Year program, which is organized by a committee comprised of Roxy Welter, Yvonne Rezek, Margaret Lariviere, Susan Jones and Sonya Betz. Sonya also set up a blog on which students and faculty can discuss the novel.

Global College Week: From Me to We
MacEwan's four campuses will take part in the annual Global College Week, which runs from January 29 to February 2. Focusing on global issues, this event features displays, showcases and group activities that highlight different ways

students can make positive contributions on a global scale. Craig Kielburger, author of From Me to We: Turning Self Help on its Head, and From Me to We: Finding Meaning in a Materialistic World, will give the keynote address, entitled From *Me to We: How College and University Students Can Create Positive Social Change*. MacEwan is also hosting author Jean-Marc Hachey, author of The Big Guide to Living and Working Overseas. All four MacEwan LRCs will have displays highlighting different aspects of Global College Week. For more information, please visit www.macewan.ca/globalcollegeweek, or to view the schedule of events, go to http://www.macewan.ca/web/international/ims/client/upload/GCW%20Insert-Jan19_07.pdf.

Collection Development
With the establishment of degrees in Arts, Humanities and Child and Youth Care programs, there is a continuous flurry of collection building activity in these areas. The flood of new materials is now arriving shelf-ready. Numerous databases and e-journals have been added in recent months and our next enterprise is to develop and build our e-book collection. Our LRCs now have access to the first eight Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library resources, and we are looking forward to providing students with access to many more. The LRC has recently contracted for Xreferplus, an on-line full text reference database with more than 2 million entries and 65,000 images. MacEwan LRCs have also added REFWORKS to their services to students and faculty. REFWORKS allows users to import citations into their reference lists for easy management of their bibliographies for course work and research. The LRC will also expand its collection for two new degree programs. Funding for the Nursing degree has been approved and the program will commence in the fall of 2007. The provincial government has approved the College's Commerce degree, and we anticipate that it will commence in the fall of 2008. Funding discussions for this degree are in progress with the government.

LibQUAL comes to MacEwan
MacEwan LRCs will be collecting data from faculty, staff and students through the LibQUAL on-line survey from February 26 to March 19. LibQUAL surveys gauge users' opinions of the service quality they find in the LRC. The information gained through the surveys will allow staff to benchmark the LRC's performance and set goals for service as MacEwan begins offering more degree-granting programs. This year, 55 academic institutions across Canada will participate in LibQUAL, which was first administered in the United States in 2001 by the Association of Research Libraries. This is the first time that MacEwan LRCs have participated in a LibQUAL survey.

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Keyano College
Submitted by Laura Zinck

The fall semester was a busy time at Keyano College Library, with staffing changes, a library system upgrade, and planning for future development.

New Staff
As the new Information Librarian, I began working at Keyano College Library in August to prepare for the beginning of term. I haven't had the chance to meet most of you, so here is some information about me:

Laura Zinck has a Master's degree in English from Queen's University and an MLIS from the University of Western Ontario. Laura previously worked as the Library Manager of the New Glasgow branch of the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library, a public library system Nova Scotia. As the Information Librarian at Keyano, she is responsible for library instruction, reference, collection development, marketing, and public services staff supervision and training. She can now confirm that writing an "about me" blurb in the third person makes her feel extremely silly, but hopes that her new colleagues will not hold it against her.

In January, John Burgess joined us as the new Director for Library & Educational Resources. John has worked previously in three college libraries in B.C. – Douglas College, Vancouver Community College and Langara College, as well as briefly at Vancouver Public, and has experience in both technical services and public services. He also taught in the Library Technician program at Langara College for three years. Most recently, John was in Qatar setting up a library in a temporary facility as well as planning and moving to the permanent location for the College of the North Atlantic - Qatar. John's experience with library planning will be invaluable as the college moves forward with plans for a new and expanded library. Welcome, John!

New and Improved Services
Because our entire public services department has been hired within the last year, our first student orientation week at Keyano was an excellent learning experience for the whole team. The library participated in the orientation day information fair, held library orientation sessions for students, and hosted a station for the student orientation's

Amazing Race activities. We also gave library orientation and Information Commons sessions to new faculty participating in Keyano's Professional Educators Orientation.

In October, I created a blog to facilitate staff communications. Library staff have customized the blog with features including subjects and an online calendar to make it a useful staff communications portal.

In November, our technical services department and the college's computer services department performed a much-needed upgrade to our SIRSI system. Improvements to staffing numbers will mean that we will be able to keep pace with future upgrades and offer better online services to our patrons. Our participation in the Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library initiative will also improve services by providing more resources for Keyano's many programs of study.

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Lakeland College
Submitted by Wanjiku Kaai

As of July 1, 2006, the Library reports to Susan Bansgrove, Dean of the School of Arts, Health & Academic Services. The School consists of University Studies, Health and Human Services (Vermilion, Lloydminster), Academic Upgrading, Counseling, The Learning Centres and the Library. Susan reports to the Vice President, Academic.

Margo-Till Rogers has been appointed as a Sessional Full Time (Faculty) Public Services Librarian, December 15, 2006 to June 30, 2007. Margo will be providing professional library services to students, faculty and staff on the Lloydminster Campus. Margo's contact information is:

Margo-Till Rogers, Public Services Librarian
PH (780) 871 -5796
INTERNET
www.lakelandc.ab.ca/library
margo.till-rogers@lakelandc.ab.ca

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Medicine Hat College
Submitted by: Lilian Li

On November 28, we celebrated a major milestone at the Vera Bracken Library when we welcomed the one-millionth visitor to the Library! That is one million people passing through the entrance gate counter since we opened in May of 2003. We weren't quite sure when the actual lucky person entered so we had students fill in a draw form that day and chose three winners. The prizes were nice: an I-Pod Nano and gift certificates so students were anxious to participate. As part of our regular Student Appreciation Week we asked the students to write down on the entry form what they like best about the library; we wanted warm fuzzies and so didn't ask them what they would like improved. It was heart-warming to read their pleasant comments about the staff, facility, and resources.

When Alice McNair was our guest speaker at a staff in-service in 2004, she gave us the idea to have a Favorite Book Christmas Tree. This popular event is now in its second year with faculty, students, and library staff giving us the names of their favorite books, along with a donation to the Santa Claus Fund charity. We hang a small replica of the book jacket, downloaded from the Internet, on the tree as an ornament. The tree, covered in book jackets, attracts a lot of positive attention.

In October Lilian Li, Information and Technology Librarian, participated in the weeklong Leadership Institute sponsored by the Pacific Northwest Library Association. Along with 31 other participants and the eight mentors from the Pacific Northwest region (including Alberta and British Columbia), they experienced an intensive, educational, and well worthwhile week in Donnelley, Idaho. The activities were built on the "Enneagram" personality test with the idea that self-awareness is the first step in developing leadership skills. Lilian came back with an increased passion for librarianship, confident in new leadership skills, and anxious to practice some of the tips she learned.

In the summer, wireless Internet access was initiated at the College with the Library being one of three "hot zones" in the institute. Although I initially thought that term meant we had some attractive people working here, it has been successful in attracting students who bring their own laptops to the College. We are also experimenting with IM service and are having fun learning the jargon of the young, as we become experts in dropping capitalization and punctuation from our messages.

This winter we will be joining some of our colleagues by installing the RELAIS system for our interlibrary loans department. We have also firmly established ourselves as the copyright gurus when Deans Council named our Interlibrary Loans

Technician, Jason MacDonald, as the College Copyright Officer.

In February, we will be hosting the third annual "One Book One Community" event in partnership with the Medicine Hat Public Library and the Medicine Hat Cultural Alliance. This year the whole city is reading An Audience of Chairs by Joan Clark. Events such as book discussions and Cape Breton-themed meals will be highlighted by a visit from the author herself, all the way from Newfoundland.

If you happened to miss it, please be sure to look at the winter issue of the newsletter from the Alberta Association of Library Technicians because Medicine Hat College Library stars as the centerfold! It is a very nice article about our wonderful library – for those of you who haven't visited, you can almost do it virtually through the glowing write-up!

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Mount Royal College
Submitted by Ross Thrasher

Staff Changes
Librarians

- Alice Swabey and Michelle Sinotte were appointed as tenure-track librarians in August.
- Meagan Weber was awarded tenure this fall.
- Carol Sinanan, who has worked at MRC since 1977, has announced her retirement in January 2007. Francine May has been hired to replace Carol.

Support Staff

- Serials Technician Marilyn Cox retired in June and was replaced by Jane Roberts.
- Kim Shelly is our new Technical Services Technician.
- Two of our Access Desk Technicians are on maternity leave this year – must be the de-sensitizer! Melissa Jansen and Aislinn Lawreniuk have replaced the proud moms, Theresa Remtulla and Sarah Stephens.

Degree Proposals
MRC has developed an ambitious plan to become a degree-granting institution in a wide range of disciplines. A number of degree proposals have been submitted to Alberta Advanced Education. The Library has contributed information on our learning resources and services to the self-study reports for these proposals.

The first proposal, Bachelor of Nursing, triggered an institutional review by the Campus Alberta Quality Council in June, followed by a program review in November. The College is confident of a favourable decision that will enable us to launch our new B.N.degree next fall. Meanwhile other degree proposals – Arts, Science, Business, Communication, etc. – are in the Quality Council pipeline, with an optimistic launch date of fall 2008.

Facilities
Library expansion has been identified as the top priority capital project for the College. To that end, a Library Expansion Planning Committee was formed this fall, with a $500,000 advance from College Reserves to develop a detailed proposal. An RFI will go out to the architectural community in January.

Budget
2006-07 is Year 1 of the ten-year growth plan outlined in the MRC Library Transition Task Force report. The plan calls for an 8% annual increase in the Library base budget, with the increased funds to be equally divided between acquisitions and other operating needs (primarily staffing). The College fell short of this 8% target in 2006-07, but the Library has just received a one-time allocation of $200,000 for acquisitions and related staffing costs.

Library Management
A faculty chair position was created in fall 2006 to assist in the management of the Library, especially the hiring, mentoring and evaluation of faculty members in the department. Janet Monteith has been appointed Library Chair for a three-year period.

A persistent problem of noise and inappropriate behavior by students in the MRC Library has been addressed this fall with the implementation of a publicity and enforcement campaign to reaffirm the Library as an academic space. A temporary security officer has been hired to enforce the rules, and several tables in the Library have been replaced by study carrels.

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NAIT Library
Submitted by Helga Kinnaird

- In December, the Campus Alberta Quality Council advised NAIT that the proposed Bachelor of Technology in Applied Science and Engineering Technology has been moved to the program evaluation stage of review.

- A Student Orientation Video that introduces McNally Library and the Project Factory has been created for the School of Business.

- We are well into the "course design" phase of developing a new Information Literacy Research course that will be available in WebCT. The course will provide the basis for more focused subject-based courses for the degree programs plus modules that can be embedded at appropriate points into other online courses.

- The School of Business has made information literacy instruction by Library staff a mandatory component of the Communications 121 course. In the recent past, we have been teaching for some, but not all of the sections. This year we have taught all sections and have had excellent input and feedback from faculty.

- The Fairview Campus Library held a "Welcome Back Event" for Northwest instructors. Over the course of the afternoon, approximately 30 percent of the Fairview instructional staff dropped by for coffee and donuts. Between August 28th and September 30th, every intake of students to programs at the Fairview campus, except for the 3rd period Welders, participated in a 55-minute library orientation called "Exploring the Fairview Library." A total of 200 students attended these orientation sessions.

- Librarians have been heavily involved in committee work as part of the NAIT e-Learning Initiative. The contributions of the two most recent librarians to join our staff, Shannon D'Agnone and Christine Bourchier, have made this work possible without negatively impacting our regular service levels. They have both also completed NAIT's Becoming a Master Instructor course.

- Our IM reference service is continuing and we are now collecting user feedback at the end of each interaction by sending a link to a short survey (using the Survey Tool).

- The Fairview Campus Library - NAITSA Food Bank Drive was huge success. This year the generosity of NAIT Instructors, Staff and Students resulted in 204.45 pounds of food being provided to the NAITSA Food Bank for students on the Fairview campus, a 5 percent increase over the 2005 donations.

- The Project Factory and McNally Library piloted the addition of an evening to our normal summer hours of operation (8 am to 4 pm). Both facilities remained open until 8 p.m. on Wednesdays and a number of students took advantage of this additional access during July and August.

- As part of the ongoing integration of the Northwest and Metro library operations, our two library databases were amalgamated during the summer. This was the culmination of two years of preparation. Students and staff will now be able to search the holdings of all NAIT Libraries through one catalogue and see immediately what resources are available on any given subject. It will be easier to request delivery of materials between campus locations. Having one database will allow the library to streamline many of our internal acquisitions, cataloguing and processing workflows. Database maintenance and upgrades will need to be done on one database only. Several ongoing projects are still required to clean up authority and bibliographic records to ensure standardization in the amalgamated database. After the completion of the database merger, we upgraded our integrated library system software to the most recent version, an upgrade of two versions.

- The Fairview Campus Library is now one of five wireless hotspots on the Fairview campus.

NorQuest College
Submitted by Kathy Zarft and Joan Morrison

NorQuest College Library is preparing for the movement of eight English as a Second Language classes from our Westmount Campus to our Downtown Campus. This move will free-up much needed space at Westmount. The Downtown team is planning for the ESL classes' weekly visits to the Library for reading and research related coursework.

At NorQuest College's annual Professional Development Day the Library presented at a fully booked session on finding information online.

Diane Reid led the group through a hands-on session on methods of improving Internet results using Google. Joan Morrison covered e-books, databases and selected websites. A separate afternoon session focused on incorporating online resources into online instruction.

On January 10th the Library hosted a reading by Herb Belcourt of his book *Walking in the Woods: A Métis Journey*. The book has been well received and has appeared on several bestselling lists. The Library will also be hosting a celebration of Family Reading in February. This event will be an opportunity to thank the donors who have committed $30,000 to expand our collection of books for our students to read aloud with their children. Our collection of children's books is heavily used as 46% of NorQuest students have dependents.

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Red Deer College
Submitted by Anne Marie Watson

At our Library beginning-of-term meeting in August, our Team Leader, Maureen Toews, told us that for the first time in many years, we had nothing new for September. Well, she spoke too soon! Just a month later, in late September, we were asked by the College to make space for 48 trades students who needed "open learning" space. We went into high gear to come up with some renovation possibilities and to make recommendations, and then we planned for and executed a collection and space move – all within a few short weeks.

So where did we find space in our already crowded and busy library? We compacted our periodical collection, putting some lesser-used volumes into storage. We managed to fit the collection into almost half the space it formerly occupied, freeing up a large section of our main floor for the addition of tables and carrels and temporary group study rooms. We also shifted our reference collection, which made room for some new soft seating areas that were quickly embraced by the students.

The trades students started meeting in the library at the end of October, using laptops signed out by library staff to complete their course modules and exams under the supervision of their instructors. While is has not been without some small problems, the move of the trade students into the library has been very positive. It's great to see this large part of the student population – traditionally not very active library users.

This open learning area is expected to be in place for about two years, until the College's new trades wing is complete.

Another renovation involved converting an office into a sound and video production room. This space, complete with a computer and specialized software and equipment, can be used by faculty, staff and students.

In fact, we used the room to produce our very first pod cast! For two months, we have a unique art exhibition on display in the library. Faculty and staff of the College's visual art program have each contributed new work to the display, along with an artist statement. The artist statements and an image of each art piece were turned into a video pod cast, which is available for viewing on the web (as a virtual art show), or for downloading to an MP3 player like an iPod (as a guided tour of the art show). Check out our website for the pod cast.

While you're at our website, check out biblioTECH, our new blog geared toward faculty and staff. The goal of the blog is to provide value-added news and information about library products, services, and events. While it has been slow to take off, we feel this will prove to be an important means of communicating with this audience.

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SAIT Library
Submitted by Nora Robinson

Library Staff News
Edith Koprek and Jim Gray joined the SAIT Library in September and provide coverage for our evening and weekend hours. The addition of these new part time positions has allowed the library to increase its Sunday staff from one to two library technicians.

In September, Irene Guidos, one of our evening-weekend library technicians left us and moved to the Luke Lindoe Library at ACAD. Lenka Zdrazilova joined us in November.

We are also pleased to announce that Jenny Rong Zhou joined the SAIT Library on December 1. Jenny is now part of our Research and Knowledge Management Team and works on our Information Desk. Jenny Rong Zhou, our newest library technician, joins the Research and Knowledge Management Group on December 1. She moved to Calgary from Prince Albert where she worked for the Saskatchewan Forest Information Centre Library. She replaces Kristian McInnis who was our maternity leave cover-off for Michelle Racine-Stacey. Kristian has moved to the Information

Commons at the University of Calgary and is completing his Masters degree in Communications Studies at U of C. In August, Michelle resigned and accepted a part time position with the Calgary Police Services Library.

Library Web Page
Our new library home page was launched in August. The website is now easier to navigate and provides clear access to our information resources and services. Kat Johnston led the project that completely revamped the website architecture to make it compliant with current industry standards as well as being easier to update and maintain in the future. We reorganized, rewrote and created new content. We created sections that outline services available to our various user groups. We have a several new guides that will help students with their research. These include "Building a Research Strategy", "Evaluating Information" and "Avoiding Plagiarism". If you'd like to check out our new website, it's at http://library.sait.ca.

Study Rooms
The library's seven student group study rooms have been in high demand since we moved to the Heart Building in 2001. In September we initiated an online study room booking service called ORB (Online Room Booking) using a web based product from www.onlinescheduling.com . Our old hard copy self sign-up system was not providing equitable room access for students and was difficult for staff to monitor. Prior to accessing the new online booking timetable students need to register at the library Information Desk. Registered users can access ORB via the library home page in the Quick Links section. Students can book a maximum of two hours per week up to two weeks in advance. Dave Weber demonstrated the booking software at AACL in November.

In January, we will be adding an eighth study room as part of the renovations.

We received funding from the SAIT OCO Legacy Fund for digital projection equipment and computer workstations for two of our study rooms. This will let students practice their presentations – a frequent request.

Renovations

The area immediately in front of the Library is being added to the Library. Our Facilities department has re-carpeted and painted the area. They've added electrical and data lines for our laptop computer users. We will be installing 25 new computer workstations for general use. New printers and photocopiers are also being installed. We're also reconfiguring the Information Desk so we can provide service to the new area as well as the existing area. We're hoping the renovations will be complete by mid-January.

Library Instruction
In the fall 2006 semester, we delivered 101 library instruction sessions to over 2100 students. Our instructional program includes everything from basic introductory tours to our library skills workshop, which is integrated into the technical communications courses to specialized workshops developed on request. Our goal is to show students how to effectively locate and use information, using resources from the library book and AV collection, the library databases and the web.

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Retirements

After almost 30 years service, Carol Sinanan retired from the Mount Royal College Library. Carol worked as an instructional services librarian.

(Carol Sinanan, Mount Royal College Library)

Awards

(Dr. Dave "Doc" Larson, Augustana University College)

On November 16, 2006 at the 6th Annual *Augustana Information Literacy in Academic Libraries Workshop,* I was pleased to award Dr. Dave "Doc" Larson with Augustana's 2006 "Teaching Faculty Award for the Support of Information Literacy" Award. "Doc" is a strong advocate of Augustana's Information Literacy initiatives and has always placed strong emphasis on the importance of library research skills in his courses.

Over the years, "Doc" has routinely invited Reference Librarians to guest lecture in his classes to teach students the most current approaches and strategies to conduct effective library research. One such commitment to library research for students has been "Doc's" development and continual refinement of a reading log assignment related to the use of primary literature over his 35 years of teaching Biology (Entomology) at Augustana. He provided the following information regarding his estimate of the influence of Augustana Reference Librarians in his teaching and support of this reading log assignment:

Parameters:

- 12 reading logs per student per course
- 30 students (average) per course
- 4 courses per year
- 35 years of teaching

Totals: 50, 400 reading logs have been completed by "Doc's" students using information literacy skills taught by Augustana Reference Librarians in his Biology courses (or in Augustana's "BIO 210: Biological Sciences and Information Literacy" course) in order to locate, assess and use appropriate sources.

"Doc" has often commented on the marked improvement he has observed in student research papers because of Augustana's Information Literacy initiatives. The Augustana librarians feel fortunate to have faculty members like "Doc" who place such a high value on teaching library research skills to undergraduate students.

It seems also fitting to award this to "Doc" in the year that Augustana celebrates his 35 years of teaching and service to Augustana. Congratulations "Doc"!

(Dr. Dave "Doc" Larson, Augustana University College)

For more information about Information Literacy at Augustana:

Go to: www.augustana.ca/library/infolit/

OR contact:

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Update your bookmarks!

The AACL website address has changed to
http://aacl.engineseven.com/

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

Hot Off the Press

Next AACL Meeting

Spring Business and Workshop Meeting

April 19, 2007

Hosted by Mount Royal College Library

Watch for details upcoming on the AACL website.

Ampersand (&)

It's easy to blog on our new website!

http://aacl.engineseven.com/

You will to need to sign up for an account in order to post to the website. Accounts are available (and free!) for any member of AACL.