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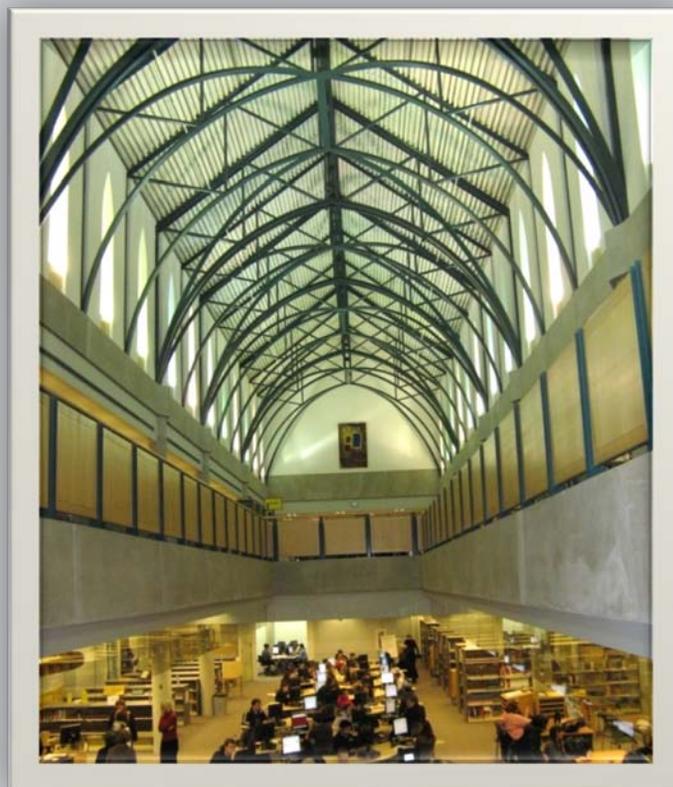
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Editor – Dave Weber

*Fall 2008 Meeting At MacEwan College, Edmonton,
November 5, 2008*



Grant MacEwan College Library



News@Your Library



Grant MacEwan College

Renovations

Renovations to the City Centre Library that began back in May are nearly finished! The biggest change has been the establishment of the Reference and Research Desk on the second floor, removing it from its previous position on the third floor. In addition, there is a new computer lab on the second floor with an abundance of new technology, such as touch screens and double display projectors, which will be used during library instruction, and students have access to new group study rooms. The entire main collection has been moved to the third floor, while the reference and legal collections have been moved to the second floor. There is still some painting to be done, and a few doors left to be installed, but this work should be done by the end of January.

Staff changes

Marlene Beltare and Roxy Garstad will be leaving the City Centre Campus Library early in the new year. Marlene, a Library Technician with MacEwan since 1985, is finishing up a diploma in Social Work, and will be retiring from the College in early 2009. She begins her social work field placement starting in January, and after that, she is moving to the Nanaimo area of Vancouver Island to pursue her passion for helping others. Roxy, MacEwan's Physical Sciences librarian since she started with MacEwan in 2005, will be taking a one year maternity leave, starting in February. She and her husband Dr. Benjamin Garstad, a professor of Classics at MacEwan, are expecting their first baby in March. Jennifer Cameron, Training and Development Librarian for Yellowhead Regional Library System for the past five years, will join the City Centre Library staff during Roxy's absence. Finally, the City Centre Library has welcomed Becky Willson, who started in August, 2008, on a nine-month contract. She is the liaison to the Education, Public Relations, Human Resource Management and the Information Management & Library Technology programs. Becky graduated from the University of Alberta's MLIS program in 2008, and holds an undergraduate degree in Psychology from the same institution.

Sunwapta Record Collection moving to the Provincial Archives

The Sunwapta record collection will be transferred from MacEwan's Centre for the Arts and Communications Library to the Provincial Archives of Alberta in the spring of 2009. The Sunwapta collection consists of approximately 15,000 vinyl records made between the 1920s and the 1950s. The Provincial Archives can provide superior storage and audio access to the fragile 78 and 33 rpm collection.





Lakeland College

Submitted by Wanjiku Kaai and Margo Till-Rogers

- Programming continues to expand at our College, creating new demand for collection development. Additional courses are being offered in various areas such as University Studies (with offerings of upper year sociology and psychology, French, art history, physical education and physics new this year); Massage Therapy; Retail Pharmacy Technician and Deaf Studies. Delivered at the University of Alberta, our Deaf Studies program offers the additional challenge of 'resourcing from a distance'. We have been greatly assisted in this process through our participation in TAL, LHCADL and NEOS.
- The Library, starting this academic year is responsible for collection development for the Fire Training School (Fire etc). The Fire School is now a school within Lakeland College. Their library materials have been integrated into the Library system and can be accessed by all NEOS member Libraries.
- A spring launch is planned for Lakeland College Library's new website. The website, designed by Vancouver's Marqui, Inc., will incorporate the same look and feel as the main Lakeland College site. Our URL will also be changing upon launch. Stay tuned for further details.
- After a number of changes over the past few years, staffing has remained stable so far in 2008/9, with Library maintaining a complement of 2 public services librarians, 4 library technicians, 1 administrative assistance and 1 library/media services assistants, as well as a number of casual evening/weekend staff members.



*Ann Currie, University of Alberta and Anne-Marie Watson, Red Deer College
(Workshop Presentation: Trends in Library and Information Studies Education)*



Medicine Hat College

Submitted by Lilian Li

The fall term at MHC was an interesting one due to the introduction of some new technology in the library and a new student information system (SIS) for the college. Over the summer all of the computers throughout the library, including the offices and student stations, were replaced with brand new equipment and shortly into the new semester all of the chairs for the students were also replaced, with nice bright red ones. At the same time the library was the first place on campus to implement the Vista operating system. Despite not having nearly the problems with it we thought we might, the college has since decided not to go that route anywhere else – so much for being the lead! A new security procedure for computer access, an enhanced photo ID system, and the integration with the new SIS all brought some more interesting dimensions to the usual confusion and excitement of the start of term. But we made it through and the library is still by far the most popular place on campus: in fact the IT department tells us that the student printer in the library handles more printing than all of the other printers in the college combined!

We also welcomed new staff members to the team this fall including the new Collections and Instruction Librarian, Jenny Thornhill. Jenny came from the University of Lethbridge at the end of the summer and has quickly become involved in many aspects of life at a busy college library. She is reviewing some of our collections and policies and is working on a proposal to submit to our new Research and Innovation Committee for funding – a new initiative for the library.

Thanks to Keith's involvement in the Chair Academy's Leadership course this year, the library staff have been taking part in discussions to develop a new vision and mission statement for the department. After feedback from almost all of the staff in different focus groups, a smaller committee is now working on developing a dynamic vision that we can all embrace – and “wear in our shoes instead of on a shelf” as they say in leadership land!

The Marketing and Social Committees continue to do many innovative things to make the library an interesting place to visit and to work in. In addition to being involved in serious things such as the college Open House and Student for a Day programs, the staff also enjoy the annual “Beach the Blues Day” in mid-winter, giving away fortune cookies and lip balm at the Information Desk, and promoting the Library User of the Month and the Christmas Book Tree. The fifth annual One Book One Community event is a partnership between the college and the public library where everyone in the community reads the same book and comes together for book discussions and other events based around the theme of the book (the meals are always a hit). This year the library is also working with the public library in a new promotion of reading where copies of “hot sellers” at Medicine Hat Public are available for loan directly from the college...so far it has mostly been a hit with the staff but perhaps during Reading Week the students will take up reading!

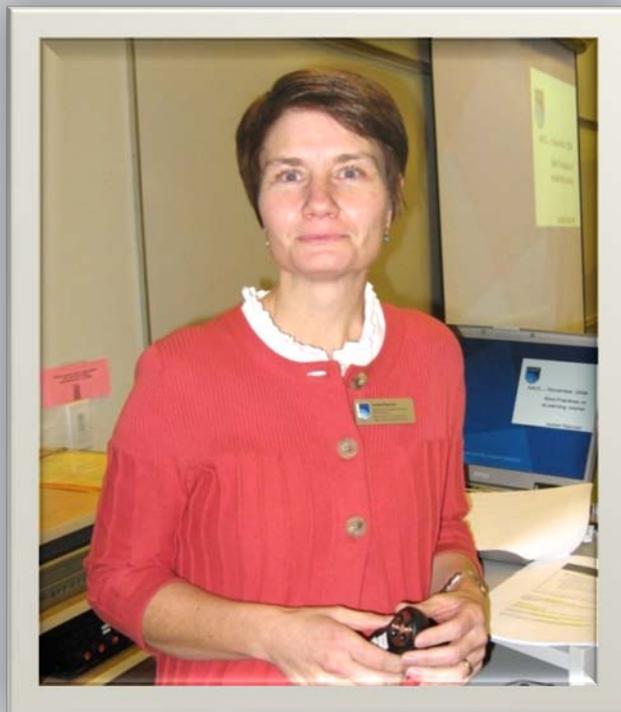




NAIT Library

Submitted by Helga Kinnaird

- Danessa Picklyk and Christine Bouchier gave a presentation at October's Netspeed Conference on the use of podcasting and other technologies to create an online tour.
- Isobel Rancier presented at the Fall Meeting of AACL on the library's involvement in the development and delivery of NAIT's *Best Practices in eLearning* course that is available to staff at participating eCampus Alberta institutions.
- NAIT's Centre for Teaching and Learning produces a monthly eZine on topics of interest to faculty. Library staff contributed the content for the October issue, which focused on Information Literacy.
- Again this year, the major emphasis for library staff has been on special and ongoing initiatives to support the development and delivery of NAIT's two baccalaureate degrees.



*Isobel Rancier, NAIT
(Workshop Presentation: Best Practices in E-Learning Facilitation Course)*



Red Deer College

Submitted by Anne Marie Watson

Red Deer College has had some “people” changes in the past few months. Kristine Plastow replaces Maureen Toews as Chair of the Learning Commons (which includes the Library). Maureen is working half-time with the Learning Commons, and half-time with campus space planning. Michelle Edwards-Thomson received continuous appointment in December 2008, much to her relief (no more onerous paperwork!). We also hired two new librarians for the fall term; Nadine Anderson and Yvonne Anderson (not related to each other). Nadine’s primary focus is collection development and technical services, while Yvonne has primary responsibility for the reference service.

The NOVA Learning Commons recently opened at the College on January 5, 2009. Staffed by the Library’s technology tutors, this space is open from 7am-5 pm weekdays. Right now, it primarily serves trades & technology students, but will eventually serve the entire campus community. As with any new building, we are still learning about the space and there is still much work to be done.

Our six-year partnership with Parkland Regional Library (PRL), in which we provided reference and resource sharing services to PRL’s member libraries, came to an official end in December 2008, due to budgetary concerns. We are now working with PRL to formalize the many ways we can still work together.

Going into the academic budget process, our focus over the next few years will be on examining integrated services (perhaps leading to a “one service desk” configuration), embedding information fluency across the curricula, and job enrichment for our employees. We look forward to plenty of challenges and opportunities ahead!



NorQuest College

Submitted by Joan Morrison

NorQuest College Library has been busy these past few months. The College moved to a trimester model from the Learn Alberta 2-term model in 2008. The change in the academic calendar created a bit of a stir for Library programming. The Library has adjusted to the new schedule and all is well.

Eve Poirier joined the team at NorQuest College in a new position as Coordinator of Library Services. Eve started at NorQuest in September 2008 joining us from Justice Canada. You may remember Eve’s recent presentation at AACL on her work in Sudan. Welcome Eve!



NorQuest Library is expanding contact points for reference services. We are piloting Meebo for chat reference and will be introducing it as a service to our clients in 2009. We are also working with our Health Careers program to offer embedded librarian reference assistance via Blackboard.

We recently added the Ebrary Community College ebook package of 18,000+ titles which is a huge increase to our ebook collections, and purchased a college-wide subscription to Noodlebib to assist students in formulating bibliographies. NorQuest recently subscribed to OCLC with the intent to subscribe to WorldCat Collection Analysis. We also successfully upgraded to Voyager 7.0.2 (Windows server) in December 2008 and now working to implement the new Webvoyage interface by June.

The Learner Centre at NorQuest is an area that includes the Library, Tutorial Centre, Computer facility with help desk, and Learning Support Services. This cluster of services performed a user assessment in late 2008 collecting feedback from both student and faculty/staff. We had an excellent response rate and will be using this information to frame our new strategic plan.



SAIT Library

Submitted by Nora Robinson

Technology

The first of eight library study rooms now offers upgraded digital/media equipment. Along with a workstation and wall mounted flat screen monitor, new equipment in each room includes a DVD and video player. The temporary computer desks have been replaced by a reconfigured study table and equipment rack.

The 2nd generation of wireless has been installed and is working. The new wireless system will work on any laptop or hand-held device the student, faculty or staff member is using.

SLIC Blog

The SAIT Library Information Collective was created in October. The SLIC blog is hosted on GOOGLE blogger.com. Library staff expressed a desire to develop a communications tool that could replace OUTLOOK email. Tag clouds and an archive make it easy for staff to consult the blog for past discussions. Rather than searching through [multitudinous](#) Outlook emails, staff just click on keywords to find comments relevant to their information needs. Library staff are now better equipped to interpret policies and procedures with uniformity and consistency to achieve high quality client service.

Staff News

Zahina Iqbal, research and knowledge management librarian retired in September 2008, after ten years of service. Jim Gray and Danica Dixon started in full time library technician positions January 2. Jim will be supervising the evening and weekend staff. Danica joins the Library's



instruction and communications team. Rosie Bruinsma and Winnie Siu will be working evenings and weekends.

Legacy '88 Funding Approved

In December, we received word that our request for \$27,000 from the '88 Legacy Fund had been approved. The Legacy '88 investment fund was created from SAIT moneys earned during the 1988 Olympics. The return realized from the investment of those funds is allocated annually by the '88 Legacy Committee. The funding will be used to create 5 additional student laptop group work tables. The tables, which will be located on Level 1, will have network and electrical connections. We have 2 wired tables in the front area of the Library and they are very popular with students. Work will start in February.



*Kathy West and Janet Williamson
(Workshop Presentation: Wikipedia: Friend or Foe)*



Ampersand (&)

Alberta Association of College Librarians Celebrates its 35th Anniversary

By Cari Merkley, Director at Large, Alberta Association of College Librarians

Since 1973, the Alberta Association of College Librarians (AACL) has provided librarians from the province's colleges and technical institutes with opportunities for cooperation and idea sharing. Originally formed to facilitate the creation of a union list of serials as well as shared procedures for cataloguing and acquisitions, the mandate of the organization has since grown to include providing professional development opportunities for members, and collecting data on staffing, hours, salaries and collections at member libraries. AACL also continues to represent and advocate for the interests of college and technical libraries in the larger library community. The Association meets on a semi-annual basis, gathering this year at St. Mary's University College in Calgary in May and Grant MacEwan College in Edmonton in November. The spring meeting brought together 33 representatives from 18 institutions across the province for the celebration of the organization's 35th anniversary and several presentations, including one librarian's international job sharing experiences, the "Polishing Diamonds" faculty peer evaluation initiative at Grant MacEwan College, and Red Deer College's evolving Learning Commons. The fall meeting showcased presentations on trends in library education, NAIT's development of an information literacy module for an online course and Wikipedia. To learn more about the AACL, please visit our website at <http://aocl.engineseven.com/>

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Augustana Library Honours Dr. Shauna Wilton, Camrose, Alberta, Canada November 21, 2008.

The University of Alberta Augustana Campus is pleased to announce that Dr. Shauna Wilton, assistant professor of Political Studies at Augustana, is the winner of the 2008 *Teaching Faculty Award for the Support of Information Literacy*.

Nancy Goebel, Augustana Head Librarian and Chair of the Award Committee noted that "Dr. Wilton's strong commitment to undergraduate teaching & learning is evident in her ongoing collaboration with librarians to address information literacy in the various Political Studies courses that she teaches. She welcomes the initiatives of librarians as guest instructors in her classroom and is always more than willing to collaborate on assignments that aim to develop students' information literacy. A notable collaboration included a two-part assignment in her Political Studies 104 - Introduction to Politics: Processes and Institutions of Government in



which students had to demonstrate how to find and critically evaluate relevant information on an election campaign issue using the catalogue and periodical databases.”

The nomination for this award, submitted by an Augustana student, included the following statement "Professor Wilton maintains an on-going relationship with the library and its resources and strongly encourages her students to do the same".

Goebel also noted that “Dr. Wilton continues to seek ways to develop information literacy within the context of her discipline of Political Studies. Accordingly, she has collaborated with librarians in the design of a new course, Political Studies 200 which will be a required course for all Political Studies students at Augustana. This course will introduce students to the research process and various methodological approaches within political studies, while helping students to develop research and information literacy skills. Topics included in the course will include research design and communication, quantitative and qualitative methods, exploring and assessing sources of information as well as information literacy, in general.”

Initiated in 2005, this annual award is given to an Augustana teaching faculty member who has contributed consistently and notably to the promotion of information literacy at Augustana Faculty. Nominations are accepted from Augustana students, staff, faculty and administrators.

The award was presented to Dr. Wilton at the *8th Annual Augustana Information Literacy in Academic Libraries Workshop* on November 20, 2008. See <http://www.augustana.ualberta.ca/library/infolit/awards.html#faculty> for information on the award.

The Augustana Campus Library's information literacy initiatives (<http://www.augustana.ualberta.ca/library/infolit/>) provide opportunities for the Augustana community to learn how to find and use library and information resources — crucial skills for success both at university and throughout life. In addition to the Information Literacy Awards, the Library promotes the development of strong critical thinking and research skills through 21 discipline-specific information literacy credit courses, in-class presentations, and an annual workshop featuring experts from around the world.

(8)

Next Meeting: April 16, 2009 in Calgary at SAIT