



# ELAN

Ex Libris Association Newsletter

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## Our President's Report

By Jan Jacobson

I hope you all had a pleasant summer despite the unusual weather. Since the Spring 2009 *ELAN* newsletter, Ex Libris Association members have carried out a variety of activities. We have had exhibits at several conferences. Norman Horrocks arranged for and manned the exhibit tables at the APLA and Canadian Association of Law Libraries (CALL) conferences, as well as speaking about ELA at a luncheon of the Nova Scotia Regional Libraries Retirees Group.

Several of us attended the CLA conference in Montreal in May and helped out at the exhibit table there. I attended the session on programs for older adults called "Serving Boomers and Beyond". Two of the libraries presenting were previous winners of our W. Kaye Lamb Award. (The session is reviewed elsewhere in this issue.) Special thanks to Liz and John Warrener for arranging the shipment of all our sale items to the various conferences.

Our committees continue to work hard. Jean Weihs and Frances Davidson-Arnott and the *ELAN* committee put together an excellent newsletter. A special issue on now-defunct library associations is being considered, and pictures may be added to the ELA website.

The Committee on Recruitment and Public Relations, chaired by Frances Davidson-Arnott, handles the advertising for all our activities. Frances, along with Carrol Lunau, is organizing another interesting program for the AGM on November 9 – this time on prison libraries and book-award juries. Beth McLean, as part of this Committee, is interviewing public librarians to find out how we can market the W. Kaye Lamb Award more effectively.

The Website Committee, chaired by Jim Montgomery, continues to liaise with University of Toronto to update our website. Diane Henderson is preparing an index to all the issues of *ELAN*, which will be mounted on the ELA website.



Carrol Lunau has put together a list of materials on librarians, which is held by Library and Archives Canada for the Biographical Project. This committee is chaired by Nancy Williamson, who is also our archivist. Nancy reports that she has received extensive files of information on Brian Land and Sherrill Cheda.

Jean Orpwood and Jean Weihs, our Ad Hoc Tours Committee, arranged a very interesting tour of the Royal Ontario Museum Library in April, followed by an elegant lunch in their restaurant. In September, we toured the Ontario Public Archives. A tour of wineries in the Niagara region of Ontario is also being considered.

*continued on page 2*

### Annual Conference and AGM November 9, 2009 at North York Central Library

The program will have two sessions:

- Prison Libraries, presented by Joanne Lefebvre, promises to be a very interesting discussion of how it used to be and what is now happening
- Literary Award Selection, with speakers including Douglas Gibson, Todd Kyle and Ken Settington, who will tell us what it is like to choose winners for major literary prizes

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Our Ad Hoc Committee on the Constitution, chaired by Norman Horrocks, is working on some changes of wording in our newly revised By-Laws.

We continue to advocate on behalf of libraries facing cuts to funds or services, and in support of hiring people with proper credentials in our national institutions.

In closing, I would especially like to thank our executive, Secretary Jean Weihs, Treasurer Doreen London, Past President Arn Bailey, and Vice President Carrol Lunau, for their constant, ongoing support of the organization. ■

### When You Move

Please remember to send your new address to:

Ex Libris Association  
Faculty of Information  
University of Toronto  
140 St. George Street,  
Toronto, Ontario M5S 3G6

## Having a Good Time with Ex Libris

By Frances Davidson-Arnott

As I write this, my five-year-long tenure on the Ex Libris Board is coming to an end. The time has gone by in a flash. It all started years and years ago with Harry Campbell accosting me at annual OLA conferences, thrusting *ELAN* at me and demanding my interest in library history! And then my friend Jean Weihs sitting at the ELA desk was also quietly persuasive. I always said, "Yes, when I retire!" At last the glorious moment of early retirement came and immediately Jean asked me if I would assist her in writing the history of library technician education for the special education issue of *ELAN*. Then, still persuasive, Jean convinced me to be the next President-Elect.

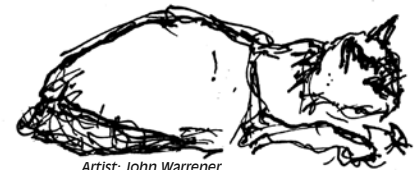
Hooked!!!

Serving on the ELA Board has been an enriching experience for me. ELA work helped me make the transition from busy working person to retired person. Ex Libris kept me very busy. I was able to use my skills, call on my contacts, accomplish projects, write, and think. Best of all, I could interact

with librarians, my favourite folks: intelligent, knowledgeable, open-minded, thoughtful. The bonus is that in retirement they are now even better. No longer fighting the library battle for space and money, the spirit of co-operation and kindness prevails. There is no competition for recognition, no political in-fighting – just co-operation and pleasantness at a nice, slow human pace.

I will miss seeing everyone regularly and being at the centre of Ex Libris decision-making but will still be active, co-chairing the *ELAN* committee with Jean Weihs for a while, helping out on committee work as needed and attending events.

It's been fun! ■



Artist: John Warrener

## Interest Group on Services for Older Adults – Presentations at CLA

By Jan Jacobson

I attended an excellent session at the 2009 CLA Conference that was sponsored by the Interest Group on Services for Older Adults and chaired by Heather MacKenzie. The session was called Serving Boomers and Beyond – A Showcase of Best Practices (Library Service Models for Older Adults). Two of the presenting libraries had won the W. Kaye Lamb Award, which ELA sponsors on a biennial basis with CLA.

Edmonton Public Library's **Louise Reimer** described the special challenges they face with a rapidly aging multicultural and multiracial seniors population in a city with long winters. At EPL, 2007 was the Year of the Older Adult. The Seniors Action Team was set up to look at the range of programs available to seniors. The Library conducted facility audits and trained staff to be "senior friendly". The training debunked myths about aging, explained age-related changes, and discussed

seniors' expectations. Information for community organizations was developed on subjects such as grocery-store guidelines and pharmacy tips for seniors.

The second speaker was **Carol O'Kennedy** from Maple Ridge Public Library in B.C. The MRPL provides library services for seniors to match their accessibility levels, including in-library sessions on using computers and the Internet, special presentations celebrating Seniors' Month in June, and storytimes in the community for residents of local care facilities. One interesting project developed by Maple Ridge is a multi-media Reminisce Kit of items from and about World War II. Maple Ridge Public Library won the 2006 W. Kaye Lamb Award, as mentioned in their Wikipedia entry.

**Rick Fieck** from Oshawa Public Library, last year's Lamb Award winner, described his community as very different from the others. Oshawa is

mainly a blue-collar, lunch-at-Tim's kind of city. Oshawa Public Library partners with the Senior Citizens Centre to present programs of interest to that age group. Past programs include a British Isles Series celebrating events such as Robbie Burns Day, a Coffee and News group, and a Video Discussion Series. The What to Read Next program features books on crafts, Scotland, cooking and "mummy" themes. ■

**Welcome to New ELA Members**  
Heather Davis, Marmora and Lake,  
ON  
Richard Ellis, St. John's, NL  
Ralph Manning, Ottawa, ON  
Marilyn Rennick, Ottawa, ON  
Wendy Schick, Burlington, ON

## Ex Libris Biography Project – Keep Them Coming

By Nancy Williamson

The work of the Biography Project Committee continues. The good news is that things finally seem to have taken off. We have had a number of offers, by members and non-members of Ex Libris, to do individual bios of people in whom they have a particular interest. One person, not a librarian but knowledgeable about a former prominent member of the profession, wrote "I have had a look at the biographies on your website and can provide one in the same format". We readily accepted the offer.

There are now 17 entries in the database, and several more are ready to add. By the Annual Meeting, we hope to increase the number of bios to 30. Among the first additions will be Richard Paré, Cynthia Durance, Hilda Gifford, Adele Languadoc, and Alice Kane. An effort will be made to get Harry Campbell's bio on the website as soon as possible. We are gratified that my pleas for help in *ELAN* are finally beginning to bear fruit. To all those who responded, a profound thank you. We could do with much more of this. So keep the biographies coming. If numerous people provide even one or two biographies, each one contributes to the growth of the database and, together, they all add up. ■

*Thanks so much – Nancy Williamson,  
e-mail: nancy.williamson@utoronto.ca*

## Call for Nominations: 2010 W. Kaye Lamb Award

By Peter Mutchler

Every two years Ex Libris Association, in association with CLA, awards the W. Kaye Lamb award to a public, academic or special library that provides outstanding service to seniors. A prize of \$500 accompanies the plaque and citation.

The Lamb Award recognizes a library that has developed an ongoing service, program or procedure of benefit to seniors and/or a design and organization of buildings or facilities that improve access and encourage use by seniors. Since its inception, the Award has shown that the winning library does not have to have a large budget. Focusing on successful services for seniors encourages other libraries to make efforts to improve.

**Please look for worthy programs to nominate for the 2010 award** and contact Peter Mutchler (c/o Ex Libris Association, Faculty of Information, 140 St. George St., Toronto, ON, M5S 3G6) or CLA with suggestions. For more information about the Lamb Award, consult the Ex Libris website ([exlibris.ischool.utoronto.ca/Activities/Award/award.html](http://exlibris.ischool.utoronto.ca/Activities/Award/award.html)) or the CLA website ([cla.ca/AM/Template.cfm?Section=W\\_Kaye\\_Lamb\\_Award\\_for\\_Service\\_to\\_Seniors](http://cla.ca/AM/Template.cfm?Section=W_Kaye_Lamb_Award_for_Service_to_Seniors)). ■

*For a history of the W. Kaye Lamb Award, see ELAN's Fall 2006 issue. – Ed.*

## Upcoming Ex Libris Events

### ELA-sponsored session, Library History: Education and Professionalism

*Ontario Library Association  
Super Conference, February 24–27, 2010  
Thursday, February 25, 3:45 p.m.  
Metro Toronto Convention Centre*

**Greg Linnell** will describe how library history has treated the short-lived but important IPLO, which had long-lasting impact on how librarians in Ontario view themselves. **Elizabeth Hanson** will discuss OLA's role in library education from 1900 to 1927, including OLA's advocacy for training and provision of library institutes across Ontario for librarians and trustees. Lorne Bruce is organizing this session. Session times have not yet been announced.

### iTea, Faculty of Information, University of Toronto

*Wednesday March 10, 2010, 4:00–5:00  
p.m.*

Once again, we will co-sponsor this event with the FI Alumni Association. The topic and speakers have not yet been decided, but keep the date open! More news will follow. ■

## Correction

In the spring 2009 issue of *ELAN* the notice on page 17 about Peter Glenister was incorrect. The correct information should have read:

Peter Glenister, Bibliographic Services Librarian, Mount St. Vincent University Library, Halifax, was honoured at the University's Long Service Dinner on December 9, 2008 for his 40 years of service. Peter graduated from the first library school class at Dalhousie in 1971. A recognized authority in cataloguing and classification, he has taught in those areas in Halifax, Moncton, Montreal, and Toronto. Active in the Atlantic Provinces Library Association, he received its Merit Award in 2001. For over 20 years Peter was the official agent for Alexa McDonough and other federal and provincial NDP candidates. He is also a member of the tenor section of the Halifax Chamber Choir and the Atlantic Symphony Orchestra Choir. ■



## Tour of the Royal Ontario Museum Library

By Beth McLean

On Tuesday, April 21 a group of 23 Ex Libris members enjoyed a fascinating tour of the Royal Ontario Museum Library, guided by Arthur Smith, Head Librarian.

Until 1968 the ROM was part of University of Toronto, but it is now a government agency. However, the library holdings have remained in the U of T catalogue since it was automated in the 1980s. The Library's budget is about \$500,000, including salaries. Goods and Services represents \$123,000 of that.

The Library serves the 50-plus curators on staff at the museum, as well as external users. Service is offered to the general public, including the U of T community, through public hours each weekday afternoon. About 2,500 external users come to the library during the year, 80-90% of whom are U of T students or faculty.

The collections in the Library parallel the galleries and the 19 research areas in the museum; for example, Egyptology, Decorative Arts, East Asian. The 175,000-volume collection, arranged by LC classification, is spread over nine floors, three below ground and six above.

The J.H. Fleming Library of natural history formed a great core collection to the ROM when it was donated in the 1930s. James Fleming was the only Canadian president of the American Ornithological Union. His papers contain correspondence with world-wide ornithologists, and he attended conferences around the world.

There are 5,000 titles in the ROM's rare-books collection, including the **Sigmund Samuel Canadiana Collection** of rare books. The latter are accessioned as artefacts and housed on the 5th floor, but are fully retrievable. Two years ago, a \$65,000 grant allowed the purchase of the complete run of the *Gazette du bon ton*, an expensive French fashion magazine published from 1912 to 1925, which featured beautiful coloured plates of the fashions of the day, drawn by well-known artists and illustrators of the time.

The Gardiner Museum was part of the ROM, but it has since become independent, although the ROM

Library still catalogues Gardiner materials. There is some overlap in collections, with the Gardiner collection being more current and contemporary.

Non-book materials are not a significant part of the ROM Library's collection. There is a small, rarely used, microfilm collection and a small DVD collection of material the ROM produces. If a curator requests a non-book item, it will be obtained via interlibrary loan. The biggest collection is of slides, which were used by the curators in the past for teaching. Many slides have been digitized, as they can no longer be used in the ROM theatre. One of the big challenges for the new archivist is to digitize more material.

The ROM has never had a records management system. When someone left, their files were moved to the archives. There are archives throughout the curatorial departments. In-house storage is a future challenge, as is dealing with materials related to exhibits and design, presently in the basement of the Planetarium. The 250 linear feet of material there will need to be relocated when that building is taken over by University of Toronto and torn down in five years.

There are two librarians, one archivist and three technicians on staff in the ROM Library. The budget for journals and books is \$110,000, out of the total \$150,000 operating expense budget. There is access to the electronic journals

in U of T Libraries.

Usage of the ROM Library has changed with automation. Reference service has dropped off; people now come in knowing what they want. The stacks are only open to ROM staff and to U of T information science and museum studies students. The compact shelving used to store materials is deemed to be too dangerous to let general users retrieve their own materials so staff retrieve items on request.

A major growth area is in decorative arts, such as silver and china. There is some overlap with collections at the Art Gallery of Ontario (located elsewhere in Toronto) because of the Thomson collection. The ROM collects not only Canadiana historical painting up to World War I but also contemporary native art, because the curators want this. The ROM collects prints and drawings as well. If someone donates material that does not fit the mandate of the ROM, it may be offered to the Thomas Fisher Rare Books collection at University of Toronto. Only once has a book for the ROM Library been bought at auction: a book on silver. Abebooks is used for about 50% of purchases, with the rest made through Indigo and Amazon.

After our tour, we enjoyed a delicious lunch in C Restaurant, on the 5th floor of the Museum. Many thanks to Jean Orpwood for organizing both the tour and the lunch. ■

## CLA Past Presidents' Luncheon, Montreal, May 31, 2009



Back row, left to right:

Ernie Ingles (1991), Madeleine Lefebvre (2004), Paul Whitney (1998), Linda Cook (2007), Ken Haycock (1978), Margaret Law (2002), Barbara Clubb (2006), Vivienne Monty (1989). Front row: Alvin Schrader (2008), Maryanne Scott (1982), Ken Roberts, Harry Campbell (1974)

Photo credit: Kelly Moore, Executive Director, CLA

## Harry Campbell – An Obituary

By Norman Horrocks

Harry Campbell, a founding member of the Ex Libris Association in 1986 and its president from 2001 to 2003, died on July 31, 2009. A memorial reception was held at Hart House, University of Toronto, on August 24. A memorial book was signed at the Canadian Caucus meeting of the August IFLA Annual Meeting in Milan, Italy. Harry had been a first vice-president of IFLA and a recipient of the IFLA Medal. Predeceased by his wife Sylvia Woodsworth Campbell and their son Robin, he is survived by their daughters Sheila MacRae and Bonnie Campbell. Contributions in Harry's memory can be made to the Toronto Public Library Foundation, Friends of the Osborne Collection, or a public library of your choice.

Born in Vancouver, Harry took his BA in history at University of British Columbia (1936-40), his BLS at University of Toronto (1940-41), and his MA in adult education at Columbia University (1946-48). From 1942 to 1946 he worked as a producer at the

National Film Board in Ottawa, before beginning his library career as head of the UNESCO Clearing House for Libraries in Paris from 1949 to 1956, a position that took him to over 20 countries. Harry then became chief librarian at the Toronto Public Library between 1956 and 1978 and director of its Urban Library Study Project from 1978 until he retired in 1981.

Harry and Sylvia then travelled extensively to revisit countries in Asia and the Pacific until her death in October 1988. From 1985 to 1988 Harry was president of the Toronto-based Federation of Canada-China Friendship Associations. In 1992 Harry established and became general manager of CinfoLink (China Cooperative Library and Information Science Linkage Project) Services, which until 1996

produced directories of modern Chinese information services. He remained very supportive of IFLA and funded travel awards for librarians from developing countries that had not been able for some years to send delegates to IFLA's World Congress.

The title of Harry's 1988 acceptance speech, as the first Canadian to be awarded the Kaula Gold Medal "in recognition of services for the cause of libraries and information science", summed up Harry's viewpoint: Librarianship for Enduring Peace and Social Progress. The speech was published by the Ontario Library Association in 1988 and in *Herald of Library Science*, Volume 28, January-April 1989 (pp. 79-86). An appraisal of Harry's career will appear in the next issue of *ELAN*. ■



This photo was originally published in *Feliciter*, the magazine of the Canadian Library Association, Vol. 55, No. 4 (August 2009). Photographer: Marilyn Rennick.

### Donate to Ex Libris

A tax-deductible donation or bequest helps us increase our activities.

## Why I Became a Librarian

By Douglas Robinson

Like many people that I know, I did not set out to be a librarian. I graduated from the University of Toronto with an undergraduate degree in modern languages and literatures, majoring in French and Spanish. A career in teaching or translating was something that I considered, but I wanted more time to explore other options.

Jobs were not difficult to find in the mid-1960s, so I soon found work with a government department in downtown Toronto in a job completely unrelated to my field of study. One day I went for a walk at lunchtime and stopped in at the University of Toronto Placement Service, which I would do from time to time. There were many jobs being advertised, but one job ad caught my eye. It was for a library position that called for a strong knowledge of languages, and the ad indicated to me that perhaps I should consider librarianship. Had I gone to the Placement Service a few weeks earlier or a few weeks later that

ad may not have been there, and I might not have thought of becoming a librarian.

To get more information and practical advice about librarianship I contacted my cousin Lachie MacRae, who had a long and varied career in libraries. He was pleased to hear that I was thinking of becoming a librarian and offered encouragement. I then went on to get my BLS and MLS from the University of Toronto and married one of my classmates, Barbara Mackay.

For the next 37 years I worked in libraries at the University of Toronto, Trent University, the Lake Ontario Regional Library system and, the last 24 years, at the National Library of Canada (later Library and Archives Canada). At the National Library I was very fortunate to work for Beryl Anderson, who was chief of the Library Documentation Centre and a specialist in library science. She was a wonderful teacher and mentor, and

she shared her vast knowledge with her staff. I remained involved in library science from then on. I was Library and Information Science specialist when I retired in 2005.

My undergraduate degree in modern languages proved to be a definite asset, especially in Ottawa. I was able to make extensive use of French in my day-to-day work, as I always worked in reference and public service positions. As a bonus I was able to get exemptions when I took French language tests, which meant that I did not have to go on language training.

Reflecting on my career, I am pleased that I decided to become a librarian. It has been the right line of work for me. From the mid-1960s to the present, I have seen many changes as libraries moved into the digital age. Librarians have adapted well to change and continue to provide services that meet the information and reading needs of their clientele. ■



## News from Canadian Library/Information Studies Schools

Compiled By Diane Henderson

We have invited contributors at each school to provide a short account of recent and forthcoming events and highlights. Our thanks, again, to them.

### University of British Columbia, School of Library, Archival and Information Studies

By Sylvia Crooks

**Dr. Edie Rasmussen** stepped down as Director of SLAIS after a six-year term. After a year's administrative leave, she will rejoin the School as Professor. Professor Emeritus **Terry Eastwood**, founder of the Archival Studies program, will serve as acting director while the search for a director continues. SLAIS has hired three new assistant professors. **Eric Meyers** and **Lisa Nathan**, both of whom are completing doctorates in information science at University of Washington, joined the faculty in July. Eric's research interests include youth information behaviour, information literacy and virtual worlds. Lisa has experience in public libraries and has taught courses in ethnography and information systems. **Aaron Loehrlein**, who will join SLAIS faculty in January, is completing a joint PhD in information science and cognitive science at Indiana University-Bloomington.

### University of Alberta, School of Library and Information Studies

By Ann Curry

SLIS introduced, in the spring/summer semester, four one-credit weekend courses that also serve as professional development workshops. The courses/workshops – Legal Resources, Programming in XML, Emergent Literacy, and Library Resources & Services for Aboriginal Communities – were very well received by both students and practicing librarians, with the latter two courses both drawing the maximum number of registrants. This fall, four new one-credit courses will focus on public library management, consumer health

information, project management, and information security. The faculty will continue to examine and assess the MLIS curriculum as a whole during 2009-2010, based on the Curriculum Review prepared by **Dr. Ali Shiri**. To prepare this document, he analyzed the curricula of Canadian LIS schools and many of the leading American schools, focusing on emerging trends and new courses. He also surveyed employers and SLIS alumni, asking for input regarding the SLIS curriculum.

### University of Western Ontario, Faculty of Information and Media Studies

By Kristen Romme

FIMS welcomed two new professors in July: **Heather Hill** and **Diane Neal**. Heather researches issues affecting public libraries, including their history, public policy, the digital divide, and the library as part of the community. Diane's current research focuses on user-based tagging of non-text documents, such as photographs and music. In other news, professors **Nadine Wathen** and **Roma Harris** are part of a group of researchers that launched a new project in March, funded by an Ontario Trillium Foundation Grant, to study women's shelter services in Ontario. PhD candidate **Matthew Griffis** and professor Heather Hill presented papers at the Library Research Round Table Four Star Research Forum at the ALA conference. Alumna **Justine Cotton** (2004), a liaison librarian at Brock University, was awarded the inaugural New Academic Librarian of the Year Award by the Canadian Association of College and University Libraries.

### University of Toronto, Faculty of Information

By Kathleen O'Brien

Starting in September, a new curriculum emphasized interdisciplinary studies, and students entered the **Master of Information (MI)** program, instead of the Master of Information Studies (MIS). The **Knowledge Media Design Institute** became part

of the iSchool, a strategic partnership signalling the Faculty's ongoing commitment to researching the effects of digital technology on modern life. Our faculty continue to attract major research funding, with the **Adaptive Technology Resource Centre** receiving approximately \$18 million to research and improve accessibility of digital technology. In June, more than 160 students graduated. Later that month, professors **Clare Beghtol**, **Barbara Craig** and librarian **Marte Misiek** retired from the Faculty after many dedicated years of service. Last, a sad note: museum studies instructor **Cheryl Meszaros** passed away in July after a brief illness. Cheryl joined the Faculty in September 2007 and quickly became a much admired instructor. She is sorely missed.

### University of Ottawa, School of Information Studies

By Kenneth-Roy Bonin

Four full-time professors have been recruited to complement 10 cross-appointed professors and four, previously appointed, adjunct professors. **Claire Dormann**, formerly a research associate with the Human-oriented Technology Lab at Carleton University, joined us in January. She has an MSc in applied computing technology from Middlesex University and PhD from University of Brighton. **Mary Cavanagh** and **Andre Vellino** arrived on July 1. Mary, an MLIS graduate of UWO, received her PhD from the University of Toronto while serving as coordinator of the Ottawa Smart Library project. Andre, jointly appointed to the National Research Council, is a senior research officer at the Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information. He received his MSc from the London School of Economics and his PhD from University of Toronto. **Heather Moulaison**, an MLIS and MA graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, assumes her new position on January 1. A doctoral candidate at Rutgers University, she just completed a Fulbright Fellowship appointment in Morocco.



## McGill University, School of Information Studies

By Peter McNally

The School of Information Studies has had a hectic summer, with three important events occurring simultaneously. ALA Accreditation is once again upon us; the School completed its self-study report in anticipation of a site visit from September 21 to 22. In August, movers began transporting our goods and chattels from McLennan Library Building, where we have resided since 1969, to a gracious old mansion nearby, built in 1911. The School's specially designed current quarters have become increasingly overcrowded. Our new home on upper Peel St. is being significantly upgraded for our use. We will be adjacent to the Faculty of Education, under whose jurisdiction we were placed in 1996. The School, having admitted its first doctoral student in 1961 and subsequently graduated 20 under McGill's ad hoc provisions, finally inaugurated a formal PhD in information studies in September.

## Université de Montreal, École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information

By Ethel Gamache

The School is pleased to announce that **Inge Alberts** successfully completed the PhD program. On May 1 she presented her thesis, *Exploitation des genres de textes pour assister les pratiques textuelles dans les environnements numériques de travail*. The School's certificate and doctoral programs have been evaluated, a year-long process. **Introduction aux sciences de l'information**, prepared by teaching staff to be used as a manual for new students, was launched with the welcoming activities of the Fall 2009 semester. The redesigned masters program is also taking off this fall! The former options (librarianship, archival, strategic management of information, electronic management of information) will be deleted as such. Some courses have been deleted, others changed, and some added. We hope that these changes will make the program more flexible, dynamic and more closely matched to market needs.

## Dalhousie University, School of Information Management

By Fiona Black

The School celebrated 40 years with a special event on September 17. The new academic director of the MLIS program, **Louise Spiteri**, was co-organizer of this event. Speakers included Dalhousie's president, key stakeholders from CLA, and a variety of folk who have been instrumental in the life of the School. A podcast is also in the works. The School expanded its mandate in 1998, when the Bachelor of Management degree was launched, and in 2008 with the mid-career MIM. SIM has a new colleague. **Anatoliy Gruz** completed his PhD at the University of Illinois and will join us in January 2010. At the recent faculty retreat, **Sandra Toze** received a Management Teaching Excellence Award (with a prize of \$5,000) and **JoAnn Watson** was honoured as Interdisciplinary Administrator of the Year for her work with the dean on academic integrity across the Faculty of Management. ■



## Technology Unmasked

By Stan Orlov

We continue to talk about hardware and software technologies, and today we will start by looking at **wikis**. After hundreds of millions of webpages were created in the 1990s, the need for change became obvious. Users could only look at websites, but had no easy way of sharing their opinion or contributing their content. That's when Web 2.0 solutions, including wikis, started to emerge.

The first wiki was created by an American programmer, Ward Cunningham, in 1995. He chose the name 'wiki', a Hawaiian word for 'fast', to avoid "naming this stuff quick-web". He launched the Wikipedia (wiki + encyclopedia) project in 2001. Users could submit their articles and/or edit others' articles. It took five years to reach the first million articles, but in August 2009 Wikipedia had reached the 3

million mark.

The concept of wiki was adopted by organizations around the globe. The effortless collaboration it offers is the reason why many companies are using it as their internal knowledge management systems. For instance, I am using one wiki at work and three others for various library associations. Wikis are easy, efficient and will continue to grow in popularity.

Another great technology is **VoIP** (Voice over Internet Protocol). VoIP became widely available in 2004 with the proliferation of commercial VoIP service providers. It offers a more efficient and cheaper way to compress and transmit voice over the Internet, so companies started to switch from traditional copper-wire phone systems to Internet. With VoIP, they can use Internet connections to send e-mail and faxes, browse and place calls simultaneously, all using standard computers instead of expensive specialized hardware.

VoIP is great for personal communications. All you need is a computer and a headset. The most popular service is Skype ([www.skype.com](http://www.skype.com)). Its free software allows you to add your family and friends to a list of contacts so you can start talking to them for free, providing they have Skype on their computers. An inexpensive web camera (starting at around \$40) will allow your partners to see you. You can also call regular phones for a moderate fee. I subscribe to a \$3.50/month service that lets me call anyone in Canada and the USA for free. Sometimes, I call a few colleagues at their computers or phones for a free conference call. And I can hear my neighbours using another VoIP service, **MSN Messenger**, to spend hours on PC-to-PC video conferences with their families in Ontario. ■

*Stanislav Orlov is Systems Librarian at Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax. Please send your questions and comments to [stan.orlov@msvu.ca](mailto:stan.orlov@msvu.ca).*

## Meeting Lillian H. Smith

By Michael Manchester

During the summer of 2008, while enrolled in the Master of Library and Information Science program at the University of Western Ontario, I had the pleasure of taking Lynne McKechnie's course on materials for children. As a result of the preparatory readings that were necessary in advance of a class trip to the Lillian H. Smith Collection, I was introduced to Smith and her considerable accomplishments.

It was with some surprise that I had not previously been introduced to her, despite the influential position she held both as a librarian and a resident of Ontario. Lillian H. Smith's 40 years with the Toronto Public Library resulted in pioneering work developing a model of children's services. Her reputation was international and she earned the respect of librarians from Great Britain, Europe, and Asia, who came to study under her direction.

Regrettably, her contribution to the public library system, school libraries, and the profession of librarianship is at risk of being eclipsed by the rapid changes that are taking place. It is ironic that a career distinguished by its lack of technology would ultimately be so well-suited to one of the great technological developments of the late 20th century. A website profiling Lillian H. Smith would take advantage of the global reach of the Internet to introduce her to a new generation.

Subsequent to completing Dr. McKechnie's course, I undertook an independent study on Smith, with the goal of compiling a comprehensive website that would take advantage of the Internet's multimedia potential to document her activities. Despite my previous experience developing an on-line presence, which provided an understanding of the many challenges inherent in the process, my plan proved to be overly ambitious. My limited time and resources were further hampered by some unanticipated obstacles. There were many disappointments, but my greatest frustration occurred when I tried to incorporate archival footage of Boys' and Girls' House. My research showed that Smith's retirement predated

the emergence of television in Ontario. However, I felt that video of the library where she worked for 40 years would be an adequate substitute. I contacted the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation Archives to inquire about any reports of children's library services that would be available.

They identified several reports from Boys' and Girls' House, totalling approximately 16 minutes of footage. However, when discussions turned to using it for my website, I was informed that they charge a licensing fee of \$40 per second. Therefore, the footage that interested me would cost more than \$38,000. Furthermore, the licenses expire after five years. I explained that this educational website would not earn any revenue. My contact explained that the fees were based on market conditions for a website available to the general public.

Such fees are outrageous, not only because they restrict access to our country's heritage and the history of librarianship, but because CBC charges fees for footage that would not be possible but for the municipal funding of libraries in the first place. Without that funding, CBC would not have been able to shoot these scenes to broadcast. Also, since CBC is a publicly funded entity, its practice of charging the public for footage essentially amounts to double-dipping.

Regardless of these setbacks, the project represented an excellent research opportunity, due to the variety of

individuals and organizations with a stake in Lillian H. Smith's legacy. The MLIS program was my first return to a university environment in many years and, despite previous library experience, my undergraduate degree was not academically intensive. Consequently, I was privileged to be able to work with the Toronto Public Library, the University of Toronto, Adele Fasick, several Japanese organizations (including the Japanese Society of Library and Information Science, the National Diet Library and the International Library of Children's Literature) and the City of Toronto Archives.

From the outset of the project, it was my intention to secure the Internet domain <http://www.lillianhsmith.ca>, to ensure easy access to this information. The completed site can be viewed at that address. While an imperfect testament to Smith, it remains a work in progress and I welcome comments and suggestions for possible improvements.

I would like to extend my thanks to all those who assisted me and to my faculty supervisor, Lynne McKechnie. However, I would be remiss if I did not give special recognition to Leslie McGrath of the Lillian H. Smith Collection. Her patience, guidance and support were invaluable in getting access to a variety of primary-source materials that comprise a significant percentage of the completed site. Thanks, also, to the Ex Libris Association for making it possible to share my work with its members and readers. ■



Courtesy of Toronto Public Library, Canada



## Why I Became a Librarian

By Audrey MacLellan

Growing up on a farm in the Midwest during the Depression years, I lacked the opportunity to obtain books for reading. Our one-room country schoolhouse had five books, not including textbooks. Our family subscribed to a few magazines (I still remember the wonderful photojournalism in *Life* during the late 1930s). But we were not eligible to check out books from the public library in Jefferson, Iowa, even if we paid for a library card, because we lived in one of the rural townships!! The small rural high school I attended had only a few books. When I graduated in 1944 we were a class of eight girls (the “boys” had all either dropped out or joined the Navy/Army when they were 18).

My family always stressed the importance of getting training for an occupation. As a female of that time, my choices were somewhat limited to nursing, teaching, or secretarial work. I decided early on that I would become a librarian, because one could work in

different places and was not limited to state certification rules, like teachers were.

The college I attended (Central College, Pella, Iowa) offered me my first opportunity to work in a library. By the second semester I had a part-time job on the reserve desk, handing out books and checking in periodicals. While there, I saw an advertised competition for a “Library Assistant” in the Des Moines Public Library. I applied and qualified for the position. After working there for one year, I returned to Central College and got my BA in History. Afterwards, I worked in a variety of positions at the public library, including one cold winter on the bookmobile and one spring/summer visiting “settlement houses”. I worked and saved some money while library education was being revamped in the United States.

In 1951 the Master of Library Science program had just been developed. At that time there was nothing in Iowa; the closest course was at the University of Chicago. Western Reserve (later Case Western Reserve University) was also

developing a curriculum. My choice was Simmons College in Boston, Mass.; it had a good reputation. Probably I really preferred it because it was a small campus in a large city that had many historical connections.

Simmons College had great courses. I still remember a course we had that included visiting lecturers plus visits to interesting locations. We saw the “big” computers at MIT, the printing presses at the *Christian Science Monitor*, and heard Fremont Rider lecture us on the glories of the microcard and how university libraries were going to run out of physical space. The course was called History of the Book and its Future. Although there were lots of rare-book collections in Boston somehow the future was more exciting to me than the past, even though I had studied history.

I married a Canadian and came to Toronto in 1953. Since then, most of my library career has been here in public libraries, school libraries, and a community college. I never regretted my decision. ■

## Canadian On-line Journals – 2009 Update

By Mavis Cariou

In the Spring 2007 issue of *ELAN* Diane Henderson reported the introduction in 2006 of two Canadian on-line journals, *Canadian Online Library and Archives Journal (COLAJ)* and *Partnership: The Canadian Journal of Library and Information Practice and Research*. Since that time the situation had changed: (1) COLAJ appears to be moribund, (2) *Partnership* is flourishing and (3) *Faculty of Information Quarterly*, produced by University of Toronto’s iSchool students, has been born.

Since the two 2006 issues of *COLAJ*, no further issues have appeared. However the two initial issues are still available on-line, at <http://library.queensu.ca/COLAJ.htm>. *Partnership* (<http://www.partnershipjournal.ca>) has now published two issues a year as planned, the first issue of 2009 being the latest. The material is peer reviewed and

covers all types of librarianship across Canada (including the territories), with sections devoted to Editors Comments, Theory and Research, Innovative Practices, Media Publication Reviews, Profiles, Viewpoints, Conference Spotlights, News and Announcements.

The articles have included topics such as the use of instant messaging in reference work (Vol. 3, No. 2, 2008); E=LIS, the open archive for library and information science (Vol. 1, No. 1, 2006); and graphic novels for children and teens (Vol. 3, No. 2, 2008). The Editor’s Comments section is noteworthy; for example, the discussion of the peer process for new writers (Vol. 2, No. 2, 2007) or the survival of academic librarianship (Vol. 4, No. 1, 2009).

The material is conveniently presented; each table of contents has

links to the full text of items in html or pdf format, and sometimes to abstracts. The quality and timeliness of *Partnership’s* content has attracted attention. Its editor notes, in Volume 3, Number 2, “If you Google the exact phrase ‘*Partnership: The Canadian Journal of Library and Information Practice and Research*’ you get over 27,000 hits”.

*Faculty of Information Quarterly*, which began in the fall of 2008, is described in the Wikipedia article on University of Toronto’s Faculty of Information (now iSchool) as a “scholarly publication founded and operated entirely by students at the iSchool... editor reviewed...to encourage greater flexibility of its content and to attract a broad scope of article topics and formats...including but not limited to archival science, accessibility studies, book history and print culture, critical

continued from page 9

theory, cultural informatics, health informatics, information studies, information systems, library science, museum studies, and technology studies”.

The Quarterly (<http://fiq.ischoolutoronto.ca>) has now published three issues. The first (Vol. 1, No. 1, 2008) features the Bertha Bassam lecture by Harvard University's David Weinberger and student interviews of six iSchool staff.

The second issue (Vol. 1, No. 2, 2008) consists of student work such as the following: a consideration of colonial archives, not just their physical access, but also their real original purpose and their trustworthiness; a survey and discussion of graphic novels in the public library; and a reflection on ethical positions about the effects of information and communications technology on the human body and psyche.

The third issue (Vol. 1, No. 3, 2009) consists of selected papers from the 2008 Housing Memory Conference. Housing Memory refers to information stored in any format and in any institution or system. This broad range of materials is considered from an equally broad range of viewpoints. Consider the following: “The People's Papers? A Comparison of the Treatment of Government Leaders' Records in Canada and the U.S.”, “Subject Headings (Mis)Informing Memory”, “Food Conjures Memory: Making Memory in the Museum”, and “Making the Record from Memory: A Case for Documenting the Personal”.

The Quarterly's format is attractive and easy to use. The table of contents has links to the full text in html and pdf formats, and sometimes to abstracts. Four issues a year are planned.

For senior members of the profession, these journals are worth examining, not only to access the new interests and concerns of the field but also to appreciate the knowledge and talents of our younger colleagues and students. ■



## Book Reviews

### Library World Records

By Godfrey Oswald  
2nd ed., McFarland,

Jefferson, NC, 2009 327 p., index,  
ISBN 978-0-7864-3852-5, \$39.95  
[www.mcfarlanepub.com](http://www.mcfarlanepub.com),  
Order line: 800-253-2187

Reviewed By Jean Weihs

“If you are a fact junkie, as I am, you will love this book. If you can't resist looking through *The Guinness Book of World Records*, this is a book for you.” This was my opening paragraph when I reviewed the first edition of this book in the Fall 2005 issue of *ELAN*. If you read that review and/or have seen the first edition, the second edition is organized in the same way and is the same fascinating work – and there are 89 more pages of interesting facts in this new edition.

In order to give some flavour of its contents, I looked up all the Canadian references in the index and found to my surprise that the University of Toronto Robarts Library is the largest university library building in the world, measuring roughly one million square feet, and was also Canada's most expensive library building, costing \$50 million to build. It is the fifth tallest library building in the world, followed in sixth place by the University of Calgary's McKimmie Library Tower.

On page 23 Oswald states that the Toronto Public Library has “the highest public circulation number in the Americas” (meaning, I presume, North and South America) and on page 31 he claims that it has “the highest public circulation number in the world”. Puzzled, I telephoned the library and was told that their annual circulation was 29 million and there were 16 million annual personal visits. The Oswald 2nd edition, with data current to 2007, lists 27 million circulation and 7 million visitors. The Toronto Public Library stands fifth in the world in the number of books in its collection.

The catalogue of the Canadian Institute for Scientific and Technical Information (CISTI) is the world's

largest database of scientific and medical materials, with access to more than 50,000 periodicals and 800,000 reports and conference proceedings.

Library and Archives of Canada is listed as one of the 10 most fascinating national library buildings in the world. The University of Waterloo Library is listed as one of the 10 most fascinating university library buildings. I could go on and on – but you have the flavour of this book.

One drawback to this otherwise excellent publication is the index. I found several errors and blind references just in looking up the entries for Canada. Shame on the publisher!

### The Uncommon Reader

By Alan Bennett  
Faber and Faber, London, 2006  
ISBN 978-1-84668-049-6, \$12.99  
Reviewed By Shirley Lewis

Alan Bennett, always charming and clever, is a cheeky devil for writing this quirky novella, because it's all about the imaginary reading habits of Queen Elizabeth II. With tongue firmly in cheek, he describes Her Majesty as she stumbles upon a bookmobile while out walking her corgis. She becomes acquainted with one of her kitchen staff; they form an unlikely friendship because of their mutual reading tastes. It would spoil the story to reveal the delicious details of the plot, but those who have read or seen Alan Bennett's *Beyond the Fringe* or *The Madness of King George* know how masterfully he can develop situations that gradually stretch reality from almost believable to the heights of absurdity – and set the reader up for bursts of laughter. The ambience is British to the core, as the Queen's advisors and administrative staff become more and more concerned as Her Majesty's interest in reading develops into a passion so great that her public duties begin to suffer. The Palace staff use various tactics to try to discourage this new and unwelcome development. Alan Bennett is an accomplished writer whose wit and subtle barbs about modern society will entertain readers everywhere, but especially those who know their British authors. ■



## ELAN - Past and Future

By Al Bowron

Organizations of all types need publicity in order to survive and move forward. This usually means the occasional publication of a newsletter or magazine in print or electronic form. As the old cliché says, “any publicity is good publicity”.

The Ex Libris Association would have little impact without its newsletter, especially in the vastness and diversity of Canada. Our founder, Stan Beacock, understood this from the beginning of our organization.

In November 1986 the Ex Libris Association was officially born. An organizational meeting was held at that time to produce objectives and a constitution. Several years before this event, Stan was seeking support for his original idea – a national organization for retired librarians. By 1987, 100 had signed up. The annual fee was set at \$5, and a federal grant of \$14,000 was promised under the New Horizons program. This was a remarkable achievement for the retired head of the London Public Library. Stan remained president for eight years.

In 1986 the first issue of *Ex Libris News* appeared. I have a copy of Issue No. 2, published in Fall 1987. It is 14 pages of mimeographed information, including the purpose of the organization: “to tape recollections of county library development in southern Ontario and in Canada”. Since then, this has been expanded to include the oral histories of members, of libraries and of individual careers. In addition, a proposal for the establishment of the Elizabeth Morton Memorial Fund was proposed and accepted.

Issue No. 2, written almost entirely by Stan, lists 100 paid-up members and 116 non-members on the mailing list. This is a nostalgic collection of names that represents almost the entire Canadian library establishment of 1987. Alas, it is a sad list. So many have left us in the last 22 years.

In contrast, the Spring 2009 issue, No. 45, bears our own logo designed by Thoreau MacDonald. The layout is professional and there are accompanying photographs. There has been a great improvement over 23 years. Number 45 is 20 pages long with contents ranging

over 26 subjects: “Our President’s Report”, “ELA’s Advice to Students”, “Atlantic News”, etc.

I have only one beef. To be accepted in an officially bilingual country, a national publication should at least try to include news from the retired librarians of French Canada. One or two articles in French in each issue should not be a great burden. Issue 45 has an excellent piece in English by Pierre Guilmette, a retired librarian living in Quebec. This is a good start. How about a regular column – in French?

In spite of this one reservation, I am proud to be a member of a lively national organization like the Ex Libris Association. The newsletter is well produced. My retirement is made richer by *ELAN* – meaning impetuous rush, ardour and dash – exactly. ■

*ELAN has not published articles in French, because it has few French-speaking readers and adding an English translation would take up scarce space. The editors welcome opinions on the subject of articles in French.*



## The Desk Attendant

*See the gleeful Desk Attendants ever dealing while they can  
The un-inspected canned beef of the intellectual man;  
Dealing out the brains of sages and the poet's heart divine  
(Receiving for said poet's heart oft-times a two-cent fine);  
Serene amid the tumult for new novels manifold, –  
For new novels out this afternoon but thirty minutes old;  
Calm and cool amid the tumult see the Desk Attendant stand –  
With contentment on her features and a date-stamp in her hand.  
As they feed beasts at the circus to appease their hungering rage,  
So she throws this man a poet and she drops that man a sage;  
And her wild beasts growl in fury when they do not like her meat, –  
When the sage is tough and fibrous and the bard not over-sweet;  
And some retire in frenzy, lashing wrathfully about,  
When the intellectual spare-rib that they most affect is out.  
But she feeds 'em, and she leads 'em, and beguiles 'em with sweet guile,  
And wounds them with her two-cent fine and heals 'em with her smile.  
Oh, the gleeesome Desk Attendant – who shall estimate her glee?  
Get some mightier bard to sing it – 'tis a theme too big for me!*

### The Songs of the Library Staff

Sam Walter Foss, a librarian at the Somerville (Massachusetts) Public library, wrote *Songs of the Average Man* in 1907. Five of these songs were about library staff members. This is the fourth of these songs with the accompanying original pictures published in *ELAN*.





## Atlantic News

By Norman Horrocks

### New Brunswick School Libraries. At the Atlantic Provinces Library Association (APLA) Annual

Conference in June 2009, a Resolution was passed opposing the cuts in school library services made by the New Brunswick government. After correspondence with APLA President Donald Moses, N.B. Minister of Education Roland Haché announced that the Department “will re-profile \$2.9 million to school districts to reinstitute services to school libraries and intervention programs”. Meetings are to be arranged with Union officials to negotiate staffing in school libraries, to have staff in place by September 2009.

**Frog Hollow Books to Close.** After 25 years in downtown Halifax one of the very few remaining independent bookstores closed on August 22. Owner Heidi Hallett, who bought the store three years ago from founder Mary Jo Anderson who moved to Calgary, cited the prevailing economy, increasing rent costs, and competing on-line and



Norman Horrocks with Rita Campbell, Special Projects Librarian, St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, N.S. at Ex Libris booth, APLA 2009.

discount retailers as well as big-box stores. It was this competition that led to the closure last year of Canada’s oldest independent bookstore, Halifax’s The Book Room.

**Libraries Nova Scotia** is a multi-type library collaboration of all university, college and public libraries in the province (for details see <http://librariesns.ca/>). Started in 2007, its first major project, Borrow Anywhere/Return Anywhere, will be officially launched at the end of October 2009 at the Library

Boards Association of Nova Scotia and Nova Scotia Library Association Conference in Yarmouth, N.S. “Nova Scotia libraries have a history of informal and formal collaboration. This launch of Libraries Nova Scotia’s Borrow Anywhere/Return Anywhere system is a natural evolution of these cooperative relationships”, said Jennifer Evans, Director of the N.S. Provincial Library.

**Ex Libris Association** had a display table at the annual conferences of the Canadian Association of Law Libraries and the Atlantic Provinces Library Association, both of which were held in Halifax this year, which made it very convenient for me to staff them. I went to Wolfville, N.S. as an invited guest to talk about ELA at the lunch meeting of the Retired Nova Scotia Provincial, Regional and Public Librarians group. I also spent some time on the ELA booth during the CLA annual conference in Montreal.

*My thanks to Darlene Beck (Halifax Public Libraries), Donna Bourne-Tyson (Mount St. Vincent University Library), Dawn Hooper (University of PEI Library) and Jennifer Evans (N.S. Provincial Library) for their assistance.* ■

## News from British Columbia

By Sylvia Crooks



**B.C. Libraries Cooperative** is a new organization charged with the administration of cooperative projects

for libraries in British Columbia. Its first project is the Sitka ILS Consortium, which will transition from a government-run entity to one governed and administered by the members of the cooperative. Any library can join the cooperative and be instrumental in guiding development of the cooperative and its projects.

A partnership of the B.C. Library Association, B.C. Library Trustees Association, B.C. Teacher Librarians Association, and Public Library Services Branch has launched **WebJunction B.C. (WJBC)**, an on-line site giving members of the three associations and all public library staff and volunteers access to all sorts of library-related discussions and courses. WJBC includes

self-paced on-line courses related to computer applications, library skills, services and management. It will provide opportunity for groups with special interests to create their own sections on WJBC, to post documents and announcements or discuss issues of interest to the group or to the larger library community. ■

## Ontario News



By Vivienne James, with Contributions from Marie Zielinska and Jan Jacobson

### Two years ago the Toronto Reference

**Library (TRL)** embarked on a series of expansion projects, the first of which – the new Event Centre seating 650 people – will be launched this fall. By 2014 there will be an expanded exhibition gallery; more space for research including freestanding pods; 140 high-speed Internet, accessible workstations; listening and learning labs; and a presentation theatre. Funding sources for these projects include \$10 million from the Ontario government, private donations and a mammoth fundraising effort by the Toronto Public Library Foundation and Friends of the Library. More exciting news is that construction will start in November on TPL’s 100th branch, scheduled to open its doors in 2012.

In April 2009 the **Ontario Public Archives** moved into its new state-of-the-art facility in York University’s Research Tower. Telephone numbers remain the same. (Ex Libris toured the Archives on September 22.)

**Guelph Public Library** also reports news of expansion. Its east-end facility is scheduled to open this fall. The current chief librarian, **Norman MacLeod**, who has shepherded the Library through significant development of its collections and services since 1977, is scheduled to retire at the end of the year and might not be in office for the opening of the new main branch.

Sincere congratulations to **Barbara Clubb, Ottawa Public Library’s** CEO, for receiving in one year two very prestigious awards, one from CLA and one from ALA (more in this issue’s “Milestones” section). The library

community in Ottawa is very proud to have such an outstanding person as head of Ottawa's library system.

The renovation of the **Rideau Library** will be complete in time for this fall's celebration of the Branch's 75th anniversary. To continue the special book rate from Canada Post, OPL supported a private member's bill to embed the rate in law.

The **Friends of OPL** held their annual meeting on June 16. President Lori Nash gave a very impressive overview of Friends of OPL achievements in 2007, 2008 and 2009. During her presidency, FOPLA has been reorganized on a businesslike basis, a new governance policy established where all 33 branches have representatives on the Board, and a new funding policy developed with allocations for local committees and eight new self-serve bookstores. There are presently 14 outlets selling second-hand books, five regular bookstores and nine self-serve, ongoing booksales. They bring in over \$300,000 yearly for the library. FOPLA volunteers give to OPL an impressive number of free-labour hours each year (26,361 hours in 2008). FOPLA not only advocates for the library system to City Council and the federal government but also promotes literacy and encourages young writers. FOPLA published, both in 2007

and 2008, two bilingual anthologies of poems and short stories, *Pot-Pourri*, containing the works of close to 50 young Ottawa writers. FOPLA received three major awards for its work in 2007, from the Government of Ontario, FOCAL and FOLUSA. Unfortunately Lori Nash resigned as FOPLA president. The new president is Cindy Streefkerk.

According to the *Ottawa Citizen* (July 4, 2009), **Library and Archives Canada** halted all new purchases of cultural materials on May 19, as part of a review of policies by the new senior managers. This move is risky, because cultural materials of national significance cannot presently be purchased as they come on the market. While LAC receives copies of books published in Canada, it relies on purchasing for acquisitions such as books written abroad about Canada.

**Gwynneth Heaton** spoke at the Canadian Library Association on May 31 about print or publish on demand (POD) publishing. Her talk is on the CLA website (see Session 49). She also presented a poster, Put Pronouns Back Where They Belong, which was inspired by her book *All About me, or is it? Beware the Wild Pronoun*. This book is available on Amazon.com and [www.trafford.com/06-2518](http://www.trafford.com/06-2518). ■



## Quebec News

By Pierre Guilmette

### Corporation of Professional Librarians of Quebec Celebrates its 40th Anniversary

The Corporation of Professional Librarians of Quebec began in 1969. It marked the 40th anniversary of its founding on May 12 with a dinner at Le Cercle Restaurant of l'École des hautes études commerciales in Montreal. The event clearly pleased all who attended. For some of the members, it was a reunion. During the evening, seven members who have distinguished themselves in the profession received the Prix Reconnaissance.

The Corporation published a commemorative book, *Bibliothécaire : passeur de savoirs* (Montreal, Éditions Carte blanche, 2009, 204 pages). This collection of 31 authors' writing tells the history of the Corporation, its code of ethics, publications, annual conferences, professional activism among members, and the need to increase the recognition and visibility of Quebec librarians. The last chapter asks, What is a librarian? Seventeen people offer answers. This collective work highlights an important aspect of the library profession: the transmission of knowledge.

For more information on the Corporation, go to [www.cbpq.qc.ca/actualites/actualites.html](http://www.cbpq.qc.ca/actualites/actualites.html). ■

You can download the commemorative book (in French) for free, at [http://www.cbpq.qc.ca/corporation/40e/livre\\_40.pdf](http://www.cbpq.qc.ca/corporation/40e/livre_40.pdf) – Ed.

## Prairie News

Please send Prairies news items to Alvin M. Schrader, Prairies Correspondent, [alvin.schrader@ualberta.ca](mailto:alvin.schrader@ualberta.ca) Alvin contributed to this issue's Milestones and will be compiling the "News from the Prairies" column in future issues.

## Milestones

Compiled by Merlyn Beeckmans

### Obituaries

**Robin Francis Blaser** died on May 7, 2009 in Vancouver at the age of 83. He graduated from UCLA–Berkeley in 1955 with degrees in literature and library science. He worked for a time as a librarian at Harvard's Widener Library and San Francisco State College. In 1966 he became a faculty member at Simon Fraser University, teaching English and fine arts. He was noted as a fine poet, winning the Griffin Prize for

lifetime achievement in 2006 and the Griffin Prize for poetry in 2008.

**Richard Eugene Carver** died on June 28, 2009 in Guelph, Ont. at the age of 71. He spent time as a journalist before working at the National Library of Canada.

**Edith (Thompson) Chapman** died on May 13, 2009 in Scarborough Ont. at the age of 87. She was a teacher-librarian in Peterborough, Ont.

### Mary Jane (Enslow)

**Clark** died on May 25, 2009 in Hamilton, Ont. She worked in the Reference Department at the Robarts Library, University of Toronto.

**Ruth Corner** died on January 19, 2009 in Aurora, Ont. at the age of 90. She worked as a librarian for 43 years for the City of York. She was a member of Ex Libris Association.



**Donna Dinberg-TeXidor** died on April 11, 2009 in Ottawa at the age of 64. She held an MLS from McGill and worked at the National Library of Canada for 34 years. She was also a volunteer librarian at the Jewish Genealogical Society.

**Lucille Eleanor (May) Galloway** died on April 19, 2009 in Bala, Ont. at the age of 87. She was chief librarian of the Burlington Public Library, which she transformed from a few rooms in an old house to a modern building in the central park.

**C. Joan Gauer** died in September, 2007 in Winnipeg, Man. She held a B.Ed. from the University of Manitoba and a BLS (1961) from the University of Toronto. She worked for the Vancouver Public Library and the Manitoba Provincial Library. She then became a teacher-librarian at Grant Park High School and Andrew Mynarski V.C. School in Winnipeg.

**Elma Grech** died on May 26, 2009 in Toronto at the age of 82. She worked in the *Globe & Mail* library for 30 years.

**Violetta (Maloney) Halpert** died on May 30, 2009 in St. John's, Nfld. at the age of 90. She studied English at Wilson College in Pennsylvania and did a masters degree in folk literature at Indiana University in Bloomington. She and her professor-husband went to Memorial University in 1962. She worked in the Acquisitions Department of the Memorial Library and pursued her interest in folk literature. She was awarded the Marius Barbeau Medal by the Folklore Studies Association of Canada in 2008. She donated her husband's and her own huge personal collections to the archives at Memorial.

**Audrey Lorraine (Wilson) Klos** died on May 17, 2009 in Oshawa, Ont. at the age of 69. She was the previous owner of The Lion and the Unicorn, Whitby and a former employee of the Ontario Library Association.

**Mildred Jane (Nattress) McCutcheon** died in July, 2009 in Gore Bay, Ont. at the age of 96. She received a BA from Victoria College in 1934. In the 1960s she was the librarian for the Kleinburg branch of Vaughan Public Libraries. During her long career there, she made it a priority to see that every elementary school child had a library card. Two generations of library pages fondly called her OM (other mother).

**Mary Ruth McTeague** died on March 26, 2009 in Toronto. She was a teacher in Windsor, Ont. and later a librarian at the University of Toronto.

**John Herbert Mercer** died recently in Kentville, N.S. at the age of 76. He held B.Ed. and MLS degrees. He taught high school in Nova Scotia, worked in libraries in Halifax and for 29 years at the Vaughan Memorial Library at Acadia University, Wolfville, N.S.

**Barbara Jean Mirsky** died on July 20, 2009 in Ottawa at the age of 86. She was former head librarian and founder of the Rockcliffe Park Public Library. She held that position for a decade past normal retirement age, bowing out in 2001 after a minor stroke.

**Betty Jane (Brost) Price** died on May 3, 2009 in Toronto at the age of 80. She received an MLS from University of Toronto in 1972. She worked in a number of libraries in North York, Ont.

**Martha Shepard** died on August 1,

2009 in Victoria, B.C. In 1950 she was appointed head of Reference Services in the Canadian Bibliographic Centre, which became the National Library in 1953.

**Patricia Sifton** died on July 6, 2009 in Abbotsford, B.C. at the age of 79. She founded the University of the Fraser Valley's Library and Information Technology Program in 1980. Previously she had taught in the library technology program at Fanshawe College in London, Ont.

**Elizabeth Spicer** died on January 1, 2008 in London, Ont. at the age of 90. She was a graduate of University of Toronto Library School. She joined the London Public Library, where she began collecting primary historical documents concerning the London area. Eventually the collection was stored in the London Room, with Miss Spicer in charge. She was honoured for her work by the London and Middlesex Historical Society and the London and Middlesex branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society. She was a life member of ELA.

**Gordon Stubbs** died in Vancouver on June 11, 2009 at the age of 91. He was a graduate of University of Manchester and University of British Columbia's School of Librarianship. After working as a school librarian for many years, he taught in University of British Columbia's Faculty of Education until his retirement. He was co-editor of *Only Connect: Readings on Children's Literature* (1969).

**Margaret Elizabeth Wasserfall** died recently in Markdale, Ont. at the age of 85. She received a BLS in 1968 from University of Toronto. She was head librarian at Bayview Secondary School in York Borough, Ont.

## Write for *ELAN*

The Newsletter Committee welcomes contributions from ELA members. Articles, news items, and ideas that you think would be of interest to Ex Libris members for publication in *ELAN* are sought. Please submit your articles on items of interest to our members, including your memoirs of early days or important figures in librarianship, library history, your own career and your current activities in the field. We especially need contributions to our regular feature "Why I Became a Librarian".

For submission information see the back page.

## Retirements

**Lise Bissonnette** was appointed in 1998 as director of the Grande Bibliothèque du Québec, as it was called before merging in 2001 with the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec. Afterwards, in 2005, she directed the integration of the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec and the Archives nationales du Québec. Her mandate ended in March 2009. (For



more history, see [http://www.banq.qc.ca/portal/dt/a\\_propos\\_banq/qui\\_sommes-nous/historique/qsn\\_historique.jsp](http://www.banq.qc.ca/portal/dt/a_propos_banq/qui_sommes-nous/historique/qsn_historique.jsp), in English – Ed.)

**Alice Caisse** retired as Manager of the Richibucto (NB) Public Library in December 2008, after 28 years of service.

**Robert (Bob) Cook** retired as head of the Cataloguing Department, St. Mary's University, Halifax in June 2009, after 28 years service.

**Norine Hanus** retired as collections and eResources librarian, University of PEI. She is a past president of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association.

**Karen Labuik** will retire as Assistant Director of the Marigold Library System (Alberta) in the fall of 2009 after 50 years of work in libraries in Saskatchewan, Texas, and Alberta. She has accepted an 18-month term as project manager of Rural Information Service Initiative (RISE).

**Rowena Lunn** retired as director of the Marigold Library System (Alberta) on July 31, 2009, after 28 years with the organization.

**Alvin M. Schrader**, professor emeritus, retired June 30, 2009 from the School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Alberta after 27 years. He served as director of the School from 1996 to 2003. He was appointed director of research for the University of Alberta Libraries for a two-year term, beginning July 1, 2009.

**Wendy Schick** retired as chief executive officer of the Burlington Public Library in April 2009, after 40 years of service.

**Ian Wilson**, National Librarian and Archivist, retired in April 2009. He, along with his predecessor Roch Carrier, developed and led the process to create a new knowledge institution for Canada in the 21st century. Ian Wilson was instrumental in creating the *Canadian Digital Strategy*, published in 2007.

### Appointments

**Gohar Ashoughian** was appointed university librarian at University of British Columbia–Prince George. She

was associate university librarian at University of Regina from 2007, and previously at the University of Guelph–Humber. A graduate of the Armenian State Pedagogical University, she received her library degree at Louisiana State University.

**Maureen Barry** was appointed chief executive officer of the Burlington Public Library April 3, 2009. She has held many positions in the Burlington Public Library system, including manager of branches, Adult Services Department head and most recently, director, Service Delivery.

**Guy Berthiaume** is the new chair and CEO of the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec. This appointment was announced by Christine Saint-Pierre, Minister of Culture, Communications and Women's Issues on May 6, 2009. Guy Berthiaume has held various positions at Université du Québec à Montréal and Université de Montréal. He was awarded a doctorate by Université de Paris (1976). He is the author of a specialized work, *Les rôles du mageiros : étude sur la boucherie, la cuisine et le sacrifice dans la Grèce ancienne* (1982).

**Daniel J. Caron** is the new National Librarian and Archivist. He has worked at the National Library since 2006, lately as senior assistant deputy minister responsible for the Corporate Management and Horizontal Integration Sector.

**Helena Merriam** was appointed coordinator of the Library Technician Program at Algonquin College in Ottawa.

**Donald Moses** was appointed Collections and eResources librarian, University of PEI. He is currently president of the Atlantic Provinces Library Association.

**Ingrid Parent** was appointed university librarian at the University of British Columbia as of July 6, 2009. A graduate of UBC in history and library science, she was assistant deputy minister, Documentary Heritage Collection Sector, at the National Library and Archives. She has been elected

president-elect of IFLA, the first Canadian elected to this prestigious position.

**Ian Wilson**, former National Librarian and Archivist, was appointed strategic advisor to the University of Waterloo in May 2009. He will lead the establishment of the Stratford Institute, a think-tank and integrating and training institute devoted to collaboration between digital media, international commerce and culture.

**Maureen Woods** was appointed chief executive officer of the Alberta Library (TAL), a province-wide consortium that serves 290 member libraries. She served as chief executive officer of the Fraser Valley Regional Library, director of the Public Libraries Branch for the province of British Columbia, director of the Alberta Public Library Electronic Network and as provincial librarian for Saskatchewan.

**Phyllis Yaffe** was appointed a Board member of the *Toronto Star*. She graduated from the University of Manitoba, and holds a BLS from the University of Alberta and an MLS from the University of Toronto.

### Awards

The **National Planning Committee for the IFLA Congress 2008** in Quebec City, chaired by Claude Bonnelly, former director of Laval University's library, received two prestigious awards for best business event of the year. One, the Fideides prize, was from the Chambre de commerce de Québec. The other, the Grand Prix du tourisme québécois, was from Tourisme Québec. The Congress generated \$8.8 million in economic impact in the Quebec City region alone.

**Anita Brooks Kirkland**, Library consultant, Waterloo District School Board is the 2009 winner of the Ontario Library Association's Larry Moore Distinguished Service Award for promoting the importance of school libraries in our society.

**Josephine Bryant**, former head of the Toronto Public Library system, received the Urban Libraries Council's Urban Player Award.

**Greg Bus**, chief librarian of Richmond Public Library, was given the prestigious Helen Gordon Stewart Award by the British Columbia Library Association. The award is given infrequently for an outstanding career in librarianship. Greg was given the award for fostering innovation over the last 20 years. Under his leadership, the Richmond library has won many national and international awards.

**Barbara Clubb**, chief executive officer of Ottawa Public Library, received the Canadian Library Association's Outstanding Service to Librarianship Award. She also won the American Library Association's Allie Beth Martin Award, which "honors a librarian, who in a public setting has demonstrated extra-ordinary range and depth of knowledge about books and other library materials, and has distinguished ability to share that knowledge". The award carries a financial gift of \$3,000 sponsored by Baker and Taylor. In her acceptance speech, Barbara dedicated the award to the late Sherrill Cheda, a former Board member of Ex Libris and co-editor of *ELAN*.

**Mary Ann Epp** was awarded an honorary life membership by the British Columbia Library Association. She has been a leading advocate on issues related to copyright and access to information for people with print disabilities. She is retiring from Langara College in Vancouver, where she has been director of Contract Services for many years.

**Sylvie Nadeau**, Executive Director, New Brunswick Public Library service, received the 2009 Atlantic Provinces Library Associations Merit Award.

**Wendy Newman**, Senior Fellow, Faculty of Information, University of Toronto, won the Ontario Public Libraries Lifetime Achievement Award for her many efforts to bring libraries to the attention of governments.

**Alvin M. Schrader**, former director of the School of Library and Information Studies at University of Alberta, received University of Toronto iSchool's Alumni Jubilee Award in June 2009.

**Surrey Public Library** won the 2009 DIVERSEcity Award for Business in the category of Public Institutions. The awards are given to BC businesses and institutions for advancing diversity in the workplace.

**University of British Columbia Library** was given the Gold Medal for best e-newsletter in 2009. The Library's award-winning *e-Vault* newsletter keeps readers abreast of new collections at UBC Library.

**Jean Weihs** and **Lynne Howarth** won the award for best article in *Cataloging and Classification Quarterly*, Volume 45, for "Designing Materials: From Germane Terms to Element Types". The award committee described the article as "a timely examination of the history of general material designation (GMD) from its evolution as a concept within the AACR tradition to the formal publication of a GMD list in 1978 and through the content vs. carrier discussions on the nineties, and ends with a well-crafted explanation of RDA's media type, carries type and content type." Jean is secretary of Ex Libris and co-editor of *ELAN*. Lynne is a professor and is a former dean of the Faculty of Information at University of Toronto.

**Marie F. Zielinska** received, from the hands of the Ambassador of Poland, the

Knight's Cross of the Order of Merit for over 50 years of volunteer community work.

## News

**Lynn Copeland**, Dean of Library Services at Simon Fraser University, was elected president of the board of directors of Canadiana.org, an alliance of scholars and representatives of major research libraries in Canada dedicated to providing access to Canadian heritage.

**David Cumby**, former chief librarian of Eastern Counties Regional Libraries, completed a Master of Divinity degree at Acadia University and was called to be the new senior pastor at Bridgetown Baptist Church, Bridgetown, NS.

**Maggie Macdonald**, CEO of Chinook Arch Regional Library System (Alberta) was elected in May 2009 as Alberta Library board chair, for a two-year term.

**Keith Walker**, Director of Libraries at Medicine Hat Community College, was acclaimed vice-president/president-elect of the Canadian Library Association, effective June 1, 2009.

**Paul Whitney**, City Librarian of Vancouver Public Library, was elected to the IFLA Governing Board.

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Please include ELA or *ELAN* in the subject line of your e-mail.

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