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News from Nova Scotia
Annapolis Valley Regional Library

The Annapolis Valley Regional Library’s (AVRL) Summer Program is this year’s winner of the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) award. During the summer months, the library system offers a Summer Program with nearly 3,000 participants. With this award, the Library will expand the Summer Program to include Science, Technology, Experience, Arts, and Math - STREAM. The aim is to offer a well-rounded summer learning experience to keep students’ skills sharp so that they retain more of what they have learned during the school year.

Head of Youth Services, Angela Reynolds, was inspired to change the annual Summer Reading Club after attending an ALA conference and seeing what was being done at the Chicago Public Library. Angela also recently attended the Canadian Women’s Foundation Girls Skills Institute in Toronto thanks to a bursary from the Canadian Women’s Foundation. The conference emphasized the importance of promoting math and science to girls which fits in nicely with the Summer STREAM.

Funding from the CFUW award will allow AVRL to include several exciting new programs such as Preschool Disco, an active song, story, and dance program for families with children ages 2-6; Active-8, a science, math, and movement program for children ages 7-10; and UpCycle, a craft recycling program using materials which may otherwise be thrown away, for ages 10-14.

AVRL was also the proud winner of the inaugural APLA Advocacy Award for exemplary promotion and advocacy. The Twelve Days of Cookies promo, held annually in December for the past three years, promotes the library’s social media and cookbook collection in a fun way and engages both staff and users.
Thanks to a TD Bank Friends of the Environment grant, children, parents and experienced community gardeners have designed and planted a pollinator-friendly garden next to the Wolfville Library. Additional Pollinator Project activities will take place during the summer.

News from Nova Scotia
Cape Breton Regional Library

TARA MacNEIL

The Cape Breton Regional Library hosted its 3rd Teen Songwriting Contest this winter / spring and we were thrilled to receive 16 great entries for 2014. Five local songwriters/ musicians were integral to the contest’s success; the judges were Carmel Mikol, Keith Mullins, Jordan Musyscyn, Alicia Penney and Eric Angus Whyte. A few of the judges helped promote the contest to local high schools through songwriting presentations and all judges listened to the entries and gave positive and constructive feedback to all entrants. The teens with the top 7 scores became finalists and participated in a Teen Songwriting Circle along with the judges and MC Wendy Bergfeldt from CBC Radio Cape Breton. The winner was chosen after the live performances at the Songwriting Circle. This year’s winner was Nicholas Abrahams from River Ryan with his song ‘It’s Not His Fault’.

Thanks to NS Public Libraries for funding this Contest. Thanks also to Jamie Foulds at Soundpark Studios, the CB Curiosity Shop and Long & McQuade for their generous prize donations.

Louisbourg Library Branch held a 50th Anniversary Celebration on April 22nd. Darlene Leahy (Library Clerk) organized a collage of photos and stories on the people of Louisbourg from the past 50 years that was displayed at the Anniversary celebration.

There is a Leacock Award winner in our midst! Congratulations to Bill Connall (resident of Tarbot, Cape Breton) the winner of the 2014 Stephen Leacock Memorial Medal for Humour for The
Promised Land: A Novel of Cape Breton, a hilarious tale of hippies journeying to Cape Breton in the 1970’s.

Bill’s award was celebrated amongst friends, family and a few tourists at the Baddeck Library in June. The evening was a magical mixture of readings, songs, a question and answer period, and the Leacock Award ceremonies. Bill has been a guest author at events and book clubs in our library branches for the past decade and we look forward to more stories and laughs from our friend.

News from Nova Scotia

Capital Health

LARA KILLIAN

Capital Health patient education pamphlets now accessible at Halifax Public Libraries

Halifax Public Libraries has partnered with Capital Health to add patient education pamphlet records to the public library catalogue, creating a new access point for locally-created and up-to-date health information. The project went live in mid-June 2014 after a year of discussion and planning. The team members behind the project are Dave MacNeil, Database & Metadata Manager at Halifax Public Libraries, and at Capital Health, Lara Killian, Librarian Educator, and Carmen Dorey and David Barteaux, Library Technicians.

The records included in the series indexed at the public library are from 2011-present, ensuring they have been reviewed and updated in a timely fashion. Over 400 records are included, running the gambit from Asthma to Zoon’s Vulvitis. Some pamphlets are available in French and/or Arabic. A user at the public library searching for a health topic with a corresponding pamphlet will see a Capital Health logo in the results list. There is a direct link to the freely available PDF of the content in the results list as well as the full record if the searcher clicks through. The PDF can be saved or printed if the user wishes.

One challenge included converting the Capital Health records from a non-MARC format into MARC records that Halifax Public Libraries could import into their Discover catalogue. To solve this problem, staff used MARC Transformer and MARCEdit software to convert the data within the records. A second challenge was that the Capital Health records are tagged using Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) vetted by the National Library of Medicine, while the public library uses Library of Congress subject headings. Staff at both organizations pitched in to refine the pamphlet records so they would meet the standards in both catalogues.
At Capital Health, Lara and Carmen are the patient education team responsible for managing the pamphlet creation and revision process, keeping track of files, staying on the right side of copyright considerations, and designing pamphlets for print and online viewing. The goal is to ensure that pamphlets are written at a 6th grade reading level, so Carmen and Lara also edit and make suggestions about plain language. The core content is drafted and approved by clinical staff.

As time goes on, newly updated or created Capital Health pamphlets will be included in the set indexed at the public library on a regular basis. Pamphlets that are archived at Capital Health will be removed from both catalogues in a timely manner.

Lara presented the project at the Canadian Health Libraries Association (CHLA) conference in Montreal in June 2014. Halifax Public Libraries promoted the partnership in June by highlighting it for a week on the home page of their website, and including a notice in the July/August issue of their publication, The Guide. Further joint promotion including a press release and series of tweets is planned to come from both organizations in the near future.

News from Nova Scotia
Dalhousie School of Information Management

Graduate students at Dalhousie present at conferences

Research is a prominent activity of the School of Information Management and both masters and doctoral students are active participants in individual and team projects supervised by faculty members. These students often participate in conferences locally, nationally, and internationally, as this list of over twenty presentations confirms: https://blogs.dal.ca/sim/2014/07/03/graduate-students-present-at-conferences/

SIM welcomes Jennifer Grek Martin

The School of Information Management is pleased to welcome Jennifer Grek Martin, who started a three-year limited-term appointment with us on July 1, 2014. Ms. Grek Martin has a BA, International Relations, and a MSc, Geography from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and a MLIS from Dalhousie. Ms. Grek Martin’s research interests include geospatial information, visualization and mental imagery, and multimedia representation of information and cognition. Ms. Grek Martin will be teaching courses in the MLIS, MIM, and Bachelor of Management programs.
SIM welcomes Kim Humes

SIM welcomes Kim Humes as our new Administrative Assistant. Kim Humes worked previously at Dalhousie’s Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS). Kim’s responsibilities at SIM will include several essential areas, including Finance, Human Resources, Student Admissions, Communications, and Marketing.

SIM Sponsors Toronto Startup Weekend

SIM alumnus M.J. D’Elia was one of the organizers of Startup Weekend Toronto EDU: Library Edition, March 28 – 30 at Mozilla Toronto. Startup Weekend is a global grassroots movement of active and empowered entrepreneurs who are learning the basics of founding startups and launching successful ventures. It is the largest community of passionate entrepreneurs with over 1800 past events in 120 countries around the world in 2014. SIM was proud to sponsor the event. In attendance was SIM alumna Melanie Parlette-Stewart, who shares her blogpost about her experiences at this event: http://becomingblended.tumblr.com/post/8129641211/what-i-did-this-weekend-swtolib

Our thanks to M. J. and his team for giving us the opportunity to participate in this event, and for Melanie for being our onsite representative.

SIM alumna Smitty Miller profiled in Library Journal

MLIS alumna Smitty Miller has been profiled in Library Journal’s 2014 edition of Movers and Shakers. According to Smitty, If I had to shout one truth from a mountaintop, it would be that the public library exists for everyone in the community: the smelly, the wealthy, the fat, the brown, the ones with carts, and the ones with homes. The services the library offers are as important for those who don’t walk into the library as for those who do. Congratulations, Smitty, for the recognition of your outstanding work.

Information Without Borders 2014

The 2014 Information Without Borders conference, organized by Master of Library and Information Studies students, featured an exceptional lineup of speakers on Privacy, Security, & Surveillance: Developments and Challenges in the Information Age. The opening keynote address by Ron Deibert discussed The Internet after Snowden. Breakout sessions featured Prof. Wayne MacKay, Schulich School of Law, Is Privacy Dead in the Age of Social Media and Technology, and SIM’s Dr. Mike Smit, Privacy, New Technology, and the Ongoing Conflict. The closing keynote by Dr. Jacquelyn Burkell (Western University) discussed I’m Worried about my Mom, not the Government: Managing Personal Privacy in an Age of the Internet.
News from Nova Scotia
Dalhousie University Libraries

MARLO MacKAY

A New Associate University Librarian: Michael Moosberger - AUL for Research & Scholarly Communication

The Dalhousie Libraries are welcoming Michael Moosberger to the new role of Associate University Librarian for Research and Scholarly Communication. The appointment will be effective July 1 for a five-year term.

Michael is currently serving as the University Archivist, Head of the Digital Scholarship, Maps & GIS units and is a member of the Libraries' Senior Management Team. This new AUL role strategically complements the initiatives and departments he already oversees.

The Selection Committee was impressed by Michael’s leadership, views on research, pragmatic approach to innovative projects, open management style, and communication abilities, as well as the strong support from the people who work with him.

Michael has over 25 years of experience in archives. He has been at Dal over thirteen years, and before that, he worked in archives in the University of Manitoba and in the Hudson’s Bay Company Archives at the Provincial Archives of Manitoba. Michael holds a Master of Arts in History from the University of Windsor and certificates in archival and public sector management. He is a frequent presenter at conferences and workshops and has held leadership positions with national archival associations. During his career, Michael has secured over $600,000 in grant funding.

Research and scholarly communications are central activities for the university community, and these activities inform teaching and learning, and foster a culture of inquiry and engagement. “In addition to providing the most fulsome access to scholarly resources possible, academic libraries have been increasing the level of support they provide to students and faculty, to enhance the quality, visibility and longevity of scholarly output. Having Michael in the role of AUL for Research and Scholarly Communication will enhance the ability of the Dalhousie Libraries to support the research enterprise and scholarship of our colleagues across the university,” said Donna Bourne-Tyson, University Librarian of the Dalhousie Libraries.

Congratulations, Michael!
Lindsay McNiff, the New Learning and Instruction Librarian

The Dalhousie Libraries are pleased to welcome Lindsay McNiff to the new role of Learning and Instruction Librarian. Lindsay originally came to the Dalhousie Libraries from Toronto in the summer of 2012. She started as a limited term librarian, spending five months at the Killam and five months at the Kellogg. Eventually, her term was extended, giving her some new subject specialist areas of responsibility such as dentistry, management, and economics.

In her new role, Lindsay’s subject areas are social work, information management, and dentistry. To fulfill the learning and instruction aspect of her position, she will be providing systemwide support for various instructional initiatives with online and classroom learning. Lindsay will be advocating for active (hands-on) and experimental learning techniques in the classroom, regular assessment of library instruction, inventive uses of technology for online and face-to-face learning, and faculty outreach. She will also continue to manage the Dal Libraries’ collection of online tutorials.

This fall, Lindsay will again be working closely with the Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences (FASS) as part of their First Year Seminar Pilot Project. This is the second year for the two-year pilot project that offers small seminar sections on a variety of intriguing topics to first year students with the goal of fostering engagement and academic socialization. Lindsay and three other Dalhousie librarians, Oriel MacLennan, Dominic Silvio, and Karen Smith, will work with the professors and students to weave 21st century fluencies into the course content.

Congratulations, Lindsay, from all of your colleagues at the Dalhousie Libraries!

Reflections on a Career in Libraries: we say farewell and good luck to retiring librarian Gwyn Pace

Gwyn Pace has worked at the Dalhousie Libraries for thirty years, serving the information needs of students and faculty. Throughout her career, Gwyn has been the history subject specialist, the Dalhousie Libraries Document Delivery Librarian, the Circulation Librarian for the Killam Library and more recently the Copyright Liaison Librarian, as well as always spending some of her time working at the reference desk, her first library love. She recently reflected on her career at the Dalhousie Libraries on the occasion of her retirement.

Gwyn started working in libraries as a library assistant at Saint Mary’s University, where she was fortunate to work with two librarians who encouraged her to go to library school, Jane Archibald and Margot Schenk. Jane also
worked at the Dal Libraries for many years and Margot went on to become the University Librarian at Saint Mary’s. Gwyn found that working in reference was always interesting and that it was fun to help people find things they needed for their research. While doing her library degree at Dalhousie she continued working as a library assistant at Saint Mary’s and later worked as a student assistant with the reference department at the Killam Library.

When asked about how things have changed since she started working at the Dalhousie Libraries, Gwyn says, “There have been big, big changes in both Document Delivery and Reference. In Document Delivery, a request would start as a 4 part paper form in a typewriter. We’d then mail the request to another library. Back then, there was usually a three-week turnaround time for articles and books. Now, we can get articles from around the world to faculty and students in a day. The number of requests we’re able to process has also increased. In social sciences and humanities alone, we used to do around 1,000–2,000 requests a year for Dalhousie patrons, and now Document Delivery handles 16,000 patron requests a year,” says Gwyn.

As for changes at the Reference Desk, Gwyn says, “I can still remember when we got the first computer in our office in the Killam—we had a competition to name it. Initially, we weren’t too sure what to do with Max because we were still using the card catalogue to search. In the card catalogue, we could find things by author, title, and three subject headings, if we were lucky.

“Eventually we moved to CD-ROM databases, and then searching an online catalogue using very cumbersome codes that you had to type in correctly or you wouldn’t get any results. Now, with today’s web-based catalogue and databases, everything is at our fingertips from home or here on campus,” she says.

Gwyn was also the coordinator of the Council of Atlantic University Libraries (CAUL) Document Delivery Group for eleven years, which gave her the opportunity to connect with colleagues around the region. “Working with the Document Delivery group and the people at CAUL has been a real highlight. We really had to work together to develop policies and procedures because we were sharing the Relais management system across the Atlantic universities. I met some really wonderful people as a result of this work. The Document Delivery staff here at Dalhousie have worked so well together to provide a pretty terrific service. It’s to their credit that all of the work gets done,” she says.

A funny memory from Gwyn’s early days as the subject specialist in history comes from a misadventure in buying books for the library. “I had to select books for the collection from these 3 x 5 pieces of paper that came from the publishers. Canadian History is a PhD area of study, so I really wanted to continue building the collection. I found this book about the history of Quebec that was very reasonably priced, so I ordered it. When it arrived, I was very surprised that it only measured 1.5 inches by 1.5 inches (4 x 4 cm.). Luckily, the book cost only $5, but I kept it on my desk for a long time to remind me to be a little more careful with what I ordered!” laughs Gwyn.
Having spent 30 years at Dalhousie, it’s no wonder that Gwyn has met a lot of people and will miss lots of things about working here. "Of course I’ll miss my colleagues in the Dal Libraries, and the satisfaction that comes from helping students. I’ve been so lucky to work here at the Dal Libraries with wonderful librarians and other library staff such as Marlyn McCann of Document Delivery and Sandy Dwyer, who was the Head of Circulation. And the University Library administration has been very supportive of the Document Delivery service.

“Many faculty in the history department, particularly Cynthia Neville, Larry Stokes, and Judith Fingard were all very encouraging and helpful when I was starting out as the history subject specialist. And just being part of an organization that makes you think and allows you time to help people find things that they need for their research is very satisfying," says Gwyn.

As for her plans after retirement? “I don’t have any big plans. I want to be able to do some projects at home, gardening, digitizing of family photos, visiting family out west,” says Gwyn, a native of Vancouver. “I am looking forward to having a little more flexibility in my schedule," then she adds, with a twinkle in her eye, “but I might come back looking for a project!”

All of the Dalhousie Libraries staff wish you the very best on your retirement, Gwyn. We will miss your thoughtfulness, your dedication to your work, and of course, your Christmas cookies!

Dalhousie Libraries University Archives Receives $100,000 for the Borgese Collection

Elisabeth Mann Borgese is an important international figure who spent nearly twenty-five years working at Dalhousie. In the 1960s, Elisabeth and Arvid Pardo (then Maltese Ambassador to the United Nations), put forward the revolutionary concept that the oceans are “a common heritage of mankind” as part of the negotiations for the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). Although it was not enforced as a principle of International Law for the oceans as a whole, it was codified for the mineral resources of the sea-bed beyond national jurisdiction. In 1972, Elisabeth continued her work in oceans by establishing the International Ocean Institute (IOI).

“Oceans are a priority research area for Dalhousie and the Dal Libraries are pleased to be contributing relevant historical content in this area, thanks to the generosity of marine conservationist Nikolaus Gelpke. Elisabeth
Mann Borgese was an important figure at Dalhousie, but she was truly a global citizen, and soon we will be able to share her research on a global level,” said Donna Bourne-Tyson, University Librarian of Dalhousie.

Elisabeth came to Dalhousie as a Senior Killam Fellow in 1979. Initially, she was supposed to be here for a one year stay, but soon after she was made a full professor in the Department of Political Science. During her time at Dalhousie, she taught undergraduate and graduate students and continued to work with the IOI. Among her many awards and honours, she received five honorary doctorate degrees and the Order of Canada. She passed away in 2002. (Source: website, International Ocean Institute – Canada)

“Elisabeth Mann Borgese is known around the world for her work in ocean conservation and management. Her papers in the Dal Archives have attracted researchers from as far away as Germany and New Zealand. Now, with this generous donation from Nikolaus Gelpke, we can begin the digitization process on the boxes and boxes of Borgese’s papers, making them available to researchers everywhere,” said Michael Moosberger, University Archivist with the Dalhousie Libraries.

In all, there are 55.5 metres of material in the collection, meaning that the boxes of papers measure 55.5 metres when laid end-to-end. Additionally, there are fifty-one audio cassettes, forty-seven reel-to-reel audio tapes, three VHS cassettes, and two 16 mm motion picture films.

Digitization in an archival setting is the process of manually scanning primary source material into a digital format and adding metadata to the digital object to provide information about the physical and intellectual makeup of the item. Each digitized item will be uploaded into the Dalhousie University Archives’ online finding aid for the Borgese Archive, so users searching the descriptive entries in the finding aid will be able to access the digital object with just a click of their mouse.

“With Nikolaus Gelpke’s donation, we have budgeted for a year to get as much of the Borgese collection digitized as possible. The digitization of the Borgese collection will contribute to scholarship around the world, and the Dalhousie Libraries are proud to be contributing to that. We owe a sincere and deep thanks to Nikolaus Gelpke for making this project financially possible,” said Michael.

Photo caption: Nikolaus Gelpke, Dalhousie Archivist Michael Moosberger, and Director of the International Ocean Institute at Dalhousie, Michael Butler.
Food for Fines 2014 – thank you!

Thank you to everyone who participated in Food for Fines at the Dalhousie Libraries between February 17–March 9. Across the five Dalhousie Libraries, we collected 786 food items and $373 in cash donations. That’s way up from the 339 food items and $155.25 collected last year. This is the first year that the Food for Fines program has been extended from ten days to three weeks.

A total of $1,296.96 in fines were waived in exchange for your food donations. Food items were divided between the Dalhousie Student Union Food Bank, Feed Nova Scotia and the Colchester Food Bank (for donations received at the MacRae Library on the Agricultural Campus). Across Novanet (all university and college libraries in Nova Scotia), a total of 2,076 food items were collected, up from 1,113 food items collected last year. Cash donations were also up; $727.15 was collected this year, while $308.25 was collected last year. $3912.94 in fines were waived.

Thank you again for taking part in Food for Fines!

All about Dal Reads

Dal Reads, the unity reading program for Dalhousie has relaunched this year with help from the Dal Libraries and the School of Information Management.

We’re encouraging all students, faculty, and staff to read the same novel during the summer with related programs and events in the fall. Think of Dal Reads as Dalhousie’s biggest book club.

This year’s book is Mr. Penumbra’s 24-Hour Bookstore by Robin Sloan. It was chosen using student suggestions, creating a shortlist, and then holding a vote. All suggested titles were held against our recently developed selection criteria. The book is available at all five Dalhousie Libraries, and at the Dal Bookstores in the SUB and on the Agricultural Campus.

The novel, published in 2012, is described by Amazon reviews as “an old school mystery set firmly in tech-loving, modern day San Francisco.” The New York Times Book Review said it was, “Part love letter to books, part technological meditation, part thrilling adventure, part requiem... Eminently enjoyable, full of warmth and intelligence.”

Discussions will happen through the DalReads blog, Twitter, and Facebook. Orientation week will kick off the Dal Reads activities.
News from Nova Scotia

Nova Scotia Provincial Library

CATHERINE KELLY

The province of Nova Scotia has opted into the National Network of Equitable Library Service (NNELS), which will provide digital delivery of a growing collection of downloadable audiobooks and other accessible formats to the approximately 90,000 Nova Scotians who have a print disability.

Access to NNELS is made available through the nine regional library boards in Nova Scotia, with patrons gaining access via their valid public library login. Patrons will be asked to self-identify as print-disabled, which is defined via the Canadian Copyright Act as having severe or total impairment of sight, the inability to move one’s eyes, the inability to hold or manipulate a book, or an impairment related to comprehension.

Content found in NNELS may be in Daisy audio, e-Braille, or e-Text formats. Talking books may be downloaded onto an existing listening device including an iPod, iPad, iPhone, Tablet or Victor Stream Reader.

NNELS materials are being housed in a digital repository called the Canadian Accessible Library System (CALS), built by the BC Libraries Cooperative, with the support of the Provincial and Territorial Public Library Council (PTPLC).

NNELS is expected to be available in Nova Scotia by October 2014. It is already available to citizens of Saskatchewan, with upcoming implementation in Manitoba, British Columbia, and Alberta this year, with other provinces to follow in the future.

For more information, please visit the NNELS website: https://nnels.ca
News from Nova Scotia
Pictou Antigonish Regional Library

Book Bound Project uncovers the ‘inner artist’ for participants at the Antigonish Town and County Library

ELIZABETH GLINZ, Programming and Outreach Assistant (Antigonish County) & HOLLY MACLEAN, Community Outreach Assistant (Pictou County)

The Antigonish Town and County Library has partnered with local artist-run centre, All-of-Us Society for Art Presentation (ASAP), to create the Book Bound Project. This project offers a series of art workshops and lectures that explore artists’ relationships to books as an art form.

The project was made possible by the Department of Communities, Culture, and Heritage through the Support4Culture Program. Launched in early May during National Youth Arts Week with a talk by 2011 Portia White Prize winner and Canada Council artist, James MacSwain, the project has several components: James led a workshop at ASAP making accordion-style books; part of the grant received by ASAP will also go towards commissioning local artists that have been involved with the centre to create their own art books, which will be displayed at the library during Antigonight in September. Workshop participants are also invited to submit their work to this exhibit.

Some of the workshops held in July included The Sketchbook: A Visual Diary with artist Michael MacFarlane; Illuminated Letters and Calligraphy with Brad Puskas; a Book Binding & Storytelling workshop for youth with Amberlee Boulton; Hand-bound Bookmaking with Anna Syperek & Noella Murphy and The Nature of Narrative in Art & Literature Artist Talk with Margaret Nicholson.

The rest of the Book Bound workshop series (held at the library), slated for August (PDF available), include:

- Illustration: Information & Inspiration with Emily Kane (Tuesday, August 5th, 5:30pm – 8:30pm)
- The Twilight ‘Zine with Philip Girvan (Monday, August 18th, 9:00am – 1:00pm. Registration deadline is August 4th)
- Book Sculptures with Patricia Gaines (Tuesday, August 19th, 4:00pm – 7:00pm.)
Programs at the Antigonish Library will be listed in our online PARLevents calendar at www.parl.ns.ca [21]. For those interested in registering please call the Antigonish Town and County Library at (902) 863-4276 or email asapartcentre@gmail.com [22].

A Display Fit for Royalty – Pictou Library staff builds Royal residence replica

HOLLY MACLEAN, Community Outreach Assistant (Pictou County)

On May 19 the Royal Visit took place in Pictou with Prince Charles and his wife Camilla, the Duchess of Cornwall. Being treated to a dinner of haggis and a serenade of Gaelic song and fiddle music in the Town of Pictou, it seemed as though the visiting royalty were a long distance from Buckingham Palace. Unknown to them, Buckingham Palace was closer than they thought.

The model began as a Victoria Day display but, after the royal visit was announced, it presented Jennifer Nelson and Sabrina Gladney from the Pictou Branch of the Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library (PARL) with an opportunity to build something in honour of the special occasion.

Armed with photos, cardboard, boxes and drinking straws they put their creativity and attention to detail to the test. The end result was a display that excited patrons and the general public, and left them wanting to learn more. Not only did the display include Buckingham Palace, they also constructed the lesser-known conservatory, chapel and guardhouse – complete with pools of still blue water made from Jello.

“The display was a good way to draw people in, and get them wanting to learn more about what the library has to offer – it gets people excited to learn,” says Jennifer Nelson, Library Clerk for PARL’s Pictou Branch.

At the library, learning takes on many shapes and forms – and this creative display was a shining example of that.
Pictou-Antigonish Regional Library - Staffing changes

ELIZABETH GLINZ, Programming and Outreach Assistant (Antigonish County) & HOLLY MACLEAN, Community Outreach Assistant (Pictou County)

Karen MacLeod, our Reference and Heritage Clerk, recently retired from her position. Karen has been an integral member of the regional library staff providing genealogy and research services to the public, the municipalities and various other organizations in our community. She has also been an ambassador for the library and our region, providing these services to researchers across North America and the globe and inviting them to come to our area to continue their research. Over the years Karen also worked closely with the Pictou County Roots Society, helping to foster a great collection of local history and genealogy resources that will continue to be available to help serve the public in these areas of interest.

Steve MacLean, Community Outreach Assistant for Pictou County, has also left the organization to pursue new professional opportunities. Steve started working for PARL in 2000, and was well-known for his ability to come up with creative, out-of-the box ideas for programming and his photographic talent. We wish him the best of luck in his new adventures!

... & new library staff!

Please join us in extending a warm welcome to two new library staff members who have joined us in June. Holly MacLean is our new Community Outreach Assistant for Pictou County, and Debbie Clark is our new Reference and Heritage Clerk at the New Glasgow Library.

Click here to download the PDF file.
Announcement

APLA Advocacy Award Winner 2014

Awards Committee:

- Melissa Scanlan, Acadia University (Questions? Contact Melissa at 902-483-7287 [cell] or scanlan.melissa@gmail.com)
- Joanne Hodder, Nova Scotia Community College
- Paul Graham, Yorkville University
- Cate Carlyle, Saint Mary’s University

APLA Advocacy Award

Promotion of the APLA Advocacy Award ran for from February 10th to March 31st via the APLA listserv and APLA social media sites Facebook and Twitter. The $500.00 APLA Advocacy Award aims to recognize exemplary library promotion and advocacy. Libraries, groups and individuals were invited to submit applications outlining the following details:

- The title of the advocacy initiative, promotional project, community partnership or outreach initiative
- A brief summary including the scope, target audience, implementation, outcome, relevance and effectiveness of the project or program (max. 250 words)
- Name and contact information including address, e-mail, and work phone number

Applications were reviewed by the Awards Committee during the month of April and were evaluated based on the following criteria: originality, relevance and effectiveness. The Award will be presented at the APLA 2014 Conference Step into the Spotlight.

Submissions

There were two submissions for the Advocacy Award:

12 Days of Cookies by Frances Newman (Annapolis Valley Regional Library). Summary: December is traditionally a slow month for public libraries. People are busy getting ready for Christmas and circulation drops compared to other months of the year. The Annapolis Valley Regional Library (AVRL) wanted to find an inexpensive way to promote its social media as well as the library’s cookbook collection as an essential source for holiday preparations. To solve these two issues Head of Youth Services, Angela Reynolds, proposed the idea of Twelve Days of Cookies. For twelve days in December a cookie recipe from one of AVRL’s cookbooks is featured in the AVRL Feed Your Mind blog and the library’s Facebook
page. Staff volunteer to bake a batch of these cookies, and the cookies are delivered to one of our branches for the public to sample. Libraries set up a display of cookbooks along with samples and ingredient lists in case of allergies.

**Games at the Library** by Louise McGillis Crystal Rose (Memorial University). Summary: In 2009, Louise McGillis conceived the idea of an Atlantic-Canada-wide library advocacy event that public, academic and school libraries could participate in, that would be administered by APLA. The idea of “Games @ the Library” was born, a now annual event— the 5th annual Games @ the Library was held this past fall. The concept, branding, and resources that APLA are still using, were created by Louise McGillis and Crystal Rose.

**Award Winner**

Both projects are great examples of outreach with reference to sending a message that libraries are a key component of the community. While the Games at the Library project is a wonderful example of big picture thinking and ensures that the association play a key role in formulating a common and repeatable message for the target audience, the Awards Committee unanimously recommends that the Award go to the 12 Days of Cookies outreach efforts at the Annapolis Valley Regional Library.

The 12 Days of Cookies project demonstrates a creative tie to the festive season offering baked goods to patrons. The project is an excellent example of relationship-building and formulating community partnerships as it involves the local the radio station, KRock, to promote the event. The project also engaged the public who could submit their favorite cookie recipes from library cookbooks and share photos of their cookies through AVRL social media. In return for submitting a cookie photo and recipe, the public were entered into a contest to win a gift certificate from Sobeys. The winner is selected randomly in a draw at the end of the 12 days.

This project generated significant public visibility and implemented social media tools effectively. The project used social media sites Pinterest (http://www.pinterest.com/angelalibrary/12-days-of-cookies/), Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/AVRLibrary), Twitter (https://twitter.com/valleylibs), and the AVRL’s Blog (http://avrlfeedyourmind.blogspot.ca/) to promote the event and engage the public. The outcome of project resulted in successful promoting library social media platforms. 12 Days of Cookies began this annual promotional initiative three years ago in December 2011. During this time, AVRL’s Feed Your Mind Blog page views almost tripled from December 2011 to December 2013. In 2011, AVRL had 1,048 page views in December and in December 2013 had 2,808 page views as the program continues to build followers. Branch staff also reported that circulation of cookbooks and overall circulation in December has increased compared to previous years.

12 Days of Cookies is an easy, inexpensive and effective way to market the library’s collection, promote library social media, and connect with library users in a fun way.
Announcement

APLA Student Prizes

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association Prize 2014 for outstanding student at the Dalhousie School of Library and Information Studies, as chosen by the faculty of the School, was awarded to Jannaya Jensen.

The Atlantic Provinces Library Association Prize 2014 for outstanding student in the Library and Information Technology program of the Nova Scotia Community College, as chosen by the faculty of the Program at the College, was awarded to Patricia Langille.

Announcement

CCRSB Teen Reader's Choice Award

CCRSB Teen Reader’s Choice Award Committee

The Chignecto-Central Regional School Board’s (CCRSB) Library Services team is pleased to announce that the winner of this year’s Teen Reader’s Choice Award is I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban, written by Malala Yousafzai with Christina Lamb.

Started in 2011-2012, the Teen Reader’s Choice Award was designed by library staff for students in grades 7-12. Created as a means of celebrating pleasure reading, encouraging conversations about books and reading, and extending the success realized through the Hackmatack Children’s Choice Book Award program, the TRCA has become a much anticipated annual event.

The 2014 Award introduced students to some of the best current literature written for the YA audience. The shortlist of nominated titles was selected by CCRSB Library Services staff and represented a wide variety of genres. This year’s Top Ten books were published within the last two years, were gender neutral (the
story would appeal to both male and female readers), had popular appeal, and included titles that have received critical accolades.

The Award was promoted by school library staff across the school board while the Award blog - www.ccrsbteenchoice.wordpress.com – provided supporting information such as book trailers, author interviews and suggestions for “read alikes”.

This year’s winner, *I am Malala*, received 17% of the nearly 700 cast votes. The *5th Wave* by Rick Yancey took second place with 16% of the vote and *Eleanor & Park*, by Rainbow Rowell, took the third spot with 15%. The remainder of the nominees for the 2013-2014 program was as follows:

- *The Beginning of Everything* by Robyn Schneider
- *Bomb: The Race to Build – And Steal – The World’s Most Powerful Weapon* by Steve Sheinkin
- *Every Day* by David Levithan
- *Far Far Away* by Tom McNeal
- *Never Fall Down* by Patricia McCormick
- *Nothing Can Possibly Go Wrong* by Prudence Shen, illustrated by Faith Erin Hicks
- *Seraphina* by Rachel Hartman

“This was our third year for the Award and this was the closest contest yet,” says Jolene Shaw, CCRSB Library Services Manager. “Students were excited about the book selections and made their preferences known. Our goals of promoting pleasure reading and encouraging book discussion among teens were both achieved. This is a great program; we can’t wait to start planning for next year!”
Announcement

NSLA Conference

DENISE COREY

Please join us for Communities Start Here, the 2014 NSLA/LBANS Conference, in Amherst from September 26 to 28. We're in the process of lining up some great programs but here are a few highlights:

Our keynote speaker will be John Pateman, co-author of *Developing a Community-Led Public Library* and *Public Libraries and Social Justice*. We're also going to offer sessions on community hubs and public libraries, technology in youth programming, community-led service planning in rural settings, and more.

Of course, the Conference is also a time to celebrate those who have made strong contributions to the Nova Scotia library community. Awards will be handed out at the banquet on Saturday night, followed by a rousing Wii Rock Band Tournament!

Keep an eye on the NSLA website for all the registration information and follow us on Twitter [@NSLAConference](https://twitter.com/NSLAConference) for updates.
Feature
Giving Students What They Want: A Proactive and Comprehensive Course Reserves Program

SARAN CROOS, Engineering and Computer Science Librarian, University of New Brunswick - Fredericton

Providing access to course reserves is not a new practice - most academic libraries have been providing access to course reserves for many years. At the Engineering and Computer Science Library at the University of New Brunswick (UNB), we take a proactive approach to providing access to undergraduate engineering textbooks by implementing a comprehensive course reserves program for all undergraduate Engineering students. Before I discuss what makes UNB's Engineering and Computer Science Library’s approach to course reserves so unique compared to other academic institutions, I will first provide a brief explanation of what a course reserves program is for those who are unfamiliar with the concept.

Course Reserves

Course reserves are materials that are set aside for a specific academic course. Such materials typically include textbooks, videos, CDs, and other material (either hard copies or digital) used for courses. Course reserve materials may also include supplemental information such as tests, class notes or solution sets. Most often, materials are put on course reserve by library staff at the request of the course’s instructor and the materials on reserve typically have shorter loan periods than most library resources in order to provide access to a high volume of students. For example, at the Engineering and Computer Science Library, students are allowed to access course reserve material for two hours only. A hefty late fine of $5.00 per hour is imposed in order to discourage students from keeping the items beyond the allowable loan period. Course reserve materials are typically accessed through the library’s catalogue, with students enjoying the ability of searching for these items by course code, course name and the last name of the instructor. Reserve items are “closed stacks” materials, meaning that students need to provide a call number to library staff in order to access such materials. At the Engineering and Computer Science Library at UNB, in addition to materials placed on reserve at the request of instructors, we also provide access to all engineering undergraduate required textbooks by proactively pursuing a comprehensive program on our own.
Our Course Reserves Program

Many academic libraries in today’s environment are facing fiscal restraints, such as decreases in acquisitions budgets, at a rapid pace. The Engineering and Computer Science Library at UNB is no exception. As a result, some may wonder how it is possible to provide access to all required undergraduate textbooks, which are very expensive, especially Engineering textbooks. The idea that the course reserves program should be funded, at least in part, by the students who would be using the materials, was proposed at UNB and accepted. This meant that the Engineering and Computer Science Library was required to search for funding initiatives that were driven by students in order to provide services to student centric programs.

One such student funded program available to us at the Engineering and Computer Science Library at UNB is the Engineering Program Fund. This is a program that is funded by every undergraduate engineering student at UNB through their tuition differential fees. In order to utilize this Program as a resource in relation to the course reserves program, the Library submits a proposal, in February of each year, requesting funding from this program. Through this funding request, the Library requests from the Engineering Program Fund Committee (which is composed of Engineering faculty and students) the necessary amounts for purchasing the required undergraduate textbooks. After the proposal submission, the committee reviews all proposals. Subsequently, the committee invites the funding requesters, i.e. a representative from the Library, to provide a short presentation to the committee regarding the request and to answer any questions that the committee members may have. If the committee determines that the funding request provides value to Engineering students and if the request is deemed to be a priority, the committee approves the request.

The Request

The Engineering Program Fund proposal has now been operational for three years. In order for the undergraduate engineering course reserves program to be fully functional, the Library requires approximately $10,000 per year. However, because the Library was able to carry forward funds from previous funding years, the net amount requested for the 2014 - 2015 year was $3,816.00. Based on the Engineering curriculum, approximately 80 undergraduate textbooks are required each year, and on average, each textbook costs $125. Together, these figures provide the annual course reserves operational cost of $10,000. This year, the Library had approximately $6184.00 remaining from the 2013-2014 fiscal year fund due to the fact that some courses did not require a textbook or used the same textbook from the previous year, or the library already had purchased a copy of the required textbook. Generally, the Engineering and Computer Science Library only provides one copy of the required textbook and additional copies are purchased based on the class size and a high volume of requests from students in relation to a particular item. As always, the Engineering and Computer Science Library is grateful that the Engineering Program Fund Committee approved our funding request in the amount of $3,816.00 which would allow us to once again successfully implement the course reserves program.
Implementing the Program

Most of the preparation for the course reserves program is completed two to three months in advance of the fall and winter terms since having a book “shelf ready” can be very time consuming. In order for the course reserves program to operate properly, all course reserve items must be placed on reserve and available for loan at the outset of each academic semester. Implementing the program is often more challenging than requesting and receiving the appropriate funds to run the program. First, the Library is tasked with determining the entire Engineering program requirements in terms of the curriculum. In order to do this, we had to examine each of the disciplines within the Engineering department and locate all of the courses that were listed as required courses for each program. Gathering all of the courses listed as part of required courses is daunting, as there are many courses cross-listed from other disciplines and departments such as chemistry, biology, economics, math and statistics.

Subsequently, the Library must then determine which courses within each of the Engineering departments and external departments are offered for the fall and winter academic terms. This aspect of the course reserves program is often difficult to coordinate since during the summer months courses are added and dropped depending on the enrolment level as well as instructor availability. Once it has been determined which courses are being offered for each academic term, the Library must then compile a list of required textbooks that will be ordered. This final step in implementing a comprehensive course reserves program, i.e. figuring out the textbook titles which will be ordered several weeks in advance of the academic semester, is crucial in order to have the items “shelf ready”. This task requires both patience and persistence. The completion of several tasks is required in order to acquire the names of the textbook titles. First, based on the courses that are to be offered each term, the departmental secretaries are contacted via email and in person to inquire about the names of textbooks. Using this method, we are not always able to locate all of the titles needed for each course since the departmental secretaries may not have this information. For courses that are missing textbook titles, we also visit the University of New Brunswick’s bookstore in person and via their website to see what has been listed as required items for Engineering courses. If this method does not yield accurate results, the course instructor is contacted directly through email to inquire about the title of the required textbooks. Using all or some of these methods, we are able to determine which book titles are needed in order to facilitate and implement our comprehensive course reserves program.

Value for Money

Based on the previous academic year’s usage of course reserve materials, excluding the summer months, we believe that the program provides students with tremendous value for their money. During the months of September 2013 to April 2014, 4535 students borrowed course reserve materials and this number is nearly double in comparison to the number of items requested from the main Engineering stacks at 2637 (see figure 1). Approximately 69% of the current undergraduate student population has used the
library’s reserve textbooks at some point throughout the academic year. For the 2014-2015 academic year, we received $3816 from the Engineering Program Fund to implement this comprehensive course reserves program. As such, we estimate that based on last year’s usage of reserved materials, the cost per use for the 2014-2015 fall and winter term would be 84 cents. Since only a few Engineering courses are offered during the summer months, we excluded the usage statistics for the months of May to August. It is also worth noting that during the month of January the usage was significantly low in comparison to other months due to labour disruptions. We estimate that if we were to take these factors into account, the per use cost would be as low as 75 cents. Based on these reasons, we believe that our comprehensive course reserves program adds tremendous value to our students’ learning experience, and in return, they appreciate what we offer at the Engineering and Computer Science Library.

Notes

I had the privilege of inheriting this wonderful program from the previous Engineering and Computer Science Librarian who retired last year. I also, like to thank the wonderful staff at the Engineering and Computer Science Library who play a vital role in implementing this important program to students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Main</th>
<th>Course Reserves</th>
<th>Miscellaneous Materials</th>
<th>Subtotal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013 September</td>
<td>493</td>
<td>937</td>
<td>529</td>
<td>1959</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 October</td>
<td>419</td>
<td>1073</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>2392</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 November</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>613</td>
<td>772</td>
<td>1649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 December</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>578</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 January</td>
<td>381</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 February</td>
<td>353</td>
<td>469</td>
<td>486</td>
<td>1308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 March</td>
<td>371</td>
<td>564</td>
<td>842</td>
<td>1777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014 April</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>508</td>
<td>648</td>
<td>1401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>2637</strong></td>
<td><strong>4535</strong></td>
<td><strong>4453</strong></td>
<td><strong>11625</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 1 – Usage Statistics for the 2013-2014 Academic Year
Figure 2 – Usage Statistics for the 2013-2014 Academic Year

Key

Main: All general collections

Course Reserves: Locations designated for academic reserves

Miscellaneous materials: equipment and ancillary materials such as marker sets, room keys, cables, tablet and laptop computers
An opportunity to promote libraries and literacy while helping those less fortunate was an offer I couldn’t pass up. In late March I was selected to join eleven other members of the Librarians without Borders (LWB) Guatemala Service Trip team, working in libraries in Chajul and Quatzaltenango (Xela), Guatemala during the last weeks of the dry season. My participation would not have been possible without donations from private donors and the APLA General Activities Fund. These generous donations helped offset transportation costs and also provided donations to the libraries visited. The trip lasted twelve days and included cash and book donations to two libraries as well as service training for Guatemalan staff, cataloguing of English language books and providing programming in Spanish to local school aged children.

The Miguel Angel Asturias Academy Library in Xela benefitted from the team’s expertise which included academic and public librarians from Spain, the United Kingdom, the United States and Canada as well as four Masters of Library Science students. The private school was conceived of, built and directed by one man, Jorge Chojolean, and his family. Jorge was a rebel leader during the Guatemalan civil war and as such was banished from Guatemala after the war. The kindness of a
stranger who gave him a book to read while exiled in Mexico led Jorge to pay it forward, become a social activist and plan the creation of a school in his native country. Jorge envisioned students, both male and female, embracing literacy and rising from the poverty and social injustices plaguing Guatemala. With his life savings and the support of his family, Jorge returned to Xela and built the private non-profit Miguel Angel Asturias Academy. The school library was created and has grown through Jorge’s partnership with LWB. Jorge’s wife Veronica is the school secretary and his daughters teach health and math in the school. The majority of the 250 students are scholarship students (only 10 students pay for their own tuition). In a country where the average citizen reads one book a year, Asturias students read 5 or 6 books annually. Both the library and academic classes focus on monthly themes related to student needs including racism, gender violence and social injustice. After five days of cataloguing English language books for the library and training the library staff on Excel and collection management the team was thrilled to witness the first lending of books in the library to Grade 6 students for the weekend. We wrapped up our visit to Xela by presenting Library Day with activities for each age group including a “Comic Jam” and poetry writing for older students, a puppet show and crafts for the young ones and a demonstration of the do’s and don’ts of library lending and book care. The visit was very rewarding and eye opening. Students were not allowed to wear shoes in the library and books were treated as delicate objects. Upon leaving the library it was not uncommon for students to give library staff and volunteers a kiss on each cheek.

The second week of the LWB trip was spent volunteering at the Limitless Horizons Community Library in Chajul. Limitless Horizons is a non-profit organization created in 2004 by Katie Morrow, a social worker from California. The LH group is focused on helping the remote Mayan town of Chajul become literate and rise from the genocide suffered during the civil war which ended in 1999. Librarians Without Borders has paired with LH in sending volunteers to the community library for the last two years to engage the community, train staff, provide programming ideas and eventually catalogue and lend the growing collection. While in Chajul, where the majority of the population only speaks the indigenous Mayan Ixil language, the team provided a morning of programming and participated in planning and Q and A sessions with the staff. Interestingly, the staff wanted tips on how to “act out” books and feel more comfortable doing so and also how to dress like a clown. Staff were also interested in how to reduce theft and find an alternative to the safety pins used on name tags as these items were being stolen too. The library collection features both Spanish and
English language books, catalogued according to the Dewey Decimal system, and a separate section for research where students come to receive homework help. Our team was impressed with the resources available, the staff dedication and their efforts to educate and model honourable behaviours for the local children. Before entering the library, visitors must ask permission and engage in “courtesies” (in Spanish) as listed on the library wall. These include “hello”, “how are you”, nice day”, etc. I found the people of Chajul to be very timid and shy yet interested in who we were, where we came from and our English language. The local Peace Corps volunteers informed us that the town had suffered greatly at the hands of guerillas during the war and that the people had only recently started to allow their children to play outside, and take part in market events. Reading stories to the school children that I once read to my own children and teaching them finger plays for “Head and Shoulders” and “Itsy Bitsy Spider” while they stared in wonder at my strange blond hair was definitely a highlight.

I was very fortunate to be able to meet the gentle people of Guatemala and I have many wonderful memories of their grateful smiles and hugs. In communities where families live on one dollar a day, grandparents, parents and children welcomed us into their humble homes, fed us their traditional meals and embraced our presence in their communities. I was given the opportunity to teach children and promote the value of libraries in a place where the power of literacy, or even just the ability to escape with a book for a few moments, is desperately needed.

Photos:

1. Helping students during Library Day, Asturias
2. LH Community Library, Chajul
3. Chajul
4. Xela
Join the APLA Discussion List

APLA-L is an un-moderated discussion list for people who are interested in library issues in Atlantic Canada.

The APLA list is:

- a place to post notices about workshops, seminars, and other events
- a source of current information about the actions of the APLA Executive
- a forum for sharing questions, comments and ideas about library services
- a place to post job advertisements.

To subscribe to the APLA list, send the command sub apla-list to listserv@lists.dal.ca.

To send a message to everyone on the list, use: apla-list@lists.dal.ca.

To stay on the list but suspend your messages (while on vacation, for instance), send the command set apla-list nomail to listserv@lists.dal.ca.

When you want to receive message again, send the command set apla-list mail.

To unsubscribe from the list, send the command unsub apla-list.

If you have any questions about the APLA list, please contact the postmaster, Anita Cannon, at acanon@mta.ca.
Contributors & Credits

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