CPSLD Fall Meeting at the University of British Columbia

Many thanks to Melody Burton, UBC Deputy University Librarian, for making arrangements to host the fall meeting of CPSLD at the University on October 30. Great place, great food, wonderful hospitality!

Guests at this meeting included Martin Young from AVED, who provided us with a Ministry Update on the Provincial Digital Library, Shared Services, and other initiatives. Annette DeFaveri from BCLA reported on what is happening at BCLA including goals and objectives that the Association has with respect to academic institutions.

The group also discussed plans for an upcoming Assessment Workshop to review evaluation tools on library assessment, and the ELN All-Partner meeting, which will include a celebration of 25 years of ELN service.
Reports

Capilano University

contributed by Tania Alekson for Grace Makarewicz, University Librarian

CapU Library has spent the past half-year working towards improving our contribution to student support success at Capilano University. As part of increased efforts in communication and demonstrating value to our stakeholders, our second Annual Report was published in September. With the recent creation and approval of a university Strategic Plan, we are looking forward to further aligning our efforts services and programs with those of our institution.

Combined Service Desks

A big, visible change undertaken this year was the combination of our service desks. When IT decided they were moving from their designated spot on the desk in our entrance foyer, we decided to try out an amalgamated Library Services user experience. The Research Help Desk, formerly positioned at an imposing bastion in the middle of our main floor, settled into the main counter beside Borrower Services. The move allowed staff and Librarians to work side-by-side, the Research Help Desk to position itself in the main entrance of the Library and additional student-use space to be created where the big reference desk once stood. A term-long trial was deemed a success and the changes were made permanent over the summer.

Welcome Anita Chan

The Research Help Desk saw another change, this time in personnel, with the welcome addition of Anita Chan as a part-time Librarian. A 2012 graduate of SLAIS, Anita has proved a great asset in our ability to provide on-demand help to CapU students on information literacy and research issues.

iPads for Instruction

Our ability to get the information literacy message to students in a meaningful way was enhanced greatly this summer by the purchase of iPads for teaching purposes. While the Library has a dedicated classroom, it is not a lab - no computers were available to students for hands-on practice in our teaching space. Booking lab space on campus was becoming more difficult and did not allow us to bring the students into the Library for their instructional sessions. With our new suite of 20 tablet devices, we can provide activity-driven instruction in the Library - or, with the aid of a handy wheeled cart, in the students' regular classrooms. Functionality of the devices is excellent for our purposes and sessions go much more smoothly than previous attempts with laptops. They definitely liven up the classroom and provide an amusing side benefit - after class, we can scan through all the selfies the students take during the sessions!
Record Number of Library Instruction Bookings

Happily, our new iPads got immediate use as we broke all previous in-house records for Library session bookings this fall. The Librarians taught 114 information literacy and subject-specific research classes in fall 2014, up over 20% from last year’s total of 94. Our recent work building relationships with our liaison subject areas seems to have paid off in spades as the number of liaison classes booked increased over 26%.

We Day

In recognition of her “beyond excellent” service, the Library was pleased to nominate Dalene Samborski, Media Technician, to be part of an employee development group at Capilano University. The group, and Dalene, volunteered at We Day on October 22 as part of a team from CapU, exclusive post-secondary partner of the event.

The Capilano Review Special Issue – Bowering’s Books

CapU’s award winning experimental poetry, fiction, drama, and visual art publication, The Capilano Review (TCR), has dedicated its Fall 2014 issue to BC legend, George Bowering. The work of the "terminally curious explorer", is celebrated and critiqued in essays from 46 writers, including Margaret Atwood and Stan Persky. TCR’s web folio, ti-TCR, supplements the main issue with even more discussion of one of BC’s best literary bets. The author himself joined students, faculty and staff for a launch event on Nov 20, which included a live interview.

College of New Caledonia

submitted by Kathy Plett, Library and Media Services Director

Staffing update

On Dec. 3, we were devastated when one of our part-time circulation staff members, Kellie Russell, lost her battle with cancer. The College flag flew at half-mast and many staff attended her celebration of life event. Sadly, Kellie was scheduled to receive a 10-year Long Term Service Award less than a week before she passed away.

Other Long Term Service Award recipients included Grace Morrice, Barbara Otter, Carmen Martin and Leanne Yearley.

We welcomed new circulation staff, Kiara Lanteigne and Lorna Scully.

Increases in Use

We have been surprised by the increases in use we have seen this fall. Compared to Sept.-Oct. last year, Circulation was up 25%, Reference 9%, Patron entrances 23%, Room bookings 42%, and Database use 74%. Library instruction increased by17% in instructional time. Media Services saw increased use of some types of equipment (e.g. speakers, digital recorders), laminating and printers, and requests for help with special events. Technical Services was busy with Periodicals, Repairs/Replacements, rush cataloguing, and other activities. All in all, a very positive picture!

Displays

Fall displays have been popular and interesting, as always. We featured Old and New Technology, Weekly Contests on a "Scary Weather" theme, a Tribute to Robin Williams, books for the Weaving Words aboriginal literature and storytelling event, Applied Research projects (complete with drones and student research job ads), Remembrance Day, Fine Arts Student works, Violence Against Women and Human Rights displays. At the moment, it’s a Holiday bonanza, with the Winter Woollies tree for the local Youth Shelter, Food for Fines, a Holiday Greeting Wall, and Gingerbread houses from our Professional Cook students.
CNC Fine Arts students having a “pARTay”!

Bring on the Drones, Applied Research display

Part of Violence Against Women display

Gingerbread houses in the library, CKPG story at http://ckpg.com/gingerbread-abound

Open Textbooks and Predatory Publishers

CNC and UNBC Libraries jointly hosted two sessions at the August Teaching and Learning Conference in Prince George. One session was on “Open Textbooks” with Mary Burgess of BC Campus. The other was titled “The Dark Side of a "Googlized" World: The Risks of Open Access” with Allan Wilson and Heather Empy of UNBC. The turnout was great, the discussions were riveting!
Spring 2015: Winter Games and City’s 100th

From Feb. 13-March 1, Prince George will host the Canada Winter Games. At the College we will have target shooting and trampoline competitions. The Library is working on ideas for displays and services of interest to athletes and their families.

2015 is the City of Prince George’s 100th anniversary. CNC Press received a grant from the City to help with the publication of a commemorative book, containing over 500 Prince George Citizen articles about the City’s history, written by Dr. Valerie Giles. It should be out soon.

College of the Rockies

submitted by Shahida Rashid, Manager of College Library Services

Stan Sae-Hoon Chung – New Vice President, Education and Applied Research at College of the Rockies

On December 1, College of the Rockies welcomes Stan Sae-Hoon Chung, as Vice President - Education and Applied Research. Chung has “25 years of experience in Canadian post-secondary education. He has held positions that include Vice President Academic and Research at Red River College, Dean of Arts and Science at Camosun College, Associate Dean of Arts and Foundational Programs at Okanagan College, Associate Professor and Chair of Communications at Okanagan University College and instructor in English, Business and New Media at College of New Caledonia.” – Darryl Schmidt, External Communications Coordinator

Information Literacy

Our Instructional and Research Librarian, Julie Kent, has been with us since mid-May and has been kept extremely busy developing and delivering Instructional Literacy Skills Development sessions for students enrolled in a variety of COTR programs. Julie shares her observations, outcomes and feedback of those sessions with Reference staff which is very helpful when working with students at the Reference desk.

Five Things You Need to Know Now……..

During our Fall semester Orientation day, the Library staff sported t-shirts that promoted our theme of “Five Things You Need to Know Now….and Five Things You Need to Know Later”.

Julie Kent created a streaming video, highlighting ten key Library services that new students need to know, helping to reduce that feeling of being overwhelmed during the first few weeks of a new semester. 
https://stream.cotr.bc.ca/media/COTR+Library+Orientation+2014/0_4fc8eju5

VHS Collection assessment and weeding

The task of assessing our VHS collection and developing a strategy to phase it out (weeding, replacing, upgrading, streaming, converting) has proven to be rather onerous. However, with the collaboration from faculty, we are making inroads and will forge ahead until the project is complete.

EDS – Ebsco Discovery Service

We launched the EDS Discovery Service over the summer and have found the ‘Search All’ feature to be a very popular tool among our students and staff. Statistics for all databases have seen a notable increases.
International Week

The Library helped to celebrate International Week with some displays. The International Students were also intrigued by our Canada Day display.

Douglas College

submitted by Debbie Schacter, Director of Learning Resources

Survey of College Faculty

Learning Resources conducted its first Faculty service survey. We asked faculty to give us feedback on the services and resources of the Library, and separately, services from the Learning Centre, and we received a response rate of 30%. Overall, the responses were extremely positive, but as expected, the survey revealed a lot that we need to address. Responses indicate that there are a lot of resources that faculty were not aware of and we will be targeting communications in response of comments to faculty over the coming months.

Open Access Week

Debra Flewelling, Learning Resources, hosted an Open Textbook Project workshop for academic librarians in BC on October 30, as part of Open Access Week. Presentations included Four Ways Librarians are Essential to the Future of Open Textbooks and OER, with presentations from a number of external guest speakers.
Extended Library Hours

For Fall and Winter semesters this year, we are piloting additional hours of operation on Friday nights. This means we will be open consistently, Monday to Friday, from 8:00 am to 9:00 pm, at both campuses. Previously the Library closed at 5:00 pm on Fridays. Statistics show that there is positive reception to the space being available to students on Friday evenings.

Engagement

During the last week of August, Learning Resources employees were involved in a few activities to engage employees of the College. The Library’s media team hosted the second annual Technology Petting Zoo in the NW Learning Centre and the Library in Coquitlam. This annual event is a great opportunity for faculty and staff to learn about the equipment available to them, as well as the many online resources we provide to faculty and students. Also, six Happy Learning Resources employees participated in New Westminster’s flash mob during the Employees’ BBQ on August 26. Kudos to Cora Fanucchi, Connie Li, Cathy Tremblay, Shelley Waldie and Laurette Walsh, along with Director, Debbie Schachter.

Appointments

Debbie Schachter is acting as Interim Director, Student Affairs and Services pending a search for a new Director. Debbie is taking on this role in addition to her role as Director, Learning Resources. Debbie will also be beginning a part-time Doctorate in Education program with the University of Edinburgh, beginning January, 2015.

Justice Institute of BC

submitted by April Haddad, Institute Librarian

JIBC launches SEARCH ME! (A.k.a. EBSCO EDS)

With great fanfare the JIBC Library launched their new EBSCO EDS site and its new name – SEARCH ME! A skit was performed by librarians Marjory and Christine-Louise at the regularly scheduled JIBC faculty and staff “Face-to-Face” session, followed by an afternoon of demos and delicious cake in our atrium space. Don’t you just love our kiwi-green t-shirts?

It was a busy summer, implementing the EDS product and revising all instructional handouts and web pages to include the new product. Phew! Educational technology faculty member says: “I love the new Search Me! Having e-books show up in the initial results is great. I found what I needed!”
Library part of new JIBC Student Research Skills Development Framework

Developed by the JIBC Office of Applied Research and Graduate Studies (based on the Research Skill Development Framework by John Willison from Adelaide University), this new Framework will guide the research skills development of JIBC students. It includes recommendations for appropriate student research projects at each of the certificate and diploma and baccalaureate levels.

To help ensure student success in the undergraduate research experience, it is important to develop the pre-requisite skills for success. The Framework lists six skills (e.g. Embark & Clarify, Find & Generate, etc.) and shows specific examples of how they are interpreted at each level (from certificate to degree). The Library is working with the Applied Research Committee to add Information Literacy skills to the Framework when and where they are required, ensuring all students receive the library instruction they need to enable them to complete their research assignments. This Framework has been presented at the BC Applied Research & Innovation Network (BCAIRN) and will soon be adopted as a province-wide resource.

JIBC students featured on new Library “rack card” ...

Kwantlen Polytechnic University

submitted by Todd M. Mundle, University Librarian

KORA Debut

The Library, in collaboration with KPU’s Office of Research and Scholarship (ORS), soft-launched Kwantlen’s new institutional repository KORA (Kwantlen Open Resource Access) in November. We look forward to working with the ORS, KPU faculty and our students to begin growing this new open access resource of KPU scholarship.

Summer Professional Developments

Web & Systems Librarian Caroline Daniels was acclaimed BCLA’s Vice President/President for a three year term.

Public Services Librarian Mirela Djokic presented a poster session (“Examining Library’s Information Literacy Instruction in Support of Student Research Skills Competencies”) in Helsinki at IATUL’s 35th annual conference.

Collection Development Librarian Elaine Samwald presented at the 6th Annual International Conference on Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Libraries in Istanbul. The work, “MOOCs! Who Gives a SWOT?”, was the result of a collaboration with SFU Communications professor Linda Harasim.

Richmond Open House

KPU held its first ever Richmond campus Open House. The Library’s table was an official Selfie Station (students who tweeted photos of their selfie were entered into a prize draw). Our graduation cut-out selfie prop was among the favorites at the event. We look forward to participating in KPU’s Open House events as they branch out to other campuses.
Your Odds are Better Than 50/50

The Library carries more streaming/online versions (as opposed to hardcopies) of journal, audio and video collections; and this year the Library passed the tipping point for books. There are now more electronic than print monographs in the collection. We expect this continuing shift to aid students in accessing quality resources when and where they need them.

New Brewery Program at KPU

Langley staff and librarians have been enjoying the new books coming in to support the Fall start of the Brewing and Brewing Operations program at KPU. Favorite title so far: “The audacity of hops”…second place? “Beer: health and nutrition”.

Langara College

submitted by Patricia Cia, Director, Academic Innovation and Dan Slessor, Communications Librarian

Academic Plan

This summer, Langara College unveiled its first Academic Plan and appointed five task forces to develop concrete action items and outcomes for each priority. During the Library’s All Staff planning sessions, we recognized the importance of connecting with the Academic Plan and successfully aligned our Strategic Priorities with the College Academic Plan. Librarians are also on three of the five Academic Plan Action Groups created to develop concrete action items and outcomes: 1) Learning & Teaching; 2) Student Support; 5) Environmental, Financial, and Social Sustainability.

3D Printing in the Learning Commons

During the Summer and Fall terms, the Library & Learning Commons hosted several 3D printing events for students. Our 3D Printing Showcase, organized by Joyce Wong (Library Department Chair), in partnership with the Creative Arts Division and the Computing Science & Information Systems Department, attracted more than 700 student visitors over its two-week run in early September. The Showcase featured live 3D printing with faculty and staff in attendance to field questions from students.

To follow up on the enthusiasm sparked by the showcase, a 3D Printing Meet-up was held on October 24, 2014. The event allowed students to print their own objects or bring their 3D files for review by faculty. The Library hopes to host another similar “meet-up” in the upcoming Spring term.
Langara Library in Feliciter

Langara Library was featured in the June issue of Feliciter. The article, written by Annie Jensen (current Media Librarian and former Communications Librarian), describes the collaborative projects she worked on as Langara’s first ever Communications Librarian. The article focuses on how the unique role allowed the Library to strengthen relationships with the College’s Communications and Marketing Department, as well as departments and groups across campus.

The article is available online at http://www.cla.ca/feliciter/2014/3/#p=22

North Island College

submitted by Mary Anne Guenther, Coordinator, Library Services

The library has marked the first two months of the fall semester with notable statistics for library circulation, reference services and library instruction: compared to 2013, library circulation increased by 9%, reference services increased by 55% and the number of students receiving library instruction increased by 10.5%. Combined gate counts for September and October tell us that we had 30,536 entries through our library doors.

The library continues to grow its electronic resources to promote accessibility and access to research materials on and off campus. We currently license approximately 135,000 e-books and 17,000 streaming video titles.

The Comox Valley Elder College recently donated $5,900.00 to the library for the purchase of resources relating to the physical, mental and social aspects and implications of aging. We plan to license AgeLine, Dynamed, c-CPS & e-Therapeutics and streaming video titles.

The Comox Valley library will be open two weekends, Dec 6-7, 13-14 during the exam period. This year we are working with the student union (NISU) to provide beverages and healthy snacks for students while on campus studying. Again this fall, the Comox Valley library is providing space and managing bookings for writing help by English instructors on Mondays from 2:30-4:30.

Library staff were fortunate to attend this year’s CLA conference in Victoria and the ALA conference in Las Vegas. Both conferences offered amazing sessions – still talking about Jane Fonda’s opening address and B J Novak’s closing address at ALA!

Northern Lights College

submitted by Dawna Turcotte, Regional Librarian

David Porter Leggett joined NLC’s Fort St. John Campus Library in early July, as our regular part-time Library Assistant. He is a recent Langara College graduate from their Library Technician Diploma program.

Copyright

We now have a libguide for Copyright, thanks to Bev Weidman, our Library Assistant for Circulation & Copyright. Our libguide is for faculty, staff and students, and is set up in a “Q and A” style. See: http://libguides.nlc.bc.ca/copyright

College News

Renovations

The Dawson Creek Campus is undergoing a major renovation, shifting various Departments to different areas of the campuses. As a result, some library space has temporarily been turned over to the Workforce Training Department, until renovations are complete. Fortunately, the loss of space is not directly impacting our patrons.

Due to the renovation, a large mural in the Dawson Creek Campus lobby will soon find its
permanent new home in the library. This photo shows the mural being prepped to be hung on the wall. Laine Dahlen, a former instructor in Visual Arts, created the mural in 1985.

New Faces

It has been an eventful few months for our College, as all Upper Management staff have now left the College. Most of the positions have recently been filled.

- Laurie Rancourt, our President & CEO, left to join Humber College as Senior Vice-President, Academic at the end of October. The College Board has appointed an Interim President, Nick Rubidge, a former of President and CEO at College of the Rockies in 2013, until such time as a replacement is hired.
- Loren Lovegreen (formerly our NLC Registrar), replaced Peter Nunoda (now President at VCC), as Vice President, Academic and Research.
- Anndra Graff (formerly our Chief Financial Officer) is now VP Finance and Corporate Services.
- Warren Stokes will join NLC as our Registrar in January. He is currently the Associate Registrar, Records, Registration and Systems at Kwantlen Polytechnic University.
- Peter Armstrong will be our new Director of IT as of January 5th. Peter is currently the Director of Information Technology from the Department of Health, Government of Nunavut.

Northwest Community College

submitted by Melanie Wilke, Coordinator of Library Services

NWCC has decided to move the Learning Centre into the Library to create a Learning Commons. The Library on the Terrace Campus is currently under construction to make these accommodations. We are very excited to have these two departments joining together and hope to have everything complete and open for mid-spring. Right now these two departments are working out of different buildings, so we can hardly wait to have them together providing better service to our students.

Related to the construction and space changing at the NWCC Library, we also began a project to weed and recycle back issues of our periodicals. After an extensive look at what was available electronically, we began withdrawing and weeding most of our back issues. This had created a clean, bright look, as well as room for the Learning Commons!

We held our Eleventh Annual NorthWords Creative Writing Camp at NWCC this September. We hosted author Tawny Stokes for a fun-filled and interesting day of writing exercises, discussion, learning about advancements and options in publishing, and the business side of writing. We had our largest NorthWords turnout ever, with 24 attendees. Everyone left energized and excited about moving forward with their writing.

Okanagan College

submitted by Ross Tyner, Director, Library Services, and Michelle Ward, Kelowna Campus Librarian

Employee news

Two non-regular employees, Kathy Ewan and Nicole Arbuckle, were successful in obtaining regular positions with the Library as Circulation Clerks, in Penticton and Kelowna, respectively.

Stephen Brown has been hired as Math/Science Coordinator in the Learning Centre. His full-time position begins in January; in the meantime, he is
filling the position on a part-time basis, along with two other part-time employees.

Yvonne Caldwell, formerly Cataloguing/Acquisitions Technician, has taken on a new role in support of the web services and electronic resources management activities of the Library. She continues to perform cataloguing and acquisitions duties, but to a reduced extent.

Anita Zittlau, Cataloguing/Acquisitions Technician, was the main culprit in mounting a spooky Halloween display in the Library Technical Services area that won the top prize in the College’s Halloween decorating contest.

The week around Halloween was far from spooky for Web Services Librarian Roën Janyk. Her successful showing at the Royal West national horse show in Calgary was quickly followed by the publication of her article “Augmenting Discovery Data and Analytics to Enhance Library Services” in Insights, the journal of UKSG (formerly the United Kingdom Serials Group). The article describes the use of Google Analytics in OCtopus, OC Library’s implementation of the Ebsco Discovery Service. Roën is also the new chair of the Academic Librarians Section (formerly ALPS) of the BC Library Association.

Gilbert Bede, Systems & Data Librarian, was elected to the External Advisory Committee of the Data Liberation Initiative (DLI).

Ben Harrison, Reference & Instruction Librarian, and Lindsay Wilson, Public Services/Business Liaison Librarian, have developed an online tutorial, “Avoiding Plagiarism.” Aimed primarily at international students, but potentially useful to others as well, the tutorial is based on a similar project at Sheridan College.

Circulation Clerk Surandar Dasanjh once again outdid herself by preparing all the food and doing much of the work for the Penticton campus’s Taste of India lunch event, which raised a record amount of money for the campus’s students-in-need fund.

Exhibits & Events

In November, the Library partnered with the Institute for Learning & Teaching (ILT) to mount Okanagan College’s first ever Scholarly and Creative Expo. The week-long showcase of research, scholarly and creative activity at OC included displays of works authored by OC employees in each campus library, lunchtime talks on each campus by faculty about their research and creative works, and a Wednesday evening public talk by University of Alberta professor and author Ted Bishop, on the subject of his new book, The Social Life of Ink: Culture, Wonder and Our Relationship with the Written Word.
All events were well attended and the feedback from those who participated has been universally positive. The OC authors displays were accompanied by a slideshow, developed by Vernon campus Circulation Clerk Karen Friesen, with the assistance of campus librarians, that features a slide for each employee who was represented in the exhibit.

First World War in 22 Maps

In conjunction with Remembrance Day and the centenary of the First World War, the Kelowna Campus Library collaborated with faculty members on a feature display that used historical maps to present the military and human stories of the Great War. To understand the broader lessons of where, why and how the First World War was fought, the maps provide the geographic context, portray the environment, and document the tactics and strategy. The twenty-two maps, which were borrowed from the private collection of Terence Day (Professor, OC Geography, Earth & Environmental Sciences department), depict campaign locations known to Canadians such as Vimy Ridge, Somme, Ypres, Cambrai, Arras, Saloniki, Gallipoli as well as Palestine and China. The display also featured Library books that support studies and research in the history of the First World War. For more information about the display, see the article in the Daily Courier at http://tinyurl.com/nlnv44s.

Learning Centre

Okanagan College will join WriteAway in January 2015, thanks to a collaborative initiative between the Kelowna and Vernon campus Learning/Success Centres.

Quest University Canada

submitted by Kathryn Neeley, Information Services Librarian for Venessa Wallsten University Librarian

The Quest University Canada Library began the 2014-15 academic year by welcoming a new cohort of freshmen, bringing our student population to the campus’ capacity of 700 students. We’ve seen a distinct uptick in student
use of the library space, and have implemented changes knowing that our student body had grown yet again.

Our library team has also grown; we welcomed new Library Technician Alix Gullen in August, who had just driven across the country to take up residence in Squamish. Alix comes to us from Barrie, Ontario, and is busy getting to know Quest and the west coast.

In an ongoing project, we have been analysing and assessing how students use the library space, and are moving into the second year of keeping statistics on space usage via an ethnographic study. The fairly recent trend to work while standing has caught on all over campus, and while we had some temporary standing workstations available for our students, one of the drawbacks was that they could only work as long as their laptop batteries lasted. Over the summer we had standing workstations retrofitted from shelves and permanently installed and wired with electricity and data cables. Since the semester began these stations have been well used and we’ve received very positive feedback.

November always means moustaches around campus, and this year has been no exception. The library joined in to create a moustachtic display (below) that has led to periodic laughter from its general direction.

There are many elements to look forward to in the new calendar year. Our Senior Library Technician is completing her MLIS at UBC’s SLAIS and will be moving into a librarian role. We will also continue to gather data on space usage and ergonomics and work toward assessing and possibly changing aspects of the physical space. We will also be preparing to send off our fifth graduating class in what is sure to be a very busy Spring semester!

Selkirk College

submitted by Gregg Currie, College Librarian

Selkirk College had a summer of gains and losses. On the plus side Selkirk launched its Rural Pre Medicine program. The 3 year program hopes to attract students who are interested in rural living, and who will be more likely to pursue a career as a country doctor once they graduate from medical school. The program has a maximum cohort of 24, and Selkirk College is very pleased to have almost a full quota for the inaugural year of this program. And in a mere ten years or so we should know if it works or not, but so far the program has generated a great deal of interest (and funding) from many levels of government.

Also in the plus column are our International enrollments- up significantly this year with a big increase in students from India. The International program has almost been too successful, as the
large number of international students does present challenges with finding housing, transportation, and other logistical issues. But if one is going to have problems, better the problem of too many students than too few.

Too few students was a significant factor in the shutting down of Selkirk College’s Aviation program, which had been in place since the College opened in 1967. Low enrollments and multi-million dollar capital renewal costs in the made simply made the program unsustainable.

In the Library, it was a very productive summer. After many years of starts and stalls we were able launch a new library website, and have now finally be able to say goodbye to Frontpage. New graphics for the website were also incorporated into new entrance signs, and we now have a very sharp “Learning Commons & Library” logo replacing the 1970’s vintage pictograph that previously graced the entrances.

We also were to get a new group study room built, and new tables and chairs as well. The new study room and furniture has been a big hit with students, and we are hoping to redo our older study rooms in the coming summer.
Simon Fraser University

submitted by Stuart Colcleugh, Manager-Faculty Research and Library Communications,

Data guru calls it a career

Walter Piovesan’s retirement plans include possibly opening a coffee shop and definitely pursuing his lifelong passion for cycling.

Anyone who has ever taken a Telebook course, or retrieved a map, or accessed a digital database at SFU or indeed any university across Canada owes Walter Piovesan a debt of gratitude.

Over almost four decades, the pioneering SFU Library Maps/Data/GIS Librarian has helped build and shape the university’s and the country’s digital landscape.

In the process, during his 37-year tenure, he has helped place the SFU Library at the forefront of many major developments in university computerization, digital library technology, distance education, wide-area networking and other educational technologies.

And yet the proud northern Italian immigrant and east-end Vancouverite, who completed a BA in history and communication at SFU in 1970 and a master’s degree in library science at UBC in 1978, almost chose a career building houses.

After beginning part-time in maps in 1977, and then full-time to create Telebook, which home delivers library materials, Piovesan got bored and briefly considered joining his father in construction.

“Then I heard about a new job no one else wanted, which was creating and managing a new thing called a data library,” he says.

“This was 1981-82. We only had one mainframe computer on campus. And very few at that time had a computer account. But I said, damn, this sounds really interesting to me.”

The job grew from housing university data collections and providing access to them through tapes and discs and/or downloads from a central server, to maintaining licensed data resource subscriptions and networking data with other institutions. Today it also includes acquiring, archiving and preserving the Library’s unique digital collections to serve users around the world.

In addition to curating, managing and providing access to data collections, Piovesan also develops and evaluates training resources and teaches researchers how use digital technologies.

He’s also a senior member of numerous industry organizations. They include IASSIST (the International Association for Social Science Information and Service), ACCOLEDS (A COPPUL Consortium of Library Electronic Data Services), CAPDU (the Canadian Association of Public Data Users) and the ICPSR (Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research).

“I’ve had a fantastic career,” say Piovesan, whose retirement plans include possibly partnering in a coffee shop and definitely pursuing his lifelong passion for cycling. “I basically got to make it up as I went along, creating something meaningful out of nothing.

“Now I’m ready to move on.”

GIS Day highlights global impact of geospatial tech

Biology grad student Danielle Dagenais presented one of the GIS Day Lightning Talks, entitled Understanding the Movements of Nocturnal Animals.
The SFU Library on Nov. 19 commemorated GIS Day, an annual worldwide celebration of geographic information systems (GIS) technology, with a full slate of activities at the Burnaby campus W. A. C. Bennett Library in the Research Commons (RC).

Co-hosted by the RC, the Department of Geography through its newly inaugurated SFU Esri Canada Centre of Excellence and the Faculty of Environment, GIS Day at SFU is an annual public event aimed at graduate researchers interested in learning about GIS.

This year’s event featured a guest lecture on 3D GIS, GIS-themed Lightning Talks (five-minute presentations in rapid succession) by SFU researchers and workshops on ArcGIS, geospatial tech developer Esri’s industry standard software for analyzing data and creating visual maps.

"The SFU Library made a strong commitment to GIS support in the early 2000s when it obtained a campus-wide site license for ArcGIS software," says Brian Owen, associate university librarian for technology services and special collections, who opened the program.

"And as GIS technology has become more widely adopted across other academic disciplines during the past decade the Library has kept pace, as exemplified by the Research Commons and its expanded support and services for GIS."

Following Owen, Environment faculty associate dean Sean Markey and Geography professor Suzana Dragicevic made some brief remarks.

The event also featured a display of First Day Covers of GIS and mapping-themed Canadian stamps and cachets and individual stamps from around the world, reflecting the global nature and relevance of GIS and geography.

Retirement Luncheon

More than 30 SFU Library retirees joined current employees in November at the Library’s annual luncheon for its many former colleagues

Library major Landscapes of Injustice partner

Brian Owen (left) and Nick Blomley are central participants in Landscapes of Injustice, a multi-institutional project exploring the Canadian government’s confiscation of Japanese-Canadian properties in the 1940s

Brian Owen, the SFU Library’s associate university librarian for technology services and special collections, and SFU geography professor Nick Blomley are key players in a new seven-year research project called Landscapes of Injustice, which aims to shed light on a dark chapter in Canadian history.

During and after World War Two, the Canadian government liquidated thousands of Japanese-Canadian properties after uprooting, imprisoning and/or deporting more than 21,000 British Columbia residents of Japanese ancestry, virtually eliminating Japanese-Canadian communities throughout the province.
Funded by a $2.5-million Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Partnership Grant, the multi-sector interdisciplinary project will explore and chronicle the dispossession of Japanese-Canadians and share this history with audiences across Canada and beyond.

More than 30 researchers and 100 students from nine universities and numerous community organizations and museums will collaborate to produce academic analysis, interactive websites, digital primary-source repositories, teacher resources and a travelling museum exhibition.

“This may be our last opportunity to connect with communities and individuals who were directly involved” in the dispossession, says Owen, who is chairing the public website cluster. “If we delay much longer, we could lose capturing valuable information that might otherwise be lost.”

Owen managed or co-managed SFU’s most notable previous digitization projects, including the Komagata Maru Project, Multicultural Canada Project and Chinese Canadian Stories.

SFU will contribute graduate student funding and in-kind library services for development of the public history website.

The University of Victoria-led project will focus on four Japanese-Canadian enclave study sites—in Vancouver, Maple Ridge, Steveston and Salt Spring Island.

SFU Library adopts BrowZine ejournal app

SFU community members can now easily browse, find and read many SFU Library-subscribed electronic journals on their iOS and Android devices using a new tablet and smartphone application called BrowZine.

“The shift to electronic journals has brought many advantages, but until now they have not been as easy to browse as print journals,” says Gwen Bird, the SFU Library’s new dean of libraries/university librarian.

“BrowZine changes that. It delivers your favourite journals to your mobile device on a customized bookshelf that makes browsing simple and pleasant.”

The free application works by arranging articles found in open access and subscription databases, consolidating them into complete journals and then arranging the journals on a virtual newsstand. The result is an easy and familiar way to browse, read and monitor scholarly journals across all disciplines.

Like the Current Journals area at the Library, the app emphasizes current awareness and browsing over focused research or searching.

With BrowZine, users can:
- Browse journals by subject, review tables of contents and read or download full articles.
- Create a personal bookshelf of favourite journals.
- Get alerted when new journal editions are published.
- Save and export articles to Dropbox, RefWorks, Zotero, Mendeley, etc., or email them to yourself.
- Share with others on Facebook and Twitter.

Trinity Western University

submitted by Ted Goshulak, University Librarian

Alloway Library Statistics...at a glance

Renovations

A big thanks to the TWU graduating class of 2014 who donated the funds to renovate the "crystal" study room, and to the anonymous donor who provided matching funding.

Photos of the class of 2014 are featured on one wall, while the other wall displays the artwork of 2014 graduate, Amy Robinson, courtesy of the artist and Investors Group Financial Services. The popular study space now has an ambiance that complements the view.

Environmental Studies Display

Recent works by Trinity Western University Environmental Studies students are now on display on the upper level of the Library.

The display features ENVS Theses posters from 2013 FNAS graduates.
Publications

Bill Badke published the 5th edition of his Research Strategies book, and continued his column in the Online Searcher.

University of British Columbia

submitted by Linda Ong, Director, Communications & Marketing

Partnership Provides Provincial Access to Research Materials

British Columbia’s 4.6 million residents now have free perpetual access to the Gale Digital Archive Collections – a database of nearly 200 million pages of digital historical content – as part of a unique agreement arranged by UBC Library, the University of Victoria Libraries and Simon Fraser University Library.

These resources will enrich learning and research in subject disciplines including interdisciplinary studies, Canadian, American, British and World History from 1400-2012, English, Journalism, Political Studies, First Nations Studies, Science Technology and Medicine, Women and Gender Studies, Theatre Studies, and History of Banking and Finance. Content in the database includes digitized versions of periodicals such as the Economist, the Financial Times, and Associated Press content, as well as digitized materials from The Smithsonian Institution.

A full list of the resources available can be found by visiting the Gale Digital Collections e-catalog at http://www.e-digiteditions.com/i/279757

Woodward Library Celebrates its 50th Anniversary

Dr. Douw Steyn, University Librarian Ingrid Parent, Woodward Library Branch Head Aleteia Greenwood and Dr. Kendall Ho at the anniversary reception

Donors, Library staff, faculty and students participated in week-long celebrations in recognition of Woodward Library’s 50th anniversary in November. Woodward Library officially opened on November 12, 1964 with the help of a generous gift by the Mr. and Mrs. P.A. Woodward Foundation.

In recognition of Woodward Library’s past and future, a number of open houses were held during the week of November 17 for faculty and students.
These events included workshops, a games day, an Engineering Maker Faire Open Robotics event, and a concluding formal anniversary reception hosted by Ingrid Parent. To view photos from the anniversary celebrations as well as a historical digital timeline of Woodward Library, please visit http://woodward.library.ubc.ca/events/50th/

**UBC Okanagan Campus Library Expansion Approved**

![UBC Okanagan students and staff cheer results of the student union #MoreLibrary yes vote referendum, which will help fund an expansion that will more than double the space of the campus library at UBC Okanagan](image)

UBC Okanagan Campus Library was excited to announce the success of a student referendum calling for support for a library expansion last month. After almost a year of advocating for student feedback and discussion, the UBC Students’ Union Okanagan (UBCSUO) launched a referendum in mid-October asking students to financially support a library/learning centre expansion. Students were asked to support a limited-time student fee increase of $35/semester ($70/year) to be levied to contribute one-third of the total cost of a library expansion. The referendum passed with an 85% yes vote to the proposed project that will add 45,000 square feet of study and learning space, more than doubling the size of the existing library. The expansion is project to cost up to $30 million, depending on the layout of the new space.

The next stages of the project include acquiring additional financial support, and engaging in student and faculty consultations about the expansion plans. For additional details on the Okanagan Campus Library’s #MORELIBRARY campaign, please visit http://morelibrary.ok.ubc.ca/

**BIRS and UBC Collaborate to Create Math Video Archive**

Math scholars anywhere in the world can now access the workshops and lectures of the renowned Banff International Research Station for Mathematical Innovation and Discovery (BIRS), thanks in part to UBC Library’s information repository, cIRcle.

The BIRS lecture series produces 20 lectures per week for 48 weeks of the year, totaling approximately 1,000 files – all of which are freely available on the BIRS website. BIRS’ collaboration with cIRcle provides robust and long-term digital preservation for these videos, as well an enhanced accessibility for scholarly researchers worldwide through UBC’s online library service. Their digital archival system will guarantee the content is discoverable and indexed in popular search engines, thus helping to increase the global reputation of BIRS.

The end result is the first large scale project to digitally preserve and disseminate mathematical research output in video format. The BIRS videos launched in cIRcle this summer and has already experienced more than 11,000 downloads. New videos continue to be digitally preserved and uploaded. To view the current inventory of BIRS videos in cIRcle, visit https://circle.ubc.ca/handle/2429/47157/browse?type=title

**100 Years in the Making**

![A plan of the proposed University Library, circa 1923](image)

UBC Library will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2015, the same year that the University celebrates its centennial. Special programming for the campus community and Library users is being developed and implemented by a Library Centenary Working Group, chaired by Ingrid Parent, University Librarian.
“Since 1915, the Library has been the foundation of the university,” says Parent. “It is a fitting way to look back at our past accomplishments and to share the new direction and vision for the Library’s future.” More details about the celebrations can be found on the Library’s website at www.library.ubc.ca beginning January 2015.

University of Northern British Columbia

submitted by Allan Wilson, University Librarian

We’ve been ranked #2 nationwide in Macleans. Our new President Daniel Weeks made special mention of the library and acquisitions and the good job we’ve done contributing to this rating.

On other news, we are preparing for the Canada Winter Games and the library will be hosting DiscoveryCentre, an academic fair for the public, visitors, prospective students who are here for events at the Northern Sports Centre. We are supporting our athletes and if people are visiting games venues they can stop by for hot chocolate, coffee, cider, treats, and enjoy visual and physical exhibits showing off the campus, its colleges, and professors. They might get a treat of “chemical ice cream” from the chemistry department, enjoy a “wood magic” show, or perhaps be interested in storytelling for the kids. Development is still underway for this event, which will coincide with the Games from Feb 13-March 1. Contact the library or Coordinator Brooke Boswell for details.

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Congratulations to Nancy Black - formerly of UNBC, now Executive Director of Library Services at Nipissing University/Canadore College - who has just received her Doctorate in Librarianship from UBC.

Dissertation Committee photos provided by Rosie Croft
University of the Fraser Valley

submitted by Kim Isaac, University Librarian, with contributions from Lisa Morry and Mary-Anne MacDougall

Great War Day

On October 3rd, the University of the Fraser Valley looked back at a defining moment in Canadian history with Great War Day: Local Experiences and Legacies. This successful event brought together UFV faculty, staff and students, local high school students, and members of the public who were invited to participate as both exhibitors and visitors. The day featured a lecture series, displays of memorabilia and historical artifacts provided by UFV employees and members of the community, as well as poster presentations of research done by UFV students.

The Library contributed to the event in a number of ways. Information Services Librarian Mary-Anne MacDougall was a member of the organizing committee that put the day together, and also participated as one of the presenters. She read from her great-uncle’s diaries and provided historical context to the experiences he described. Her great-uncle survived the entire war in the trenches right up to Armistice Day and won the Canadian Distinguished Conduct Medal, but died 10 years later, the after-effect of being gassed.

The Library also put together a display table of medals and other war memorabilia provided by two librarians, both of whom had family members who served in the war. And volunteers from library staff promoted our new Libguide, created to help people seeking to find their family’s military service history: http://libguides.ufv.ca/familymilitaryhistory

UFV Turns 40

This fall, UFV celebrated its 40th anniversary as a post-secondary institution serving the Fraser Valley. The Chilliwack library’s major display case acknowledged this milestone. Psychedelic prints, big hair, old technology (typewriter!), photos of long-time staff, and other memorable images formed the core of this display, which also featured a desk equipped with an ashtray as a reminder of changing times. Inside the library, the 40-year timeline and historical university calendars were displayed. Students and staff enjoyed identifying instructors and colleagues from UFV’s Fraser Valley College days.

DDA Pilot Project

This fall, we began a pilot project to borrow and purchase electronic books using Demand Driven Acquisition (DDA), led by Collections Librarian Patti Wilson. The e-books are provided by EBL, a leader in e-book publishing and acquisition. The EBL collection currently includes over 32,000 books in all subject areas, provided by a wide range of academic publishers.

DDA is a method of purchasing items with a known demand or interest. We have set up our system so that when a borrower views an e-book
for over 5 minutes, a short-term loan (STL) is triggered. On the third STL, a purchase is triggered. We have started with a modest investment of funds and will reassess based on what we learn in this pilot period.

**New Printing System**

At the end of August, the university switched to a new printing system, requiring a change in how students pay for the printing (and photocopying) they do on campus. Since the two campus libraries (Abbotsford and Chilliwack) are the sites with the highest volume of student printing at UFV, this made for an especially challenging start to the fall semester for library staff. It was also challenging for returning students, who were used to the old system and expected things to work the same way as they always had. Delays in the arrival of a self-serve pay station added to the frustrations felt by many. By October, things had settled down, and as the end of the semester approaches we all seem to be comfortable in the new routines. But the experience demonstrates, once again, how the library has become the main service point for a variety of functions that are not traditionally our core business.

**Staffing Update**

Collections Librarian Patti Wilson is on educational leave this semester, which means librarian duties have been temporarily redistributed. Information Services Librarian Mary-Anne MacDougall is supervising the Acquisitions department and coordinating the selection of library materials, including database renewals. Copyright Librarian Martin Warkentin is now working full time, and looking after the technical aspects of electronic databases, in addition to his copyright duties. Reference and Instruction Librarian Selena Karli is working four days a week, taking on some of Mary-Anne’s regular duties, including reference scheduling, and responsibility for the reference section. Everyone will go back to their regular duties in January, when Patti returns from her leave.

Genevieve Kreye is our new serials technician. She has worked as an auxiliary library technician for both UFV and Kwantlen libraries, as well as acting as the library’s administrative assistant during a leave. Genevieve also worked in a corporate biotechnology company library for ten years, where she gained experience in many aspects of serials management. Genevieve has a Library and Information Technology Diploma from UFV, as well as a Computer Based Information Systems Certificate and a Business Office Administration Diploma.

**University of Victoria**

*submitted by Wendie McHenry, Assistant University Librarian*

On Sunday Dec.7 the *Times Colonist* included a two-page insert "Community Report," highlighting UVic stories of interest in the Greater Victoria community. This issue focuses on UVic Libraries. The online edition of *The Ring* includes the same content and a newsprint PDF is available [here](#).

**Celebrating community resources: UVic Libraries**

UVic is recognized around the world for our extraordinary academic environment, supporting the dynamic learning experiences of our students and fuelling research and discovery. UVic libraries are a key support for learning and research, as well as a hub for projects and resources that serve the Greater Victoria community.

**Community engagement Libraries**

November 14 marked the 50th anniversary of the McPherson Library (now the William C. Mearns Centre for Learning-McPherson Library), the cornerstone of the UVic library system. In the half-century since its opening, there have been major changes to the library building: an expansion in the early 1970s, and again in 2008 through the generosity of the Mearns family.

Beyond the physical transformation of the library, ongoing digitization of unique collections is creating new research opportunities in the worldwide exchange of resources.

The central role the library plays—supporting teaching, dynamic learning and research—remains unchanged.

These resources combined with innovative, welcoming services create quality learning environments for the campus and the community.

And as you might expect from a university with strong community connections in every field of inquiry, the library is also a key link between the campus and the rich history and cultural life of Greater Victoria.
Sharing history’s riches with all British Columbians

Thanks to a groundbreaking agreement with one of North America’s leading sources of historical information, people and classrooms across the province now have unprecedented access to a wealth of archival materials spanning several centuries.

Libraries at UVic, SFU and UBC, with the support of the BC Electronic Library Network have collaborated to negotiate life-time access, on behalf of students, faculty and BC residents, to all of the Gale Digital Collections products—nearly 200 million pages of digitized historical content. This is by far the largest such initiative to date and offers access to over 30 databases.

This agreement expands access to a wealth of historical content. Centuries of searchable primary source material—including maps, photos, newspapers, manuscripts, pamphlets, poems and more—are available to everyone in BC at pointstothepast.ca.

Digitizing our region’s history

In addition to opening access to existing resources, the library has a long history of working with community partners to bring new collections—of value to the community and researchers alike—into being. These include the British Colonist newspaper, the Colonial despatches (original correspondence between the British Colonial Office and the colonies of Vancouver Island and British Columbia) and the Chinese Canadian Benevolent Association (a crucial force in Victoria’s immigrant history). These collections, and many others, are free and available to all at bit.ly/digital-stacks.

Another of these initiatives, digitizing Victoria’s police history, marked a major milestone in November.

“Book ‘em!” is a familiar phrase in police TV dramas—referring back to the handwritten charge books once used in law enforcement. Last month, historic charge books were returned to the Victoria Police Department after being preserved electronically by volunteers of the Victoria Genealogical Society (VGS) and the UVic Libraries’ Digitization Unit.

These charge books from the 19th century are part of Victoria’s rich history and document chargeable offenses within our borders from April 1873 to Nov. 1874. The books reflect numerous infractions, as well as the tremendous strain put on the department dealing with the level of intoxication and routine drunken fights—much like any “frontier town” would have seen back then.

The VGS and the Victoria Police Historical Society teamed up in a joint effort to digitally preserve and make accessible this irreplaceable historical information after learning that a part of our history could be lost forever if not for proper documentation and preservation. The two agencies contacted UVic’s Research Partnership and Knowledge Mobilization Unit to match those needs with UVic expertise and to facilitate collaboration between both agencies and the university.

The UVic Libraries’ Digitization Unit has now digitized the information and hope to make it part of their digital collections in the near future.

Searching for a WWI soldier

As the police charge books were being readied to join the vast array of UVic-digitized resources about Victoria’s history, another collection was being prepared that would draw curiosity from across Canada.

When Dr. Marcus Milwright, of UVic’s recently renamed Art History and Visual Studies department, began planning The Arts of World War I exhibit (which runs until March 2, 2015, in the Legacy Maltwood in the lower level of the library), he knew there was one item in the university library that he just had to use: a beautiful two-volume leather diary set illustrated with watercolours and pen-and-ink drawings of life during wartime.

There’s only one problem: Milwright has no idea who made the diary.

The World War I sketchbooks contain approximately 130 sketches and drawings ranging from caricatures to sombre images, penned by a British soldier based in France and Belgium in 1917 and 1918.
“The dedication on the first page says, ‘To my daughter, Adele’ and it’s signed simply ‘J.M.’,” says Milwright. “We do know that J.M. survived the war, as there’s a painting dated 1920, and we know he saw active service in the areas of Ypres and Menin, as the paintings are dated and named. But that’s about it.”

It’s a tantalizing mystery—and one the library has been trying for some time to solve.

**The library is open for you, too**

In addition to a wealth of digital resources available to anyone with an internet connection and a healthy dose of curiosity, the UVic libraries are also open to community borrowers.

This year marks a relaunch of the library’s community borrowing program to support the active intellectual life of everyone in our region. Enrolment is free. Full info: [bit.ly/uvic-stacks](http://bit.ly/uvic-stacks).

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**Vancouver Island University**

*submitted by Dana McFarland, eResources Librarian*

The Library at VIU is looking forward to welcoming **Tim Atkinson** as our new University Librarian in January 2015!

Tim has represented a number of CPSLD libraries at the table in the past, and members will be well acquainted with his leadership and extensive expertise. We are fortunate that he has offered these qualities to our Library and glad that he will continue to be an asset to the collaborative work of libraries in BC and beyond. Please join us in welcoming Tim in his new role!

The following announcement of appointment was made to our community by David Witty, Provost and Vice-President Academic, and Acting University Librarian in the months after Bob Foley’s retirement.

Dear colleagues,

After an extensive national search, it is my pleasure to announce that Tim Atkinson will be joining VIU as our next University Librarian in the Spring semester, starting with us in January 2015.

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Tim holds a Bachelor of Education and a Master of Library Science from UBC. One of his first jobs as a librarian was in the library of the Union of BC Indian Chiefs. Tim then spent several years at UBC, set in the Library for the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. During his tenure at UBC, Tim also worked with the library of the First Nations program, collaborating to gain them status as a University Library. His experiences at UBC were wide and varied.

For the past three years, Tim has served as Director of the Library at Vancouver Community College. He has improved systems and staff morale, and his administrative talents drew the attention of senior management, which led to various opportunities including a recent Interim stint as Vice-President, Finance.

Tim’s range of experience, at both a large research university and a large community college, as well as his personal attributes, prepare him well for the role of University Librarian at VIU. Please join me in welcoming Tim to the VIU Community.

All of us in the Library extend thanks to Dave Witty, Rhonda Maclaren, and the Provost’s Office for assistance over the past several months with the operations of the Library, and also to AVP Steve Lane and colleagues on the hiring committee who contributed to our successful search process.

This Fall we also had the pleasure to welcome **Jenn Bolstler** to the Library Technical Services team to assist us during a mat leave - and on that subject, this has been best year in recent memory for baby pictures!

Librarians have been busy, heads down with hiring, getting oriented to new roles, and the usual Fall activity, but even so there have been noteworthy events in professional development and scholarship in recent months:

- Based on research with colleagues at VIU and Royal Roads University, **Kathleen Reed** presented a paper “Laying the Groundwork for a New Library Service: Scholar-Practitioner & Graduate Student Attitudes Toward Altmetrics and the Curation of Online Profiles” at the Library Assessment Conference, August 4–6, 2014. She also has
been an organizer of the CPSLD Assessment Workshop, to be held Dec. 4, 2014.

- In September COPPUL a workshop on Indigenous Initiatives in Libraries at Grant MacEwan University. Dana McFarland was an organizer and was honoured to attend together with Jean Blackburn.

- Dan Sifton presented his poster “Systems Mapping at VIU Library” at the ACCESS Conference in October.

- At Code4libBC in November, Dan Sifton presented a lightning talk, “Using MapBox and geoJSON to showcase historical slides and audio recordings,” and Dana McFarland convened a breakout discussion, “Place-based access to First Nations-related information in BC libraries.”

We are looking forward to what the coming months will bring!

Special Reports

CAPER-BC (Centre for Accessible Post-secondary Education Resources)

submitted by Patricia Cia, Head of Library Services (Interim), Langara College

No increase in funding

From April 2013 to March 2014 CAPER-BC provided a record number of print disabled post-secondary students with their academic or trades learning materials in an accessible format.

Although funding has been stagnant since 2008, demand has increased dramatically. The number of individuals registered with CAPER-BC has increased from 466 to 1186 (146% increase), the number of requests has increased from 1157 to 4292 (271% increase) and the number of productions has increased from 620 to 1083 (146% increase).

In May CAPER-BC requested an increase in our grant funding from the Ministry of Advanced Education. In September we learned that an increase would not be approved.

Open textbooks

We are collaborating with BCcampus on the open textbook project to ensure that textbooks produced in BC are accessible and will require little or no intervention from us in the future. We have adapted user experience personas of people with disabilities to be specific to the main types of print disabilities (learning disability, visual impairment, blindness, and physical disability). These will be used to help instructors better understand the various kinds of students who will be accessing their textbooks. We are currently working on user testing criteria that will be used by students with print disabilities who will user test some of the open textbooks. We will host a half day event in January with students to get feedback on the textbooks and the user testing process.

CPSLD Statistical Report


BC Electronic Library Network (ELN)

submitted by Leah Hopton, ELN Librarian

BC ELN Celebrates 25-Year Anniversary

This fall BC ELN celebrates a quarter-century of success in leveraging post-secondary library resources to support world-class teaching, learning, and research in BC. Partner libraries
across the province deserve full accolades for this amazing accomplishment. Thanks to the hard work of forward-thinking, dedicated library staff, BC ELN has brought about multiple successes to the post-secondary sector. In celebration of this notable anniversary, BC ELN has unveiled a revitalized logo created by the design team at Raised Eyebrow, which has a modern, open layout and a brighter colour palette.

Read the BC ELN anniversary press release: http://www.eln.bc.ca/docs/view.php?id=1453

If you have a story to tell about your experiences with BC ELN, please pass it along via our “Share a Story in Celebration” webform: http://bceln.ca/node/add/story

Institutional Repository Network

With funding committed by the Ministry of Advanced Education to the development of an Institutional Repository (IR) Network in BC, the project has progressed with many earnest folks devoting time and energy to the initiative. An Advisory Committee consisting of representatives from BC ELN partner libraries came together this fall and accomplished its first task of assembling a Software Selection Committee. The Software Selection Committee’s purpose is to oversee the software selection process and in the end make a recommendation to the Advisory Committee. The Software Selection Committee has accomplished an incredible amount of work thus far, including hearing presentations from libraries that have established IRs to learn about the workflow and the various platforms, developing functional requirements, and releasing a Request For Quote to vendors. Expect updates from this group and an invitation to join community demonstrations soon.

Licensing News

Partner libraries have spoken! Feedback collected on our 2014 Licensing Activities Survey made it very clear that institutions appreciate the annual Resource Forum and Ranking Survey, which allow partner libraries to nominate and rank resources they feel should be considered for licensing by the consortium. As a result of this feedback, the Forum and Survey were revived after a brief hiatus (see http://www.eln.bc.ca/view.php?id=1022). Additional changes to licensing activities have been implemented after receiving input from partner libraries. See full survey results at http://www.eln.bc.ca/view.php?id=2208.

With two of BC ELN’s key license coordinators gone (Leigh Anne Palmer on medical/parental leave, and Gordon Coleman having accepted a position at Simon Fraser University Library), the Office now has “all hands on deck” to maintain license renewals, ensuring there are no gaps in licensing.

AskAway: Chat Reference

A significant milestone was reached this fall when AskAway achieved full sustainability after the loss of significant funding from BCcampus. Library directors stepped up to the fiscal challenge by agreeing to a final round of cost increases that now ensure a completely self-sustaining service. In other news, for no additional cost to the system BC ELN was able to negotiate free institutional queues for all libraries that wish to utilize them – a value of up to $30,000. Institutional queues allow library staff to pick up questions from their own institution’s students before these are rolled into the main AskAway queue; currently 17 libraries have opted for institutional queues.

WriteAway: Online Writing Assistance

WriteAway service expanded considerably this fall with the addition of four institutions (BC Institute of Technology, Emily Carr University of Art + Design, Justice Institute of BC, and Selkirk College), bringing the total number of participating institutions to ten. In addition, for the first time this fall a part-time “Master Tutor” was hired for WriteAway. The Master Tutor’s role is to support tutors, thus reducing workloads for institutional coordinators. The Master Tutor position, along with other changes like reducing the minimum number of tutoring hours required by each institution, have been implemented by the BC eTutoring Concept Committee as ways of reducing barriers to institutions that wish to join, and to expand the number of students reached.

Electronic Health Library of BC Administrative Centre

The e-HLbc Administrative Centre’s primary focus this fall was analysis and negotiation of Core Suite renewal pricing. Pricing for the Core Suite has now been approved by the e-HLbc Management Committee, and was presented to the e-HLbc Steering Committee at its November 14th meeting. Two important documents will soon be in the hands of members: the e-HLbc Membership Pledge which presents membership benefits, responsibilities, and institutional membership costs for the next three years, and the Case for
Renewal, which presents benefits of participating in the core suite and individual institutional pricing.

**BC ELN Office News**

As mentioned previously, the BC ELN Office has lost two key players – one temporarily, the other permanently. Leigh Anne Palmer, responsible for both e-HLbc coordination and BC ELN licensing, has been on medical leave since October and will soon begin parental leave for one year. Gordon Coleman, longtime BC ELN Coordinator, has accepted a position as Head of Acquisitions & Serials at Simon Fraser University Library. Loss of these staff members has meant some reprioritization and restructuring of tasks (see Initiatives-at-a-Glance document, which outlines current initiatives: http://www.eln.bc.ca/docs/view.php?id=1246). The Office will undergo a hiring process in the near future to ensure there is sufficient support for projects to continue apace.

**All-Partner Meeting, Dec. 5**

A few photos from the meeting, with more to come in the next ELN Connect newsletter.

**Happy Holidays everyone!**