ROBERTSON LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT 2010-2011:

Evolutions



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Robertson Library Annual Report May 2010 - April 2011



Message from the University Librarian

Evolutions. The sub-title of our 2010-11 Robertson Library Annual Report is an apt one, if only for the memories it invokes of my graduate degree work in biology, evolutionary ecology to be exact. I remember sitting on the floor in the Library at the University of Calgary mining historic distribution data for the critter I was studying (a species of dragonfly), daunted by the sheer volume of information at my fingertips. Fast-forward 30 years and my children (both attending their final year at UPEI) are dealing with a deluge of

information, print and digital. While the core of research and writing has changed little in that time, the process and mechanics have evolved to the point where digital literacies are a required skill set for every member of the University community.

The Robertson Library continues to evolve to meet that changing landscape, as evidenced by the new initiatives and services highlighted in this year's report. It is also evidenced by the wealth of digital resources (books and journals) our community has access to. However, one needs to go slowly in interpreting this as a sea change – there was a record number of circulations of print materials (via regular circulating materials and Reserves) of over 70,000 items, or 16 items for every student and faculty member at the university. That is a significant use of the Library's print collections and points to the continued importance of this "analog" resource in the learning context.

Coming back to my graduate research, I looked at the thermal energy a species of dragonfly needed to range from South America to Banff Alberta, and the strategies for leveraging that thermal energy from the local ecosystem, such as laying eggs in hot spring run-off. I like to think of today's "information energy" in a similar way, and learners need to leverage all forms of information in their quest for knowledge, print, digital, peer-reviewed and popular. The Library's quest is to provide as much of this information energy as we possibly can, along with the literacy training needed to make the most effective us if it. Evolutions.

CURRENT COLLECTIONS TOTALS

Number of Titles – Books and e-Books – 405,269 Number of Electronic Serials – 9,912 Number of Print & Microform Journals – 337 Cartographic Materials – 3,866 Number of Video & DVDs – 2,134

Total Expenditures for all resources for budget year was: \$937,627.00

New Electronic Resources — Added to, or Accessed through, our collection

New Databases : Conference Board of Canada eLibrary: This database provides access to materials produced by the Conference Board of Canada and includes in-depth reports, briefings, economic periodicals, and executive action reports. And the Library added access to the following databases: Contemporary Authors, Contemporary Literary Criticism Select, and Shakespeare Collection. These new databases can be accessed from the Library's listing of databases at: http://library.upei.ca/databases

Database Changes

The interface for databases Medline and MLA Bibliography changed to an Ebscohost one, making them consistent with most of the Library databases. You can search these items by selecting an Article Databases on the library's website. These databases can be accessed from the Library's listing of databases at: http://library.upei.ca/databases

eBooks

The Library's ebook collection continued to grow with the addition of 667 new titles from the following publishers: Cambridge University Press (CUP); Oxford University Press (OUP); Taylor & Francis (T&F). Users can discover these ebooks by searching for titles in the library catalogue, [http://islandpines.roblib.upei.ca/] or by browsing our ebook page [http://library.upei.ca/ebooks]

New or Updated Library Services

Digitization

Robertson Library's Digitization Lab recently acquired a Treventus Book Scanner. The ScanRobot scans two pages at once, then automatically turns the pages. It provides distortion—free images and will enable the library to increase the rate at which it can digitize books and other bound material.

ASK US live chat service

The very popular ASK US live chat help service from the Library has expanded with two new ways to use it. The chat service is still available from the library web site and Moodle using the chat box "widget" embedded in those web pages. But now if you use any "Jabber" compatible chat client (like Adium, Pidgin, iChat, and others), you can add upeigeneral@chat.libraryh3lp.com as a contact/buddy and communicate with us using your own software instead of our little web widget. Also, if you like to use Google's "Gmail" chat service, add upeireference@gmail.com as a chat contact to reach us that way. Note that unlike the web widget, both of these methods make your Jabber or Gmail account a contact/buddy to our account, so you won't be anonymous. It gives you the freedom to use the features you use in your favourite chat software.

Awards

Islandora wins AIF Grant

The Atlantic Innovation Fund (AIF) acknowledged the work Mark Leggott and the Library staff have undertaken in designing, creating, and developing a web-based online research environment by awarding UPEI funding for Islandora. The Islandora project builds on, and continues, the support provided by the Virtual Research

Environment (VRE) and ensures a collaborative communication and storage platform for researchers to enter, store, access, and manipulate research data virtually. This virtual platform enables scientists to share their project data and potentially to discover serendipitous connections, meanings, and applications within and between research projects.

LIBRARY EVENTS

Islandora Camp

From July 22-23, 2010 the Robertson Library hosted the inaugural "Islandora Camp" bringing together representatives from institutions developing and working with the Islandora repository software.

RIRI Conference 2010

The third annual Red Island Repository Institute (RIRI 2010) was held in the Robertson Library's Periodicals area from July 26-30. As in past years, the event drew an international mix of over 30 attendees. People spent the days sharing information about and working with the world's top institutional repository software, including our homegrown Islandora software. Among the many topics discussed at this year's conference was the evolution within the repository community of customized software packages to suit the needs of different institutions (Islandora's packages of this type are called "solution packs"). Speakers included: Sandy Payette, Carl Logoze, Bess Sadler, Eddie Shin, and Mark Leggott.

NSO 2010 - Library Tours - Monday, September 6, 2010

The Library participated in the New Student Orientation (NSO) events and provided orientation tours for groups of new students. The Library was open from 8 am - 8 pm.



LMMI Conference Summary

The UPEI Library was pleased to partner with the L. M. Montgomery Institute to help deliver the Ninth International Biennial Conference on L. M. Montgomery. From June 23 - 27, 2010, approximately 100 delegates from as far afield as Japan, South Africa, and Sweden convened at UPEI to discuss 'L. M. Montgomery and the Matter of Nature'.

Access 2010 Open Access Week 2010

In recognition of the 4th International Open Access Week 2010, Mark Leggott, University Librarian, delivered a campus presentation "Open Access & the Researcher" on October 22. The OA website describes "Open Access to information – the free, immediate, online access to the results of scholarly research, and the right to use and re-use those results as you need – has the power to transform the way research and scientific inquiry are conducted. It has direct and widespread implications for academia, medicine, science, industry, and for society as a whole."

Art Competition 2009–2010 Unveiling

On Sept. 23 at 1pm, the Library held the official unveiling of the art work of Warren Christopher Reeson, the artist and winner of our second Art Competition. Warren created seven wall panels portraying a timeline of human cultural achievements and a bookcase wall mural in the upper floor's mezzanine!

Library Open House September 25, 2010

Held in conjunction with the University's Open House. In addition to library tours -- both general and through our digitization facility, the Library also offered a "childrens' corner" which was coordinated with the UPEI Theatre group.

Presidential Portraits Unveiling

On October 14, the University formally unveiled the portraits of UPEI's former presidents painted by Saint John artist, Herzl Kashetsky. These portraits are publicly displayed in the Library's main lobby.

Games Night October 22, 2010

For the second year in a row, the Robertson Library hosted a games night for its campus community on October 22 – joining other academic libraries hosting similar events in institutions across the Atlantic Provinces.

PWC Executive meets to learn about IslandArchives — December 2, 2010



From left to right, back row: John Andrew, Harry Love, Nora Scales, Barb MacNevin, Diane Anderson, Bob Lund. Front row: Tracey Comeau (Director of Advancement) and Mark Leggott (University Librarian)

Launch of ISLANDARCHIVES.CA — April 18, 2011



IslandArchives.ca, officially launched April 18, 2011, exemplifies the possibilities inherent within digital collection and will become the definitive and living Prince Edward Island historical record. Because this online environment not only stores digital copies of the Island's rich local histories, but also transforms them into a living history of the families and places that have been so important in building this province, it also provides a stellar example for other jurisdictions across the globe.

IslandArchives.ca encompasses a unique multi-layered approach to building community, an approach that is central to the collaborative core and concept of the University and the Robertson Library. With the introduction of innovative tools, IslandArchives.ca allows learners from around the world to view our rich heritage in a digital environment and access all manners of material: published texts, handwritten documents, photographs, audio recordings, or movies. Members of the Island community as well as people from across the country are also encouraged at IslandArchives.ca to contribute personal stories and visuals to this new kind of online archive.

STATISTICS - LIBRARY SERVICES

Circulation

Loans – 16,687 Renewals – 10,635 Reserve (not e– reserves) Loans – 27, 548 In–house Use of Material – 15,285

Information Desk

In-Person Transactions – 4735

LIVE CHAT (online help as part of the Information Desk service) # of online inquires – 1741; service is offered for 60 hours per week.

InterLibrary Loans

Requests Received, Filled, & Sent to Other institutions – 1773 UPEI Originated ILL Requests Filled by Others – 5765

Instruction Services

Presentations to Groups –179 Participants – 1889

Number of logins to databases or services: 682,705 Number of searches in databases or services: 1,654,676 Number of successful full-text article requests: 355,884

University archives & Special Collections

The IslandVoices Project

The IslandVoices project will see the UPEI Library, with support from the Inukshuk Foundation, working to digitize the vast oral history audio archive created by well-known Island historian and broadcaster Reg "Dutch" Thompson. Over the course of more then 20 years, Dutch has recorded nearly 1,000 hours'-worth of interviews with older Islanders as they share their recollections of "the bygone days" (primarily the 1920s –1940s). This project, slated for completion in late 2010, will see digital back-ups made of all these recordings (which currently exist only in their original audiocassette format) and their content catalogued and described online in the Library's islandarchives.ca portal. Digital audio of selected recordings will also be made available.

TECHNOLOGY

Espresso Book Machinetm

In December, the Library acquired two new pieces of technology which together print, bind, and produce soft-cover books on good quality paper in a matter of minutes – creating or re-creating books "on demand." Such books might include items from the islandarchives.ca collections, titles selected from an established database (e.g. GoogleBooks), a previously published item currently out of print, work from a self-publisher, or a graduate's thesis paper. The process for ordering books is by request, or locating an out-of-print book online using the instructions provided on our website.

Reserves — Not Just For Books or Articles

Four "universal" power cord kits were put "on reserve" and therefore available for borrowing (3 hour loan) at the Circulation Desk – for library users whose PC laptops or MacBooks are running low on battery strength. Also, the Library made available 3 Kindles for loan to UPEI students, staff and faculty.

Dell Laptops - Available for UPEI Borrowing

To support and further enable distance learning on the Island, the University purchased Dell laptops with money from an ACOA grant. However, when not in use, these Dell laptops are available to the campus community (students, faculty and staff) for borrowing (through the Circulation Desk), with a one-week loan period. So, the Library makes available for campus borrowing a total of 44 Dell laptops and 7 MacBooks. (The loan periods for the MacBooks are: 3 hours or 72 hours.)

LIBRARY FACILITIES

Learning Commons

New tables and chairs finally arrived for the new Learning Commons area on the main floor. The Commons will offer both Macs and PCs for the convenience of the students and public. The **Information Desk** moved into the Learning Commons to provide frontline support with research and computer-related questions.



New Book Nook

The Library has a new "nook" to review newly acquired books. It is on the main floor next to the doors into the Learning Commons. With comfy leather armchairs, it strikes just the right note of warm Library welcome. Pictures from the UPEI Art Collection round out the look. Bonus: located next to Samuel's Coffee shop!

LIBRARY STAFF UPDATE — EXITS & ENTRANCES, LEAVES & RETIREMENTS

Grant Johnson took a leave of absence to accept a position with the provincial government and Paul Pound is also on leave, working with Discovery Garden. • Librarian Cindy MacDonald worked with us from January to April and she has now left to take up a position with the provincial library system. • Courtney Matthews has been hired as Community Liaison librarian for one year and Sherry Hutchinson is now working as a part-time technician in the Circulation Department. • Peter Lux has been hired under a one-year contract as the Develop/ Support Technician for the Library. • Ashley Enman, a Dalhousie MLIS student, chose to spend her education practicum with us. • Ester Duncan started in February as the AIF-funded Islandora Training/Support Coordinator and David Wilcox replaced her in May. • Two AIF student interns, Abraham de Jesus and Nelson Hart, also started in May and will be here for the summer. • Alan Stanley has been working with us as the AIF-funded Islandora Discovery Space Developer/programmer and Vijji Guruswamy has been working as the AVC Quality Assurance Program Developer/programmer. • Gervais deMontbrun and Kirsta Stepelfeldt are in the AIF-funded positions of Islandora Systems Administrator and Islandora Manager respectively. • Programmer analyst, Alexander O'Neill has accepted a position at Stanford University working with their Highwire Press. And after nearly 42 years of library service at UPEI, Judy Callaghan retired from her position.

LIBRARY HOURS (STANDARD)

Monday - Thursday 8:00 am - 11:00 pm Friday 8:00 am - 8:00 pm Saturday - Sunday 9:00 am - 11:00 pm





IBRARIES AND THEIR COLLECTIONS ARE THE COMBINED RESULT OF MANY HEARTS AND HANDS. IT IS WITH MUCH GRATITUDE THAT WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR DONORS WHO HAVE SUPPORTED THIS LIBRARY AND ITS DEVELOPMENT OVER THE YEAR(s). THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY.

LIBRARY DONORS IN 2010-2011

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