

# Off The Shelf

The Newsletter of the  
Robertson Library @ UPEI

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## CELEBRATING THE BOOK

As UPEI rushes into the digital landscape of online journals and books, the Robertson Library is there to provide an unparalleled set of services and resources. While we hear much about projects like Google books, which is digitizing thousands of books from the last 500 years, we also know that our students and faculty are of a generation for whom the book is still key. We see this at our annual book sale where people are keen to have first look at the sale items. We see it in the many requests we get from students and faculty to purchase books not in our collection. And we see it in the healthy numbers of borrowed books.

In recognition of the central role the print book has played in our culture and will continue to play, the Library is undertaking a number of initiatives, including:

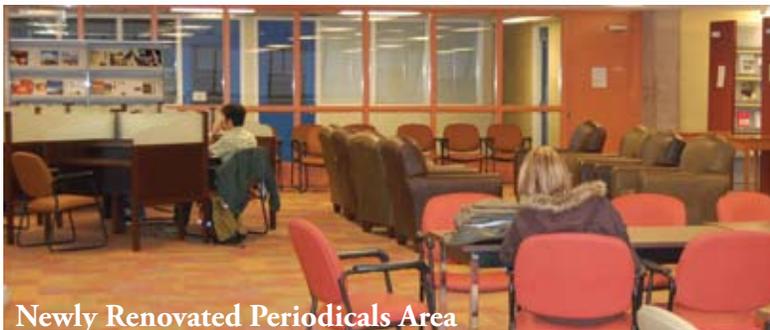
- ✿ awarding an art commission to Gerald Beaulieu of Montague, to create a sculpture celebrating the book;
- ✿ honouring and recognizing the contributions of Islanders through our Bookplate project;
- ✿ adding book jackets to our shelf-ends thereby providing a glimpse into the shelves' content;
- ✿ initiating the Book Quotes project, which will place "book" and "learning" quotes throughout the Library;
- ✿ increasing purchasing dollars for books in all areas of study;
- ✿ re-arranging the book collection to create new "book spaces" and freeing up space for new book acquisitions.

We will also be launching our new "Celebrating the Book" series in Spring 2008 with an event highlighting recent publications of our Faculty, staff, and alums. If you have suggestions for books and authors we can celebrate in our inaugural event please contact me; I would love to hear from you. In closing, I offer a couple of my favorite quotes (a Chinese proverb and an anonymous quote) that reflects what the book means to me in a learning landscape.

- *A closed book is but a block of wood.*
- *The road to knowledge begins with the turn of the page.*

And if you have your own favorite book quote, please send it along.

*Mark Leggott*, University Librarian



Newly Renovated Periodicals Area

*If you wish to honour someone by donating  
\$50.00 or more to our  
Bookplate Donation Project,  
please contact :*

*Advancement Services  
902-566-0615*

*or  
<http://secure.upei.ca/legacy/>*

*To ensure your donation is earmarked for the  
Robertson Library,  
please identify that target destination.*



## **METADATA AND FEDORA WORKSHOP**

**(SEPT 19 & 20, 2007)**

The Library hosted a two-day technology session in September for the campus, community, and region. Mark Jordan, from Simon Fraser University and AlouetteCanada, presented an overview of metadata – its creation, protocols, and management. On day two, Carol Minton Morris, the Communications and Media Director at the Fedora Commons, spoke about the Fedora Commons project. Chi Nguyen spoke via teleconference from Australia on the Muradora project and Mark Leggott finished with a presentation on UPEI's Virtual Research Environment (VRE) and our digital repository project.

The session was attended by about 50 people from P.E.I. and the Atlantic region.

## **UPCOMING — APLA 2008 ON P.E.I.**

The libraries of Prince Edward Island are hosting the Atlantic Provinces Library Association (APLA) annual conference from May 8-11, 2008 at the Delta Prince Edward in Charlottetown. The theme for this conference is *Libraries Exposed*. For more information, go to [www.apla.ca](http://www.apla.ca).

Visit <http://upei.ca/library> and cycle through our library in tandem with our movie *A Library Joy-Ride*. Turn up the music!

## **LIVE CHAT**

Our Library is offering a new reference service! Live Chat is a real time online reference service being offered to UPEI students, faculty and staff. Live Chat is staffed by the librarians and library technicians who work the Information Desk.

Live Chat is an extension of our in-person, phone and e-mail reference service. We answer the same types of questions that you ask at the Information Desk. These may include: ready-reference information, using print and/or online resources; guidance in the use of the Library's online resources, including the Library Catalogue, databases, and journals; suggestions for search strategies; assistance with access problems; information about the Robertson Library, hours of operation, contact information, etc. Some questions will require more in-depth research than is possible on Live Chat. In such cases, we will suggest that you come into the Library and meet with the liaison librarian in your subject area.

Live Chat is available Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m.– 4:00 p.m. Although we hope to extend the hours in the near future. The Live Chat icon appears at the top right-hand corner of each Library page and also in all Moodle courses. To access Live Chat, just click on the icon. When we are not staffing Live Chat, the icon will revert to *Questions E-Mail Us*. Your questions will go to the Information Desk and will be answered by the person who is on duty. Users of the new service will be eligible for a draw (February 1, 2008) for a \$20 value of photocopy credit for their campus card. If you have any questions, please contact Cathy Callaghan.

*Cathy Callaghan* (902-566-0681 or [ccallaghan@upei.ca](mailto:ccallaghan@upei.ca))

## **LIBRARY ART COMPETITION WINNER**

**✧ GERALD BEAULIEU ✧**

Congratulations to *Gerald Beaulieu* for winning the Library's Public Art Competition. Gerald's submission was a wall-mounted sculpture of cascading book forms made from aluminum. The artist described his design as the "liberating notion of ideas and content spilling from the pages of the quintessential library object, the book." The Committee chose this submission because it best invoked a creative image of library and learning.

The sculpture will be installed in the Library's entranceway in August 2008 with an unveiling planned for September.

✧ ✧ ✧

## SURVEY TO INFLUENCE LIBRARY'S DIRECTION: WE... ARE ALL ARS!!

Early in 2008, the Robertson Library will be asking members of our campus community to participate in its first formal service quality survey. LibQUAL is an internationally accepted research survey used by over 300 North American universities annually, developed by the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) in collaboration with Texas A & M University, and designed to help libraries better understand user perceptions and expectations of library service.

For you, the survey is an opportunity to tell us what's right, wrong, or needed and to influence the Library's direction; for us, it provides a valuable mechanism to hear your assessments and comments. The survey asks you to rank a set of 27 statements from 1 to 9 for minimum, perceived, and desired levels of service followed by a few open-ended queries. It will also ask for campus demographic information which will allow us to determine the differing research and service needs of our various user communities – undergraduates, graduate students, faculty, and staff. The LibQUAL survey will take about 15 minutes to complete.

Each participant will have the option to enter a draw for one of three prizes (one two-hundred dollar tuition reduction; a two hundred dollar gift certificate to the UPEI Bookstore; one iPod nano). While completed surveys are retained by the Association of Research Libraries for archival purposes, all responses are separated from individual information to protect participant confidentiality. E-mail address information is not stored at all.

We want you to be fair, to be tough. Tell us like it is! A generous survey response will provide better and significant results, so we are asking all students, faculty, and staff for their participation.

Fundamental to the Library's services is clear understanding of our users' needs. To develop and focus our resources to best meet those needs, it is critical that we are aware of your expectations and perceptions. Indeed, we are all ears for your input.

*Suzanne Jones* (902-566-0393 or [sjones@upe.ca](mailto:sjones@upe.ca))  
Outreach & Communications

## ANNOUNCEMENTS...

### Flash Drive Winner

Joey Hoyt won the 1 GB flashdrive from the Library's ballot draw during

### Library Staff Updates

#### Entrances

May – Paul Pound (Programmer)

May – Chris Bulman (Digitization Technician - on contract)

August – Wendy Collett (Library Technician)

#### Exits

### Library - Book Sale

With help from Rotaract, Robertson Library will be organizing another used booksale in the spring. Save up your pounds and pence!

Also, any additional used books for the sale will be gratefully accepted. Please drop off your items at the Robertson Library between now and Feb. 29, 2008.

### Award to Leo Cheverie

Congratulations to Leo on receiving the 2007 Outstanding Alumni Award from World University Service of Canada (WUSC) as a "selfless volunteer...".

## MARIE MOREAU DONOHUE ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Funds from the Donohue Endowment purchased much-needed furniture for the Library's newly renovated Current Periodicals area and some digitization equipment, including a high-end book scanner and software this year – benefitting both the physical and virtual services we offer.

Ms Moreau Donohue left this fund in recognition of her mother's connection to the Island. Ms Donohue herself passed away in December 1990 after spending many of her summers on Prince Edward Island.



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## DATA & RESEARCH SERVICES PROFILE



Data & Research Services, one of the new library units, was created to support research information needs in recognition of the growth of research in the UPEI community as well as PEI in general. The unit includes two previously existing services (Interlibrary Loan and the Data Liberation Initiative), as well as the new Virtual Research Environment.

Interlibrary Loan provides library users access to materials not available through Robertson Library. These materials, which include books, articles and microforms, are requested from other libraries. As a member of the Document Delivery Group of the consortium of Atlantic university libraries, we have benefitted from reciprocal agreements with other library consortia through reduced costs and improved delivery time. A recent enhancement is the email delivery of Interlibrary Loan articles directly to the user's desktop. Interlibrary Loan is staffed by Dawn Hayes and Dorothy Peters (566-0445 or ill@upei.ca).

The Library subscribes to the Data Liberation Initiative, a service which provides UPEI faculty and students access to an extensive list of Statistics Canada public use microdata files, databases, and geographic files for the purposes of teaching and academic research. Examples of resources include the General Social Survey, Inter-Corporate Ownership, Survey of Household Spending, Canadian Business Patterns, Canadian Trade Data, Extraction System of Agricultural Statistics, Canadian Tobacco Use Monitoring Survey and many more. The DLI contact for Robertson Library is Cathy Callaghan (566-0681 or ccallaghan@upei.ca).

The Virtual Research Environment, spearheaded by Robertson Library, is an exciting initiative to create a collaborative environment for research groups on campus. The VRE supports the full range of activities from gathering literature citations to storing research data and includes the development of an institutional repository. For further information, see Mark Leggott's article on the VRE in the previous issue of this Newsletter.

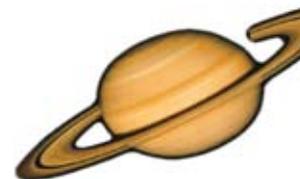
The Library will soon be launching its database of citations of UPEI faculty publications called Research @UPEI. Gerry Forsythe (566-6495 or publications@upei.ca) is the contact for this project. Browse this publications list at <http://tinyurl.com/2ccm9x>

### Research Consultations

Liaison librarians offer individual research consultations on information resources and searching strategies for students, faculty, and staff. Please contact your department's liaison librarian to arrange an appointment.

**Dawn Hooper** (902-566-0453 or dhooper@upei.ca)  
Data & Research Services

## SATURN - A WEIGHTY PERSPECTIVE



"The sixth planet from the sun is Saturn, a freak among worlds. It's a massive globe of spectacular color, girdled by thousands of multihued rings, and as planets go, it's so light it might as well be made of cotton candy. In fact, if we could find a lake large enough to hold the 75,000-mile-wide gas giant, it would float like a cork.."

from: Jay Barbree and Martin Caidin. *A Journey Through Time: Exploring The Universe with the Hubble Space Telescope*. (New York: Penguin Studio, 1995)

