

Off The Shelf

The Newsletter of the
Robertson Library @ UPEI

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INFORMATION ANYWHERE

Robertson Library has a long tradition of providing top-notch service to all of its patrons, whether students, faculty or the broader community of PEI. This tradition continues with our latest developments for delivering digital resources and services via the ASIN project. ASIN stands for Atlantic Scholarly Information Network and is a collaborative project of CAUL, the Consortium of Atlantic University Libraries.

UPEI was one of the first CAUL members to implement the various components in the ASIN system, which combine to provide quick and seamless access to thousands of online resources. In the days of the card catalogue, it could take hours to track down and copy a journal article of interest. With ASIN this has been reduced to minutes and the click of a button.

Get It @UPEI

ASIN consists of a number of pieces that work together to perform something we like to call magic:

- ✦ *Resolver*, which knows about the 15,000 + journal titles that the Library subscribes to (over 14,000 in digital format) and delivers the complete digital copy to the patron within seconds of finding the article citation;
- ✦ *SingleSearch*, which allows patrons to search a number of different resources at the same time, making it easier to see where the information they are seeking can best be found, saving time and also revealing sources of data they might not otherwise know about;
- ✦ *RefWorks*, which provides a web-accessible database of research resources specific to each patron – a private Library which follows you wherever you go.

Library staff have spent the last year configuring ASIN and getting it just right. Now, any student or faculty member can take advantage of the wealth of data, whether they are working at home, on campus or half-way around the globe.



Mark Leggott,
University Librarian
Ph.: 902-566-0460
E-mail: mleggott@upe.ca

FLASH DRIVE WINNERS

Adam Vessey and Michael Walker each won a 1 GB flash drive from the Library's ballot draw during May's New Student Welcome Reception. Congratulations to you both!

*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

<https://www.upei.ca/~legacy/>



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

LIBRARY'S MEMORIAL GARDEN

The Library extends an invitation to visit our memorial garden.

The garden faces Belvedere Avenue and was started seven years ago. The original idea was to create a staff garden but it took on a memorial aspect following the death of Diane Morash, a close friend of some of the Library staff, as well as an employee of the University. The large urn which sits in front of the garden was purchased with funds collected in her memory. It is planted with annuals each year.

With the assistance of Maintenance personnel and library staff volunteers, the garden was realized. Over the years more plants, shrubs and trees have been added -- thanks to a number of people who have donated time, money and material.

This summer a concrete bench was added in memory of a former library employee, Andrea Gallant.

David J. Weeks (902-566-0556 or weeks@upei.ca)
Collections & eResources



COLLECTIONS UPDATE OLD, NEW, AND CHANGING

This summer the Collections and eResources Unit was busy with the new, the old, and the changing. Among the new are two recently acquired databases, the Oxford English Dictionary online and PAIS (Public Affairs Information Service).

The Oxford English Dictionary covers words from across the English-speaking world. It provides an historical record of the English language and adds changes in usage and new words on a quarterly basis. One of the approximately 2,500 new words added this quarter is "crufty." Look it up!

Interested in how the world views European union, the space shuttle, or avian flu? Try locating differing viewpoints with PAIS. Note the Library's *GetIt@UPEI* icon which directs you to the best source of text available for each title – electronic or hard copy. If Robertson Library has neither version you will be directed to a pre-filled InterLibrary Loan form.

To make room for additional resources in the library some of the "old" needs weeding. The Library has chosen to purchase a number of full-text JSTOR collections. JSTOR is a highly respected archive containing electronic copies of some of the world's best research journals. Owning electronic copies of many of our print journals allows us to remove the print versions from our collection – creating space which can be put to other uses.

We are changing in appearance too! Check out the new décor and furniture in the Current Periodicals area. This area will be a much more pleasing space for those browsing our latest journals and newspapers or studying for exams.

Norine Hanus (902-566-0479 or nhanus@upei.ca)
Collections & eResources Librarian

DO YOU KNOW YOUR CLOSEST "LATIN" RELATIONS?

Mother and Father – Mater & Pater
Wife and Husband – Uxor & Maritus Spouse - Coniunx
Daughter and Son – Filia & Filius
Sister and Brother – Soror & Frater
Grandmother and Grandfather – Avia & Avus

Source: The Pocket Oxford Latin Dictionary. Ed. James Morwood. Oxford University Press, 1994. Oxford Reference Online. Oxford University Press. 28 June 2007 <http://www.oxfordreference.com/views/BOOK_SEARCH.html?book=t131b>



THE RYRIE-CAMPBELL COLLECTION

Thanks to the exceptional generosity and vision of L.M. Montgomery scholar and collector Donna Jane Campbell, the UPEI Library now houses the world's strongest collection of published Montgomeriana.

From her home in rural Ontario, Dr. Campbell (recent recipient of a UPEI Doctorate of Laws, honoris causa) has, with the support of her husband Ian, tirelessly pursued hard-to-find editions of works by and about Montgomery the world over.

This accumulated wealth of material has now been donated to the L.M. Montgomery Institute at UPEI, and named the Ryrie-Campbell Collection. It currently encompasses some 700 items, ranging from rare, early, and foreign-language editions of Montgomery's novels to anthologies and reference works discussing her life and literary legacy.

Dr. Campbell is now tracking down original issues – many dating back a century or more – from the vast array of periodicals in which Montgomery published thousands of poems and short stories, hard-to-find treasures which she also plans to donate to UPEI.

Simon Lloyd (902-566-0536 or slloyd@upepei.ca)
University Archives & Special Collections Librarian

PRESENTATION TRAVEL

October

Mark Leggott will attend the Access 2007 conference in Victoria, B.C. to present his topic "Repository Redux," discussing UPEI's recent initiatives to build a learning and research repository of publications and other data.

November

To the directors of CAUL (Council of Atlantic University Libraries) and its Ontario counterpart OCUL, Mark Leggott will be presenting a Data Liberation Initiative (DLI) update.

VISITORS FROM ETHIOPIA

Accompanied by Bonnie Waddell from the Nova Scotia Agricultural College, a group of six librarians and faculty from Jimma University in Ethiopia visited the Library. Dawn Hooper and Suzanne Jones toured them around the building -- ending with an introductory presentation by Dawn in the LINC. The group later met with Mark Leggott for a demonstration of online and virtual library research services.

VRE ... AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Something new is afoot at the Robertson Library. Well, a lot is afoot, but one particularly promising development is something called the VRE, or Virtual Research Environment. The VRE is an online environment that provides support for the full range of activities in the knowledge-creation life cycle and across all disciplines of UPEI's growing research enterprise. The VRE includes:

- ↻ a web content management system for easily creating/maintaining online information collaboratively;
- ↻ creation of groups with varying access to content and functions;
- ↻ a digital library/archive system for storing and accessing data of all types, using XML standards as its foundation;
- ↻ conference and journal management systems for putting on academic conferences and managing the output;
- ↻ a framework for the development of custom vertical applications that support discipline-specific research needs.

Key to the VRE is a web framework (Drupal) and a digital library system (Fedora) which work together to provide a feature-rich environment for all research groups, whether in the sciences, social sciences or humanities. The Robertson Library's VRE implementation leads the way in Canada and internationally -- serving as an excellent example of innovation in response to the changing information landscape in this digital age. In four short months, we have added over twenty research groups to the VRE system.

Another unique aspect of the VRE is that it is entirely built on open source software. This means that the software does not cost anything except the staff time needed to install and develop it. A big advantage to using open source software is that it allows us to build capacity and create our own solutions locally. Once completed, the VRE environment will be made available to the broader community in the spirit of the open source movement. This also means that we can make use of the expertise of other people using the same software and vice versa. UPEI's contributions to a number of the software products we are using have already been significant.

You can get more information about the VRE project by going to <http://vre.upei.ca/> or contacting Mark Leggott directly.

Mark Leggott (902-566-0460 or mleggott@upepei.ca)
University Librarian



INSTRUCTION & EDUCATION SERVICES PROFILE



"I had an English [101] class in the library last night. It was the most informative class I have ever been to...it suddenly became the most useful 60 minutes of my academic career...I have gone from searching for research...in no orderly or organized fashion to searching for relevant, scholarly, and valid information in less than 2/3 of the time..."

from a student's posting on weblogs@upei

Instruction & Education Services supports the missions of the Robertson Library and the University of Prince Edward Island by promoting information literacy. We strive to educate our diverse user population to define information needs, and to locate, critically evaluate, and use all available information resources effectively and responsibly. Fostering these skills will prepare our users for success in academia and beyond. (Unit Mission Statement)

Teaching and learning is enhanced by numerous collaborations between librarians and other academic staff. Librarians now teach over 160 class sessions each year, reaching more than 2,700 students. In English 101 and University 100/103, we introduce students to information literacy skills, and build upon these skills in a number of upper-level classes (including Chemistry 282, English 204, and History 211).

What do students say they learned?

- ☞ wealth of info--re: how to prepare for papers!
- ☞ how to distinguish between reliable and non-reliable [web]sites
- ☞ strategies for searching the Web
- ☞ that a website is not always the best way to retrieve information
- ☞ the difference between keyword and subject search and how to use them properly
- ☞ how to limit my search so I can get more accurate results
- ☞ these databases are more useful when you know how to use them!

We also contribute to programs such as English for Academic Preparation (EAP) and the Transition Program, and participate in campus orientation activities. Throughout September and January we offer drop-in Orientation Tours. A Virtual Tour is integrated into the course requirements for some first-year courses, with students required to complete the Tour, and take the accompanying online quiz. This Term the Virtual Tour is available as a MP3 download.

Guides (introducing key resources in specific subject areas, and covering topics such as "Finding Quality Information on the Web") and tutorials (such as "How to Avoid Plagiarism") are developed, with many of these materials incorporated within course requirements.

Unit services and resources are presently formulated and delivered by the Instruction & Education Services Coordinator (Betty Jeffery) and four other librarians (Cathy Callaghan, Norine Hanus, Dawn Hooper, Simon Lloyd). A Library Technician (Cindy McKenna) provides valuable support to the Unit, and other Library Technicians contribute in various ways, including serving as tour guides and providing technical support.

Betty Jeffery (902-566-0741 or bjeffery@upei.ca)
Instruction & Education Services

INCREASED LIBRARY HOURS!

As a result of patron input, the Library has changed its operational hours. Starting September 4, 2007, the Library's normal hours will be increased on the weekends. Our hours will now run: Saturday and Sunday 9 a.m. - 11 p.m.; Monday to Thursday - 8 a.m. - 11 p.m.; and Friday 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

