

# Off The Shelf

The Newsletter of the  
Robertson Library @ UPEI

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Newsletter compiled and designed by the Library's Outreach & Communications staff – Dorothy Peters and Suzanne Jones. It is published 2 to 3 times per year by the Robertson Library.

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## WELCOME TO "OFF THE SHELF"

**W**elcome to the first issue of our newsletter – *Off The Shelf*. We felt the title was an appropriate metaphor – a library that provides a dynamic hybrid of traditional and digital resources and services. As we reach out to our community, whether current students, prospective students, parents, staff, alumni, or the life-long learner, we look forward to providing the best learning environment possible. Some of our new initiatives include:

- the Atlantic Scholarly Information Network (ASIN), a portal to hundreds of databases and over 19,000 online journals;
- the Virtual Research Environment (VRE), a collaborative environment for members of our research community;
- an ongoing effort to digitize unique Island materials from our collections;
- a pilot Virtual Reference project, providing online support from Library staff;
- creative new efforts to integrate information literacy into the University's online learning environment;
- a detailed analysis of our print and digital collections to help us acquire the best material;
- new ways for you to get involved – including a revamped Friends group, regular book sales, personalized bookplates and an upcoming "Celebrating the Book" series.

Of course, we continue to provide premiere service to our patrons and a comfortable and inviting space for reflection and study. Needless to say we wouldn't be able to do all this without your support; your participation is key. I encourage you to contact me and let me know how you think we can improve our services and resources. Oh yes, congratulations to our new graduates – well done and best of luck!

**Mark Leggott**, University Librarian  
(902-566-0460 or [mleggott@upei.ca](mailto:mleggott@upei.ca))

*Interested in helping develop our book collection for the students?*



**University of Prince Edward Island**

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*A gift to the Robertson Library*

**IN CELEBRATION OF  
AMY KELLY  
GRADUATE FROM THE  
UNIVERSITY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND**

**MAY 2007**

*Turn the page for information on our Bookplate Donation Project!*

*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.*

## CHANGING FACE OF THE COLLECTION

Users of the Robertson Library are noticing something new. An increasing amount of our collection is available online, from any computer, on a 24/7 time-frame. What began as a trickle ten years ago, is now a flood.

In 1997, the Library subscribed to 1,650 print journals. Today, the Library subscribes to 20,000 journals and only 550 are printed in hard copy. This is less than 3% of the journal collection. While today's students use electronic journals extensively, interest in electronic books is on the rise. The Library currently offers over 40,000 book titles online. Many we own, some we subscribe to annually. In addition to journals and books, the Naxos complete music catalogue is also available online.

The advantages of electronic resources are many. Access to our e-holdings is not limited by hours of operation nor to a physical location. Unlike most items of the Internet, these resources are of scholarly content and have been selected to address the research needs of the UPEI community – a value added over Google searching. These resources are always “on the shelf” and available for simultaneous access. While online resources are particularly well suited for reference and technical subjects, print still remains the format of choice for some subjects and readers. The Library continues to serve all by purchasing appropriate hard copy and online items for its collection.

Recently added electronic collections include BIOSIS Previews, Oxford Reference Online, and the Springer Book Collection. BIOSIS provides an index to the life sciences and biomedical research from 1926 up to the present day. Robertson Library does not own all of the titles indexed but is increasing its number. The addition of the complete archive of Blackwell journal publications this spring will help with this.

SciFinder Scholar is in the process of being added to the Library's collection. Campus access should be available early June; this access will greatly increase the ability to research chemical literature.

The face of the Robertson Library may be changing but our purpose is unwavering. We continue to consider, support, and encourage the curriculum and research activities at the University of Prince Edward Island.

**Norine Hanus** (902-566-0479) or [nhanus@upei.ca](mailto:nhanus@upei.ca)  
Collections & eResources

## ENTRANCE/EXIT RENOVATIONS

You may remember, and sometimes painfully, the turnstiles at the Robertson Library. If you haven't visited us in the past couple of months then please do come for a visit. The turnstiles are no more.

In addition to the removal of the turnstiles, the entire entrance has been opened up with the removal of the accessibility door and the barriers separating those infamous turnstiles.

As student messages can no longer be taped to the turnstiles, a cork student message board has been placed at the entrance.

By early May, a new exit gate will be installed. Once the new gate is in place, allowing for wheelchair access, everyone will use the same entrance and exit.

**David J. Weeks** (902-566-0556 or [weeks@upei.ca](mailto:weeks@upei.ca))  
Collections & eResources



## LIBRARY ENDOWMENT FUNDS

The on-going support of **Mr. Ambrose Lee (SDU '62)** will allow the Robertson Library to purchase four laptops this year – which may be borrowed by any current library patron. Mr. Lee's generosity also allows the Library to purchase e-journal backfiles for JSTOR Arts & Sciences IV. These backfiles will be a welcome addition to our existing JSTOR offerings.

JSTOR is an initiative out of the U.S. which digitizes and archives past issues of scholarly journals – creating high-quality scanned journal articles.

## TONGUE TWISTER – TRY IT!

If a shipshape ship shop stocks six shipshape shop-soiled ships,  
how many shipshape shop-soiled ships would six shipshape ships  
shops stock?

from *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language* / David  
Crystal - 2nd ed – New York: Cambridge University Press, 2003

## You Ask? UASC!

The unit responsible for our Prince Edward Island Collection, University Archives, and Rare Books is now known as *University Archives and Special Collections*. As University Librarian and ADD (Acronym Dependency Disorder) sufferer Mark Leggott has noted, this produces the pleasing acronym UASC (You Ask). Having “University Archives” in our official handle reflects a commitment to become more active in acquiring, organizing, and preserving documentation of the life and work of UPEI and its forebears, St. Dunstan’s University and Prince of Wales College. The PEI Collection, an unrivaled and ever-growing collection of ca. 14,000 PEI-related publications, will remain integral to the UASC mission, but we must balance a strong PEI Collection with an enhanced University Archives.

The existing University Archives, a significant collection of UPEI, SDU, and PWC related publications and documents, provides a strong foundation for these efforts. Now we must implement plans and procedures to better-manage the university’s recorded information, in accordance with recognized archival standards (such as the Council of Canadian Archives’ *Rules for Archival Description*).

Our traditional services will continue, too, including:

- **Help Desk.** We receive about 1,500 research visits each year from UPEI students, faculty, staff, and alumni, and from the community at large (genealogists, historians, visiting scholars, etc.).
- **Reference services.** In addition to helping in-person visitors, we also offer assistance with PEI and UPEI-related research questions via telephone and e-mail.
- **Instructional and outreach programs.** We offer tours and instructional sessions, to both UPEI and non-UPEI individuals and groups.

We’ll also be continuing with more recent innovations, especially in the digital realm (check out progress on our Digitization Projects page: [www.upei.ca/library/html/digitization\\_projects.html](http://www.upei.ca/library/html/digitization_projects.html)). Looking ahead, the Library plans a PEI “Digitization Summit” of Island libraries and culture/heritage organizations, to develop a more strategic and cooperative approach to moving PEI-related cultural materials on-line.

We’re also expecting a surge of scholarly and popular interest in L.M. Montgomery as the *Anne of Green Gables* 2008 centennial approaches, and will be putting selected Montgomeriana on-line to further encourage study and appreciation of her life and work.

To find out more about how the UASC team – Leo Cheverie, Simon Lloyd, Cindy McKenna, and Jason MacNeil – can help you, please visit [www.upei.ca/library/html/specialcollections.html](http://www.upei.ca/library/html/specialcollections.html) or stop by the next time you’re in the Library.

**Simon Lloyd** (902-566-0536 or [slloyd@upei.ca](mailto:slloyd@upei.ca))  
University Archives and Special Collections

## PRESENTATION TRAVEL

### April

Dave Cormier (VRE & CMTIC Technical Support) soon will be winging his way to the U.K. to attend meetings and present at the Next Generation Environments Conference on April 27. His presentation is entitled *The Development, Deployment and Take-up of New Technology: Challenges and Inspirations*. The University’s developing Virtual Research Environment (VRE) will be presented as a case in point.

### May

Mark Leggott, the University Librarian, will be presenting at two conferences in May. On May 8, at the Manitoba Library Association, his topic will be *Weaving A Social Tapestry for Your Library*. Mark’s presentation at the Canadian Library Association, in St John’s this year, is entitled *Retain, Recruit, Restructure: Regenerating the Library Community* on May 24.

On May 12, Adam Davies (Collections & eResources) will be presenting a paper on *Emperor Frederick II’s Bresica Campaign (1238)* at the International Congress on Medieval Studies at the University of Western Michigan. Adam’s session is sponsored by the Society for Medieval Imperial History.

On May 13, Dave Cormier will co-present at the Canadian Association of Distance Education annual conference in Winnipeg on *Application & Theory of Educational Social Software*. Later in the month he will speak on *Social Environments & E-learning* at the Université de Moncton’s Web 2.0 Conference.

### June

Mark Leggott will be addressing the Atlantic Computing Conference in PEI in June.

## MARCH BOOK SALE UPDATE

The Rotaract Club, a group of junior Rotarians here at UPEI, joined with the Robertson Library to help organize its book sale on March 3 - 4. Approximately \$2500.00 was collected from the sale – with a percentage going to the Club for its help. Both groups declared the sale a success and look forward to a repeat next year. The Library thanks the Rotaract Club members for their time and enthusiasm.

### COMPLETE THESE FAMOUS COUPLES:

Napoleon and .....  
Heloise and .....  
Pyramus and .....  
Eros and .....  
Kermit and .....

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## SPRING CLEANING? MOVING? SIMPLIFYING YOUR LIFE?

Perhaps it's time to clear off your book shelves! We are on the lookout for more book donations. Some conditions do apply. The books need to be in good condition. This includes having no missing pages or covers and no writing or highlighting in the books. Books need to be supportive of the curriculum taught at UPEI. Books not selected for our collection will be set aside for the next book sale.

The University of Prince Edward Island can provide a tax credit receipt based on fair market value for books that are placed in the collection. Appraisals are handled by Norine Hanus, the Collections & eResources Librarian.

Please contact Norine by phone (902-566-0479) or by e-mail (nhanus@upei.ca) for further information and follow-up.



### REFERENCE & CIRCULATION PROFILE

Reference and Circulation is the first, and in many cases the only, point of contact that our patrons have with the Library. Therefore, it is important that we create a warm and welcoming environment for our patrons, an environment in which they feel welcomed and comfortable, an environment in which they are not hesitant to approach our staff to ask any type of question, an environment in which they feel "at home."

Reference staff members provide personal assistance to students, faculty, staff and the general public in the use of the Library and its resources. This includes, but is not limited to, providing answers to questions that require specific information, teaching bibliographic skills and search techniques, developing skills necessary for the evaluation and interpretation of information, and teaching how to cite information using the various citation styles.

These services are provided through in-person reference assistance, reference by phone, e-mail reference (our Ask a Reference Question), and reference by appointment. The

reference librarians (Cathy, Betty, Dawn, Norine, and Simon) are available for reference by appointment to provide in-depth, one-on-one consultations for your library or research related needs.

The Circulation Desk staff circulates library materials, ensures that the materials are properly checked out and in, recalls circulating material, searches for missing materials, and maintains a reserve and e-reserve collection. In addition, the Circulation staff is responsible for stack maintenance, booking group study rooms, providing some equipment maintenance, and maintaining a *lost and found* area.

Both Circulation and Reference respond to a variety of directional questions relating to the Library and the University. Responses to such queries might include the location of a building, a meeting room, a public presentation, or a Seniors College classroom.

Many of the staff who work in Reference and Circulation also work in other areas of the Library - Collections and eResources, Archives & Special Collections, and Instruction & Education Services - and bring this expertise with them to Reference or Circulation. The liaison librarians also provide in-class instruction and are responsible for collection development in specific subject areas.

**Reference Staff:** Cathy Callaghan, Leo Cheverie, Gerry Forsythe, Norine Hanus, Dawn Hooper, Betty Jeffery, Simon Lloyd, Christine MacLauchlan, Cindy McKenna, James Murphy and David Weeks.

**Circulation Staff:** Gordon Connors, Jerrad Gilbert, Peggi Lyriotokis, Christine MacLauchlan, and Jolene Reid (contract).

**Current Student Assistants:** Tiffany Baker, Kyle Doucette, Susan Forsythe, Allison Jackson, Josh Lewis, Alicia McDonald, Angela MacLean, Robin Meher, Rene Ortiz, Johanna Privett, Nelly Polanco, and Lindsay Tufts.

**Cathy Callaghan** (902-566-0681 or ccallaghan@upei.ca)  
Reference and Circulation

