Robertson Library

Updating Our Community
May 1, 2007 - April 30, 2008

library.upei.ca
Message from the University Librarian – Mark Leggott

This is my first formal Annual Library Report at the University of Prince Edward Island. In this report, I have tried to capture the dynamic changes that have taken place over this past year and highlight some of the events which have made an impact on us and our services. This report hopefully will give its readers a glimpse into those services, our resources, some of the special projects we’ve undertaken, and the Library’s overall direction in which we are moving.

Academic libraries face many challenges. We hope that by exploring new opportunities and technologies, we can continue to meet and even exceed your expectations. So, let us know how we are doing and how we might better improve your library experience.

All of the staff at Robertson Library are committed to providing a high quality service which will support the learning, teaching, and research environment of this University ... and the information needs of the Island as a whole.
“I’d like online access to more electronic journals. Other than that, the library is fine.”
- LibQUAL 2008 Library Survey comment
UASC Unit

The unit responsible for Prince Edward Island Collection, University Archives, and Rare Books changed its name to University Archives and Special Collections (UASC) in late 2007. Having “University archives” in our official handle reflects a commitment to become more active in acquiring, organizing, and preserving documentation if the life and work at UPEI and its forebears, St. Dunstan’s University and Prince of Wales College.

Significant developments include:

The Red & White
Thanks to the generous support of the St. Dunstan’s Board and Alumni, ongoing digitization of the SDU campus magazine neared completion.

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.

Simon Lloyd, Librarian
University Archives & Special Collections

UPEI Archives and Special Collections

Hours
Mon. & Thurs. & Fri.
9:30 am - 5 pm
Tues. & Wed.
9:30 am - 7 pm
Sunday
1 pm - 5 pm
2007-08 Library Services … to highlight a few!

LIVE CHAT – Got questions?? Ask us! Come in and see us … or query us online through our Live Chat icon on our webpage at http://library.upei.ca

Instructional Tours – We offer these tours in September and January. Sign up for the “quickie” tour that’s best for your schedule.

Laptops to borrow – We have 12 laptops that can be borrowed but … first come, first served.

Study Rooms – These are booked at the Circulation Desk when a group of friends need to collaborate. There are also individual study rooms.

“ I really love the quiet areas of the Library.”

- LibQUAL 2008 Survey comment

“I really like to drink coffee while I am studying … It would be nice if I could buy coffee or a light snack at the Library.”

- LibQUAL 2008 Survey comment

Library Hours
(Standard)

Monday - Thursday
8 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Friday
8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Saturday
9 a.m. - 11 p.m.

Sunday
9 a.m. - 11 p.m.

[We like this Pepe Le Pew quill. It reminds us of spring on P.E.I.]
**Technology ... and Special Library Projects**

**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. It includes: a web content-management system; a digital library/archive for storing and accessing data; both conference and journal management systems; and a framework for the development of applications to support discipline-specific research needs.

Examples of existing VRE sites would be: Marine Natural Products Lab; Invasive Tunicates Lab; CMTC; Mollusc Health Lab; IslandStudies.ca; and LivingArchives.

Go to [http://vre.upei.ca/dev/node/348](http://vre.upei.ca/dev/node/348) to see current VREs.

**Digitization Projects**

Over the last year, the Library has started to build an innovative framework to steward the Island’s digital record. Our new digitization facility will allow us to transform the significant collections we hold, as well as those of other Island institutions, to a digital format.

Projects include: *IslandVoices* - an initiative to include historical Island newspapers and *IslandLives* - a project to digitize the Island’s community histories.

**LibQUAL Survey (Jan.- Feb. 2008)**

From January 28 - February 25, 2008, the Robertson Library ran its first LibQUAL survey with the campus community to get feedback as to the quality of its current services, staff/user interactions, resources, and physical space. The survey was marketed to all constituents of the UPEI campus. Responses to the survey questionnaire indicate that the Library is seen as a positive and helpful resource overall to the university community. Users indicated that they were generally satisfied with the Library (low-mid - 7s out of 9) – but noted a few areas for improvement.

While we did get a good representative response rate from both the undergraduate and graduate student groups (20% and 31% respectively), only 11% of the faculty and 6% of campus staff responded to the survey. Survey report will be accessible later at: [http://library.upei.ca](http://library.upei.ca)

**Faculty Publications Citation Database**

The Library compiled a database of citations of UPEI faculty publications called Research@UPEI. These citations will be added to the institutional repository, currently under development, to provide and promote access to faculty publications.

**Betty Jeffery** received project approval and developed a strategy to incorporate Library resources into the University’s nascent Moodle courseware.
Library Events  2007-08

Library’s Open House Homecoming Event 2007

On Friday, September 28, the Library held an Open House as part of UPEI’s Homecoming Events.

Some of our activities included: Special Collection’s archival display including class photos; “enLightening” Library Tours; and prizes & surprises.

A fun, in-house movie, A Library Joy-Ride, was created during this year and had its world debut at this event.


Debut of Library’s newsletter Off The Shelf.

First issue came out in May 2007.

The Library’s Brown Bag Lunch Series opened to its third year – where members of the campus faculty come and tell us about their research passions and projects.

In February, 2008, the Library hosted the first event in its new Celebrating The Book series. Three members of the Faculty presented recently published books and discussed their content. They were: Malcolm Murray (Philosophy), James Moran (History) and Lisa Chilton (History).
Staff Highlights

Goodbye staff BBQ for Jolene Reid (& family) who left us for Nova Scotia in June

Let them eat cake!
And so we did when wishing long-serving student assistant Susan Forsythe, the best of luck upon her graduation!

Congratulations to Library Technician, Leo Cheverie, for receiving the 2007 Outstanding Alumni Award from the World University Service (WUSC) in recognition of his work within that organization.

“We need another floor added to the library.”
– LibQUAL 2008 Survey

Paul Pound (Systems) and Wendy Collett (Circ & Ref.) each joined the staff this year.

As did Chris Bulman (no picture) – also in Systems.

“Excellent staff that are quite eager to help and are very friendly.”
– LibQUAL comment
Facilities

Library Renovations and Plush Seating in Periodicals Area! Spring 2008

“... The newly renovated periodicals area and computer lab are great! Also, the new online chat feature is very useful, especially for those last minute questions that sometimes go unanswered.”

– LibQUAL 2008 Survey comment

“The computer room in the Library is a great addition.”

“I don’t use the library on a regular basis because I can’t find a comfortable place to study. If I could, I would be there all the time.”

“I study in the super quiet area because it seems to be the only place to read with out too many distractions.”

“I really like the new Live Chat service offered, RefWorks, and the “Get it at UPEI” service.”

“The facilities are lacking. I find the library dark and not inviting. Other than the improvements in the periodicals area, the library is difficult to study in.”

“It’s extremely cold.”

“A great place to be and a wonderful place to study. Great resources available to students.”

The above comments were all taken from those submitted in the LibQUAL 2008 Library Survey.
### University Archives and Special Collections Statistics

““The percentage of non-UPEI visits is up significantly for this reporting period – approximately 37%. It is usually closer to 25%.”

— Simon Lloyd

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### In the Library generally... More than 210,621 articles were accessed via our electronic resources

And finally,

no animals were harmed in the making of this report... but a few humans came close!