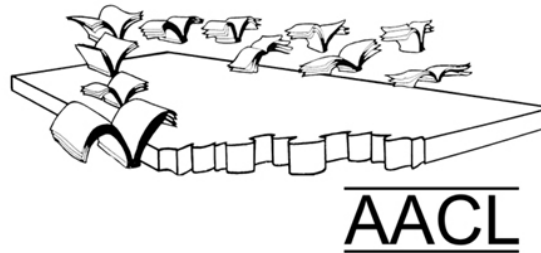


ALBERTA ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE LIBRARIANS



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Editor – Sona Kothari

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

By the time you read this, you will be well entrenched in the next academic term, with students and faculty once again scurrying around your libraries. Memories of the holidays dim so quickly but I hope everyone had a good holiday break.

We had a packed agenda for Fall 2004 meeting which was held at the South Side Grant MacEwan Campus. It was extremely well attended despite the slippery patches on the Calgary-Edmonton highway that morning. Thanks to those of you who braved the highways to get there.

Highlights included 3 great workshops: 1. Interlibrary Loans – Jennifer Thomas, Maureen Toews, Charlene Jones 2. Credit information literacy courses: Augustana's experiences – Nancy Goebel and 3. What are the new technology gadgets: Marcus Roesner. The willingness of people to present is always appreciated.

Eric Tull reported on the Linking Project from TAL, announcing SFX as the vendor of choice.

There have been some changes to the membership of AACL over the past several months. Diane Clark, our AACL webmaster, is on maternity leave from NAIT having just added a new daughter to her family. Jerremie Clyde is the new Librarian at St Mary's College. Janet Monteith, who was in that position has gone back to Mount Royal as Head of Technical Services. We welcome Jerremie and hope to continue to see Janet at AACL meetings.

Noreen James has left NorQuest College to become a full-time instructor in the Library Technician Program at Grant MacEwan. She was a member of the AACL Workshop Committee for the past few years and we thank her for her efforts in this area. Margaret Russell has left NorQuest College. We have appreciated her involvement in AACL as well. Dan Mirau has been formally appointed Director of the Library at Concordia University Library. Congratulations Dan.

We are still looking for people to fill the Secretary/Treasurer and Director. If you are interested in either of these two positions, contact Alice McNair at Red Deer College Library.

One more thing before I leave you alone to read the rest of the newsletter. At the Spring meeting of AACL to be held April 7 at Mount Royal College in Calgary, members will be voting on changes to the AACL Meeting Guidelines, AACL Bylaws and History and Business Plan. If you need copies of these changes or have questions, contact me at rminion@oldscollege.ca.

See you in April.

Robin Minion
AACL Chair



**Minutes of the
Alberta Association of College Librarians
Fall 2004 Meeting
Grant MacEwan College, South Campus
Thursday, November 24, 2004**

PRESENT

Harriet Arnold	NAIT
Susan Brayford	SAIT
May Chan	SAIT
Jerremie Clyde	St. Mary's UC
Ann Gish	GPRC
Nancy Goebel	Augustana Faculty (UA)
Erica Hebert	Concordia UC
Karen Hering	GMC
Charlene Jones	RDC
Sona Kothari	RDC
Joanne Kemp	GMC
Helga Kinnaird	NAIT
Katherine Koch	GMC
David Larsen	Keyano
Anita Luck	NAIT - Fairview Campus
Debbie McGugan	GMC
Alice McNair	RDC
Robin Minion	Olds
Dan Mirau	Concordia UC
Joan Morrison	NorQuest
Geoff Owens	MRC
Barbara Palmer	Portage
Liz Pegoraro	NAIT
Nora Robinson	SAIT
Marcus Roesner	TAL
Carol Sinanan	MRC
Jennifer Thomas	GPRC
Ross Thrasher	MRC
Maureen Toews	RDC
Eric Tull	TAL
Joyce Van Scheik	CUC
Keith Walker	MHC
Dave Weber	SAIT
Wayne Wicks	Prairie Bible



MINUTES

1. Robin Minion, AACL Chair, welcomed members to the fall meeting. Eric Tull was welcomed as a special guest from TAL. Members then introduced themselves. It was noted that the AACL web site has moved to:
<http://www.nait.ca/libresources/aac/>
2. The agenda was adjusted slightly to have reports on advocacy to take place as time permitted. A tour of the South Campus LRC was included during the lunch break.

3. The minutes of the April 15, 2004 meeting, as published in the *Newsletter*, were approved. Moved Alice McNair/Jennifer Thomas. Carried. Helga Kinnaird thanked the members for the support and sympathy expressed with the recent passing of Pat Waterton. The Association was thanked for contributing to Amnesty International in Pat's memory.
4. Executive reports:
 - a.) Chair: Robin thanked Katherine Koch for hosting the meeting and Grant MacEwan College for the space and lunch. She expressed thanks to the members and said how AACL was a good group of people working together. Janet Monteith has moved from St. Mary's University College to Mount Royal and so will still be part of AACL; Jerremie Clyde continues as an AACL member in his new capacity at St. Mary's. Helga announced that Diane Clark gave birth to a baby girl but will stay on as the Webmaster for the Association while on leave; Diane was thanked for her work in this capacity. Medicine Hat College was thanked for continuing to host the listserv. Alice McNair, Past Chair, was acknowledged for her support, inspiration, and leadership; Alice has agreed to look after the nominations and election for the spring meeting. Susan Brayford was thanked for her efforts with statistics, Jennifer Thomas for her work with e-Campus Alberta and interlibrary loans, and all others who are involved on behalf of the members were thanked. The proposed updates to the Business Plan, Bylaws, Position Duties, and Meeting Guidelines were reviewed; final approval of the changes will be made at the spring meeting.
 - b.) Secretary/Treasurer: Keith Walker reported that this is the tenth anniversary of the listserv and over the summer some changes were made to make it a closed listserv: members from institutions where domain changes have been made since they originally signed on will have to re-register; invitations to join AACL were sent to aboriginal colleges but so far there has been no response; the archives have been cleaned up and weeded; the budget stands at \$2149.91 as of November 22, 2004 with thanks to members for being prompt in paying membership fees.

- c.) Director-at-Large: Nora Robinson reported on submissions to the Letter of the LAA done on behalf of the Association or by individual college libraries; Nora and Christine Salmon, on behalf of the Association, and with a letter of support from Alice, nominated the Knowledge Network Steering Committee for the CTCL Award of Merit and she was pleased to report that the Committee received the Award at the Victoria conference of CLA in June.
5. Eric Tull reported on the Linking Project from TAL: after meeting with all of the post-secondary libraries over the summer he sent out requests to vendors and received eight responses; after evaluating them the Academic Libraries Standing Committee selected SFX as the vendor of choice. Individual libraries now need to commit in order for TAL to formalize and determine the costs. Eric hopes to have the project completed by September. He answered questions from the members.
6. Committee and Working Group Reports:
- a.) Workshops: Geoff Owens reported that since Noreen James has left the colleges to work full-time as an instructor at Grant MacEwan, he is looking for a volunteer to assist him with the workshops. Erica Hebert volunteered and was thanked by the members for doing so.
- b.) Strategic Alliance for Library Advocacy (SALA): Nora reported that this new group on which she represents AACL meets six times a year as a way for library associations in the province to work together to share ideas on advocacy. Suggestions for college library involvement include participating in Alberta Library Week (as Keyano College Library did this year) and with the provincial centennial celebration focus on libraries.
- c.) Academic Libraries Standing Committee: Geoff reported on this new group in TAL that followed the Knowledge Network Committee; he and Jennifer Thomas are the college reps; their work is focusing on three areas: linking, interlibrary loan software, and a post-secondary environmental scan; minutes from the meeting will be sent to the AACL listserv; a meeting of the post-secondary library directors will be held in Edmonton on February 4, 2005.
- d.) LAA liaison: Karen Hering updated the members on LAA activities including the continuing education offerings available on the LAA website; LAA grants available for continuing education; conference plans and guest speakers; the number of librarians who participated in the breast cancer run; the membership directory will now only be available online; a writers of Alberta calendar is available for 2005; LAA award nominations are now available and nominations for Board members have a January 3 deadline.
- e.) Newsletter: Sona Kothari thanked members for their submissions; she is looking for stories and photos in addition to the reports. January 7 is the deadline for the next issue.
- f.) TAL report: Keith reported on items for the Board meeting on November 25, including an update to the Service Plan and the 2005 budget. The formula for post-secondary membership fees was reviewed and it was decided to stay with the current formula based on library budgets; the AAQ fees will be reviewed; Alice, Helga, Robin, and Barbara were acknowledged for joining the new Environmental Scan Review Committee. The spring election will include the representative for the college libraries and Keith recommended that members consider this as a good way to get involved with the inner workings of TAL since he found it to be a good experience.
- g.) Statistics: Susan Brayford acknowledged Tom Skinner's role as he continues to coordinate the statistical compilations and has set a December 3 deadline. A subcommittee was formed to look at tweaking the stats form and to address the idea of posting the stats to the website; Susan will chair with Jerremie, Keith, and Tom as members.
- h.) E-Campus Alberta: Jennifer Thomas reported that it is a great group of members that has developed a library survival guide for inclusion in the e-Campus courses; the next step is to work with instructors to get them to incorporate library skills into the

programs; the group meets via teleconference.

- i.) CTCL: Keith thanked Nora, Christine, and Alice for nominating the Knowledge Network Committee and named the college reps who received the Innovation Award: Debbie McGugan, David Larsen, Joanne Kemp, Susan Brayford, Heather Morrison, and Keith Walker. The college standards session at the CLA conference in Victoria was very successful and a follow-up one on benchmarking will be part of the 2005 conference; CACUL just announced funding a grant to CTCL for completing the research. Susan has been nominated for the CTCL Secretary position. AACL members were encouraged to attend the CTCL meeting and session in Calgary in June.
7. Small Group Sessions: the participants were divided into 4 groups which met to brainstorm issues that will be used to provide direction to the Association and to give ideas to the workshop committee.
 8. Roundtable ideas on library advocacy took place as time permitted through the day; the list of initiatives will be posted to the listserv and those who did not get to present at the meeting were encouraged to let Keith know or send them to the listserv directly.
 9. The business meeting adjourned at noon. Moved by Ann Gish.
 10. Workshops. 3 sessions were presented:
 1. Interlibrary Loans: Jennifer Thomas, Maureen Toews, Charlene Jones
 2. Credit information literacy courses: Augustana's experiences: Nancy Goebel
 3. What are the new technology gadgets: Marcus Roesner

The meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 4:00 PM. The **next meeting** will be held on April 7, 2005 at Mount Royal College in Calgary.



WORKSHOP SUMMARY

Submitted by Geoff Owens & Carol Sinanan

Three workshops were held after the AACL Business meeting.

Interlibrary Loans

Jennifer Thomas, Maureen Toews, Charlene Jones

Vendor demos were held in August 2004 and visits made to several east coast ILL consortiums. Relais appears to be the logical choice for Colleges in Alberta; TAL involvement would help with cost-sharing and coordination. A trial involving RDC and GPRC will begin January 1, 2005; it should be known within a few months of implementation how well the system works, although the trial is expected to last all year.

AACL ILL stats revealed that 72% of loans stay in Alberta – 50% to Universities, 12% to colleges, 6% to public libraries.



Credit Information Literacy Courses:

Augustana's Experiences

Nancy Goebel

Nancy Goebel presented an interesting overview of the library-based information literacy credit courses offered to students at Augustana Faculty. The courses are offered to a variety of disciplines and cover traditional and current library resources and issues such as library catalogues, plagiarism, citation style, online databases and Internet evaluation. The courses, worth 1.5 credits, are required for students in the Music program and English courses but are optional for other students. The courses are taught by librarians as part of their regular workload.

A web-based pre- and post-course assessment indicates that students are gaining considerable knowledge of library resources. Nancy commented that the courses have resulted in general positive student reaction and increased librarian/instructor interaction, as well as more informed and sophisticated questions at the reference desk.



What are the New Technology Gadgets

Marcus Roesner

Marcus (The Alberta Library [Ask A Question](#) Administrator) presented an interactive show-and-tell of many exciting gadgets, several of which may have applications in a library setting, such as using MSN Messenger to conduct a reference interview.

These exciting multimedia technologies ranged from live chat (MSN, Skype, Vonage as an option to replace your Telus account), cell phones (Bluetooth), music (Somafm, moodlogic), TV (Snapstream Beyond TV, TIVO), games & learning (Eye Toy, squareEnix, MOGI, a GPS game), google (e-mail, Google Scholar), people (Friendster, Tribes) and PDA computers.



Geoff Owens introduces Marcus Roesner

This interesting session was a great opportunity to become more familiar with some of the technologies that today's students are using on a daily basis.



Jeremie Clyde, Alice McNair, & Maureen Toews (L-R) try a little EyeToy™



Thanks to all participants for an enlightening and inspiring fall workshop!

Joining Geoff on the workshop committee is Erica Hebert of Concordia. You can send your workshop ideas to either Geoff or Erica:

Geoff Owens [gowens@mtroyal.ab.ca]
 Erica Hebert [erica.hebert@concordia.ab.ca]



NEWS @ your library™

Augustana Faculty

Submitted by Nancy Goebel

This has been a busy 6 months at Augustana. July 1, 2004 marked the official merger between Augustana and the University of Alberta. Augustana University College became Augustana Faculty of the University of Alberta. One component of the merger is the building of a new library at Augustana. "Big picture" plans are in the works and we are very excited to get to the details!

Sarah Heath, Augustana Reference Librarian, left in May 2004; Angie Mandeville joined us as Reference Librarian in August 2004. Angie had been the U of A Library Intern for 2003-2004. Angie quickly jumped into things at Augustana and taught the credit Political Studies, Crime and Community, and Sociology Information Literacy courses in the fall. Paul Neff taught our required/credit Music Information Literacy course and I taught the credit Physical Education course. In total, we now have 21 discipline-specific credit Information Literacy courses. By the winter of 2005, we will have taught them all at least once and as many as 5 times.

On Dec 9, 2004, the Augustana Library hosted the 4th annual "Information Literacy in Academic Libraries" workshop. Elizabeth Hutchins was the speaker and addressed issues relating to "librarians as teachers". It was a great workshop with participants having an opportunity to reflect on their teaching and ways to improve their skills and strategies. On Dec 10, 2004 there was an Information Literacy symposium held at the University of Alberta in Edmonton. The event was offered to welcome the Augustana Library into the University of Alberta Library System.



Nancy Goebel and Elizabeth Hutchins

Next year's workshop's date and theme are TBA but the speaker will be Judy Peacock, Information Literacy Coordinator at the Queensland University of Technology in Brisbane, Australia. Watch the listservs for announcements! Judy is a fantastic speaker and a leader in Australian/New Zealand Information Literacy initiatives. Read more at:

http://www.library.qut.edu.au/contacts/staff/j_peacock.jsp



Canadian University College

Submitted by Joyce Van Scheik

Many of you have been asking about Carol Nicks, our technical services librarian. Carol has been off work since August fighting lymphocytic leukemia. When her brother came up a 10/10 match as a potential bone marrow donor in September (out of five siblings tested), we rejoiced with her. So the life-saving procedure, preceded by chemotherapy, went ahead in October at the Tom Baker Cancer Centre in Calgary. Several weeks of isolation and anti-rejection treatment followed. She was released before Christmas and continues to recuperate at home. Her strength and blood counts are slowly improving.

It's been an emotional experience for us here (not to mention covering her work load), and we look forward to having her back when she is able. Thank you everyone for your thoughts and prayers!



Concordia University College

Submitted by Dan Mirau

The past year has been a real whirlwind of activity. But change is good! (right?)

In September 2004, Dan Mirau was appointed Library Director after acting in the position since October 2003. Erica Hebert has also joined the Concordia team as Associate Reference Librarian. Other staff changes include Miyoko Callaghan, Library Reserves Technician, moving to a position at the Alberta Association of Registered Nurses. We all wish Miyoko well in her new position and are happy to welcome Jan Mutch, coming from Richard S. Fowler Junior High School, into the Reserves Technician position. We are also currently participating in an international internship program in partnership with Deutsche-Telekom. The library has been enjoying this partnership and has hosted a series of talented and ambitious young people from abroad.

Campus collaboration has been a high priority at the library and steps have been taken to streamline procedures among the University College library, the Seminary library and the Lutheran Historical Institute library. In time it is hoped that through continued common projects, all three libraries will be better able to serve Concordia and the broader Alberta library community.

Other important local initiatives have included:

- an exhaustive serials inventory and migration to an online journal list (EBSCO A-Z).
- completion of the reclassification of Dewey materials into Library of Congress.
- implementation of a point of sale system to provide debit and credit card payment options.
- addition of 7 online scientific journal licenses via Canadian Research Knowledge Network.
- addition of other online journal licenses to support social sciences, humanities, & religion.
- redesign of the library website, incorporating new methods of authenticating and managing online resources to provide increased access to resources from off-campus.
- launching the COPPUL ReSearcher suite of journal management, reference-linking and ILL requesting tools to streamline journal article retrieval on campus.
- delivery of in-class research skills instruction to all students enrolled in freshman English and advanced assignment-driven sessions in higher level courses.

Overall it has been a very busy year. Lots of change – but change is good.



Grant MacEwan LRC

Submitted by Nicolle Lemay

Grant MacEwan welcomed several librarians to the Reference Services Department this fall: Michelle Altheim and Norma-Anne Power in part-time roles and Kat Johnston in a full-time term capacity. In other staffing news, Karen Hering has been appointed to the position of Sessional Librarian at the City Centre Campus.

LRC staff is excited about the new LRC Online Tutorial called Searchpath (developed by Karen Hering in conjunction with staff in the Learning & Information Systems department), which is currently in its testing phase. Searchpath takes students through the research process by exploring several modules including choosing a topic, finding books and articles, and citing information. Interested in seeing the tutorial?

Searchpath's test phase is available at:
<http://www.lrc.macewan.ca/php/libedit/searchpath/>

Grant MacEwan is partnering with the University of Alberta to provide the SFX Link Resolver to students and staff. This joint project was funded through a grant from Alberta Learning. LRC staff is looking forward to the improvements in access to information that SFX should provide for our users. Implementation is slated for Spring of 2005.

Although there have been a few delays in the degree granting process, we are still anticipating that Grant MacEwan will be offering Bachelor degrees in select programmes including Arts, Nursing, and Child and Youth Care possibly as early as the autumn of 2005; degrees in Business will hopefully follow in autumn of 2006. In preparation for this, LRC collections are being carefully analysed and \$350,000 has been allocated by the college to begin acquiring materials to meet the needs of third and fourth year students.

The Learning and Instructional Technology staff are developing an E-Portal that is expected to undergo its initial phase of student testing during the Winter 2005 session. By providing a single access point and login, it is hoped that the E-Portal will streamline the students' access to everything from LRC resources, to college email accounts, to registration and grade information.

The LRC has signed an agreement with City University to provide basic library services to approximately 55 City University students from the Edmonton area who are enrolled in the Master of Counseling program. City University is a distance university based in Bellevue Washington.

And finally, this autumn, reference staff from the South, Centre for the Arts and City Centre campuses participated in the "Polishing Diamonds" programme in which instructional staff members take turns observing each other's teaching sessions. Though originally designed for faculty who teach full courses rather than the single sessions taught by reference staff, the programme was adapted for LRC use, and met with success and enthusiasm by its participants.



Keyano College

Submitted by David Larsen

This fall continued to be one of change and adaptation. Our Information Commons computer

lab has become more and more busy. As well, we have moved our Media Services department to the second level of the campus next to our Educational Technology division.

Having completed our AAAL statistics, we have noticed a significant increase in the use of our online research databases. We are trying our best to communicate to faculty the importance of bringing classes down to the Library for instructional sessions, especially with the launch of our new universal core.

We were glad to welcome Judy Wheaton as our Library Secretary in October.

After a little over 4 years with Keyano College - first as Information Librarian, then as Director for the past 3.5 years - I will be leaving Keyano College, my last day being the January 7, 2005. I will be taking up the position of Licensing Coordinator for The Alberta Library beginning January 10th.

Until a new Director is hired, Wanda Philipow (Coordinator of Technical Services) will be Acting Library Manager for the Keyano College Library.

It is with much appreciation that I express my gratitude to the AAAL group for your friendship. I will certainly be in touch with you in my new position.



Medicine Hat College

Submitted by Lilian Li

Vera Bracken Library continues to be the "happening place" on campus.

The soon-to-end Fall semester has been a busy, productive and interesting semester for us. The Library attendance keeps climbing; about 1,500 students were recorded coming to library instruction just in September. The new enhanced Table of Contents service, in print and electronic format, is well used and appreciated by our faculty. Along with all the positive sides of the library's popularity on campus, we were struggling with and had a lot of discussion about food, noise, and cell phone issues. We took them seriously and tried everything we could think of: re-arranging the furniture a couple of times; placing clear signs throughout the library; doing regular walkabouts; emphasizing the group study rooms and quiet study room...

We are hoping all the efforts will make the Library a comfortable place for everyone in the coming new semester.

During November 15-19, the Library hosted its Student Appreciation Week. Free photocopying and printing were given out and a draw for a USB drive became the morning wake-up surprise for one lucky student. We took this opportunity to ask for input and suggestions from the students. The praises flooded in with special thanks to our extremely friendly and helpful staff and nice comments about the beautiful facility. The suggestions along with our responses were made public by handouts and displays.

While we are endeavoring to provide excellent library services, we didn't forget to have fun! The Library was decorated as a prison and the staff dressed up either as the prisoners or the guards for Halloween. Scary but sweet treats were available for students and they were amazed at how creative and fun library staff could be!

And I won't forget to mention our extended library hours. Since this September, the Library extended the Sunday opening hours from 5pm to 8pm and it was well appreciated and used by the students. Next semester, in response to student requests, we are going to extend our hours again and the Library will stay open until 6pm on Fridays. This brings our opening hours up to 83.5 per week.

Good stories keep coming! As part of our advocacy and marketing strategies, we featured the "Library User of the Month" for November and December. A faculty member and a student who are regular library users were chosen for each month. Their big-smile pictures taken in the Library, along with their comments on library services, were displayed in the Library and also published in the College-wide newsletter.

More about advocacy in the Library! On December 14, Alice McNair from the Red Deer College Library joined us to facilitate an in-service for the library staff and advocacy was the theme. We were so fortunate to have an experienced library advocator like Alice with us. The session was both educational and full of fun. The library staff were so encouraged and inspired that bright ideas for library advocacy just keep blooming. We can't wait to work on these ideas and to enjoy the fruits in the near future!



Mount Royal College

Submitted by Ross Thrasher

Staffing

- Library Director Ross Thrasher returned from leave in May. Many thanks to Linda Scott for "minding the store" during Ross' absence.
- Pat Taylor retired in June and was replaced as Technical Services Librarian by Janet Monteith.
- Librarian Ross Sherwin began a half-time appointment this fall. Meagan Weber was re-hired as "the other half".
- Librarian Geoff Owens has successfully applied for tenure this fall.
- Access Technician Marilyn Fowler resigned in June and was replaced by Joanne Vermunt. Laurie Straub was appointed to Joanne's former position of Desk Technician.
- Media Desk Tech Stephanie Hawes resigned in December and Sarah Stephens has replaced her.

College Reorganization

- Over the summer MRC's new President, Dr. David Marshall, released a white paper entitled "Mount Royal in Transition" which identified the steps needed to prepare for our preferred future as an undergraduate university. One of these steps will be the formation of a Library Transition Task Force to develop a ten-year plan for library growth in support of new degree programs.
- In November the President announced the elimination of the position of Vice-President, Student Affairs and Campus Life, to which the Library had reported.
- Library Services and Enrollment Management will now report to the VP Academic. This may be a good thing, as academic areas are to be protected in the budget process.

Partnerships

- We are into our third year of providing library services for local students and faculty of City University, a private, non-profit institution based in Bellevue, Washington. CityU has about 65 students in Calgary enrolled in a Masters program in Counselling Psychology. This fall we handed off the Edmonton CityU cohort to Grant MacEwan.
- The Integrative Health Institute, a community organization devoted to complementary and alternative medicine, has been absorbed by MRC. The Library will receive some journal backfiles from IHI and ongoing funding to build collections in support of the Institute's research and educational activities.

- We have signed a partnership agreement with a nearby francophone high school – to offer their students and teachers membership in MRC Library and to provide some library instruction.

Services

- Library Media received 10 new wireless laptops, which students may sign out on a two-hour loan. The College has created wireless zones in most of the heavy-traffic areas of the campus. ITS is also experimenting with daily rentals of wireless laptops.
- We are in the process of setting up a Data Information Centre adjacent to the Info Desk, where our Data Tech Natalie O'Toole will provide small-group demos and one-on-one consultation. Natalie has been very active this year in upgrading our digital statistics and mapping services for faculty and students.
- Our Culture Change campaign to reduce noise levels and food consumption in the Library, initiated last spring, has been continued with better results this fall. One persistent noise offender was banned from the Library for two weeks.
- We held our usual Amnesty Days in November, forgiving up to \$5 in fines to any students who donated items to the Calgary Food Bank. The tally for the two days was nearly \$500, and lots of food!
- Another seasonal event was a student contest in the Library in December. This year we asked students to tell us what they are avoiding. Prizes of DVD movies and music CDs were awarded to the most creative, humorous and serious excuses.



NAIT Library

Submitted by Helga Kinnaird

With the NAIT and Fairview College merger on July 1, 2004, NAIT Libraries now comprises McNally Library (Main Campus), Fairview Campus Library, and Learning Resources Rooms on other campuses in the Northwest. The transition has gone very smoothly thanks to the efforts, cooperation and good will of all library staff.

- We welcome the following new staff: Rannah Sopha (Reference Library Technician, Northwest Campuses), Danessa Picklyk (Reference and Cataloguing Librarian), Uju Mollel (Supervisor, Information Literacy

Instruction), and Tasha Rigetti (Interlibrary Loans Technician). Liz Pegoraro has been appointed Coordinator, Information Support and Karen Schlegl is now Program Librarian, Information Resources. Diane Clark is on maternity leave until September 30th.

- During summer 2005, new carpet will be installed in McNally Library and fresh paint and other changes will provide students with a more attractive and welcoming setting. For staff, this will represent much additional work but we are sure that the results will be worth the disruption!
- News from NAIT Northwest Campuses: we are well into the transition from Fairview College Library to being part of the NAIT community. It has been exciting and challenging to make the massive changes that were required to function smoothly as part of a bigger system. Changing to different library software is always time consuming and causes operational upheaval. The help and training received from the staff at the McNally Library minimized the impact of the move from SIRSI to Voyager. The Fairview staff members have been busy the past few months working on a major deselection and inventory project covering all the Northwest campuses. Although much of it was completed before Christmas, work will continue on into the New Year. We are looking forward to having some casual support positions in Peace River and High Level that will be able to help with the library needs on those campuses.
- In September we were devastated by the death of our dear colleague, Pat Waterton. The following article, written by Jennifer Semchuk, is reprinted with permission from The Intercom, the newsletter of the NAIT Academic Staff Association.

Patricia Anne Waterton

August 14, 1944 – September 14, 2004



*Gracias a la vida, que me ha dado tanto.
Me ha dado la risa y me ha dado el llanto;
así yo distingo dicha de quebranto,
los dos materiales que forman mi canto
y el canto de ustedes, que es el mismo canto,
y el canto de todos, que es mi propio canto.*

- Violeta Parra

*Thank you to life that has given me so much.
Given me laughter and given me tears;
so that I can distinguish joy from sadness,
the two materials that form my song
and your song, which is the same song,
and the song of all, which is my own song.*

- Violeta Parra's poem graced Pat's memorial service

Pat Waterton began working at NAIT in 1989 as a librarian with the McNally Library. Over the years, she traveled to Cuba and Argentina to help set up virtual libraries. In the process, she studied Spanish until she could fluently speak, read, and write the language.

In addition to these international projects, Pat was instrumental in obtaining approval by The Alberta Library consortia for a core collection of electronic information devices and in standardizing access for all Albertans.

Pat was a hard worker, dedicated to her craft; as a librarian, she was one of the finest in her field. But her work simply reflected her passionate belief in human rights—chief among these, the right to learn, the right to access information, the right to receive an education. Through her tireless efforts, both in her capacity as a librarian and her role as spokesperson for Amnesty International, she helped place basic rights such as these within reach of people all over the world.

Spending time with Pat was like enjoying a good meal. She engaged you, made contact, touched you in a way that was substantial and nourishing, and you would come away feeling replete. In the coffee room, surrounded by a dozen or so tiny Tupperware containers, each half-filled with morsels of lentils, vegetables, and fruit, she would generously lay out her life and share it with you. She might have photos of Molly, her beautiful granddaughter, of whom she was so laughingly and unapologetically proud. She was bemused and mildly astonished that a grandchild could reduce her to dragging people into her office to look at baby pictures. She'd regale you with amusing stories of her work-related trips to Cuba and Argentina, told in her signature, self-deprecating style. And wherever she was, so was a spirited conversation about... oh, politics, eugenics, eudemonics, electronics, Teutonic's, tectonics, Ebonics.... No matter the topic, the conversation was always heady, seasoned with Pat's humor and intelligence.

What were some of the things Pat loved? For a start, she loved making lists. A Pat Waterton list may have looked something like this:

- ∞ Mulch my roses for the winter.
- ∞ Buy saffron for Sunday's paella.
- ∞ Bake Christmas cakes.
- ∞ Brush up on Spanish past perfect continuous conditional voice.
- ∞ Bring photos of Molly to work.
- ∞ Buy fresh cumin and make a nice curry tonight.
- ∞ Take beloved Honda Civic to the carwash.
- ∞ Pick my roses to share with people at work.
- ∞ Look for the positives in life; celebrate the absurd.
- ∞ Treat everyone equally with kindness, respect, and compassion.
- ∞ Have "maybe just one" of the pastries in the coffee room.
- ∞ Honor my husband, my children, and my friends.
- ∞ Encourage everyone I know to celebrate life by taking care of each other, by always being open to new experiences, and by living thoughtfully.

Thank you, gracious woman, from all of us who knew and loved you, thank you for your life and for your song and for sharing both of them with us. We'll never forget you.

Written by Jennifer Semchuk; reprinted with permission from The Intercom, the newsletter of the NAIT Academic Staff Association.



Olds College

Submitted by Robin Minion

We had a stunning leap in the number of reference questions asked in November 2004 compared to the same month in 2003 – 96%. Nope, no new programs or facilities (at least not 96% worth). What happened? Well, there was a frank discussion at a staff meeting - either scrap reference statistics or record them properly I thundered in my non-perfect management style moment. Now, the statistics more accurately reflect the workload at the desk. This created a little 'optics' problem that had to be explained to management but honesty tends to work. Now we are getting numbers that reflect workload. We also found that about 25% of the questions at the desk are directly computer related.

What else has happened in the last 6 months at Olds College? Peggy McKenzie, one of the Library staff, has focused on library instruction for faculty and staff, feeling that if they were more aware of library resources, they would be more likely to incorporate library-based projects in their courses. She has been phoning them, going to their offices, putting the Library icon on their computers and giving them individualized instruction. Class orientations have increased as a result. We estimate we now reach 50% of the student body. Peggy has also incorporated an online evaluation form into her student evaluations and the responses have been overwhelmingly positive.

Another staff member, Scott McKay, has been working with Olds Neighbourhood Place to develop a very simple cataloguing and circulation system which staff at Neighbourhood Place can easily maintain. We feel this type of community outreach is important, especially in a small rural community.

On a broader, campus-wide note, Alberta Infrastructure has allocated \$500,000 to begin initial design plans for a proposed Community Learning Campus (CLC). The CLC vision involves building a facility for high school students on the Olds College campus. Beyond the facility, the vision's emphasis is on programs and creating opportunities. CLC students would essentially see a seamless transition between high school and post-secondary education.

One of the major goals is to encourage rural students to remain in rural Alberta if they wish. Whether a student's choice is entry into the workforce, apprenticeship, college or university, the CLC would set out to provide guidance and support for all choices. The plan includes advantages for

learners of all ages, including parents and community members. The idea of partnering with the public, voluntary, community, health, children's services and private sectors to further enhance programming is also being explored. If the plan is approved by the provincial government, the Community Learning Campus will be unique in Canada.



Red Deer College

Submitted by Anne Marie Watson

It has been a busy term at Red Deer College, and like everyone out there in academic library-land, we are enjoying these last few quiet days on campus before Christmas. Not only do these days offer us a time to decompress a bit after a very busy four months, and also to prepare for winter term, they also give us a chance to reflect on the term behind us.

As I'm writing this, the snow is falling and I'm gazing at our beautiful "book-ish" Christmas tree. The tree is a group effort on behalf of the RDC Library staff, and grew out of a great idea hatched by some RDC staffers last year.

In 2003, the Library Christmas tree featured mini-book ornaments. Each staff member submitted one or two of their favourite book titles, and mini-ornaments were made featuring the book jackets. This year, the staff decided to take this one step further. We opened the submissions up to the entire College community by inviting faculty, staff and students to submit their favourite books. We also asked for a donation to the Student Food Bank for each book submitted. We got a great response and raised over \$100 for charity.

The Christmas tree was only one of the fun things that staff were involved with this year. For example, even though Halloween fell on a weekend, most of the library staff dressed up on the Friday before, and we handed out Halloween treats to the students.

We also organized a "getting to know you" contest among staff. Each staff member was invited to submit an object that they felt represented something important about them, but something that other staff may not know. They were also asked to submit a clue describing the item's significance to its owner. Staff had 10 days to view the items, decipher the clues, and "get to know" the

owners. Prizes were awarded during our Christmas training day.

As our library has grown both in terms of physical space and in terms of staff members, these fun activities are good ways to stay in touch with each other. It's also a good way to get to know some of our new staff or the part-time staff who, because of conflicting schedules, we might not otherwise have a chance to get to know well.

A few of our librarians presented Professional Development sessions on copyright this term. The sessions were open to all RDC staff and faculty, and received excellent feedback from the participants. Out of this grew a website on copyright to assist faculty, staff and students in interpreting copyright rules and to help them seek copyright permission. Since RDC does not have a copyright officer, much of the copyright-related work is done by the Library.

Another highlight this fall was our role as Ask A Question proxy. The proxy role rotates through the public libraries in the province on a voluntary basis. The fall term was RDC's turn to be proxy, as a result of a partnership in which we provide reference services to the Parkland Regional Library system. The proxy library takes responsibility for ensuring all "guest" questions are answered – questions that come from people unaffiliated with any Alberta library, along with questions from outside the province, and often the country - and these are often the most interesting and challenging questions coming into AAQ! Aside from being interesting, these questions often require research into lots of different – and non-academic – areas, and they are a great way to hone reference skills. The RDC reference team answered over 500 guest AAQ questions during the fall term (and lived to tell about it!).



SAIT Library

Submitted by Nora Robinson & Dave Weber

Over the summer, we made several changes to the Library – both in its look and in way we deliver services. Among the changes are:

- We are now using SAIT ID number as the library user ID number for staff and students. New SAIT identification cards have preprinted barcodes that represent SAIT ID numbers. The preprinted barcodes makes library account registration much more streamlined.
- We redesigned the Level 1 Information Desk area to provide better space utilization, improved client/staff visibility and contact with less entrance congestion.



- The campus use video collection shifted from level 0 to 1 improves access for clients. The arrangement of the collection changed from ISO number to Dewey which matches the book and home use video shelving arrangement. With this change, the videos are shelved by subject improving browse-ability. Last-minute bookings are now taken at the Level 1 Information Desk.
- A new gateless security gate was installed. Removing the gates improves access for mobility challenged clients and removes the necessity to enter and leave the library through the right gate only. New carpet tiles were installed from the southeast Heart building hallway to the Library entrance way.
- We reorganized our Electronic Resources web page to make database access clearer. The databases are grouped by subject to assist users in selecting the best database for their needs.
- You can now search the library catalog for a specific e-journal title. This is made possible through our new Serials Solutions service. We now have individual listings in the catalog for the over 9700 e-journal titles included in our databases.

Our new Article Linker service lets you move from one database to another database – without redoing your search -- if the full text of an article is not available in the first database. For more information, contact Nora Robinson (403-284-4073) or Dave Weber (403-284-8476).

In May, we heard the sad news that Mary Elrick, a retired SAIT Library staff member, had passed away. In her memory, we purchased several plants. We invited Mary's family to a dedication ceremony in June. The plants, which are a living memory of Mary, will be part of a new area set aside as a comfortable reading area at the north end of the Library. We already have some cozy armchairs and are expecting the coffee tables soon.

In September, the aviation programs at SAIT moved to a new building near the Calgary International Airport. The new Art Smith Aero Centre has a library. During the summer, library staff packed up the books, journals and videos dealing with aeronautics and delivered them to the Centre. The new library has 3 rooms: a reading room, a study/exam room with study carrels and computer workstations and a room that houses the collection. Students and staff may also request material from the main library through our Intercampus Loan service. There is currently no library staff at this satellite location but we are asking for funding for a library staff member to provide services at both the Art Smith and Mayland Heights campuses in 2005.



Reading Room (photo by Dave)



AeroCentre Hangar (photo by Dave)

In October, we added 15 new databases to our Electronic Resources collection. The new databases include several specialized ones in the health, legal and business areas and also some very broad-based ones. Most of these databases are from the Subscriptions Alberta Ebsco product grouping.

We are now a hosting institution for works from the Alberta Foundation for the Arts traveling exhibitions collection. In October, we had a collection called "An Epic of Alberta Immigrants". This collection of photographs, paintings and prints was brought together by the Foundation as part of its celebration of Alberta's centenary in 2005. It highlights the role immigrants played in Alberta society in the past 100 years. We were very pleased that the exhibition included 2 works by George Webber, a SAIT instructor and long-time library supporter. Our second display, in November, was called "Margaret

Shelton: Alberta Memories". Her works are landscapes done in relief and Japanese block prints. Lots of students and staff dropped by to see the displays and we are looking forward to more displays in the spring.

In January and February, we will be hosting displays of works by our second year photojournalism and architecture students. We had works by these groups last year and they were very popular with the SAIT community. It's great to see the creativity and hard work evident in these displays.

In early November, we celebrated May Chan's 20 years with the SAIT Library. May is currently looking after collection development at the SAIT Library but has been involved with almost all aspects of library work during her time here. Congratulations on reaching the 20-year milestone, May!



Susan Brayford and May Chan



Update your bookmarks!

The AACL website address has changed to:
<http://www.nait.ca/libresources/aac/>

CONGRATULATIONS!

In June 2004, the CTCL Innovation Award was presented to the Knowledge Network Steering Committee at CLA in Victoria, BC.



(Photo: 2004 CLA Conference)

(L-R) Knowledge Network Committee: Lucy Pana, TAL; Susan Brayford, SAIT; David Larsen, Keyano; Keith Walker, Medicine Hat College (Missing: Joanne Kemp & Debbie McGugan, Grant MacEwan; Barbara Marshalsay, University of Lethbridge; Doug Poff, University of Alberta; Alan MacDonald, University of Calgary (retired).

Presenters: Pat Sandercock, Micromedia ProQuest; Laraine Tapak, Confederation College



HOT OFF THE PRESS!

A special thanks to Grant MacEwan South Campus library staff for hosting the Fall AAAL meeting.

Scenes from AAAL Fall 2004 Meeting...

