The next few weeks will be extremely busy. Homecoming will take place on the weekend of October 18 – 21 and graduates will return to the University to meet old friends, make new ones, view the changes to the campus that have been undertaken and continue their lifelong educational journey. A special symposium Healing our World will take place. It will be an informal discussion on issues that concern us all: health and wellness, poverty and development, and rescuing our endangered environment. Campus tours will take place during Homecoming and as usual the Library will feature prominently. Special exhibitions in the Library will pay tribute to the significant impact on the Library’s collections made by our donors and benefactors over the years. Various lunches and dinners will be held, featuring speakers who will both inform and entertain. Richard Virr and I will present a talk, From Mesopotamia to Megabytes as part of the Classes without Quizzes program. The Library will also host a breakfast on the morning of October 19. The week also marks the launch of the capital campaign and various associated activities will be held. The University is seeking funds to supplement government sources of income to ensure we build capacity and help provide quality teaching, learning and research programs within the University. The Capital Campaign will seek to raise private funds to strengthen our financial position to help achieve our goals. Our past has depended on the considerable support provided by our many friends; our future will also require ongoing support from our old and new friends. We shall all work together to obtain the funds we need to provide the services we know people want.

Our Principal, Heather Munroe-Blum, has issued a report which outlines the University’s achievements in the last four and a half years, and features the directions to be taken in the next few years [http://www.mcgill.ca/principals-report-07/]. There are many insights provided into the priorities of the University. Strengthening student life and learning, remaining research-intensive and student-centred and maintaining an international presence are but some of the areas on which the University is focusing. The Principal pays tribute to the work each one of us does in ensuring the University delivers its programs effectively and notes that, “As we build on the remarkable legacy we have inherited, I believe that, as a public institution, we must maintain the highest standards of quality, transparency and accountability.” We are all privileged to work at McGill and proud of the achievements made in which we all share. The concluding remarks of the Principal in the report set the stage for us all as we go forward—as remarkable as our history has been, our best years lie ahead.

Janine Schmidt,
Trenholme Director of Libraries
PHYSICAL SPACES
It has been an extremely busy beginning to the term. Much has been happening over the summer and is continuing on our facilities refurbishments. Work has been undertaken on the Schulich Library of Science and Engineering and will be completed mid-October. Additional ventilation and computer workstations have been installed, as well as improvements to the lighting, seating and study spaces. An upgrade of the Education Library and Curriculum Resources Centre is also occurring and will be completed early November. Both libraries are functioning fully, although minor disruptions have occurred. Funding for the project has come from donor funds, student funds and the library budget. Some physical improvements have also been undertaken in the Life Sciences Library and additional computers added.

COLLECTIONS ON THE MOVE
Additional compact storage was acquired for the Howard Ross Management Library and the Education Library. Material was repatriated from the Currie gym to each of these libraries and also to the Macdonald Campus Library. The integration of the Blacker-Wood journals into the Life Sciences Library was completed and little-used material housed in the Redpath basement. Monographs which had been borrowed from the Blacker-Wood collections in the last two years have been transferred to the Life Sciences Library. Further rare materials have been re-located to the Rare Books and Special Collections Division. Congratulations and many thanks to all who have worked so hard to ensure all these moves and the subsequent changes in records occurred.

SIGN AND LAYOUT
Signage and layout improvements have occurred in the Humanities and Social Sciences Library - there is more to come in all branch libraries. Some additional shelving has been included in HSSL.

CYBERTHÈQUE
Work has proceeded on the e-zone which has now been named the Cyberthèque. It will be completed in early November. During the course of the work, damage to concrete and to a steel beam was noted. Repair work is being undertaken over the next 4 weeks. The entry to the Redpath Library Building will be closed for this work. Again everyone is thanked for their patience and forbearance. We are really pleased to see the maintenance issues being addressed. There has also been some flooding in the basement and Facilities staff have acted to replace defective equipment and to prevent any re-occurrence.

Much of the facilities work has been undertaken in relation to gaps identified in the LibQUAL+ surveys previously undertaken. Work has begun on planning the LibQUAL+ survey, to be undertaken in 2008.

ORIENTATION 2007
A successful orientation program was undertaken. The Library was involved in the Student Centre, the Street Fair and provided tours and sessions. The Library was present at some Faculty and other general welcoming sessions and also in the Parents events. Posters and a brochure were printed to publicize activities. The Student Ambassador program has been a successful initiative. Many brochures have been revised over the summer and new ones prepared. Again, thanks to the dozens of people who were involved in planning, preparation and delivery of all of these programs—particularly to our Student Ambassadors.

EJOURNALS // MICROFORMS // CJK MATERIALS
The Library has continued to acquire back runs of e-journals. Over 7,800 journals are now available from volume 1 onwards in electronic format. Much activity was carried out over the summer on cataloguing backlogs, particularly as far as the Cutter collections were concerned. Funds from the SSMU were most helpful in this regard. Thank you again to the many staff involved and our excellent student workers. Microforms in the Humanities and Social Sciences Library were re-arranged into one sequence over the summer. The additional shelving has enabled better housing of the CJK materials (Chinese, Japanese, Korean) 65,000 volumes were rebarcoded over the summer in the Humanities and Social Sciences Library—a great achievement by all. The Library system has also been upgraded. Various other projects have been undertaken, including enhancements to the search interface for escholarship@Mcgill and clearer access to e-journals and databases. A great team effort.

STAFF APPOINTMENTS
Various new appointments have been made and staff will come on board in early, mid and late October. These include Megan Fitzgibbons and Andrea Murray to the Humanities and Social Sciences Library; Jared Wiercinski to the Lending and Access Service in the Humanities and Social Sciences Library; Andrew Collier to the Web Coordinator position within the Library Technology Service and Jill Boruff to the Life Sciences Library. We shall welcome all new staff. Some librarian positions are being re-posted. The new Librarian Regulations have also been implemented as of September 1.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
Preparations are underway for the launch of the Capital Campaign next month. Founded on a gift, and using History in the making as a slogan, the University will carve out its future. The Library is keen to participate and ensure that it continues both to make history and to permit others to do so.
Did you know our very own Anne
McMahon (Macdonald Library) was
selected to the Canadian National Dragon
Boat team which represented Canada at
the World Championships held in Perth,
Australia September 19 – 23?

Quote: This is what we received when
we were named to the team - I am having
it framed. Now we have to work hard to
bring home gold medals.

Dear Marjorie Anne:

Congratulations on your selection to
the Canadian National Dragon Boat
Team which will represent Canada and
compete at the World Championships in
Penrith, Australia, September 19 through
the 23rd. The time that you have devoted

provides the database with added value: there are sev-
eral search fields: a list of subjects, from accident pre-
vention to welding, brazing and soldering; and a list of
document types, e.g. monograph, journal article, con-
ference paper, technical report, preprint, website,
etc.

As work was progressing,
a paper, DBDB: a data-
base for Design Bibliogra-
phy, about the database was presented at the CDEN

The database is not a document repos-
itory. Instead, researchers
can fill in the submission form (developed by
Xiaopeng and Elizabeth),
providing bibliographic information, and hypertext
links if available, for materials dealing
with design, urban planning, architecture
and other related domains. Elizabeth also
developed the management interface,
Submission Guidelines, and the Manual
for the Bibliography Editor.

The maintenance of the database and
ing the new submissions now falls
to the staff of the Faculty of Engineering
NSERC Design Engineering Chair, in
particular Dr A. Morozov, the Project
Editor.

The database was launched at the
NSERC Design Engineering Chair,
Design for Extreme Environments
Meeting held on February 8, 2007, at
McGill’s McConnell Engineering
Building. At the launch I gave a demon-
stration of the database. Technical ques-
tions were fielded by Elizabeth. The
Database was subsequently featured at the
CDEN/CCEE conference in Winnipeg
this summer.

MEDAL COUNT

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DID YOU KNOW… CANADA HAS 23 GOLD, 10 SILVER AND 7 BRONZE?

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Dear Marjorie Anne:

Congratulations on your selection to
the Canadian National Dragon Boat
Team which will represent Canada and
compete at the World Championships in
Penrith, Australia, September 19 through
the 23rd. The time that you have devoted

preparing for this event by improving
your strength and skill level will con-
tribute to the success of Team Canada.

Over the next several weeks your
coaches will provide you with the com-
petition preparation program in addition to
the race schedule for the balance of the
season. Logistical information with
respect to travel, lodging and uniforms is
in the process of being finalized and will
be communicated to you as soon as possi-
ble. I am confident that you will perform
exceptionally well and make your fellow
Canadians proud of your accomplish-
ments.

Once again, on behalf of Dragon Boat
Canada as well as the Canadian dragon
boat community, congratulations and
good luck in Australia.

Sincerely,
Chloe Greenhalgh, Executive Director

From the Dragon Boat com-
petition held in Sydney
Australia. If you want to know
about the teams etc. check this site:
index.php?page=team-profiles
Where’s this?
How well do you know the libraries? Emma Buckley took this eyeball-bending pic of one of our buildings. Do you know which one? The answer will appear in the October issue.

The Mossman endowment presents:
The D. Lorne Gales Lecture in the History of Science
After Leonardo: The Artist as Scientist in 17th Century Italy
Monday, October 15, 6:00 p.m., Moot Court, Chancellor Day Hall
Given by Paula Findlen, Ubaldo Pierotti Professor of Italian History and Program in History and Philosophy of Science and Technology, Stanford University

Parents’ Breakfast
October 19, 9:00 a.m., McLennan Library Building
Janine Schmidt, Trenholme Director of

“For success, attitude is equally important as ability.”
- Sir Walter Scott

COMING ATTRACTIONS

The International Federation of Libraries (IFLA) will be holding its next annual meeting in Quebec City. Volunteers are needed from August 6th to August 16th 2008 and will handle tasks dealing with: reception, information desk, guided tours, social and cultural activities, portfolio preparation, bulletin boards, chauffeurs, and exhibition hall.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Are you interested in meeting colleagues from around the world? Do you want to experience what goes on at an international conference? Do you want to be part of the 400th anniversary for Quebec City? Do you have language skills in Spanish, German, Chinese, Arabic, or Russian? Do you have computer skills, or a valid driver’s license, or library science experience? Are you energetic, interested, curious, bright, people oriented?

Applications are being considered between now and March 1, 2008. Print out and complete the form at http://ifla2008.aastd.org (website for AASTD), add a paragraph on what you would hope to gain from your attendance at IFLA and submit your request to the Office of the Director of Libraries by the end of October, 2007. The Library will support the application of two volunteers with accommodation and transportation costs. Volunteers are able to attend the conference when they are not helping out. The Library will forward applications to the Conference Committee for assessment.

Classes without Quizzes: From Mesopotamia to Megabytes
October 20, 1:45 p.m. — 3:15 p.m., McLennan Library Building
Janine Schmidt and Richard Virr present

Parents’ Breakfast
October 19, 9:00 a.m., McLennan Library Building
Janine Schmidt, Trenholme Director of

McGill Book Fair
Wednesday, October 24 & Thursday, October 25, 9:00 a.m. — 9:00 p.m., Redpath Hall

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