A very successful Open House was held on Sunday January 25th. We extend a big thank you to Tatiana Bedjanian who did a wonderful job coordinating the Library’s involvement. A team of volunteers included Abishek Agarwal, Amber Lannon, Ann Marie Holland, Brian McMillan, Brittni Martin, Carole Urbain, Chris Lyons, Cynthia Leive, Eamon Duffy, Esther Horowitz, Greg Colley, Halyna Carpenter, Jodie Hebert, John Hobbins, Lonnie Weatherby, Louisa Piatti, Maryvon Côté, Maya Kucij, Megan Fitzgibbons, Natalie Waters, Richard Virr, Sharon Rankin and Zoe Jingling Zeng who ensured that visitors were welcomed and our services explained. The Rare Books and Special Collections again were a draw card as some of our treasures were revealed for all to see. Thank you to all the library staff who ensured that the Library’s contribution was an excellent one.

Wikipedia is in the news again following a false entry in relation to an incident concerning Senators Ted Kennedy and Robert Byrd (http://news.cnet.com/8301-1023_3-10149648-93.html). As a consequence, Wikipedia founder Jimmy Wales is considering putting safeguarding editorial processes in place with a trusted editorial team overseeing additions – Flagged Revisions. This approach is being used in the German version of the Wikipedia. User input is being sought on alternative approaches to the verification of content. Content used to be king – but it is now conversation or context. Digg and Delicious continue to be popular ways.
of sharing information about notable content on the web – joined by others like Reddit. Ordinary users are adding tags and descriptors to build a vast means of discovery and access.

On another note, a recent study issued by the National Endowment for the Humanities noted by OCLC in their newsletter has indicated that for the first time in 25 years Americans are reading more literature than they used to. Change is everywhere (http://arts.endow.gov/news/news09/Read-ingonRise.html). The overall rate rose by 7%. The number of readers rose by 16.6 million. Young adults showed the most significant increases. Not surprisingly, online reading figured in the survey. Almost 15% of all U.S. adults read literature online in 2008 which lines up with other surveys we have used to. Change is everywhere (http://arts.endow.gov/news/news09/Read-ingonRise.html).

In our nation of immigrants, multiple foodways form a distinctive and evolving repertoire that is neither hodgepodge nor smorgasbord. How we as Canadians procure, produce, cook, consume, and think about food creates and defines our cuisine.

CuiZine (http://cuizine.mcgill.ca), the new McGill e-journal published by McGill Library, will foster cross-cultural exchange and demonstrate the centrality of foodways to Canada’s evolving identity. In its inaugural issue, one of the things you will find is a video recipe for Canadian Shield Shortbread Cookies, a regional variation of a traditional Christmas culinary classic.

A Montreal launch party for CuiZine was held on Jan. 14 at McGill’s Institute for the Study of Canada, 3463 Peel St., and a Toronto launch party was held on Jan. 9 at The Healthy Butcher, 565 Queen St. W.
Happy Birthday Mr. Lincoln!

Abraham Lincoln 1809-1865

To mark the 200th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, February 12th 1809, images of Lincoln, of Lincoln and his family and of Lincoln and his Cabinet are on display along with various items of realia, including Lincoln busts, bookends, plaques and china.

All items are from the Joseph N. Nathanson Collection of Lincolniana in Rare Books and Special Collections.

The Nathanson Lincoln Collection is one of the most unusual research collections housed in Rare Books and Special Collections, McGill University Library. In 1986, Dr. Joseph N. Nathanson (1895-1989) donated to his alma mater, the contents of his eclectic Abraham Lincoln collection. For almost fifty years, Dr. Nathanson avidly collected Lincolniana from his base in Ithaca, New York where he taught Obstetrics and Gynecology at Cornell University for five decades. The collection is comprised of approximately four thousand items including books, pamphlets, prints, manuscripts, ephemera and realia.

RARE BOOKS AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS LOBBY

4th floor, McLennan Library Building
January 20th – March 31st 2009

The Library has also extended the exhibition into new media, with Lincoln celebrated by a presence in Second Life, a virtual environment available via the Internet. Selected items from the Nathanson Collection are on display for Second Life users as part of a larger exhibit called “Land of Lincoln”. If you have Second Life installed on your computer, you can go directly to the collection in Second Life by clicking here: http://slurl.com/secondlife/Land of Lincoln/32/217/41/. To get more information about accessing Second Life, please visit http://www.secondlife.com.
WHAT’S NEW

REDPATH BASEMENT
PROGRESS REPORT

The former Blacker-Wood monograph collection has been interfiled with two former Life Sciences collections which had been housed in the Currie Gym. They now comprise sequences from A to Z. This collection has the location Redpath Basement Storage (Self Service). The work to put these in order is now complete thanks to Carl Eugene’s team who have been working hard on this over the past couple of months. The locations in the catalogue have been updated for the former Blacker-Wood monographs, and the Life Sciences Currie Gym collection records will be completed in February.

Another collection held in the Redpath Basement is a collection of Life Sciences related serials. These were previously in Blacker-Wood, the Life Sciences Library or the Currie Gym store, and are older runs of titles that receive low use. These serials are in order by a numeric call number sequence. Work is still being done to shelve and add numbers to the materials that have been transferred from the Currie Gym store. The Currie Gym will be completely empty shortly. Congratulations to all on a wonderful achievement. Many people have been involved and it is evidence of great teamwork.

The third collection housed in the Redpath Basement is the remaining Humanities and Social Sciences Library Cutter Collection. About half of the Humanities and Social Sciences Library Cutter Collection has been reviewed and reclassified over the past couple of years. The rest will continue to be reviewed and reclassified during this continuing project.

No new materials will be added to the monograph collections in the basement. Any items that circulate from these monograph collections will be transferred to either the Life Sciences library monograph collection (science material) or to the regular Humanities and Social Sciences Library stacks for anything from the Cutter collection.

FACILITIES CHANGES

The new staff area for Interlibrary Loans has been prepared in Collection Services and the team has moved into their new accommodation. The new area has been designed to meet the team’s service needs and the staff input to the layout and design was most useful and greatly appreciated.

The ICS team, headed up by Ante Rokov, has relocated to a new area on the second floor of Redpath, just across the aisle from the ILL team. Thanks to everyone in Collection Services and ICS for their patience, understanding and support during the move and furniture installation.

Design work is being finalized for a facelift to the Life Sciences Library. This will take place in late February/early March and will see all Life Sciences staff housed on the 3rd floor with new furniture, service points and an expanded e-zone for our students. The “pink” hue will be a thing of the past! Many thanks to the Life Sciences staff for their valued input into the redesign. The work has become both more necessary and more complex since the recent “flood” in the Library. Thanks to all staff who participated so actively in monitoring the inundation and seeking to rectify it.

The lobbies of the Humanities and Social Sciences lobby, floors 2 through 6, are now complete. New lighting was installed, completing the project. Students are taking advantage of the new space and using the lobby for cell phone conversations, a restful spot to read and even impromptu study group sessions. Now that the lobbies are warm and welcoming our next task is to upgrade the lighting in the stairwells in the winter term.

Further facilities work continues. The installation of compact shelving on level 5 of the Humanities and Social Sciences Library is under way, with the first week of work drawing to a close. A huge thank you to everyone involved, especially Carl Eugene and his team, for all the work on the project. The project is on schedule and it appears that students and faculty are coping well.

THE LIBRARY AND THE E-PUBLISHING WORLD

CuiZine, the new McGill e-journal published by McGill Library was launched this month. Destined for both academic and general audiences, CuiZine is an innovative academic forum for interdisciplinary discussions surrounding the diverse culinary cultures of Canada. It provides a venue for dynamic creative content on the subject, featuring original creative pieces such as poetry, short fiction, and visual essays on eating and cooking in Canada. Edited by Nathalie Cooke, Associate Dean, (Research and Graduate Studies) of McGill’s Faculty of Arts, and Lara Rabinovitch, doctoral candidate at New York University, CuiZine publishes in both English and French. Check it out at http://cuizine.mcgill.ca.

The library is also publishing the McGill Journal of Education in an e-format. Unlike CuiZine, it is not a new journal, but up to this point it had been hosted by Harvard University! Both e-journals are distributed by Erudit, a consortium based at the Université de Montréal - http://www.erudit.org/apropos/info.html. The Library has been pleased to partner with Erudit in this important area of e-publishing. CuiZine is an...
open access journal. The Library has been promoting open access as a way of making scholarship more widely available and this is a step in the direction of encouraging wider access.

**Staffing Changes**

Marilyn Cohen remains on leave and Sara Holder is taking the role of Interim Head Librarian in the Education Library and Curriculum Resources Centre. We wish Marilyn all the best and thank Sara for taking on the role. Use of the refurbished Library continues to grow.

The posts of Head Librarian for both the Nahum Gelber Law Library and the Life Sciences Library have been placed on the website of the agency handling the recruitment for us (Ken Haycock & Associates Inc. - http://www.kenhaycock.com/). These profiles are shortened versions and the full position descriptions as well as other details are being provided to all candidates expressing interest with the agency. Postings have been made to various other sites as well.

The positions posted in the Library Technology Service have been filled by Jennifer Innes and Joel Natanblut. Our digitization activities will be strengthened with this additional capacity. Jennifer has worked in our Humanities and Social Sciences Library for many years and has enriched our service delivery. Joel joined McGill Library fairly recently and has provided technical support to our Life Sciences Library and clients. Both Joel and Jennifer bring a strong client focus and will be welcome additions to the Library Technology Service team and our digitization strategies and their implementation. We are working hard to expose the treasures of our remarkable collections, emphasizing material of course in the public domain, and ensure that our research collections are easily accessible and available.

**New Staff Appointments**

We have several new appointments to the Library. Marina Goussalova has been appointed to Collection Services beginning January 16, 2009. Although no stranger to the McGill Library, Marina’s affiliation has been through the Polish Institute. Marina holds a B.A. and M.A. in History from Moscow State University, Russia and has completed Post Graduate Studies in Museology at the Institute of Cultural Studies, Moscow, Russia before graduating with an M.L.I.S. from McGill University. We are pleased to have her doing cataloguing of rare materials and other projects.

We welcome Robin Canuel to the Humanities and Social Sciences Library, beginning January 26, 2009. Robin comes to us from the Jewish General Hospital where he has been working as a research librarian in the Centre for Nursing Research. He holds a B.A. in Anthropology and an M.L.I.S. degree, both from McGill University. Robin will be the Liaison Librarian for French language and Literature, as well as for the teaching of French by Continuing Education.

Vincen Lui will join the team at the Macdonald Campus Library on February 2, 2009. Vincen comes to us from the Central Library of the Mississauga Library System. She holds a B.A. in English and Fine Art History, and a Masters of Information Studies, both from the University of Toronto. She will be a much-needed addition to the busy team at the Macdonald campus.

**New Search Interfaces**

Various demonstrations of possible search interfaces which we might use to overlay our catalogue are being demonstrated at the moment. Take the opportunity to attend any sessions. There are increasing demands from our users for search interfaces that are easier to use and more intuitive and we need to respond to these. We hope to finalize a decision about which one to use over the next few months. Under discussion are Primo, Endeca, Worldcat Local, Aquabrowser amongst others.

Karen Calhoun’s recent visit highlighted the research that has been done into learning more about the ways our users want to search - they need information delivered to them and not just intellectual access to it. Ms. Calhoun’s PowerPoint presentation is available on the common drive at U:\Common\Administrative\Presentations. The title is Calhoun Metadata Quality 2008.

**Library Resources at Any Place, Any Time**

Library resources are becoming more accessible wherever our users are, in cyberspace or in the real world. Many people have mobile devices they carry constantly for communication. There is a new page on the library website for information on how to see, for example, WorldCat Mobile from an iPhone, Blackberry and other hand-held devices - www.mcgill.ca/library-using/computers/researchtools/. There will be more developments of this kind as we ensure our content is available any place, any time to all our clients.

Nominations for the Library Staff Excellence Award and the Career Recognition Award are due by February 27, 2009. The nomination form for Library awards and recognition can be found online at the following page:

http://www.mcgill.ca/library-about/general/awards/

‘Library awards and recognition’ is under ‘About us > General information’
A list of the 200 most visited pages on the Library’s website during the fall semester is now available at: http://wikisites.mcgill.ca/lts/images/3/38/TopPages_Fall08.pdf.

Some highlights:
- The new Life Sciences Library website had 13 of its pages make the list, its top three being the homepage, e-books page, and databases page.
- The three most visited subject guides were Market share research, Industry research, and Nursing.
- The three most visited course guides were Natural disasters, Health and the healer in western history, and Laboratory in Microbiology and Immunology.
- The new “Five steps to a better paper” was the 75th most popular page (http://www.mcgill.ca/library-assistance/how-to/calculator/)

The below chart shows how many pages from each of the Library’s websites appear on the list.
GETTING TO KNOW SOME OF THE STAFF AT THE MACDONALD CAMPUS LIBRARY

Vincci Lui
Liaison Librarian

Where were you born?
- Oakville
What part of town do you live in?
- Peering into Westmount
How long have you worked at the library?
- Since February 2009
Do you have any pets?
- 3 dogs – it’s a veritable zoo!
What is your favorite place in Montreal?
- Waiting in line at St. Viateur, inhaling the sweet aroma of freshly baked sesame bagels...
What is your favorite dessert?
- Green tea ice cream
What are you reading and/or listening to?
- Nancy Huston’s *Dolce Agonia*
What are your other interests?
- Writing and gallery-hopping
What is your pet peeve?
- Being subjected to bad music blaring out of a car window, on an otherwise perfect summer day
What is/are your favorite quote(s)?
- “It is through art, and through art only, that we can realize our perfection” – Oscar Wilde
What is one thing that people do not know about you?
- That I am actually of the female persuasion—ah, the curse of the ambiguously-gendered name!

Debbie Meert
Liaison Librarian

Where were you born?
- London, Ontario
What part of town do you live in?
- The ‘far away’ part, I live in Dunvegan, Ontario
How long have you worked at the library?
- 3 ½ years
Do you have any pets?
- 2 dogs (Teddy and Frodo) and a blind mouse (Master Rinpoche)
What is your favorite place in Montreal?
- Lakeshore Drive; it reminds me of home
What is your favorite dessert?
- Any kind of pie
What are you reading and/or listening to?
- Kathy Reichs; anything country, especially country rock
What are your other interests?
- Gardening, photography, embroidery
What is your pet peeve?
- Sales phonecalls!
What is/are your favorite quote(s)?
- “Throughout life, for everyone, pain is inevitable, but suffering is optional” – Taken from one of my favorite TV Shows and said by the male lead
What is one thing that people do not know about you?
- I can perform forensic examination of human skeletal remains. Not a lot of call for this in Montreal, but I was quite busy when I lived in Alberta

Anna Stoute
Head Librarian

Where were you born?
- Montreal
What part of town do you live in?
- Ville LaSalle
How long have you worked at the library?
- Since November 15, 2002
Do you have any pets?
- No
What is your favorite place in Montreal?
- Old Montreal
What is your favorite dessert?
- Marble cake
What are you reading and/or listening to?
- *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini (loved it so much I decided to read it again)
What is your pet peeve?
- People who tailgate when driving
What is one thing that people do not know about you?
- I am radio host on McGill Radio Station (CKUT 90.3FM)

Frances Wheeler-O’Rielly
Senior Library Clerk

Where were you born?
- St. John’s, Newfoundland & Labrador
What part of town do you live in?
- Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue
How long have you worked at the library?
- Since December 3, 2005
Do you have any pets?
- One; a 12 year old cat named Nibbles