



LIBRARY MATTERS @ MCGILL

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Left at podium: Principal and Vice-Chancellor Heather Munroe-Blum speaks to a packed house in the Library's Cyberthèque at a recent Town Hall meeting held on March 11, 2011. Photo credit: Owen Egan

FROM THE DEAN OF LIBRARIES



**C. COLLEEN COOK,
TRENHOLME DEAN
OF LIBRARIES**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

FEATURES: page 3
TECHNOLOGY: pages 4-6
PROUST & YOU: page 6
EVENTS & EXHIBITS: on pages 7-10
SUPPORTING THE LIBRARY: page 11
FYI: page 12-13
FACILITIES: page 13
REPORT ON...: pages 14-17
CONGRATULATIONS, AWARDS & RECOGNITION: pages 18-20

In the short time I have been here, I have made it my mission to learn about McGill's history and accomplishments, its people and its future. At the most recent Dean's Corner, I mentioned that I have scheduled meetings with each of the Deans across campus in order to get a better idea of their needs and vision. So far, the sessions I have attended have been an incredible experience for me. I know many of the ideas brought forward have already helped me in my own visioning work.

For instance, in my meeting with the Dean of Arts Christopher Manfredi, I learnt that one of the things on the top of his agenda is digital humanities. I was surprised to find out that the Faculty of Arts is on the cutting edge of the open access movement and that there is a great push towards digitization. I think this is a grand thing and the Library

will have to be responsive to these big pushes.

I then went to visit the Dean of Science Martin Grant and asked him, "What is your claim to fame? Tell me about your departments." He proceeded to give me some departmental highlights and mentioned that his department is now at the stature where he is being asked to nominate people for Nobel prizes. That just gave me more of an idea of what I already knew – McGill and its people are outstanding.

It was much of the same when I met with the Dean Gordon Foote from the Faculty of Music. I heard about where the Music Library had traveled, and that, finally, our collection now lives in a house it deserves – a gorgeous, functional space that showcases and celebrates the faculty's numerous

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

FROM THE DIRECTOR - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

accomplishments including a slew of Grammy nominations and wins.

As I travel from faculty to faculty, these are the stories I am hearing. From my perspective it just makes me more and more excited to be here. At the same time, it makes me even more aware of how important it is for us to do our job well in support of their mission. It is clear that this is one of the best research institutions in the world and if there is any place where libraries should be done right, it's at a place like this.

There is no doubt that the McGill Library needs to be about many, many things. Three factors that play into this are budget, resources and, most importantly, people. The Library has about 37 million dollars at our disposal a year. If we can't put our money to where we think the important things are, then we cannot go about accomplishing what it is we need to do. In the coming months, I am going to spend some time getting to know where the monies are spent and will make sure funds get spent.

In terms of resources, if we are going to be able to take this library and its programs to a new level, while being commensurate with the great programs that exist at this university, we are going to have to raise additional funds. I have already spent some time getting to know a lot of our donors. I have always been amazed at how amazing donors are in their own right. More often than not, they are hugely interesting people who have led hugely interesting lives and have wonderful stories to tell. I have found that part of fundraising a very exciting element of my job and will continue to learn from our friends and supporters.

Once we have an idea what we want to do and figure out that we have the resources to make it happen, then we have to go about bringing the right people on board to get the job done. We need to create the right kind of constellation of people to carry us into the

library of the 21st century. A 21st century library is all about content and services. Content is all about delivering what people want, when they want it, where they want it, how they want it. That means offering a lot of resources in convenient ways. We need to be thinking beyond systems and get people what they need —on their terms. If there is a place on the planet that can achieve this, it's a place like McGill. We have the best of the best. Library staff members, in my opinion, are right up there.

Knowing that we have a big mission ahead of us and knowing that we have to find the right resources to fulfill this mission, we must now plan. The Associate Directors and I will be going on a planning retreat in June. We will be doing a lot of brainstorming. In preparation for this, each one of them will be speaking with you about what you think the largest thrusts are. The strategic plan to be developed will hold 2-3 major thrusts. To give you an idea of the scope of this, one example would be: "What would happen if all the Deans adopted an open access mandate for all literature?" What would that mean in terms of the library and what we do? Is that something that we want to push because we think that that's where libraries need to go? These very large scale ideas will keep us pointed to where it is we need to be. The details within the strategic planning process fall out of this vision planning. All Library staff need to be involved in this process so please feel free to contact your Associate Director with ideas regarding your vision of a 21st century library.

COLLEEN'S COFFEE/TEA

Colleen's Coffee/Tea is a chance for Library staff to chat informally with the Dean and your colleagues about the Library and university life over a "cup of Joe" and some sweets. All gatherings will run from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

May 11, 2011 | Dean's Office
June 13, 2011 | Life Sciences Library
July 7, 2011 | HSSL
August 11, 2011 | Birks Reading Room
September 29, 2011 (3:30-4:30) | Mac
October 20, 2011 | GIC
November 24, 2011 | Islamic Studies Library



McGill Library
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LIBRARY MATTERS @ MCGILL

The Library Matters @ McGill newsletter, brought to you by the you-never-heard-it-from-us editors, seeks to exchange and encourage ideas, innovations and information from McGill Library staff at all levels.

The newsletter is published bimonthly. The latest issue, as well as an archive of past issues, can be found at <http://www.mcgill.ca/library/library-about/pubs/newsletter/>.

We welcome your contributions. The deadline for submissions is the first day of the issue month. Send your input to the you-never-heard-it-from-us editorial team: Jennifer Garland, jennifer.garland@mcgill.ca Vincci Lui, vincci.lui@mcgill.ca Merika Ramundo, merika.ramundo@mcgill.ca Jayne Watson-Sévigny, jayne.watson-sevigny@mcgill.ca



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DEAN'S CORNER

Dean's Corner is a bi-monthly dialogue for all Library staff. Content for the meetings will include Library-related topics such as updates, announcements, upcoming events and lectures as well as answers to questions either submitted beforehand or asked at the meeting. Please submit questions regarding areas of interest to Bruna at:

bruna.ceccolini@mcgill.ca. People can also submit questions remotely from their desk during Dean's Corner via the media viewer being used. Click the "ASK" button located in the top right corner to relay a comment or question. All meetings for this year will be held from 2-3:30 pm unless otherwise noted:

May 19, 2011 | Redpath Museum Auditorium
July 14, 2011 | Leacock 232
September 22, 2011 | Leacock 232
December 1, 2011 | Leacock 232

To view all past Dean's Corner's sessions, see the Library's website: <http://www.mcgill.ca/library/library-about/general/deanscorner>

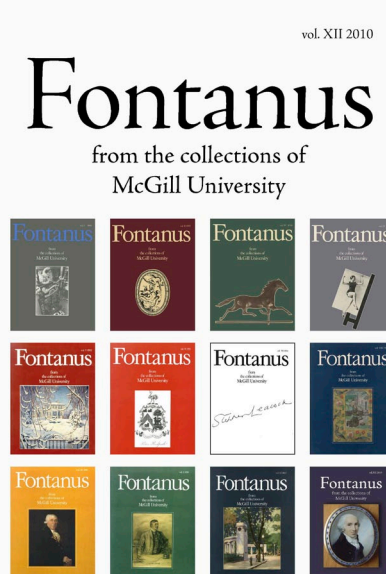
FEATURE | FONTANUS | BY: ROBERT MICHEL

Since 1988, Fontanus has served as an important forum for scholarly articles based on the unique, diverse library, archival and museum collections at McGill. Librarians, curators, archivists and academics from McGill and elsewhere have published articles on such subjects as James McGill, Principal Sir Arthur Currie, John Humphrey's drafts of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, and Ernest Rutherford's letters to A.S. Eve's Articles and Notes have ranged from a few pages to over 40; many are illustrated.

The first copy of volume XII was presented to Fontanus founding editor, Hans Möller at the February 28th launch. This volume is dedicated to him. ~LM Editors

The current Vol. XII demonstrates the depth and range of McGill Collections, with articles on: the remaining letters from A.S. Eve's Rutherford file; Adversity Vanquished: Memoirs of McGill Medical Student Harold Trott, 1918-1924; Health Matters: the Dawson-Harrington Families at Home; Fiction, Faction, Autobiography: Norman Levine at McGill University, 1946-49; The South American Travel Diary of Thomas Wilson, 1909-10; Western Canadiana at McGill: the Lande and Arkin Collections; and Seeking Employment in the British Empire: the Letters of Gobind Ram (1770s). Included are notes on the Launch of the McGill Historical Collections Web Site; McGill's East Asian Collection: its Past and Present; and Womens' Initiations at McGill, 1910 & 1919.

Volume XII marks the revival of Fontanus after a hiatus of several years. This revival complements recent initiatives by the Principal's Heritage Advisory Committee to make McGill's collections more globally available and their research value recognized. Volume XII was launched on February 28, 2011, at a well-attended meeting of the James McGill Society. Available in print and on-line (<http://digital.library.mcgill.ca/fontanus>), the 168 page volume was published by McGill Library eScholarship, ePublishing & Digitization (special thanks to Amy Buckland and Joel Natanblut). The in-house technology made editing and production move far faster than was possible with previous volumes. Current editors Peter McNally and Robert Michel are now welcoming submissions for Volume XIII.



Above: The cover reproduces those of the previous eleven volumes of Fontanus as well as a proposed cover: the portrait of David Anderson from current volume's article by Alan Guenther.

Below: "From Fiction, Faction, Autobiography: Norman Levine at McGill University 1946-49" The Forge: McGill University Magazine, 1948. Montreal: McGill University.

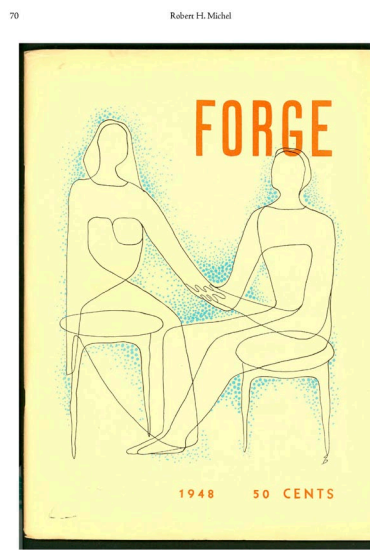


Figure 2. The 1948 issue of The Forge edited by Levine, with cover design by Guy Drobner (B. Arch, 1948). The Forge: McGill University Magazine. Montreal: McGill University.

McGill University has outstanding collections of books, archives, artifacts, buildings and parkland. Fontanus was originally founded as a prestigious publication that would highlight this rich heritage of which we are the fortunate keepers. These collections are a witness to those who assembled them, to the hope that future generations would find direction and inspiration while researching in them. The revived Fontanus along with its electronic version reveals these riches to the world. Congratulations to the hard-working editors. - Pam Miller, contributor

TECHNOLOGY | UPRINT UPDATE | BY: LOUISE O'NEILL

Phase 1 of uPrint is complete. Phase 1 was about implementing the use your ID card instead of a copy card on public Xerox MFDs, and was focused on students. In addition to the Xeroxes in the library, students can use Xeroxes that have been set up in residences and various hallways in buildings. The overall response from students has been very positive. According to Daniel Faucher, Associate Director, Ancillary Services, the usage stats are already showing a shift to higher use of the non-library equipment as students come to understand that they really can print from anywhere. This is good news as we had hoped that uPrint would take some pressure off the library staff.

However, the response from non-students, also called “walk-ins”, has been quite negative. This is because they can only use one model of machine - the 6400. In addition, they have to purchase prepaid tickets in denominations of \$5 and \$10. Users can't add money to the card or tell how much is left on it, they have to key in the information on the card making it cumbersome. Since staff, including faculty, cannot use their ID cards to charge yet, they fall into the category of “walk-ins”, and they have been among those who had difficulty.

Phase 2 is focused on staff, including faculty, and it will allow staff to use their ID cards to print to a default FOAPAL associated with their name. Phase 2 is in the final testing stages and should be implemented in the libraries by late May/early June. Also, Xerox is promising that by July 1, they will have a solution so that walk-ins can use a wider variety of equipment.

Also, because of the feedback and high number of prepaid card sales, a plastic card is being developed which will act like an ID card, (i.e. no need to key in information, you can add money to it, cards will be sold from vending machines). It is the intention of Printing Services to have this all in place by September.

Other points of interest include:

1 - Students who are blocked in Aleph are not blocked in Minerva, as reported earlier.

2 - Microfiche equipment: Printing Services are working on a way to integrate the older microfiche equipment that is hooked up to standalone printers and copy card readers to the uPrint system. In the meantime, copy card readers can be disconnected from this equipment (confirmation on who is going to do that to come) and that printing is free, courtesy of Printing Services.

3 - Labels: Labels are not as easy to change as you may think. We are all used to web and windows interfaces where it is easy to change words, but apparently when you are working with hard-coded programmes for equipment it is not the same story. A lot of

pressure was put on Xerox to change the “Custom Services” label on the black and white machines to “Printing”. A request was also made to change “pop-up” to “Guest” and “PS” to “Print Server”. The changes were requested as soon possible and the uPrint team will continue to advocate for them. Xerox has assured us that changing “Pharos print release” to “print release” is possible and this should be implemented soon.

4 - Non-standard paper sizes: The system will now handle European-size documents, but they still cannot handle well documents that aren't meant to be printed, like some web pages or a document that has been resized strangely so it looks nice online. However, it will print out if it is reformatted to a known standard. Xerox is working on a pop-up to alert users that the document selected will not print out. It will suggest that the document be reformatted. In the meantime, we are communicating with faculty about the documents they post in MyCourses WebCT since those documents are often an issue. You can help by encouraging faculty to use links wherever possible.

Phase 3 is the optimization phase where data is collected and analyzed. There is also a review of machine distribution and type of services. Phase one and two were mostly about working within existing set-ups. In phase three, the intention is to make decisions based on data. I expect that pressure to change non-user-friendly labels like “Custom services” will be brought to bear again at this point more effectively.

Finally, some frequently asked questions:

Q: Why isn't the price the same for all?

A: Because it is more expensive to provide the service to non-McGill visitors.

Q: If scanning is free, even for “walk-ins”, why must they still buy a prepaid card?

A: Scanning is offered for free as a green initiative, to save paper, toner and energy. The hope is that the free scanning will lead to less photocopying. However, the university did not intend to offer free, no-strings-attached scanning to anyone who walks in since that could lead to abuse and monopolizing of the machines. This is an example of what would be reviewed in phase 3 of uPrint once there is usage data available.



TECHNOLOGY | QR CODES: IT'S ALL THERE IN BLACK & WHITE | BY: REBECCA NICHOLSON



A few months ago I had an epiphany. I encounter more and more students who use their smartphones to transport call numbers from the catalogue-only computers to the desk. Whether they take a photo of the record in the catalogue on the workstation monitor, or type in the call number, they carry and save the call numbers in their phones. Why not encourage more students to look up the call number using their phones? Some do use the catalogue to look up the record in their phone's browser, but those seem to be less common.

And then it hit me: why not post QR codes of links to the Library's mobile website at the service points so that students could scan and go directly to the course reserves – formatted for their mobile phone – without having to type in a cumbersome URL?

Since that time we have had QR codes of the [mobile course reserves URL](#) posted at the Schulich Library's Loans and Info Desks. Posting the QR codes at the main desks has prompted a number of students to ask us questions like, "I see these things everywhere: what are they?" After we give a short explanation, pretty much without exception, students are pleased to find out about QR codes in general and to scan our codes in order to access the mobile website.

So what are QR codes?

A QR code is a two-dimensional or matrix barcode. It is a machine-readable pattern made up of black and white squares encoding information, similar to a normal linear barcode. QR Code is a registered trademark of [DENSO WAVE INCORPORATED](#).^[1] However, according to Wikipedia, "The use of QR codes is free of any license. The QR code is clearly defined and published as an ISO standard. Denso Wave owns the patent rights on QR codes, but has chosen not to exercise them."^[2]



QR codes can store more data than a linear barcode.^[3] This one contains full contact information for Schulich Library of Science and Engineering – the name of the library, telephone number, email address and the URL of our website. Scan it and see!

How do I scan a QR code?

You need a smartphone with a camera and a QR code reader application. Some smartphones come with code reader apps already installed, but for others you will have to download one. I easily found a free one for my iPhone by searching for "QR code" in the iTunes Store. If you have any questions about finding a QR code scanner for your smartphone, feel free to shoot me an email at: rebecca.nicholson@mcgill.ca.

Can I create a QR code?

You can create your own QR codes using a free [QR code generator](#). I used the QR Code Generator from the [ZXing \("Zebra Crossing"\) project](#) to create the two codes you see on this page.

How are we using QR codes at Schulich Library?

- We have a QR code with the URL for the mobile course reserves posted at the Info desk and on each of the Loans desks.
- We have large-format codes (~25cm square) for the Library's mobile site and the mobile course reserves that are frequently posted near the Info desk.
- We had a QR code of the CHEM 120 course guide URL on posters and bookmarks during our find-an-experiment lab busy time this winter.

Can you tell me more?

- [McGill Library's webpage about the mobile website](#) contains a QR code that takes you to the actual mobile site, so if you're looking at the page, you can point your phone at the screen and voilà!
- Check out Library Success wiki's [QR codes article](#), to see what other libraries are doing.
- Ryerson University Library & Archives offers a ["Library Tour via QR code"](#) and has QR codes in all of their catalogue records encoding the title, location and call number information for each item!
- Albertsons Library at Boise State University has a [guide to using QR codes](#), linking to an explanatory video from Cnet.
- If you're interested in knowing more about the QR code specification and the history of the QR code, visit [Denso Wave's English language QR Code site](#) and the [Wikipedia entry for QR code](#).

[1] <<http://www.denso-wave.com/qrcode/faqpatent-e.html>>

[2] <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/QR_code>

[3] <<http://www.denso-wave.com/qrcode/aboutqr-e.html>>

TECHNOLOGY (CONT'D)

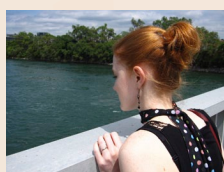
DIGITIZATION REPRODUCTION

What kind of treasures are being sourced and digitized on the 4th floor in the McLennan Building? Thanks to Rare Books and Special Collections and the Library Digitization Team, LM will give you the scoop and feature a digitization reproduction per issue. Enjoy!

Bermuda, nature's fairyland : official tourists guide book, 1915-16



PROUST & YOU



MEGAN FITZGIBBONS
Liaison Librarian,
Humanities and Social
Sciences Library

WHAT HISTORICAL FIGURE DO YOU MOST IDENTIFY WITH? Gráinne Ní Mháille (aka Grace O'Malley).

WHICH LIVING PERSON DO YOU MOST ADMIRE? Daisaku Ikeda, a Buddhist leader.

WHO IS YOUR FAVORITE FICTIONAL HERO? Feuilly in Les Misérables.

WHO ARE YOUR REAL-LIFE HEROES? A close friend's mother—her courage continues to be an inspiration, even though she's gone. If it's not too cheesy: my husband. He's pretty great.

WHAT IS YOUR MOST TREASURED POSSESSION? Nothing physical: only love and memories.

WHEN AND WHERE WERE YOU HAPPIEST? Feeling the wind on my face, hauling the lines, whipping along the coast of Maine in a wooden schooner. Soaking in hot springs with my husband, nestled in the mountains of Hakone, Japan. Eating tofu in Kyoto.

WHAT IS YOUR MOST OBVIOUS CHARACTERISTIC? Inability to choose a superlative "most" or "favourite" anything. Personality-wise: reticence, but with a smile.

WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT? Only time will tell.

WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO LIVE? I want heat and proximity to the

ocean. So...Hawaii?

WHAT IS THE QUALITY YOU MOST ADMIRE IN A PERSON? Adventurousness. Discipline. Thoughtfulness—contemplation before speaking.

WHAT DO YOU VALUE MOST IN YOUR FRIENDS? Open-mindedness.

WHAT IS A NATURAL TALENT THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE GIFTED WITH? Is teleportation a natural talent? Ok, then the ability to learn languages quickly.

WHAT IS YOUR MOTTO (WORDS YOU LIVE BY OR THAT MEAN A LOT TO YOU)? Quocunque Jeceris Stabit. It's fine to be happy, but we have to do more than that (paraphrasing Toni Morrison).

EVENTS

TOWN HALL AT CYBERTHÈQUE

On March 11, all McGill students, faculty and staff were invited to attend the Town Hall meeting at our very own Cyberthèque with Principal and Vice-Chancellor Heather Munroe-Blum. The meeting, which is part of an ongoing series of open forums with the Principal, provided a special opportunity to discuss the recommendations of the Principal's Task Force on Diversity, Excellence and Community Engagement.

To download a summary of the Task Force Recommendations and Membership List please or a draft of the Task Force Report visit: <http://www.mcgill.ca/townhall/>

Video of this and previous Town Halls are also available here:
<http://bcooltv.mcgill.ca/ListRecordings.aspx?CourseID=3116>



Principal Heather Munroe-Blum at recent Town Hall. Photo credit: Owen Egan

MCGILL LIBRARY AND U OF M HOST ARL/CARL JOINT MEMBERSHIP MEETING

From May 3-6, 2011 Les bibliothèques de l'Université de Montréal and the McGill Library have the distinct pleasure of hosting the 158th ARL Membership Meeting and Joint Meeting with the Canadian Association of Research Libraries. The series of meetings attended by ARL member representatives and invited guests will be held at the Le Westin Montreal. The theme for the 158th Membership Meeting is "Transcending National Borders" with presentations on the international STM journal market, national libraries and archives, international copyright, legal issues in building 21st-century special collections, and the Berlin 9 Open Access Conference.

McGill Library is hosting a reception on Thursday evening from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Preceding the reception, Principal and Vice-Chancellor, Heather Munroe-Blum will be giving a keynote address on Research Libraries and the Future of the Research University. Visitors will also have the chance to partake in a tour of Rare Books and Special Collections.

Many visitors will be walking through our hallways at this time so please feel free to connect with them and showcase our facilities, resources and services!



GG AWARD WINNER KATE PULLINGER GIVES 2011 HUGH MEMORIAL LECTURE



Kate Pullinger (above) addresses the crowd (below)

On April 28th, the McGill Friends of the Library, in conjunction with the Blue Metropolis Festival presented the 2011 Hugh MacLennan Lecture featuring Kate Pullinger. Pullinger spoke passionately to a packed house about writing the past as well as writing the future. Kate Pullinger's novel, *The Mistress of Nothing*, won the GG in 2009; it's a historical fiction, set in Egypt in the 1860s, based on a true story. As well as writing about the past, Pullinger's work in the realm of digital fiction pushes toward the future of fiction, using new technologies to find new ways to tell stories. Her award-winning projects 'Inanimate Alice' and 'Flight Paths' demonstrate the potential for a new type of fiction that moves far beyond ebooks. The lecture will soon be available to be viewed online at: <http://bcooltv.mcgill.ca/ListRecordings.aspx?CourseID=2037>



EVENTS | MACDONALD CAMPUS LIBRARY FILM NIGHT - VANISHING OF THE BEES | BY: VINCCI LUI

On March 23, 2011, the McGill Library, Macdonald Apicultural Association (MAA), and Macdonald Campus Students' Society (MCSS) joined forces to present a special screening of the new documentary *Vanishing of the Bees*. The event was held at Macdonald Campus, home to the Faculty of Agriculture and Environmental Science, and brought together a diverse audience composed of students, staff, and members of the Sainte Anne-de-Bellevue community. Filmgoers were also treated to a special appearance by director Maryam Henein, who joined the 80-plus crowd for a Question & Answer session post-screening.



The crowd listens intently.

Narrated by Canadian Oscar-nominee Ellen Page, *Vanishing of the Bees* examines the mysterious causes behind the recent wave of bee deaths, and explores the profound agricultural, economic, and environmental ramifications caused by the increasing spread of the disease now known as Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD). Viewers were introduced to a wide range of topics, from the bee's integral role in the food chain to its storied mythology over the centuries. Other highlights included investigating the various possible factors contributing to CCD's growing prevalence, including widespread pesticide use, dishearteningly cruel colony breeding practices, and the replacement of their usual honey diet with cheap sugar extract. The issues tackled by the film proved to be close to the heart of many in the crowd, especially since some were actual beekeepers themselves.



Director Maryam Henein fields some more questions.

Henein was happy to oblige the many questions posed after the screening, remarking afterwards that she found it "very rewarding" to have the chance to interact with the audience. A Montreal native, Henein has over 15 years experience as an investigative journalist; as a producer, her credits include documentaries for the BBC, Discovery, Morgan Spurlock, and in particular, a piece on the Exxon Valdez Oil spill for Robert Greenwald and The Sierra Club. Henein explained how she made good use of her journalistic background while filming *Vanishing of the Bees* with co-director George Langworthy, by making a concerted effort to be more objective and grounded in scientific evidence than other recent similarly-themed films. Henein also touched on the trials of filming on a shoestring budget, and mentioned her current projects, including an upcoming book entitled *Of Bees and Men*.

Following the Question & Answer, audience members were thrilled to meet the director one-on-one. The event helped to raise awareness not only concerning this alarming 'vanishing of the bees', but also the profile of the library and campus groups involved. Attendees chatted long afterwards with the director, as well as with the library staff and MAA and MCSS members on hand. Along with a newfound interest in the plight of the bee, attendees also walked away with handy bookmarks directing them to the library's wealth of resources on many bee-related topics, including beekeeping, biology, and history. The event fostered much goodwill towards the library, with many expressing their appreciation for the library's hosting of such an event at Macdonald Campus. Indeed, an overwhelming 91% surveyed indicated that they would welcome similar events in the future from the library. All in all, the event proved to be a resounding success, having provided the Macdonald community (as one attendee put it) "a great opportunity for people from all walks of life to meet up, participate and grow." *Special thanks to the generous and enthusiastic support of McGill Library, MAA, and MCSS.*

For more information:

Visit www.vanishingbees.com

Visit www.facebook.com/maclibrary for more pictures

To borrow the film: http://catalogue.mcgill.ca/F/?func=find-b&find_code=SYS&local_base=MGUo1&request=003493446

EXHIBITS

Islamic Studies Library Exhibit: Shahnameh by Ferdowsi

"Never hence would I die for I am alive/ having sown the seeds of poetry."

The Shahnameh by Ferdowsi is celebrating 1000 years since its inception. In recognition, the Islamic Studies Library is exhibiting 16 specimens from the Islamic Studies and Rare Books collections. *The Shahnameh* has become without a doubt one of the foremost literary works to encapsulate the breadth and depth of Iran's historical trajectory. First composed by Ferdowsi to preserve Iran's cultural, linguistic and historical heritage, *The Shahnameh*, meaning 'the book of kings,' details the history of Iran prior to the Arab invasion in the 9th century.

This literary work, a national epic composed in 52,000 couplets tells the story of heroes, villains, monsters and offers sage advice on moral lessons in governance. Legendary are the stories of its famous kings and heroes, especially of Rustam who so fearlessly defended the Persian kingdom in many spectacular battles against the hostile Turanians from the North. The epic also relates the important features of ideal kingship. It narrates the battle between Good and Evil, and is a constant reminder that life is just a transitory memento.

The ISL exhibition offers the visitor an opportunity to experience some of the heroes and villains of this remarkable epic poem. With 16 miniature paintings on display, the exhibition offers the viewer a diverse overview of this celebrated text as well as the magnificence of Persian painting.

Exhibit runs from April 1 to October 31, 2011. Morrice Hall, 1st floor, 3485 McTavish Street. No charge. Accessible during opening hours.

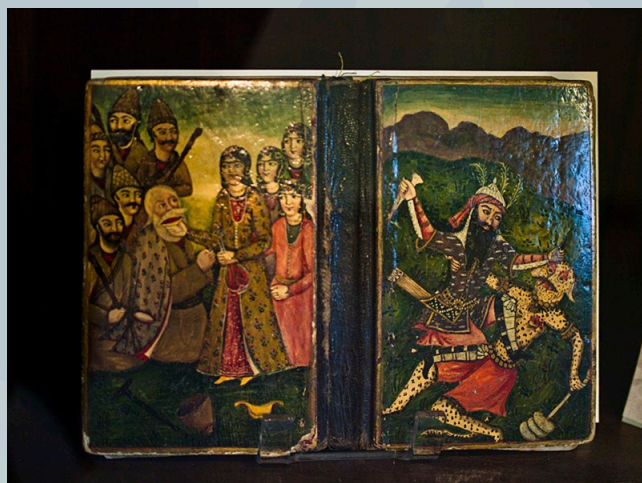


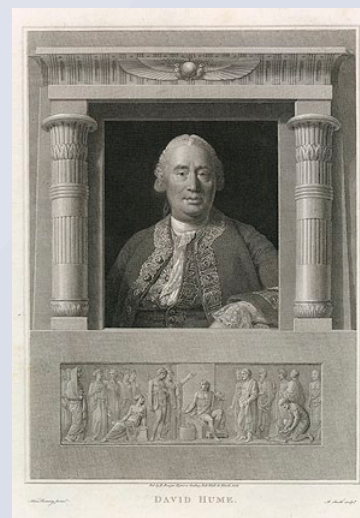
Photo credit: Klaus Fiedler.

Rare Books and Special Collections Exhibit: Celebrating David Hume

2011 marks the three-hundredth anniversary of the birth of the Scottish philosopher David Hume (1711 - 1776). Rare Books and Special Collections, McGill University Library, houses a large and comprehensive collection of editions of texts by Hume and of criticism of his thought. These editions cover many languages and date from the eighteenth century to the twenty-first century. This exhibition includes both editions from Hume's lifetime and representatives of modern scholarship.

Exhibit runs April 18 to June 30, 2011. McLennan Library Building, fourth floor, lobby, 3459 McTavish Street. No charge. Exhibit accessible during opening hours.

The McGill University David Hume Collection website provides specialized access to the Rare Books and Special Collections Hume holdings which are also available through the McGill Library catalogue. Visit: <http://digital.library.mcgill.ca/hume/>.



EXHIBITS (CONT'D)

Marvin Duchow Music Library: A Look Back at MusicArtColourScience



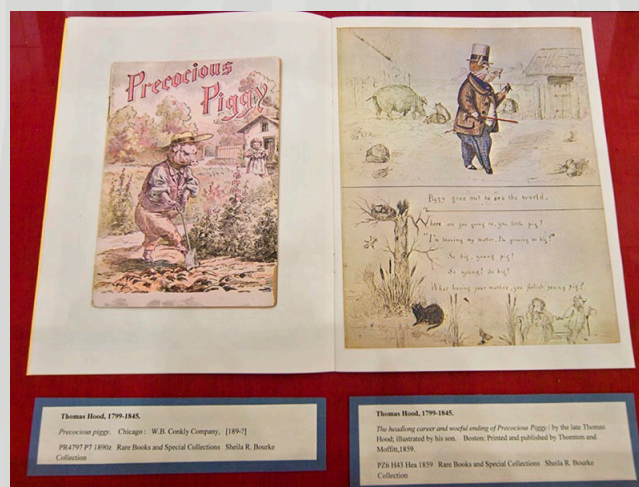
Osler Library Exhibit: "Our Friend, the Sun: Images of Light Therapeutics from the Osler Library Collection, 1901-1944"

Exhibit runs to June 30, 2011. McIntyre Building, 3rd floor.



Rare Books & Special Collections: Telling Stories: Nursery Rhymes, Fables and Fairy Tales from the Sheila R. Bourke Collection

Exhibit runs to June 1, 2011. McLennan Library Building, main lobby (ground floor).



SUPPORTING THE LIBRARY

DR. GAIL BECK, O. ONT (MED '78) AND MR. ANDREW FENUS (MLS '74) SUPPORT THE OSLER LIBRARY'S EXHIBITIONS

By Chris Lyons

The Osler Library is pleased to announce that its exhibition programme is the beneficiary of a long term gift from Dr. Gail Beck, O. Ont (Medicine '78) and Mr. Andrew Fenus (Master of Library Science '74). Mr. Fenus stated that both he and his wife "wished to donate something special to McGill. Stemming from our different experiences at McGill, we found a natural consensus that appealed to both of our interests --- a medical library." The couple initially supported the publication of William Osler to the Osler Library, a previously unpublished address given by Dr. Osler in 1885. Satisfaction with this experience led them to offer additional support to the Osler Library, this time on an on-going basis.

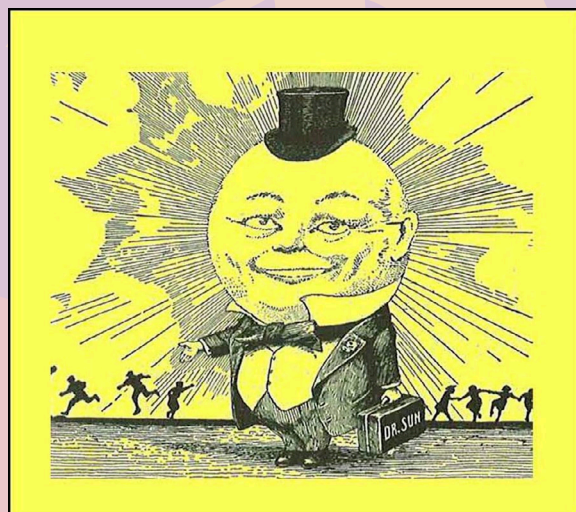
Both Dr. Beck and Mr. Fenus are graduates of McGill. Dr. Beck (better known as Gail Yenta to her Med '78 classmates) is an adolescent psychiatrist both in private practice and at the Royal Ottawa Hospital as the Director of Out Patients in the Youth Program. She is also very involved in her community and profession. Amongst other activities, she is currently an elected director of both the Ontario Medical Association and Canadian Medical Association. She has been past president of the Academy of Medicine of Ottawa and the Federation of Medical Women of Canada [FMWC]. This year, Dr. Beck was awarded Ontario's highest honour, the Order of Ontario, in recognition of her ongoing work on behalf of youth and her involvement in medical associations and voluntary activities, including championing the HPV public immunization program and securing \$300 million in funding to support it nationwide.

Mr. Fenus graduated from McGill's Library Science programme in 1974. He worked at the National Library of Canada during the summers and after graduation before entering the Master of Public Administration programme at Queen's University. Upon graduating in 1977 with an MPA, he was awarded a Shastri Indo-Canadian Summer Fellowship, basically a travelling fellowship to visit India and subsequently large parts of East Asia. He then worked on a federal public service task force and in the House of Commons for a former Speaker of the House. Since 1988 he has acted as a federal and provincial quasi-judicial adjudicator and Order in Council appointment to the Ontario Rent Review Hearings Board [6 years], the Copyright Board of Canada [10 years], and currently the Assessment Review Board of Ontario [since 2007]. Mr. Fenus believes that "though I worked as a librarian for only a short period of my professional life, I can satisfactorily say that the MLS opened many opportunities for me. The MLS has indeed given me the capacity and solid ground to be a jack of all trades."

To date, Dr. Beck and Mr. Fenus' gift has supported the filming of lectures given by the curators of our two most recent exhibitions:

- Dr. Rolando Del Maestro's A Relationship Etched in Time: Leonardo da Vinci, The Earl of Arundel and Wenceslaus Hollar
<http://bcooltv.mcgill.ca/Viewer2/?RecordingID=60650>
- Dr. Tania Anne Woloshyn's Our Friend, the Sun: Images of Light Therapeutics from the Osler Library Collection, 1901-1944
<http://bcooltv.mcgill.ca/Viewer2/?RecordingID=62431>.

Due to their gift, a catalogue for the Our Friend, Our Sun exhibition was produced. It is available both in print at the Osler Library and online at <http://www.mcgill.ca/files/library/osler-ourfriendsun.pdf>. Future activities are also being planned, thanks to the generosity of Dr. Beck and Mr. Fenus.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The New York Times

now available through ProQuest National Newspapers

By: Jessica Lange

The New York Times recently initiated a paywall for access to their website. Prior to March 28th, access to all *New York Times* web content was free and available without any content restrictions on www.nytimes.com. With the new paywall in place, users will be restricted after they click on more than 20 articles in a month. Since *The New York Times* is a valuable resource, McGill Library is investigating options to maintain access to this important title for our community.

Unfortunately *The New York Times* does not offer an institutional subscription to their website at this time. An alternative is Proquest National Newspapers which contains the scanned full-text (no images) of *The New York Times* from 1980-present (the library has access to pre-1980 New York Times through Proquest Historical Newspapers). Every article is fully indexed and abstracted by Proquest editors every morning by 6:00 AM ET. This platform allows us to link to specific articles in the expanded course reserve and in WebCT. McGill Library is currently offering access to this database on a trial basis; we encourage you to take a look at Proquest National Newspapers and provide us with your feedback.

McGill Library will continue to keep abreast of any changes with regards to institutional memberships to *The New York Times* website. In the meantime, as student and faculty feedback is integral to the library's decision-making process, please send your comments about Proquest National Newspapers to: Valerie Fortin, Coordinator, Collection Development valerie.fortin@mcgill.ca

**Spirit book scanner:
scan to your USB key**

By: Jessica Lange

McGill Library is testing the Spirit Book Scanner -- a self-service machine that gives users a real time preview and saves directly to usb. The scanner will be available for use, free of charge, at the Nahum Gelber Law Library, Marvin Duchow Music Library, Humanities and Social Sciences Library and Howard Ross service point (Bronfman Building, room 425).

Please drop by to try it out and give us your feedback. For more information on this device, check out: <http://www.Book2net.Net/en/book-scanner/book2net-spirit/>

**UpToDate now available for off-campus users**

UpToDate is a clinical decision support system that helps clinicians throughout the world provide the best patient care. The system uses current evidence to answer clinical questions quickly and easily at the point of care. This saves clinicians time, improves outcomes and lowers health care costs. *UpToDate* is now available from the

McGill VPN and Web VPN. Now any McGill student, faculty or staff will be able to access *UpToDate* remotely from anywhere. Read what two McGill students have to say about this important new service.

My duties as an Internal Medicine resident require me to put together as many clues as possible to finalize a diagnostic and provide patients with the best care possible. In order to accomplish this task, Internal Medicine residents rely on their clinical acumen. And to feed in clues to our clinical acumen, we use a few tools. Personally, there is only a handful of tools from which I could not separate myself, namely my stethoscope, my reflex hammer and... *UpToDate*.

Indeed, like many residents, I often use *UpToDate*; almost on an hourly basis! The advantages it provides in terms of information availability and fast accessibility are essential at a time where medicine evolves at never-seen before speeds. I, like many residents, applaud the Life Sciences Library's openness to hear residents' needs and to provide them with access to *UpToDate* from home. *UpToDate* is essential to keep up with the current literature and to refine our diagnostic approach. Remote access to this website is great news. Its effects will be seen where it counts the most — at the bedside.

~Joseph Dahine, Resident, Internal Medicine

I discovered *UpToDate* while doing a nursing internship at the MUHC as a CEGEP student. Access to such relevant information was a critical component of my learning experience and ultimately, helped shape my nursing practice. Today at McGill, I continue to use the service both academically and professionally. The ability to remotely access this service has been tremendously useful. Many of the courses in the Bachelor's of Nursing programs include group work and case studies that require access to resources like *UpToDate*. Given that Evidence-Based Practice is the standard of care, it is no surprise that McGill has made *UpToDate* accessible to the health care professionals, students and professors who will continue to use this invaluable tool throughout their careers.

~ Emma Meghan Jones, BNI U3 VP Academic

FOR YOUR INFORMATION (CONT'D)

McGill Digitization initiatives featured in LaPresse

In late March, LaPresse technaute.ca journalist Tristan Péloquin came by to check out our Espresso Book Machine. Check out this really interesting article and accompanying video to see it in action! Special thanks goes out to the Digitization team for all their help!

<http://www.cyberpresse.ca/actualites/regional/montreal/201103/26/01-4383465-usine-a-livres-de-poche-a-luniversite-mcgill.php>



Photo: Martin Chamberland, La Presse

Howdy! ADs and branch heads will serve it up at Staff BBQ!

Y'all better mark those calendars, put on your cowboy hat and boots and march on down to the Three Bares Fountain for a good ol' fashioned BBQ to announce the Library Excellence Awards and celebrate the end of the school year! Check your inbox for the official invitation to come soon!



When: Wednesday, May 25, 2011 from noon to 2pm
Where: Three Bares Fountain (outside the Redpath Museum)
Ticketed event. RSVP a MUST. rsvp.libraries@mcgill.ca

Exercise Pros & Cons

By: April Colosimo

If you missed "Exercise - Pros and Cons", part of the Boost your health 2011 staff development series, it is available online from McGill's Continuing Health Professional Education (CHPE) website at cme.mcgill.ca. Dr. Ivan Rohan is an excellent speaker and I highly recommend taking the time to create a CHPE account to watch his presentation. After you have signed in you can find it under Navigation - Search Archives. For more information about this series, visit: www.mcgill.ca/hr-webforms/staffdevelopment.

Snack Day

By: Jayne Watson-Sévigny and Heidi Simmons, Schulich Library

How do you survive the mid-week hump? Wednesday can sometimes seem like the longest day of the week. How does your group get through it? Do you have a plan or strategy? How do you motivate people to look forward to Wednesdays instead of dreading them?

To cope with the mid-week blues, our group has established a new tradition. Each Wednesday, a staff member brings in either a homemade or store-bought snack. We started with the help of a few enthusiastic bakers and some delicious goodies. From these modest beginnings, a new tradition has grown. As proof of its popularity, our snack-day sign-up sheet is now full. Of course, while everyone is welcome to provide a treat, snack day is for the whole staff, regardless of participation.

Now we look forward to Wednesdays. For some of us, it's a way to try out new recipes with very willing guinea pigs! For others, it's a chance to discover new shops selling novel store-bought snacks and treats. Everyone enjoys the anticipation leading up to Wednesday. And afterward there is a scramble for recipes and leftovers. But most of all, it's about community spirit, sharing...and enjoying Wednesdays!



FACILITIES UPDATE

ASBESTOS INFORMATION SESSION VIDEO NOW AVAILABLE ON U DRIVE

The asbestos information session held on March 31, 2011 is now available for viewing at: <U:\Common\Presentations>

For up-to-date information regarding renovation work at the McLennan-Redpath Complex, please visit:
<http://www.mcgill.ca/library/library-about/renovations/>

Your feedback at every stage of these projects is important to us. Questions and suggestions for improvements are welcome at all times. Staff members are welcome to call or write to the project management team at the coordinates listed below:

Amber Lannon, Project Leader | Tel: 514-398-1027 | amber.lannon@mcgill.ca
 Francisco Oliva, Planning & Resources | Tel: 514-398-4678 | francisco.oliva@mcgill.ca
 Merika Ramundo, Communications Officer | Tel.: 514-398-5710 | merika.ramundo@mcgill.ca

REPORT ON... | FORUM ON UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION, MARCH 17, 2011 | BY: MEGAN FITZGIBBONS

Students, some would say, are the sole reason for the existence of a university. In the context of current debates around tuition fees and equitable access to education in Canada, discussions of the undergraduate experience are particularly pertinent. The Student Society of McGill University (SSMU) successfully opened a dialogue amongst students, faculty, and staff on this issue at the Forum on Undergraduate Education on March 17, 2011. The event's goal was to address the question: *"What is the role of a research-intensive university in the education of its undergraduate students, and more generally, in society?"*

More information about the event is available at:
<http://ssmu.mcgill.ca/undergradforum/>

Keynote

The half-day event began with a keynote lecture by Education professor Paul Axelrod of York University. He detailed his research on the qualities that make professors effective and memorable, according to analysis of texts about education over the last 200 years. He has concluded that the context in which learning takes place has changed over time, but the essential elements of effective teaching have remained the same. He further argued that in order to foster excellence in teaching, universities must encourage and support a wide variety of teaching strategies, recognize and reward good teaching, and facilitate dialogue and collaboration among faculty. They must also eliminate existing barriers, such as "siloeed" departmental structures and rigid tenure evaluation practices.

University-wide learning outcomes

Cynthia Weston, Director of McGill's Teaching and Learning Services (TLS), then took the floor to introduce a new set of core learning outcomes, or academic performance metrics, soon to be implemented university-wide. These outcomes represent the qualities, skills, and understandings that the university community agrees students should develop as a result of their educational experience. Since 2006, TLS has worked to craft outcomes for McGill, based on a framework from the Council of Ministers of Education of Canada. McGill graduates are expected to have developed:

1. Depth and breadth of knowledge
2. Knowledge of methodologies and research
3. Application of knowledge
4. Awareness of the limits of knowledge
5. Communication skills
6. Professional capacity/autonomy

After presenting the outcomes, Weston asked the students in attendance to indicate (using clickers) the outcomes for which they feel they've had adequate preparation, as well as those in which they have not had enough experience. Although the results were mixed, overall students felt more prepared in the area of depth and breadth of knowledge, but felt that they needed more preparation in applying this knowledge.

Weston next introduced a less tangible set of learning outcomes that are still under consideration for use at McGill:

1. Engaged citizenship
2. Understanding/appreciation of differences
3. Leadership and advocacy
4. Lifelong learning
5. Sustainability

Discussion around these outcomes became much more lively, as several students strongly expressed that these skills were actually the most important to take away from their university education. However, they are often developed through students' own initiatives rather than via classroom work. The first set are more easily supported in the existing institutional structure, so what can be done to foster the second set?

Panel discussion

The next event was a panel discussion on the event's theme questions: *What is the role of a research-intensive university in the education of its undergraduate students? What is McGill doing? What needs to be done to improve undergraduate education?*

The panelists were:

- Morton Mendelson, Deputy Provost, Student Life & Learning
- Christopher Barrett, Professor, Chemistry
- Marcy Slapcoff, Educational Developer, Teaching & Learning Services
- Myriam Zaidi, V.P. External Affairs, Student Society of McGill University
- Arshad Ahmad, Professor, John Molson School of Business, Concordia University

Notably, Slapcoff in particular suggested that the spirit of enquiry is the hallmark of a research university. It offers students the opportunity to learn from researchers who are passionate about sharing their knowledge. The mark of a good education, then, is that it ends with more questions than answers. This theme was echoed in many other discussions during the event.

Without this, it is a research institute rather than an institution of higher education. This entails empowering students to

REPORT ON...| FORUM ON UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION (CONT'D)

contribute to their university experience, through which they can develop the second set of outcomes that Weston introduced. There are concerns over professors' preparation for the task of teaching and an over-reliance on TAs, PhD students, and sessional lecturers in the classroom as well as a lack of opportunities for engagement in learning.

A commitment to student-centredness is what defines a university.

The discussion touched on many issues, but an overall conclusion was that while there are many pockets of success in undergraduate education at McGill, there is a lot of work to be done in terms of encouraging and supporting great teaching and connecting students with opportunities for "deep learning." There was a general consensus that the model whereby professors are seen as the sole source of knowledge is inadequate, so multiple opportunities for professor-student interaction and wider engagement inside and outside the classroom are needed.

Reverse town hall

In this segment, student government representatives reported on recent consultations and surveys of undergraduate students that they had conducted:

- The Vulcan Survey
- The McGill We Want Reports

The narrative of these reports was that students perceive an experience of mediocrity. They express dissatisfaction with issues like class sizes, opportunities for engagement with instructors and learning outside the classroom, and connections to meaningful preparation for "real life." Of course, one significant limitation to this data is that it is collected while students are in the midst of the experience; it can be assumed that their perceptions will change after graduation.

Roundtable discussions

At the end of the day, participants broke into small groups to further discuss topics like pedagogical training for instructors, fostering a community at McGill, undergraduate research opportunities, undergraduate outcomes, and community engagement recognition.

I joined the table discussing undergraduate research, along with two professors, six students, and two staff members who are involved with undergraduate internships. Initiatives that are already in place were discussed, particularly research internship

programs in Arts and Science. However, there was a general consensus that existing efforts need to be centralized and leveraged in order to increase participation from students and professors alike. The students, all of whom were very engaged in their educational experience, expressed frustration at the lack of exposure to research, particularly in terms of opportunities (e.g., no funding, competitive and intimidating procedures) and contact with professors. The importance of disciplinary differences in research were also discussed, as certain fields are more conducive to experiential learning and practical application of skills.

Conclusions

In a manner appropriate to academia's spirit of inquiry, the forum raised many questions!

The lack of definitive answers notwithstanding, however, the event successfully promoted sharing amongst administrators, staff, professors, and students. All groups learned something about each other's perspectives. The general conclusion was that there is a lot of work to be done — some on the very top levels of university values and structures, but also on the levels of individual instructors improving their teaching and students increasing engagement.

The importance of the library in supporting undergraduate education is clear. One theme that emerged throughout the day is that much of students' learning and engagement happens outside the classroom.

A few students commented to me how important the library is as a common space for students to interact and exchange ideas. I also had several side conversations about the library's role in supporting undergraduate learning through our workshops, integration in departments, and one-on-one consultations. Some students and staff often express surprise when finding out how the library can support their efforts.

Students crave opportunities to make their learning meaningful.

One of the prime spaces for inspiration and knowledge generation is the library.

REPORT ON... | VITAL INFO CRKN HEALTH SCIENCES FOCUS GROUP AT MCGILL | BY: JIM HENDERSON

The VITaL Task Group of CRKN is conducting focus groups across Canada of researchers in various disciplines to understand how access to electronic resources has affected their work. McGill was selected to hold the health sciences focus group and I was asked to make local arrangements. Eight McGill researchers, including 1 PhD student and 7 faculty, from a good range of departments met on April 11 for the session, which was run by Dyna Vink from CRKN and two contracted facilitators. An interesting methodology involving matrix interviews was used: using 4 prepared questions, each participant was interviewed about each question by another participant, with answers recorded in handwriting (pens were in short supply, and there were complaints about sore hands). Everyone provided input on each topic, even those who were less talkative or more introverted. There was a summary session where reports on each question were synthesized and discussed.

CRKN licenses \$107 million of electronic publications annually on behalf of Canadian degree granting institutions, representing about 65-70% of all licensed content in Canada, and makes this content accessible to over 900,000 researchers, faculty and students. These focus groups are part of CRKN's efforts to review its performance to ensure best practice. They are also seeking performance indicators to support CFI in securing ongoing funding commitment from Industry Canada. The hypothesis is that the opening up of electronic content by CRKN, initially funded by CFI, has been valuable to the Canadian research community. The focus groups are testing this hypothesis and, it is hoped, with follow-up with individuals who participated and analysis of the comments and interview recordings, will provide richer feedback in the form of case studies useful to both CRKN and the researchers alike.

The views expressed by researchers were informative and some of the themes that came out were unexpected. One common theme was the "double-edged sword" of broad access to e-resources. While they greatly appreciate the wide access at McGill, the researchers identified the difficulties it presented, including the need, in interests of time, to focus and go deeper into the literature in a more specific topic rather than using the literature from a broader area to support their work. Older researchers lamented the loss of serendipitous discovery in the Library stacks and the need to stay at their computers rather than visiting the Library. Younger participants were interested in this discussion, but had never known anything but full-text online. All agreed that

sometimes they did not pursue seemingly good citations if not available online. On the other side of the "double-edged sword" from the wealth of resources available was perhaps the theme with the most general agreement – the need to change and improve how they managed information. Several people expressed an interest in learning better ways of organizing the information they gathered, and some saw the Library as having a role in assisting them. Another theme that surprised me was collaboration generated by e-resources access. Collaborations with colleagues in lower and middle income countries, noted in two case studies, had been strengthened because of the depth of McGill's e-resource collection; the ability to share papers enhanced the collaborations significantly. One case study related was about seeking a publication by contacting the author electronically, leading to a new collaboration. However, even though asked in one question, no one mentioned collaborations with the private sector.

There was understanding and questions about commercial, academic sources versus open access and free grey literature sources, although I did not note any discussion of relationships between the published literature and data collections such as epidemiological or molecular sequence data. CRKN wanted the discussion not to be limited to licensed resources. It was clear that the researchers were ranging widely through all types of resources and, while they knew the difference, did not distinguish. However, the importance of impact factors to the researchers was brought out and the need to publish in more highly respected journals, which tend not to be open access. The increased speed of access has changed and shortened the time taken in various activities, such as applying for grants and undertaking literature reviews. Noted also as a corollary to better access to e-resources was the capability to undertake systematic reviews more easily. In fact, this new type of research has grown with broadening access. In summary, for me the most striking realization was the need for the Library to help researchers and students manage what they access via Library licenses and through new electronic tools. The resources that are now available have changed research, reducing the time taken for various activities but also requiring researchers to focus more in order to cope with the flood of information now available.

I am most grateful to the participants for taking time from their busy schedules and to my Life Sciences colleagues for recommending participants. Overall, the participants

REPORT ON...| VITAL INFO CRKN (CONT'D)

found the session quite interesting. They knew that access to e-resources at McGill is exceptional, but an aspect of the infrastructure supporting their work that they sometimes took for granted. They did not realize the role of CRKN in providing this access. The members of CRKN were impressed by how well McGill members, unlike in focus groups at other universities, knew each other even though the diversity of disciplines was considerable, including Geography and Social Work as well as Dentistry, Nursing and Medicine. I was gratified to see common research interests being discovered and hope that the session will generate new collaborations between McGill researchers as well as insights useful to CRKN in demonstrating its value to researchers and developing

support for new CFI funding initiatives.

CRKN = Canadian Research Knowledge Network / Le Réseau canadien de documentation pour la recherche

see <http://www.crkn.ca/>

VITaL = Value, Influence, Trends and Leadership Task Group

CFI = Canada Foundation for Innovation



REPORT ON...| SIS PRACTICUM PRESENTATIONS | INTRODUCTION BY: VINCCI LUI

Over the years, the McGill Library and McGill's School of Information Studies (SIS) have collaborated to provide practicums for SIS students. This collaboration provides library students with the enriching opportunity to apply in-class theory into professional practice. On April 7, four SIS students presented this past year's projects to McGill Library staff. Christine Silkotch gave an overview of her innovative virtual interlibrary loan (ILL) viewing services project for the Humanities and Social Sciences Library, and Junhui Zhang talked about the development of a helpful wiki-based online systematic review teaching module for the Life Sciences Library (<http://wikisites.mcgill.ca/systematic-review/>). Brittany Blanchard and Marsha Teichman share their projects below:

My practicum was at Rare Books and Special Collections (RBSC) at McGill. I drafted a management plan to deal with a backlog of visual materials that has accumulated over more than three decades of prints, photographs, and posters, as well as some postcards. I was able to make the following recommendations after discussing the problems with RBSC staff members, undertaking a literature review of special collections backlogs, and sending out a survey to other Canadian academic libraries faced with similar challenges:

The uncatalogued materials at RBSC must be centralized in order to be organized, and a thorough inventory of the entire visual collections backlog must be undertaken. Like collections should be grouped thematically, and at this point it would be a good opportunity to re-house any materials that would benefit from larger folders or stronger supports. The materials should then be numbered. Depending on the budget, items may not need to be fully catalogued. Instead, a collection-level description would be a way to initiate the cataloguing process. In the future, RBSC may want to consider further digitizing certain parts of the collection and showcasing the materials via small websites (as seen with the Napoleon collection, the Hume collection and the Canadian War Posters) or Flickr, a photo-sharing site. - Marsha Teichman

Brittany Blanchard worked on her practicum on digitization in academic libraries in the Library Technology Services department under the supervision of Louise O'Neill and Amy Buckland. For her practicum, Brittany was given the task of completing three separate environmental scans on digitization in academic libraries: one on digitization policies, another on digitization request forms, and a third on digitization best practices. Since an emphasis was placed on finding the most current information, Brittany had to search both traditional and non-traditional sources of information, including blogs and other social media sites. This proved to be quite the learning experience as it soon became clear just how tricky searching non-traditional sources of information could be.

As part of her practicum, Brittany was able to meet many members of the library staff from whom she was able to receive both help and advice that was valuable to her not only within the limits of the practicum but also in a broader professional capacity. While challenging, her practicum gave her the opportunity to gain valuable experience working in an academic library and she hopes to take what she has learned from her practicum at McGill University Library and apply it to her future career as a professional librarian.

- Brittany Blanchard

CONGRATULATIONS, AWARDS & RECOGNITION | FAREWELL

On April 15, the McGill Library bid farewell to seven staff members at the Faculty Club Ballroom. Collectively they have over 170 years of service under their belts! We wish them all the best for the future!



Left: Susan Murray,
honouree Eleanor
MacLean, Colleen Cook



Right: Susan Murray,
honouree Pamela Miller,
Colleen Cook



Left: Diane Koen,
honouree Louise O'Neill,
Colleen Cook



Right: Valerie Mayman,
honouree Phyllis Rudin,
Colleen Cook



Left: Valerie Mayman,
honouree Janice
Simpkins, Colleen Cook



Right: Jane Aitkens,
honouree Adèle
Toutant, Colleen Cook



Left: Lonnie
Weatherby, honouree
Kendall Wallis, Colleen
Cook

Right: McGill Faculty
of Music students
entertain guests in the
Faculty Club Ballroom



CONGRATULATIONS, AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Joseph Hafner was just re-elected to the OCLC Americas Regional Council! The Council provides members a way to offer feedback on OCLC services and policies through OCLC's Global Council, and help shape the future direction of the cooperative. Congrats Joseph!



Chris Lyons, has been elected Vice-President/President Elect of the Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences (ALHHS). The ALHHS serves the professional interests of librarians, archivists, and other specialists engaged in the librarianship of the history of the health sciences. Founded in 1974, the organization currently has approximately 200 members representing both large institutions such as the National Library of Medicine, the Wellcome Library, Yale, Harvard and UCLA, as well as smaller libraries, historical societies and hospital archives. Congrats Chris!



Pam Miller, has been elected second Vice-President of the American Osler Society. This is a group of physicians, medical historians, and members of related professions united by the common purpose of keeping alive the memory of William Osler, and keeping its members vigilantly attentive to the lessons found in his life and teachings. Congrats Pamela!



Joel Natanblut was just acclaimed to the MForum Management Steering Committee. The following members will be joining Joel and will be introduced to the community at the Wine and Cheeses on May 5th: Patricia Posium, Nellie Boyadjieva, Fran Ezzy-Jorgensen and Eyal Baruch. Congrats Joel!



The most recent issue of the journal *New Library World* includes an article co-authored by **Robin Canuel**. Congrats Robin!



Canuel, Robin, and Chad Crichton. "Canadian academic libraries and the mobile web." *New Library World* 112, no. 3/4 (2011): 107-120. <http://www.emeraldinsight.com/journals.htm?articleid=1915473&show=abstract>

Abstract: Purpose – The purpose of this paper is to assess how Canadian academic libraries have responded to the rapidly evolving mobile environment and to identify gaps in the services provided, while suggesting areas for future development.

Design/methodology/approach – The paper conducted an examination of the mobile content and services provided by the libraries of the member institutions of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC). Based on this examination, the paper describes the current state of mobile librarianship in Canadian academic libraries. A review of the literature places the investigation in its broader context.

Findings – Only 14 percent of AUCC libraries currently advertise some type of mobile web presence, with mobile web sites being prevalent over downloadable apps. Examples of content and services are highlighted to illustrate current trends and to provide insight into future directions for developing mobile services.

Practical implications – This study raises awareness of the importance of mobile technology for academic libraries and the need to address the lack of mobile content and services provided by most Canadian post-secondary institutions. The paper also identifies best practices exhibited by the surveyed libraries.

CONGRATULATIONS, AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Daniel Boyer

(pictured here far left) was part of the annual Law student fund raiser on March 15th at Club Soda. He was part of a Law variation on the Wizard of Oz. He played the Good Witch and won best actor! The Good Witch gets Dorothy and the others home by saying: "There's No Place Like ...Na-hum"... Congrats Daniel!



March 4th marked the **45th anniversary of the McGill Journal of Education**, which is now hosted by the Library. Our digitization team digitized and uploaded all the back files—the real star on this day was the snowman built outside of the Coach House (Education) to celebrate this special anniversary.



Winter Orientation contest winner **Nazih El-Bezre**, poses with Dean Colleen Cook and his new iPod Touch! Congrats!



On April 19th, winners of the this fall's Centraide Challenge **Team J**, made up of staff members from the Dean's Office and the Islamic Studies Library celebrate their win with a pizza party! Congrats!



BÉBÉ LEIF MIKKELSON
SON OF GENEVIÈVE GORE
BORN ON MARCH 3, 2011, 9 LBS 3 OZ



BÉBÉ MARIANNE WILLEMINA FABRE
DAUGHTER OF JAN SANDINK
BORN ON MARCH 29, 6 LBS 5 OZ

