



# Library Matters @ McGill

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[www.mcgill.ca/library-about/pubs/newsletter/](http://www.mcgill.ca/library-about/pubs/newsletter/)

Anna Stoute (Macdonald Campus Library), Rajiv Johal (Howard Ross Library of Management) and Genevieve Gore (Coordinator, eScholarship@McGill)

## FROM THE TRENHOLME DIRECTOR OF LIBRARIES



**JANINE SCHMIDT,  
TRENHOLME  
DIRECTOR OF  
LIBRARIES**

Many staff have found recent conference attending stimulating. Jill Boruff of our Life Sciences Library enjoyed her first experience at the Medical Library Association Annual Meeting and Exhibition in Chicago. She was particularly inspired that Mark Funk from Weill Cornell Medical Library and Past President of the Medical Library Association concluded his address with a Mark Twain quotation that has served as a personal guideline for Jill. "Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover." This is good advice for all of us. Sometimes we have to take a chance in life and in the pro-

fession and practice of librarianship there is much to try as we seek to serve our clients in new ways.

Many interesting reports emanate from JISC (Joint Information Systems Committee) in the United Kingdom. One of their recent reports entitled *Great expectations of ICT: how higher education institutions are measuring up* ([www.jisc.ac.uk/publications/publications/greatexpectations](http://www.jisc.ac.uk/publications/publications/greatexpectations)) summarizes research among first year students to determine whether there is a mismatch between expectations and reality in the students' use of information and communication technology.

The good news is that about half the students felt their experiences about university life in general were better than expected. Eighty-six percent of

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students found the institutions' systems easy to use. They understood the role of most technologies but were not clear on the use of social networking sites for formal teaching. Eighty-two percent were satisfied with ICT support in using the institution's systems but 25% rated guidance on using ICT to support studies as either average or poor. Seventy-nine percent were accessing course-specific materials at least once a week and almost all students found them useful in supporting their studies. Students were receptive to new types of ICT in principle. In general, it appeared that not all opportunities were being fully exploited to realize the benefits of technology to teaching and learning. Student-driven ICT is beneficial to learning. A final comment from the report and a lesson for the Library?

*There is also an opportunity to help students understand best practice for checking the validity of internet sources used for research, something which 69% of students believe they are doing despite evidence elsewhere suggesting they may lack the critical and analytical skills to do so rigorously.*

Google says their new product Knol is not an attempt to outwiki the Wikipedia, or beat Squidoo at its own game. Knol supposedly stands for a "unit of knowledge". Every knol or article has an established known reputable author/s. While it is still in beta and test format, Knol is receiving a lot of airplay. Since advertisements can be run on Knol articles, some critics are saying that its aims are diametrically opposed to the Wikipedia where lofty aims emphasize the sharing of personal knowledge with the world—gratis. So far there is one entry on Knol for McGill: ([knol.google.com/k/thomas-champeval/mcgill-mba-program/wd35zs7gd66o/2#](http://knol.google.com/k/thomas-champeval/mcgill-mba-program/wd35zs7gd66o/2#)). A company in the Netherlands selling steam cleaning equipment from the web address [www.knol.com](http://www.knol.com), as opposed to [www.knol.google.com](http://www.knol.google.com) has been quite excited by the additional attention it has been receiving. It is a case of "watch that space" and "time will tell".

On another note, we shall have many visitors over the next few weeks. The IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations) annual congress is being held in Quebec City with several pre- and post-conferences in Montreal. I am sure we shall all make our special visitors extremely welcome.

## 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 monthly. The latest issue, as well as an archive of past issues, can be found at [www.mcgill.ca/library-about/pubs/newsletter/](http://www.mcgill.ca/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:

**Louisa Piatti**, [louisa.piatti@mcgill.ca](mailto:louisa.piatti@mcgill.ca)  
**April Colosimo**, [april.colosimo@mcgill.ca](mailto:april.colosimo@mcgill.ca)  
**Jessica Hunt**, [jessica.hunt@mcgill.ca](mailto:jessica.hunt@mcgill.ca)  
**Rebecca Nicholson**, [rebecca.nicholson@mcgill.ca](mailto:rebecca.nicholson@mcgill.ca)

***"The difference between the almost right word and the right word is really a large matter—'tis the difference between the lightning-bug and the lightning."***

— Mark Twain

## WHAT'S NEW

## STAFF NEWS

♦ Darlene Canning, Schulich Library of Science and Engineering, has retired. Darlene came to the University initially to the Graduate School of Library and Information Studies. She began working at McGill at Macdonald Campus Library in 1989 and moved to the Schulich Library of Science and Engineering in 1990, where she was liaison librarian for the Department of Electri-

cal and Computer Engineering and the School of Computer Science. Darlene's leadership of the investigation into the purchase of bibliographic citation management software was crucial to the Library's purchase of EndNote in 2005. Darlene has worked tirelessly to ensure that effective EndNote training programmes have been made available for both librarians and library users. Darlene played a significant role in many

associations, including the MAUT Librarians Section, the Special Libraries Association and the Canadian Library Association as well as contributing to many University and Library committees. We wish Darlene all the best in her retirement!

♦ Judy Symansky, Howard Ross Library of Management, is also retiring.

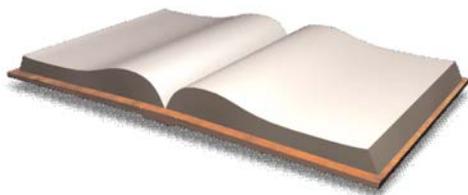
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## CONFERENCE TIDBITS

### AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION MIDWINTER MEETING

JANUARY 11 – 14, 2008, PHILADELPHIA

SARA HOLDER, EDUCATION LIBRARY AND CURRICULUM  
RESOURCES CENTRE



While the purpose of the American Library Association Midwinter meeting is primarily to bring members together for business meetings (committees, discussion groups, executive boards, council, etc.), their Annual Conference concentrates on programs.

Over 800 exhibitors came to show their wares at the most recent ALA Midwinter meeting, which was held in Philadelphia. Vendor sessions are included to spotlight their new products and/or services. I attended a number of these: two from OCLC (a general update and one specifically on QuestionPoint), one from Gale/Cengage on their PowerSearch product, one from Coutts on the Oasis system, and one from YBP on the forthcoming Gobi update.

My main involvement in ALA is with the New Members Round Table (NMRT) and with the Association of College & Research Libraries (ACRL) Instruction Section. NMRT is a group that provides opportunities for librarians who are new to the profession (0-10 years) and new to ALA to get experience serving on and chairing committees.

I am just beginning to get involved with the ACRL Instruction Section so I attended numerous committee meetings (Teaching Methods, Research & Scholarship, Teaching in the Disciplines, Instructional Technologies) to

get a better idea of what they are working on as I will be applying to be part of at least one for the coming year.

At this ALA Midwinter Meeting I found two sessions in particular to be applicable to my work.

The first was a session titled “Best Practices in Virtual Reference” and designed as a forum for librarians involved in virtual reference to share ideas. It also provided an opportunity to hear about current trends and best practices related by colleagues on the front lines. The discussion centered largely on whether to offer chat reference via something like QuestionPoint or an instant messaging aggregator like Meebo, or both. The consensus from the group was that there are issues with QuestionPoint so many libraries are testing other chat software. No one seemed to have found the perfect solution.

The second was a session titled “Research into Action” that was sponsored by ACRL and designed as a panel followed by small group discussions. Each of the three panel members commented on their experience discovering research topics in their day-to-day work, sharing the results of that research by publishing and using the results to improve how they do their job. After a short question period the audience broke out into groups to further discuss the topic. I ended up in a group of

mostly newbie researchers so we focused on how to get started, getting support, making time to write, and ways in which ACRL could assist (sessions on research methods and publishing for librarians, one-on-one coaching from more experienced librarians).

Of course ALA Midwinter is not all about work—let us not forget that Philadelphia also brings to mind Rocky— and virtually every section of the enormous organization that is ALA has a social gathering of some sort, as do many of the vendors. All in all this is a very satisfying conference to attend as I always feel that I have done some work, learned something, met some interesting people, and had some fun.

### CEAL-AAS MEETING

APRIL 2 – 5, 2008, ATLANTA

MACY ZHENG, COLLECTION SERVICES

The CEAL (Council on East Asian Libraries) meetings are held in conjunction with AAS (Association of Asian Studies) Conference each year. I attended the 60th CEAL conference this year.

I attended various meetings such as the OCLC CJK Users Group meeting, meetings held by the Committee of Technical Processing, the Committee on public Services, the Committee on Chinese Materials, and the Committee on



***“Summer afternoon—  
summer afternoon;  
to me those have always  
been the two most  
beautiful words in the  
English language.”***

– Henry James

Library Technology. I also attended the Small Collections Meeting and other round-table discussions. I also visited the AAS Exhibition, discussed with publishers and vendors.

After attending the meeting, I became more knowledgeable about new developments in East Asian Librarianship. I exchanged information with other librarians, and I have established ongoing contact with them. I have also acquired information about the availability of some e-resource products, as well as comments about the databases. Now I feel more confident to further develop our CJK e-resources at McGill. In addition, I have learned from other libraries their experiences of using online selection and vendor records and I will start to use OCLC selection at McGill for acquisition of CJK materials.

**CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES (CALL), MAY 25 – 28, 2008, SASKATOON**

MARYVON CÔTÉ, NAHUM GELBER LAW LIBRARY

The 46th annual conference of the Canadian Association of Law Libraries was held in Saskatoon from May 25 – 28, 2008. The association consists principally of librarians working in law firm libraries, academic libraries, government libraries and court house libraries.



The theme of the conference was “The Sky’s the Limit” which paid tribute to the vast prairie skies and the booming energy of the province of Saskatchewan. Prior to the conference, I participated on May 24 in the first Law Library Leadership Institute workshop where

we worked on case studies and discussed issues regarding transformational leadership. The workshop also helped participants towards a better understanding of qualities, skills and attributes of potential leaders.

Plenary sessions at the CALL Conference dealt with various topics, such as practical tips for incorporating Web 2.0 technologies into library services, recent judicial decision on agricultural biotechnology in Canada and the management of information from a public inquiry.

I also attended other interesting sessions including the “journey of a judgment,” which consisted of the process undertaken by editors such as Canada Law Books or CanLII to make judicial decisions available to the public, overview and resources regarding “military law in Canada,” issues regarding “access to electronic court records & privacy,” and a presentation entitled “Is Normal Working for You?” which made participants think that what we consider to be “normal” might not necessarily be beneficial to us as individuals or to our organization.

For more information regarding some sessions, PowerPoint presentations have been loaded on the conference website: [www.callacbd.ca/conferences/2008/program.htm](http://www.callacbd.ca/conferences/2008/program.htm)

**CHSSR**

**MAY 31 – JUNE 8, 2008, VANCOUVER**

ANN MARIE HOLLAND, RARE BOOKS AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DIVISION

*Thinking Beyond Borders / Global Ideas: Global Values*

The Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences is the largest multi-disciplinary group of learned societies in Canada. Exposure to a diversity of societies (over 75) under the conference theme of global ideas and global values provided a better understanding of how the humanities and social sciences are

influenced and stimulated by the global outlook. Seminars, workshops and guest presentations were available throughout the conference such as: “Oral Tradition and the Internet”, “Knowledge Mobilization: Within and Beyond Borders”, “Capturing the Impacts of Publicly Funded Research”. One of the concerns of the conference officials was to stimulate interest in the Open Access Model for publishing so that academics are able to exchange information in a more sustainable, dynamic and fair environment.

Of particular interest to me was the meeting of The Bibliographical Society of Canada, which held joint sessions with the Canadian Association for the Study of Book Culture. There was a fascinating presentation by the Chair of the Electronic Textual Cultures Laboratory who is directing a group project in which scholars in the field of humanities are giving guidance to the high-tech industry in developing a series of dynamic and functional reading interfaces and prototypes for a new knowledge environment.

The purpose of my conference paper was to present a particular eighteenth-century edition of the Duke of Choiseul’s Memoirs held in the Rare Books Division. Through research, I discovered more and more about McGill’s copy of Choiseul’s memoirs and about the context of the writing. The process of bibliographical investigation determined such things as the number of separate editions (at least 3) and also author intention, market demands in the publishing sector during the French Revolution, along with who the major players were in this market at the time. Copy-specific details based on the bibliographic description of McGill’s edition led to further conclusions about their manufacture and distribution. As it turns out, McGill holds a very rare 1790 pirated edition, most likely produced in the Netherlands.

This presentation concluded that the exercise of bibliographic description of the physical components of books from the hand-press period, along with an analysis of these details, can lead to specific facts that would be otherwise unattainable. Furthermore, conclusions of this specific sort allow one to draw general conclusions or probabilities about the book trade within an era.

### MELA CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 14 – 16, 2007, MONTREAL

SALWA FERAHAN, ISLAMIC STUDIES LIBRARY

On October 8, 2006, Dr. A. Houissa, President of Middle East Librarian Association asked me to become the resource person and co-program chair to work closely with Mrs. Kris Kern. I accepted without fully knowing what was coming my way.

Booking the Conference's keynote speaker seemed finalized when the suggestion was approved that we should approach McGill's Trenholme Director of Libraries to speak about "Recent trends in McGill Library." However the Director had another speaking engagement but she arranged that Diane Koen would represent her.

The preliminary business luncheon and the afternoon MELA Executive meeting held on the November 14 went well. The next day at 9:00 a.m. Diane Koen delivered her excellent speech and was gracious enough as to find the time to come and have lunch with us and chat with MELA Executives.

The papers presented were very specialized. From one speaker we learned of the condition of Afghanistan's rare books and manuscripts. The former government buried these valuable materials in the ground when they knew they were leaving. The present government are taking them out and trying to salvage some of them from further damage.

The afternoon's Cataloging Commit-

tee Forum/Workshop on Thursday, November 15, 2007 was informative and useful. It covered the following topics:

- Using Original Script in Online Catalog Records/Report and Demonstration of Library of Congress Transliteration Tool by Joan Biella, of L/C.

- "Tips and Tricks" for Using Original Script on OCLC by William Kopycki of University of Penn.

- Arabic Script in Authority Records by Iman Khairy of Bibliotheca Alexandrina.

- "Best Practices" for Original Scripts

by Joyce Bell, Princeton University.

- Presentation of the Recommendations of the Persian Cataloging Task Force by Akram Khabibullaev of Indiana University.

Organization is the essence of every successful conference. Start as early as possible as time is of the essence. Everything went extremely well and whatever I promised to do, I did. The one thing I was not able to control was the weather. I had promised nice weather but it rained continuously for three days.

### ONTARIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION SUPER CONFERENCE 2008

FEBRUARY 1, 2008, TORONTO

LOUISE O'NEILL, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

**Presentation: Evergreen: the state of the open-source ILS, Dan Scott, Systems Librarian, Laurentian University**

Evergreen is an open-source ILS developed in the state of Georgia ([open-ils.org/](http://open-ils.org/)) by Equinox software ([esilibrary.com/esi/home.html](http://esilibrary.com/esi/home.html)).

Evergreen is being implemented at three Ontario universities: Laurentian University, McMaster University, and the University of Windsor, and a num-

ber of libraries in British Columbia are also migrating to it. Cataloguing and acquisitions features are being developed in Evergreen. However, the pace of development has been slowed down by the fact that developers associated with Evergreen are now being bombarded with RFP's and requests for assistance. More developers are drastically needed!

Is Evergreen there yet? No, but it is usable. It will cost more than the implementation of a proprietary ILS at first, but should pay off in the long run. In

general, a library should expect to have an external developer on board for a year. Technical capabilities required by Library staff to implement and operate Evergreen include experience with Unix or

Linux, Perl, PostgreSQL and web and database design.

**Presentation: Social Networking: Innovation and Research, Susan Barnes, Associate Director, Laboratory for Social Computing, Department of Communication, Rochester Institute of Technology**

This session was virtually (no pun intended) all about Second Life. Professor Barnes' area of research is on the way in which graphical user interfaces (GUIs) affect social interfaces, or computer-mediated communication. She described a project funded by the National Science Foundation and Microsoft to evaluate student behaviour in a course on business advertising in Second Life that was taught within Second Life. She believes that advertising is integral to the success of social networks. Students were taught to brand themselves and to prepare for careers in Second Life.

Her findings included the observations that it was easy to have speakers from afar deliver presentations in Second Life, and that deaf students appre-



ciated being able to attend class in Second Life; its text-based conversations are an equalizer. Transport features were used to convene student avatars in the same place. Students found the most traditional lecture format—seated in a classroom with a PowerPoint presentation—to be the best of all classes offered in Second Life!

[www.rit.edu/news/?v=45572](http://www.rit.edu/news/?v=45572)

Both sessions offered no immediately useful information, but food for thought in planning library technology services.

### **WILU 2008 – “INFORMATION LITERACY UNCORKED”**

**MAY 2008, KELOWNA**

**AMBER LANNON, HOWARD ROSS LIBRARY OF MANAGEMENT**

WILU is Workshop on Instruction in Library Use. The conference is targeted at academic librarians. It's independent of any professional association, giving it a grass roots feel and comparatively low cost. WILU 2008 was held in May at UBC's Okanagan campus in Kelowna in BC's wine region. The three day program featured a mixture of invited speakers, workshops, and shorter presentations.

The invited speakers included Stanford's John Willinsky who spoke about the academic library's responsibility to confront the right to know and to foster an information culture. A video of his presentation which describes the seven

basic rights to information and recent developments affecting those rights is available at: [ubco.tv/frontend2.php?cm=movies/WiluPlenarySession.flv](http://ubco.tv/frontend2.php?cm=movies/WiluPlenarySession.flv)

An invited presentation from Nancy Goebel and Judith Peacock challenged librarians to start thinking more strategically about our role in the teaching of the university.

There were a number of workshops given by librarians. A session given by a group of Guelph librarians explored information fluencies (skills like scientific literacy, numeracy, economic literacy, and multicultural literacy) and how libraries can help build them. The team demonstrated some of the applications that Guelph Libraries have been experimenting with, including gaming. This presentation is available at:

[eprints.rclis.org/archive/00013682](http://eprints.rclis.org/archive/00013682)

There were also workshops on visual strategies for learning, peer-led learning, learning theories, and more. To explore these workshops see: [eprints.rclis.org/view/conftitle/WILU\\_2008:\\_37th\\_Workshop\\_on\\_Instruction\\_in\\_Library\\_Use.html](http://eprints.rclis.org/view/conftitle/WILU_2008:_37th_Workshop_on_Instruction_in_Library_Use.html)

Next year WILU will be held at Concordia University from May 25 – 27, 2009.

### **MEDICAL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING AND EXHIBITION, CHICAGO**

**JILL BORUFF, LIFE SCIENCES LIBRARY**

The Medical Library Association Annual Meeting and Exhibition in Chicago was a great learning experi-

ence for me as a new medical librarian.

One of the highlights of the conference was the McGovern lecture, delivered by Andrew Zolli a futurist and design strategist. I did not know that the profession of “futurist” existed, and I am still not quite sure what it is, but Zolli delivered an excellent lecture. He spent a good deal of his lecture explaining the demographic shifts that will happen in the world in the next 25 to 50 years. While I will not attempt to summarize those projections here (it required lots of graphs and charts), I will share with you his conclusions about where our profession is headed. He underlined how, as a society, we are gripped by a tyranny of choice—lots and lots and lots of the same products from which to choose. Zolli suggested that, within this tyranny, “librarians are on the vanguard to help people sift through these choices.” He detailed four traits that our profession and our services must have to be successful in the future: “[w]e must be personal, provide something tangible, remain in the present, and make ourselves desirable.” I found this an intriguing thought to carry with me as I participated in my first library conference.

In various sessions and discussions, I met quite a few librarians, both freshly-minted and more experienced, who were trying to learn how to be effective liaison librarians. Everyone seemed to be experimenting and figuring out what initiatives worked best in their universities. One library created bookmarks that advertised the consultation services available and included the contact information for the appropriate subject librarian. These bookmarks are less likely to be lost by students, unlike a business card. Many libraries also had web pages for each liaison librarian, allowing the librarian to advertise themselves and their expertise in an electronic medium.



***“Everyone should learn to do one thing supremely well because he likes it, and one thing supremely well because he detests it.”***

– B W M Young

My discussions with other liaison librarians also gave me a good look at how I might better learn my subjects in order to collect for them. Librarians suggested attending classes, going to student presentations, and requesting syllabi and assignments. I had heard of all of these things before, but it really helped me to hear real-life success stories from colleagues across North America.

During my stay in Chicago for the conference, I also learned what it is like to commute in that city. The conference hotel was full (because of the Na-



tional Restaurant Association conference with 100,000 delegates, happening at the same time!), so I stayed about four miles from the conference site—and took the “El”, or the elevated train, downtown every morning. Dating from the late 1800s, the “El” is Chicago’s answer to a subway—and it is LOUD. I was very thankful to come back to the quiet, and more reliable, Montreal metro system.

## COMING ATTRACTIONS

### STAFF DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS

All staff are invited to the following staff development sessions in August. The sessions will be held in the Cyberthèque.

#### **Delicious distractions**

**August 13, 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**Curating content not building collections will be the focus of the library of the future**

**August 21, 2 pm – 4 pm. (CHANGED from August 20)**

Please confirm attendance and RSVP to Bruna Ceccolini: [bruna.ceccolini@mcgill.ca](mailto:bruna.ceccolini@mcgill.ca)

### EXHIBITION: MCGILL OLYMPIC COLLECTIONS

[digital.library.mcgill.ca/olympic-exhibition/](http://digital.library.mcgill.ca/olympic-exhibition/)

Rare Books and Special Collections, McGill University Library, holds three large and important collections of materials documenting the Olympic Games. Random samples of various types of material have been chosen from these collections to celebrate the opening of the XXIX Olympiad in Beijing on 8 August 2008.

The Canadian Olympic Association Collection was originally housed at its headquarters in Cité du Havre in Montreal; its strength is in material dealing with the Montreal 1976 Olympics and the Calgary 1988 Winter Olympics along with material pertaining to the Olympic Games since the revival of the games in 1896. There is also material on the Pan American Games and the Common-

wealth Games. The collection consists of over 4500 items and occupies 60 linear metres of shelf space. There are 400 titles in the monograph collection and documents appear in eighteen languages. There is a website:

[digital.library.mcgill.ca/olympics/](http://digital.library.mcgill.ca/olympics/)



The Fernand Landry Collection was the result of the Université de Laval professor's lifelong interest in high performance sport, human biology and the Olympic Games. His involvement in the promotion of human health through sport in Quebec, Canada and abroad is well documented by the Proceedings of the International Symposium held

at Quebec City in May 1990. Although there are a number of publications by the International Olympic Committee, there is very little duplication with the other collections. The Landry Collection contains about 3000 items with some realia and over 600 posters.

The largest collection is the Richard W. Pound Olympic Collection which comprises some 100 linear metres of archival material (about 350 boxes), with some 700 printed titles and a significant body of realia including over 850 pin sets, medals, statuettes, coin sets and 12 Olympic torches. It provides a wealth of information on the recent history of the Olympic Movement, its public image, a private view of its inner functioning and the role of one of its major representatives from 1983 to 2003.

Pound's papers document his role in the various Olympic organizations and their development, notably his involvement in the IOC Television Rights negotiations, IOC Marketing, Sport and Law and WADA. There is a great deal of correspondence from all over the world, often with personal notes from friends, colleagues, and unknown people who had reason to correspond with him.

His papers of the Canadian Olympic Committee present a varied view of sport in Canada and his support of the many Canadian cities which requested the privilege of hosting the Games, be they Olympic or Pan American. His role in promoting sport activities among Canadians along with Fernand Landry and others had a considerable influence throughout Canada.

**WHAT'S NEW CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2**

Judy has held many positions in the Library. She began at McGill in Reference and Interlibrary Loans in the Humanities and Social Sciences Library in 1965 (then known as the McLennan Library). Judy has worked part time in the Howard Ross Library of Management since 1992. Many students have benefited from her wise counsel and good advice. Judy has been extremely flexible and moved from part time to full time employment as it suited the needs of the Library, particularly in the last few years, when she took a much appreciated leadership role in the Howard Ross Library. We wish Judy a very happy and relaxing retirement!

♦ Rajiv Johal, who has worked at Howard Ross Library of Management since December 2005, is returning to Concordia University Library where he will also continue his postgraduate studies. Rajiv has extended our service offerings through imaginative use of social networking tools and has provided excellent service as liaison librarian to the Centre for Continuing Education, as well as to the Desautels Faculty of Management.

♦ Beth Dunning, also liaison librarian at Howard Ross Library of Management, is leaving us to pursue her studies at the University of Ottawa. Beth joined McGill in May 2006 after active involvements with the Canadian Library Association which she has continued in a voluntary capacity while working with at McGill.

♦ Emma Buckley, erstwhile *you-never-heard-it-from-us* editor of *Library Matters @ McGill*, has left the University. Emma has been working as the Library's Communications Officer for the past 16 months. She took our publications and flyers to their next stage of development and has been of enormous assistance in preparing the presentations and dossiers on the projects we are targeting in the Library component of the Capital Campaign. Emma helped develop outreach strategies and posters for Orientation, Homecoming and other events, as well as working on *Library Matters @ McGill*. All the best, Emma!

♦ Jessica Hunt has joined the Library in an interim capacity to replace Emma until the position is filled. Welcome, Jess!

♦ The appointments of Jim Henderson and John Hobbins to the administrative positions of Life Sciences Librarian and Law Librarian respectively both conclude on August 31, 2008. Two new positions of Head Librarian, Life Sciences and Head Librarian, Nahum Gelber Law Library have been created. Initial drafts of the new positions have been prepared and input sought from both the Faculties most concerned and the library staff in each Library. Jim will commence sabbatical leave on September 1, 2008. John will act as Interim Head Librarian, Nahum Gelber Law Library, until an appointment has been made.

**LSL ON THE WEB**

A new Life Sciences Library website

([www.mcgill.ca/lsl/](http://www.mcgill.ca/lsl/)) has been created, using McGill's Web Publishing Software. It is intended to provide easy access to the library's resources and services in a manner that is consistent with the look and navigation common to all the McGill branch libraries and collections.

**FACILITIES NEWS**

Work on the top floor of the Schulich Library of Science and Engineering continues, as does the work on the foyers in the Humanities and Social Sciences Library. The Library is indebted to Mr Seymour Schulich for the funds for the work on the Schulich Library, and to the SSMU (Students' Society of McGill University) for the work on the foyers. Computers are being returned to the foyers, and the copiers and printers have been placed closer to the materials on the main floor. The SSMU will also be funding future improvements to the Howard Ross Library of Management and Walter Hirschfeld Geographic Information Centre.

Staff have begun emptying out the Currie Gym library storage area, as it is required by the University for other uses. Material is being sorted and transferred to the branch libraries.

**eSCHOLARSHIP**

Staff in Library Technology Services continue to focus on loading older documents into the *eScholarship@McGill* portal. By the end of summer, it should contain over 8000 theses and dissertations.