



Library Matters @ McGill

VOLUME 4 | ISSUE 8 | AUGUST 2008

www.mcgill.ca/library-about/pubs/newsletter/

McGill students **Abhishek Agarwal** and **Stephanie Nahas** are the stars of the Library's Fall 2008 Get Connected orientation poster campaign

FROM THE TRENHOLME DIRECTOR OF LIBRARIES



**JANINE SCHMIDT,
TRENHOLME
DIRECTOR OF
LIBRARIES**

Life is no brief candle to me. It is a sort of splendid torch which I have got a hold of for the moment, and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations.

George Bernard Shaw

A report published this month by the Council on Library and Information Resources takes part of this quotation for its title: *No brief candle; reconceiving research libraries for the 21st century.*

www.clir.org/pubs/reports/pub142/pub142.pdf. The President of the Council, Charles Henry, in the introductory foreword refers to the changes required by academic libraries as they seek to respond to a rapidly changing environment. *This is not a passing phase in higher education. It is a transformational period that requires innovation and*

risk. The twenty-first century library will be flexible and expert and differently organized to respond to new scholarly approaches. Libraries will work collaboratively on collection development, add value to their services and enhance e-research, teaching and learning by our faculty and students through a deeper understanding of the needs of our community of users.

Many of these ideas and ways of meeting the challenges were provided in events associated with the IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations) World Library and Information Congress held in Quebec City during August. www.ifla.org/IV/ifla74/index.htm. There were pre-and post-conferences and McGill Library was involved in a variety of ways. We re-

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ceived visitors individually and in groups in Montreal. We participated in the conference itself and in the various other associated activities. At the Conference itself, **Sharon Rankin** presented a paper entitled: *Canadian Inuit newspapers and periodicals: past, present and future*. **Daniel Boyer** also presented a paper: *IF LAW: legal research in a mixed jurisdiction*. **Amy Buckland** described the work undertaken with Second Life in a paper entitled *Gimmick or groundbreaking? Canadian academic libraries using chat reference in multi-user virtual environments*. This paper was presented at a session with the intriguing title: *Have we blown up the reference desk? Reference*



services in virtual worlds. I led a table discussion at the Academic and Research Libraries *Hot topics session*, was a panel member at the Library Buildings and Equipments Section session on the WOW factor in libraries and participated in the discussions of the Section of which I am a committee member. **Joseph Hafner** was a volunteer and helped guide attendees to the correct sessions. McGill Library's new Kirtas robotic scanner was featured at the Ristec stand in the Exhibition and proved to be a popular draw card. **Juanita Jara de Sumar** enjoyed her attendance at the conference as did **Christine Oliver** who also provided a demonstration of RDA at an IFLA Satellite meeting on RDA. For the uninitiated, RDA, Resource Description and Access, will be a new cataloguing standard designed for the digital world. It is based on AACR2 and builds on IFLA's FRBR (Func-

tional Requirements for Bibliographic Records) and FRAD (Functional Requirements for Authority Data).

ARLIS/NA (Art Libraries of North America) and the Section of Art Libraries of IFLA held its pre-conference in Montreal. **Ann Marie Holland** served on the planning committee and **Marilyn Berger** organized an Art Deco walking tour. The attendees visited McGill's Rare Books and Special Collections, toured the Cyberthèque and were hosted to lunch by McGill Library. A satellite meeting *Francofonies et bibliothèques: innovations, changements et réseautage (Libraries and the French-speaking communities of the world: innovation, change and networking)* was held in Montreal prior to the conference and a group visited the

Cyberthèque and were addressed by **Carole Urbain**. Another IFLA satellite meeting was held at McGill, *Navigating with youth: In these days of technology, how can public libraries attract and keep their young clientele?* The meeting was organized by the Association des bibliothèques publiques du Québec, and the IFLA Public Libraries Section together with the Libraries for Children and Young Adults Section and the Management and Marketing Section. The Library sponsored the meeting and a reception was also held in the Humanities and Social Sciences Library—a jazz trio entertained the guests, which was probably a first for the Library! A big thank you to all who participated in the events, assisted in hosting all our guests or preparing for the events or who quietly worked away looking after the “shop” so that the rest of us could participate.

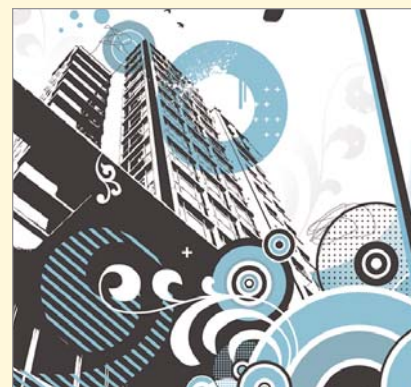
Library Matters @ McGill

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/.

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
April Colosimo, april.colosimo@mcgill.ca
Jessica Hunt, jessica.hunt@mcgill.ca
Rebecca Nicholson, rebecca.nicholson@mcgill.ca



**“What is the city
but the people?”**

– William Shakespeare

GETTING TO KNOW YOU: MARVIN DUCHOW MUSIC LIBRARY

CYNTHIA LEIVE

HEAD LIBRARIAN

Where were you born?

Columbus, Ohio (United States)

What part of town do you live in?

NDG

How long have you worked at the library?

22 years (same age as my son Kyle)

Do you have any pets?

Two cats, Beyoncé and Lil' Kim

What is your favorite place in Montreal?

Momesso's or the bike paths in Lachine

What is your favorite dessert?

Apple crumble

What are you reading and/or listening to?

Daughters of a Coral Dawn/Katherine V. Forrest

Music of Joni Mitchell/Lloyd Whitesell

Blues singer Jonell Mosser

What are your other interests?

Music, Canadian fiction and poetry, paper collage, knitting

What is your pet peeve?

Divergent views of appropriate elevator etiquette

What is/are your favorite quote(s)?

"We have nothing to fear but fear itself."

What is one thing that people do not know about you?

I can recite a lot of Indiana populist poet, James Whitcomb Riley's poetry from memory – "Little orphant Annie came to our house to stay..."

CATHY MARTIN

LIAISON LIBRARIAN

Where were you born?

Grande Prairie, Alberta

What part of town do you live in?

In Pointe-Claire, not far from Lac-St-Louis

How long have you worked at the library?

Three months

Do you have any pets?

Not since our fish passed into the great beyond

What is your favorite place in Montreal?

The Morgan Arboretum (in Ste-Anne-de-Belle-vue, but still on the Island of Montreal)

What is your favorite dessert?

Fruit tortes

What are you reading and/or listening to?

Reading: Rockbound by Frank Parker Day, Uniform Titles for Music by Michelle Koth

Listening to: singer Eva Cassidy, the recording by Les violins du Roy of Bach's Goldberg Variations (arranged by Labadie)

What are your other interests?

Parenting (Marco, 12, and Leo, 9), travelling with my family, hiking, listening to live music

What is your pet peeve?

Impatient drivers

What is/are your favorite quote(s)?

"Every cloud has a silver lining."

"Where the mind goes, chi follows."

"Intonation is a question of conscience." (Pablo Casals)

What is one thing that people do not know about you?

I was a professional musician (violinist) for a number of years, and I hope one day to learn to play an instrument from the accordion family.

BRIAN McMILLAN

LIAISON LIBRARIAN

Where were you born?

Westlock, Alberta

What part of town do you live in?

A mysterious triangle of Montreal that's too far west to be the Plateau, too far south to be Mile End, and not quite Outremont. I refer to it as "Outremont-adjacent."

How long have you worked at the library?

4 years

Do you have any pets?

Dust bunnies?

What is your favorite place in Montreal?

Café La Paryse (sipping a chocolate milkshake!)

What is your favorite dessert?

Milkshakes - since most French restaurants seem to classify milkshakes as desserts (to my utter incomprehension). If ice cream's on the menu, I'll order both a milkshake and dessert.

What are you reading and/or listening to?

Reading: Emma Brockes, What Would Barbra Do? How Musicals Changed My Life (New York, NY: HarperCollins, 2007)

Listening: Giuseppe Verdi, Nabucco; Jerry Bock, She Loves Me

What are your other interests?

Singing, dance, live theatre, movies, running, cycling, baking

What is your pet peeve?

Definitely Montreal cyclists who wear black, never signal, disdain helmets and lights, and pay no heed to red lights while speeding the wrong way down a one-way street. A close second are Montreal drivers, who are almost as bad.

What is/are your favorite quote(s)?

A friend at university once declared, "Brian, you're on a Barbra mission!" Truer words were never spoken.

What is one thing that people do not know about you?

I don't know how to drive.

DAVID CURTISSENIOR REFERENCE ASSISTANT &
CATALOGUING EDITOR**Where were you born?**

Ottawa.

What part of town do you live in?

Pierrefonds.

How long have you worked at the library?

I began as a student casual shelving books, scores and LPs in 1980. I have been a full-time employee since 1988.

Do you have any pets?

Not currently.

What is your favorite place in Montreal?

Vieux-Montréal.

What is your favorite dessert?

Opera cake.

What are you reading and/or listening to?

Reading: Will Christopher Baer: Hell's Half Acre.

David Bordwell: Poetics of Cinema.

Ed Sikov: Dark Victory.

Listening: Gilles Binchois, Guillaume Du Fay (15thC)

Popular and experimental music utilizing analogue synthesizers, theremin or mellotron.

Bardou (and other performers of the nyckleharpa - a traditional Swedish keyed string instrument).

What are your other interests?

The culinary arts, music and film, the Renaissance in general.

What is your pet peeve?

Drivers who don't respect other modes of transportation.

What is/are your favorite quote(s)?

"We must be still and still moving"(from East Coker by T.S. Eliot).

What is one thing that people do not know about you?

I enjoy the arts and science in equal measure.

ANDREW SENIOR

SPECIALIZED (AUDIO/VIDEO) CATALOGUING EDITOR & ACQUISITIONS ASSISTANT

Where were you born?

Bangor, North Wales

What part of town do you live in?

South Shore

How long have you worked at the library?

6 years

Do you have any pets?

A couple of house spiders called Hector and Nestor

What is your favorite place in Montreal?

Botanical Gardens

What is your favorite dessert?

Crème brûlée

What are you reading and/or listening to?

Reading: Kafka sur le rivage (Umibe no Kafuka) by Haruki Murakami

Listening: Feist, Radiohead, Mamoru Fujieda, BBC podcasts

What are your other interests?

Music, Languages, Hiking, Tai Chi Chuan.

What is your pet peeve?

Distracted or inconsiderate drivers (see next answer)

What is/are your favorite quote(s)?

"In the practice of tolerance, one's enemy is the best teacher" (14th Dalai Lama)

What is one thing that people do not know about you?

I can pronounce Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwilllantysiliogogoch (Welsh for "The church of St. Mary in the hollow of white hazel trees near the rapid whirlpool by St. Tysilio's of the red cave")

MELANIE PREUSS

SENIOR LIBRARY CLERK

Where were you born?

Montreal, Quebec

What part of town do you live in?

NDG

How long have you worked at the library?

18 years

Do you have any pets?

A cat called Gabby.

What is your favorite place in Montreal?

The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.

What is your favorite dessert?

Cream puffs.

What are you reading and/or listening to?

Sea of Tranquility by Lesley Choyce, The Walrus magazine

Surôit (an Acadian Folk Group from New Brunswick)

What are your other interests?

Getting together with friends, baking, knitting, travelling.

What is your pet peeve?

Fighting my way out of a metro car.

What is/are your favorite quote(s)?

"If you can't be a good example, then you'll just have to be a horrible warning!" (Catherine Aird)

What is one thing that people do not know about you?

I can whistle quite loudly. People standing next to me at concerts would often cover their ears.

GAIL YUSTER

SENIOR LIBRARY CLERK (SERIALS)

Where were you born?

At the Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal, on a Sunday. The time was 3:19 p.m.

What part of town do you live in?

Downtown Montreal on Ste. Famille Street in a 100 year old house.

How long have you worked at the library?

This year is my 38th year

Do you have any pets?

Yes, my precious kitty kat.

What is your favorite place in Montreal?

There are many. I really enjoy Montreal's old architecture and love living in my area. However if I have to pick one favorite place it would be Mount Royal. Walking or biking on the trail up to Beaver Lake in the early morning when the sun is coming up.

What is your favorite dessert?

Date squares

What are you reading and/or listening to?

I am reading Lullabies for Little Criminals

I last listened to The Michel Donato Trio. One of the musicians is a jazz accordion player. I've never heard a jazz accordion musician play before, quite spectacular.

What are your other interests?

Film, theatre, reading, exercising, going out to listen to music, second-hand shopping.

What is your pet peeve?

Bad coffee

What is/are your favorite quote(s)?

"If you live to be 100, I hope I live to be 100 minus 1 day, so I never have to live without you." (Winnie the Pooh)

What is one thing that people do not know about you?

That's Top Secret information

PADRAIG BUTTNER-SCHNIRER

LIBRARY CLERK

What part of town do you live in?

The Plateau

How long have you worked at the library?

4 Years

Do you have any pets?

No

What is your favorite place in Montreal?

Empanada Land on Napoleon

What is your favorite dessert?

Cheese cake

What are you reading and/or listening to?

Listening mostly to Jazz, R&B and World Music

What are your other interests?

Cooking

What is your pet peeve?

None

What is/are your favorite quote(s)?

None

What is one thing that people do not know about you?

I'm keeping it a secret!

DID YOU KNOW?**BY APRIL COLOSIMO (LIFE SCIENCES LIBRARY)**

Did you know that you can now add Oxford Reference Online to your browser?

If you set this up, the next time you are on a website and you need a definition or a translation it will be only a click away. Highlight the word or phrase of interest and click the Oxford Reference Online (ORO) button on your toolbar. Like magic a new Oxford Reference quick

search will be performed in a separate window with relevant subject and dictionary entries, quotations, and more.

Get started by visiting Oxford Reference Online and looking for this option:



You won't regret it!

WHAT'S NEW: BORROWING ADVISORY COMMITTEE**BY LOUISE ROBERTSON, COLLECTION SERVICES**

Borrowing Advisory Committee: What's in a name? Perspective, that's what! The former Loans Advisory Committee has a new name to reflect the user's perspective.

What else is new or noteworthy over the past 12 months? Here are some highlights:

- Authorized Borrower and McGill Library membership forms are on the web. Find out more at www.mcgill.ca/library-about/membership/ Saves paper too! Help for staff *How to complete a new borrower registration* is available at www.library.mcgill.ca/ALEPH/training18/#circulation
- Intercampus lending between Macdonald Campus Library and a downtown campus library, and vice versa. Items borrowed from the other campus are on the borrowers personal library account. For article information: www.mcgill.ca/library-using/mcgilloans/intercampus/ and for books: www.mcgill.ca/library-using/mcgilloans/intercampusholds/
- New loans policy for staff, with uniform borrowing privileges for all staff
- Locations of book return bins now on the Library web page. Check out: www.mcgill.ca/library-using/returns/

- Recalls restricted to a single copy of a title so that the user receives the first copy returned and it is delivered to their specified library pick up location
- Reminder and overdue notices have been enhanced. A reminder is sent 4 days before the item is due, a first overdue notice 2 days after the item is due (new), and a second overdue notice 7 days after the item is due
- Reminder notice for journals (new)
- Fines no longer charged on days the Library is closed
- Block on renewing overdue items via the web removed to enable users to renew material until the item is declared *Lost*
- Standardized replacement cost for lost materials instead of default price by discipline
- Standard default price of \$50 per item if the replacement cost is not available in the ALEPH record
- Borrowing laptops (new) see www.mcgill.ca/library-using/mcgilloans/undergrad/

And who do we thank for these improvements? The Committee made the recommendations, some were finalized and approved by the SALT (Senior Advisory Library Team) or the SCL

(Senate Committee on Libraries), but the real heroes are the Committee members, the staff of Library Technology Services and all service staff who made it happen.

What's currently under development? A way for Faculty to request items to be put on Reserve via the McGill Library Catalogue which will capture author and title information directly from the catalogue.

Do you have any ideas for better service? Please send them to your representative on the Committee:

Amin Merani (Humanities and Social Sciences, Birks Reading Room, Islamic Studies), **Peter Martinek** (Howard Ross Management Library, Education Library), **Sandra Emery** (Life Sciences Library, Macdonald Campus Library), **Brian McMillan** (Marvin Duchow Music Library), **Mary Lourenço** (Nahum Gelber Law Library), **Olga Wiseman** (Schulich Library of Science and Engineering, Edward Rosenthal Mathematics and Statistics, Walter Hirschfeld Geographic Information Centre), or **Joseph Hafner**, Associate Director, Collection Services, **Louise O'Neill**, Associate Director, Library Technology Services, or **Louise Robertson**, Chair, Borrowing Advisory Committee.

CONFERENCE IN FOCUS: ARLIS/NA

ARLIS/NA AT ALTITUDE

BY MARILYN BERGER, BLACKADER LAUTERMAN
LIBRARY OF ARCHITECTURE AND ART

I was privileged to attend the 36th Annual Conference of the Art Libraries Society/North America (ARLIS/NA) held in Denver, Colorado (the Mile High City), May 1 – 5, 2008, which featured a stellar program with prominent speakers and quality events.

The program was designed to join the professional community together to share and reflect on key topics relevant to all art/architecture professionals, as well as to connect with distinguished vendors and enjoy some of the most interesting and world-class art venues in North America! The conference schedule accommodated exclusive time with the exhibitors, and a new initiative offered individual tours of the exhibit hall to meet and learn about the vendors, particularly appreciated by first-time attendees.

The conference kicked off on Friday evening, May 2, with the ARLIS/NA Convocation followed by a special welcome party where we were surrounded by Colorado's mountain peaks at sunset. At the Convocation the Melva Dwyer Award was given to Philip Dombowsky and the National Gallery of Canada for the monumental Index to National Gallery of Canada Exhibition Catalogues and Checklists 1880-1930. I was proud to accept the award in the absence of the author.

An exclusive session, *Icon or Enclosure? The Architecture of the Denver Art Museum* was held prior to a celebration at the Denver Art Museum (DAM, as it's called) and featured Brit Probst, one of Daniel Libeskind's collaborating architects, who enlightened us on the museum's tectonic arrangement of "walls turned into floors which become roofs."

The opening plenary speaker was Lawrence Argent, Professor of Sculpture at the University of Denver. Mr Argent

has exhibited his work nationally and internationally and is currently working on many public art projects around the country. He discussed his process for creating public art, including his experience with local governments and focusing on his 2005 piece, *I See What You Mean*, a landmark piece at the Denver Convention Center which is a big blue bear.

The content of this year's program recognized the variety of interests and issues that ARLIS members bring to the Society as the profession moves progressively into the 21st century. I co-moderated

a session *Visual Pedagogy: Do you see what I see?* with Sarah Carter, Librarian at the Ringling College of Art and Design. A virtual poster of the session can be seen at: arlisnamw.wordpress.com/virtual-poster-sessions/visual-pedagogy-do-you-see-what-i-see/

Many sessions were rich with topics of considerable importance such as the *Web 2.0 Tech Kiosk*; *ArtTECHtonic*, a virtual session showcasing technology projects in the arts; *Scholarly Publication* and the *Art/Architecture/VR Library* (arttechtonic.wordpress.com); and *What's Hot & What's Not: Trends in Technologies and Services in Libraries*.

The closing plenary session was supported by the ARTstor Speaker Fund. David Silver addressed four different and overlapping contemporary literacies as a way to better understand today's college students, and paid special attention to the increasing role of visual culture. Mixing his experiences in the classroom and his notes and observations regarding talks and workshops from this year's ARLIS/NA conference, he offered instructional examples to teach, display, and archive such literacies. Unfortunately I was not

able to attend this session as I had to catch the shuttle to the airport.

Dr Silver is an assistant professor of Media Studies and the director of the Resource Center for Cyberculture Studies at the University of San Francisco. He co-directs The September Project, a grassroots effort to foster public events in all libraries in all countries in September. He blogs at silverinsf.blogspot.com.

A tour to Colorado Springs with its stunning views of Pikes Peak and Cheyenne Mountain was a highlight. The first stop was at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, which



borders the campus of Colorado College. The original FAC was designed by architect John Gaw Meem, and was recently renovated and expanded. We then visited the Van Briggie Memorial Pottery Company, the original location of the oldest, continuously operating art pottery in the United States. The building is well preserved and richly decorated inside and out with tiles. The tour then headed west to the historic and luxurious Broadmoor Hotel, where a guide from the Historic Preservation Alliance showed us the beautiful turn-of-the-century architecture, paintings by Maxfield Parrish, and the decorative fountains and other elements currently undergoing restoration.

The Canadian members meeting was well attended with 23 librarians from across the country participating. Many were involved in the planning of the IFLA Art pre-conference in Montreal, August 6 – 8, 2008.

I came away feeling that this was one of the best ARLIS/NA conferences in recent years and I thank the ARLIS/NA-MOQ Chapter for the Travel Award given to me and the Trenholme Director of Libraries for additional support.