

Library Matters @ McGill

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

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E AND E - TO EXCHANGE AND ENCOURAGE

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.library.mcgill.ca/admin/newsletter/.

We welcome your contributions. Send your input to the *you never heard it from us* editorial team:

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*Action without a name,
a "who" attached to it,
is meaningless.*

- Hanna Arendt

FROM THE TRENHOLME DIRECTOR OF LIBRARIES

September was an extremely busy month, with the beginning of the Fall term. New students arrived and returning students reminded us that summer was somewhat quieter than the hectic teaching weeks. Everyone has been very active conducting classes, helping students find their way, lending books, getting materials on reserve in time, answering a myriad of questions and processing materials. Last week was particularly eventful. The New Music Building was opened on Friday and the Dean of Music, **Don McLean**, paid a public tribute to our own **Cynthia Leive** who did an outstanding job of moving the library into the new building and maintaining services under difficult circumstances. Congratulations to Cynthia and her team who all did such an enormous amount of work. **Seymour Schulich**, whose generosity to McGill has already been recognized in the Schulich Library of Science and Engineering, has made a major contribution to the ongoing support of music at McGill, particularly through the availability of scholarships for students.



Émile Martel, Nicole Martel, Janine Schmidt, John Gomery at *Parental translation, a primer - L'ABC de la traduction parentale*, the Hugh MacLennan Memorial Lecture: Nicole and Émile Martel on translating "Life of Pi" to French, September 28

Earlier in the week, **Simon Schaffer** spoke at the Mossman lecture. His topic "Why Trust Public Experiments" drew a large crowd and stimulated both debate and discussion on the role of public experimentation in science. The Friends of the Library were delighted by a very special evening with **Nicole and Émile Martel**, talking about the translation of *Life of Pi* by their son **Yann Martel**. The relationship of the translator parents to their writer son was explored; the intricacies of translation into French, and indeed Québécois, were outlined; and the maintenance of the creative content of the English original in the French translation was explained. It was a fascinating address.

The previous week we entertained in our Rare Books and Special Collections Division attendees at the International League of Antiquarian Booksellers who held their conference in Montreal. Our special collections were appreciated by the international visitors.

Several staff have attended a recent session on the master plan which is being prepared for the campus. McGill's wonderful heritage buildings have been added to by many buildings over the years. There is now a process of putting in place a long-term plan which will ensure integration of new buildings and facilities into the old, the maintenance of the unique character of the campus, and the development of the campus to meet present and future needs. We look forward to the completion of the plan early next year. The Library has made submissions and we certainly hope the plan will ensure that we are able to provide appropriate facilities in which to house the collections, provide services to users and accommodate an expanding student body. Our library buildings continue to be heavily used by hundreds of students. There is no reduction in people using the library - which puts paid to some of the assertions that the physical facilities would not be needed when online libraries became a reality.

I do hope that your Thanksgiving weekend was enjoyable. In a world where many experience difficulties and suffering, we have much for which we can be truly thankful.

Janine Schmidt
Trenholme Director of Libraries

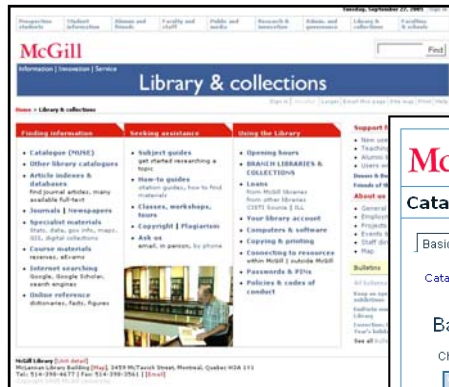


McGill Library
Bibliothèque

Information • Innovation • Service

WHAT'S NEW?

Makeovers for Library website and catalogue



The Library website has been redesigned and is now up and running. The site now resides at www.mcgill.ca/library/. The new look for the catalogue went live on August 26th.



Hanna's retirement

On Thursday, August 25, we gathered at the Faculty Club to wish **Hanna Waluzyniec** all the best for her retirement and to toast her achievements while at McGill.

Hanna writes:

Dear friends,

I was very honoured and touched to see so many colleagues at my retirement party. It was a gratifying way to end my career seeing so many faces that were so close to me for so long. I truly enjoyed most of my life at McGill but the times I remember most were those difficult periods when all we did was search for ways to cut costs without letting services deteriorate, an impossible task! I always said that the group that survived hard times together was bonded for life, and that we spent more time working together than we spent time with our families. In sum, thank you all for your friendship, your support, and for a truly generous gift certificate which I shall be spending with great glee at the McGill Bookstore. I can think of no better way for a librarian to have been honoured. I will be meeting many of you when I borrow books and forgive me if I get teary eyed the first time I see you after my retirement. I am not too sentimental but I cannot imagine having had a better place to work than McGill University.

Thank you my dear colleagues for such a wonderful tribute.

Hanna



Hanna and friends



Thanks to the work of the Publications Committee and their cohort, this fall the Library has a sleek new range of brochures.

CLIENT SERVICE TIPS

by Joseph Hafner, Music Cataloguer (Library Technical Services)

Remember your own experiences.

Think about what you want when you're a customer. How do you want to be treated? The last time you had a problem, what outcome made (or would have made) you happy? There's no better way to come up with ideas for dealing with your own clients.

Two more sessions of "**Sorry, Glad, Sure**": **Skills for Service Excellence** have been added:

Friday, October 7
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Macdonald Campus Library
Room: TBA

Friday, October 14

10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Marvin Duchow Music Library, in the New Music Building

527 Sherbrooke Street West

Room: LSR-2 (A-509)

5th floor

To register: Obtain your supervisor's permission, then send an email to susan.fabrizi@mcgill.ca, (tel. 4681) indicating the date and time you prefer.

QUEBEC MUSIC LIBRARIES MEETING

by Joseph Hafner and Brian McMillan

This year two new spaces have opened to meet the diverse music information needs of Quebec and its citizens: Montreal's brand new Grande Bibliothèque du Québec and the Marvin Duchow Music Library here at McGill University.

We are taking this opportunity to have the first Quebec Music Libraries Meeting/ Rencontre des bibliothèques de musique du Québec on October 21, 2005. McGill is co-sponsoring this event along with the Bibliothèque nationale du Québec and Université de Montréal.

Our planning committee consists of co-chairs Joseph Hafner (McGill) and Daniel Paradis (Université de Montréal), treasurer Brian McMillan (McGill) and secretary Hélène Boucher (Bibliothèque nationale du Québec). We have been planning the event for many months, and we



are very pleased with the positive response we have had so far.

During this meeting, which is held under the auspices of the Canadian Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres (CAML), we will offer insights into the construction projects and guided tours of both of the new facilities. The day-long meeting will also provide the opportunity for colleagues

from Quebec and neighbouring regions to meet and discuss work-related issues including the creation of a Quebec chapter of CAML. This conference is open to all who work with music in libraries and/or are interested in music librarianship in Quebec.

Along with the tours and discussions, there will be lunch at Le Parchemin, an affordable four-star French restaurant, and the day will end with a reception at the Grande Bibliothèque. We are also planning special music events throughout the day to make it a memorable meeting.

If you are interested in further information about the program, please visit our website:

www.mcgill.ca/rbmq-qmlm/

PATS ON THE BACK

September 13, 2005

Marilyn Berger, Head
Blackader-Lauterman Library
for Arts and Architecture

Dear Marilyn,

As in the past 15 years, you have demonstrated once more that the services of the Blackader-Lauterman library are indispensable. The introductory sessions given to the graduate housing students of the School of Architecture have always been instrumental in enabling them to be familiar with our library resources. Your lecture on the use of computers in information gathering and organization help put them on a solid research path. Both aspects improve the depth of their research and the quality of their theses.

In addition, the many initiatives at the library, such as organizing the Norbert Schoenauer collection and the pathfinder to housing bibliographies in the area of Minimum Cost Housing have become highly useful.

On a personal note, I am immensely grateful for your assistance in compiling information for my books *Homes Within Reach: A Guide to Planning and Design of Affordable Homes and Communities*. The book, published by Wiley & Sons, required extensive library searches, which you helped me undertake.

On behalf of my students, I would like to thank you once more for your generosity, service and for making the library an important part of our teaching.

Sincerely,

Dr. Avi Friedman
Professor of Architecture
Director of Affordable Homes Program

Ann Soden, a graduate of the McGill Faculty of Law included the following acknowledgement in her book *Advising the Older Client*. (Markham Ont., LexisNexis Butterworths, c. 2005).

*To the Library of McGill's
Faculty of Law with fond
memories of my tentative first
research assignment, moot
court late nights, exam fever,
and in-between and
throughout, a most enriching
education within your
hallowed stacks and halls.*

*From a grateful student of the
law,*

Ann Soden BCL'81, LLB'82

CONFERENCE TIDBITS

Here are some more summaries of excellent conference reports from our colleagues.

Richard Virr, Curator of Manuscripts (Rare Books)

Richard attended the **annual conference of the Bibliographical Society of Canada** in Halifax (July 13) where he gave a paper entitled "Making Silk Purses from Sows Ears: Recovering Canadian Libraries." The paper explored the possibilities presented by subscription lists in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century books for identifying Canadian owners. It also examined the methods by which a Canadian library was reconstructed beginning with the chance discovery of a volume in the McGill library stacks.

He also attended the **annual SHARP conference (Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing)**, also in Halifax, (July 14-17), the theme this year being "Navigating Texts & Contexts." There he presented a paper entitled "David Hume in France, 1754-1762: Translation and Dissemination." This discussed the identification of a series of Hume related texts in two eighteenth-century journals, *Mercure de France* and *Journal Etranger*, and some of the problems posed by preparing an electronic edition of these texts. In very interesting and particular ways the subject of "Hume in France" addressed the theme of the conference "Navigating Texts and Contexts." Here is a quintessential navigating of texts – from English to French, from print to electronic text. Richard also participated in the round table organized by David McKnight: "The Confluence of Bibliography and Book History; Whither the Debate? A Canadian Perspective" with Carl Spadoni from McMaster, Leslie Howsam from U. of Windsor and Yvan Lamonde from McGill. There was standing room only.

Finally, on July 21, Richard attended the **annual conference of the Hume Society** in Toronto where his presentation was a description of the history and contents of the McGill Hume collection. The Hume collection was begun in the late 1940s by Professor Raymond Klibansky and the University Librarian, Richard Pennington and has been the focus of sustained development ever since. The McGill collection is considered to be the most important Hume collection outside Edinburgh and is particularly strong in eighteenth-century editions and translations. This presentation concluded with the announcement of the creation of the McGill David Hume Collection Research Grant (see the September issue of *Library Matters @ McGill*).

Daniel Boyer, Wainwright Civil Law Librarian (Nahum Gelber)

Daniel attended the **24th Annual Course of the International Association of Law Libraries** held at the European University Institute between September 2 and September 8, 2005.

The International Association of Law Libraries (IALL) is a worldwide organization of librarians, libraries, and other persons and institutions concerned with the acquisition and use of legal information emanating from sources other than their own jurisdictions.

Courses on topics of international law librarianship and legal information have been a primary feature of IALL's educational program since 1966. As happens so often, the course itself was invaluable but all the casual information turned out to be priceless.

The course itself began on Monday, September 5 with sessions on EU constitutional developments and a special session on "The Courts & EU Constitutional Law". With regard to copyright issues, Professor Marco Marandola spoke on the EU copyright Directive as compared to US Copyright Law.

In Sienna, an introduction to the history of the University of Sienna was given and during the tour Daniel was able to speak with their law reference librarians, and found it interesting to compare the types of questions students ask in Europe to the ones encountered at McGill.

A lecture on the Italian legal system included a *son et lumière* on Italian legal information the Web. The Wednesday afternoon session was devoted to a topic with a great McGill fit: *Ius Commune* in Contracts, Administrative and Private International Law. Lively discussions arose from these stimulating presentations.

The Association also gave out its annual web site award to the Peace Palace Library in the Hague: www.ppl.nl/

Elizabeth Thomson, Web Developer and Database Programmer (Digital Collections Program)

On August 4, 2005 Elizabeth attended a number of sessions at the **Extreme Markup Languages 2005** conference (conference website: www.extrememarkup.com/extreme/). The Library's Digital Collections Program is using XML to search and/or deliver content for a number of projects, ranging from journals in the sciences and humanities, electronic theses, and a number of monograph-based projects (one of which includes a medieval manuscript!). The conference was packed with extremely useful technical information on various aspects of a number of standard XML markup grammars used by DCP, and offered the opportunity to reflect on current and future directions for the use of XML in Digital Collections.

Conference proceedings for 2005 are available at: www.mulberrytech.com/Extreme/Proceedings/dates-body.html#conf-d0e8925

Aggregated conference proceedings for 2001 to 2005 are available at: www.mulberrytech.com/Extreme/Proceedings/



Halloween

Halloween (see www.holidays.net/halloween/story.htm) had its origins in the festival of Samhain among the Celts of ancient Britain and Ireland. At Samhain, held on November 1, the world of the gods was believed to be made visible to mankind, and the gods played many tricks on their mortal worshipers; it was a time fraught with danger, charged with fear, and full of supernatural episodes. Sacrifices and propitiations of every kind were thought to be vital, for without them the Celts believed they could not prevail over the perils of the season or counteract the activities of the deities.

Halloween, the "hallowed eve", was the evening before All Saints' day. On that night we engage in harmless pranks. Celebrants wear masks and costumes for parties and for trick-or-treating, thought to have derived from the British practice of allowing the poor to beg for food, called "soul cakes." Along with skeletons and black cats, the holiday has incorporated scary beings such as ghosts, witches, and vampires into the celebration. Another symbol is the jack o' lantern, a hollowed-out pumpkin, originally a turnip, carved into a demonic face and lit with a candle inside.



Halloween. *Encyclopædia Britannica* from Encyclopædia Britannica Online. <<http://www.search.eb.com/eb/article-9038951>> [Accessed September 26, 2005].

In Mexico, the custom is known as the *Día de los Muertos* (Day of the Dead) (see www.mexconnect.com/mex_/muertos.html). November 1, All Saints' Day, and November 2, All Souls' Day are marked throughout Mexico by a plethora of intriguing customs that vary widely according to the ethnic roots of each region. Common to all, however, are colorful adornments and lively reunions at family burial plots, the preparation of special foods, offerings laid out for the departed on commemorative altars and religious rites that are likely to include noisy fireworks.

From mid-October through the first week of November, markets and shops all over Mexico are replete with the special accoutrements for the *Día de los Muertos*. These include all manner of skeletons and other macabre toys; intricate tissue paper cut-outs called *papel picado*; elaborate wreaths and crosses decorated with paper or silk flowers; candles and votive lights; and fresh seasonal flowers, particularly *cempazuchiles* (marigolds) and *barro de obispo* (cockscomb). Among the edible goodies offered are skulls, coffins and the like made from sugar, chocolate or amaranth seeds and special baked goods, notably sugary sweet rolls called *pan de muerto*. All of these goods are destined for the buyer's *ofrenda de muertos* (offering to the dead).

BITS OF HISTORY

The following excerpts are answers given on history tests and in Sunday school quizzes by children between 5th and 6th grade, in Ohio. They were collected over a period of three years by two teachers.

Ancient Egypt was old. It was inhabited by gypsies and mummies who all wrote in hydraulics. They lived in the Sarah Dessert. The climate of the Sarah is such that all the inhabitants have to live elsewhere.

In the first Olympic games, Greeks ran races, jumped, hurled biscuits, and threw the java. The games were messier then than they show on TV now.

Julius Caesar extinguished himself on the battlefields of Gaul. The Ides of March murdered him because they thought he was going to be made king. Dying, he gasped out "Same to you, Brutus.

Joan of Arc was burnt to a steak and was canonized by Bernard Shaw for reasons I don't really understand. The English and French still have problems.

It was an age of great inventions and discoveries. Gutenberg invented removable type and the Bible. Another important invention was the circulation of blood.

Writing at the same time as Shakespeare was Miguel Cervantes. He wrote Donkey Hote. The next great author was John Milton. Milton wrote Paradise Lost. Since then no one ever found it.

Delegates from the original 13 states formed the Contented Congress. Thomas Jefferson, a Virgin, and Benjamin Franklin were two singers of the Declaration of Independence. Franklin discovered electricity by rubbing two cats backward and also declared, "A horse divided against itself cannot stand." He was a naturalist for sure. Franklin died in 1790 and is still dead.

Johann Bach wrote a great many musical compositions and had a large number of children. Bach died from 1750 to the present. Bach was the most famous composer in the world and so was Handel. Handel was half German, half Italian, and half English. He was very large.

Bethoven wrote music even though he was deaf. He was so deaf that he wrote loud music and became the father of rock and roll. He took long walks in the forest even when everyone was calling for him. Bethoven expired in 1827 and later died for this.

PHOTO GALLERY

AUTUMN SNAPS by Kathleen VanderNoot



EVENTS

- October 10 - **Thanksgiving Day** (classes cancelled; administrative offices and libraries closed)
- October 19 & 20 - **McGill Book Fair**. A McGill and Montreal tradition since 1971. Run by the Women Associates of McGill and the McGill Women's Alumnae Association, the Fair has raised over \$1,000,000 since its inception towards scholarships for McGill students. Prices are the best in the city, starting at 25 cents for some books. Cash only accepted. Red-path Hall, 861 Sherbrooke Street West, 9am to 9pm.
- October 21 - **Quebec Music Libraries Meeting** - see page 3
- October 7 & 14 - **Sorry, Glad, Sure** - see page 2

October 2005



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 Sorry, Glad, Sure	8
9	10 Thanksgiving Day 	11	12	13	14 Sorry, Glad, Sure	15
16	17	18	19 McGill Book Fair	20 McGill Book Fair	21 Quebec Music Libraries Meeting	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 Halloween 					

For more McGill events, consult the Community Calendar:
www.mcgill.ca/calendar/