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Bringing the Library into the Classroom

Thanks to a gift from McMaster alumni Alan ('71) and Brenda ('72) Wong, the Library was able to offer an exciting new service to the university community in September.

A portion of the donated funds allowed the purchase of 3 mobile teaching units to teach research skills to students in their classrooms. Previously, these sessions

were offered in the libraries and multiple sessions were often necessary to accommodate all the students in large classes. Now librarians can teach a large class in a single session. Librarians in the Innis Library, which has no formal facilities for instruction, are using the mobile teaching units in the library as well as in classrooms.

When the new service was announced in early September, reference librarians in all 3 libraries were overwhelmed by the response from faculty members. During the fall term, 121 sessions were given to a total of 4,631 students.

The remainder of the donated funds are designated for the creation of an electronic classroom in Mills Library.

McMaster Library NEWS

Use of the internet and other electronic resources has completely revolutionized the nature of scholarly research and increased the need to educate students and faculty on finding relevant scholarly information. With this increase in demand, instructional facilities in Mills became inadequate. The mobile teaching units



Brenda & Alan Wong

have certainly eased this situation, and the renovation of existing space in Mills, the second phase of the Wong Information Literacy Project, will significantly improve in-house facilities for instruction. The new electronic classroom eventually will house 20–25 computer stations for hands-on learning and will accommodate special projection equipment for the Library instructor. Renovations should be complete by the fall of 2003.

We are grateful to the Wongs for their generosity, which has made a huge impact on the library's ability to teach information literacy and research skills to a new generation of McMaster students. ■

Anne Plessl

What's New in the Library?

Gateway

In 1995 McMaster's Class of '50 generously pledged (as their 50th Reunion Project) to raise funds for the *McMaster University Libraries Gateway*. The Libraries Gateway Project then developed as a cooperative venture between the University Library and the Health Sciences Library to re-organize and centralize information about library services, update and revise the "look" of the web site, and provide a more efficient way for the user to select one or more of the thousands of available licensed electronic products. Staff from all areas in the libraries worked together to draft and review content and style, and came away with a deeper insight into, and appreciation of, the Library's diverse resources.

The *Gateway* unveiled in the fall of 2002 (at library.mcmaster.ca) lets you find out what we own, where we keep

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it, and whether or not you can access it online. It provides an entry point to all of our major access tools including MORRIS (the library catalogue) and the E-Resources Database (providing access to over 14,000 electronic indexes, journals and more). Preliminary use statistics for the fall term show round-the-clock use of the Gateway, proving that students often do work far into the night. ■

Sheila Pepper

Horizon Upgrade

After many months of planning, waiting for releases of new versions and testing, the Library has completed a major upgrade of its Integrated Library System software known as Horizon. The process began in the spring of 2002 and the original plan was to complete it during the summer, but delayed release dates pushed the final completion date into September.

Along with improvements to the staff interface, a new web-based public access catalogue (iPAC) was introduced. iPAC provides one user interface for library patrons whether on-site or off. One of the chief improvements over the old public access catalogue is the ability of iPAC to display reserve course items for all the libraries to off-site users.

Much work has been done to get the new public and staff versions ready, and much still remains to be done to make use of all the capabilities in the new software. The patience and support of patrons and Library staff were greatly appreciated during the upgrade process and we hope that the improvements provided will support a higher level of service. ■

Paul Otto

Photocopying and Printing

At the beginning of the fall term we introduced the “smart” debit card to make photocopying and printing easier, more convenient and more affordable. The reusable McMaster University Library Debit Card is \$2, and copies are 10 cents each (less when you purchase copies for \$10, \$20 or \$50). Cards are available

in all four libraries (Mills, Innis, Thode, Health Sciences), and other campus locations.

We have recently also introduced a colour printing facility which we expect to be particularly popular with users who need to print maps, charts or other visual materials for their research. Cost is \$1.50 per page, and users can pay for their print jobs using the McMaster University Library Debit Card. For more information, visit: library.mcmaster.ca/copying ■

Access to Digital Maps

After years of limited access to Canadian maps for use in Geographic Information Systems (GIS), McMaster researchers are now flooded with available digital geospatial data.

In December 2001, an agreement was signed with DMTI Spatial Inc., a commercial GIS data producer, to allow educational access to several of their most popular geospatial products. Forty-three Canadian universities and colleges now have access to National Atlas base maps, detailed street files and land use maps of urban areas, and census boundary files. Included also are several products that allow a researcher to add geographic coordinates to their own database, making any postal code or municipal street address “mappable”. These products will be particularly valuable for use in local business and health applications. Researchers will be able to map, for example, customers of a particular business or patients with a specific disease by their home address, and then look for patterns of distribution or co-incidence with other factors like income, educational level or ethnic background. McMaster researchers will be using this data for work on the tar ponds in Sydney, Nova Scotia and ethnic patterns in Vancouver and Montreal.

In February 2002, a second agreement was reached allowing researchers to obtain Canadian National Topographic Data Base (NTDB) maps at scales of 1:250,000

and 1:50,000, as well as digital elevation data. Previously, these types of digital information were prohibitively expensive for educational users. The recently signed agreement between the Depository Services Program (DSP) and Natural Resources Canada will now include these digital maps as federal government deposit material. The cost saving is in the order of \$400–600 per digital map. And as there are more than 17,000 maps in the National Topographic 1:50,000 series alone, the cost prior to this agreement prevented access to more than a token few sheets. Now researchers can obtain detailed geographic information for any research site in Canada—opening doors for new initiatives, research projects and teaching opportunities. Topographic maps, because of the elevation information that they display, are the workhorses of the Map Collection and used for many applications including drainage and slope modelling, site locations of all kinds, vegetation and urban extent. This elevation information is also used to create animated “fly-bys” for games and virtual tourism, because it allows you to simulate the hills and valleys of the earth’s surface. One McMaster application of this data will be to use it in a digital terrain model, looking for localized microclimate in the readings from Ontario weather stations. The Map Collection has offered demonstrations of these new data sets to staff and faculty. Researchers who have used the new data are enthusiastic about its quality, and delighted that access to Canadian data is increasingly available. ■

Cathy Moulder

Wife of US Ambassador to Canada visits Library

Jan Cellucci, wife of United States Ambassador to Canada Paul Cellucci, was on campus to visit the library in September. Mrs. Cellucci is visiting

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Celebration of Maps and Cartography

The Library's annual event for its donors took place on Sept. 22 and highlighted maps from the Library's collection.

Cathy Moulder, Curator of the Map Collection, mounted a dazzling display of a selection of rare maps which the

Library has been fortunate to receive from map collectors Sydney Banks, Elmar Hodsoll and Dr. Karl Freeman.

University President Peter George and University Librarian Graham R.



*Back row: Cathy Moulder, Elmar Hodsoll, Karl and Barbara Freeman
Front row: Doreen Hodsoll and Sydney Banks*

Hill welcomed guests and spoke briefly on the importance of a research library at a research-intensive university such as McMaster, and thanked donors for their support.

Dr. Walter Peace from the School of Geography and Geology presented a lecture on the significance of the rare maps for teaching and

research. Approximately 100 guests enjoyed the opportunity to talk to the map collectors and view the exhibit at a reception following the formal proceedings. ■

(Wife of US Ambassador — cont'd from p.2)

academic and research libraries across Canada. A librarian by profession, she was the Assistant University Librarian for Collection Services at Boston College before her move to Ottawa. She is an eloquent spokesperson for academic libraries and is in a unique position to advocate the importance of research libraries.

After a meeting with University President Peter George, Mrs. Cellucci enjoyed tours of Mills, Innis and Thode libraries. She was particularly interested in the Library's preservation and development activities, and praised McMaster's standing in the academic library community and in particular, the leadership of University Librarian Graham Hill. ■

Library Donor Wall

The Library's donor wall was initially unveiled in 1994 to recognize donors who had given over \$500 to the Library up to and during the Centennial campaign, and additional names were added in 1996. This

past summer, 118 new names were added to the wall to recognize donors who had given this amount in any calendar year from 1996–2000. A formal unveiling took place on September 22 immediately preceding the annual donor recognition event. We expect to make further additions to the wall, located in the lobby of Mills, every five years. ■

Preservation Tip: Choosing a Conservator

Canadians are becoming increasingly appreciative of collectible objects of artistic or heritage value and concerned with their preservation. Consequently, more and more Canadians are turning to professional conservators to enhance and preserve their collections through proper care and treatment. Conservation treatments can often be complex and may involve some risk to the object. Because a high degree of expertise is required, conservators generally specialize in one particular field such

as paintings, books or artifacts.

It is important to ensure that you select a conservator who will provide the best possible care for your item or collection. To select a conservator, you should first seek references from people or organizations that employ conservators, such as public galleries, museums and archives. As a rule, all conservators in Canada should:

* *know and abide by the Code of Ethics*

* *be willing to show examples of their work and openly discuss their methods and materials*

* *be able to provide references*

* *be willing to discuss their training and experience*

You should know exactly who will be doing the conservation work; deal directly with this person. Before any work begins, discuss a contract that outlines both the scope of the work and its cost. Conservation of an object normally involves two phases, examination and treatment. Usually these two steps and their fees are contracted separately.

A conservator should not be expected to provide cost estimates or treatment proposals without first seeing the item nor should he/she be expected to perform appraisals or authentications. Canada is known for its high conservation standards and has many respected professionals working in the field as practitioners, researchers, technicians, educators and consultants. Please take advantage of this expertise to provide the best care for your treasured objects or collections. ■

Audrie Schell

American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies

Evan Gottlieb, a McMaster alumnus of 1997, was the 2002 recipient of the McMaster-ASECS fellowship. Evan spent four weeks at the Library in June/July 2002. His research was focused on completing the final stages

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(ASECS — cont'd from p.3)

of his doctoral dissertation (Ph. D. English, SUNY at Buffalo) "Feeling British: Sympathy and the Literary Construction of British Identity, 1740–1830". In this work Evan argues that the discourse of sympathy functions in 18th century and Romantic literature to encourage and to create problems in a sense of shared national identity in Britain. Among the resources he found helpful were holdings of the works of Daniel Defoe, James Boswell, Tobias Smollett and Walter Scott, as well as many early publications by and about John Wilkes. ■

Charlotte A. Stewart

Recent Notable Gifts

The Library has received the following gifts from:

- Harry O. Brumpton, letters and news clippings from Evelyn H.C. Johnson to James Goulet regarding her sister, poet E. Pauline Johnson.
- Frank Denton, books on various topics.
- Lorenzo Di Tommaso, books on Judaism, Jewish history and Jewish literature.
- Gordon Flowers, administrative files of the Canadian Peace Congress.
- Current and retired faculty members Simon Haykin, Helen Love-Jones, Charles Roland, Norman Shrive, Yufei Yuan, collections of books on various topics.
- Richard C. Hilborn, his correspondence with Viscountess Nancy Astor and other material related to the Astor family.
- William and Ena Kellington, a copy of Henry Boswell's *Historical Descriptions of New and Elegant Picturesque Views of the Antiquities of England and Wales* (1790).
- Estate of Mary Eleanor Keyes, books on sports and kinesiology.
- Sir Edwin Leather, a dispatch box containing guest books and magazine articles, and photograph albums about Sir Edwin, his home in Bermuda, and

various trips.

- Frederick P. Lock, books on historical and literary topics.
- Don Measner, 12 WWII aviator's survival maps.
- Daromil Miarczyński, a copy of *Zagłada Żydostwa Polskiego: Album Zdjęć. Extermination of Polish Jews: Album of Pictures*. Łódź: 1945.
- Henrik Nyhof, a pre-1500 vellum folio antiphonal for the Catholic mass.
- Edward C. H. Phelps, a copy of Adam Anderson's *Historical and Chronological Deduction of the Origin of Commerce* (1787–89).
- Lewis Sherman, books on various topics.
- Gaye Stratten, scholarly books and journals on the sport of swimming.
- Westinghouse Canada, approximately 15 boxes of company archives.
- John and Rose Wilson, autographed copies of books by Gabrielle Roy and Raymond Souster.
- Lois Wilson, her correspondence with Margaret Laurence.

We are grateful to all donors for their generosity to the Library. ■

Publications

Aigner-Varoz, Erika E. "Suiting Herself: E. Pauline Johnson's Constructions of Indian Identity and Self". University of New Mexico, Ph.D. thesis, 2002.

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Gray, Charlotte. *Flint & Feather: The Life and Times of E. Pauline Johnson, Tekahionwake*. Toronto: Harper Flamingo Canada, 2002.

Grayling, A.C. *Russell: A Very*

Short Introduction. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002.

King, James. *Farley: The Life of Farley Mowat*. Toronto: Harper Flamingo Canada, 2002.

Martin, Victoria. "Bertrand Russell's Role in the Cuban Missile Crisis", *Historian* no. 14 (summer 2002): 25–9.

Pincock, Christopher. "Russell's Influence on Carnap's *Aufbau*", *Synthese* 131 (2002): 1–37.

Robinson, Annabel. *The Life and Work of Jane Ellen Harrison*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2002.

Sellens, Otto. "The English Translations of Bayle's *Dictionnaire*" in Jens Häselser and Antony McKenna, *La Vie intellectuelle aux refuges protestants* (Paris: Honoré Champion Éditeur, 2002), vol. 2, pp. 64–95.

Spadoni, Carl. "Collecting Eighteenth Century English Novels in the Twenty-First Century", *Eighteenth Century Fiction* 14, nos. 3–4 (April–July 2002): 797–806.

Vianelli, Giovanni. "Bertrand Russell: il problema dell'inferenza scientifica negli anni *History of Western Philosophy*". Università degli Studi di Bologna, Ph.D. thesis 2001. ■

Calendar

Exhibit in Archives and Research Collections, Mills Library, Feb. 1–April 30, 2003: Two Hundred Years of Children's Literature: Highlights from the Collection".

March 10, 2003, 2:00–4:00 p.m.: Pierre Berton will read from his latest book *The Joy of Writing* and speak on writing non-fiction. CIBC Hall, 3rd floor MUSC. ■

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