

# Library FRIENDS

SUMMER 2008



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*A striking eastward view of the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, featuring the restored Main Library core.*

**IRVING K. BARBER LEARNING CENTRE**

## Open for lifelong learning

**It was a tale of two celebrations for UBC Library, the University of British Columbia and the province.**

**In mid-April**, more than five years after the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre was announced, hundreds of special guests attended the grand opening of this stunning building at the heart of UBC's campus.

The facility features about 250,000 square feet of new and renovated space for users at UBC, throughout the province and beyond. Speakers included Premier Gordon Campbell, UBC President Stephen Toope, UBC student Andre Malan and, of course, UBC alumnus and donor Dr. Irving K. Barber.

"It is very satisfying to see the completion of a facility that has been so embraced by its users," said Dr. Barber. "It's an encouraging sign that the Learning Centre will accomplish its objectives."

The new second phase is home to the interdisciplinary Arts One, Science One, Coordinated Arts and Coordinated Science programs. The School of Library, Archival and Information Studies is located on level four, while new homes for Rare Books and Special Collections and University Archives are on level one. A mix of classroom and study spaces is sprinkled throughout. Along with UBC Library, other building tenants include the Centre for Teaching and Academic Growth and the Office of Learning Technology.

A highlight of the building is the refurbished core of the 1925 Main Library, which was one of the first buildings on the UBC campus. The core has been restored to its original glory, with the centrepiece being the Chapman Learning Commons, a hub of learning support that offers research and writing assistance, workshops and more.

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## Open for lifelong learning

*continued from page one*

### A new home for the Chung Collection

Just a few days later, another Learning Centre event was held – an April 15 ceremony commemorating the new, permanent home for the Wallace B. Chung and Madeline H. Chung Collection.

The Chung Collection, valued at more than \$5 million, is a designated national treasure. It includes documents, rare books, maps, posters, paintings, photos, silver, glass, ceramic ware and other artifacts relating to the Canadian Pacific Railway, the Asian experience in Canada, and West Coast history and exploration.

The collection was donated in 1999, and was temporarily exhibited in the Main Library's heritage core. It is now displayed in the Chung Room, located in Rare Books and Special Collections.


"We're delighted there's a beautiful, permanent space to house this collection – this will allow many

more people to honour the struggles and joys of those who have come before," said Dr. Chung, a vascular surgeon and Professor Emeritus in UBC's Faculty of Medicine.

Speakers at the Chung event included UBC President Toope, renowned Canadian author Wayson Choy and Dr. Chung, who used the occasion to donate three more rare and wonderful gifts to the Chung Collection.

A welcome reception for Learning Centre and Library staff was also held at the end of April in the Lillooet Room, adjacent to the Chapman Learning Commons in the restored Main Library core. The event was a treat for many; several staffers who had worked in the old Main Library noted that returning to the restored core stoked fond memories.

So congratulations to the Learning Centre and its tenants – and if you haven't had an opportunity to visit this wonderful space, please consider yourself invited. For a photo essay highlighting both events, please see pages 4 and 5.

For more information, please visit [www.ikebarberlearningcentre.ubc.ca](http://www.ikebarberlearningcentre.ubc.ca). 

### FROM THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN

## Full speed ahead



**Peter Ward**  
University Librarian  
pro tem

**Whoever thought libraries were oases of calm in the hectic modern world hasn't been involved in running a major academic library.**

**Certainly**, in an organization as large as UBC Library, times are never torpid. But recent months have been exceptionally busy, even for us.


Most notably, after years of construction, the spectacular Irving K. Barber Learning Centre recently celebrated its grand opening. A few days later, another celebration was held at the Learning Centre, this time for the new, permanent home of the exceptional Chung Collection, located in Rare Books and Special Collections.

Hundreds of special guests attended both events, which featured an array of honoured speakers. These occasions – which are highlighted in this issue of *Friends* – were huge successes as well as touching tributes to the donors who have provided so much to our institution and our province.

We've received other encouraging news as well. Near the end of January, I learned that UBC Library's application for more than \$500,000 to the University's new Strategic Priorities Fund had been approved in full. This fund, set up last year, provides \$8 million to be allocated on a competitive basis for strategic needs across campus.

Needless to say, we were elated with the outcome. Two-thirds of the Library's funding, totalling \$354,000, is ongoing, and will be used for the continued development of cIRcle (UBC Library's information repository), digitization programs and other digital library initiatives. The remainder of the award is one-time funding that will largely be used to purchase equipment.

I would like to thank everyone who worked on this proposal, including staff members belonging to the Library Operations Management Group, especially Associate University Librarian Rue Ramirez and Head of Borrower Services Leonora Crema. We're grateful for their efforts and excited about the possibilities ahead.

I'd like to conclude on a smaller, but no less inspiring, budgetary note. An annual amount of \$1,500 has been set aside to support staff participating in community events that meet various criteria, such as a charitable focus, team collaboration and more. We're very pleased to note that we recently used some of this money to sponsor a team of Library runners for the Vancouver Sun Run and a relay team for the Vancouver Marathon. We are proud to support such efforts, and look forward to backing more events that engage our employees and the communities in which they live, work and play. 

## LIVE-IN FOR LITERACY

# Camping at Koerner for a cause

We've heard of pulling all-nighters. But camping in a library for a week and a half? Who would do such a thing?

Peter Ward,  
University Librarian  
pro tem, presents  
Richa Misra (left)  
and Anita Bernardo  
with a cheque  
to support Live-in  
for Literacy 2008.

**Two UBC undergraduates** on a literacy mission, that's who.

From January 18 to January 28, Anita Bernardo and Richa Misra lived in a tent and makeshift camp in a corner of the main lobby at UBC's Koerner Library.

Bernardo and Misra were part of a national effort called Live-in for Literacy 2008. This featured university students across Canada living in libraries to raise money to construct five school libraries in Nepal through the Room to Read charity.

The effort garnered aid, awareness and media attention. "It was an amazing experience. Being woken up by a reporter from Shaw TV was something that I'm sure won't happen again," Misra says. "Also, just the support from all of our friends was very, very appreciated."


"Literacy is necessary in today's world to succeed as individuals and as societies, and if I can help Nepalese schoolchildren by living in a library that I love, then I'm happy to do so," added Bernardo.



This was the first time that UBC – or, indeed, any Western Canadian school – participated in the Live-in for Literacy project, held at Queen's University for the previous three years (the UBC team consisted of 10 volunteers, including the campers). Other 2008 participants included Memorial University and Laurentian University.

In a show of support, UBC Library kicked off the local effort by pledging \$1,000. "We felt compelled by the vision and the chance to make a difference in communities that haven't yet experienced the transforming effect of libraries," says Leonora Crema, UBC Library's Head of Borrower Services.

In total, the four universities raised about \$26,000, with UBC contributing more than \$5,000 – thanks to the library live-in and other fundraisers in partnership with UBC residence advising.

Thank you to everyone and every organization that supported this laudable cause. For more information, please visit [www.liveinforliteracy.com](http://www.liveinforliteracy.com). 

## ON DISPLAY AT KOERNER



Althea Thauberger  
with her artwork at  
Koerner Library.

Is it a library? Is it a gallery? Well, perhaps it's a bit of both.

In January, a provocative new artwork by Althea Thauberger was installed on the main floor of Koerner Library. The photographic mural, entitled *The Art of Seeing Without Being Seen*, was part of an exhibition called *Exponential Future*, on display at UBC's Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery from January 18 to April 27, 2008.

*Exponential Future* featured the work of eight young Vancouver artists, and aimed to open "a window on the vitality of contemporary art in this city."

One of Thauberger's contributions to this effort is a mural that recreates a Canadian military training exercise. Indeed, much of Thauberger's work explores military themes, and her work has been shown in solo and group exhibitions

in North America, Europe and Asia. UBC Library and the Belkin also presented a talk by Thauberger.

Her art in Koerner Library replaced *Emergent Image*, a painting from renowned Canadian painter Jack Shadbolt. This has been sent on long-term loan to the UBC/VGH Hospitals Art program.

Art and library enthusiasts, stay tuned – UBC Library hopes to collaborate further with the Belkin.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

## Irving K. Barber Learning Centre Grand Opening

On April 11, 2008, honoured guests gathered to celebrate the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre – a hub of lifelong learning for users at UBC and throughout the province.



*Dr. Irving Barber shares his vision at the opening celebration.*

*Peter Ward, University Librarian pro tem, addresses the audience in the Golden Jubilee Room.*



## SPECIAL EVENTS

## Chung Collection Opening

Just days after the Learning Centre's grand opening, people came to the facility to commemorate the new home for the venerable Chung Collection.



*Dr. Wallace Chung presents another gift to the Chung Collection – a British Admiralty seal, dated 1847.*



*A musician plays the lute as guests gather.*



*Dr. Barber and Dr. Wallace Chung share a moment at the event.*

*Ms. Mary Charles, an Elder from the Musqueam Indian Band, opens the event with a special welcome address.*



*From left: Former UBC President Martha Piper, Dr. Barber, Mrs. Jean Barber and Premier Gordon Campbell pose with the Learning Centre plaque.*

*A stunning model of the Empress of Asia ocean liner, personally restored by Dr Chung.*



*Opening celebrations of the Chungs; –from left: Peter Ward, University Librarian pro tem; a young relative Stephen Toope; UBC Professor Emeritus Dr. Cole Harris.*

## TRIBUTE

## Hugh Sutherland, 1927-2007

Hugh Sutherland, a successful businessman, beloved friend and family member, and generous supporter of UBC Library and other organizations, peacefully passed away on November 14, 2007. Here, we provide a tribute to Hugh and the Sutherland Foundation.



*The Peggy Sutherland Site is a legacy of the Sutherland Foundation, which was founded by Hugh Sutherland.*

**Hugh Sutherland** was raised in Vancouver, where he attended McGee High School. He married Peggy in 1951, after they met while Peggy was in nursing training at St. Paul's Hospital.

After a wide assortment of jobs, Hugh founded Mohawk Oil Co. in 1960. In the following years, he developed many lasting friendships throughout B.C. and Alberta. Hugh was a brilliant businessman, a keen sportsman, an honest gentleman, a versatile athlete, and above all, a proud family man. Success never spoiled his boyish enthusiasm.

Hugh founded the Sutherland Foundation in the 1980s. Over the years, this foundation has generously supported organizations including the Salvation Army, the BC Cancer Foundation and UBC Library.

Contributions to the St. Paul's Hospital Library began in 1978 when the Rodger Stanton Memorial Library Trust Fund was created to purchase supplementary material for hospital staff. In 2001 the endowment was transferred to UBC and extended to all Life Sciences Libraries.

In 1998, the Sutherland Foundation created the Rodger Stanton Memorial Library Endowment to support the acquisition of information resources for St. Paul's Hospital Library. Two years later, the foundation established the Peggy Sutherland Memorial Library Endowment to support resources and services for UBC's Life Sciences Libraries. The endowment, the important resources it funds, and the great learning it makes possible are a tribute to Peggy Sutherland, who passed away in 1999.

In 2004, the Sutherland Foundation donated \$500,000 to support the eHelp virtual reference pilot project for two years. This project helped inform Ask-Away, a virtual reference service and partnership among B.C. post-secondary libraries, BCcampus and the British Columbia Electronic Library Network. AskAway launched in October 2006.

The Sutherland Foundation also funded the Physiotherapy Outreach Program for three years. This program resulted from a partnership between the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre and the Physiotherapy Association of British Columbia (PABC). The Physiotherapy Outreach Librarian used technology – such as a blog and specialized search engine – to educate and inform physiotherapists, and he travelled throughout the province to present workshops. The PABC, encouraged by the results, has since hired its own librarian.

Most recently, the Sutherland Foundation committed \$220,000 annually, up to three years, to create a world-class Research Commons at Koerner Library. The vision for the Sutherland Research Commons is founded on building relationships between Koerner Library and the provincial research community.

UBC Library is indebted to Hugh Sutherland and the Sutherland Foundation for such outstanding support.

“Hugh was a kind and thoughtful man – and he had an amazing memory! And he was certainly a friend of libraries. We will miss him.”

Barbara Saint, *Reference Librarian, St. Paul's Hospital*

## At home on campus

### Kim Lawson has ended up in the right place.



Reference Librarian Kim Lawson, seated outside X̱wi7̱x̱wa Library.

**After graduating** from UBC’s School of Library, Archival and Information Studies (SLAIS), Lawson expected that she would likely work in community resource centres serving Aboriginal communities. Indeed, before she arrived at X̱wi7̱x̱wa Library – the First Nations academic library on the Point Grey campus – she worked as an archivist and librarian for the Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs Resource Centre.

In October 2006, however, Lawson began as a Reference Librarian at X̱wi7̱x̱wa (pronounced whei-wha). “X̱wi7̱x̱wa really is unique in the way that it approaches Indigenous knowledge,” says Lawson, a member of the Heiltsuk Nation from B.C.’s central coast. “So it’s the only academic library that I would have been interested in.”

X̱wi7̱x̱wa Library became an official branch of UBC Library in January 2006, and reports jointly to the Library and the First Nations House of Learning.

The transition to branch status has been a positive, Lawson says. “I think it’s been a reason for Aboriginal folks on campus to think more about what libraries mean. And the infrastructure support from the UBC Library system has really been crucial.”

#### Working at X̱wi7̱x̱wa

Much of Lawson’s time is spent providing reference services and classroom instruction for UBC faculty and students, liaising with faculty and other UBC Library branches, and working on collections development.

“I love it – the Library folks have been really welcoming,” she says. “And I spent a lot of time in the First

Nations Longhouse [home to the House of Learning] when I was a student, so that was a real pull when I decided to take the job.”

Lawson grew up in Saskatchewan and B.C. After attending Pearson College in Victoria, she received a double major in Anthropology and Pacific and Asian Studies from the University of Victoria.

She then attended SLAIS, and obtained a Master of Library and Information Studies with a First Nations curriculum concentration. In 1998, Lawson was the recipient of the first Gene Joseph Scholarship – named after the SLAIS graduate and founding head of X̱wi7̱x̱wa. (Today, X̱wi7̱x̱wa sells T-shirts featuring a logo designed by Lawson’s father in order to support the Gene Joseph Scholarship.)

#### Community connections

Lawson notes that X̱wi7̱x̱wa Library often serves users with unique information needs. “In some ways, it’s more to reflect the needs of students rooted in their community,” she says. “One of the things that makes assignments more challenging for a lot of the Longhouse students is that they’re looking to get to a community or a local focus for their research.”

As a result, research tasks may require more time and specialized skills. “If the information isn’t documented, then it becomes a much more challenging area,” Lawson says. “For students who want to focus on their community, they’re more likely going to have to go to primary materials and grey literature.”

That said, she adds that X̱wi7̱x̱wa serves a broad audience – ranging from Longhouse members to faculty and students from other UBC departments and community users such as lawyers.

Lawson has also been busy promoting and discussing First Nations librarianship and scholarship. She presented a session at the British Columbia Library Association Conference in April, and facilitated another at the Canadian Library Association Conference, held in Vancouver in May. 

## RECOGNITION



#### Vaulting to Victory

UBC Library is thrilled to announce that it has won two awards as part of the CCAE Prix D’Excellence program.

The annual awards, given by the Canadian Council for the Advance-

ment of Education, are given to recognize achievements in alumni affairs, public affairs, development, student recruitment and institutional advancement.

*Friends*, UBC Library’s newsletter, was awarded a bronze. Meanwhile, the UBC Library Vault ([www.](http://www.ubcvault.ca)

[ubcvault.ca](http://www.ubcvault.ca)) won a gold – the highest honour given – in the category of Best E-Innovation in University Advancement.

Certificates will be awarded at the CCAE’s annual conference in Kelowna this June.



Joy Kirchner,  
Project Manager  
for Scholarly  
Communications,  
UBC Library.

## THE BIG PICTURE

# Information opens up

To many, scholarly communications may conjure visions of professors and grad students chatting in university corridors.

**But the phrase**, which entered the academic lexicon in the late 1990s, has become a watchword for big changes in academic scholarship and publishing.

Essentially, it's an umbrella term covering the many ways that research is published, packaged and accessed in the digital age. And libraries play a crucial role in the process.

"Many libraries internationally are beginning to engage in campus-wide discussions on the rapid change in scholarly communication practices and publishing," says Joy Kirchner, Project Manager for Scholarly Communications at UBC Library.

"I think we're aware that there's a sea change happening that is driven both by technology and the desire to create something different from traditional models of scholarship.

We are seeing new kinds of business models and new ways of interacting with information."

Kirchner, a Sciences Collections Librarian, was seconded to her scholarly communications role last September. Since then, she's been busy discussing the topic with faculty, who have been receptive – if somewhat unsure – of how the shifting landscape will unfold.

### Today and tomorrow

Some projects at UBC Library offer an insight into the possibilities. For example, *circle* (<https://circle.ubc.ca>) – the Library's information repository – serves as a digital storehouse for UBC-based research. The *circle* project has been underway for more than a year, and other libraries and organizations around the globe also

feature such repositories (for more information, see the Fall 2007 issue of *Friends* newsletter).

*circle* is based on an open access model, which means that it is freely available to users around the world. The concept has blossomed in recent years, as academic libraries have grappled with surging subscription costs for scholarly journals. Indeed, a variety of open access journals are now well-established.

Digitization, which involves converting analogue sources of information into digital formats that can be accessed online, is another term that falls under scholarly communications. UBC Library has led a number of efforts in this area, ranging from the digitization of Charles Darwin letters to the B.C. History Digitization Program. This latter initiative, launched by the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, provides matching funds for projects that provide free online access to B.C.'s unique historical material.

So these are some of today's efforts – but what can we expect tomorrow? Given the pace of change, it seems certain that ideas, inspirations and models will continue to multiply. Kirchner suggests that one of the next big themes is open data – that is, making the data that underlies research openly available in special repositories. Such efforts have already been undertaken in areas such as genome research.

"What we can be sure of is that there is this trend to opening up information," Kirchner says. **F**

# FRIENDS

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