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UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA LIBRARY

# Digitization and UBC Library: Bringing our holdings to the world

"...digital surrogates allow researchers to enjoy 24/7 access to resources."

Cultural and memory institutions around the world, and large research libraries in particular, are using digitization to expand and enhance access to their holdings. Digitization is the process of creating a digital or electronic copy of a variety of objects such as photographs, books, newspapers, audio and video recordings, maps, documents and artwork. These digital surrogates allow researchers to enjoy 24/7 access to resources. Notwithstanding some of the high-profile, mass book-scanning initiatives, most digitization efforts to date have focused on the rare or

unique holdings of institutions.

**UBC** Library's digitization work dates to the mid-1990s, with much of the early work carried out by University Archives. The focus has been on providing access to institutional information and heavily consulted resources. Approximately 40,000 photographs depicting various aspects of the history of the institution are available. (cont'd on page 2) ▶



A digitized photograph from the Chung Collection, Rare Books & Special Collections.

## MESSAGE FROM THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN

Ingrid Parent, University Librarian

## Life in the digital age

Hello – and welcome to Insight, UBC Library's faculty newsletter. My name is Ingrid Parent, and I have recently returned to the University of British Columbia to serve as its 14th University Librarian.

A few decades ago, I attended UBC to receive degrees in Honours History and Library Science. After living and working in eastern Canada for many years, I've come back to lead one of Canada's largest academic libraries. It is an honour to serve in this role – and a challenge, given today's information-saturated world.

That said, the experience I've gained should serve me

well. Before coming to UBC in July, I had worked for Libraries and Archives Canada (LAC) as an Assistant Deputy Minister. One of the major initiatives I was involved with was the development of LAC's Canadian Digital Information Strategy, a major effort to advance the country's (cont'd on page 2)



## Open Access Week – October 19-23, 2009

UBC Library is participating in the first international Open Access Week (www.openaccessweek.org). To help celebrate this special occasion, we are programming a series of events and distinguished speakers who will talk about their involvement in the open access movement.

Program highlights include:

Tuesday, October 20: Open Access Around the World Wednesday, October 21: Surfacing UBC Scholarship Thursday, October 22: Journal Publishing

If you are interested in participating in this event, please contact: Joy Kirchner, UBC Library, at joy.kirchner@ubc.ca.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN

(cont'd from page 1)

digital agenda (more information can be found at www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/cdis).

Whether we are fans or foes of the digital world – or somewhere in-between – there is no doubt that this world is here, and it is truly changing the notion of what an academic library is and how it can best serve its many users.

This process is not without its controversy. Just witness the variety of viewpoints expressed about the Google Books project, which involves the digitization of millions of tomes provided by a host of academic libraries. Indeed, for libraries of all stripes, there are many nuances to consider as we deal with, and adapt to, life in the digital age.

But there are also amazing benefits – perhaps the most important one being enhanced access to a vast array of material. This is why UBC Library's digital plan is one of my top priorities. To me, digital activities typically involve three functions: collecting electronic publications and archival records, providing new and more efficient types of digital services, and digitizing print and other materials. I aim to continue developing these streams at UBC Library in partnership with other organizations.

On that note, you'll find an update in this issue of *Insight* on recent Library activities, ranging from the digitization of UBC-related material to the B.C. History Digitization Program.

As you'll see, we've done a lot on the digital front. But there is much more to do and many exciting routes to take. We welcome your feedback on this and any other Library-related issue that is important to your teaching and research endeavours.

Elsewhere, you'll find updates on the UBC Library Vault, our new GIS lab and librarian, and more. Enjoy this instalment of *Insight* – and if you have questions, comments or story ideas, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Ingrid Parent University Librarian Tel: 604-827-3486 E-mail: ingrid.parent@ubc.ca

## ► Digitization and UBC Library (cont'd from page 1)

Archives also provides access to digital copies of complete runs of major University newspapers and magazines dating back to their inception (http:// ubcpubs.library.ubc.ca). Page images combined with full-text search functionality allows researchers to search more than 70,000 pages of published material. Archives provides a complete digital set of UBC Calendars and the student yearbook, both of which began publishing in 1915.

Archives recently launched a website that

provides access to the full-text of the first 100 UBC theses (www.library.ubc.ca/archives/first100). This is a small component of a larger project that is using UBC's institutional repository, called cIRcle, to house current and older theses.

In addition to collecting University-related material, UBC Library has developed several collections featuring some of its distinct and unique holdings. Two of these include the correspondence of Florence Nightingale and that of Charles Darwin, held in Woodward Library. Significant holdings from Rare Books and Special

Collections, including Japanese maps of the Tokugawa period (1600-1867) and the Chung Collection, are also represented in Archives' digital collections. For a complete list of digital projects, please see http://digitalcollections.library.ubc.ca/index.php.

We have also developed and participated in larger initiatives. The Irving K. Barber Learning Centre provides matching funds to assist heritage organizations throughout the province to digitize materials of local interest. The Learning Centre also co-sponsored and hosted the B.C. Digitization Symposium,

a cross-sector gathering of individuals interested in learning about initiatives around the province and sharing their experience.

UBC Library is developing a strategic plan to govern the digitization of Library collections and inform the development of partnerships with other campus departments and faculty members. Opportunities to collaborate on digitization projects with other partners provincially, nationally and internationally will also be explored.

## The Learning Centre: New Year, New Projects

As another school year begins, the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre continues to engage its users at UBC and throughout the province. Here are a few examples of some our latest offerings.

#### Community Historical Recognition Program (CHRP)

This initiative involves UBC students engaging with Chinese-Canadian community members – elders in particular – to create and preserve the unique history of the Chinese in Canada.

The Learning Centre is working on the project with the Initiative for Student Teaching and Research in Chinese Canadian Studies (INSTRCC) at UBC. The project is being led by Dr. Henry Yu, an Associate Professor in the History department, and Allan Cho, the Learning Centre's Program Services Librarian.

#### Story Behind the News

The Learning Centre and UBC Okanagan are in early discussions about the development of a "Story Behind the News" service that would provide short pieces of contextual information, social/economic/political analysis, and recommended information sources for people who wish to learn more about high-profile news stories. Information may be written or presented through programming and webcasts/podcasts. The Learning Centre will seek to involve expert faculty members and students.

### Chapman Learning Commons

As a new school year gets underway, the Chapman Learning Commons (CLC) is introducing several new programs and services. The CLC, located on level three of the Learning Centre, brings together technology and learning support for students, faculty, staff and community members.

#### Here are some of our new services:

The CLC Assistants student team offers help with learning technology and multimedia software, including support for creating and using blogs, wikis, iClickers and iMac multimedia workstations. This new service, a partnership with the Office of Learning Technology (OLT), is available at the CLC Help Desk.

In addition to new iMac workstations and scanners, UBC students, faculty and staff can borrow Sony Camcorders, available at the Learning Centre's Circulation Desk on level two. Support is available at the CLC Help Desk.

A new "academic coaching corner" features well-established peer coaching programs on campus. Upper-level students provide support for issues ranging from study techniques to academic resources. This service is co-ordinated by UBC Student Development and is available during the academic term.

The Student to Scholar program, a student-led initiative, pulls together a suite of workshops on academic learning, library research, technology and lifestyle balance to help students develop well-rounded skills.



## An Open Invitation



A key part of the Learning Centre's mandate is to create opportunities to connect UBC's teaching and learning activities to the broader community of scholars and the general public. Over the past year the Learning Centre has hosted a number of symposia and conferences, including the Centre for Teaching and Academic Growth's annual Learning Conference, Student Development's Student Leadership Conference and OLT's eLearning Open House.

We welcome your suggestions and ideas for events that you think would be of interest to UBC and the broader community, such as public lectures, author readings and debates.

For more information, please contact
Allan Cho,
Program Services Librarian allan.cho@ubc.ca

For more information about the Learning Centre or any of its programs and services, please contact: Sandra Singh, Director sandra.singh@ubc.ca

Simon Neame, Assistant Director simon.neame@ubc.ca

# UBC LIBRARY VAI Unlocks the Treasures

At the heart of **UBC** Library lies an exceptional array of rare books, archives and other special collections, many of which have been hidden from view. UBC Library Vault brings these treasures to your fingertips through its ever-growing online gallery found at

## www.ubcvault.ca

-featuring
extraordinary
images from
books, maps and
manuscripts of
national and
international
importance,
along with their
intriguing stories.

One of the website's new features, ready this fall, will include citations for image details. Some descriptions have already been updated to include references for researchers.

We have just launched a companion to the website – a ContentDM digital image gallery, which will allow access to all images from select titles that appear on UBC Library Vault (see www.ubcvault.ca). These include digitized engravings, illustrations, copper plates, hand-painted manuscripts and more. Offerings will include untouched, raw photographs from original works as well as the final images showcased on **UBC** Library Vault.

One of the ContentDM highlights features a work published in 1543 by Andreas Vesalius, anatomist, surgeon and scholar. De Humani Corporis Fabrica, or The Fabric of the Human Body, includes some 200

woodblock illustrations, and was instrumental in the development of modern anatomy. These accurate images of the human body were meant to serve as teaching guides for students without access to cadavers. The ContentDM gallery will feature more than 100 images from this remarkable text.

Currently, UBC Library Vault offers only select images for browsing. However, in October, all 208 pages of the Spanish Chant Manuscript will be available in the ContentDM gallery. Other highlights include engravings from Vesalius's famous On the Fabric of the Human Body, illustrations from botany texts and more.

Be the first to find out when the image gallery will be available by signing up for our award-winning eVault e-newsletter. Come browse www.ubcvault.ca and join our community of supporters!





## The Chung Collection goes digital

Researchers with an interest in Chinese-Canadian history can now explore more of the venerable Chung Collection thanks to its expanded digital presence.

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The Wallace B. Chung and Madeline H. Chung Collection is a national treasure held by UBC Library that contains more than 25,000 rare and unique items. Rare Books and Special Collections (RBSC) offers a website with an inventory, an exhibition containing collection highlights and a new digital collection that includes documents, books, maps, posters, paintings, photographs, silver, glass, ceramic ware and other artifacts.

The Chung Collection was generously gifted to the Library in 1999. Researchers interested in Chinese-Canadian history can find a wealth of information on topics including settlement, government documents, social life in early Vancouver and more. Highlights include the first book published in British Columbia, a model of the Empress of Asia boat (painstakingly restored

This Confilies April

by Dr. Chung) and a book containing all of B.C.'s laws and statutes from 1858 to 1871.

RBSC has been busy digitizing the collection, which now includes more than 2,800 items. Themes include B.C. History, immigration and settlement, and the Canadian Pacific Railway Company. The digital collection also allows users to submit comments about items, such as names of people and identification of locations. For more, visit http:// digitalcollections.library.ubc. ca, click on B.C. History Digital Collections, and then click on Chung Collection Digital Collections.

The Chung Collection exhibit is housed in RBSC on level one of UBC's Irving K. Barber Learning Centre. It is open to everyone at no charge, Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from noon to 5 p.m.

For further information, please contact Sarah Romkey, Chung Collection Librarian, at sarah.romkey@ubc.ca or 604-822-2521.

Archibald White Maconochie

## UBC Library puts GIS on the map



When you hear the term GIS, do you think of Google Earth or Yahoo Maps? Perhaps you think of GPS (global positioning systems) navigation? Or maybe you haven't heard of GIS at all.

GIS – or geographic information systems – takes mapping to a whole new level. It is a powerful software tool used

to store, manage, analyze and edit geospatial (location-based) data, and to create thematic maps and tables.

UBC researchers have used GIS software and data since the 1980s. The Faculty of Forestry and the Department of Geography have several GIS labs and use the software tool extensively. Both the Department of Geography and the School of Community and Regional Planning offer courses in GIS. UBC Library provides some geospatial data for UBC research and coursework, but has not offered GIS services specifically – until now.

GIS Librarian Tom
Brittnacher was brought on
board in August to provide
GIS reference services and
instruction to patrons, and to
spearhead an effort to improve
access to GIS data and software
– particularly for students
and faculty affiliated with
departments that do not have
in-house facilities. He will assist
patrons in finding GIS data for
their projects, provide dataliteracy tutorials and expand
the Library's GIS data collection.

This fall, a new data/GIS lab housing six high-powered computers equipped with GIS and statistical software opens on the second floor of Koerner Library. In coming months, the Library plans to provide classroom instruction and data for graduate and senior undergraduate classes.

Instructors, researchers and students in many UBC faculties, schools and departments are beginning to incorporate GIS into research. These include Architecture, Biology, Civil Engineering, Economics, Fisheries, History, Land and Food Systems, Landscape Architecture, and Population and Public Health. As a visual communication tool, GIS can even be used for research in

art and dance!

With the introduction of its new lab, the Library will be able to offer resources and expertise to faculty and graduate students interested in employing these techniques and content in their research activities.

Brittnacher plans to make Koerner Library a major hub of GIS activity on campus. Originally from California, he lived in Wisconsin for the last four years. After receiving his Master of Library and Information Science degree from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM), he joined the American Geographical Society Library at UWM as the GIS Librarian. There, he upgraded reference services and worked with UWM faculty and staff to improve GIS services on campus.

Prior to his library career,
Brittnacher worked in the
private sector as a GIS
analyst, urban planner and
cartographer. He also holds a
Bachelor of Science degree in
Geography from the University
of California, Davis, and a
Master of Arts degree in Urban
Planning from UCLA.

Please contact Tom Brittnacher at 604-827-4450 tom.brittnacher@ubc.ca

## Milestone for the Library robot

This summer marked a milestone for UBC Library's automated storage and retrieval system (ASRS) – otherwise known affectionately as the Library robot.

That's because the one millionth item was loaded into the ASRS on July 15. A ceremonial title was used to commemorate the special occasion: A Management Plan for the University of British Columbia Research Forest, a UBC thesis by Peter R.W. Sanders. This tome was chosen for its UBC connection and as an homage to Irving K. Barber, a longtime professional forester and the donor whose generosity led to the construction of the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, which houses the ASRS.

UBC Library is the first Canadian library to install an automated storage and retrieval system, and it remains one of the largest library-specific systems in North America. It holds books, maps, records and more, and features four GPS-guided robotic cranes that retrieve items from more than 19,000 bins. During UBC's busy winter session, about 200 requests for ASRS items are received from Library patrons each day.



Library Assistant Ernest Dick loads the commemorative title.

## **PROFILE: TRISH ROSSEEL**

## "Coming home"

Trish Rosseel returned to UBC Library at the end of March as a Teaching and Learning Librarian. "It is wonderful and timely that the Library has created a new position to provide leadership, direction and support for its instructional programs," she says. "These programs are integral in helping students develop information literacy skills, which will support them in their academic work at UBC and in their future work and research endeavours."

Librarians at UBC have a long, successful history of working with faculty to integrate information literacy into the curriculum. In some faculties, such as Medicine and Pharmaceutical Sciences, it is a core and required component. In others – such as Arts and Science – librarians work individually with faculty members in their subject liaison areas to offer library instruction for core courses or classes that have a significant research component."I always enjoy the



Trish Rosseel, Teaching & Learning Librarian

workshops, and students find them very useful," notes Gisèle Baxter of the Department of English, commenting on Library workshops for English 112.

Rosseel and her colleagues are eager to explore how the Library can enhance its instructional programs, leverage them in online learning environments, align them with educational and curricular outcomes, and assess their impact on student learning.

The LEAD Initiative and the Carl Wieman Science Education Initiative are exciting

developments at UBC, notes Rosseel. "I'm very interested in what they're doing and keen to learn from, participate in, and contribute to their work," she says. "Building on successful relationships with campus partners such as the Centre for Teaching and Academic Growth, the Faculty of Graduate Studies and the Office of Learning Technology will be a core part of my work."

Prior to returning to UBC, Rosseel was Manager, Strategic Programs and Initiatives at the Public Library Services Branch, B.C. Ministry of Education; and Reference Division Head, W.A.C. Bennett Library at Simon Fraser University. Before that she worked as a Librarian in the Humanities and Social Sciences Division at UBC Library. "It's like coming home," she says about her return to the Point Grey campus.

Please contact Trish Rosseel at 604-827-3343 with your questions and comments about the Library's instructional programs.

## Dodson Music Series

Craving a break from a hectic schedule? Then come to the Dodson Music Series, organized and performed by students from UBC's School of Music. The 2009/10 season marks the eighth instalment of this vibrant initiative. Fiona Chow once again serves as Artistic Director, and Kirsten Walsh, Head of UBC's Music Library, continues to serve as the liaison between the Library and the School of Music.

Free concerts take place from noon to 1 p.m. in the Dodson Room, located on level three of the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre.

#### 2009/10 Schedule

#### Friday November 6

Exploring the First Viennese School Music by the classical Viennese masters Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven

#### Friday November 27

Exploring the Second Viennese School Music from the early 20th century by Schönberg, Berg and Webern

#### Friday January 29

Learn to Love Lieder with Professor Rena Sharon UBC's beloved professor of collaborative piano gives a lecture-recital on the appreciation of art song

#### Friday February 12

Meditations on Nature and Love Music from China and Iran

#### Friday March 26

UBC School of Music Student Highlights Vocal and instrumental music from the school's most promising young talent

## Desktop delivery for interlibrary loan

Interlibrary loan articles now delivered electronically

Do you use UBC Library's Interlibrary Loan or CISTI services to order articles from other libraries (outside UBC)?

UBC Library now delivers interlibrary loan articles to you electronically. Just wait for an e-mail saying your article has arrived, open the post-to-web link, and print off your piece.

We're pleased to offer this new service as a faster and more convenient delivery for all interlibrary loan users.

Please note: book orders and all document delivery (from other UBC branches) orders are excluded from this service and must still be picked up in person.

For questions or assistance please contact: bvauill@interchange.ubc.ca at UBC Vancouver: 604-822-2274 at UBC Okanagan: 250-807-9114





## LibQUAL+ Survey

## You answered: We're listening

In early 2009, the Library surveyed a random sample of students and faculty at <u>UBC Vancouver</u>.

Respondents said they were satisfied with how they were treated at the Library (83 %) and support for learning, research and teaching (81%). They also rated the Library highly for aiding advancement in academic pursuits.

Graduate students are concerned about the ease of using the Library website and the availability of individual study spaces.

Faculty members identified areas of improvement related to: remote access from home or office, the website, easy-to-use tools, and more in-depth print and electronic journals.

The Library continues to examine the results in more detail to identify key priorities for improvement. We thank you for your valuable feedback and will keep you informed about developments.

## Collections Update: access for all

Open access – the concept that information should be freely available to users around the world – is an increasingly important topic for the scholarly and academic library communities.

UBC Library supports researchers who publish in open access journals. This includes paying institutional memberships for various open access publications, which entitles UBC authors to discounts on article submission fees. Examples include:

- **BioMed Central, a publisher of 199 peer-reviewed open access** journals in science, technology and medicine. All original research articles published by BioMed Central are made freely and permanently accessible online immediately upon publication. UBC Library pays a supporter's membership fee, which entitles UBC authors to a 15% discount on the cost of article submission.
- Hindawi publishes more than 150 peer-reviewed open access journals covering a wide range of areas in science, technology and medicine. UBC Library's institutional membership allows UBC authors a 100% discount on the cost of article submission.
- ▶ Public Library of Science (PLOS) Journals consist of seven biomedical, peer-reviewed open access journals. UBC Library pays an institutional membership fee, which entitles UBC users to a 10% discount on the cost of article submission.
- Nucleic Acids Research (NAR) institutional membership coming soon. Oxford University Press's NAR was recently identified by the Special Libraries Association as one of the 100 most influential biology and medicine journals over the last 100 years. Starting in January 2010, UBC Library's institutional membership kicks in, allowing UBC authors a 50% discount on article submission fees.
- We also provide monetary support to: the Directory of Open Access Journals (www.doaj.org), a repository of more than 4,300 interdisciplinary and scholarly open access journals; and to Canada's Open Medicine (www.openmedicine.ca), a peer-reviewed and independent open access journal.
- The Library hosts journals for UBC faculty members who are editing or supporting open access e-journals using Open Journal Systems software (http://ojs.library.ubc.ca). Titles include BC Studies: The British Columbian Quarterly and the Canadian Journal of Midwifery Research and Practice. Also hosted is the UBC Medical Journal, a new student peer-reviewed publication.
- And, of course, UBC Library supports cIRcle, a digital repository for research and teaching materials created by the UBC community and its partners. Materials in cIRcle are openly accessible to anyone on the Web. They also have persistent URLs and will be preserved at https://circle.ubc.ca.
- A growing number of grant-funding agencies such as the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the National Institutes of Health require that grant recipients deposit their research in an open access repository. cIRcle is available to UBC researchers for this purpose.

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