Re: DEFINING UVIC LIBRARIES

NEW UVIC LIBRARIES’ STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

The David Harris Flaherty Undergraduate Student Library Scholarship and The William Petrie Graduate Student Library Scholarship

The University of Victoria Libraries is proud to be an essential and integral part of the University’s research and teaching endeavours. To this end, two new student scholarships which recognize and honour the contributions and achievements of our graduate and undergraduate students, will enhance the sense of personal growth and accomplishment in our academic community.

Named in honor of donor David Harris Flaherty and bequest donor William Petrie, The David Harris Flaherty Undergraduate Student Library Scholarship and The William Petrie Graduate Student Library Scholarship will each be awarded annually to academically outstanding students, in any discipline, who demonstrate how they have successfully utilized library resources, including any print, archival, music, multimedia, or digital resources for a class project, assignment, or research paper.

In addition to the $500 monetary awards, the annual recipients will be recognized through a plaque in the Mearns Centre—McPherson Library, and their winning project will be featured on the Libraries’ Grants and Awards website page, as well as being deposited into our open access institutional repository.

uvic.ca/library/about/ul
I would like to begin by saying I love the law library. It is aesthetically pleasing, beautifully kept, and the staff are always friendly and helpful. Without exaggeration I actually based a good deal of my decision to attend Victoria Law on the quality of the library and it has not disappointed. Thank you for providing us with such an excellent place to work.

I am writing to recognize and thank the librarians and staff for the incredible resource that they have provided to the community in the form of the British Colonist website. I recently had the pleasure this weekend of witnessing the transition of the site to a new format and the addition of another decade of resources. This new online resource is a tremendous pleasure to work with and an incredible resource for the community at large.

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Message from the UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN

The 2014 / 15 academic year has been a busy and rewarding one for UVic Libraries. Our organization, informed by the Libraries’ three pillars (Learning, Research, Community) contained in our Strategic Directions (uvic.ca/library/about/ul/strategic), continues to change and evolve to meet the needs of faculty and students. Our stellar group of librarians and support staff continue to contribute in innumerable ways to the success of our academic community. Sincere thanks are also due to our many donors whose support is vital to the success of our mission.

Someone recently sent me a quotation from E.B. White who was asked by the War Board during the Second World War to comment on the meaning of democracy. White equated democracy with “vitality” and the “feeling of communion” in libraries. It is indeed true that our physical spaces are modern versions of agora – and at UVic we continue to see between 1-2 million visits to our buildings each year, despite how much of our collections are now accessible online. Some 70 years later I expect White would repeat his analogy, or perhaps even strengthen it in a world where libraries are one of the only professions seriously grappling with the task of preserving and providing sustainable access to the ephemeral digital medium, a far more complex task than it was in a print-based world.

Indeed, with the new digital reality, our academic libraries are in the unprecedented position of engaging directly in the full lifecycle of the research process – creation, production, dissemination, access, preservation. There is no more challenging and no more exciting time than now to be working in an academic library! This is truly the golden age for libraries.

Jonathan B. Bengtson

USE OF SUBJECT GUIDES IN 2014

- 215 guides created by librarians
- 90,000 hits
- Top 25 guides get over 1000 hits annually

Whether it is library facilities, programming, new online initiatives, or customer service—students, faculty and community members express their appreciation in their own words.

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COOL FACTS...

Students print a lot!
1,028,573 pages were printed

Lots of reference questions!
23,759

Lots of library visits!
1,178,213

Curriculum Library March 19th, 2015, 500,000th visit (gate count) reached, yeah!!
UVic Libraries—what’s going on inside the libraries?

UVic Libraries is the second largest library in British Columbia and a rich resource for all types of learning and research. This library “snapshot” shows the exciting range of activities and resources that make up some of the activities of library acquisitions, circulation, reference, and digitization in 2014.

**COLLECTIONS**
More than 2.2m volumes

- 914,399 electronic titles
- 137,000 journal subscriptions

More than 7.5m spent on library collections

**DIGITAL COLLECTIONS**
22,500 digital objects
The most highly-used digital collections in 2014 were:


**UVICSPACE**
According to the 2015 Ranking Web of Repositories—UVicSpace (UVic’s research repository) is 12th in Canada. Last year 50,500 visitors searched the site.

Year by year growth for UVicSpace from inception in 2014

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Experiential learning in the library: beyond the classroom

UVic Libraries offers many learning opportunities for students as they develop knowledge and skills that will help them lead successful and rewarding lives. Recently, within the Libraries’ multi-faceted environment, students working towards a career in libraries and archives have joined us for practicum experiences. Our Digital Scholarship unit, Law Library, and Special Collections were the chosen locations for students from
the University of Alberta, School of Library and Information Studies and the Langara College, Library & Information Technology Program. Experiential learning opportunities abound for UVic students some of whom have been transcribing field notes from the McTaggart Cowan archive or assisting with exhibit curation. Visiting academic librarians from Lethbridge and Brazil will join us this autumn to exchange ideas and experience as well.

Historic Victoria Police Department “charge books” now online

University of Victoria Libraries is pleased to announce the availability of a collection of digitized 19th Century Victoria Police Department charge books. Loaned to UVic Libraries through a collaborative initiative between the Victoria Genealogical Society and the Victoria Police Historical Society, the volumes were scanned by UVic Libraries staff, and returned to VicPD in November 2014.

The Victoria Police Department is the oldest police force west of the Great Lakes. In the early days of policing the kinds of chargeable offenses consisted mainly of drunk and disorderly conduct, assaults, and vagrancy. In addition, people were charged with being “a rogue and a vagabond”, being of “unsound mind” or “allowing thistles to come to flower.”

This digital collection consists of five Victoria Police Department log or “charge books,” compiled between April 4th 1873 and September 30th, 1876. These handwritten charge books (nearly 2000 pages) are a record of the arrests made in Victoria, British Columbia, and surrounding areas during this time.

uvic.ca/library/featured/collections/victoria/VicPD.php