



Donor David Harris Flaherty and UVic student Elizabeth Gerow at the University Club, December 2015.

Re: DEFINING UVIC LIBRARIES

Student scholarship winners update

We are pleased to announce our first UVic Libraries' student scholarship awards winners: Elizabeth Gerow for the David Harris Flaherty Undergraduate Student Scholarship; and, Jonathan Minnes for the William Petrie Graduate Student Library Scholarship.

Established in 2015, the donor-endowed library scholarships are awarded to an academically outstanding undergraduate and graduate student in any discipline who can show how they have utilized library resources—be they print, archival, music, multimedia, or digital—for a class project, assignment, or research paper. Named in honour of donor David Harris Flaherty and bequest donor William Petrie, eligible students must complete a 500 word essay explaining their use of library resources in an application that is adjudicated by

committee through the assistance of Student Awards and Financial Aid, and Grants and Awards in the University Librarian's Office.

More information about how to establish a student scholarship and about Elizabeth and Jonathan, with links to their award-winning essays, can be found at uvic.ca/library/about/ul/grants and awards/awards/index.php.

The University of Victoria Libraries is proud to be an essential and integral part of the research and learning at UVic. Our awards recognize and honour the contributions and achievements of our students.



Message from the UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN



Jonathan B. Bengtson

At the beginning of the year the University of Victoria launched its first Strategic Research Plan, hailed by President Jamie Cassels and Vice-President Research David Castle as “an important milestone in the university’s ascent to being one of Canada’s most research-intensive universities and a significant contributor internationally.” When we in the Libraries articulated our Strategic Directions in 2012/13 we highlighted Research as one of our three pillars (along with Learning and Community), recognizing that we were “ever more integrated into new types of direct involvement” in research. The details of our research strategic directions directly anticipated the University’s new Research Plan which states:

The library provides an important linkage between research and educational programs by offering training for digital information fluency, encompassing traditional conceptions of information literacy with increasingly complex forms of knowledge

creation and dissemination. In addition to creating interdisciplinary linkages between researchers at UVic, the library is itself a conduit to other kinds of partnerships with organizations such as the Royal BC Museum and Archives, the Greater Victoria Art Gallery and Public Library, land title and survey authorities and police departments. Nationally, the libraries are working with the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL) in partnership with Compute Canada to mount the Portage project, a multi-year initiative to create data management tools and build a national infrastructure for the preservation and discovery of research data.

We are all excited in the Libraries by the new opportunities opening up to us to have profound and fundamental impacts on the success of our faculty and students, as we continue to meet the changing demands of the lifecycle of teaching, research, and learning that drives the university.

Facilities renewal update

The William C. Mearns Centre for Learning – McPherson Library continues to evolve with the transformation of the current periodical shelving area on the main floor into student study space. The new furnishings increase capacity by 90 seats. The area is designed with a focus on additional power outlets for laptop use at both counter height tables and in comfy chairs. In addition, displays from the Legacy Art Galleries have been refreshed on the main floor. We took this opportunity to move tables which were replaced with new furniture to the lower level resulting in an increase of 20 seats in that area as well.





New publication produced in partnership with UVic Athletics

UVic Libraries is pleased to announce a new publication produced in partnership with UVic Athletics. *UVic Athletics: A Tradition of Excellence, The McKinnon Years* catalogues the rich history of athletics at the University of Victoria. Written by local sportswriter Tom Hawthorn, and illustrated with photographs from the University of Victoria Libraries' Special Collections and Vikes Athletics, this third publication in the Libraries' imprint outlines the forty years of award-winning athletes and facilities that define "the McKinnon Years." The publication was launched on the occasion of the annual Championship Breakfast in the new CARSA Performance Gym before an audience of over 650 guests, with former Olympian Simon Whitfield as the keynote speaker. Available in a limited edition of 2,700 print copies, *UVic Athletics: A Tradition of Excellence, The McKinnon Years* is also available in free PDF and flip book versions through the Libraries' website at uvic.ca/library/about/ul/publications/index.php.

"One of the highest and most enduring values of a university education is to learn how to live well, in body and in mind."

Jonathan B. Bengtson



UVic Libraries' 2016 Distinguished Alumni Award – Terry Eastwood

Terry Eastwood was the UVic Libraries' 2016 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient on February 2 along with 10 other alumni from across the faculties. The UVic Distinguished Alumni Celebration, during Alumni Week 2016, is an initiative of the UVic Alumni Association. Eastwood, nominated by UVic Libraries, is internationally recognized as a pioneer archival educator. In July 1981, he joined the faculty of the School of Librarianship at the University of British Columbia as the inaugural professor in the new Master of Archival Studies (MAS) Program, the first of its kind in North America. From 1981 to 2000, he acted as chair of the MAS program, graduates of which have gone on to play leading roles in their profession in Canada and internationally. On three separate occasions he acted as Director of what became the School of Library, Archival and Information Studies at UBC, and retired holding that position in 2010. Aside from his internationally recognized work as a pioneer archival educator, Professor Eastwood is known for his contribution to the development of descriptive standards for archival material. Professor Eastwood is a Fellow of both the Association of Canadian Archivists and the Society of American Archivists.

SSHRC Connections grant

Heather Dean, Associate Director of Special Collections, has been awarded a SSHRC Connections grant for \$17,130 for *Unravelling the Code(x): History of the Book Speaker Series and Symposium*, an interdisciplinary series that explores book history scholarship and the creation, circulation, and reception of knowledge.

Held at UVic Libraries from October 2015 to February 2016, the series features Canadian, American, and international faculty from across disciplinary periods, who discuss their scholarship in book history, broadly defined to include bibliography, manuscript studies, material culture studies, media studies, and the history of printing, publishing, and libraries.

The series will culminate in a one-day symposium on medieval manuscripts on March 18th, 2016 with Dr. Erik Kwakkel (Leiden University) confirmed as the keynote. Invited speakers at the symposium also include: Dr. Siobhan Bly Calkin (Carleton University), Dr. P.J. Carefoote (Thomas Fisher Library, University of Toronto), Dr. Leslie Barnes (University of Toronto), Dr. Sian Echard (University of British Columbia), Dr. Faith Wallis (McGill University), and Dr. David Watt, (University of Manitoba).

The speakers' series and symposium builds on the growing community of book historians and bibliographical research activities at UVic and within the local community—and anticipates the Libraries and Electronic Textual Cultures Lab hosting the 2017 Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing (SHARP) conference.

Heather is the first librarian at UVic Libraries to be awarded a SSHRC grant as a Primary Investigator, reaffirming librarians and archivists' roles in facilitating and leading research.



Sitka Foundation grant

The University of Victoria Libraries has received a grant of \$30,000 from the Sitka Foundation to extend and enhance online access to the Ian McTaggart Cowan Research Collection.

Cowan (1910–2010) is often referred to as the “father of Canadian ecology.” A former UVic Chancellor, Cowan revolutionized the way North Americans understood the natural world. The Cowan Collection at the University of Victoria Special Collections includes Cowan’s field journals, photographs, CBC footage, and correspondence from his 75-year long multi-faceted career.

The grant project will build upon the work by UVic Libraries providing online access to the handwritten Cowan field journals, and providing online access to transcriptions of selected field journals. The Libraries’ online Ian McTaggart Cowan Field Journals collection can be viewed at uvic.ca/library/featured/collections/bc/Cowan.php.

The Sitka grant will enable UVic Libraries to generate 3D models of a selection of tetrapod specimens collected by Cowan during his field work. These 3D models will be made available online to enrich the existing collection of digitized field journals, images, and video from Cowan’s extensive body of work. The project will enable ongoing collaborations, focusing on the Cowan collections, between the Libraries and community partners, including the Royal BC Museum in Victoria and the Beaty Biodiversity Museum in Vancouver.

As a catalyst in the conservation of the environment and the promotion of biodiversity, The Sitka Foundation’s mission is to support organizations that advance land and nature conservation, invest in community projects and groups globally, and provide leadership in stewardship and environmental education.