



University
of Victoria
Libraries

Annual Review

2011–2012



University
of Victoria

50
YEARS



Message from the
**UNIVERSITY
LIBRARIAN**

Jonathan B. Bengtson

This is my first message for the University of Victoria Libraries' annual review since my appointment as University Librarian on January 1, 2012. Over the past months it has been my pleasure to be involved in a number of library special events where I have met many students, faculty, staff and community members.

Libraries collect, preserve and provide access to information. They are also repositories of many different kinds of knowledge, which they make available to local and virtual communities. One example of this was the launch of the Fort Victoria Journals and the Historic Cartographic Collections which bring exciting online additions to our history and are especially relevant to Victoria's and the province's early history.

Community engagement, an important part of our role, was strengthened by our outreach to the community through exhibits, lectures, book launches and collaborative initiatives with other cultural institutions.

We also celebrated the opening of the Marnie C. Swanson International Commons. The International Commons, centrally located in the Learning Commons of the Mearns Centre for Learning, is where international students can

access information, resources, academic support and programming, events, and services to ensure their success at the University of Victoria. I encourage you to visit this new space, the newest global community on campus.

As in previous years, the Libraries were generously supported by gifts and in-kind donations. Our donors have also given generously to our annual and endowed funds. We are deeply grateful for their leadership and support.

UVic Libraries are fortunate to have talented and dedicated staff who provide excellent experiences to our students, staff and faculty. Thanks to the commitment and hard work of Library staff, and the support of the University, Friends and donors, our Libraries are continually evolving to meet the needs of our growing user community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Bengtson', written in a cursive style.

Jonathan B. Bengtson, University Librarian



Student collaboration in the International Commons

FACILITY ENHANCEMENTS

THE MARNIE SWANSON INTERNATIONAL COMMONS

The Marnie Swanson International Commons, centrally located within the Learning Commons of the Mearns Centre for Learning, opened in October 2012. It is a welcoming place where international students can find academic help, information, resources, programming and services to support their success at UVic.

This new initiative is designed to provide academic support to the increasing number of international students at UVic, as well as to promote intercultural

activities and events for both international and domestic students. The International Commons supports the University's creation of an inclusive global community that enriches domestic students through connection with their peers from around the globe.

The International Commons is dedicated to Marnie Swanson, University Librarian from 1988 to 2011, in recognition of her long and outstanding service to the University of Victoria Libraries.

RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

ONLINE ADDITIONS TO BC HISTORY

For the first time, people can easily read firsthand and online about daily life in Fort Victoria in the mid 1850s. In July, UVic Libraries, the Faculty of Humanities and the Department of History launched two new online additions to our historical record: the Fort Victoria Journals (1846-1850) and a digital collection of BC's earliest maps.

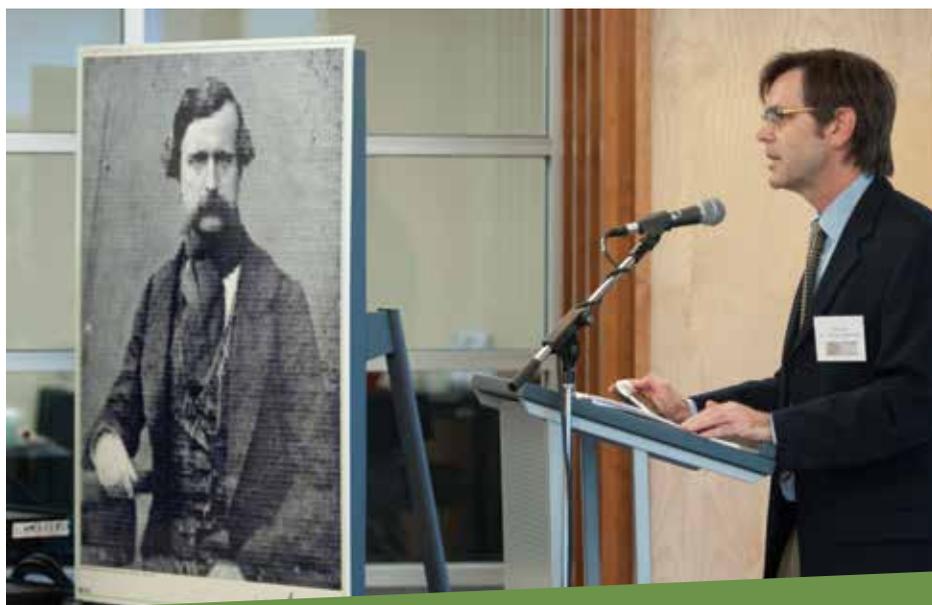
The originals of the Fort Victoria Journals reside in the Hudson's Bay Archives in Winnipeg as the only surviving daily record of the activities of Fort Victoria and its interactions with First Nations. <http://fortvictoriajournal.ca>

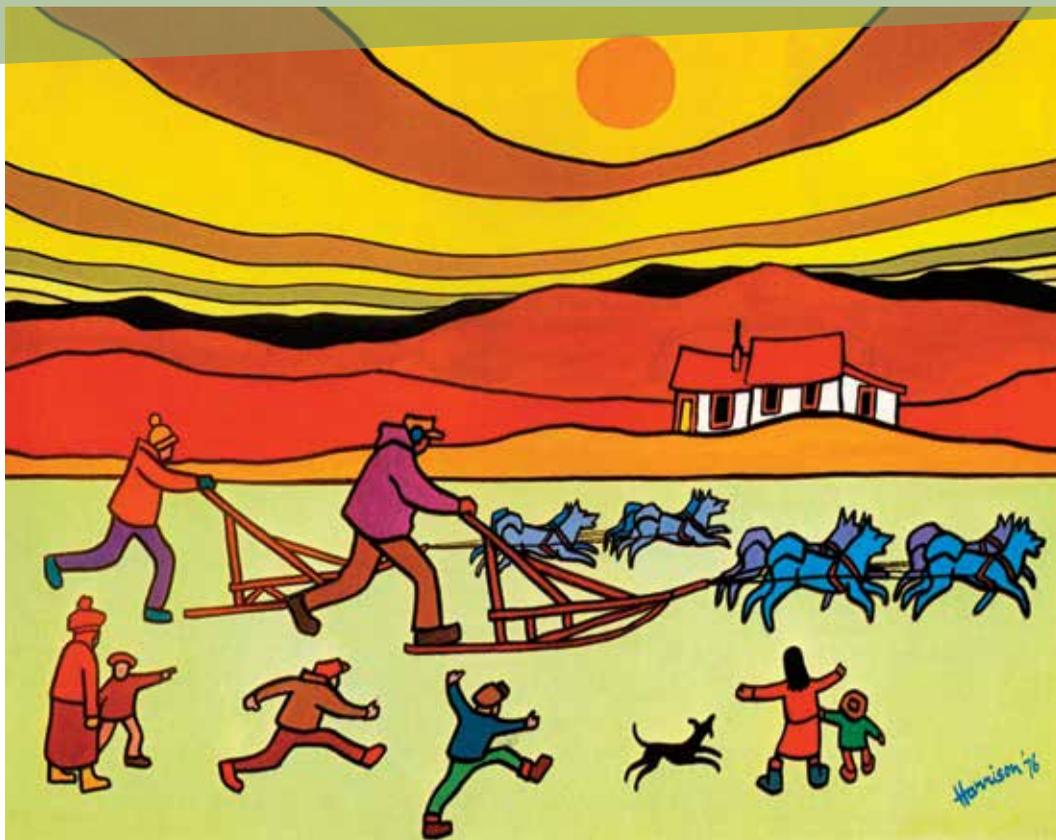
The Historical Cartographic Collections include rare gems such as a selection of 250 maps from the National Archives of England (1775-1870) showing the development of the BC territory from the early Spanish and English explorers onward. <http://library.uvic.ca/dig/carto.html>

INTERNET SHAKESPEARE EDITIONS

In the evolving digital world, libraries are more critical than ever before in ensuring preservation, transmission and access to the world's cultural legacy. At the University of Victoria, the Internet Shakespeare Editions is considered among the best and most trusted Shakespeare-related resource in the world. A talk and reception were held in June to celebrate this ongoing partnership and to announce the recent appointment of Dr. Janelle Jenstad as the new Assistant Coordinating Editor. Dr. Jenstad has close connections with the University Libraries, especially Special Collections, and her expertise in Digital Humanities and Renaissance literature will ensure a strong future for the ISE/UVic Libraries' partnership. <http://internetshakespeare.uvic.ca>

Dr. John Lutz speaks at the launch of The Fort Victoria Journals and The Historical Cartographic Collections





Front cover of *Children of the Yukon* by Ted Harrison

RESEARCH COLLECTION HIGHLIGHTS

UVic Libraries are a rich resource for all types of learning and research. Whether it is the Libraries' archival or digital collections, there are many opportunities to add to research and scholarship. Some recent archival and digital collection highlights include:

TED HARRISON ARCHIVES

Canada's renowned painter of the North, Edward Hardy (Ted) Harrison, presented the University of Victoria with his personal archives which document his extraordinary artistic career. His letters, business correspondence, favourite art supplies, mementos, notebooks and photographs now reside with the University Archives. On August 30, 2012 the Ted Harrison Studio closed its doors, but his archival legacy will continue to be a rich resource for teaching, learning and research at the university for years to come. We wish to thank Ted Harrison, his family and friends for this gift and their support for the processing of this material. For more information on the Harrison archives, read the online description. <http://www.memorybc.ca/ted-harrison-fonds>

Other artists' archives received this year include Robert Amos, R.C.A. and the late Glenn Howarth, R.C.A.



*Transgender pioneer
Virginia Prince*

TRANSGENDER ARCHIVES

The University of Victoria is committed to the preservation of the history of pioneering activists, community leaders, and researchers who have contributed to the betterment of transgender people. The Uvic Archives have been actively acquiring documents, rare publications, and memorabilia of persons and organizations associated with transgender activism since 2007. The archive began with the generous donation of the Rikki Swin Institute collection. It was enhanced by other significant donations including the personal papers of Reed Erickson and records of the Zenith Foundation. Summer 2012 saw the launch of our website dedicated to profiling these collections. <http://transgenderarchives.uvic.ca>

NEW DIGITAL COLLECTION HIGHLIGHTS

First World War: Personal Experiences Online will give users an unparalleled opportunity to see the Great War through the eyes of the 1914 generation. Drawn from archival collections around the world, it offers remarkable glimpses of people's lives during the Great War.

KnowBC was launched in 2001 as the online edition of Harbour Publishing's Encyclopedia of British Columbia (EBC). With more than 4,000 entries and 1,500 accompanying photographs, maps, charts and tables, as well as sound and video clips, EBC is the source for readable and authoritative information about significant BC people, places and things.

Early European Books (Collection I and II) provides scholars with new ways of accessing and exploring the printed record of early modern Europe, drawing together a diverse array of printed sources from the fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth centuries. This new resource opens the door to some of the world's most significant collections of early printed books.

Naxos Music Library (NML) is the world's largest online classical music library. The NML offers the catalogs of more than 50 classical, jazz and world music labels with more labels joining every month.



Sandra Friesen is a graduate student in the Department of English. She is a three time recipient (2010, 2011, 2012) of the Pat Köster Scholarship in Women's Writing, 1660-1900.

STUDENT SUCCESS AND ENGAGEMENT

LABOUR OF LOVE

In 2008, when she began her PhD in English at UVic, Sandra Friesen was a Teaching Assistant for English 500—a textual studies course, which looked at a range of rare books demonstrating how the book changes over time. Now in her fourth year of a PhD in Restoration and 18th century literature, Sandra is even more engaged with rare books. She is a research assistant for Dr. Gordon Fulton and is working on indexing and transcribing a 17th century French miscellany of poems, prose and songs containing “probably the best collection of drinking songs” she has ever seen.

In the spring of 2012, Sandra assisted Associate Professor Dr. Janelle Jenstad in curating an exhibit of books from the Pat Köster collection. Dr. Köster was a founding member and the longest-serving faculty member of the Department of English. She amassed a collection of over 400 books, which have

since been donated by her family to the University Library's Special Collections.

Sandra told us that assisting Dr. Jenstad with this exhibit “has been an absolute delight and a labour of love. I am thankful to the keepers of Special Collections and to Dr. Köster's family for the opportunity to work with this wonderful collection.”

The UVic Library recognizes the importance of both library resources and support for students like Sandra Friesen. With the help of a private donor, the library has instituted the 50th Anniversary Library Student Engagement Award to be given annually to one academically outstanding undergraduate student and one graduate student in any discipline who can show how he/she has utilized library resources for a class project. If you are interested in supporting this award, please contact Christine Roome at 250-721-8192 or croome@uvic.ca.

DIGITAL RESEARCH GUIDES

The Diana M. Priestly Law Library has published new digital research guides for first-year law students to support their preparation for mandatory legal research and writing assignments. <http://research.law.uvic.ca/lrw>

Reference librarians in the McPherson Library geared up for the start of the new term by creating a Library Orientation for New Students Guide that provides useful introductory information about UVic Libraries. <http://libguides.uvic.ca/newstudents>

TEXT ME THIS CALL NUMBER

A popular new feature was added to the UVic Libraries' catalogue that lets you click on "Text me this call number" to send that call number right to your mobile phone. Over a two week reporting period, almost 2000 call numbers were texted to library catalogue users. According to student feedback comments, "Text me this call number is brilliant!"

NEW RESEARCH VIDEOS

A new learning resource made possible through the Humanities Co-op in conjunction with UVic Libraries engaged Abby Pollen (*right*), a graduate student in the French department. Abby created videos designed to address the most common research questions and to promote the many services offered by UVic Libraries. The new videos are easily searched on YouTube and can be embedded in a course management system or on department

Graduate student Abby Pollen

web pages. They provide informative and entertaining coverage on how to make the most of the library's tools and how to maximize research strategies and reduce stress! <http://library.uvic.ca/instruction/helpvideos.html>

MOBILE WEBSITE LAUNCHED

UVic Libraries launched a website providing access to key library content and services in a mobile-friendly format. Designed for any web-capable device, the site gives instant access to a full gamut of essential library information such as mobile-friendly databases, library hours and locations, computer availability, study rooms, Ask a Librarian services, and more. Anyone using a mobile device to visit UVic Libraries' website is automatically redirected to the mobile website. <http://lib.uvic.ca>.





Human "book" titles on display

EVENTS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

"BOOKS THAT TALK BACK" HUMAN LIBRARY EVENT

In March, UVic Libraries' Equity and Diversity Committee welcomed the community to explore the visible and invisible diversity in our community during the second human library event presented in the Mearns Centre for Learning. UVic Communications created a video posted on UVic's YouTube channel so the community can learn more about this unique event. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mnz5DJEybjY>

IDEAFEST

To celebrate UVic's research strengths and creative endeavours across every faculty, the University's first *IdeaFest*, coordinated by the Office of the Vice-President Research, took place March 5 - 9, 2012. As part of the festival UVic Libraries contributed two events. *Celebrate UVic Authors*, a reception and reading at the University Club to honour UVic authors who published works in 2010, was co-sponsored by the University of Victoria Bookstore. The second event, *Reading in our 21st Century Library: Unexpected Encounters of the Digital and Pre-Digital Kind*, provided an informal opportunity to meet and learn from researchers exploring the unique reading and research experiences offered by digital and pre-digital (print) materials.



Students examine materials displayed in the Köster Exhibit



University of Victoria

50 YEARS

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA 50TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL

The 50th Anniversary Festival ran from September 28-29, 2012, and brought thousands of visitors to UVic's campus during two days of celebration. As part of the Festival, visitors had an opportunity to view several exhibits in the Mearns Centre for Learning: *A Community of Communities* in the Maltwood Prints and Drawings Gallery presented photographs and memorabilia of the past 50 years; University Archives displayed historical UVic material, as well as rare Victoria College ephemera; and the display *A History of the Gordon Head Campus Land from 11000 BC to 1970* illustrated the strong link between the university and the community.

An engaging talk about his publication *Reaching Outward and Upward: The University of Victoria, 1963-2013* was given by Dr. Ian MacPherson in the Mearns Centre for Learning, followed by a celebratory reception and book signing. The Diana M. Priestly Law Library Open House showcased the early years of the Law Library.

JACK WISE EXHIBIT AND ARCHIVES

In June, Nicholas Tuele gave a talk which opened the *Art of Jack Wise* exhibit held in the Maltwood Prints and Drawings Gallery at the Mearns Centre for Learning, June–August, 2012. Wise (1928-1996) was an artist, calligrapher, poet and teacher. The Jack Wise archives held by the University Archives are fully available to researchers. His extensive archival fonds are found at <http://memorybc.ca/jack-wise-fonds;rad>

KÖSTER EXHIBIT IN THE ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS READING ROOM

The exhibit *For the Love of Books: selections from the Dr. Pat Köster Book Collection* showcased many highlights from the collection of Patricia Köster. Patricia Köster was Associate Professor in the Department of English until 1995. After her death, her family donated her large collection of early books to Special Collections. Eighteenth-century canonical works, works by women writers, conduct books, a 1526 Latin Bible from Leiden, and first editions of Pope and Dryden were among the volumes on display.

PACIFIC OPERA VICTORIA

UVic Libraries undertook a creative collaboration with Pacific Opera Victoria around the launch of *Mary's Wedding*—a new Canadian opera commissioned and developed by POV—which brought the exhibit, *The World of Mary's Wedding: Reminiscences of World War I*, to the foyer of the McPherson Theatre and the Maltwood Prints and Drawings Gallery in the Mearns Centre for Learning in the fall of 2011.

A website was developed as a permanent legacy. <http://worldofmaryswedding.library.uvic.ca>

With the start of POV's 2012/13 season, the collaboration continues. *Macbeth and Music*, an exhibit in the Archives and Special Collections Reading Room curated by Dr. Janelle Jenstad, displayed books, scores, manuscripts, and adaptations of *Macbeth* from Special Collections.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS

UVic's Distinguished Alumni Award is the most prestigious award presented by the UVic Alumni Association to alumni who have made exceptional achievements on a local, national or international scale. Distinguished Alumni Award recipients are selected by each faculty and division. For the first time, UVic Libraries joined eleven other university divisions in nominating an award recipient. UVic Libraries nominated Robert Wiersema, BA'93. Wiersema is a best-selling author and event coordinator for Bolen Books. Wiersema gave an author reading in the McPherson Library as part of the Alumni Week 2012 celebrations.



Student reflecting on images from The World of Mary's Wedding: Reminiscences of World War I exhibit

“It takes courage, courage and more courage to leave everything behind and to start a new life; it takes help, connection and guidance to achieve what we aim for. The International Commons combines what we bring with us—dedication, dreams and talent—with what UVic has to offer: resources, facilities and inspiration, to paint a brighter picture for all international students.”

*graduate student
from China*



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of Victoria**
Libraries

PRINTING SUSTAINABILITY

The annual review can be viewed on our website at www.library.uvic.ca. A limited number of copies will be printed on Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified paper to reduce the environmental impact of producing this document.

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