A message from the University Librarian

Collaboration is a theme the Dalhousie Libraries revisited throughout 2016. Whether collaborating with students through our relaunched Student Input & Feedback Team, with faculty through discussions regarding major library purchases and ways to diversify the collections, or bringing internal services together across the library system to be more effective, the Dalhousie Libraries found ways to take collaboration further in 2016.

In addition to collaborating across Dalhousie, we had the opportunity to work with groups external to the university as well, leading to new ways to serve the broader community of which we are a part. Having been reappointed University Librarian in 2016, I’m looking forward to what the next five years will bring — new partners, opportunities to innovate, and expanding learning and teaching environments where the Dal Libraries can play a pivotal role.

The key to our recognition as a centre of excellence is our exceptional staff in the libraries, working tirelessly and enthusiastically on behalf of our users, students, faculty, researchers, and members of the public. It is because of their efforts that the Dalhousie Libraries continue to be the vibrant and well-used heart of the University.

Donna Bourne-Tyson
University Librarian
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Faculty get assistance from staff of the Dalhousie Libraries and the Centre for Learning & Teaching in effective use of the learning management system, Brightspace.

“Best place to study on campus! Quiet, access to computers, clean.”


“Big, bright windows, lots of plugs. Good lighting, open space, white boards!!”

Donahoe President Dr. Richard Florizone and Associate University Librarian, Library Services Elaine MacInnis giving out treats to students working in Dalhousie Libraries spaces during exam time.
RESEARCH
Expand the opportunities for research, scholarly and artistic work.

Dalhousie and Libraries and Archives Canada (LAC) started collaborating in several key areas to share expertise, knowledge, research practices and technological developments, as well as to proactively facilitate outreach to promote Canadian documentary heritage. The agreement was signed on October 15 by Librarian and Archivist of Canada Dr. Guy Berthiaume and Dalhousie University President Dr. Richard Florizone.

The GIS Centre and other data services at the Dalhousie Libraries were brought together in 2016 with the goal of supporting a wider variety of teaching, learning, and research activities. They also launched a quarterly newsletter, Layers, on GIS Day.

Librarian Michelle Paon partnered with the manager of the Writing Centre and a writing advisor in a research project aimed at helping first-year students understand the complexities involved in writing a research paper. This spring, we hosted Brutalist Song II, a performance-based presentation by short-listed Sobey Art Award nominee and former Killoam Library artist-in-residence, William Robinson. Inspired by the building and his time there, Robinson developed Brutalist Song II. The presentation involved sculpture and sound, featuring multiple musicians playing horns and an electric organ and took place in the atrium of the Killoam Memorial Library.

SERVICE
Catalyze the intellectual, social and economic development of our communities.

In 2016 we launched the Archives Document Delivery Service, a free digitization service to increase digital access to archival material held by the Dal Libraries. Document Delivery also refreshed the request form and account interface, making it cleaner and clearer.

We participated twice in the Novanet-wide program Food for Fines, which waived fines in exchange for donations to the food bank. The food we collected during this time went to the Dal Student Union Food Bank, Feed Nova Scotia, and the Colchester Food Bank.

We also launched a refreshed approach to the Dal Libraries’ Student Advisory Group with a new name, Student Input & Feedback Team, and saw student participation rise dramatically.

PARTNERSHIP & REPUTATION
Take our place nationally and internationally.

We were thrilled to welcome university and academic librarians from around the world for the 37th annual International Association of University Libraries (IAUL) conference in June. Delegates from universities across the globe attended, representing 11 countries and four continents. The theme of the conference was Library Leadership in a Sea of Change. Later in the summer, a landmark Halifax video store, Video Difference, announced it was closing. The public support for the store and its uniquely curated collection led to an exciting partnership between Dalhousie and Halifax Public Libraries where each institution bought a selection of videos, ensuring they will still be available for the public to access.

We started off 2016 with an external review and a Senate review. Many staff took part in the interview process with the reviewers. Due to recommendations that came out of the review, we made some changes to the administrative structure of the libraries, including expanded roles for two of the Associate University Librarians and interim Head appointments for two librarians.

The collection and some staff of the W.K. Kellogg Health Sciences Library spent some time in a temporary location while their space in the Tupper Building was undergoing renovations. After much consultation and development, we launched a refreshed website. Libraries.dal.ca continues to be a key part of how we deliver our services and it is frequently the number-one accessed website at Dalhousie after the landing page and the My Dal log-in page.

The Archives Catalogue is a new online tool for searching the Libraries’ rich archival collections. The catalogue provides fully searchable finding aids to over 650 archival fonds and collections held in the Archives. In addition, the University Archives added nearly 70,000 catalogue records to the Archives Catalogue and Online Collection and secured $25,364 from the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 2918, for the processing of their archival holdings, occupying 151 Bankers Boxes and approximately 80 linear metres of shelf space.
Locations

Office of the University Librarian
Dalhousie University Libraries Administration is located on the main floor of the Killam Memorial Library.
6225 University Avenue
Studley Campus
(902)494-3601

Dalhousie Medicine NB Library Services
100 Tucker Park Road,
Saint John, New Brunswick
(506)648-5693

Kellogg Library Learning Commons
Found on the second floor of the Collaborative Health Education Building (CHEB), the learning commons features study spaces, computers, and assistance from library personnel.
5793 University Avenue
Carleton Campus
(902)494-2482

Killam Memorial Library
Dalhousie University’s largest library. With a million books and over 40,000 journals, its collections cover the Faculties of Science, Arts & Social Sciences, Management, and Computer Science.
6225 University Avenue
Studley Campus
(902)494-3617

MacRae Library
The MacRae Library serves the Faculty of Agriculture and is the largest repository of agricultural resource material in the Maritimes. It is also the home of Seeding Ideas, the first university-funded seed lending library in Canada.
135 College Road, Truro
Agricultural Campus
(902)893-6669

Sexton Design and Technology Library
The Sexton Design and Technology Library has a varied collection of resources for the Faculties of Engineering and Architecture and Planning. The space is bright and comfortable with a terrific view of Halifax Harbour.
3rd Floor, Buildings A&B
1360 Barrington Street, Halifax
Sexton Campus
(902)494-3240

Sir James Dunn Law Library
Occupying four floors in the Weldon Law Building with bright, comfortable space for study and research.
6061 University Avenue
Studley Campus
(902)494-2124

Wallace McCain Learning Commons
Featuring bookable study rooms, computers, research assistance, and a Help Desk, this new space was made possible by a donation from the McCain family.
(Indoor entrance located on the 2nd floor of the Life Sciences Centre, in the corridor between the LSC and the Chemistry Building.)
(902)494-6997

W. K. Kellogg Health Sciences Library
Serving the Faculties of Dentistry, Health Professions, Medicine, and health professionals throughout the Maritime provinces.
Sir Charles Tupper Medical Building
5850 College Street
Carleton Campus
(902)494-2479

Virtual Library
libraries.dal.ca

From left to right: Sir James Dunn Law Library, Kellogg Library Learning Commons (second floor, CHEB), MacRae Library, Killam Memorial Library, Wallace McCain Learning Commons, Sexton Design & Technology Library, W.K. Kellogg Health Sciences Library, Hans W. Klohn Learning Commons (UNB Saint John).