

# INFORM

School of Information Management

January to June 2010

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## FEATURE ARTICLES

- **SIM's New Director Appointed**

Join us in welcoming Dr. Louise Spiteri as the new director of SIM!

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- **IWB 2010: Pathways, Portals, and Peoples**

Geoffrey Allen writes about this year's student-led conference.

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- **SIM's first MIM class to graduate**

Mid-career students who began their studies in 2008 prepare to graduate next fall.

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- **Vancouver Olympics**

Melody Hainsworth tells of her experiences as a volunteer in the anti-doping program.

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# Director's Report

*Getting the right people on the "professional bus"*

One of the many intellectual and professional pleasures of serving as SIM Director has been the necessary strategic immersion in many aspects of the professions that constitute librarianship, information studies and information management. The feedback loop from consideration of graduate applications, through teaching and mentoring, to speaking as a referee with search committees, emphasizes that no matter how strong an individual is academically the crux of the matter for any organization in selecting a new professional is "do we want this person on our organizational bus? Will they take the initiative in helping us evolve strategically?" It would certainly be disheartening if organizations hired only for their current needs in records management, systems development, knowledge management, cataloguing and metadata, etc.

In Canada we have a wealth of research-based evidence, from the 8Rs Canadian Library Human Resource Study (2004) and elsewhere, to indicate the types of individuals we require for the health of our organizations and, I would argue, the health of the professions themselves. Every strategic endeavour we make in SIM, such as the recent MLIS Curriculum Retreat facilitated by my colleague Louise Spiteri, confirms for us that it is not really the education we provide that matters the most, it is the selection of who to educate in the first place. As Jim Collins makes clear in his bestseller *Good to Great* (2001), it is just as important to decide what not to do (or who not to educate) as it is to decide what to do, or to stop doing. Overall, however, it is the who that is critical, rather than the what. In

his research with leaders, Collins found a consistent pattern amongst those who were successful: they "first got the right people on the bus, the wrong people off the bus, and the right people in the right seats – and then they figured out where to drive it. The old adage "People are your most important asset" turns out to be wrong. People are not your most important asset. The right people are" (p. 13).

I usually frame this idea, in conversations with our wonderful MLIS students, by mentioning that employment interviews are more about whether the search committee will look forward to seeing you at 8.00 each Monday morning, than about what grades you earned for an assignment. A radical statement from an academic perhaps, and one that



*Fiona Black*  
Director of SIM

# Director's Report

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always causes students' eyebrows to rise, but crucially important for all of us if we are to ensure the continuing strength of our professional roles. There is much pressure economically, and perhaps also philosophically, for organizations to consider downgrading the level of education required for numerous positions. Why, precisely, does one need a graduate degree to be an effective reference librarian, for example? For those of us who have had the deep satisfaction of being trained well as reference staff before we earned our graduate qualifications, the answer is unsurprisingly that you do not, in fact, need a graduate degree to be a highly effective member of a reference team. However, to be a superlative member of that team, and someone with the added knowledge and interpretive frameworks to manage and lead information services (and even evolve them into something hitherto unrecognizable), you do indeed require the further step of graduate education.

It is the elements of managing and leading that forge the difference. In SIM we are endlessly fortunate to share our institutional home, some of our research interests, and one required graduate course, with colleagues in business administration, public administration, resource and environmental studies and marine management. That shared core course makes students in all of our graduate programs uncomfortable as it confronts them with the need to justify the value of what they bring to an interdisciplinary project. There are few better means by which to concentrate the brains of bright future professionals. Information specialists need to be embedded in most (if not all) units of an organization. They should not be confined and constrained within a "library" a "records management department," etc. If senior players in the federal government can acknowledge that the principal current education and training need is information management, other organizations would do well to reflect on this also.

To help address this pressing need, SIM is marching along its strategic path towards having "information professionals take over the world" with our two graduate degrees (MLIS and MIM) and our new undergraduate major in knowledge management. We want to be Canada's leaders in providing well-informed, engaged and engaging professional staff in as wide an array of organizations as possible. Watch this space for the additional strategies that SIM will initiate during the tenure of its new director! We are extremely fortunate to have a significant number of "right people", colleagues, students, alumni and employers, who support the School and our various programs – thank you for being on our bus. It has been a privilege to know you and work with you during my term as director.

*Fiona A. Black*

Fiona served as Director of SIM from January 2003 to June 2010. She will be on sabbatical for the next year, returning July 2011.

# Meet SIM's New Director



Dean Peggy Cunningham of Dalhousie University's Faculty of Management is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Louise Spiteri to a five year term as Director of the School of Information Management. "Dr. Spiteri's passion for her field, knowledge of her subject matter, and strong connections in the professional community make her an ideal person to take on the role as the SIM Director. I look forward to working with her."

Dr. Spiteri received a BA and MA in Canadian History from York University, a MLIS from the University of Western Ontario, and a B.Ed (History and French) and a Ph.D. (Information Studies) from the University of Toronto. A faculty member with SIM since 1998, Dr. Spiteri brings administrative experience and an excellent teaching record to her new role. Dr. Spiteri received teaching awards from

Wayne State University and Dalhousie University, and has served as the Academic Director of the MLIS program at SIM from May 1st 2009 to June 30th 2010.

Dr. Spiteri teaches in the area of the organization of information, including records management, cataloguing and classification, and indexing, and conducts research in social discovery systems, classification theory, thesaurus construction, and cataloguing. Dr. Spiteri's research has been presented at national and international academic and professional conferences; she was amongst the first scholars to examine the impact of social tagging systems and folksonomies on the integration of user-based language into subject analysis systems. Dr. Spiteri is conducting seminal and highly-cited research into the potential for social discovery tools to transform the library catalogue into an online, collaborative, and virtual experience of walking through the library's stacks. Dr. Spiteri is actively involved in several academic, professional, and not-for-profit associations, and sits on the editorial boards of a number of peer-reviewed journals.



## Fiona Black

### Activities and Achievements

Principal research continued with her SSHRC-funded project “Investigating Complexity in Information Studies: The Case of Geographic Information Systems and Print Culture.” She benefitted from assistance from several research assistants including Lara Killian and Jessie Bach. Senior Research Assistant, Robin Parker, co-authored a paper with Fiona which was presented at a research symposium in Galway, Ireland.

Launched a study with School of Business Administration colleague, Scott Comber, to investigate experiential learning in graduate professional education. Fiona and Scott are comparing Dalhousie’s MBA and MLIS program.

Awarded University of Edinburgh Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities Research Fellowship. (Fall 2010)

Awarded Senior Administrator Award for Exceptional Service to the Faculty of Management; see page 11.

Awarded Arts and Humanities Research Council (UK) funding (£100,778) for international development of parallel projects to the UK Reading Experience Database (RED) in Canada, New Zealand, Australia and The Netherlands. Collaborator. (Canadian RED site is at Dalhousie University)

Awarded Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) funding (\$1.2 million) for Canadian Writing Research Collaboratory project. Collaborator. (P.I. is Susan Brown, Guelph University)

Chair, External Review Panel, American Library Association, Committee on Accreditation, (University of Toronto, 2010)

Member, Editorial Board for ORCA (with the Canadian Writing Research Collaboratory)

Board Member, [canadiana.org](http://canadiana.org)

Chair, Special Review Committee for the School of Nursing at Dalhousie University

Associate Dean (External Programs), Faculty of Management

### Publications and Presentations

Black, Fiona A. “Mapping the Transatlantic Bard’s Availability,” in *Burns in a Transatlantic Context*, edited by Leith Davies and Holly Nelson. Ashgate Press, 2010 (in press).

May, Francine and Fiona A. Black. “Providing Evidence of the Life of the Space: Experiencing Nova Scotia Public Libraries.” *Evidence-Based Library and Information Practice* (June 2010) (in press).

Black, Fiona A. “Construing the Spaces of Print Culture: Book Historians’ Visualization Preferences,” in *Geographies of the Book*, edited by Miles Ogborn and Charles Withers. Ashgate Press, 2010, pp. 79-108.

Black, Fiona A. “The Scottish Contribution to Canadian Print Culture.” In *The Edinburgh History of the Book in Scotland, Volume 2, 1700-1800*, eds. Stephen Brown and Warren McDougall. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, 2010 (forthcoming).

Senf, Kimberly, Fiona A. Black and Debra Mann. “Education and Training for Serving those with Print Disabilities: Exploring the International Scene.” *Feliciter* 56.3 (2010): 102-105.

Black, Fiona A. “Analytical potential in CWRC using geographic information systems.” Presentation at Research Workshop for Canadian Writing Research Collaboratory, Edmonton, 30 April to 2 May 2010.

Black, Fiona A. and Scott Comber. “Experiential Learning in Professional, Accredited Graduate Programs: Assessing Dalhousie’s MLIS and CRMBA programs as potential models for others.” Presented at the Dalhousie Conference on University Teaching and Learning, Halifax, 28-29 April 2010.

Black, Fiona A., and Robin Parker. “The Book Trade in Space: Investigating Patterns and Trends Using Geographic Information Systems.” Invited plenary speaker at a Symposium on Research Advances in Book History, jointly organized by School of Humanities at the National University of Ireland, Galway and the Association for Canadian Studies in Ireland, Galway, 26 March 2010.

Black, Fiona A., “An Analysis of the Impact of Dalhousie

University's Blended Learning Model on the Learning and Teaching Experiences of Instructors and Mid-Career Learners." Presented at the Annual Conference of the Association for Library and Information Science Education, Boston, 12-15 January 2010. Co-authored with Bertrum H. MacDonald and Louise Spiteri.

## Anatoliy Gruzd

### Activities and Achievements

Started a new Social Media Lab at Dalhousie University to study how users are adapting and using social media and online networks to find, use and disseminate information (<http://SocialMediaLab.ca>)

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, Standard Research Grant, Principal Investigator, How Online Social Media and Online Social Networks are Changing the Ways Scholars Disseminate Knowledge and Information, \$161,000; see page 12.

Network of Centres of Excellence of Canada, GRAND (Graphics, Animation and New media) network, collaborative researcher, \$13,800

Dalhousie University, Faculty of Management Award for Exceptional Interdisciplinary Endeavour in Scholarly Research; see page 11.

Joint Conference on Digital Libraries (JCDL), Hypertext 2010: Social Computing Track, American Society for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T) Conference, March 6 & 7, Rutgers University, Newark, NJ, USA

Canadian Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), MITACS Accelerate Internship program

### Publications and Presentations

Gruzd, A., Chung, C.J., Park, H.W. (2010). Studying online conversations in the Korean blogosphere: A network approach. Paper presented at the International Network of Social Network Analysis (INSNA) Conference, Session on Words and Networks, June 29 - July 04, 2010, Trento, Italy.

Takhteyev, Y., Gruzd, A., and Wellman, B. (2010). Geography of Twitter Networks. Paper presented at the International Network of Social Network Analysis (INSNA) Conference,

Session on Twitter Networks, June 29 - July 04, 2010, Trento, Italy.

Collins, R., Osatuyi, B., Steffen-Fluhr, N., and Gruzd, A. (2010). Women in Academia: Examining Women's Positions in Social Networks Based on Faculty Co-authorship Data. Paper presented at the 13th Biannual Conference of the Canadian Coalition of Women in Engineering, Science, Trades and Technology (CCWESTT), May 13-15, 2010, Winnipeg, MB, Canada.

Steffen-Fluhr, N., Gruzd, A., Collins, R. and Osatuyi, B. (2010). N is for Network: New Tools for Mapping Organizational Change. National Association of Multicultural Engineering Program Advocates (NAMEPA)/ Women in Engineering Program Advocates Network (WEPAN) 4th Joint Conference, April 12-14, 2010, Baltimore, Maryland, USA.

Invited panel member for Podcamp, a community organized conference on social media (panel on the digital divide in Canada), January 24, 2010, Dartmouth, NS, Canada

Guest speaker, Cross-sector seminar on text-mining and research networks, New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT), March 8, 2010, Newark, NJ, USA

## Norman Horrocks

### Activities and Achievements

Attended Association for Library and Information Science Education (ALISE) annual conference followed by the American Library Association (ALA) Midwinter Meeting, both in Boston, MA; attended SIM Associated Alumni and Friends Gatherings at ALISE and ALA.

Attended Halifax Library Association - Annual Meeting in May.

Chair of the Special Committee to Review the ALA Constitution and Bylaws.

Member of the Gale Cengage Learning Development Award Jury, American Library Association.

Member of the CLA/Ken Haycock Award for Promoting Librarianship Jury.

Completed a two-year term in April as Auditor for the Association of Dalhousie Retirees and Pensioners.

## Publications and Presentations

Spoke at “A Special Tribute to Dr. Ken Haycock” at the School of Library and Information Science, San Jose State University. Dr. Haycock was the recipient of the San Jose State University’s College of Applied Sciences and Arts, and School of Library and Information Science Outstanding Professor of the Year Award.

Presented the revised Bylaws to the Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society’s AGM on 15 June. They were approved nem.con. and then sent to the Provincial Registrar for Joint Stock Companies who has given her approval under the NS Societies Act.

Reports on the ALISE Annual Conference and ALA Midwinter Meeting appeared in Library Hotline and Library Journal.

Why I Became a Librarian in ELAN (Ex Libris Association Newsletter), # 47, Spring 2010, pp. 10-11.

Maritime News *ibid.*, pp. 20-21.

## Vivian Howard

### Activities and Achievements

Awarded Standard Research Grant from Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Principal Investigator, The Regional Geography of Creativity: An investigation of regional literature for children and young adults in Atlantic Canadian schools. (Project funding of \$48,580) See page 12.

Awarded Eileen Wallace Fellowship in support of a study of regional themes in Atlantic Canadian children’s literature. (\$5,000)

Attended “Pathways to Resilience II: The Social Ecology of Resilience”. Halifax, NS, June 7-10, 2010.

Attended “Learning Outside the Classroom, Dalhousie Conference on University Teaching and Learning”, April 28-29, 2010.

Attended Southwest Texas Popular Culture Conference. February 2010.

## Publications and Presentations

“The Importance of Pleasure Reading in the Lives of Young Teens: Self-identification, Self-construction and Self-awareness.” Howard, V. JOLIS (Journal of Librarianship and Information Science): forthcoming.

“Peer Influences on Young Teen Readers: An Emerging Taxonomy.” Howard, V. YALS 8.2 (2010): 34-41.

“Forty-one year old female academics aren’t supposed to like comics!?: Comic Books and Adult Readers”. Ziolkowska, S. and V. Howard. Graphic Novels in libraries and Archives. R. Weiner, ed. Jefferson, NC: McFarland Publishers, 2010: 154-166.

Panel Chair. “Resilience in Culturally Diverse Settings.” Pathways to Resilience II: The Social Ecology of Resilience. Halifax, NS, June 7-10, 2010.

Presented “Integrated learning opportunities at the Faculty of Management, Dalhousie University: An analysis of two approaches to client-based learning.” at Learning Outside the Classroom, Dalhousie Conference on University Teaching and Learning, April 28-29, 2010. Co-presented with Dr. Louise Spiteri and Jenny Baechler.

Presented “Forty-one year old female academics aren’t supposed to like comics!?: Comic Books and Adult Readers.” at Southwest Texas Popular Culture Conference. February 2010.

Panellist at Teen Literature, Kids’ Lit Café, Halifax, May 2010.

## Keith Lawson

### Activities and Achievements

Treasurer of SDH-SEMI (Society for Digital Humanities / Société pour l’étude des médias interactifs)

## Publications and Presentations

“Students’ Use of Social Networking Sites for Academic Purposes” Presented at the Dalhousie Conference on University Teaching and Learning: Learning outside the Classroom, Halifax 28 April 2010.



“Undergraduate Use of Facebook on formal collaborative projects.” Presented at the SDH-SEMI (Society for Digital Humanities / Société pour l’étude des médias interactifs) Annual Conference, Concordia University, Montreal, 2 June 2010.

## Bertrum MacDonald

### Activities and Achievements

“A Study of the Use and Influence of The 2009 State of Nova Scotia’s Coast Report.” \$20,000. Research Contract, 2010-2011. Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture. (co-applicant, Peter G. Wells).

“Developing an International Digital Network in the History of Reading: Collaboration Between the UK Reading Experience Database and Invited Partners.” A grant of ,124,263 was awarded to Dr. W. Robert Owens (Open University) by the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council to proceed with this initiative. This successful application was supported by an in-kind contribution of \$62,950 by a Canadian team led by Bertrum H. MacDonald. The Canadian team, which will undertake the development of the Canadian version of the Reading Experience Database (CAN-RED), includes Fiona Black (Dalhousie University), Richard Cunningham (Acadia University), Lou Duggan (Saint Mary’s University), Bill Maes (Dalhousie University), DeNel Rehburg Sedo (Mount Saint Vincent University), and Ronald Tetreault (Dalhousie University).

External Examiner for the PhD Dissertation, “Science Culture in English-Speaking Montreal, 1815 to the 1840s,” by Harry Kuntz, Concordia University, 21 April 2010.

Member of the External Advisory Committee on the Steeves Excellence in Research Award, Crandall University, Moncton, New Brunswick, January 2010.

Continues as member of the Board of Governors and member of the Senate of Crandall University, Moncton. He is also continuing as president of the Canadian Science and Technology Historical Association and as an Executive Member of the Council of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing.

Danielle Cossarini (MLIS, 2010), a research student with the Environmental Information: Use and Influence (EI:UI) research initiative, has won the 2010 New England Chapter of the American Society for Information Science & Technology

(NEASIS&T) Student Travel Award for her paper, “Communicating Scientific Information for Environmental Solutions: A Knowledge Management Perspective.” The award will support Danielle’s travel to the annual conference of the American Society for Information Science and Technology in Pittsburgh in October. Danielle is the third MLIS student working with the EI:UI initiative to win this award.

### Publications and Presentations

MacDonald, Bertrum H. and Peter G. Wells. “Intergovernmental Organizations and the Challenge of Document Description and Repositories,” paper presented to the Workshop on CRIS (Current Research Information Systems), CERIF (Common European Research Information Format), and Institutional Repositories: Maximizing the Benefit of Research Information for Researchers, Research Managers, Entrepreneurs, and the Public, National Research Council, Rome, Italy, 10-11 May 2010. While in Rome, Dr. MacDonald met with personnel at the UN Food and Agriculture Organization to discuss research opportunities.

MacDonald, Bertrum H., Peter G. Wells, Suzuette S. Soomai, Danielle M. Cossarini, Gregory R.G. Hutton, Ruth E. Cordes, Julie M. Woods, & Colleen E. Delany. “Environmental Information: Use and Influence.” Talk presented to the Faculty of Management Research Day, Dalhousie University, 12 February 2010.

Cossarini, Danielle M., Suzuette S. Soomai, Bertrum H. MacDonald, and Peter G. Wells. “The Primacy of Grey: Studies of Publications of Marine Governmental Groups.” Poster presented at the 6th Annual Environmental and Sustainability Symposium, Dalhousie University, 25 March 2010.

Cossarini, Danielle M. and Suzuette S. Soomai. “The Primacy of Grey: Studies of Publications of Marine Governmental Groups,” Poster presented at the Atlantic Provinces Library Association conference, Saint John, New Brunswick, 13-15 May 2010.

Nathaniel Smith (MLIS/MPA 2011) presented a paper based on a Reading Course completed under Dr. MacDonald’s supervision to the annual conference of the Association of Canadian Archivists held in Halifax on 9-12 June 2010. Nathaniel’s paper, “Emerging Roots: Archives, Genealogists and the Internet,” used a public policy analysis approach to examine relationships between government archives and private or-

ganizations.

Danielle Cossarini (MLIS 2010), who is completing a thesis under Dr. MacDonald's supervision, presented the paper, "Communicating Scientific Information for Environmental Solutions: A Knowledge Management Perspective," to the annual conference of the Canadian Association for Information Science in Montreal on 4 June 2010.

Robin Parker (MLIS 2010) presented the paper, "Fostering Medical Professionalism by Connecting Maritime Doctors: Maritime Medical News, 1888-1910," based on a Reading Course project completed under Dr. MacDonald's supervision, to the annual conference of the Canadian Society for the History of Medicine held in Montreal on 28-30 May 2010.

## Louise Spiteri

### Activities and Achievements

Book review editor, Canadian Journal of Library and Information Science.

Conducted research with Halifax and Edmonton Public Libraries into the use of the social discovery systems AquaBrowser and BiblioCommons.

Explored how social discovery systems can help cataloguers meet their ethical imperative to create bibliographic records that meet the needs and cultural warrant of the users.

Served on a variety of program committees for Academic conferences, including the International Conference on Education and Information Systems: Technologies and Applications; the Canadian Association for Information Science; the American Society for Information Science and Technology; and the International Society for Knowledge Organization.

### Publications and Presentations

"The Dynamics of Collaborative Tagging: An Analysis of Tag Vocabulary." In Journal of Information and Knowledge Management (in press). With Joyline Makani.

"Incorporating Facets into Social Tagging Applications: An Analysis of Current Trends." in Cataloguing & Classification Quarterly, 48(1), 94-109.

"An Analysis of the Impact of Dalhousie University's Blended Learning Model on the Learning and Teaching Experiences

of Mid-Career Learners and Instructors." Paper presented at Association of Library and Information Science Education Conference, in Boston, January 12-15, 2010 (With Fiona Black and Bertrum MacDonald).

"Integrated Learning Opportunities at the Faculty of Management, Dalhousie University: An Analysis of Two Approaches to Client-Based Learning." Paper presented at the Conference for Learning and Teaching, Dalhousie University, in Halifax, April 28-29, 2010 (With Jenny Baechler and Vivian Howard).

"Library Catalogues as Social Spaces: A Shift in the Perception of the Public Library Catalogue and Its Function in Libraries." Paper presented at the Canadian Library Association conference, Edmonton, June 2-5, 2010 (With Michael Dell, Martina King, Peter Schoenberg, and Laurel Tarulli).

"A Conceptual Model for Dimensions Affecting Employees' Effective Participation in Social Tagging in the Corporate Environment." Paper presented at the International Workshop on Modeling Social Media, Toronto, June 13, 2010 (With Hesham Allam, Michael Bliemel, Jamie Blustein, and Carolyn Watters).

## Sandra Toze

### Activities and Achievements

Continued work on her PhD, defending her Proposal – Group Information Process: A Task Based Approach to Deconstructing Information Flow in Groups on June 24th. She was accepted to the Doctoral Consortium at Information Interactions in Context (IliX) 2010, which will be held in New Brunswick, New Jersey on August 18th, 2010.

Attended the Graphics, Animation and New Media (GRAND) Annual Conference 2010 June 2nd to 4th in Ottawa (<http://www.grand-nce.ca/>) and presented a Poster: Examining Task Flow in Group Work (Toze, S, & Toms, E.G., 2010). The GRAND NCE is a comprehensive research program "whose goal is to understand the underlying technologies and to make selective advances in a coordinated, multidisciplinary setting that lead to social, legal, economic, and cultural benefits for Canadians."

### Publications and Presentations

Toze, S. and Toms, E. Examining Group Work: Implications for the Digital Library as Sharium, in Research and Advanced Technology for Digital Libraries (Accepted), 2010.

# Faculty Awards

Each year during its strategic retreat, the Faculty of Management announces a series of awards to colleagues. These awards relate to achievements in teaching, research and administration. This year, two members of the School of Information Management were honoured with awards, Drs Fiona Black and Anatoliy Gruzd.

## **Award to Senior Administrator for Exceptional Service to the Faculty of Management – Fiona Black**

[From Dean Peggy Cunningham] I am grateful to work with someone so well respected by her colleagues. Fiona is most deserving of the award due in part to her seven years of leadership with the School of Information Management, and her role as Associate Dean in charge of external programs. Fiona is a person who exemplifies our mission: always leading with integrity and thoroughly getting things done. When Fiona was in charge of the search committee for the Director of the School of Business, I was so impressed with her professionalism, organizational skills, and kindness, that she was one of the prime reasons I decided to join Dalhousie. I value her greatly as a friend as well as a colleague.



Dean Peggy Cunningham presents Fiona Black (MLIS 1993) with her award

[From SIM colleagues] Fiona has demonstrated exemplary leadership and she supports and models collaboration. Her commitment to interdisciplinarity is amply evident in initiatives she has undertaken as Associate Dean. She strongly endorses the interdisciplinary character of the Faculty of Management and has worked tirelessly to advance initiatives that embrace cross-school/program activities. Her strengths include the ability to see beyond the parochial to the larger perspective of the big picture where all aspects of the Faculty of Management benefit. She has enormous capacity and energy for extensive work and a willingness to work until the objectives have been achieved. Her reputation as a very capable administrator extends well beyond the Faculty of Management to the wider university and to national and international circles. On top of all of these characteristics, she has a personality that relates effectively with all members of the Faculty.



## **Award for Exceptional Interdisciplinary Endeavour in Scholarly Research - Anatoliy Gruzd**

Dr Gruzd was only in our Faculty a few weeks before offering to put his own research expertise to use for the benefit of the Faculty's goal of seeking opportunities for shared research across Schools and subject domains. His work, using his Network Analytics software is already helping individual faculty members to see who else has related interests.

With degrees in both computer science and library & information science, Anatoliy's interdisciplinary research crosses many borders. For example:

- within the School and with other departments at Dalhousie, Anatoliy is involved with colleagues in a study analyzing if and how information from biomedical research literature is disseminated to non-specialists through the blogosphere
- with senior colleagues in the Faculty of Computer Science at Dalhousie University, he is active in research in the Web Information Filtering Lab
- at the Department of Sociology at the University of Toronto, Anatoliy collaborates with Dr. Barry Wellman on a SSHRC-funded initiative investigating how online social media and networks are changing the ways scholars disseminate knowledge
- at the Department of Humanities at the New Jersey Institute of Technology, Anatoliy works with Dr. Nancy Steffen-Fluhr and other colleagues, studying gender-driven institutional change using co-authorship networks to help reduce women's isolation in technological organizations
- finally, at the Department of Media and Communication at YeungNam University in South Korea, Dr. Gruzd collaborates with Dr. Han Woo Park and his team at the WCU Webometrics Institute investigating internet-based politics using e-research tools



# SSHRC grants awarded to SIM Faculty Members

Two professors at SIM have been awarded grants by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada to advance their research.

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) is the federal agency that promotes and supports university-based research and training in the humanities and social sciences. Through its programs and policies, the Council enables the highest levels of research excellence in Canada, and facilitates knowledge sharing and collaboration across research disciplines, universities and all sectors of society. Created by an act of Parliament in 1977, SSHRC is governed by a council that reports to Parliament through the Minister of Industry.



*Anatoliy Gruz, Michelle Adams, Stéphane Mechoulam, Vivian Howard*

Dr. Anatoliy Gruz, Assistant Professor in the School of Information Management, and Dr. Barry Wellman, Department of Sociology of the University of Toronto, have been awarded \$161,000 for

“How Online Social Media and Online Social Networks are Changing the Ways Scholars Disseminate Knowledge and Information”. As online social networks (OSNs) such as Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn become mainstream, numerous studies have been conducted on how the general public is using OSN-based technologies. However, little work has been undertaken to understand how scholars are using and adapting to these new social media in their own work. This study seeks to fill this gap in our understanding of knowledge and information dissemination in the age of Social Media.

Dr. Vivian Howard (MLIS 1995), Assistant Professor in the School of Information Management and Director of the Bachelor of Management program, has been awarded \$48,580 to build on her ongoing investigation into the use of regional authors and illustrators in elementary and high school classrooms in the Atlantic Provinces. She will work in collaboration with the Eileen Wallace Children’s Literature Collection at the University of New Brunswick and the Canadian Children’s Book Centre, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to supporting the production of Canadian books for young readers. The goals of this project are to analyze regional issues in Atlantic Canadian children’s literature, create a web-based information portal to serve the needs of scholars, practitioners and young people and undertake a usability study of the information portal.

# Convocation 2010

## Robin Parker - Director's Award

Awarded to the graduating student with the highest academic achievement.

## Charmaine Fraser - Atlantic Provinces Library Association Award

Awarded to the graduating student who, in the opinion of faculty, shows the most professional promise.

## Geoffrey Allen - Leadership Award

Awarded to a graduating student for significant service to the overall programme of the School.

## Robin Parker - Louis Vagianos Medal

Awarded to a graduating student who combines the capacity for blending originality with practical thinking and the courage to seek solutions to professional problems outside the mainstream.

## Kirsta Stapelfeldt - Information Technology Prize

Awarded to the graduating student who demonstrates the greatest understanding and range of capabilities with computer-based activities.

## Mohammed Amin and Adam Amman - J. Clement Harrison International Award

Awarded to a worthy international member or members of the graduating class, or to any other graduating student who has demonstrated a strong interest in and commitment to librarianship and information studies outside North America.

## Nora Kennedy - Nova Scotia Library Association Prize

Awarded to a graduating student with a high GPA and a demonstrated interest in Public Library work.

## Kirsta Stapelfeldt - SIM Research Award

Awarded to the graduating student who has demonstrated significant success in research.

## Beta Phi Mu Candidates

Beta Phi Mu is the International Library and Information Studies Honor Society. Candidates are nominated from the graduating classes of ALA accredited degree programs, and must have Grade Point Averages over 3.75. Nominations may not total more than 25% of the class.

- Geoffrey Allen
- Mary Arnold
- Nancy Edgar
- Andrea Edwards
- Amanda Foote
- Angela Friesen
- Nora Kennedy
- Lara Killian
- Leanne Owen
- Robin Parker
- Kirsta Stapelfeldt
- Michael Steeleworthy
- Judie Woodward

## Danielle Cossarini - SIMSA Outstanding Service Award

Awarded by SIMSA to a graduating student who has made outstanding contributions to student life by giving time to extra-curricular activities, helping others in the lab/common room, making thoughtful contributions in the classroom, and demonstrating an ability to be a team player.

## Lara Killian - SLA Eastern Chapter Ann Galler Award

Awarded by the Special Libraries Association (Eastern Canada Chapter) to a graduating student who demonstrates the greatest interest and achievement in the area of special libraries.





# IWB 2010 Pathways, Portals, and Peoples: Managing Information Globally

Geoffrey Allen (2010)

Now in its fifth year, the Information Without Borders Conference is a student-led initiative bringing speakers, students, faculty, and information professionals together for an intense day of sharing ideas and learning. The principal challenge that the organising committee gave itself this year was to increase participation at the conference significantly. We set the goal of a fifty percent increase over the previous year, a figure that through the planning stages of the conference looked like it might be impossible to reach. We were thrilled at the end of the event to find that we had actually managed to double participation, significantly overshooting our goal!

Careful planning, networking, and a lot of hard work were the keys to our success this year. We sought out and were able to attract speakers who were sure to be of interest to both the student population at SIM, and to the broader professional community. Over the summer we worked in tandem with faculty members to integrate the conference into the upcoming year's curriculum at the school. We also benefited

from the enthusiasm of Laura Macdonald, a student in NSCC's library technician program, who convinced her school to cover the cost of having the students in that program join us for the day as well. We also worked to include the incoming class of students at SIM into the conference planning process from the start of the year. We knew things were moving on the right track when our first advanced registration forms arrived, all the way from Ontario.

This year's IWB conference featured an opening keynote address from Dr. Daniel Caron, the newly appointed Librarian and Archivist of Canada, who spoke about the evolving roles of memory institutions within their societies, and the

need for change and development. During the question period Dr. Caron discussed some of the changes planned for LAC in the face of today's massive explosion in the amount of information produced, and the difficulty of trying to handle it all. A federated approach seems to be the answer for now, with collections development carefully orchestrated and shared between Library and Archives Canada (LAC) and smaller institutions across the country.



Design by  
Kirsta Stapelfeldt

The conference ended with a keynote speech from Nora Young, host of CBC's blog and radio program, Spark. Nora's talk addressed the significant changes taking place in the world of information transference especially in the realm of mass media today. Nora pointed out the need to listen to her audience to develop content rather than simply delivering information to a crowd. Social media seems to be changing the concept of "authority" and will have a significant effect on the delivery of information. Giving up control and maintaining a sense of humour play a big part in the change.

Between the keynote addresses the conference featured a panel discussion on privacy and personal security in the digital age featuring SIM's own Nat Smith as student moderator and three experts from the industry: Carla Heggie (Information Access and Privacy Manager for NS Labour and Workforce Development), Dwight Fischer (Assistant Vice President and CIO at Dalhousie University), and Sandy Hounsell (Senior Research and Outreach Advisor for the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada). The conference also hosted parallel sessions on changing libraries to meet the needs of today's patrons. Michael Ridley, University Librarian and CIO of University of Guelph, spoke of the inspiring work he and his staff have undertaken at the U of G, and Judith Hare, CEO of the Halifax Public Libraries, talked of the design process for Halifax's new central library.

Video or audio recordings of the various presentations can be found on the schedule page of the conference website, [iwbconference.ca](http://iwbconference.ca).

The IWB 2011 Conference will be co-chaired by Erin O'Halloran & Mary Zazelenchuk. Questions about next year's event can be directed to the conference email account: [iwb@dal.ca](mailto:iwb@dal.ca).

We wish next year's team all the best as they continue to build on the successes of all the previous conferences.

## The 2010 Organising Committee

• Geoffrey Allen  
Executive Chair

• Nora Kennedy  
Logistics

• Kirsta Stapelfeldt  
Marketing

• Robin Parker  
Treasurer

• Charmaine Fraser  
Fundraising

• Erik Fjeldstrom  
Web Design

• Danielle Cossarini  
Programming

• Erin O'Halloran  
First-Year Representative

• Mary Zazelenchuk  
First-Year Representative

## OTTAWA INTERNSHIPS

Colleen Delany (MLIS 2011)

Since 2008, Dalhousie's MLIS Program has been an authorized participant in the federal Public Service Commission's (PSC) Post-Secondary Co-Op and Internship Program (see listing on the [PSC website](#)).

The 2011 MLIS class is well-represented in Ottawa this summer, with seven students working in various settings throughout the capital. Everyone is looking forward to gaining valuable work experience in a Federal setting and applying theory learned in the MLIS program to a practical setting. Exploring the city is just as exciting, and everyone is anticipating going to as many museums, festivals, markets, and events as possible throughout the summer. Of course, there are also ample opportunities for networking, and Dalhousie has already been well-represented at gatherings of students from MLIS programs across the country.



- **Naomi Balla-Boudreau** is working at Library and Archives Canada. She will be working on research projects dealing with specific aspects of Canadian History.

- **Carly Currie** and **Sophie Doiron** are both working at the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs. Carly will be involved in public relations and electronic resource management, while Sophie will be working with the eLibrarian to install a new federated search engine.

- **Colleen Delany** and **Kimberly Senf** are working at Public Safety Canada. They will both be involved in projects dealing with records management.

- **Emma Hicklin** is an intern in the Office of the Auditor General library, and is looking forward to experiencing everything from reference work to cataloguing.

- **Monica Ward** is an Information Specialist at the Canadian Intellectual Property Office Resource Centre and will be working with the intranet, developing tip sheets and reference guides, and analysing online database statistics.

## RHYTHM Poetry Magazine

Mary Kathryn Arnold (MLIS 2010)

Mary Kathryn Arnold (BA, Hons. in English 1998, King's/Dalhousie; MA in English 1999, University of Toronto; MLIS 2010, Dalhousie) launched the online *Rhythm Poetry Magazine* (*RPM*) as a new media venue in the fall of 2007, when she began her MLIS at Dalhousie University. Having been fortunate enough to work on her own poetry at the Banff Centre with the assistance of a provincial grant earlier in 2007, she was looking for ways to network with and bolster the burgeoning Canadian formal/metrical poetry scene. Publishing two issues a year (Fall/Winter and Spring/Summer), *Rhythm Poetry Magazine* is hosted with the generous support of Dalhousie's English department. Over the course of its five issues, *RPM* has featured many fine Canadian poets including: Kate Braid, Alice Burdick, Wayne Clifford, Michael deBeyer, Alison Dyer, Michael Lista, Karen McElrea, A.F. Moritz, Shane Neilson, Elizabeth Peirce, Ruth Roach Pearson, John Reibetanz, Stephen Rowe, Sandy Shreve, Diane Tucker, Ursula Vaira, Gloria Ann Wesley and David Zieroth. Not solely a venue for Canadian poets, *RPM* has also published international formal/metrical poets such as Siobhán Campbell, Ana Garza G'z, M.V. Montgomery, Adib Saab and John McCullough. *RPM* has yet to publish a poet who is also a librarian, but that is one of Arnold's future goals.

Arnold's own poetry has appeared in *The Antigonish Review*, *New Compass*, *All Rights Reserved*, *Lesbian Quarterly*, *Mezzo Cammin* and *The Fiddlehead*, and is forthcoming in *SoundZine*. In 1997, Rye Hill Press of Philadelphia, PA published her chapbook of poems, *September Fruit*. Arnold found that Dalhousie's School of Information Management gave her several useful skills she could apply to her editorship of *RPM*, including Web design, organizational and planning skills, research skills, and project management. She is always looking for submissions of high quality formal or metrical verse (please submit to [rhythm@dal.ca](mailto:rhythm@dal.ca)). You can find the submission guidelines for *Rhythm Poetry Magazine* at <http://rhythmpoetrymagazine.english.dal.ca/submissions.html>.



# Master of Information Management students earn Graduate Diplomas in Information Management

The Master of Information Management (MIM) program is going from strength to strength, in spite of the challenging fiscal environment for organizations in the public and private sector and the subsequent reductions of professional development support for mid-level managers. The program, launched in September 2008, is designed for mid-career professionals who work full-time and study part-time, principally by distance. Current students range geographically from Canada's west coast to Africa's east coast. These mid-career learners come from all sectors (public, private and not-for-profit) and are a stunning group to work with due to their commitment and the rich experiences they bring to the online classroom. Each course includes a two-day face-to-face intensive and these have been held, to date, in Halifax and Ottawa. Students earn interim credentials en route to graduation and the first cohort earned their Certificate of Information Management last fall, and their Graduate Diploma in IM this fall. MIM Director Fiona Black, and former staff colleague Faten Alshazly, worked this year with the Chief Information Officer Branch of Treasury Board Secretariat and, more recently, with the Canada School of Public Service, to help ensure access to the MIM program for federal civil servants. The enthusiasm for the MIM by those in the Chief Information Officer Branch, and discussions with a variety of IM specialists in an array of federal departments, has helped confirm the value of the curricular content of the program. Enquiries may be made to [mim@dal.ca](mailto:mim@dal.ca) concerning this "incurred cost recovery" program.



Programs such as the MIM would not be feasible or successful without the superlative support of a specialized unit in the Faculty of Management, the Centre for Advanced Management Education (CFAME). CFAME staff aid students from the application stage through to graduation with all matters relating to the administration and achievement of their academic goals. Most of this support is provided at a distance and CFAME staff are consistently praised for their responsiveness to students and their calm advising in the face of everything from wobbly internet course site access by learners who are travelling on business, to briefing notes being due to Ministers (and thus interfering with, say, an intensive session). Mid-career learners balance professional work, study and family life and our Learning Coordinators in CFAME, who are online in the course sites along with the course instructors,



can empathize with the challenges inherent in such balancing acts. The School, and the MIM program in particular, is fortunate to be able to benefit from CFAME's ten years' prior experience with our Faculty's two other mid-career programs, the MBA (Financial Services) and the MPA (Management). The MIM program, and CFAME staff, are looking forward to the first MIM graduating class in the fall of 2011!



## Michael Colborne: Volunteer and Mentor Extraordinaire

Fiona Black

SIM has always been blessed with wonderful professional colleagues, several of whom volunteer their time and efforts on behalf of our students and our programs in general. It is with particular pleasure that we offer thanks to one of our most committed volunteers, Michael Colborne, who recently left his position as Coordinator for User Services at the Nova Scotia Provincial Library. For the past several years, Michael has served as the official CLA Observer on our School Council, which is the final policy decision-making body for the School and which meets twice each year. We are very grateful for Michael's updates to Council on CLA initiatives. Of even greater impact, however, has been Michael's stellar role as the lead professional who actively promoted the MLIS Professional Partnering Program. Several readers will smile perhaps to remember Michael's gently cajoling emails to encourage fellow-professionals to take up the mantle of mentor to a current student. This program, initiated largely by then-student Heather Berringer, in 2002, has grown from strength to strength in large measure due to Michael's hard work and loyalty.



As if these contributions were not sufficient to earn kudos, Michael also supervised practicum placements and advised numerous students one on one. In addition, he served as a member of the thesis advisory committee for Francine May whose thesis on public libraries as public spaces was awarded distinction on its completion.

The School will greatly miss you, Michael, and we wish you every success in the next phase of life's journey!

## Introducing Joon Sang Baek, PhD Student



“I would like to introduce Joon Sang Baek, a PhD student from Politecnico di Milano in Italy. I am on his dissertation committee and he is here this summer to work with me on his dissertation in Design and Innovation for Sustainability. Joon is investigating how information and communication technologies can facilitate the diffusion of grassroots social innovation and reinforce social networks between agricultural producers and consumers in Italy.”

DR. ANATOLIY GRUZD  
(ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, SIM)

Joon Sang Baek works at the Research Unit of Design and Innovation for Sustainability in the department of Industrial Design and Multimedia Communication. His research lies in design for social innovation and sustainability, especially focusing on the use of service design and information communication technologies (ICTs) to empower people to innovate societies in more sustainable ways.

Before he came to Milan, he had worked as a user interface designer at Samsung Mobile for 5 years where he was involved in designing mobile user interface and services for USA, China and South Korea. He completed a bachelor's degree in industrial design at Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology and a master's degree in interaction design at the same institute. He wrote his master thesis on a participatory design approach to information design for children.



# SIMSA

School of Information Management Students' Association

In the first half of 2010 SIMSA was involved with a number of activities to support the School's student body. The Brown Bag Lunch speaker series continued to gather students together to hear about current trends in research and other topics of interest to information professionals. We heard from new faculty member Dr. Anatoliy Gruzd about his blog network research, Amanda Stevens on open source software, and Ken Williment and Tracey Jones-Grant about community development in public libraries. SIMSA supported the IWB conference organizers as well as the *Dalhousie Journal of Interdisciplinary Management (DJIM)*, contributing financially to both of those excellent initiatives. SIMSA also fielded an inner tube water polo team and a broomball group, competing regularly in the Dal intramural leagues.

Discussion continued about the need for career advising for SIM's students, and at the year-end AGM the SIMSA Executive presented some options to continuing students about future options for working with Management Career Services. On June 1, 2010, a slew of our new graduates crossed the stage in the Rebecca Cohn auditorium, following a nice luncheon and the presentation of graduation awards. The SIMSA Executive would like to congratulate the newest MLIS graduates and encourage them to get involved with the Associated Alumni group! Also, this year SIMSA has been working on developing a SIM network on the professional networking website LinkedIn so please join us! We would also like to recognize Dr. Fiona Black's outstanding contribution as Director of SIM as she wraps up her time in that position this month. Finally, best of luck to the new SIMSA Executive going forward.

Have a great summer, all!

Lara Killian & Greg Hayward  
SIMSA Co-Chairs 2009-2010

## 2010-2011 SIMSA Executive

Co-chair: Jennifer Grek Martin

Co-chair: Colleen Delany

Vice-chair (Academic): Craig Olsvik

Vice-chair (Non-academic): Amy Paterson

Secretary: Monica Ward

Treasurer: Nicole Radzikowski

## Contact Information

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<http://simsa.dsu.dal.ca>

# Dalhousie University Student Chapter of the Association of Canadian Archivists

The Dalhousie Student Chapter of the ACA has completed its third academic year and has successfully increased membership and student interest in its activities at SIM.

In the winter semester the ACA chapter organized a tour of the Halifax CBC media archives with the co-operation and support of Doug Kirby, media archivist for Halifax CBC. This was the third year that this tour has been offered to Chapter members, as well as other Dalhousie students, and it is quickly becoming one of the most anticipated and well reviewed tours organized by student associations at SIM. The Chapter also hosted a fundraiser in conjunction with the annual student-led Information Without Borders conference, at which Dr. Daniel Caron of Library and Archives Canada was a keynote speaker (see page 14). Furthermore, for the second year in a row our chapter was a supporter of this event.

## ***Contact Information***

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[hillary.webb@dal.ca](mailto:hillary.webb@dal.ca)  
<http://simsa.dsu.dal.ca/aca/>

The 2010 ACA conference took place in Halifax from June 9th to 12th. The Dalhousie Student Chapter was able to provide two MLIS students with scholarships to cover a large portion of their conference fees. We look forward to a presentation about their experiences during a chapter meeting in the fall.

Hillary Webb (2010/11 Chair) and Greg Hayward (2009/10 Chair)  
ACA Dalhousie Student Chapter, Co-Chairs

## **Did You Know?**

Students worked to establish a chapter of the association during the 2007/2008 academic year and successfully achieved recognition from the ACA and from the Dalhousie Student Union in March 2008. An Executive Committee was formed in March 2008, and an election was held in September for the First Year Co-Chair. Elections were held in April 2009 for the positions of Treasurer and Secretary for the 2009/2010 academic year, and the First Year Co-Chair was elected in September 2009.

The past spring was an exciting and formative period for the *Dalhousie Journal of Interdisciplinary Management*. Over the past semester a new Executive was brought on board, Volume 5 of the journal went live in March and DJIM received an ISSN that will allow the journal to be placed in open access repositories.

The two co-chairs, Lara Killian and Kirsta Stapelfeldt were instrumental in getting the current issue online. On behalf of the new Executive I would like to thank both of them for their dedication and expertise. I would also like to thank the faculty advisor for the current issue, Binod Sundararajan, from the School of Business Administration, who provided astute advice and was a welcome addition to the DJIM team.

We had a successful launch party to celebrate the 5th Volume of the journal going live and this proved to be an excellent opportunity for students from the entire Faculty of Management to learn about the journal. The coming academic year will showcase DJIM's commitment to garnering interest from students in all of the Schools within the Faculty of Management. Members of the Executive will be making presentations at the various orientations in September and we look forward to the innovative ideas that the new academic year will bring.

## DJIM Executive 2010-2011:

*Kimberly Senf – Chair*

*Alyssa Graybeal – Editorial Chair*

*Amy Patterson – Communications Chair*

*Conrad Ng – Technical Chair*

*Samantha Dutka – Public Relations Chair*

*Naomi Balla-Boudreau – Special Projects*

To contact us, please email: [djim@dal.ca](mailto:djim@dal.ca)

## Dalhousie University Canadian Library Association Student Chapter

### CLA@Dal Year in Review

In 2009-10, the CLA Student Group at Dalhousie University focused on networking, professionalization, and outreach. The CLA@Dal focused its efforts on helping future librarians learn about opportunities in the field as well as introduce them to members of the LIS community so they can quickly become immersed in the profession.

The year began with the kick-off to the 2009/10 Professional Partnering Programme. The PPP gives new students a chance to meet professionals working in many different LIS sectors; this year, over 40 students took part in the programme. Students and professionals alike came together for a kick-off event in early October and were encouraged to build on these relationships throughout the year. Professions and students who are interested in participating in 2010/11 may contact [student.cla@gmail.com](mailto:student.cla@gmail.com) for details.

Networking remained on the agenda in November when CLA President, John Teskey, visited SIM for a discussion with students on the library and information profession in Canada. John spoke to us on issues such as information technology, digital rights management, and career opportunities.

A highlight for many people this year was the annual St Patrick's Day cupcake bake sale. This year, the CLA@Dal raised over \$200 for APLA's Grow-a-Library fund, which this year supported the construction of a new library in Tanzania.

Please contact the new executive at [student.cla@gmail.com](mailto:student.cla@gmail.com) if you'd like to participate in the upcoming academic year.

Michael Steeleworthy and Jessica Babineau  
CLA Co-Chairs, 2009-2010

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<http://simsa.dsu.dal.ca/cla/index.htm>

## CLA Executive 2010-2011

Leah Brisco  
(Co-Chair)

Alyssa Graybeal  
(Co-Chair)

Kimberly Senf  
(Secretary)

Andrea Crabbe  
(Treasurer)



As recipient of the School of Information Management's 2010 Alberta Letts Travel Award, I had the honour of attending the Canadian Library Association's National Conference and Trade Show this June in Edmonton, Alberta. The Alberta Letts award generously covered my flight, hotel, and registration costs and allowed me to attend both my first CLA Conference and my first visit to the city of Edmonton.

The conference offered a variety of sessions and I was eager to attend as many as the schedule allowed. SIM's Dr. Louise Spiteri, along with research partner Laurel Tarulli (Halifax Public Libraries) and 3 representatives from Edmonton Public Library presented their research and experiences related to social catalogues. Seeing familiar faces discuss their work made me proud to belong to a school and a city that are actively developing innovative technologies. It struck me that the people presenting at the conference are the people we work with everyday, who are simply passionate enough to want to share their ideas and experiences with the library community.

Hamilton Public Library presented their new "customer-driven" service model and reviewed several changes they have made in its implementation. The session was my favourite for the volume of information and personal opinions the presenters shared and for the discussion that followed. I took the opportunity to ask a question during the discussion and in doing so felt that I became a participant in the conference and not merely an observer.

The session on Edmonton Public Library's implementation of a community-led model explained their new "community librarian" positions, many of which are held by recent MLIS graduates. At the SIM alumni dinner, one of the highlights of the trip for me (and not just because of the Albertan steak and beer), I had the opportunity to meet SIM graduates currently employed as community librarians in Edmonton.

In fact, one of the unanticipated benefits of attending the conference in Edmonton was the opportunity to gain an understanding of the employment landscape in Alberta for information professionals. Canada's geography forms natural regions and the conference allowed me to get a broadened sense of what those regions are

and how librarians network within and between them. I am very honoured and thankful to SIM for the awarding me the opportunity to attend the 2010 CLA National Conference. Without the Alberta Letts Travel Award I would have missed this valuable opportunity to network with professionals, both new and experienced, and to gain an understanding of the role I have to play within the information field in Canada. I am now looking forward to contributing towards a similar event of learning and collaboration with SIM's own Information Without Borders conference in 2011.

## DEIDRE O'REILLY

This June I was one of seven students to attend the Canadian Library Association (CLA) national conference and tradeshow, thanks to the Student-to-CLA travel award. While the award helped to bring us to the conference in Edmonton it also gave us the opportunity to take an active role and meet core organisers. Although the majority of our time was spent attending sessions and writing for the CLA conference newsletter, we also attended the First Timers Breakfast, the Annual General Meeting, and contributed to an article in *Felicitier*, the CLA membership magazine.

While the conference held numerous networking opportunities, the sessions provided space for presenters and attendees to share knowledge and debate contentious issues. I especially appreciated Sue Gardner's opening keynote address, in which she stated that what works in practice does not always work in theory. While she was discussing Wikipedia and the Wikimedia Foundation, I found that her remarks resonated with me throughout the conference.

Although networking and attending sessions were a key part of my conference experience, the greatest highlight of being a recipient of the Student-to-CLA travel award was having the opportunity to meet and collaborate with Library and Information Studies students from across Canada.



# Special Libraries Association Student Chapter

The Special Libraries Association student chapter had a busy winter term with library tours, fundraisers and for one of our members a trip down to the SLA 2010 Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. The term started out with a tour to the Stewart McKelvey Law Library on Wednesday, January 27, 2010. Cyndi Murphy (1980) graciously showed SIM students around the office and library and pointed out the reference collection of Canadian and British law materials, and described the in-house classification system, which groups materials concerning specific areas of law together. On February 15, 2010 we had our annual Death by Chocolate Bake Sale which was a hit. Our next tour was held at the Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority (APSEA) and led by Heather Ferrier. The library is staffed by three library technicians and serves “children and youth who are deaf, hard of hearing, blind or visually impaired”, their caregivers, and teachers. Another fantastic fundraiser, an ice cream sale, was held in April 2010 and the SLA group is looking to put on another in warmer weather. Money raised will help buy new Dalhousie SLA Student Group gifts that will be given away to library tour hosts and speakers and helped send me to the SLA 2010 Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana with a \$500 bursary.

Samantha Dutka, First Year Co-Chair

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## SLA 2010 CONFERENCE NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA: A FIRST TIMERS ADVENTURE

Discovering the location of this year's Special Libraries Association (SLA) annual conference, New Orleans, Louisiana, I knew that I would be attending as my desire for visiting the city and being a part of large conference were things I wished to do. Being the first year co-chair for the Dalhousie SLA Student Group I knew there would be an opportunity for someone to be sent to the conference by completing a short essay for a contest about why I wanted to attend. The \$500 bursary helped pay for my conference registration, meals and accommodations. On my journey down to New Orleans I met a fellow SLA member who gave me some great advice; get a first timers badge and do not be shy because the badge gives you a “right” to ask questions. This advice allowed me to network easily and to allow other conference attendees to introduce themselves to me. I made very valuable connections, both professionally and personally, at both the First Timers Reception and the Canadian Reception because of my first timers badge.

I went to great sessions each day however “Digital Libraries” and “Does Taxonomy Matter in a New World of Search and Discovery” were my favourites. Both sessions were panel discussions with panellists from a variety of fields talking about their experiences and sharing novel information sources. The session on taxonomy particularly sparked my academic interest and gave a plethora of information about why librarians will not be replaced by computers. I want to thank the Dalhousie SLA Student Group for this amazing opportunity and I look forward to helping someone else get to the SLA 2011 Conference.

Samantha Dutka, SLA Student Group Co-Chair  
MLIS (Candidate), MREM (Candidate), HBSc (biology)

## 2001-2010

**Mary Kathryn Arnold** (2010) recently launched an online poetry magazine; see page 17.

**Nancy Edgar** (2010) is working in the provincial office of New Brunswick Public Library Service (NBPLS) as a Research and Planning Librarian-Intern.

**Charmaine Fraser** (2010) has accepted a full-time permanent position with Foreign Affairs (DFAIT) in Ottawa, working as an IM Services Officer.

**Yan Gu** (2010) will be working for CBC Toronto as a Media Librarian.

**Robin Parker** (2010) has accepted a Reference Librarian position with the London Health Sciences Centre (University Hospital site). Her work is to support the Clinical Librarians and focus on special projects relating to reorganization of the library staff and services.

## 2000-2009

**Ashley Nunn-Smith** (2009) has accepted a position with Halifax Public Libraries (Woodlawn Branch) as Children's Librarian.

**Jason Tenter** (2009) has recently accepted a position at St. Andrew's College in Ontario; he is now the Administrative Assistant - Research and Donor Relations.

**Melissa Feaver** (2008) started a six-month assignment as Division Manager of Technical Services for Newfoundland and Labrador overseeing all of the processing and cataloguing of materials that come through for the 96 libraries in the system. She will also be serving as the president of the New-

foundland and Labrador Library Association (NLLA).

**Amanda Horsman** (2008) has accepted a contract position as the Librarian for the Centre de formation médicale with Université de Moncton.

**Megan Fitzgibbons** (2007) was co-author with Andrew K. Shenton of the Feature Article "Just What is This Thing We Call Relevance? Engaging Students in Information Literacy Sessions" in CLA's *Felicitier* Issue # 2, 2010, Vol. 56, pp. 76-78. Megan is a liaison librarian at McGill University in Montreal.

**Yusuke (Ishimura) Fitzgibbons** (2007) was the recipient of McGill University's Tom Casgrain Fellowship. This fellowship is awarded to a person who is researching "new" literacy and has a value of \$5,000.

**Debra Mann** (2007) see page 6.

**Amy Dietrich** (2006) has recently taken on the position of President of the Toronto Association of Law Libraries. She continues to work as a Research Consultant at Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP.

**Laurena Fredette** (2006) holds the position of Member-at-Large (Awards) on the 2010-2011 Executive Committee of the Council of Nova Scotia Archives.

**Guoying (Grace) Liu** (2006) and Danielle Winn were the winners of the 2010 Robert H. Blackburn Distinguished Paper Award for their 2009 paper, "Chinese graduate students and the Canadian academic library: A user study at the University of Windsor," published in the *Journal of Academic Librarianship*.

**Kenneth Williment** (2006) was involved with two recent publications from Halifax Public Libraries: "It Takes a Community to Create a Library" *Canadian Journal of Library and Information Practice and Research*, vol. 4, no. 1 (2009) and the Community-Led Libraries Toolkit. For more information on the Working Together Project which produced these publications, please see page 28. Ken has also joined the Social Justice Librarian blog as a guest blogger; he would welcome your comments!

**Donata Krakowski** (2001) accepted a position with the Nova Scotia Department of Justice as the Judges' Librarian.

## 1990-1999

**Carolyn Carpan** (1998) and **Mary-Claire Vandenburg** (1998) met up at the 5th Canadian Learning Center Conference at Queen's University in Kingston in June. Carolyn is Director of Public Services at Hamilton College Library in Clinton, NY; Mary-Claire is Research and Instruction Librarian at Queen's University.

**Paul Bourgeois** (1997) writes that he is now writing regularly for the music website Barefootmusicnews.

**Lara McAllister** (1996) began her new position as Youth Services Librarian at Halifax Public Libraries (Woodlawn Branch) in January.

**Troy Myers** (1993) has been appointed Chief Librarian/CEO with South Shore Public Libraries. Troy was also involved with the Halifax Public Libraries "Working Together Project"; see page 28.

## 1980-1989

**Darla Muzzerall** (1987) was involved with the Halifax Public Libraries "Working Together Project"; see page 28.

**Tracey Jones-Grant** (1986) was involved with the Halifax Public Libraries "Working Together Project"; see page 28.

**Peter Webster** (1986) received this year's Atlantic Provinces Library Association (APLA) Merit Award which is given annually to someone who has made an outstanding contribution to library services in the Atlantic Provinces.

**Diana Pepall** (1984) joined author, Alan Cumyn, and University of Ottawa part-time faculty, Evan May, for a round table about censorship as part of Ottawa's Freedom to Read Week.

**Marie DeYoung** (1980) see page 27.

**Catherine Quinlan** (1980) is pictured in the monthly feature "How the World Sees Us" of ALA's *American Libraries* (March 2010, page 24): "THE WINNER IS...Catherine Quinlan, dean of the University of Southern California Libraries in Los Angeles..." Catherine received SIM's Outstanding Alumni Award in 2002.

## 1970-1979

**Christina (Fernandes) Corkett** (1978) is currently working as a policy analyst with the Policy and Planning division of the NS Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal. In June Christina was awarded the Premier's Award of Excellence, as a member of the ReThink Committee, Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal (TIR). Their ReThink Committee was also recipient of the 12th Annual

Mobius Environmental Award, as Institution of the Year for demonstrating leadership in waste-resource management and creativity in diverting materials from the waste stream. For more details visit <http://www.gov.ns.ca/psc/recognition/2010-recipients.htm> and <http://www.rrfb.com/mobius/>

**Margaret (Pickering) Fay** (1978) was part of the production team which created the cookbook "Living in Harmony: Recipes for Body, Mind and Spirit". A launch was held at St Matthew's United Church in Halifax, where dinner was shared and books were sold. Among other contributions, the book contained information about climate change provided by Margaret.

**Donna Seyed Mahmoud** (1978) was co-author with Nicole Eva of the Feature Article "Screensavers as a PR Medium :A Simple Idea with a Lot of Power" in CLA's *Feliciter*, Issue # 2, 2010, Vol. 56, pp. 72-73. Donna is at the University of Lethbridge where she was the former Associate University Librarian.

**Melody Hainsworth** (1976) see page 31.

**Christine Hayward** (1974) see page 36.

**Margaret Foster** (1972) see page 33.





# Spotlight on



the class of **1980**

featuring: **Marie DeYoung**

Upon graduation in 1980 I found myself very much in the same position as the 2010 graduates – working part time and looking for a job that would give me the opportunity to use the skills and learning obtained through my MLIS degree. Throughout my two years at SIM I worked part time at the Nova Scotia Department of Labour library, basically setting up the library as well as providing reference service and hoping that what seemed like the



potential for a full time job would materialize. The position became permanent and I was there for 5 years and then had the good fortune to go to the Attorney General's Department to work as a law librarian. While at the Attorney General's Department I assumed responsibility for records management as well as providing legal research to government lawyers, crown attorneys and the judiciary.

In 1998 I assumed the position of Director of Library Services for the Nova Scotia Community College. The challenge in that position was to develop a college-wide library system involving building new campus libraries, hiring staff and developing completely new collections for those new libraries. It was a tremendous experience, not just because of the challenge of working over a large geographic area but also because of the need to attend to the minutia of library design such as - where does the book drop best need to go!

Throughout my library career I have been very actively involved in professional associations, as a member of committees, the executive and in conference planning. It has been an invaluable experience because of the wonderful colleagues I have met but also because of the continued opportunity to engage in professional development.

The advertisement for my current job at the Patrick Power Library, Saint Mary's University stated "the University Librarian provides creative and energetic leadership and vision in the administration of the Library." These few words truly capture the magic of what I get to do every day, working with wonderful staff to deliver the best possible library service to students, faculty and staff.

*Marie*

# Are you part of the class of 1980?

## We want your stories!

Please submit your brief stories, anecdotes and memories of your time in the MLIS program in 1980. We will continue our celebration of this year's 30th reunion class in the next issue of *Inform*, which will be published in January. Please keep your submissions to 50 words!

# THE WORKING TOGETHER PROJECT

KEN WILLIMENT (2006)



The Working Together project of Halifax Public Libraries has won the prestigious Ontario Library Association's Presidents' Award for Exceptional Achievement. The award is given to an action or project that has enhanced or furthered librarianship in a major or unique way. Since 1990, it has been awarded 9 times.

The goal of the Working Together: Library-Community Connections project was to engage non-traditional library users. By talking with them, we heard their stories, and learned their needs. Two of the major successes of the project, was the development of a community led service model and a Community Led Toolkit.

For more information on the Working Together Project please visit their [website](#).

### **Dalhousie Graduates involved in the project:**

Kenneth Williment  
(MLIS 2006)

Tracey Jones-Grant  
(MLS 1986)

Darla Muzzerall  
(MLIS 1987)

Troy Myers  
(MLIS 1993)



## 2010-2011

### Associated Alumni Executive

Past Chair: Donna Bourne-Tyson

Chair: Collette Saunders

Vice-Chair: David Ryan

Secretary/Treasurer: Jennifer Adams

Program Convenor: Cordelia Perry

Member-at-large: Denise Corey

### Standing Committee Representatives

*Admissions & Scholarships Nominee*

Hannah Colville

*Appointments, Promotions & Tenure Nominees*

Denise Parrott and Marie DeYoung

*Curriculum & Continuing Education Nominee*

Amanda Horsman

*Petitions & Grievances Nominees*

Julia Stewart and Donna Bourne-Tyson

On Thursday, June 3, a group of Dalhousie SIM Alumni met at Lazia Restaurant in the Edmonton City Centre mall while in the city for the Canadian Library Association Annual Conference and Trade Show. Louise Spiteri welcomed members of our most recent classes as well as those from a number of previous years. All enjoyed the chic urban setting and the Asian and Mediterranean-influenced global cuisine. Friends who joined the festivities included Roberta Stevens (Library of Congress) President-Elect of ALA, Mary Ghikas (Senior Associate Executive Director of ALA), and Robert Wedgeworth (a Past-President of IFLA). The Associated Alumni would like to extend a heartfelt thank-you to Shannon Clarke (MLIS 2008) for organizing this event.

Your Alumni Association is an important part of the School that helps to foster an ongoing relationship between graduates, the School and current students. The Association provides networking opportunities, promotes a positive image of the school, preserves and carries on school traditions and offers scholarship support. We encourage you to stay in touch and support the Association whether you are in the local area or much farther afield. By participating in SIM Associated Alumni events and initiatives you will be helping today's students become tomorrow's leaders.

Collette Saunders

## ALUMNI RELATIONS UPDATE

Leslie Crowell

### SIM HAS STRONG TIES

When I joined the Faculty of Management (FoM) in the new role of Alumni Relations Officer last September, it was immediately evident to me that the School of Information Management has an active and engaged alumni base! Alumni Relations objectives at Dalhousie focus on connecting alumni with each other, students, learning opportunities and the university, and SIM has done an admirable job in all of these areas.

### FACULTY ALUMNI FOCUS

The on-going goals for the Faculty's alumni initiatives are to:

- Strengthen the relationships among FoM alumni, and between FoM alumni and Dalhousie University
- Increase alumni participation in student recruitment, involvement and career development
- Pro-actively prepare students to become alumni
- Create learning opportunities for alumni

### GET INVOLVED

In addition to the alumni activities coordinated by the SIM Alumni Association, there are many Faculty-wide alumni initiatives planned for the fall. These provide great opportuni-

ties for SIM alumni to connect and expand their network through students, faculty and other alumni. All invitations are sent electronically, and event details will be posted at <http://alumniandfriends.dal.ca/events/>. Why not join us for some fun? (See page 30 for upcoming events.)

### DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Chris Steeves, the new Development Officer for FoM, is currently working with SIM administration to further strengthen two endowments that are near and dear to the School - the Norman Horrocks Leadership Fund and the Stephanie Downs Memorial Fund. Stay tuned for further updates!

### FACULTY ALUMNI CONTACTS

In addition to your SIM Alumni Association contacts, we are happy to be another university resource for the SIM alumni. For additional details on any of the above please contact us:

Leslie Crowell  
Alumni Relations Officer  
[leslie.crowell@dal.ca](mailto:leslie.crowell@dal.ca)  
902-494-3222

Chris Steeves  
Development Officer  
[chris.steeves@dal.ca](mailto:chris.steeves@dal.ca)  
902-494-7042



## ***Brew & Books (Book Club)***

Mid-September & Mid-November (TBC)

University Club Pub - 5:00 – 7:00 pm

Titles and dates to be confirmed by the end of August– watch for more details in your email invitation.



## ***Homecoming Events***

We are excited that for the first time in 15 years, Dalhousie will be hosting Homecoming! Campus will be hopping October 21-23, with a variety of activities including a Masterminds lecture, Faculty sponsored events and a full day of athletics, complete with a tailgate party. FoM events include:



### **Annual Dinner – Thursday, October 21, Cunard Centre**

Reception: 6 – 7 pm

Dinner & Awards: 7 – 10 pm

Dancing: 10pm – 12 am

Our annual dinner and alumni awards features guest speaker Robin Sharma, author of *The Monk who Sold His Ferrari*. This year the fun continues on after dinner with live music and dancing!

### **Zero Footprint Rally – Friday, October 22, Rowe Building Atrium**

Rally: 2-4 pm

Beer & Pizza: 4-5 pm

FoM's "green" version of the Amazing Race – team up with alumni and students for a race through the Rowe and other hot spots on campus. Decipher clues to figure out where to go and complete tasks at each location. Prizes, beer and pizza await participants at the finish line!



### **Alumni Awards Brunch – Saturday, October 23**

Rowe Building Atrium

Brunch & Awards: 10:30 am – 12:30 pm

SIM's Outstanding Alumni Award will be handed out during Homecoming at a brunch honoring alumni from all schools and programs in the Faculty of Management.

## ***Holiday Open House***

Wednesday, December 1

Save the date - details to follow.



# 2010 Vancouver Olympics: Experiences of a volunteer in the anti-doping program

Melody Hainsworth (MLIS 1976)

My husband Rob and I were thrilled in 2008 to be chosen to join an elite group of volunteers to participate in the anti-doping efforts at the Vancouver 2010 Olympics. We had had a taste of Olympics fever when we lived in Calgary in 1988 and were keen to repeat the experience. We had to agree to a number of conditions including substantial training, working a World Cup event, forgoing purchasing tickets for events prior to our Olympic drug control schedule being published and of course passing the inevitable police check. We also had to be available for 3 weeks, could not participate in anything that might be considered favoritism, such as hosting an athlete's family or wearing our national colors or collecting country pins when on duty. We took holidays for 3 weeks, and I also took another 2 weeks to volunteer with the Paralympic cross country competition. Altogether 25,000 volunteers were used, 60,000 applied.



Melody poses with the moose in the Athletes Village

Three hundred were involved in anti-doping.

We were posted to the Whistler Athletes Village which along with the Athletes Village in Vancouver, were the most protected and secure sites at the Olympics. Two high level security checkpoints, lots of police, dirigibles with heat sensitive radar, helicopters and police posted on all street corners and in the surrounding forest. The Canadian athletes were housed at the top of the hill in the village, where they immediately put a hockey net and sticks out in front and a huge plastic moose (along with our flag, of course).

These Olympics had more testing than any previous Olympic games. Vancouver Organizing Committee for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games (VANOC) built a \$5 million dollar accredited drug testing lab to reduce the testing times as Canada had only one testing facility in Montreal. We started work with the pre-competition testing the day the village opened for athletes. Our job as chaperones was to collect the athlete we were assigned and escort them through the anti-doping procedures. We were given tiny photos and a bio on the athlete and would go out to locate and collect them. We could not advertise our search, by asking other athletes where so and so was. Once the athlete was found we would read them their responsibilities and ours and accompany them to the anti-doping office. Once there we sat with them until a testing office became available and the testing occurred. All athletes had the urine test, some had to go through a blood test as well.

If the athlete could not be found on our shift, they went into the pool to be located another day. Sometimes we tested by country/sport, by person, by just sport. Decisions as to who is to be tested were determined by the task force formed by the International Organizing Committee (IOC). That is how pre-competition is different than at the competition venue, where we did 3 athletes by finishing position and one randomly chosen.





Melody and fellow anti-doping officers off duty in the Whistler Village ski area

Shifts were 8 am to 11 pm. Rob and I caught a special bus in Vancouver at 4 am on the mornings we were scheduled. The Athletes Village was only 10 minutes from the Whistler Village downtown. We spent any of our down- time in Whistler shopping and participating in the fun and party atmosphere. Our credentials allowed us access to all Olympic sites except the hotels where the Olympic family resided. We felt somewhat privileged.

I learned a lot about Olympians and their drive and hard work. I heard how they felt about competition and their desire to live on the edge of danger in their sport. Drug control/chaperones were not on their favourite person list, but all athletic sports state that drug testing is part of the sport, so they put up with it. Most are grateful for the procedure as they can be assured of a level playing field.

I was absolutely in awe of the para-olympians and their dogged drive, both those born with their handicap and those who have learned to overcome the loss of a limb(s).

It was wonderful meeting all the volunteers doing so many incredible things, most completely outside their profession or normal job, just to be involved. It was a real high for 5 weeks. Definitely worth the toll on our sleep, our work and regular routine. How many times do you have an Olympics in your back yard and an opportunity to be part of keeping the sports drug free?



“What we have in common is a love for books, the sight of them, the smell of them, the possibilities that live between the covers...”

table of  
contents



**Margaret Foster (1972) tells of her experience as an employee of Bookmark, a Halifax bookstore.**

I have always loved books. Among my earliest memories is crawling around among my parents' well stocked shelves of Modern Library Classics, Book of the Month selections from the 1940s, and tidy ranks of Penguins and Pelicans. “Borzoi” and “Knopf” were exotic new words to read, and who could forget “Everyman I will be thy guide”? The stopper from a hot water bottle was my date stamp when I played library or bookstore.

Not surprisingly, I gravitated to library school. After a few years as a public librarian, and many years as mom and babysitter, I settled in to an ideal job, at Bookmark in Halifax.

A general interest bookstore attracts the same groups of people as libraries, dealing with those who prefer or need to own their reading material. There are students looking for required reading, and sadly lamenting that they have no time to read for pleasure. What a thrill to see them in the spring, when they are released to read according to their own taste.

Besides stocking the blockbusters that are heavily promoted, a small independent store can try to satisfy people's true passions. It is a continual learning experience to help someone locate a book on chain saw sculpture, or modern falconry, or stump embroidery—yes, I had to ask, too. There is a buyer for everything by or about Sylvia Plath, regardless of cost, and a heavy equipment operator told me what comfort he had taken over the years from reading Seneca, as he ordered a replacement for his dog-eared copy. Among the book clubs we see is a group of women who have met for more than forty years.

The Bookmark staff tend to be long-term fixtures, and no two of us have the same background or interests. So if there is a call for knowledge of skateboarding, indie music, anything written in or about Newfoundland, someone might well be in the know. Several staff people have a background in literature, but I tend to favour thrillers, and reading for entertainment.

Halifax is a small city, so it shouldn't surprise me to see the consultant from the paint department browsing in poetry, or the grocery store cashier shopping for a graduation present. What they, and we, have in common is a love for books, the sight of them, the smell of them, the possibilities that live between the covers. Today as in my childhood, books offer the irresistible lure of something new, the possibility of capturing everything there is to know, all lined up in those orderly ranks.

While working at Bookmark, I have begun studying Linguistics at Saint Mary's. I have become especially interested in the importance of language in liturgy and scripture. It is a true luxury to be able to pursue an interest from the settled viewpoint of a mature student.



# 2009-2010 *Practicum Placements*

Acadia University Archives  
Art Gallery of Nova Scotia  
Atlantic School of Theology  
Cape Breton University, Beaton Institute  
CSIS In-Program Internship  
Dalhousie Libraries

- Kellogg Internship
- Kellogg Library
- Killam Libraries, GIS Centre
- Sexton Internship
- Sexton Library

Dalhousie University, Medical Informatics  
Doctors NS  
Education Library, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon  
Halifax Grammar School Library  
Halifax Public Libraries

- Alderney Gate Branch
- Captain William Spry Branch
- Collection Access
- E-Learning
- Spring Garden Road Memorial Branch

Harwood Museum of Art, Taos, NM  
HRM Archives  
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada Internship  
Industry Canada Internship  
Memorial University of Newfoundland: Centre for Newfoundland Studies  
MSVU Archives  
MSVU Library  
New Brunswick Public Library Service Internship

- Moncton Public Library

- Albert-Westmorland-Kent Library Region,

Nova Scotia Barrister' Society  
Nova Scotia Chief Information Office  
Nova Scotia Department of Community Services  
Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources Library  
Nova Scotia Economic & Rural Development, Operations Support  
Nova Scotia Labour & Workforce Development  
Nova Scotia Legislative Library  
Nova Scotia Museums Association  
NRC Information Centre  
NSCAD University Library  
Pier 21  
Royal Ontario Museum, Library & Archives  
Saint Mary's University, Patrick Power Library, Reference/Info Lit  
Scottish Book Trust, Edinburgh



***The School extends a sincere thank you to the supervisors and other staff involved with this year's work placements and internships. We appreciate your continuing support of this very valuable component of our program.***

# Alan H. MacDonald

## (1943-2010)



Photo provided by Susan Kerslake

Alan MacDonald, a part-time faculty member in the founding years of the School but who never really left Dalhousie, died on January 28, 2010. Alan had served as Director of the Kellogg Health Sciences Library and as Director of the Law School Library in addition to assisting with the move into the University's Killam Library. He moved to the University of Calgary in 1979 where over the years he was University Librarian, University Orator and Director of the University Press. He also was Curator of the Calgary Aviation History Museum. A year rarely passed that he didn't return to Halifax to visit with former high school friends. During these visits he also met with MLIS students giving them a "Brown Bag Presentation" which was a state of the art survey of the library profession in Canada.

Alan was active in Canadian Library Association (CLA), Canadian Association of College and University Libraries (CACUL), Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL), Northern Exposure to Leadership Institute (NELI) and Inter-Provincial Association of the Library Lovers of Sheep (IPAL-LOSH) and was recognized for his contributions to their programs. A Celebration of his life was held in Calgary and SIM has a disk of this event plus a second disk of photos of Alan. These disks can be borrowed by donors to the Alan MacDonald Memorial Award. This Award will support MLIS student participation in professional associations and at conferences. For further information on this Award please contact the SIM Director.

Christine Hayward (class of 1974) had Alan as a Director and mentor at both the Kellogg Library at Dalhousie and at the University of Calgary - see her account of this experience on page 36. There is also a tribute to Alan in CLA's *Felicitier* (Issue #2, 2010 - Vol. 56) written by Ernie Ingles, Vice-Provost and Chief Librarian, at the University of Alberta. As well, please see the article titled "Remembering Alan MacDonald" in *Partnership: the Canadian Journal of Library and Information Practice and Research* (vol. 5, no. 1) written by Leeanne Morrow.

N.H.



# Alan MacDonald

E. Christine Hayward (MLS 1974)

Memories conjure numerous images of Alan H. MacDonald: the director, peering over reading glasses and half-turned from his office computer to respond to an inquiry or observation; the University Orator, decked out in the academic cap-gown-hood combo, with dignified bearing and resonant voice; the friend, relaxing in classic 'at home' attire with take-out and a favourite film playing on the TV screen, mostly ignoring the conversation around him; and/or insert your images here. There are lots of memories to go around.

Indeed, Alan was a memorable man. As an accomplished librarian he received numerous honours and awards in recognition of his distinguished record of contributions to the profession and academic community. As an admirable and dynamic leader, Alan developed a significant following of colleagues with whom he established rapport and enduring connection. Many consider him a mentor.

Sharing of knowledge and experience-based insights was characteristic of Alan's practice. His management style was participatory, expansive and utterly self-confident. He kept his office door open, literally! He thought out loud, outlined complex issues and possible options to resolve them, listened and took note of advice, supported benign irreverence (most of the time), and challenged complacency whenever he found it. Always one to enjoy a good argument, Alan invariably joined



Photo provided by Susan Kerslake

in collegial discussions. Some lunch time chats turned into tutorials, others veered to visioning and the call to innovate resounded. Alan encouraged librarians to explore their talents and branch out, to seek alternative career paths or more senior positions at other institutions. He delighted in their success. It was never a case of losing staff, he was building a network.



Alan was part of a mentorship tradition. He often acknowledged the support of Louis G. Vagianos, former University Librarian and founding director of the School of Library Service at Dalhousie, as a key influence in his career development. Alan urged department heads to coach new academic staff and initiated opportunities for library school students to work closely with experienced librarians through internships. The first was an informal arrangement for student assistants at the W. K. Kellogg Health Sciences Library. He subsequently developed and coordinated the Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries summer internship program, with additional participation of public and college libraries in some cities to add variety of experience in a rotating internship model. Later, Alan helped to launch the Northern Exposure

to Leadership Institute and continued in a mentor role through that program.



Photo provided by Susan Kerslake

Alan was a passionate believer in the value of libraries to a robust and resilient society. He believed just as strongly in the critical importance of the people working in, and shaping the future of libraries and information services. Support staff, archivists, librarians, and information technology professionals all experienced his keen interest in their skills and his respect for their leadership.

Back when 'information age' was a hot new buzz phrase, Alan's responsibilities spanned the spectrum of libraries, archives, press, educational technologies, computing and media services. Drawing on his years of accomplishment through collaboration with other institutions and success in senior executive positions with numerous associations whose membership included disparate interests, he channelled the collective efforts toward meeting the goals and needs of the time. Of course, with sights set on the future, he did push, prod and badger everyone to exceed expectations.

The rest is legend. Or it can be.

Cherish the best and most prevailing memories of your own connection with AHM. Help to build the future of libraries and librarianship. It's people who make information services and libraries great. Share your experience and wisdom with junior colleagues. Be a mentor. Support our future leaders' participation in professional associations and conferences through the Dalhousie '[Alan MacDonald Memorial Award](#)'. Encourage a prospective student to check out a school of information management.

*January to June 2010*

*Volume 39 issue 1*

[inform@dal.ca](mailto:inform@dal.ca)

The newsletter is undergoing a period of transformation. If you have comments, suggestions, or questions please contact the editorial team at [inform@dal.ca](mailto:inform@dal.ca).

LOOK FOR THE NEXT  
ISSUE OF INFORM IN  
JANUARY 2011.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE  
IS DECEMBER 1ST.

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## KEEP US UP TO DATE!

Link to the form pictured below to send us your news (moves, new jobs, publications, etc.)

Stay in the loop - view SIM's calendar for details about upcoming workshops, lectures and events.

Join the Associated Alumni Facebook group to connect with other alumni and friends of SIM. This is an open group.

Our LinkedIn group provides a place for information professionals to make connections with past and future MLIS graduates, and discuss issues relating to information management. The group is open to anyone with LinkedIn access.

DALSIM-GRAD is a great way to stay informed about School and Alumni events. To subscribe, send the following message to [listserv@lists.dal.ca](mailto:listserv@lists.dal.ca): sub dalsim-grad [firstname] [lastname]

LIS-JOBLIST contains postings of Atlantic Canadian jobs in the field of information management. Postings may be sent to SIM by email, fax or mail. To subscribe: send the following message to [listserv@lists.dal.ca](mailto:listserv@lists.dal.ca): subscribe lis-joblist first-name lastname