

# INFORM

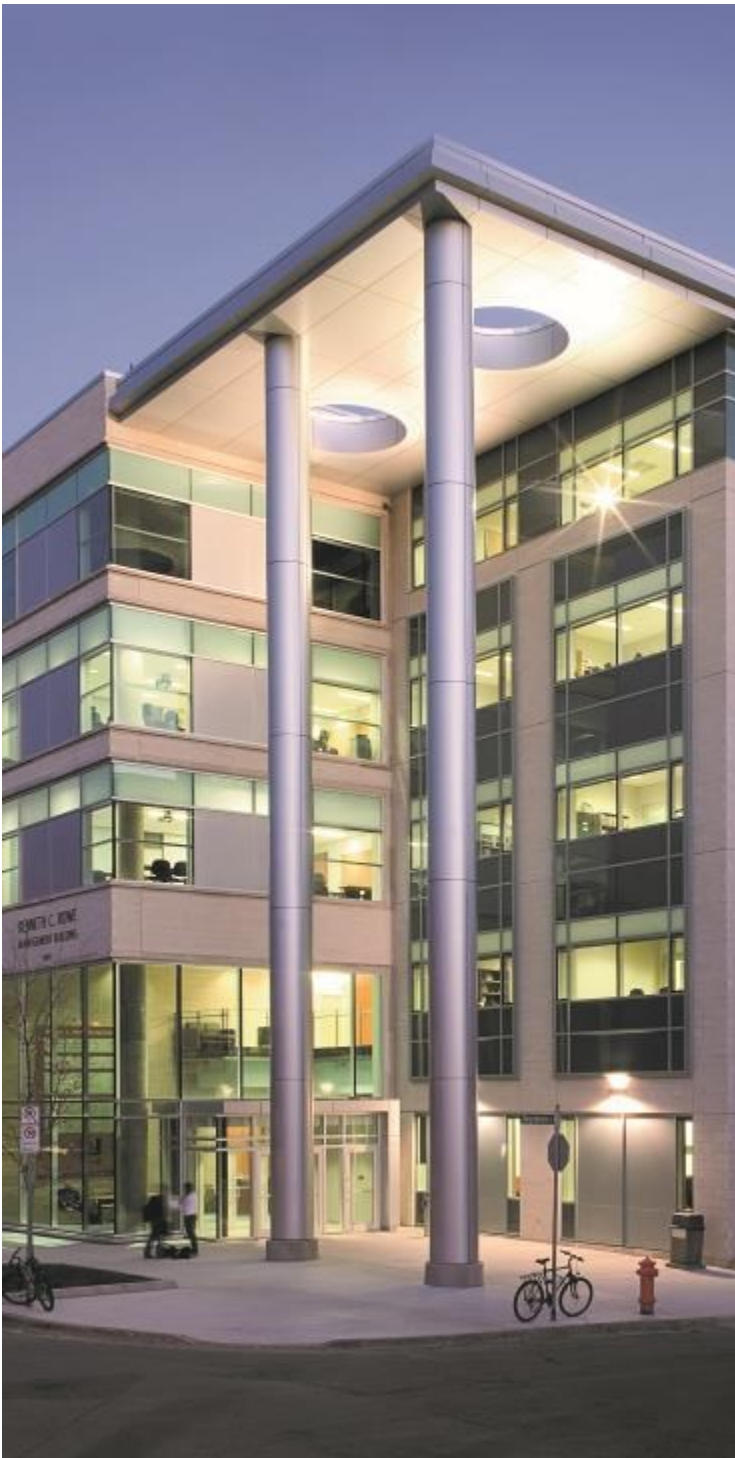
School of Information Management

January to June 2015

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# DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Welcome to the Summer 2015 edition of Inform. It's been another full year of exciting developments, faculty research, and alumni and student engagements.

We were very pleased to welcome Linda Cook, CEO of Edmonton Public Library, to present the 2015 Horrocks Lecture on the topic *Through the looking glass: Reflection on leadership, resilience, and relationships*. The lecture was co-sponsored by Halifax Public Libraries, and was delivered in the Paul O'Regan Hall in the new and beautiful Halifax Central Library. Our thanks to the many students and professional members of our community who attended this event, and especially to Åsa Kachan, CEO of Halifax Public Libraries, for hosting and co-sponsoring the lecture.

The student-run Information Without Borders conference took place on February 11 under the theme Information management for climate change adaptation. The keynote speakers included Steve Easterbrook (University of Toronto) and Carl Duivenvoorden (Al Gore's Climate Reality Project). My congratulations to the

entire IWB team for organizing such a successful, timely, and relevant event: You have done SIM very proud, indeed.

We had a very busy and successful Information Management Public Lecture series that featured a wide variety of speakers, including SIM alumnus Ryan Deschamps, and SIM faculty members Dr. Sandra Toze and Quinn DuPont. I would like to extend special thanks to Dr. Bertrum MacDonald for organizing this year's Series, and for playing such an important role in enhancing the research reputation of the School.

Dr. Anatoliy Gruzd has accepted a position at Ted Rogers School of Management Ryerson University. As you can imagine, we at SIM are very sorry to lose such a valued colleague. Dr. Gruzd made significant contributions to SIM and Dalhousie University in his five years with us. We wish Dr. Gruzd all the best in his new position at Ryerson University, where we know he will excel in all his endeavours. SIM is in the process of looking for a new probationary tenure-track position.

My five-year term as SIM Director comes to an end on June 30, 2015. I will be taking a twelve-month administrative leave, starting on July 1, 2015. Dr. Sandra Toze will be Interim Director for a one-year appointment, effective July 1, 2015. It has been my pleasure and honour to serve SIM in this capacity. I have learned much in this position, and value all the advice and collaborative efforts that I have received from my colleagues, students, and alumni. I look forward to contributing to the continued growth of SIM when I return from my leave on July 1, 2016. My thanks to all of you for your support over the five-years. I know that the School will be in excellent hands under the leadership of Dr. Toze.

Please enjoy the rest of Inform and, as always, many thanks to all members of the SIM community for your continued support.

# ANNOUNCEMENT

**Please join us in congratulating our own Dr. Sandra Toze, who will be stepping into the role of Interim Director for SIM, effective July 1st!**

*Formal announcement from Peggy Cunningham, Dean of the Faculty of Management:*

I am pleased to announce the appointment, subject to the approval of the Board of Governors and based on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee for this search, of Dr. Sandra Toze to the position of Interim Director of the School of Information Management for the period July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016. Sandra brings 14 years of experience as an Information Management professional in the Financial and Professional Services industries as well as an academic background in Information Management, Library Science and Political Science. The multidisciplinary perspective afforded by such experience is a major asset to our Faculty.

Sandra has a strong teaching record and a growing research and grant portfolio. She knows the School of Information Management and its students well, having been a faculty member for the last 12 years teaching in all of the programs the School supports (the Bachelor of Management, Master of Information Management and Master of Library and Information Studies).

With her passion for collaboration and knowledge-based work, I am confident that she will build on the strong foundation established by Louise Spiteri and all of the School's faculty and staff. In addition to focusing on the Faculty's mission of values-led management, Sandra has articulated the areas she and the SIM will focus on over the year: development of an aggressive plan to recruit top students, building on the School's research successes, reviewing and adapting curricula to ensure ongoing relevance, and seeking even more ways to collaborate with the other Schools in the Faculty of Management and the University.

## **GREETINGS FROM SIM'S NEW INTERIM DIRECTOR:**



As of **July 1<sup>st</sup>** you will find me in the beautiful corner office assuming the role of Interim Director of SIM. I am both honoured and excited move into this position.

Managing information, data and knowledge are fundamental challenges as we move to a digital society defined by social media, mobile tools and access, big data analytics, cloud storage and increased automation and artificial intelligence. Organizations across all sectors are transforming through the application of these information-based technologies, and are looking for clarity and leadership to help them navigate through this new landscape. How do organizations connect and engage differently, while protecting privacy and ensuring security? How do we as a society ensure all are included in the

conversation? SIM is positioned in the centre of this change, providing programs that focus broadly on examining information in society and highlight information risk management, enterprise architecture, and information management leadership.

As highlighted in the above announcement, during my year as Interim Director I plan to facilitate discussion and lead the review our programs, update our strategic plan, rethink our approach to recruitment and engage in new partnerships with our communities. I would like to invite you to join us in this process as we continue to evolve our School to reflect the emerging opportunities and changes within this profession. Feel free to contact me with your thoughts, observations, dreams and concerns. My door is open.

*- Sincerely, Dr. Sandra Toze (stoze@dal.ca)*

**FURTHER NEWS:** Peggy Cunningham will continue to serve as Dean of the Faculty of Management until September 30th. Our own **Dr. Bertrum MacDonald** will be the **Acting Dean of Management** commencing **October 1st!** Bertrum will serve until the appointment of a new Dean. Congrats Bertrum!

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# SIM Student Association News



SCHOOL OF  
INFORMATION  
MANAGEMENT  
STUDENT  
ASSOCIATION

It's incredible to think how quickly the time has flown! There have been many accomplishments and collaborative efforts this year of which the SIMSA executive and general members are very proud.

The **2 day tour to Toronto**, led by [Management Career Services](#) in December, was a great success. It brought participants to an academic library, archives, public library, government library and a company allowing students to see the breadth of potential job opportunities after graduation. Thank you to **Robert Wooden** for all his hard work.

We are so proud of the **Information without Borders** team for their incredible work for the successful conference. Many engaging conversations grew from the talks, breakout sessions, student presentation and poster presentations. The team proved that though we are still students we are professionals who can achieve incredible things.

We held the inaugural charity event, **Bowling Across Borders**, on February 27th, and thanks to everyone's efforts we raised \$400 for Halifax Public Library Literacy programs. Other fundraising efforts for SIMSA that saw great success: 1. Book bags: The bags are still available at \$8 for students and \$10 for non students, just email [simsa@dal.ca](mailto:simsa@dal.ca) for more information. 2. Draw for tickets donated by Dr. MacDonald for a Camerata singers performance, and 3. A clothing swap for students (surplus clothing was donated to Dress for Success Halifax).

Other events included a movie night, skating at the Oval, Brown Bag lunches and the end of year party at the University Club. We created a Social Media Policy to encourage students to consider carefully what type of content is being posted online and what is appropriate to be posted officially on behalf of SIMSA. We have also been talking to the Faculty of Management to establish funding for SIMSA student conference attendance.

## **At our spring AGM the incoming executive were elected:**

Mariah Blackmore - Co-Chair \* Katherine Felix - Co-Chair

Hannah Steeves - Vice Chair Non-Academic \* Charlotte MacKeigan - Vice Chair Academic

Elizabeth O'Brien - Financial Officer \* Katie Bowers - Communications Officer

Chantel Ridsdale - IWB Representative

We also unanimously accepted the changes to the constitution which are as follows:

Outgoing Representative as **Associations Coordinator** \* Welcoming **MIM students to sit ex-officio**

**Adding another Incoming year representative.** The two Representatives will act as assistants to the Vice Chairs. This is to provide more guidance for the roles and leveraging the efforts of students more efficiently.

Thanks to Lou Duggan for circulating fundraising information on the Alumni Listserv, we hope that SIMSA can work more closely with the Alumni association in the future! We'd also like to thank **Lindsay McNiff** for her hard work and support with the [Academic Support Series](#) as well as all the incredible events planned by the various student chapters.



# Student News *Continued...*

## **THE 2015 CANADIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION (CLA) CONFERENCE: Perspectives from Two MLIS Students**



### **Amy Sutherland (Alberta Letts Travel Award)**

Ottawa in June is an alluring scene: sun shining over the Rideau Canal, the final tulips of the season blooming, tourists exploring the busy streets and museums. As thrilling as the city can be, there was plenty of excitement and flurry of activity in the Shaw Convention Center for the 70<sup>th</sup> annual national Canadian Library Association Conference and Trade Show. The theme of privacy and security drew out a breadth of presenters, with many addressing the shift towards digital assets and managing open data. For me the highlights were 20 Programs in 20 Minutes and a panel on library services for all, during which many attendees voiced issues and ideas about making library resources accessible. I also had the pleasure of attending the CLA Book Awards, during which I was able to meet Marie Louise Gay, the winner of the 2015 Amelia Frances Howard-Gibbon Illustrator's Award and one of my favourite authors as a child. To top off the conference, I was able to tour the Library of Parliament and get a behind-the-scenes peek into the rare books room.

My three days in Ottawa were an excellent experience. The sessions were interesting and enlightening, and I was able to meet many professionals and students actively engaged in the library and information field. Witnessing the inspired presenters and the interest of the attendees reaffirmed that I made the right choice in choosing to become a librarian. The conference left me excited for my chance to contribute and develop the field.

### **Zoe Dickinson (Student-to-CLA Award)**

The 70<sup>th</sup> annual Canadian Library Association Conference, *Privacy & Security: Are you open to the public?*, had a strong digital focus without losing sight of libraries' deeply rooted human connections. Although the guiding topic of the conference was privacy and security, a common thread between many sessions was innovation: digital innovation, innovative programs, and innovative outreach. Information professionals from across the country presented on a range of initiatives, from digital repositories to open data, and from mobile outreach programs to cyberbullying prevention. It was inspiring to witness librarians stepping up as curators of information in Canada's rapidly evolving information environment.

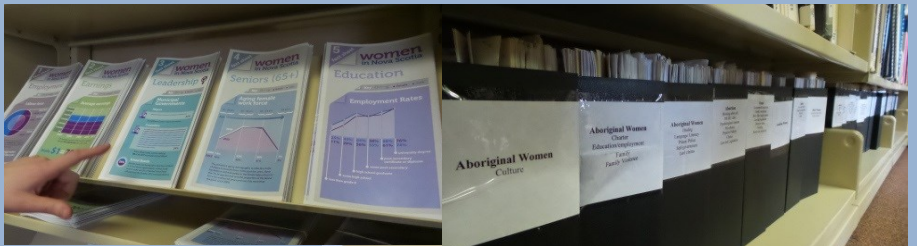
2015 is also a time of great change for the Canadian Library Association itself. As membership numbers drop, the CLA is considering rebirth as a federation of Canadian library associations. In the proposed model, the CLA would offer a forum for national cooperation between existing regional and sectoral library associations, rather than operating as a separate association with its own individual membership fees. While this plan is in its preliminary stages, a passionate debate at the Annual General Meeting centered on the issue of personal membership and whether the proposed model offers adequate representation of individual librarians. The current draft proposal can be found [here](#) and a more detailed draft is set to be published in September, 2015. The 2015 CLA conference showcased the transformation of my profession on many levels, and left me with the conviction that libraries are changing, and librarians are changing the world in the process.

# Student News *Continued...*

## **Special Libraries Association (SLA) Student Chapter**

In the Winter term of 2015 Dalhousie's student group for SLA held several exciting events for SIM students! Continuing our focus on value-added activities aimed at enhancing students' academic and professional interests, we organized a tour and session at the library of the Nova Scotia Advisory Council on the Status of Women in March. We contributed to the Information Without Borders Conference – SIM's fantastic learning and networking opportunity that is organized and hosted entirely by students every February. Finally, we created and circulated the second annual SLA-SIMSA survey to our student body. This survey gathers valuable feedback from our peers to better understand the evolving needs of future librarians and information managers. SLA and SIMSA's other student associations benefit from the survey's results and are able to better respond to SIM students' interests and needs.

In the coming year, SLA will continue to plan events that work toward fulfilling SIM students' interests. We look forward to exploring the field of information management with our peers in the months to come!



*SLA photos, courtesy of Michelle Boychuk*



## **Librarians Without Borders (LWB)**

The winter semester was a busy time for Dalhousie's Librarians Without Borders, as we covered both familiar and new ground with our projects. In January, an internet literacy workshop was provided to an elementary school class, which received great feedback from the teacher and the students. We also continued to work on a new project that started in the fall semester – the development of a small community library in Deme-treous Lane, Dartmouth. Members of the chapter visited the library throughout the semester, weeding books and creating space for new materials. The library contained many duplicates, which were boxed up and given to other individuals and community groups, who were happy to receive them. LWB is planning to continue to develop library services in the community, including programming for the local children and collection development. In March, we held our annual book sale in collaboration with Dalhousie's Association of Canadian Archivists (ACA). Lots of planning went into this event, and we were pleased with the results. Proceeds will go towards future projects worked on by the chapters. For LWB, this may include local or international projects, as we work to provide communities with the resources that they need.

## **Canadian Library Association (CLA) Student Chapter**

During the 2014-2015 school year, the Dalhousie Canadian Library Association Student Chapter ran a successful Peer Mentorship Program (PMP), matching 21 incoming and outgoing students with IM professionals in various fields from across Canada, the United States, and even as far away as Germany.

After a successful program launch in October where mentors and mentees got a chance to meet informally over a game of people bingo, participants were encouraged to keep in contact in whatever way best suited them, whether it be face-to-face meetings or email correspondence. The Dalhousie CLA Student Chapter executive supported these relationships by organizing social events during the Winter 2015 term. Although these events were snowed out, feedback from an end-of-year survey directed towards all PMP participants shows that the program has been successful in fostering relationships between professionals and Dalhousie MLIS candidates during the 2014-2015 academic year. We look forward in continuing to foster these relationships through new and fun events and sessions in the upcoming academic year.

# Student News *Continued...*

## **Dalhousie Journal for Interdisciplinary Management (DJIM)**

Thanks to the tireless efforts of its student authors, volunteers, Faculty Reviewers, and Executive Team, the **Dalhousie Journal of Interdisciplinary Management (DJIM)** finished the Winter 2015 semester on a high note with the publication of its eleventh volume (<https://ojs.library.dal.ca/djim/index>) in April. The volume features seven original academic papers written by graduate students within the Faculty of Management, some of which have already attracted attention from the academic community at large.

DJIM's publication process is governed and executed almost entirely by students, with the help and added expertise of Faculty Reviewers during the early review stages. Dr. Mike Smit, welcomed as DJIM's new Faculty Advisor at the beginning of the 2014/15 cycle, has continued to provide invaluable guidance and support throughout the most recent semester.

Although the Journal is published in the spring of each year, DJIM accepts rolling submissions at any time! The Executive encourages all graduate students within the Faculty of Management to consider making DJIM the home of their first academic publication. Contact [djim@dal.ca](mailto:djim@dal.ca) for more details.



At the DJIM Volume 11 launch in April, authors Adrian Koops and Spencer Covey speak about their paper on interprovincial migration in Nova Scotia. Amir Ahmadi Rashti (not pictured) is also a co-author.

## **STUDENT AWARD WINNERS**

**Learn more about SIM's In-Program Awards & Funding [here](#).**

### **The Dalhousie-Horrocks National Leadership Award: Dominique Taylor (MLIS '15)**

Dominique graduated from the University of Prince Edward Island with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and McMaster University with a Master of Arts in Philosophy. He was awarded an SSHRC Graduate Scholarship for his Masters research on metaphor and language use, worked as an archivist at Library & Archives Canada, and currently works with Halifax Public Libraries. This award was [presented](#) in January 2015 at the Dalhousie-Horrocks National Leadership Lecture ([see page 13](#)). Full announcement [here](#).

### **The Stephanie Downs Memorial Award: Robyn Gray (MLIS '16)**

Robyn completed her Bachelor of Arts with Honours at the University of Victoria. During her 1st year at Dalhousie, she was involved with the Dalhousie Journal of Interdisciplinary Management (DJIM), the Canadian Association of Professional Academic Librarians (CAPAL), and elected Financial/Fundraising Chair for the Information Without Borders (IWB) conference. She has been working on the Dalhousie Curriculum Map Editing project, completed a practicum in the Cataloguing & Metadata Department at the University of Calgary, and is currently completing an internship at ARC Resources as a Records & Information Management Summer Student. Full announcement [here](#).



# Student News *Continued...*

## Congratulations Class of 2015!



The School of Information Management would like to congratulate all of our newest MLIS and MIM graduates! It was wonderful to see so many grads at the reception and ceremony on May 26th and to have the opportunity to meet their friends and family. Convocation itself was a lovely celebration and an important recognition of our students' many achievements and hard work.

**We would like to send a special congratulations to the 2015 Convocation Award winners:**

**Atlantic Provinces Library Association Award:** Valerie Collins

**Director's Award-MLIS:** Alieda Blandford & Shauna Hall-Coates

**Director's Award-MIM (inaugural):** Glenn Bishop

**Information Technology Prize:** Valerie Collins

**J. Clement Harrison International Award:** Marvellous Unuadjefe

**Leadership Award:** Andrea Kampen & James Rothwell

**Louis Vagianos Medal:** Alieda Blandford

**NSLA Graduation Prize:** Maria Bartlett & Ben Worth

**SIM Research Award:** Alison Froese-Stoddard & James Ross

**SIMSA Outstanding Service Award:** Andrea Kampen

**Special Libraries Association (Eastern Canada Chapter) – Anne Galler Award:**

Hilary Lynd

**Beta Phi Mu Candidates:** Alieda Blandford, Valerie Collins, Alison Froese-Stoddard, Kaitlin Haley, Shauna Hall-Coates, Alyssa Harder, Andrea Kampen, Veronika Kollbrand, Hilary Lynd, James Ross, James Rothwell, Dominique Taylor.

# Faculty News



## Fiona Black

This past year has been hectic and exciting from the perspective of my administrative life, and fascinating and calm from the perspective of my work with gifted MLIS alumni on research projects. Alison Black, Adult Programmer in the fabulous new Central Library in Halifax, and I continue our work on human resource development in Atlantic Canadian public libraries with the goal of submitting our final paper to a peer-reviewed publication in the coming months. Nicole Bloudoff [MLIS 2014] and I continue the work she began through an independent study course on education for LIS professionals working in archival and digital curation. I greatly appreciate the patience of these two wonderful professionals as we juggle work schedules in order to advance our shared interests in these subjects. I also had the pleasure of supervising recent exemplary graduate, Hilary Lynd, who completed a reading course on the role of women in the nineteenth century book trades.

On the strategic planning front at Dalhousie, I am vastly excited at the prospect of SIM colleagues taking a leading role, along with Dalhousie's professional librarians, on an aspect of programming that has long been dear to my heart. I believe we might differentiate Dalhousie by exposing all of our students to the widest forms of information literacy, including data literacy and data visualization. I have the pleasure of leading some of our strategic priorities (see <http://www.dal.ca/about-dal/leadership-and-vision/dalforward.html>) and several of these relate to academic programming innovations. In addition, provincial and federal governments are increasingly keen on higher education including some learning outcomes that speak to the needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> century workplace. SIM members have a special role to play if we make a promise to all students at Dal that they will graduate with such a broad suite of literacies. Up with SIMmers taking over the world!

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## Vivian Howard

For the past six months, my research colleagues Dr. Andrea Schwenke Wylie of Acadia University and Sue Fisher, curator of the Eileen Wallace Children's Literature Collection at the University of New Brunswick, have been planning for the Ninth Thomas Raddall Symposium to be held at Acadia University in Wolfville, NS from July 9-11, 2015 (<http://english.acadiau.ca/id-9th-raddall-symposia.html>). The theme of this year's symposium is "Child, Youth, and Place in Atlantic Canadian Literature." There are many varied representations of children and youth in Atlantic Canadian Literature, in books ranging from realistic fiction to fantasy to comic books, and we encouraged participants to consider this theme from a variety of perspectives. What do these books tell us about the special challenges of childhood and youth? What do they say about place in a geographical and social sense? What observations are they making about the place of children or youth in relationships with peers, adults, institutions? And how do readers and critics respond to them?



We are looking forward to welcoming over 20 international participants to explore some of these questions in their presentations. In addition, the Symposium will feature several special events, all of which are free of charge and open to the public. These events include an exhibit of children's picture book art of the 1980s and 1990s at the Acadia University Art Gallery, an Atlantic publishing and design panel discussion, and a puppet play, *The Queen of Paradise's Garden: A Newfoundland Tale*, featuring the Darka Erdelji puppets. This symposium will foster lots of lively discussion and idea sharing and we are excited to be hosting it.

# Faculty News *Continued*



## Keith Lawson

More and more of our experiences are mediated through digital and now portable devices. This is equally true of our experience of place—with the prevalence of mapping applications on our portable devices. I have been continuing my work on the possible connections between digital objects from archives or museums and mobile devices and physical places. The work has involved reading some very interesting tourism studies research, which has sought to understand what attracts tourists to specific locations, how they experience them, and now, how they use mobile technologies in experiencing them. This research has also led me to bring together other sources, for example, the ideas of Michael de Certeau, research from the area of game studies, and the theory of mobile interfaces. I am excited by the way in which digital objects—texts, images, audio and video—presented through mobile applications create a sense of place—and also how a series of places may be connected into a larger narrative space. This research is relevant for any institution of cultural memory that is trying to reach out to tourists and new types of visitors who may not seek out the collections within the walls of an institution.

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## Bertrum MacDonald



No period of the year is slow in my experience. The academic year just concluded is a good example. In the winter term, Master of Information Management students completed a diversity of research projects in the Capstone course, which I taught, and presented very interesting posters about their results during the three-day Intensive sessions in Halifax in April. Students in seven different graduate programs completed the “newish” MLIS course on the Information in Public Policy and Decision Making. This course featured several guest participants, including Megan Leslie, Member of Parliament for Halifax, and Daniel Cressey, senior journalist with *Nature*, one of the world’s leading scientific journal based in London, UK.

Research activities continue to complement my teaching agenda. I was pleased to co-author a paper with Creighton Barrett (MLIS '09), Digital Archivist with the Dalhousie University Libraries, on the history of the nineteenth-century, Nova Scotian tune book, *The Choir*. Creighton and I enjoyed being historical sleuths while developing an understanding of the publication of this book and its use in singing schools and congregations. This paper is forthcoming this summer in the *Papers of the Bibliographical Society of Canada*. Within the Environmental Information: Use and Influence research program ([www.eiui.ca](http://www.eiui.ca)), James Ross completed his MLIS thesis and was a co-winner of the School’s research prize at the Convocation in May. Two other graduate students will wrap up their research projects this summer. Lee Wilson will complete his MLIS thesis about information sharing within organizational networks related to tidal power in the Bay of Fundy and Suzuette Soomai will complete her Interdisciplinary PhD dissertation which focusses on the use of fisheries information in policy development within the Canada Department of Fisheries and Oceans, the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN. The EIUI team is deeply enmeshed in editing a book that will be published by CRC Press (division of Taylor & Francis) in early 2016. An international cadre of authors have contributed chapters to the book, which will be delivered to the press in September. Tentatively titled, *Oceans of Information: Elucidating Information Use at the Science-Policy Interface in Coastal and Ocean Management*, this new book will provide a unique perspective on the importance of information in public policy. In a highly competitive research grants competition, the EIUI team was very pleased to be awarded an SSHRC Insight Grant to support the research over the next five years. This grant will provide an opportunity for graduate students to pursue research with the team: Peter Wells, Kevin Quigley, and Bertrum MacDonald at Dalhousie, Anatoliy Gruzd at Ryerson University, Toronto, and Elizabeth De Santo at Franklin and Marshall College, Pennsylvania.

# Faculty News *Continued*

## Mike Smit



The past six months have been busy, productive, and of course lots of fun. Colleagues from Business, Computer Science, Arts, and Science and I are investigating how we teach and learn “[data literacy](#)”: a general suite of skills that all graduates should have as they enter the workforce of an increasingly data-driven economy. Chantel Ridsdale and James Rothwell are leading the effort to produce a knowledge synthesis report, funded by SSHRC, and I am looking forward to seeing how we can apply this research to the University! A joint project with the Dalhousie Institute for Big Data Analytics, The Chronicle Herald, and Nova Scotia Environment automatically analyzes two million digital newspaper articles to identify previous flood events in the province, information that is useful for urban planning, climate change adaptation, and much more. Our interactive map of results is available at <http://mathstat.dal.ca/~amelia/flood/>. Finally, I recently joined the Marine Environmental Observation Prediction and Response (MEOPAR) Network; I am interested in understanding how research communities establish and adopt data management practices under different conditions, and in the role and impact of increased sharing of research data. So far I’ve greatly enjoyed working with ocean data managers from St. John’s to Victoria. I am looking forward to the SHAD Dalhousie program this July, continued work with summer research students, and resuming teaching in the fall (I will tackle the Information Management Systems class for the first time!).



## Louise Spiteri

It has been a particularly busy term, since I taught three courses this year. I did enjoy the opportunity to teach the advanced Cataloguing & Classification course, as it’s been three years since I taught it last. I am continuing to work with my research partner, Jen Pecoskie, from the Library & Information Science Program at Wayne State University, on analysing user-generated metadata in public library catalogues. My colleagues and I are putting together the final touches of our article that looks at how metadata is managed in social environments around the theme of James Bond. My book proposal for the topic of managing metadata in integrated discovery systems has been accepted, with a publication due date of January 2017. The book will contain chapters from various authors, including me, and I will act as book editor. I have been elected President Elect/President of the Association for Library & Information Science Education (ALISE); my term as President commences in January 2017. I have been invited to serve as co-chair of an international conference, whose theme is to study models for how religious institutions can extend their missions and engage their communities. This conference is connected to my non-academic life, but I can see valuable opportunities to inform my scholarly life and experience. As mentioned previously, I will be starting a twelve-month administrative leave on July 1 and look forward to focusing on research and travel.

## Sandra Toze



I represented SIM at the OLA Superconference in January and was excited to connect with many SIM alumni and hear about their interesting work. In my Resources for Business Intelligence class students had fun with Tableau, and I invited Giles Crouch, a leading management consultant in the area of digital management and big data talk to students about his work, his understanding of the field and his predictions for the future. Giles highlighted the need for human intelligence to help make sense of data. Spring also means Capstone projects for our MIM students. It is a truly a pleasure to see the wide range of interesting research completed by each student. As the term ended I participated in an interdisciplinary Workshop on Social and Collaborative Information Seeking (SCIS) at Rutgers University. As digital tools become embedded in all aspects of our lives we are increasingly working, playing and making decisions through collaborating and sharing information in small groups or within a broader social community. We worked intensively over the two days to determine how we can move the research agenda in this evolving area forward. The report from this workshop can be found here: <http://infoseeking.org/scis/?q=filebrowser/download/96>.



# The 2015 Dalhousie-Horrocks National Leadership Lecture



Linda Cook



Horrocks Award Winner, Dominique Taylor &  
SIM Director, Louise Spiteri



SIMAA Winner, Lou Duggan &  
MLIS Alumna, Kelli Woo-Shue

The Dalhousie University School of Information Management and  
Halifax Public Libraries present

## Honouring Our Information Leaders *The Dalhousie Horrocks National Leadership Lecture & Awards Presentations*

Wednesday, January 21st, 2015

4:30 pm-6:30 pm

Paul O'Regan Hall, Halifax Central Library  
5440 Spring Garden Road

**Lecturer: Linda Cook**  
CEO, Edmonton Public Library

*Through the Looking Glass:  
Reflections on Leadership,  
Resilience and Relationships*

Learning to lead is a lengthy process and is largely about a relationship between leaders and followers. Looking back over her career, EPL's CEO will reflect on the events and mis-steps that guided her leadership style.



On January 21st, 2015, our latest Horrocks lecture was held at the beautiful new Halifax Central Library, in Paul O'Regan Hall. The lecture, entitled "*Through the Looking Glass: Reflections on Leadership, Resilience and Relationships*" was given by **Linda Cook, CEO of Edmonton Public Library**. Linda spoke about how her experiences shaped her leadership style, and how EPL has evolved within the digital age to continue providing valuable public services to the people of Edmonton. Her lecture was very engaging and provided advice applicable to professionals in all fields.

In addition to the lecture, two annual awards were presented: The **Dalhousie-Horrocks National Leadership Award** was presented to MLIS student, *Dominique Taylor* (MLIS '15) and the **SIM Alumni Association (SIMAA) Outstanding Alumni Award** was presented to *Lou Duggan* (MLIS '00).

SIM would like to thank Linda Cook, alumni volunteers, and everyone who attended the lecture. As always, keep your eyes on our website for information about the next event!

# Alumni Profile

## CATHERINE MCGOVERAN (MLIS '13)



It was an internship with the Library of Parliament Information and Research Service program that pushed Catherine McGoveran to pursue her MLIS degree. Now working as a Government Information Librarian at the University of Ottawa, it is clear that her studies at SIM helped her experience come full circle.

“There were several aspects of the MLIS program that stood out to me, namely the small class sizes, committed and engaged faculty, and the strong connection between SIM students and Dalhousie Libraries”, says Catherine. “I was able to gain practical skills and a strong understanding of academic librarianship, which helped me find my path.”

Catherine also cites the technical and communication skills developed through a GIS-based reading course, and work in the

Dalhousie Social Media Lab as immensely valuable experiences that contribute to her current career. “One of the many elements of my current position that I appreciate is the flexibility to develop a professional identity that fits my objectives and interests, to experiment with new tools and ideas, and to collaborate with colleagues near and far”, Catherine says. “The academic environment is one of continual learning, which presents many exciting challenges.”

And it’s clear her efforts are paying off, as she was recently named recipient of the 2015 Canadian Library Association (CLA) Emerging Leader Award. This award is meant to recognize “a CLA member with less than 5 years’ experience in the field who demonstrates leadership or active participation in association work”.

Catherine serves as co-moderator of CLA’s Government Information Network, took the lead in designing the 2014 Government Information Day program, and is the Community and Social Media Liaison at Open Data Ottawa.

“The award is definitely a shared recognition, as I collaborate with so many wonderful and talented colleagues”, says Catherine. For her, being an “emerging leader” in the IM field means: “Taking risks, experimenting and working with people who have diverse skills and backgrounds. This can all have an impact on professional development and the discovery of new opportunities.”

When asked what advice she would give to anyone looking to become an emerging leader in the field, Catherine says: “I would stress the value of asking questions and being open to new ideas. Taking this approach will help you understand and identify your role and path within the broader profession of information management.”

*SIM is proud of the many leaders (emerging and established) serving the IM community in a positive and proactive way. Do you want to be profiled in a future issue of Inform? Email [inform@dal.ca](mailto:inform@dal.ca).*

# Alumni News

**Joan Dawson's** (Class of 1971) new book, *A History of Nova Scotia in 50 Objects* (Nimbus, 2015) is now in bookstores. The book was inspired by Neil MacGregor's *History of the World in 100 Objects*, based on items in the British museum, of which MacGregor is the director. Joan many of the 200+ museums in Nova Scotia, from Pubnico and Yarmouth to Chéticamp and Louisbourg, in order to select 50 treasures that would shed light on people, places and events in the province's history, and put them together in chronological order, to give a sequence of glimpses into Nova Scotia's past. Each section consists of a photo of one of the objects, with the story it has to tell. The book sells for \$21.95 at Bookmark and other bookstores, and at many of our museum gift shops.

**Nancy E. Black** (Class of 1981) successfully defended her dissertation, *The Information Seeking Experiences of the Post-Secondary Distance/Online Student*, in October 2014. Her doctoral studies were completed at UBC's School of Library, Archival and Information Studies; her supervisors were Dr. Ann Curry and Dr. Edie Rasmussen. Nancy has been the Executive Director, Library Services with Nipissing University/Canadore College since September 2012

**Ian Colford** (Class of 1985) is serving as president of the Writers' Federation of Nova Scotia for 2015-2016. His novel, *Perfect World*, will be published in 2016 by Freehand Books of Calgary. His (recently re-launched) website is [www.iancolford.com](http://www.iancolford.com).

**John D. Blackwell** (Class of 1993) is entering his 16th year as founding director of the Research Grants Office at St. Francis Xavier University, where he has played a leadership role in helping to build a stronger research culture for faculty and students. He was prominently involved in media coverage of the 50th anniversary of the Canadian Flag in February 2015. He co-authored an op-ed in the *National Post*, participated in a panel discussion on *TVO's "The Agenda with Steve Paikin"*, and was interviewed by *CBC TV*.

**Jennifer Svarckopf** (Class of 1998) accepted the position of Manager (Governance and Project Management), Planning, Enterprise Architecture and

Governance division, Information Solutions Branch, Justice Canada in May.

**Ruth Blades** (Class of 1999) is managing a series of enrolment-related, pan-provincial projects in collaboration with all eleven publicly-funded post-secondary institutions in Nova Scotia. Dalhousie University is the lead institution for the projects, and you can find Ruth in the Dal Registrar's Office three days a week. The rest of her time is spent with Halifax Global Inc., working as a researcher and consultant on projects in many sectors, with a focus on strategic planning.

**Annie LaRoche** (Class of 2008) works as a Manager: Language & Literacy Lab at Dalhousie University, and Project Coordinator: *Partnership for Supporting Student Success*. She and a colleague presented research, *Under the radar: Identifying and supporting university students with a history of undiagnosed reading difficulty*, at the Canadian Association of College and University Student Services Conference in Vancouver, May 2015, and had longitudinal research with children in Grades 3 and 4 on the topic of reading comprehension published in *Scientific Studies of Reading*.

**Sarah Visintini** (Class of 2013) will be celebrating her one-year anniversary this July as Evidence Synthesis Coordinator at the Maritime SPOR SUPPORT Unit (MSSU) in Halifax, NS. The MSSU is a CIHR initiative aimed at building capacity in patient-oriented health research in Canada.

**Nicole Bloudoff** (Class of 2014): On convocation day in May 2014, Nicole presented at the Congress Conference for the Humanities and Social Sciences at Brock University, research (from a reading course, supervised by Fiona Black) on the "Digital Curation of Special Collections." She and Dr. Black continue to collaborate remotely, and hope to publish a paper in the *JELIS* journal. She now works as a full-time 'Education Research Assistant' position at a non-profit Children's Mental Health organization in Edmonton. About her position, she says: "I get to use my information seeking skills for a number of educational initiatives. It can be challenging, but I'm getting lots of great experiences and am learning something new every day."

# SIM Alumni Association News

The SIMAA has been busy the last few months working with school committees, preparing for the AGM and planning for the 2015-2016 year.

The **2015 Annual General Meeting** was held during the APLA conference in St. John's NL on June 11th, 2015. There were 6 members present. Although there is no limit for quorum, no voting or resolutions took place. The minutes have been distributed through the DALSIM-grad email list. If you did not receive the minutes and would like to, please email [lou.duggan@smu.ca](mailto:lou.duggan@smu.ca) to request a copy. The AGM for 2016 will be held in Halifax during the APLA conference.

The **2015 Outstanding Alumni Award (OAA)** selection committee will be chaired by Jason Harris of Edmonton Public Library. The deadline for nominations is August 17th, 2015. Full details of the award nomination guidelines can be found here: <http://www.dal.ca/faculty/management/school-of-information-management/alumni-friends/outstanding-alumni-award.html>. The award will be presented at the Fall Welcome Reception, taking place October 1st (other details TBA).

The **DALSIM-grad Email Listserv** review is ongoing. Craig Olsvik will be investigating the addition of an 'unsubscribe' link to the footer of each email. We invite alumni who are not currently receiving email to subscribe to the list by sending an email to [listserv@lists.dal.ca](mailto:listserv@lists.dal.ca). Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message type: sub dalsim-grad firstname lastname (e.g. *sub dalsim-grad John Smith*)

## The 2015-2016 Executive is:

**Chair** - Lou Duggan

**Vice Chair** - Sarah Visintini

**Past Chair** - Jiselle Alleyne

**Member at Large** - Craig Olsvik

**Secretary/Treasurer** – vacant

**Programme Convenor** – vacant

## The 2015-2016 School Committee Representatives are:

**MLIS Admissions Committee** - Heather MacFadyen

**Appointments, Promotion & Tenure Committee** - Michael Perry

**MLIS Curriculum Committee** - Robin Parker & Kathleen Peverill

**Petitions & Grievances Committee** - Sarah Visintini

**MIM Curriculum Committee** - No SIMAA rep for the 2015-16 school year  
(membership under review by School Council)

Keep an eye on the SIMAA webpage [here](#) to stay up to date on our activities!



# Dalhousie Libraries News

## AUTHOR READINGS

During the months of January and March, the Dalhousie Libraries had the pleasure to host or sponsor three author readings:

### William Kowalski

In January, William visited the Killam to read from *The Hundred Hearts*. The video of that presentation is available to watch [here](#). Fans of Canadian literature will not want to miss it.

### James Raffan

In early March, Dr. James Raffan came to Halifax to read from his book, *Circling the Midnight Sun: Culture and Change in the Invisible Arctic*, and exchange ideas about one of Canada's most mystical regions.

### Warren Lehrer

Also in March, Award-winning writer/designer/visual literature pioneer Warren Lehrer came to Halifax to present a multimedia performance/reading of his new "illuminated novel," *A Life in Books: The Rise and Fall of Bleu Mobley*. Lehrer is known as a pioneer in the fields of visual literature and design authorship.

## SIM ALUMNA NAMED NEW HEAD OF THE KILLAM LIBRARY



Congratulations to Elaine MacInnis (MLIS '06), who has been appointed the Associate University Librarian for Access Services and Head of the Killam Library. As Head of the MacRae Library and now also as Head of the Killam, Elaine will be well-placed to learn more about unique disciplinary needs and to align services and resources accordingly.

The opportunity to lead two libraries within the Dal Libraries will enable Elaine to identify additional ways to integrate services, resources, and staffing and collections, to better serve the Faculties of Agriculture, Science, Arts & Social Sciences, Management, and Computer Science. As AUL Access Services, it is Elaine's mandate to identify ways to most effectively meet the local needs of students, faculty and staff while harmonizing services system-wide when possible.

Elaine held the position of University Librarian at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College prior to its merger with Dalhousie University in 2012. She has held executive positions on both the Novanet Board of Directors and the Council of Atlantic University Libraries Board of Directors. She was the Head of Circulation at the University of King's College Library for over twenty years and serves as one of two members appointed by the Council of Atlantic University Libraries to the Content Strategy Committee (formerly the Negotiations Resource Team) of the Canadian Research Knowledge Network (CRKN).

## Welcome to Julie Marcoux – Our new data librarian

Julie comes to Dalhousie from the Université de Moncton, where she served as the reference, data and geospatial data Librarian. In that role, she particularly enjoyed having the opportunity to help the nursing, psychology and science students and professors with their research, and helping anyone in the uMoncton community find and access data and statistics. Julie is especially proud of her Excel expertise which has led to several invitations to present at various Data Liberation Initiative (DLI) regional workshops: Atlantic Canada, West Canada, Québec, and Ontario. She was the DLI representative for uMoncton, and recently became one of two Atlantic DLI Regional Training Co-ordinators. Julie completed her Bachelor in Information Management with Université de Moncton in 2009, and graduated in 2011 from the University of Ottawa's bilingual Master of Information Studies. Julie's main responsibilities at Dalhousie will be to serve as liaison to the Department of Psychology & Neuroscience and to help students, professors and researchers on all campuses with their data and statistics questions. Some of her first projects will include establishing a network of support for data questions across all Dalhousie libraries, helping researchers transition from Equinox to SDA, joining Dal's Research Data Management team, and attending some excellent geospatial software training by colleagues from the GISciences Centre.



# Donor List

The learning experience for MLIS students continues to be enriched by the generosity of many alumni and friends. Funds designated for scholarships, prizes and bursaries are of great importance for incoming and graduating students. The Annual Fund monies for the MLIS program provide funding for student assistantships and for conference travel for selected students. Computing hardware and software, specific to the needs of our students, is also supported by these funds. All of these are critical aspects of our students' experiences in the program and in the life of the School. Each donation is very much appreciated. SIM also wishes to acknowledge those gifts received from alumni and friends who wish to remain anonymous. **The following donors contributed between April 1, 2014 and March 31, 2015**

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## **STEPHANIE DOWNS MEMORIAL AWARD**

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	Connect on LinkedIn or join the <a href="#">School of Information Management network</a> .
	The DALSIM-GRAD email list is a great way to stay informed about School and Alumni events. Email <a href="mailto:sim@dal.ca">sim@dal.ca</a> if you wish to subscribe!

LOOK FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF *INFORM* IN JANUARY 2016!

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