

UBC Authors and Their Works Program, 1991 – 2006

(includes BC in Print Exhibits; Our Province@150/ Our University@100 Exhibit 2008)

Margaret Friesen, Chair, UBC Authors Committee (1992 – 2006)

Isabel Pitfield, Chair, UBC Authors Committee (1991 and 1992)

Quotes:

*President Strangway: "Each work should be regarded and celebrated in its own right",
March 1997.*

*President Piper: "We tend to take so much of this for grantedYet in doing so we
overlook the insight, the originality, the sheer brilliance of so many of our colleagues",
March 2006.*

Outline:

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1. Goals

The goals, formulated in large part in 1991 and continued throughout the program, were:

- to project a positive image of the library within the university
- to cultivate good relations with the faculty
- to celebrate the contribution of the library to the publications
- to provide means for liaison between library staff and faculty
- to publicize faculty output within the library system and beyond
- to educate the university and the wider community about the publications of UBC authors
- to provide a means for faculty authors to meet their peers across the disciplines

2. Scope

The program identified and celebrated UBC authors and their works annually for 16 years. A booklet listing authors and their titles was compiled and distributed to the authors and guests at the annual Reception and Exhibit. Two brief introductions to the booklet were written by the University President and the University Librarian. The University President and University Librarian each made a brief speech at the Reception/Exhibit, congratulating all the authors.

Summary and highlights (Friesen – UBC Authors)

The works covered were published/created/produced between 1990 and 2005 and the Authors Reception was held in the following spring, from 1991 to 2006. Eventually the event became known as UBC Authors Week, with special additional events programmed.

From 2002 to 2005, virtual exhibits were also created and featured on the library's web page.

A special "BC in Print Exhibit" was also mounted in the Koerner Library (and virtually online). This exhibit displayed a subset of the works from the year's roster that included content about British Columbia. Sometimes these were chapters in books or case studies on BC topics, information about BC that could otherwise not have been easily discovered through the library catalogue. The exhibit also included books published by UBC Press on BC subjects and award-winning books from UBC Press.

Although the UBC Authors program had ceased by then, the library also curated a "BC in Print" exhibit in April 2008 in the Ridington Room to celebrate the University's 100th anniversary, the Province's 150th anniversary and the opening of the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre. Title of exhibit:

Our Province@150 / Our University @100 / Lifelong Learning

Ridington Room, Level 4, North Side, IKBLC

Curated by Margaret Friesen and Pauline Willems with assistance from UBC Press (Kerry Kilmartin) and Ann Doyle, Glenn Drexhage, Alethea Greenwood, Katherine Kalsbeek, Merry Meredith, Simon Neame, Jill Pittendrigh

3. Formats

The UBC authors lists included printed books, e-books, e-reference works, CD's, CD-ROMs, videos, virtual exhibits (Museum of Anthropology), exhibition catalogues (Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery), music scores, theatre scripts, conference proceedings, edited works, web publications.

All academic disciplines were represented: about 25% of the works covered the science/engineering/health sciences disciplines and 75% the arts/humanities/social sciences disciplines. The works were written/created by UBC faculty, staff, emeriti faculty, in dozens of languages and published all over the world.

In the final year of the program, the 2005 UBC authors (reception in 2006), the final count of UBC authors was 158 and unique titles was 166. The majority were books, with 7 titles published as an e-book only or in parallel print/e-book versions. The list also included 4 music scores, 7 CD's (music performances) and 6 DVD videos. The library received over 40 of these titles as donations from the authors. About 25% of the titles covered BC topics, either in their entirety or in chapters or cases.

Exhibit: for the display itself, the Library brought 65% of the titles to the venue (temporary loans or donations from the authors), with the Bookstore providing the remaining 35%.

4. Impact

- Recognition of UBC creators and their works by the University and the press
- Visibility of library as the value-added knowledge creator (compiling the annual list, discovering BC content)
- Forum for authors to meet faculty members from other disciplines (frequent faculty feedback from the event)
- Library/author relationships were strengthened and good will fostered
- Library received many donations of works from these authors, some fabulous, unique, rare, contributing depth of content in many different disciplines
- The President, Board of Governors, requested copies of the booklist to use in their discussions with governments and the Senate Library Committee recommended repeating the event (source: 1991 post-event assessment)

5. Partners

Co-sponsors: UBC President's Office, UBC Library

Partners: Ceremonies Office, UBC Bookstore, UBC Press, Association of Professors Emeriti (Alumni Association), UBC Reports

6. Committee members (over the years)

Sponsors: President David Strangway, President Martha Piper, University Librarian Ruth Patrick, University Librarian Catherine Quinlan

Ceremonies: Eilis Courtney, Nancy Hermiston, Liz King, Basil Waugh

Library: Anita Bidinosti, Jeremy Buhler, Yvonne Chan, Margaret Friesen, Kimberley Hintz, Paul Lesack, Tina Louie, Merry Meredith, Jill Pittendrigh, Timothy Shew, Pauline Willems

UBC Bookstore: Debbie Harvie, Clare Kenny, Michael Roth, Greg Willett

UBC Press: Kerry Kilmartin, Peter Milroy, Jean Wilson

7. Reception invitees

UBC authors and their guests, selected University and community VIP's, Board of Governors, Senate Library Committee, President's Advisory Committee on the University Library (PACUL), representative library branch heads, selected student representatives, BC Bookworld.

8. Highlights and special events

a. The UBC Authors Reception and Exhibit, 1991-2006

- 1992 included the UBC Library Display in celebration of the Year of the Three Millionth Book. Fifteen titles were displayed, including books, journals, a datafile, video, Canadian government publication, computer diskette, map, music score and CD, manuscript.
- 1994 Innovation Showcase, Canadian Library Association, June 14-18, Vancouver, 1994 (a selection of works by UBC authors curated by Pauline Willems)
- 2000 A definition of "electronic book" was developed for the purpose of establishing eligibility for this event

Summary and highlights (Friesen – UBC Authors)

- 2003: Year of the University Press (6 UBC authors were published by UBC Press in this year)
- 2005: included UBC Okanagan authors for the first time

b. BC in Print Exhibits

2002 UBC Books of 2002. 27 books.

- Case 1: A Salute to UBC Press: Award Winners
- Case 2: A Salute to UBC Press and the UBC Authors of 2002
- Case 3: The Power of the Word
- Case 4: Close to Home
- Case 5: Green Spaces
- Case 6: Then & Now

2003 UBC Books of 2003 and a Salute to UBC Press, March 2004

The Year of the University Press, designated by the Association of Research Libraries and the Association of American University Presses

- Case 1: Ways of knowing
- Case 2: In word and song
- Case 3: Looking back, looking forward
- Case 4: A Salute to UBC Press and the UBC authors
- Case 5: A Salute to UBC Press: Award Winners and Shortlisted Awards for 2003

2004 UBC Books of 2004, March 2005

The 40th year of the Creative Writing Program at UBC

- Case 1: Theatre, Film and Creative Writing: Creative Writing Program
- Case 2: Theatre, Film and Creative Writing: Theatre Program
- Case 3: British Columbia: Close to Home
- Case 4: British Columbia: Close to Home
- Case 5: UBC Press publishes UBC Authors
- Case 6: UBC Press Award Winners

2005 BC in Print: Selections from the UBC Books of 2005

43 titles in the virtual display:

<http://www.library.ca/authorsweek/2005/BCinPrint.html>

29 titles in the Koerner Library display

- Case 1: Green Spaces
- Case 2: Then and Now
- Case 3: The Power of the Word
- Case 4: Close to Home
- Case 5: UBC Press publishes UBC authors
- Case 6: UBC Press award winners

c. Other special events

- **Friday Noon Hour @ Main Library: a Salute to the UBC Authors, Composers, and Performers of 2001, 2002**

Summary and highlights (Friesen – UBC Authors)

- **Ways of Seeing: the UBC Filmmakers Showcase - Recent Productions.**
Presented by Raymond Hall, Prof. Emeritus, Theatre, Film & Creating Writing,
The UBC Library and The Media Group, March 14, 2002
- **UBC Authors from A-Z**, featuring two University Killam Professors, William H. New and Peter Hochachka
- **William H. New “Walking with a Bicycle: the Encyclopedia of Literature in Canada Project**, March 10, 2003

3. Four Virtual Exhibits (created by Paul Lesack)

2002: UBC Authors & Their Works 2002: A Celebration of Creative

Achievements/The Arts/The Humanities/The Sciences/The Social Sciences and

featuring The Encyclopedia of Literature in Canada by William H. New

<http://www.library.ubc.ca/authorsweek/2002/>

2003: UBC Authors of 2003: 148 authors, 167 new works --- Year of the University Press

<http://www.library.ubc.ca/authorsweek/2003/>

2004: Local Authors, Global Issues: UBC Authors, 2004

<http://www.library.ubc.ca/authorsweek/2004/>

2005: Pacific Perspectives: UBC Authors & their Works, 2005

<http://www.library.ubc.ca/authorsweek/>

9. Facts and Figures

Reception Date	Number of authors	Number of works	Reception attendees	BC in Print numbers of authors
1991	150?		160	
1992	120			
1993	110			
1994	115			
1995	128		153	
1996	108	114	130	
1997	123	120		
1998	109	100	141	
1999	133	135	96	
2000	135	135	165	
2001	150	138	127	
2002	161		135	
2003	143	167		27
2004	148	167		32
2005	165	182		31
2006	158	166	108	43

10. Communications

UBC Reports, including several years where the entire list of authors was published.

March 5, 1992 (photo only)

April 22, 1993 (photo only)

March 9, 1995 (author list and profiles)

March 21, 1996 (author list only)

March 6, 1997 (feature)

March 18, 1999 (feature)

March 9, 2000 (feature)

March 22, 2001 (feature)

March 2, 2006 (article)

The Vancouver Sun

March 23, 2001

11. Venues: Receptions/Exhibits

1991 (March 18): Graduate Student Centre Ballroom

1992 (October 15): Cecil Green Park

1993 (April 7): Graduate Student Centre Ballroom

1994 (March 16): Cecil Green Park

1995 (March 16): Cecil Green Park

1996 (March 21): Cecil Green Park

1997 (March 11): Cecil Green Park

1998 (March 24): Cecil Green Park

1999 (March 23): Library Square (Vancouver Public Library)

2000 (March 21): Sty-Wet-Tan Great Hall, First Nations House of Learning

2001 (March 22): Sty-Wet-Tan Great Hall, First Nations House of Learning

2002 (March 12): Robson Square

2003 (March 12): Sty-Wet-Tan Great Hall, First Nations House of Learning

2004 (March 17): Sty-Wet-Tan Great Hall, First Nations House of Learning

2005 (March 15): Life Sciences Centre, West Atrium

2006 (March 30): Life Sciences Centre, East Atrium

Appendices:

Some highlights (from the Booklist introductions)

Files: Folders 1-21

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Feb. 2010