

# UBC Library: Summer 2011 update

By Glenn Drexhage.

## Ingrid Parent takes on IFLA Presidency, receives honorary doctorate



Ingrid Parent, UBC's University Librarian. (Photo: Eugene Lin)

Ingrid Parent, UBC's University Librarian, will soon become the first Canadian to serve as the President of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA). Her presidency begins in August 2011 and runs for two years.

IFLA, headquartered in The Hague, is the trusted global voice of the library and information profession. It features 1,600 members from about 150 countries. More information on is available at [www.ifla.org](http://www.ifla.org).

Parent has been involved with IFLA for the past 14 years, and currently serves as its President-elect. Her Presidential Theme will be "Libraries – A force for change"; IFLA's five-year strategic plan, which runs from 2010-2015, will be the focus of much of Parent's presidential term.

Other UBC Library employees also contribute to IFLA. Melody Burton, Chief Librarian at the Okanagan Library, is a member of the Academic and Research Libraries Committee. Associate University Librarian Lea Starr and Corey Sue, Director of Finance and Facilities, have been selected to participate in standing committees of Services to Multicultural Populations and Library Buildings, respectively.

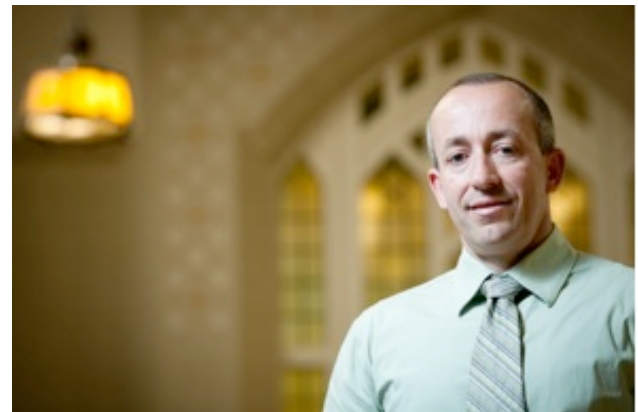
Meanwhile, Parent received an honorary doctorate for her national and international leadership on June

11, 2011 from the University of Ottawa as part of its 190th convocation.

Parent, who came to UBC two years ago from Library and Archives Canada, was honoured as part of the Faculty of Arts ceremony, which included the first graduating class of the *Masters in Information Studies* Program. She is one of 10 people to receive a 2011 honorary doctorate from the University of Ottawa.

More information on the event is available at [www.media.uottawa.ca/mediaroom/news-details\\_2340.html](http://www.media.uottawa.ca/mediaroom/news-details_2340.html).

## New Director for Learning Centre



Simon Neame, Director, Irving K. Barber Learning Centre. (Photo: Martin Dee)

Simon Neame has been selected as the new Director of the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre. Simon began his library career after obtaining a Master of Library and Information Studies from the School of Library, Archival and Information Studies at UBC. He started as a Reference Librarian at Kwantlen Polytechnic University Library. From there, he joined UBC Library, first as a Reference Librarian at the Science and Engineering Division, and then in a variety of other roles, including Teaching Programs Librarian in the Information Services Division. While in Information Services, Simon participated in the development of the Chapman Learning Commons, located in the former Main Library.

In 2003, Simon joined the Learning Centre as Program Co-ordinator, and he became Assistant Director in

2009. During his time at the Learning Centre, Simon has provided strategic leadership for the Chapman Learning Commons, the development of learning spaces and programs for students, and the Learning Centre's community digitization program. Simon has served as the Learning Centre's Acting Director since Sandra Singh's departure in December 2010.

The Director's mandate is to provide strategic leadership for community engagement initiatives on and off campus, along with directing the Learning Centre's physical facility, and its programs and services for students.

### Helping B.C. history go virtual

What do punk rock, bees and Kootenay feminism have in common? Answer: the British Columbia History Digitization Program (BCHDP). This initiative, launched by UBC's Irving K. Barber Learning Centre in 2006, provides matching funds to help libraries, archives, museums and other organizations around the province digitize an enticing array of material.

This year's proposals underline the fascinating people and places that have helped define B.C.'s rich history and culture. For example, Simon Fraser University will digitize a special collection that chronicles Vancouver's renowned punk rock scene. Meanwhile, UBC's Beaty Biodiversity Museum will digitize endangered and threatened species, including bees. And the West Kootenay Women's Digital History

Project will undertake the second phase of an effort that includes the digitization of interviews with key figures in the region's feminist movement.

Other projects include the digitization of historical newspapers, photographs, maps, directories, oral histories and even pressed plant specimens. Nearly \$180,000 was awarded to 21 projects in 2011. Altogether, BCHDP funding has totalled more than \$820,000 for 98 projects throughout British Columbia. You can view a complete list of the approved 2011 projects at [www.ikebarberlearningcentre.ubc.ca/ps/2011Projects](http://www.ikebarberlearningcentre.ubc.ca/ps/2011Projects).

### LibFOCUS: UBC Library's new e-newsletter

UBC Library launched its new monthly e-newsletter, *LibFOCUS*, in May. The publication, produced by the Library's Communications and Marketing team, provides news and updates about UBC Library for its community subscribers. Hear about upcoming events, find out about new additions to our collections, discover which librarians are blogging and explore ways to connect with us.

You can view the May and June 2011 issues at <http://eepurl.com/dDVgE> and <http://eepurl.com/d9jSP>.

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