UBC LIBRARY

2021/22 Senate Report

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
Library

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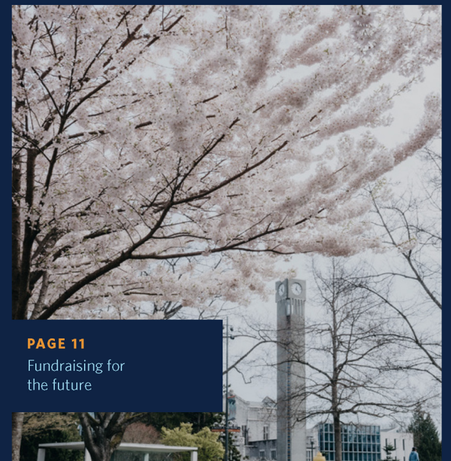

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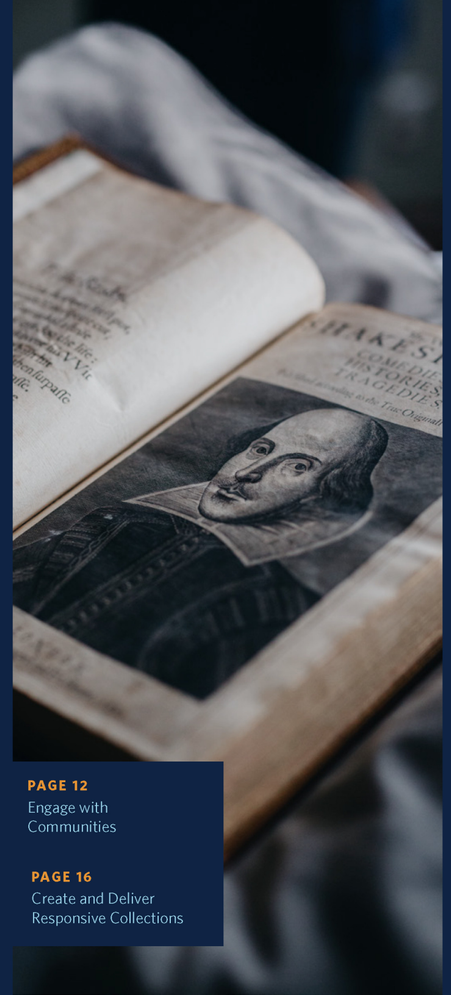

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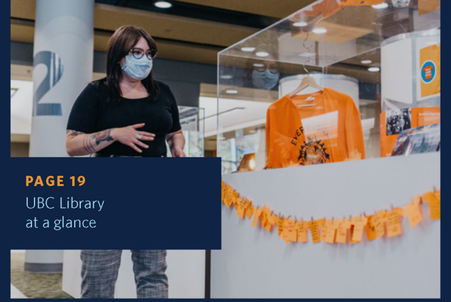

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Message from the University Librarian

2021/2022 has been a year of transition, one that has given the library a unique opportunity to revaluate and recalibrate. We transitioned back to fully in-person operations on campus in September 2021, kicking off a year of hybrid teaching, learning and work. We adapted to this transition by phasing out some of the services developed in response to COVID-19 while maintaining others to meet the ever-changing needs of our users.

The library underwent an external review in March 2022, which culminated in a report outlining eight recommendations. Overall, the report described UBC Library as a "strong research library, greatly appreciated by its academic and research communities" and that "the organization is on the right path" to addressing our many challenges.

The external review process gave us an opportunity to surface the progress made on the implementation of our Strategic Framework; we have re-imagined the committee structure, transitioning to teams, working groups and communities of practice with the key goal of creating groups of people with the appropriate knowledge and skills to work together across the system.

The process also allowed us to share our efforts alongside the University's urgent priorities in Equity, Diversity and Inclusion outlined in the Inclusion Action Plan (IAP) and the Indigenous Strategic Plan (ISP). We have thrown ourselves into learning and action, and work is underway to change our practices for recruitment, hiring, and retention.

We are engaged with the University's anti-racism and anti-Asian hate initiatives and are actively working in alignment with campus ISP and Inclusion Action Plan (IAP) groups.

We were also able to highlight the library's contributions to the University's Climate Action Plan like the Library #ClimateAction Team's Air Travel Decision Tree tool that supports library faculty and staff in decision-making around business travel.

In 2021, we implemented OpenAthens, an access management service which provides a more reliable and streamlined experience for library users. It has also allowed us access to fulsome usage data, which will enable us to reallocate resources and help inform decision-making around our collections budget.

Finally, it has been thrilling to add a first edition of William Shakespeare's Comedies, Histories and Tragedies (or First Folio) to our collection thanks to the generosity of a consortium of donors, and especially gratifying to make it available for viewing to thousands of people through an exhibit at the Vancouver Art Gallery.

The impressive outcomes outlined in this report are a reflection of the dedication and resilience of UBC Library faculty and staff as we navigate constant and transformational change. I am so proud of what we have accomplished together and I look forward to what's to come.

– Dr. Susan E. Parker

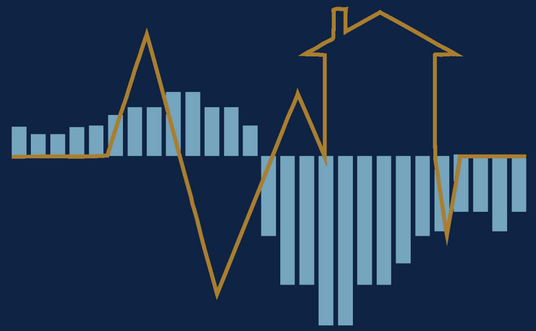
Stuart Hill, Digital Initiatives Assistant, digitizing items in the UBC Library Digitization Centre

SECTION 1

Advance Research, Learning and Scholarship

01 Building web archives to document pandemic response in British Columbia

Digital Initiatives creates web archives to preserve materials relating to the COVID-19 pandemic response in British Columbia for future research. These open collections document different facets of the pandemic response by capturing digital materials such as media releases, local news articles, UBC communications, BC provincial government websites and more.



02 Making valuable housing data available to UBC researchers

UBC researchers gain access to the *Data Advice* and Inventory Extracts provided by BC Assessment, which include value assessments for just over two million properties in British Columbia. By stewarding access to this highly valuable licensed data set, and simplifying the distribution process, the library creates new opportunities for community-university research projects.

Students working in a project room at the Research Commons

03 Remote reference and virtual teaching

UBC librarians and library staff find new ways to collaborate with faculty and students by offering remote reference through online video conferencing platforms like Zoom. Librarians at David Lam Library introduce flexible timing and new virtual presentations that adapt library orientation sessions for remote classes.

04 Helping researchers build scholarly profiles

Scholarly Communications and Copyright launches a new webinar series that focuses on the open publishing process and practices in the humanities, social sciences and sciences. Faculty, graduate and post-doctoral students gain the opportunity to learn more about developing their academic profiles.

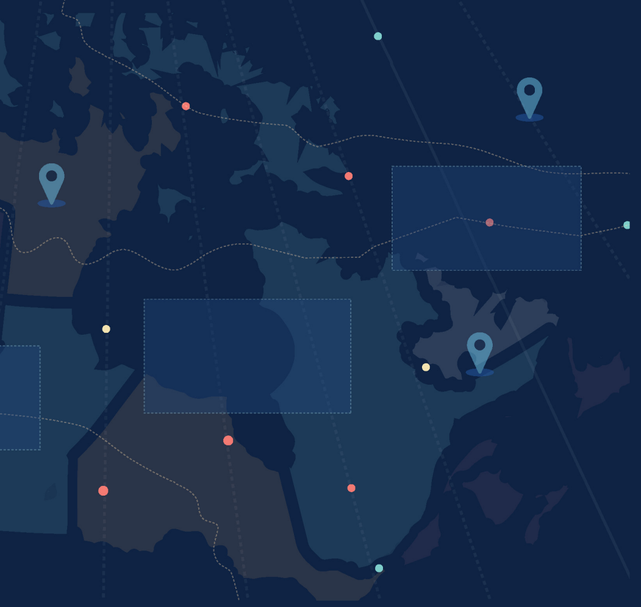
Students working in the digital lab at the Research Commons

05 UBC Library Open Publishing Program

The library launches an open access journal and text service to help UBC faculty, researchers, instructors, students and staff develop open access publications for scholarship and instruction. This free service advances open scholarship by providing the supports needed to make UBC information resources openly available.

06 Curating open educational resources for UBC instructors

Instructors at UBC and beyond can search through a new curated database full of openly accessible teaching and learning materials. Developed in partnership with the UBC Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology, UBC Okanagan Library and UBC Library, the UBC OER Collection showcases open educational resources in a searchable interface to support both UBC faculty and the general community in incorporating open educational resources and practices into their curriculums.



07 Expanding geospatial search through Geodisy integration

The Research Commons releases a major update to the open-source data discovery tool Geodisy. Through an integration with the Federated Research Data Repository Discovery Portal, the collection available for geospatial search expands to include more than 86,000 records from over 70 Canadian research data repositories.

The digital lab at the Research Commons

08 Supporting data visualization

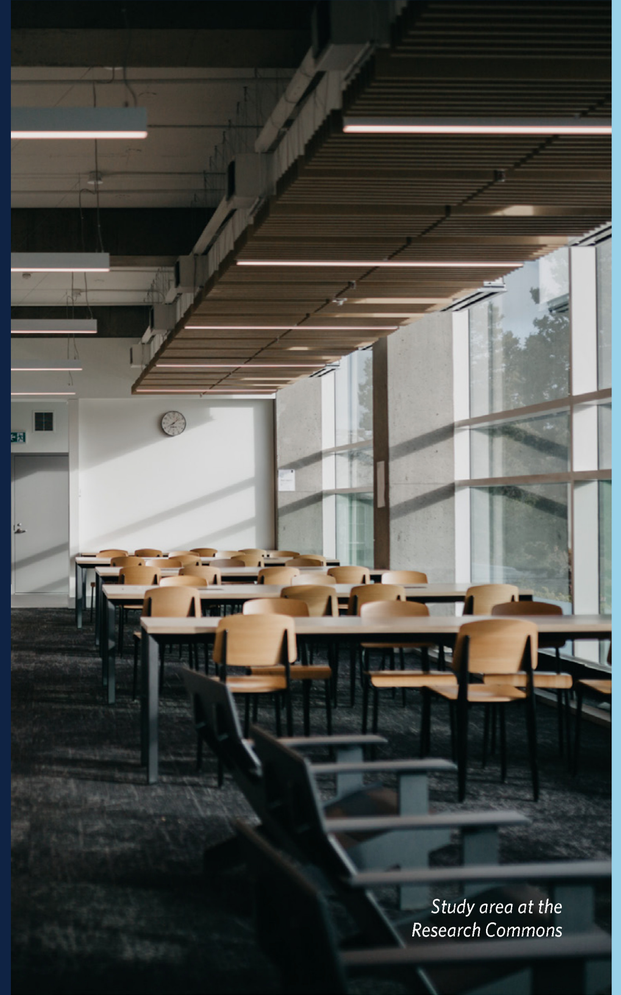
The Research Commons partners with the UBC Future Waters Research Excellence Cluster to develop a model to visualize research outputs. Using open source tool Scholia, research groups can download a free version of the workflow to create graphical representations of their publication data using pre-existing records in sites like Wikidata.

Elisha Facundo, Speech Sciences, Faculty of Arts student, studying in the Ridington Room at the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre

09 UBC Library joins Dryad membership

UBC Library becomes the first Canadian institution to join Dryad. This non-profit membership organization brings together a thriving global community of universities, research institutions and academic libraries all working together to promote data publishing, curation, and preservation.

With more than 600 UBC-authored datasets already available in Dryad, institutional membership provides UBC-affiliated researchers with access through their Campus-Wide Login (CWL) and unlimited dataset submissions at no cost.



Study area at the Research Commons

Fundraising for the future

Donor support enables the library to enhance student learning, helps researchers find answers and advances knowledge to its fullest potential. Donations can help build spaces, connect ideas, and allow the library to provide a margin of excellence beyond what public dollars provide.

HOW DONORS CONNECT WITH US

Web	37%
Mail	26%
Personal solicitations	21%
Phone	16%

**Numbers reflect the fundraising efforts for UBC Library's Vancouver campus only*

TOTAL FUNDS RAISED*

$8.4M

NUMBER OF GIFTS

558

FUNDS RAISED

$7.16M	Outright donations
$1.1M	Gifts-in-kind
$164K	Realized bequest
$31K	Pledges

SECTION 2

Engage with Communities

01 Generations Lost: Healing the Legacy of Residential Schools

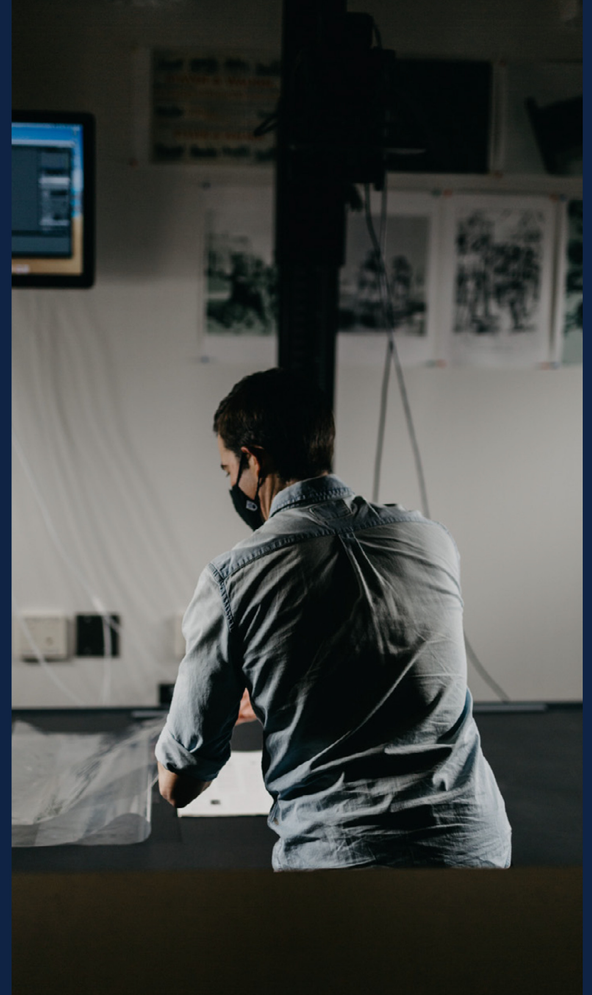
As part of the Generations Lost exhibits, presented in partnership by the Faculty of Education and UBC Library at the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, Xwi7xwa Library curates several display cases of special collections material relating to Residential Schools in Canada. The cases also include unique items like the cedar shavings collected from the Reconciliation Pole carved by 7idansuu (Edenshaw) James Hart, Haida Hereditary Chief, as well as medicinal plants like sage and cedar bundles.

Kayla Lar-Son, Indigenous Programs & Services Librarian, at the Generations Lost Exhibition

02 I Know We'll Meet Again: Correspondence and the Forced Dispersal of Japanese Canadians

UBC Library and the Asian Canadian and Asian Migration Studies program in the Faculty of Arts present an online public panel event inspired by the Joan Gillis fonds, a remarkable collection of letters that recount the lives of a group of Japanese Canadian teenagers after their forced dispersal from the coastal regions of British Columbia in 1942. Nearly 200 people tune in to hear the panel of artists, scholars, and archivists from the Japanese Canadian community and learn about the library's new digital exhibit, featuring select letters from the fonds.

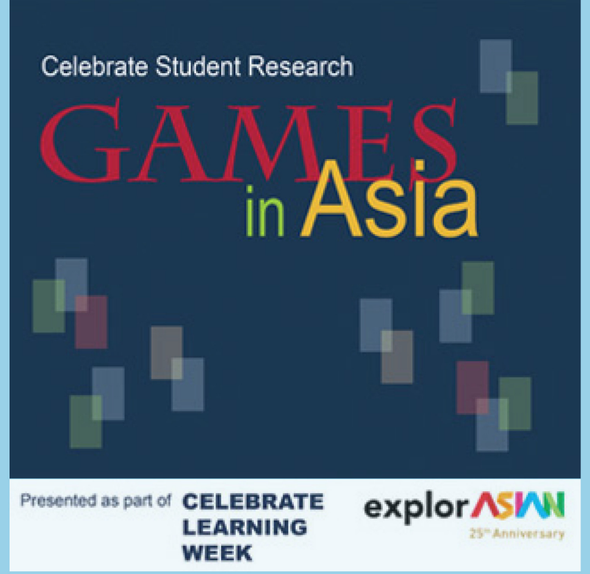
Collection items from the Joan Gillis fonds



03 Providing digitization support to unique collections

A new partnership between the BC Electronic Library Network (BC ELN) and the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre offers vital support to prospective BC History Digitization Program (BCHDP) grant applicants seeking to bring their unique collections online. The BC ELN-BCHDP Support Service is a three-year pilot program that provides small GLAM (Galleries, Libraries, Archives, and Museums) sector organizations with a range of support services to help them prepare and apply for BCHDP grant funding.

Stuart Hill, Digital Initiatives Assistant, digitizing items in the UBC Library Digitization Centre

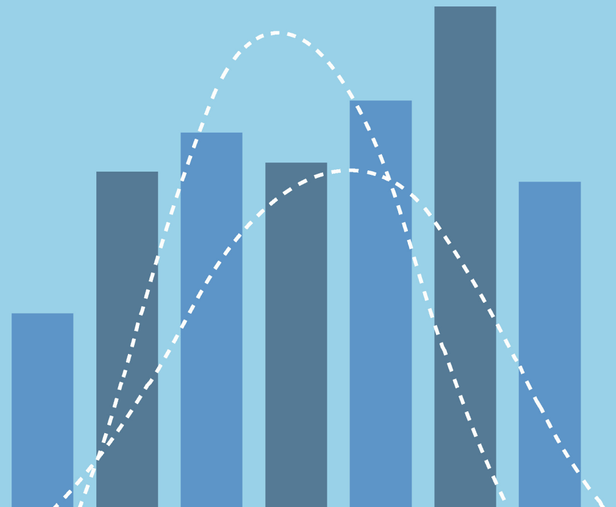


04 Celebrate Student Research: Games in Asia

The Asian Library and the Department of Asian Studies present a joint moderated session to discuss games in Asia, as part of Celebrate Learning Week. From traditional games like marbles in India and board games like the Japanese Edo-period Sugoroky, to the sociocultural impact of digital gaming and Chinese e-sports fandom, the session covers a wide range of topics.

05 Surfacing data about marginalized and underrepresented populations

The library offers a series of workshops on finding data about marginalized and underrepresented populations. Indigenous Peoples, racialized groups and people who identify as LGBTQ+ are often underrepresented or hidden in the datasets that people rely on for research and planning. Data about mental health, substance abuse, and homelessness can be difficult to find, particularly for marginalized populations. The Finding the Data workshop series helps identify potential data sources and discuss the historical and social context that can make the data harder to find.



06 Library #ClimateAction Team film screenings

The Library #ClimateAction Team (L#CAT) and the EDI Recruitment & Retention working group offer free, online screenings of three films related to climate change, social justice, and the land. Screenings are funded by a UBC Workplace Sustainability grant.

07 UBC Library supports Forest(Reads) series and Vancouver Black Library book drive

UBC Library partners with Forest(Reads), the Faculty of Forestry's virtual book club on justice, equity, diversity and inclusion. This year's series focuses on understanding Black experiences within the environmental field through the writings of author and cultural geographer Dr. Carolyn Finney.

UBC Library, UBC Okanagan Library, the UBC Learning Exchange and Iron Dog Books collaborate to launch a book drive to collect a variety of Black literature to support the Vancouver Black Library (VBL). Spearheaded by UBC student Maya Preyshon, the VBL is a space to sign out books for free and a "study space, a chill space, and a safe space" catering to the needs of the Black community in Vancouver.

Cherry blossoms at UBCV Campus

SECTION 3

Create and Deliver Responsive Collections

01 William Shakespeare's *Comedies Histories and Tragedies*

The library acquires a first edition of William Shakespeare's *Comedies, Histories and Tragedies*. Published in 1623, seven years after Shakespeare's death, the First Folio includes 36 of Shakespeare's 38 known plays. The texts, edited by Shakespeare's close friends, fellow writers and actors, are considered the most authoritative of all early printings. The First Folio, formerly owned by a private collector in the USA, is purchased through Christie's New York with funding provided by a consortium of donors from across North America and with the generous support of the Department of Canadian Heritage.

The First Folio is made available for public viewing alongside three subsequent seventeenth-century Folio editions of Shakespeare's plays in *For All Time: The Shakespeare First Folio*, an exhibit presented in partnership with the Vancouver Art Gallery. Curated by Gregory Mackie, Associate Professor of English and Norman Colbeck Curator and Katherine Kalsbeek, Head, UBC Library Rare Books and Special Collections, the exhibit marks the first time all four Folios have been displayed in Vancouver. The exhibit sees over 45,000 visitors between January and April 2022.

For All Time: The Shakespeare First Folio, Vancouver Art Gallery Members Morning, January 2022, Photo: Scott Little

02 The Phil Lind Klondike Gold Rush Collection

The library receives an unparalleled rare book and archival collection, dating from the Klondike Gold Rush (1894-1904), from UBC alumnus and Canadian telecommunications icon Philip B. Lind, CM. The collection includes books, maps, letters and photos collected by Lind, whose grandfather, Johnny Lind, was a trailblazer who carved out success as a prospector, arriving in the Yukon two years before the big Klondike strike in 1896 that ignited the gold rush.

A $2 million gift supports the collection at the library and the Department of Canadian Heritage's Canadian Cultural Property Export Review Board designates the collection as a cultural property of outstanding significance.

Claire Williams, Chung/Lind Archivist at Rare Books and Special Collections, carefully handling items from The Phil Lind Klondike Gold Rush Collection

03 UBC Department of Athletics & Recreation fonds

UBC Archives receives an extensive collection of materials from UBC's Department of Athletics and Recreation, totalling nearly 8,000 photographs along with textual records like scrapbooks, posters, programs, team rosters, scoresheets, training schedules and other administrative documents from the athletics side of the department. The records span a century from approximately 1915 to 2015, and reflect the university's rich sporting history.

John Moran, Archivist, University Archives with the UBC Department of Athletics & Recreation fonds

04 Afghan Serials Collection and Afghan Central Press digital archive

Faculty, staff and students gain access to the Afghan Serials Collection (DA-ASC) Partisan Publications from the Wahdat Library as well as the Afghan Central Press digital archive, addressing in part the needs of students and faculty conducting research in Afghan Studies. The Afghan Serials Collection spans 46 newspapers and journals from the 1970s to 1990s and includes over 2,500 articles published in Persian, Pushto, Arabic, Urdu, and English.

05 Adding to UBC's Queer Collection

Thanks to Giving Day 2021 donations, the library purchases three rare items that are added to UBC's Queer Collection at Rare Books and Special Collections: *Messes Noires: Lord Lyllian* (1905) by Jacques d'Adelsward Fersen (1880-1923), *Ercole Tomei* (1900) by Guido Hermann Eckardt (1873-1951), and *The Classification of Crimes: being a seventeenth chapter of A History of Penal Methods* (1904) by George Ives (1867-1950). The items will be preserved for future students and scholars as part of this essential collection.

UBC Library at a glance

VANCOUVER CAMPUS

56.6K
TOTAL PATRON QUESTIONS

17.3K
ONLINE PATRON QUESTIONS

935
GROUP PRESENTATIONS

24.9K
PRESENTATION PARTICIPANTS

3.7M
TOTAL E-BOOKS

5.6M
TOTAL PHYSICAL ITEMS

1.4M
IN-PERSON VISITS

11M
WEBSITE VISITS

Association of Research Libraries ranking, 2020

39

Connecting through our stories

56
Total news and stories published to the UBC Library website †

886
Total posts shared on UBC Library social media channels

48%
Increase in social media followers since 2017

† Does not include service bulletins, closure notices or job postings.

Seminar room in Rare Books and Special Collections

THE VANCOUVER DAILY PROVINCE

Pattullo Bridge Tolls Come Off Tonight

Britons Of All Rank File Past King's Bier

Traffic "Free" At 6 o'Clock

BCE Requests 13-Cent Fares

Earnings $750,000 Yearly

Expected End of Toll In 1954

Loudspeakers Enter Bookmaking Trial

Pirates Paid Off In Wrist Watches, $4500 Cash

Five City Drug Sellers Go To Pen

Showdown Avoided In Egypt

Ford, Union Meetings

Reds Offer New Plan For Truce

06 *The Province* newspaper digital archives

The library acquires access to the digital archives of *The Province* newspaper from 1894 to 2010. As one of Vancouver's two major daily newspapers, *The Province* digital archives is a valuable new resource for scholarship and teaching, further expanding UBC Library's already extensive collection of current and historical British Columbian newspapers.

Statement of revenue & expenditures

VANCOUVER CAMPUS

FISCAL YEAR APRIL 1, 2021 - MARCH 31, 2022

	SALARIES	BENEFITS	COLLECTIONS	OTHER	TOTAL	REVENUE	SURPLUS
Programs	16,088,689	3,587,539	17,715,867	6,201,491	43,593,585	42,631,700	(961,885)
Grants	0	(58,754)	0	160,697	101,943	150,000	48,057
Gifts	8,091	209,870	7,774,530	512,532	8,505,022	8,283,000	(222,022)
Project	1,191,559	(7,694)	0	1,265,670	2,449,534	2,346,375	(103,160)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	18,295,675	3,730,960	25,490,396	8,140,389	54,650,084	53,411,075	(1,239,010)

LIBRARY EXPENDITURES

47% COLLECTIONS

31% SALARIES

15% OTHER

7% BENEFITS

SECTION 4

Inspire with Innovative Spaces and Services

01 New DIY Media Lab

The Chapman Learning Commons opens a full DIY Media Lab that allows anyone in the UBC community to create unique digital content. The sound-buffered studio, located in the Music Art and Architecture Library on Level 3 of the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, enables library users to record high quality video and audio with access to microphones, a mixing board, a video camera, green screen, and a Mac computer with audio and video software. The studio is a result of a collaboration between UBC Library, UBC Studios, the Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology and UBC IT.

Students in the DIY Media Lab located the Chapman Learning Commons

02 Transforming user access to library resources with OpenAthens

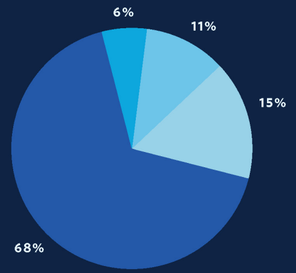
The library introduces a new secure way for library users to access licensed online resources through OpenAthens, an identity-based authentication system that provides access using single sign-on (SSO) technology, both on and off-campus. Integrated with UBC's campus-wide login (CWL), OpenAthens provides a more reliable and streamlined experience for library users, replacing EZproxy software and IP address-based authentication. The system also provides the library with more robust usage data, showing how often e-resource platforms are accessed in a designated period. Work to enrich this data begins in order to provide a more nuanced picture of UBC e-resource use, breaking down usage metrics by key user groups and faculties without compromising individual privacy.

OpenAthens

96,200

ACTIVE OPENATHENS ACCOUNTS

- 68% STUDENTS
- 15% ALUMNI
- 11% FACULTY
- 6% STAFF



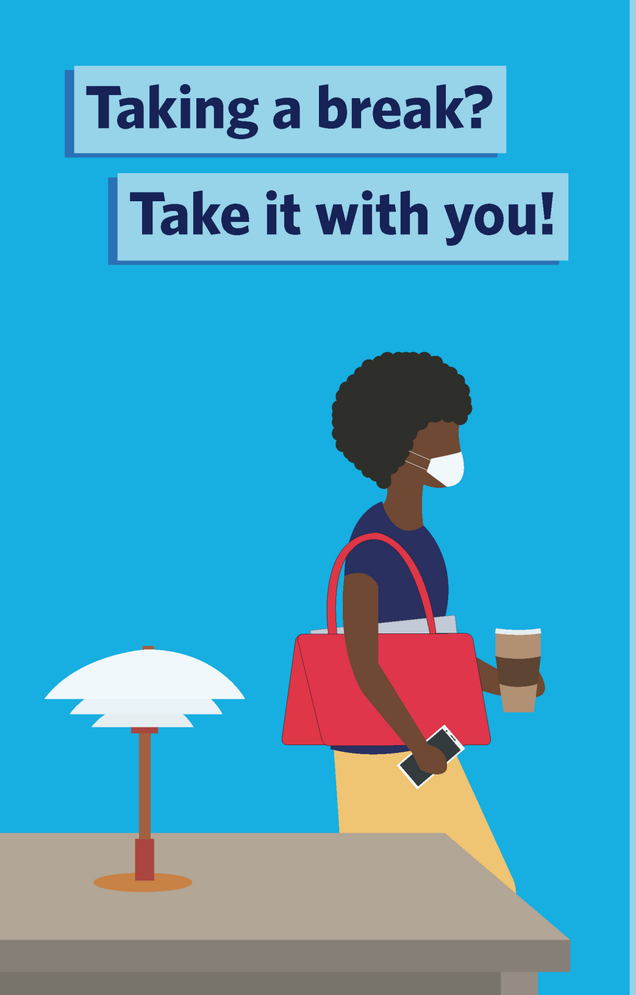
03 New online support portal

A new online support portal simplifies how library users find help via chat, email and phone. The Ask Us portal brings together several online service points for library support inquiries so that users can find subject librarians or search for additional resources, all in one place.

04 Open Collections Delivery Service enhancement

The library launches a significant update to its Open Collections website that enhances the findability and usability of items in the collections. Based on feedback and usage data, this update improves Google Scholar and public search engine indexing, while providing a new way for library users to use, re-use, and share Open Collections metadata through the Open Collection Research API.

Alexandra Kuskowski, Learning Services Librarian, assisting a student at the Chapman Learning Commons



05 Partnering with UBC Campus Security on theft prevention

The library partners with UBC Campus Security to launch a theft prevention pilot campaign to help students protect their valuables while using the library's spaces. The campaign features messaging created in consultation with Chapman Learning Commons students to help provide students peace of mind when visiting branches and to foster good habits when using library study spaces.

06 Nass Reading Room reopens

The Nass Reading Room reopens following a much-anticipated space refresh. This quiet study space, located at the south end of Level 4 in the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre and equipped with new quiet study spaces and accessible group tables, is a popular destination for students looking for a spot to work with great views and limited noise.

The Nass Reading Room in IKBLC

SECTION 5

Steward the Organization

01 Dr. Susan E. Parker elected vice-president/ president-elect of ARL

Dr. Susan E. Parker is elected vice-president of ARL for a one-year term. The Board of Directors is the governing body of the association and represents the interests of ARL member libraries in directing the business of the association. This includes establishing operating policies, budgets, fiscal oversight, modifying the ARL mission and objectives and representing the association to the community.

Dr. Susan E. Parker,
University Librarian, UBC Library

02 Irving K. Barber Learning Centre Librarian awarded VAHMS Recognition Award

Allan Cho, Community Engagement Librarian at the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, is awarded the Vancouver Asian Heritage Month Society (VAHMS) Recognition Award. Every year, VAHMS honours three individuals, community organizations, or educational institutions representing Pan-Asian communities that have made significant contributions to VAHMS' vision of fostering, promoting and celebrating the arts and cultural diversity that Asian Canadian communities bring to Canadian society.

Allan Cho, Community Engagement Librarian, Program Services at Irving K. Barber Learning Centre

Interrobang
A Writing Podcast?

03 Centre for Writing and Scholarly Communication launches writing podcast

The Centre for Writing and Scholarly Communication launches the first season of "Interrobang: A Writing Podcast‽". Featured guests include UBC faculty members Dr. Heidi Tworek, Dr. Gregory Mackie and Dr. Evan Thompson. Production of the podcast is made possible through an innovation grant from UBC Library.

04 Xwi7xwa Librarian chosen as one of ALA's Emerging Leaders

Kayla Lar-Son, Indigenous Programs & Services Librarian at Xwi7xwa Library, is chosen as one of ALA's Emerging Leaders for the 2022 cohort. The program is designed to enable library staff and information workers to participate in project planning work groups, network with peers, gain an inside look into ALA structure, and have an opportunity to serve the profession in a leadership capacity early in their careers.

Kayla Lar-Son, Indigenous Programs & Services Librarian at Xwi7xwa Library

SECTION 6
UBCO Library

UBC Okanagan Library Highlights

The COVID-19 pandemic brought with it a rapid pivot to online service models for all areas of the Library, including popular Student Learning Hub, Centre for Scholarly Communication, and teaching and learning supports, while staff continued to provide contactless access to print collections. Highlights of this unique period included significant growth in Academic Integrity Matters referrals, the Library's coordination of the Okanagan Campus' Open Educational Resource Grant program, a new non-credit credential in Scholarly Research, Writing, and Publishing in collaboration with the College of Graduate Studies, the expansion of the British Columbia Regional Digitized History project, a makerspace-led initiative to create much-needed PPE for our community, and a series of engaging online events celebrating diversity, inclusion, and Indigeneity.

Find out more in the:
2020-2021 Report to UBC Okanagan Senate.

Photo of The Commons Building, UBC Okanagan campus

Acknowledgments

I would like to thank the many contributors to this report and those who contributed to its development and production.

-Dr. Susan E. Parker
University Librarian

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Phoebe Chan, Library Communications and Marketing

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THE UNIVERSITY
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Library