

Getting to Know You

Two days after Catherine Quinlan took up her appointment as University Librarian, she set time aside to discuss some of the questions staff have been asking most.

Should we be calling you Dr. Quinlan?

Not quite yet. My doctoral dissertation is done and accepted, and I'm through all of the other academic work. The only thing left is how to handle the University of Warwick's residency requirement. Technically you can't complete the degree without actually living at the University for a minimum period. I've got it down to about two months, and we're negotiating.



What was your dissertation topic?

I wanted to examine the value of information. As my work was done toward a degree in business administration, I focused on ways information could be measured in financial terms and in a business context. However, there's obviously a lot of carryover to libraries. Our product is information, whether we create it or make it available from other sources. As we're learning, it's possible to quantify the difference this makes to our user community.

Looking at the UBC library system, what do you see as the most urgent issues for the next few months?

The 1997/98 budget is obviously going to get its share of our time. Otherwise, the number one concern is probably space, and all the questions growing out of that. My sense is that we mostly agree on the problems, but not necessarily on where to start when it comes to solutions. Do we go for building Phase Two as the top priority, or should we look at adding storage space even before that? My own priority is to get caught up with the Library's *Master Space Plan*, which I hope to do in the next week or so.

This raises a familiar question: should libraries go on paying for housing conventional collections or make more of a commitment to electronic access?

For a research library of UBC's size, there's no simple answer. We have very many user groups, and probably no two of them would agree on what makes a workable balance between printed collections and electronic resources. Rather than asking all our patrons to accept the same mix, we need to fit our collections to their needs, area by area. Electronic resources are adding a valuable layer of services, but in many ways they still can't replace conventional printed materials, any more than microfiche could in its day.

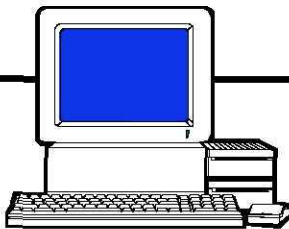
Looking ahead, there are many other things the Library is under pressure to do. As a manager, how do you deal with reaching agreement in a system as large as this one?

Academic libraries support so many activities that they risk spreading their resources too thin. One approach that can be effective is to agree on the initiatives that are in the best interests of the University. Within these, it's often possible to find ones that are mutually related. Targeting this one broad group then gives you a focus, but still lets the Library move forward on several of its top priorities.

What will you be doing to meet Library people and keep up communications?

Having the admin. offices on the top floor of Koerner means we have to work a bit harder there. During my first couple of weeks my priority is to fit in get-acquainted visits with all the UBC libraries – so far I've managed about three a day. I also need to get the message out that I want staff to feel comfortable talking or meeting with me directly. There's very little that cannot be talked about. I'm in the office daily from about 8:30 to 5, and if people are more comfortable writing or e-mailing me, those messages are not read by anyone else.

Catherine's e-mail address is <quinlan@interchange.ubc.ca>.



SYSTEMS UPDATE

Time Running out for LDMS and UBCLIB

We're now into the final stage of the Library's migration off its locally developed UBCLIB and LDMS systems. Here is an overview of the critical dates in this process and the major implications for users, both at UBC and in other libraries.

The Story So Far

May 1997 was one of the most significant dates in the Library's history. After 30 years of designing and maintaining our own online systems, we made the transition to a commercial system: DRA. This is what we're now using for all major applications, such as acquisitions, cataloguing, circulation, serials check-in, and the public access catalogue. During the next year most of the remaining applications and databases left on UBCLIB and LDMS will also need to migrate to other systems. The timing of all this is not entirely within our control. It's being driven by changes in the larger UBC computing environment and our own internal systems resources.

LDMS Timetable

LDMS is the original version of the Library's locally developed online system, and dates from the early 1970's. It was developed and supported in an IBM mainframe environment, using the MTS operating system. Active development of the LDMS software ceased six years ago. However, most of our major applications continued to run on it until they were transferred to DRA in 1997. At this point we're down to two significant LDMS-based applications: UBCLINC, our interlibrary loan facility, and Acquisitions Accounting.

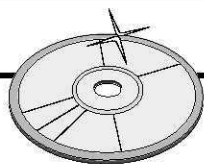
As part of University-wide systems changes, the mainframe computer, MTS operating system, and the associated communications network will be permanently removed from service over the next five months. A phased approach will be used, starting December 1, 1997 and ending on March 31, 1998. To transfer Library files off these systems before they shut down, we'll be working on the following timetable:

December 1, 1997: except for UBCLINC and Acquisitions Accounting, all updates to LDMS files associated with acquisitions, cataloguing, circulation and serials will shut down. Archival "snapshots" of most of these files will be produced and moved to UBCLIB, where they will be available for reference but not for new data input.

January 31, 1998: except for UBCLINC and Acquisitions Accounting, all remaining LDMS files and any direct MTSL activity will shut down.

March 31, 1998: All UBCLINC and Acquisitions Accounting files on LDMS will shut down. LDMS will be completely decommissioned.

Any staff still using LDMS/MTSL are being asked to notify Systems, as decisions will need to be made on migration of their files.



SYSTEMS UPDATE (continued)

UBCLIB/ELN Databases and Services

UBCLIB is the second-generation, improved version of LDMS. Implemented in 1990, it was developed and supported in a Unix-based environment. It is still used to support a wide variety of locally loaded and maintained databases, including major ones that are part of the Library's contribution to B.C.'s Electronic Library Network (ELN). The ELN server uses UBCLIB's software to provide access to these shared databases, as well as to ELN's collective holdings databases such as the Serials, Media and Outlook catalogues. UBCLIB also supports other services such as the Gateway access to remote databases and systems.

In September 1997 the UBC Library ceased active development of the UBCLIB system. It will continue to be supported and heavily used for at least one more year. The Library has embarked on a review of the databases and services still on UBCLIB with the aim of identifying and implementing suitable migration options for most of them. The target date for this work is **September 1, 1998**

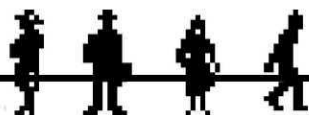
We are very aware that many other B.C. libraries rely on our systems and technical support. This will be a key factor in planning the changes coming up in the next year. We have already notified the ELN Office and other ELN "host sites" that UBCLIB is living on borrowed time, and we will continue to seek their input regarding replacement options. A notice is also being prepared for more general distribution to the B.C. libraries using our various ILL services.

We expect that any implementation plans will include some sort of overlap period as the new systems take over from the former ones. This should make it easier for our partner libraries to adjust their own local systems and user interfaces. Our message is basically a positive one: even though we need to make the transition to a different access system, the bottom line is that all of the current LDMS and UBCLIB databases and services will continue to be available.

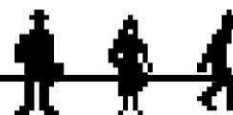
Ridington Lab Suffers Server Setback

The opening date for the Library's newest computer lab is a bit of a question mark, following an unexpected piece of bad news late in October. Although equipment and wiring were expected to be ready for public use of at least the 30 Web-capable workstations funded by Hewlett-Packard and the Alma Mater Society, the server arrived in a damaged state, and at press time it wasn't clear how long it would take to obtain and test a replacement.

As a reminder, the first 30 workstations will be part of a public-access Web facility in the Main Library's Ridington Room, similar to the BC Hydro Lab in Koerner. The second stage of the project will see the addition of 50 older workstations elsewhere in Ridington. Formerly used by Library staff, they will become public Netinfo terminals.



STAFF NEWS



Fall '97 Recalls

Anilu Claur, sessional LA2, Main
Helen Cranage, temporary LA1, St. Paul's
Gaye Ferguson, monitor, Koerner/Main
Helen Godolphin, sessional LA1, Koerner
Kathryn Harakal, sessional LA1, Main
Donia Mounef, LA1, Biomedical Branch Library
Wendy Osborne, sessional LA2, Koerner
Hailund Praseuth, sessional LA2, Koerner
Katherine Shearer, sessional LA1, Main
Bernice Voh, sessional LA1, Koerner

New Appointments

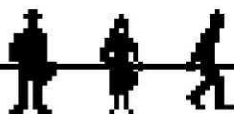
Ron Berry, sessional LA1, Koerner
Rebecca Blair, sessional LA2, Woodward
Betty Chung, part-time LA2, Education
Robert Flynn, sessional LA1, Law
Sarah Knight, sessional LA1, Koerner
Tracy Ko, temporary LA1, Order
Vicky Lymperopoulos, sessional LA1, Woodward
Michelle Mansey, sessional LA1, Koerner
Colin Maycock, sessional LA1, Main
Yani Mitchell, LA1, MacMillan
Robert Ongcoy, part-time LA1, Woodward
Cory Takarabe, part-time LA2, Fine Arts
Kim Trainor, LA1, Woodward

Transfers

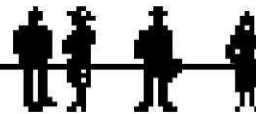
Ann Chatwin, to LA1, Education
Joan Dietrich, to part-time LA2, Science & Engineering
Kim Leong, to LA1, BMB
Bernice Ma, to part-time LA1, Woodward
Jerome Nicol, to LA1, Education
Lynne Trudeau, to LA2, Law
Jane Xiong, to LA2, Asian Library

Temporary Appointments and Promotions

Minelle Cohen, to LA1, Koerner Circulation
Linda Dunbar, temporary part-time librarian, Education
Anastasia Leontieva, to LA1, Koerner Circulation
Lorne Madgett, to LA2, Order Division
Gisela Mallue, to part-time LA4, Mathematics
Jo-Anne Naslund, to Acting Head, Education
Don Taylor, temporary part-time librarian, Science & Engineering and Mathematics
Regina Tsanas, to LA2, Koerner Circulation



STAFF NEWS



Extension of Appointment

Marnie Burnham, hourly archivist, to Jan. 16, 1998

Promotions

Desiree Baron, to LA4, Information Services

Jim Harris, to Clerk2, Collections Accounting and Budget

Peggy Ng, Administration, to M & P level

Esther Shew, to Clerk 3, Collections Accounting and Budget

Angela Yokoyama, to LA2, Law

Goodbye

John Campbell, Programmer/Analyst, Systems (effective Dec. 15)

Gwen Gregor, LA4, Education

Dana McFarland, librarian, Education

Sui Cheong Siu, LA4, Mathematics

More on Education, Math Staffing Changes

Howard Hurt's legion of well-wishers on and off campus are delighted at the progress he's making since suffering a major aneurism in August. He's now home and looking forward to hearing from friends. Education staff and patrons will also miss **Gwen Gregor** (who retired in September after 32 years in the Library), **Loreen Paradis** (off to a new job as part-time children's librarian at VPL) and **Dana McFarland** (leaving November 21 to become the new Librarian of Royal Roads University). **Jo-Anne Naslund** is acting Education Librarian while options for filling these vacancies are being reviewed. Meanwhile, we welcome **Linda Dunbar** as the branch's new part-time librarian. Linda was formerly the head of the Vancouver School Board's professional library.

Sui Cheong Siu's retirement on October 31 closes off 33 years with the library system, and leaves the Math Library without its longtime senior staff member at the busiest part of the fall term. Between now and March 31, 1998, **Gisela Mallue** will divide her time between Science & Engineering and Math, where she will work with **Teresa Komori**, the newly appointed LA 2. **Don Taylor**, a recent SLAIS graduate, will also work part-time in both locations.

Been There, Done That

Kudos to: Lam Library's **Christina Sylka**, on maternity leave after the birth of baby Sophie August 26, and **Tsuneharu Gonnami**, who will be giving five invited lectures during a two-week conference-related visit to Japan in early November. Back from other conferences are **Pat Dunn** (IFLA Interlending and Document Supply, Denmark) and **Joyce Friesen** (CAUT, St. John's). **Janice Kreider**, Coordinator of Collections, is working on the followup to a "really productive" 1996/97 Oxford sabbatical. Results include a merged set of profiles covering citation data and impact factors for journals in many science and social science subject fields. The profiles combine 12 years of citation and publication data from UBC researchers with the overall citation ratings available from ISI (publisher of the *Science and Social Sciences Citation Indexes*). They offer significant improvements to both ends of the journal assessment process: rating the prospects for new subscriptions, and also deciding what titles can be cancelled.

AROUND THE LIBRARIES

Staff Training and Development News

Save time: bookmark the new staff Web page at <<http://www.library.ubc.ca/staff/>>. It would also be a good idea to note down the token user name (**libstaff**) and password (**ubclib**) needed to sign on. Besides the staff phone/e-mail directory, committee minutes, and other news, a rolling calendar of upcoming staff training and development programs will be available on this site shortly.

December Programs

Mon. Dec. 1 - Wed., Dec. 3, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Koerner Rm. 216

Three repeat sessions of the 1-day workshop *The Question Is Not The Question: Communication Skills At the Front Line*.

Watch for announcements on registration details.

Copyright Update

Word has come through from CLA that the so-called library exemptions in the new Copyright Act will not be proclaimed as law until regulations have been written. This is unlikely to happen before 1998. Industry Canada and Canadian Heritage, the joint sponsors of the legislation, met in October regarding content of the regulations, but no notes have yet been made available.

Canadian Heritage has also committed \$50,000 toward a copyright guide for libraries. As this still leaves about \$40,000 to be found, CLA has approached Industry Canada to contribute the balance. For the time being, UBC's 1997/98 Cancopy agreement is the best guide to what our libraries and users can legally copy.

Donations Enhance Services, Collections

Besides the Ridington computer lab and Koerner's new second elevator, several other 1997 projects owe their existence to generous donors on and off campus.

In Woodward, work is progressing on a basement computer teaching lab with 20 workstations. Funding came from the Woodward Foundation, the estate of former librarian Peg Leighton, and the Grad Class Council. On the collections front, UBC's Class Act program has contributed over \$40,000 toward science journals for the Library. In the past four years, a fundraising program focusing on UBC parents has generated over \$150,000 for the Library Collections Endowment. This in turn has been matched dollar for dollar by the President's Fund. Not to be outdone, UBC faculty and staff gave more than \$100,000 last year in support of the Library. Pam Miles, the Library's Development Officer, sends a reminder that pledge cards for this year's campaign will be going out soon.