UBC Library Staff

BULLETIN

The Library

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$60 Million for The Ike Barber Learning Center

On October 3, 2002 the Library hosted two events announcing the creation of The Irving K. Barber Learning Centre. The morning event, hosted by Catherine, featured speeches by President Piper, Premier Gordon Campbell, Ike Barber and Julie Mitchell, a peer assistant in The Chapman Learning Commons. The afternoon saw President Piper and Mr. Barber return for a special event for library staff. Following both announcements, there was a chance for guests to mingle in the temporarily cleared Learning Commons, enjoy refreshments and reflect on the news. The Architecture Selection Committee has made its recommendation to the VP Finance and Administration and the winning firm should be announced soon. Check out the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre web site for more information and updates at **www.ikebarberlearningcentre.ubc.ca**

Second Year Report to library staff

Catherine made her annual presentation to staff outlining the achievements that the Library made over the past year. The presentation also marks the end of the second year of the Library's strategic plan. Too numerous to mention here, the highlights are now on the staff web site at **www.library.ubc.ca/staff/CQ-presentation.html**. Thanks to a creative suggestion by some library staff, this year's memento to mark the occasion is the first official UBC Library umbrella, guaranteed 100% water-resistant!

Thank you from Ike Barber

During the ceremony announcing The Irving K. Barber Learning Centre to library staff, Mr. Barber was presented with a picture of the Main Library as seen in its original design, on behalf of the UBC Library staff. Mr. Barber recently sent this message of thanks:

> *Catherine – I want to thank you and your staff for the very impressive picture. It is now hanging over the fireplace in our family room. Thank you for your thoughtfulness.* Ike Barber

UBC Library external and internal reviews

These reviews will commence with the external review being held early in 2003. This process is expected to take several months, with a number of opportunities for staff and user input. More information will be made available through the Vice-President Academic's office early in the new year.

AUL Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences and Head, Education Library

The selection processes for both positions are moving along. Interviews for the shortlisted candidates for the head, Education Library will be held in December and will include visits with staff and public presentations by the candidates. Public forums for the AUL position will be held early in 2003. Please plan to attend and meet the candidates!

Christmas Party 2002

This year's annual UBC Library Christmas party will be held Tuesday **December 10th** at **St. John's College 12-4:30**. Lunch will be served a little after 12, along with live music and a chance to mingle and catch up with colleagues across the Library. We hope to see you all there!

A Brush with Royalty for the Library

by Jane Shinn – Borrower Services, Koerner Library

(Photo: Mary Cheng)

The excitement started to mount when a RCMP Officer and a Patrol Officer came in to check out the corridor and the washroom. For security reasons, they said. The Queen may have to use the washroom. (I hear the signal is all in how she carries her handbag). Well that was all some of us needed to let our imaginations take flight. The Queen in Koerner! Would the washroom be locked and forever preserved. Or more importantly would it be cleaned?

When asked, some of the library administration said there was no-way that the Queen was coming into Koerner. 'They' also said there was no-way that I was going to meet her either. But I persisted anyway.

As the day got closer for the Royal visit the North Elevator broke down – for two and a half weeks it remained idle. It needs a part 'they' said. It's being cleaned up and made secure for the Queen was my thought.

Then Koerner took on a whole new aura. Our night staff reported that the cleaning staff was vacuuming carpets, dusting the hold shelf, cleaning the top of card vending machines. Windows were getting cleaned. Stairs were being swept. Counters being washed. The front doors were polished and sparkling. Dust was flying and dirt was disappearing. The culminating factor was Mel (the carpet man) on his hands and knees with a spray bottle of something and a chisel scraping the gum off the carpet in the foyer. The Queen IS coming! We knew that because the Queen is not allowed to walk on gum.

Finally the anticipated day arrived. Physical plant was out in force, in their smart navy blue jackets, emptying garbage pails, polishing every fresh finger print off the front doors, sweeping up every errant gum wrapper. The library and the plaza were almost as clean as Disney Land; the grass was cut twice that week. Invited dignitaries arrived and were shepherded to the seventh floor for a panoramic view of the proceedings.

The north elevator still not working. Perhaps it really is missing a part we began to think.

While some staff stayed and looked after the circulation desk and stood by for anticipated crowd control many joined the crowds – we perched on top of the great little kickstands used for shelving, literally head and shoulders above the crowd. And we watched the Queen's visit to UBC. Realising that perhaps she wasn't going to come into the library after all we were content to watch from afar.

But, there was a royal visitor that day to Koerner Library. HRH Prince Phillip did come through the highly polished glass doors, walked on the gum free carpet, passed the freshly washed counters and the wonderful flower arrangements and entered what was once and is again the Student Computer Lab to meet with UBC students and view a number of student presentations. And was that just a quick glance across the floor at the dust free hold shelf? There was a close up view of the Prince for those in and around the Koerner Library.

All the anticipation, the planning, the cleaning, the speculation, and in twenty-five minutes of speeches, unveilings and cultural displays it was all over. The Queen was on her way to the hotel and the Prince on his way to the Vancouver Police Department. But we were not disappointed!

PACUL meeting and new members

The President's Advisory Council on the University Library (PACUL) held their semi-annual meeting at the Walter C. Koerner Library on Nov 15. Clifford Lynch, Executive Director of the Coalition for Networked Information, presented to the group and sparked a lively discussion about digital library issues and institutional repositories. Mr. Lynch presented at the 4th eLibrary Symposium the previous day. New members of PACUL are Jan Cellucci, wife of U.S. Ambassador to Canada, Paul Cellucci, and a former Associate University Librarian for Collections at Boston College Library; Alex Himmelfarb, Clerk of the Privy Council & Secretary to the Cabinet, Office of the MP; Shirley Chan, Interim Regional Director General for Health Canada, BC/Yukon Region; and Bert Reeve, a geological engineer engaged in mineral exploration and development, now retired.

Digital doings in the University Archives

Main Library, 1925

For several years the University Archives has undertaken a number of digitization projects to enhance access to selected archival resources and associated printed and published historical material. To date our activities have focussed primarily on photographic materials and the Archives currently provides access to approximately 29,000 digitized historical images. During the summer the Library purchased ContentDM, a web-based database management system created specifically for digitized material and we hope to complete the migration of our material and that of Rare Books and Special Collections sometime in December.

Over the summer the University Archives participated in two projects that created or enhanced important online historical resources. The first, funded by Young Canada Works and the President's Office, resulted in the digitization of approximately 3,600 pages of the President's annual reports from 1929 to 2000. These reports provide an important overview of the development of the University and also reflect the changing philosophical directions of the institution. Access to the reports is provided though a portrait gallery of university presidents **www.library.ubc.ca/archives/presidents/Welcome.htm**.

Carried out with the assistance of a professional experience student from SLAIS, the second project allowed us to update a chronological/alphabetical listing of all campus buildings **www.library.ubc.ca/archives/chrono.html.** Providing basic information about dates of construction, architects, sources of funding and architectural features, the index previously only went to the mid-1950s. The index now provides a comprehensive listing of existing and demolished campus buildings from 1925-2001.

In addition to these projects the University Archives has also been developing digitized resources relating specifically to the Library. To this end we have digitized the President's 1987 report on the Library **www.library.ubc.ca/archives/presidents/Reports/1987.pdf** and also "Scrapbook for a Golden Anniversary" **www.library.ubc.ca/archives/scrapbook.pdf** which is a history of the organization up to 1965. A portrait gallery of librarians **www.library.ubc.ca/archives/librarians/index.html** has also been prepared. As with the President's annual reports we will be providing links to some 2,700 pages of the University Librarian's annual reports as they are digitized. Also as a result of a joint initiative of the UBCLAA and the Library Administration, we are preparing a repository of minutes from the Library Administrative Group and the University Librarian's Advisory Committee (ULAC) . This will be made available on the staff pages and a notice will be circulated when the minutes are available.

If you have any questions about these or any other projects with which the University Archives is involved please don't hesitate to contact us.

Chris Hives
University Archives

Treasures from the Arkley Collection: Christmas 2002

An exhibition of children's books in Rare Books and Special Collections features illustrated books from the "Golden Age" of illustration, including Randolph Caldecott, Walter Crane, Kate Greenaway, Arthur Rackham, Edmund Dulac, and Willy Pogany. Some "old favourites" include *Alice in Wonderland*, *The Wonderful World of Oz*, *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*, *Winnie-the-Pooh*, and many more.

To celebrate the Christmas season we have a large selection of Christmas children's books, old and new, including *The Night Before Christmas* and some early representations of Santa Claus. A highlight of the exhibition is a display of three of our pop-up books: *The City Park*; *The Anne of Green Gables Pop-up Dollhouse*; and *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland.*

Along with them we have a few stuffed toys relating to the books, including Winnie-the-Pooh and a teddy bear. Teddy bears are celebrating their 100th birthday this year. A selection of seasonal greeting cards of the postcard style dating from 1907-1910 are also on display. The display may be seen until the end of January.

The Roving Photographer

Halloween 2002

Look who swooped in from David Lam Library to visit The Chapman Learning Commons on October 31: (left to right) Jan Wallace, Christina Sylka, Maureen Adams, Nicole Carter, and Ivy Lee.

"There's no place like UBC Library ..." Kristina McDavid (and "Toto"), David Lam Library

"Which witch?" Moira Buckham answers the Halloween Hotline at David Lam Library.

The White Rabbit, aka Elsa Dickson frets about punctuality at the Circulation Desk in Main Library.

Winner of the most elaborate costume award: kele fleming of Information Services.

Ahoy, matey!

On October 27th, the Library's Longboat team set sail from Jericho Beach as part of UBC Intramural Sports Day of the Longboat. Although the team did not sweep to victory, they definitely won the hearts of the watching crowd as they enthusiastically paddled around the 2 km course. (And you thought explaining the proxy server was hard work!) Participants came from units across the system including Technical Services (**Sion Romaine**), Robson Square (**Amber Lannon**, **Yani Mitchell**) and Biomedical Branch (**Kim Leong**).

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