IN THIS ISSUE

Spring 2017

[3] Taking Note

[4] Anne Dondertman Recognized with Two Prestigious Awards


[5] Friendly Times at the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library

[7] Other Events

[8] Friends of the Libraries Lecture


[12] New Fans for “Lost” Silent Film

[12] Exhibitions


[14] Telling the Story of Science at the Gerstein Science Information Centre


Cover image: ZaSu Pitts in a scene from the “lost” 1924 film Secrets of the Night. From the collections of the University of Toronto Libraries Media Commons. Above: Ecologist and PhD candidate Cylita Guy delivers a presentation during Careers in Science Communication at the Gerstein Science Information Centre.
Welcome to this issue of Noteworthy. During Canada’s sesquicentennial, the U of T Libraries (UTL) is engaged in many initiatives to build on Canadians’ knowledge of the past and to inform our understanding of our place in the world as the country continues to evolve. We are dedicated to preserving and making accessible the Canadian historical and cultural record, and we consider this work central to our role within the University. My colleagues and I are committed to building and promoting collections that fully convey the Canadian record, while supporting students and scholars as they deepen our understanding of the nation’s history and culture.

Throughout the spring and summer of 2017, the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library presents Struggle and Story: Canada in Print. This exhibition, drawn almost exclusively from UTL’s collections, reflects on Canada at its 150th anniversary. As curator Pearce Carefoote notes in the catalogue, our collections offer extensive detail of recent centuries, as explorers traversed the land and its waterways; as the tenuous relationship between the French and English developed; and as European colonists interacted with First Peoples. Nonetheless, we are conscious of the gap in our record of the Indigenous people, who inhabited Turtle Island for thousands of years before the arrival of European explorers.

In response to the 2015 report of Canada’s Truth and Reconciliation Commission, last year the U of T Libraries hired a new Outreach Librarian. A significant portion of this librarian’s responsibilities is to work with Indigenous students, and to help grow the University’s Indigenous collections, in collaboration with colleagues who have already done much in these areas. I look forward to the progress which will take shape as a result of this initiative.

Celebrations of nationhood acknowledge the past while imagining the country’s collective future. Canada, an immigrant nation, embraces diversity as one of its defining qualities—and an attraction for future immigrants. The University of Toronto continues to achieve prominent standings in global rankings of universities, and Canada has adopted a target of attracting 450,000 international students by 2022, about double the 2011 target. This goal coincides with public policy measures which encourage such students to remain in Canada after graduation, reinforcing the need for the University to demonstrate inclusiveness and engagement with the world.

As the political climate outside of Canada poses uncertainty for key areas of research and the humanities, it is important to maintain focus on how we engage internationally. The Libraries are proud of our formal and informal collaborations with academic and national libraries in other countries. UTL recently became the first Canadian library to join the Biodiversity Heritage Library (BHL), a ‘global biodiversity commons’ which makes digitized biodiversity literature freely available through open access online. BHL members include Harvard University Botany Libraries, the Smithsonian Libraries, the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, and many other participants from around the world.

In these pages you will read about other developments for the Libraries in recent months, including our active community programs and a timely article on the origins of our national anthem, O Canada, contributed by my colleagues in the U of T Music Library. I hope you enjoy this edition of Noteworthy.

LARRY P. ALFORD  
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CELEBRATE

Anne Dondertman
Recognized with Two Prestigious Awards

FOR NEARLY THREE DECADES, Anne Dondertman, who recently retired as Associate Chief Librarian for Special Collections and Director of the Fisher Library, built a career of distinction in the Libraries. Those achievements received significant public recognition recently when Anne was honoured by the Ontario College and University Library Association with the OCULA Lifetime Achievement Award and the Bibliographical Society of Canada’s Marie Tremaine Medal and Watters-Morley Prize. The OCULA award celebrates outstanding contribution to an academic or research library development, and the Bibliographical Society of Canada honours exceptional service to Canadian bibliography and distinguished publication. Anne remains a deeply respected member of the rare book and manuscript community, and we congratulate her on the external recognition of her remarkable career.

Map and Data Library in Your Neighbourhood

MARCEL FORTIN, HEAD OF THE Map and Data Library at Robarts, spoke to a capacity house at the Don Mills Public Library on March 6 as part of the U of T in Your Neighbourhood series, which gives U of T alumni and friends front-row access to the University’s incredible teaching and research. His talk, ‘Maps and History in Public Hands’, shed light on something we all encounter in our everyday lives—on our phones, in our cars, on our computers and beyond—digital maps.

Since the early 2000s, we have seen the emergence of many popular digital history projects and books that represent historical topics cartographically and spatially. Historical Geographic Information Systems (GIS) are increasing in popularity on our campuses in disciplines such as history and literary studies, where until recently they were rarely used.

Fortin noted that this shift in how we look at geography has not been limited to academia. The popularity of web maps such as Google Maps and Open Street Map, and increased access to geographic data, have transformed access to cartographic information, user expectations, and the very definitions of cartography as a profession, and maps and mapping as tools. He also examined what is now the link between academic work and public interest projects, and the national context of new demands on public access to cartographic and historical data.

The Map and Data Library includes 235,000 maps, hundreds of thousands of paper and digital air photos, 16,000 atlases and books and thousands of numeric and geospatial datasets. One of its special projects, the Ontario Historical County Map Project, was explored at length during the engaging presentation, and was of particular interest to the audience.

The U of T in Your Neighbourhood program runs throughout the year; please check the U of T Alumni website to find out about more upcoming talks.

Left: University of Toronto Libraries Chief Librarian Larry Alford with Anne Dondertman at the OCULA awards ceremony. Above: Marcel Fortin chats with guests at the U of T in Your Neighbourhood event at the Don Mills Public Library. Facing page: Alan Galey with Alexander C. Pathy.
Galey discussed how Shakespeare has inspired creativity and innovation in the book arts from the earliest editions of his works to contemporary publications. Drawing on the sometimes troubled relationship between print and performance, he explored how the Shakespearean book arts have negotiated the divide between page and stage.

He used materials from Fisher’s remarkable collection to illustrate his thesis, such as Barbarian Press’s edition of Shakespeare’s Pericles, which marks or “performs” the passage of time with striking visual motifs; Nicholas Rowe’s 1709 edition of The Tempest, which invites participation from readers with illustrations which impact their engagement with the text; or the “modernist aesthetic” of Laurence Hyde’s early-twentieth-century set of wood engravings for Macbeth. Guests were able to get up close and personal with these fine examples of the book arts following the lecture.

The U of T Libraries is grateful to Professor Pathy for this endowed lecture series. He has been a great advocate not only for the Fisher Library, but also for the whole central libraries system.

Visit https://fisher.library.utoronto.ca/ for an audio recording of this lecture.
‘WHERE ARTS MEETS SCIENCE: TRADITIONS IN CANADIAN BOTANICAL ART’

On February 21, the Friends of the Fisher Library were treated to a wonderful talk by Linda LeGeyt, a botanical illustrator from Alberta, for the ninth annual Johanna and Leon Katz Memorial Lecture. ‘Where Arts Meets Science: Traditions in Canadian Botanical Art’ explored the history and impact of both European and Canadian botanical art. In Europe, artists such as Leonhart Fuchs (1501–1566) and Pierre-Joseph Redouté (1759–1840) advanced the scientific study of plant life with their accurate and beautiful illustrations, and paved the way for future botanical artists.

LeGeyt also shone a light on early Canadian botanical art, and the lives of several pioneering women artists whose exquisitely drawn illustrations, personal writing and collaborative spirit were essential to our understanding of Canada’s formative years. Highlighting such important Canadian historical figures as Catharine Parr Traill, Susanna Moodie, and her daughter Agnes Fitzgibbon, LeGeyt described these botanical artists’ ability to accurately capture the natural environment, and their desire to educate the public about Canadian plants and flowers.

Original nineteenth-century illustrations, paintings and books were on display, including ten of Agnes Fitzgibbon’s original watercolours from the iconic guidebook Canadian Wild Flowers, housed in the Fisher Library’s remarkable collections. First-hand exposure to these works gave great pleasure to everyone in attendance, and demonstrated the careful observation, delicacy and skill involved in being an exceptional botanical artist.

You can listen to an audio recording of Linda LeGeyt’s lecture online by going to https://fisher.library.utoronto.ca/audio.

This annual lecture is generously endowed by the estate of Johanna Sedlmayer-Katz and Leon Katz.

STRUGGLE & STORY: CANADA IN PRINT

EXHIBITION OPENS

On March 22, a celebration to launch the exhibition Struggle and Story: Canada in Print, curated by Pearce J. (P.J.) Carefoote, was held at the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library. This exhibition runs throughout the spring and summer until September 9, 2017, and is open to the public during regular Fisher Library hours.

To commemorate the 150th anniversary of Confederation, the Fisher Library has assembled a rare and diverse collection of Canadiana, which tells the story of this country from its inception to its centennial in 1967. The materials in this exhibition are drawn almost exclusively from the collections of the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library.

The accompanying exhibition catalogue was edited by Philip Oldfield and Marie Korey, with an introduction by Loryl MacDonald and foreword by Anne Dondertman. The production of this superb publication would have been impossible without additional support from our great friend Mark Andrews. We are also grateful to Stan Bevington and Coach House Press for producing an elegantly designed and lovingly assembled catalogue, including a series of striking pull-out maps.

At the launch event, P.J. Carefoote provided a detailed and entertaining overview of the exhibition, and encouraged...
COMMUNITY

guests to explore the wide range of materials on display—manuscripts, printed books, engravings, and photographs—from a rare copy of Queen Victoria’s 1867 proclamation recognizing Canada as a nation to a collection of materials from Expo ’67, the World’s Fair held in Montreal in 1967 to celebrate Canada’s centennial. (For a free audio guide of the exhibition, narrated by P.J. Carefoote, go to the Fisher Library Soundcloud page at http://go.utlib.ca/canada.)

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL GEORGE KIDDELL MEMORIAL LECTURE ON THE HISTORY OF THE BOOK

On April 5, the 2016-2017 Friends of the Fisher Library lecture series came to a close with a panel discussion entitled, ‘Who’s Afraid of General Wolfe? Adventures in Archives and Authorship’. We were fortunate to have with us two wonderful guest speakers to discuss the letters of General James Wolfe, which are held at the Fisher Library.

Author Kathleen Winter discussed her use of General James Wolfe’s letters in crafting her latest work, Lost In September, which focuses on Wolfe’s life, including his capture of Quebec during the Battle of the Plains of Abraham. Anne Dondertman, retired Director of the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, told the fascinating story of how these remarkable papers were acquired in 2013. Professor Wendy Duff, Dean of the Faculty of Information at the University of Toronto, moderated the event.

Wolfe’s military career and personal life were documented in the hundreds of letters he wrote to his parents between 1740 and 1759. He led a victory over the French to capture Quebec before dying from musket shot wounds at the age of thirty-two.

The acquisition of the Wolfe archive is an outstanding example of collaboration between the University of Toronto Libraries, a private donor, and the federal government’s program to support the repatriation of items of outstanding significance and national importance. Thanks to the generous philanthropic support of Helmhorst Investments, we were able to bring the letters of this notable Canadian historical figure to the largest academic library in Canada.

We are also grateful for support from the University of Toronto’s Sesquicentennial Initiatives Fund, and to the estate of George B. Kiddell for supporting the annual lecture series.

OTHER EVENTS

ANNUAL UTL RETIREES TEA

We treasure being able to reconnect every year with our former staff and library leaders; therefore it’s very fitting that this year’s Retirees Tea, held on November 23, 2016, offered an in-depth look at some of UTL’s rare and rediscovered treasures.

P.J. Carefoote from the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library gave a talk entitled ‘Treasures Hidden in Plain Sight’, which explored some of the unusual finds unearthed in preparation for the exhibition which celebrates Canada’s sesquicentennial, Struggle and Story: Canada in Print. These treasures included previously unseen alternate English-language lyrics to O Canada, discovered in a 1915 memorial service pamphlet honouring fallen Canadian soldiers, and an 1837 proclamation offering
COMMUNITY

a reward for the capture of William Lyon MacKenzie, first mayor of Toronto and a leader during the Upper Canada Rebellion.

Houman Behzadi from the Music Library shared the exciting story of the “lost” violin concerto by Norwegian composer Johan Halvorsen. The piece was dedicated to and performed by Canadian violinist Kathleen Parlow in 1909 and 1910, but all copies were thought destroyed. Parlow’s copy of the concerto was recently rediscovered in the U of T Music Library. (This thrilling find was the focus of a feature in the Spring 2016 issue of Noteworthy.)

A knowledgeable and engaged crowd, our retirees had plenty of great questions for both speakers, and enjoyed a lively chat following the talks. The afternoon came to a close with a visit to the Fisher Library and the exhibition Moments of Vision: The Life and Work of Thomas Hardy.

We are always honoured to host our former colleagues at this event, and were happy to see so many familiar and beloved faces, including Jennifer Wentworth and Anne Dondertman (who both retired last year), and esteemed former Chief Librarians Carol Moore and Robert Blackburn.

Friends of the Libraries Lecture

RED SORGHUM SCREENING & DISCUSSION
On March 21, the Friends of the Libraries Lecture Series hosted a screening at Innis Town Hall of Red Sorghum, an internationally acclaimed Chinese film, graciously donated to Media Commons by the Consulate General of the People’s Republic of China in Toronto. The film is the directorial debut of filmmaker Zhang Yimou, and the acting debut of Chinese film star and future frequent collaborator Gong Li.

An adaptation of the 1986 novel by Nobel laureate Mo Yan, Red Sorghum tells us about the life of Ji’er, a young peasant woman sold into marriage in rural China during the Second Sino-Japanese War. When her wealthy husband-to-be unexpectedly dies upon her arrival, Ji’er inherits his distillery and convinces the staff to stay and help her run it. A delightfully funny camaraderie develops between Ji’er and the distillery staff as they work together to keep the wine flowing. She also finds an unlikely romance with one of her former guards. The film takes a darker turn with the arrival of the Japanese army, bringing with them the shadow of war and its stark violence. The film overall is a story of human spirit and the bonds that transcend hardships and the horrors of war.

Following the screening, the audience was treated to presentations by two respected academics: Professor Bart Testa, U of T’s Cinema Studies Institute senior lecturer and undergraduate coordinator, and Professor Hsiu-Chuang Deppman, Director of East Asian Studies and Associate Professor of Chinese & Cinema Studies from Oberlin College in the United States.

The discussion and Q&A were followed by refreshments and lively conversation in the lobby at Innis College.

This page, left to right: UTL retirees Tom Chan, Susan Cozzi and Joyce Chyrski enjoy a cup of tea; Professor Bart Testa with Professor Hsiu-Chuang Deppman. Facing page, top: plant image created by Scott Lewis from The Noun Project; bottom, left to right: CEAL President Jim Cheng with University of Toronto Libraries Chief Librarian Larry Alford; the president and five officials from the Korea Foundation visit the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library.
COMMUNITY

ON THE INTERNATIONAL STAGE

UTL Hosts 2017 AAS/CEAL Conference & 4th Sino-American Academic Library Forum for Cooperation and Development

IN MARCH, THE UNIVERSITY OF Toronto Libraries was honoured to host and support two major international Asian studies library conferences: the 2017 Association for Asian Studies (AAS)/Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL) Annual Conference and the Fourth Sino-American Academic Library Forum for Cooperation and Development (SAALFCD).

2017 AAS/CEAL CONFERENCE


CEAL MEMBERS RECEPTION

The U of T Libraries hosted the CEAL Members Reception at the Thomas Fisher Library. One hundred fifty CEAL members from North America, Asia and Europe, and international guests attended and enjoyed relaxed conversations and networking opportunities. Prior to the reception, CEAL members and international guests had a chance to explore one of the U of T Libraries’ jewels, the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library.

The CEAL annual conference is notable for being one of the largest professional conferences in the field of East Asian studies librarianship. The conference provides a platform for East Asian studies librarians/information professionals, scholars, publishers, and vendors to learn from each other and to discuss various issues, trends, and challenges of the field.

The AAS is a scholarly, non-political, non-profit professional association open to anyone interested in Asia and the study of Asia. With approximately 7,000 members worldwide, representing all the regions and countries of Asia and all academic disciplines, the AAS is the largest organization of its kind. Over 3,000 members attend the AAS conference annually.

KOREA FOUNDATION DELEGATION VISITS THE CHENG YU TUNG EAST ASIAN LIBRARY

On March 16, the president and five officials from the Korea Foundation visited the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library (EAL). The Korea Foundation has been a strong supporter of developing the Korean Studies collection at the U of T Libraries. In 1997, the EAL was the first institution in Canada to join the Korean Collections Consortium of North America, funded by the Korea Foundation. Since then, the EAL has received an annual grant from the Foundation for its collection development.
COMMUNITY

NATIONAL CENTRAL LIBRARY (TAIWAN) DONATES BOOKS

During the Association of Asian Studies Annual Conference, the National Central Library of Taiwan (NCL) presented a major donation of over 400 books and DVDs on Chinese and Taiwanese studies to the University of Toronto Libraries to be added to the collections of the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library. In a special ceremony, the gifts were presented by Ms Ying-mei Wu, NCL’s Deputy Director General, Mr. Yun-han Chu, President of the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation for International Scholar Exchange, and Mr. Nicolas Hong, Deputy Director General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, Toronto.

The EAL has developed strong ties with the NCL over the past few years through exciting collaborations and partnerships. In 2014, U of T Libraries received $90,000 from the NCL to digitize over 200 Chinese rare books from the Ming and Qing dynasties. In 2015, the NCL and the U of T Libraries signed a memorandum of cooperation for the first Taiwan Resource Centre for Chinese Studies (TRCCS) in Canada, followed by the inauguration opening ceremony. Through the TRCCS program, the NCL donated more than 1,000 books and DVDs in 2015 and has since sent 200–300 books annually to the EAL.

SAALFCD

From March 15–18, the U of T Libraries hosted and co-organized the fourth annual forum in partnership with the China Academic Social Sciences and Humanities Library (CASHL), and the North American Society for Chinese Studies Librarians (SCSL). The forum was held at the Chestnut Conference Centre, and a welcome reception was held at the Fisher Library. Participants also had a chance to tour the EAL and the Internet Archive at Robarts Library. Larry Alford, Chief Librarian, delivered the opening speech at the forum.

The theme of the forum was ‘New Directions of Knowledge Services in Academic Libraries.’ Forum participants discussed and explored topics related to digital scholarship, the reform and innovation of information and archive management, and the library in the age of big data.

This forum was special because it took place outside of China for the first time. It was a wonderful opportunity to bring together over 50 leaders in Chinese librarianship, publishers and vendors who work closely with libraries to support our research communities, and library leaders from North American Chinese studies programs to the University of Toronto. During a packed four days, guests enjoyed two keynotes, 26 presentations, a dinner banquet, and cultural activities.

China Academic Social Sciences and Humanities Library (CASHL) is a national academic library consortium established in 2003 under the leadership of the Chinese Ministry of Education.

The North American Society for Chinese Studies Librarians (SCSL) is a non-profit, non-political academic organization aimed at promoting scholarly activities, professional exchange, information sharing, and project cooperation among Chinese studies librarians.

PEKING UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

During this year’s SAALFCD, three delegates from the Peking University Library (Qiang Zhu, Director, Long Xiao, Deputy Director and Chunyan Ai, Deputy Head, Learning Support Centre) visited the U of T Libraries. Larry Alford, Chief Librarian, Julie Hannaford, Deputy Chief Librarian, Hana Kim, Director of the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library and Stephen Qiao, Chinese Studies Librarian met the delegates to discuss future collaborations and partnerships between the two institutions. This was a follow-up meeting to Larry Alford’s 2012 visit to the Peking University Library in Beijing, where the two institutions signed a cooperation agreement.
SYMPOSIUM ON THE BATTLE OF HONG KONG: 75TH ANNIVERSARY

On December 8, 2016, exactly 75 years had passed since the beginning of the Battle of Hong Kong, during which Canadian soldiers played an indispensable role in the defense of the British colony against the invasion of the Japanese Imperial Forces. An event was held at the Richard Charles Lee Canada–Hong Kong Library to commemorate those who sacrificed their youth and lives to protect the people and land of Hong Kong.

After opening remarks from the Honourable Dr. Vivienne Poy, University of Toronto Chancellor Emerita and former Senator of Canada, and from Mike Babin, Ontario Region Director of the Hong Kong Veterans Commemorative Association, a discussion was held featuring speakers sharing their experiences as veterans, family members of those who took part in the battle, and scholars of its history.

George MacDonell, a 94-year-old veteran of the battle who served as a Company Sergeant Major in the Royal Rifles of Canada in Hong Kong, gave a vivid account of the bravery of the Canadian soldiers who continued to work on dismantling their enemies even after being captured. David Kerr talked about his father, Lt. Donald W. Kerr, a pilot in the US Fourteen Air Force in China from 1943–44 who was shot down but eventually reached safety thanks to the cooperative rescue effort of local communities. Next was Michael Young, who focused on the political reforms in Hong Kong brought about by the battle, during which his grandfather was a senior decorated officer in the British Army Aid Group MI9. The final speaker was Nathan Greenfield, author of the book *The Damned: The Canadians at the Battle of Hong Kong and the POW Experience, 1941–45*. Nathan spoke on the myth and reality of the Battle of Hong Kong based on his extensive research.

The event concluded with an enthusiastic contribution from the audience, which evolved into fruitful dialogues with the speakers. Amid the applause, we were all reminded that the sacrifice and efforts made 75 years ago were to be neither forgotten nor taken lightly.

HONG KONG STORIES: A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

The Hong Kong Seminar Series organized by the Richard Charles Lee Canada–Hong Kong Library continued with the event Hong Kong Stories: A Historical Perspective on March 15. We were delighted to play host to Leo K. Shin, Associate Professor of History and Asian Studies and convener of the Hong Kong Studies Initiative at the University of British Columbia, and Clement Tong, Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies at the Carey Theological College in Vancouver.

In the talk titled ‘The Story of the Story of Pre-colonial Hong Kong’, Professor Shin examined the ways in which the pre-British history of Hong Kong are being narrated. He surveyed the historical fragments, both archaeological and textual, that have remained and are being mobilized to yield divergent stories.

Clement Tong spoke on the topic of ‘The Riot and The Festival — The Emergence of Hong Kong Identity in 1967’. Using rich archival materials, he argued that the chaos and violence championed by the more extreme leftists during the events of 1967 helped form a new identity through a process of negation against radical leftism. The talks were followed by a vivid discussion with an enthusiastic audience, which included students, community members, and those who had experienced the 1967 riot firsthand.
ON MARCH 29, THE UNIVERSITY of Toronto Libraries Media Commons held a public screening of *Secrets of the Night* (1924), a silent film previously thought to be lost. This rediscovered “lost” silent film was found as part of a recent donation by Richard Scott, whose family had the film in their possession for nearly 70 years.

Media Commons Director, Brock Silversides, emceed the event, which included live musical accompaniment and a post-screening Q&A session with Scott, silent film accompanist Jordan Klapman, and Assistant Media Archivist at Media Commons, Christina Stewart.

While processing Scott’s donation, Stewart discovered that this title was considered “lost” by the film preservation community. A “lost” film is defined as a title with no known film materials, either release prints or pre-print elements, in any public film archive. Roughly 75% of all films made in the U.S. during the silent period have been lost. To aid in the identification and recovery of lost films, the Library of Congress maintains a list of “Lost U.S. Silent Feature Films 1912–1929”. Stewart made this remarkable discovery after consulting this list along with the American Silent Feature Film Survival Database and the Federation of International Film Archives’ Silent Feature Film Database.

Further research revealed that one print is known to be held in a private collection. When compared with the newly acquired Media Commons print, it was discovered that the Media Commons print was more complete and contained the original opening credits and ending. The necessary assessment and conservation work were performed before a digital preservation master and digital access copies were created.

*Secrets of the Night*, described as a murder mystery comedy drama, was directed by Herbert Blaché for Universal Studios. The film starred James Kirkwood, Madge Bellamy, Rosemary Theby, and ZaSu Pitts. Audience members enjoyed the screening and were thrilled to learn that this “lost” silent film will now reside safely in the cold vault of the University of Toronto Libraries Media Commons.
The ‘Friends’ organization was founded in 1984 to bring together those who are committed to strengthening the Library’s outstanding collections and dedicated to encouraging a greater awareness of the Library’s resources. We encourage you to join the Friends and support the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library. Benefits include invitations to lectures and special events, and the Friends’ newsletter, The Halcyon. Evening lectures are designed to appeal to the interests of the Friends and to highlight the special collections of the Library. Catalogues of exhibitions displayed in the Fisher Library are available upon request.

FOR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION: http://fisher.library.utoronto.ca/donations/friends or call 416-978-3600.

The Canadian National Anthem: A Multiplicity of Perspectives

The Canadian National anthem made headlines last July when Remigio Pereira, previously of The Tenors, changed the words during a live performance in front of an audience at the annual Major League Baseball All-Star Game in San Diego, California. The controversy surrounding Pereira’s actions sparked renewed interest in the anthem’s text and brought several media outlets to UTL and the University of Toronto Music Library in particular, where they were surprised to learn that there exist not one, but many different English lyrics to O Canada, and that numerous alterations had been made since its creation. (The original French text by Adolphe Basile Routhier has never changed.) The Music Library holds in its Rare Book Room more than a dozen different versions of O Canada that were published between 1880 and 1927.

Given the renewed interest in these archival documents, librarians James Mason and Timothy Neufeldt gave a plenary session talk at the Music Library Association’s annual conference in February in Orlando, Florida, highlighting the library’s exceptional collection and drawing attention to the multiple perspectives held by Canadians who tried their hand at writing English lyrics, all of whom sought to convey what it meant to be Canadian at a time when the country’s identity was still being forged. Their presentation also described ways in which the Music Library is digitizing these historic documents in partnership with the Internet Archive and making them available to the global community—a particularly important goal as Canada is celebrating its sesquicentennial year, and citizens and politicians alike are looking to Canada’s past to draw inspiration for the country’s future.

Left: Mercy E. Powell McCullogh’s lyrics for O Canada; right: lyrics in French and translated English by Hon. Judge Routhier and James Acton, respectively. From the collections of the University of Toronto Music Library.
accessibility for their audiences was shared by all. Allen discussed the reporter’s challenge with helping the public distinguish between pseudoscience and factual research. Rochman, studier of “trash—big and small”, explained the researcher’s vital role in enlightening policymakers—indeed, the heightened public profile for her microbead research has translated into upcoming bans on these common household plastics.

The following month, on March 28, an even bigger lineup assembled for Careers in Science Communication: Dr. Brad Bass (U of T and Environment Canada); librarian and food chemistry blogger Patricia Meindl (U of T); Manager of Education and Conservation Katie McMahon (Ripley’s Aquarium of Canada); MSc Physics student Melissa Mathers (York University and CERN); ecologist and PhD candidate Cylita Guy (U of T); and Trudeau Foundation Scholar and PhD candidate Tammara Soma (U of T).

One common thread was the value of being an effective oral and visual storyteller. Soma also stressed the importance of not only how, but also where to share one’s research. For example, thousands have seen Soma’s news articles and interviews, compared to the 82% of scholarly articles that don’t get cited even once.

The audience learned how significant up-close-and-personal experiences can be. Guy recounted people’s excitement when they spot her tagging bats at night in High Park. McMahon lamented that though aquarium-goers “don’t always come to learn science … our job is to sneak it in!”

Overall, attendees were energized by the diverse and rich experiences of these science ambassadors—and eager for more SciComm events from the library.

Budding scientists, take note—according to Dr. Brad Bass (U of T), the most valuable advice he was given while starting a math career was that “it’s about 50% rhetoric”. This was just one of the eye-opening lessons revealed at one of two well-attended events on science communication (aka Sci Comm) at the Gerstein Science Information Centre. In partnership with Science Literacy Week founder Jesse Hildebrand (BSc ’14), the Gerstein Library delivered engaging programs on the role of women and career opportunities in the sciences.

On February 8, Communicating Science: Women in STEM welcomed science reporter Kate Allen (Toronto Star), aquarist Carmen Szeto (Ripley’s Aquarium of Canada), and Dr. Chelsea Rochman (U of T). The need to balance accuracy and

Telling the Story of Science at the Gerstein Science Information Centre

Top photo, front row left to right: Kate Allen, Carmen Szeto, and Dr. Chelsea Rochman, presenters at Communication Science: Women in STEM. Bottom photo, left to right: Jesse Hildebrand, Patricia Meindl, Dr. Brad Bass, Tammara Soma, Melissa Mathers, Cylita Guy, and Katie McMahon at Careers in Science Communication. Facing page, left to right: Heather Buchansky, Mariya Maistrovskaya, and Graeme Slaght from the University of Toronto Libraries; Ahmad Mousa and Mark Shafarenko, University of Toronto Medical Journal editors.
YOUR SUPPORT

Student Journal Forum Supports Student Publishing on Campus

Over the past two years, the University of Toronto Libraries has developed resources and planned events aimed at current and aspiring student journal editors. Launched in October 2015 and held again in January 2017, the Student Journal Forum was filled with short talks on the editorial process, and included presentations from librarians and student journal editors. Attendees were able to learn from librarians about journal publishing platforms and scholarly communications and copyright, as well as hear from editors of the long-established University of Toronto Medical Journal (student-run since 1923) on the topics of journal sustainability and editorial best practices. Feedback from attendees was extremely positive, with students enjoying the varied and complementary talks, and noting that they would likely attend a similar event in the future.

The 2015 forum included a show and tell session, where current student journal editors met and discussed their successes or challenges in an informal setting. In 2017, the forum connected with the Hart House Literary and Library Committee during their Literary Fair to have a booth showcasing library support for student journals, as well as presentations in the afternoon.

The interest in these events confirmed the need for continued library involvement in this area. To help students navigate the realm of journal publishing, U of T librarians created a comprehensive web-based guide that includes online journal publishing help; guidance on copyright permissions, author’s rights, and collecting and archiving; as well as a directory of current student journals on campus. Since January’s event, librarians have responded to requests for assistance with drafting copyright, licensing, and academic integrity policies, among others. Such specialized support for this student cohort demonstrates the Libraries’ commitment to helping knowledge creation at both undergraduate and graduate levels.

DONATION FORM

I would like to help students with a gift to U of T Libraries of:

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