noteworthy
news from the university of toronto libraries
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What books tell us about collecting habits

Cover image: Watercolour by Lucius O’Brien, showing McCaul’s Pond on Taddle Creek with University College in the background, ca 1876. From the Heritage U of T database and University of Toronto Image Bank, B1965-0025/002P.
IT IS MY PLEASURE TO WELCOME you to Noteworthy, the Libraries’ newsletter to our donors and friends. I hope as you peruse these pages you will feel some of the energy and satisfaction I derive each day from the progressive, often ground-breaking work of my colleagues in the University of Toronto Libraries.

By letting us know how we’re doing, the users of the U of T Libraries inspire us constantly to stretch further. This includes the undergrad who told us in a recent survey, “I love U of T Libraries … the staff, the environments they create! You all are doing a great job.” Or the faculty member who spoke in glowing terms about the Gerstein Science Information Centre in the same survey and noted, “the library and librarians of this university are two of its finest features.”

Academic libraries are complex entities with diverse missions. Our role is to preserve the historical and cultural record of the past and of our own time. Future generations will judge us on how well we deliver and innovate during a time of dizzying change in the information landscape.

In the midst of the transformation brought on by the rise of the virtual world, we find ourselves sometimes asked about the relevance of the library itself, or “Is there a future for the library in the digital age?” The answer is a resounding “yes.” I firmly believe libraries are now even more relevant than ever. In this column and through UTL’s website in the months ahead, I will offer my perspective on how libraries are essential to enabling students and faculty to discover the information they need in the most efficient ways possible, while supporting the University’s research mission.

It is important to continue to build collections, both digital and print. But at the same time we need to find ways to become even more collaborative than we have been in the past. U of T Libraries has a distinguished track record in collaboration, notably as a participant in the Ontario Council of University Libraries (OCUL) which is a consortium of Ontario’s 21 university libraries that pools resources to benefit the entire academic community. Through OCUL we are part of an on-line service called ASK – Chat with a Librarian whose questions are answered by librarians from across the province, seven days a week.

Along with our colleagues in the rest of Canada and beyond, we are also a united, not-for-profit voice for the rights of the community to access information. If libraries do not exist to do this, who will?

However, beyond our responsibility to build collections and equip our students to be savvy users of information in a wired and evolving world after graduation, we offer a place that connects. We connect scholars to resources and the ideas they contain. We connect scholars to one another. And we offer an essential place at the heart of the university for discovery, learning, research and the preservation of the record of human knowledge and achievement.

Within the University of Toronto’s Boundless campaign, donors are helping us to strengthen the Libraries – as key physical spaces for scholarship, as leaders in providing essential and innovative resources for our students and faculty, and as stewards of the record of the past and present for generations to come. I welcome your comments on our work, our efforts in Boundless and our stories in these pages.

LARRY P. ALFORD
MAKING A DIFFERENCE BRIGHT NEW SPACES

IT STARTED WITH A NEED FOR new student spaces. After conducting focus groups, surveys and consultations with students, we knew U of T students wanted study spaces with natural light, comfortable seating, access to computers and wireless network and conveniently located to other resources. Thanks to a generous donation by Russell and Katherine Morrison, who have already made significant contributions to St. George campus in the past decade – including Morrison Hall residence at University College – we now have a beautiful new space for study and collaboration for students – and for CTSI and Robarts Library Reference Services, too. On October 2, U of T Libraries and CTSI officially opened our newly renovated space that also includes study areas and a computer lab for students.

As the university has changed, Robarts Library has followed suit. Students’ needs change as the community diversifies, technologies evolve and academia grows to encompass more views, more areas of study and, quite simply, more students. These latest renovations reflect that need but as Cheryl Misak, Vice-President and Provost, said, “Of course, this new space is also about teaching.”

We now have two computer labs and the Robert H. Blackburn Room for training, workshops and events. All of these rooms have been in full use since the end of August when CTSI held its Back-to-School workshop series. Staff, instructors and students have all given them high marks. The spaces are flexible (easy to move furniture around to suit workshop needs) and technology is available and accessible (not to mention functional).

The architect firm Gow Hastings – as well as everyone else involved in the design and coordination of these renovations – did a marvellous job listening to all our concerns, and our wish list, so that we can all – staff and students alike – enjoy a comfortable and welcoming work environment. And the sunlight, let’s not forget the sunlight! This new space also provides more opportunities for CTSI and Reference Services Librarians to cross paths. Not only is it nice to know your neighbours, we’ve already started a number of projects together simply because we run into each other in the hall and start a conversation. Let the collaborations continue!

The next step – hopefully not too far down the road – is the Robarts Common, five floors of student space to be added to the west side of the library and accessible from inside Robarts as well as the street. According to Chief Librarian Larry Alford, “The new five-storey pavilion will become a new face of Robarts, opening up the west side of the building to the street, bring a flood of natural light to the lower floors and make the overall environment more inviting, accessible and productive for students.”

KATHLEEN OLMSTEAD

Above: renovated study space, classroom and office area. Centre photo: Benefactor Russell Morrison with Chief Librarian Larry Alford.
Innovative Library Staff Shine at Awards Ceremony

On Wednesday, 3 October recipients of the 2012 Excellence Through Innovation Awards attended a reception at the home of University of Toronto President, David Naylor. This awards program acknowledges the innovation of administrative staff members whose exceptional contributions help the University realize its vision as one of the world’s foremost research-intensive universities and an institution that encourages creativity and innovation.

Administrative staff members from all areas of the University of Toronto were recognized by President Naylor, Vice-President and Provost Cheryl Misak and Vice-President, Human Resources & Equity, Angela Hildyard. The University of Toronto Libraries was well represented by staff who participated in three award-winning team projects: Research Alerts, Touchscreen Kiosks and UTMail+.

Research Alerts, Team Award

Research Alerts is a new email and web tool that enables the Office of the Vice-President, Research, to share information with the U of T research community based on individual roles and interests.

Touchscreen Kiosks, Team Award

The Robarts Library touchscreen information kiosks put a rich range of information about library services, news and events and resources at the fingertip of students and visitors. By making innovative use of readily available, widely known and freely available web technology, together with excellent touchscreen-focused design, the kiosk design team delivered extremely well-received, top-notch, low-cost kiosks.

UTMail+, Team Award

The UTmail+ project involves the implementation of Microsoft’s Live@Edu communication and collaboration suite, replacing the existing UTORmail service for all students. These new services provide huge performance and service benefits, including a modern e-mail interface with 10GB of email quota, 25GB of personal online storage, online versions of Word, Excel, PowerPoint and OneNote, instant messaging, an online calendar and opportunities to share documents for collaborative work.

Event and Award Details

Read more about the 2012 Excellence Through Innovation Awards at http://www.hrandequity.utoronto.ca/about-hr-equity/awards/etia.htm

Richard Hydal

Below: UTmail+ innovators Lidio Presutti, University of Toronto Libraries; Martin Loeffler, Division of University Operations; Paul Fardy, Division of University Operations; Paul Fardy, Division of University Operations; Paul Fardy, Division of University Operations; Paul Fardy, Division of University Operations; Paul Fardy, Division of University Operations; Paul Fardy, Division of University Operations; Paul Fardy, Division of University Operations; Rishi Arora, University of Toronto at Mississauga; Peter Ip, Division of University Operations; Abdulrauf Gehani, University of Toronto at Scarborough; Elias Karamitros, University of Toronto at Scarborough; Mike Wiseman, Division of University Operations; Derek Yuen, Division of University Operations. Absent: Tamara Adizes, Division of University Operations; Rafael Eskenazi, Governing Council; James Lawson, University of Toronto Libraries; Vicki Vokas, Division of University Operations; Matt Wilks, Division of Vice-President and Provost.
MAKING A DIFFERENCE OUR HERITAGE

DISCOVER THE UNIVERSITY OF
Toronto’s rich and storied history online at Heritage U of T, a new repository of archival documents, images, books and sound and moving image files spanning over two hundred years. With close to 12,000 digital objects and growing, Heritage U of T brings diverse material documenting our heritage together in one place, as captured by communities across all three campuses. Collections from University of Toronto Mississauga, University of Toronto Scarborough, the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library and the University of Toronto Archives and Records Management Service (UTARMS) showcase the university’s rich history, from the early days of its founding, through both World Wars, to the present day. U of T archivists and librarians with comprehensive institutional knowledge have curated exhibits that provide a chronology of our development as an institution, as well as thematic snapshots of our history, and the remarkable story of the discovery of insulin.

Search and browse by date, subject and media type across all collections to find exactly what interests you. Zoom in on minute details of photographs, maps and artwork, read books and stream videos all within the site.

We encourage you to explore the University of Toronto’s rich heritage through the curated collections of images, documents and video in this new, public service. Visit Heritage U of T today at http://heritage.utoronto.ca. We welcome your feedback and suggestions for additional content.

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Heritage U of T: Our Ongoing History

Photos clockwise from top left: Women’s Literary Society, University College, 1895, from The University of Toronto: Snapshots of its History exhibit; Margaret Atwood, Writer-in residence at Massey College, 1972 from the University of Toronto Archives and Records Management Services collections; Marshall McLuhan in 1973, Robert Lansdale Photo Fonds; Students on the front campus, University College, ca. 1880, from the University of Toronto: Snapshots of its History exhibit. Collage by Gordon Belray.
MAKING A DIFFERENCE INTERNATIONAL VISITS

Guests from Around the Globe @ University of Toronto Libraries

PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
On Wednesday, 21 March, Chief Librarian Larry Alford introduced the Libraries’ world-class collections and facilities to Fang Li, the Consul General of the People’s Republic of China, Zhang Meifang, Deputy Consul General of China and their colleagues. The delegates visited several library areas in addition to the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library.

Consul General Fang was very impressed by UTL’s rich and diverse research materials. He appreciated UTL’s effort in providing a multi-cultural and multi-lingual environment for students and researchers, and committed to work closely with Larry Alford to promote Sino-Canadian cultural exchanges and library collaborations.

SHANGHAI INTERNATIONAL STUDIES UNIVERSITY
From 23-26 April, Professor Lizhong Hu, University Librarian, Shanghai International Studies University (SISU), visited the U of T Libraries. In addition to visiting many of our libraries individually, Professor Hu delivered a lecture titled ‘Transition from a Book-Centered to Reader-Centered SISU Library’ to library staff. Professor Hu provided many insightful comparisons between the UTL and SISU libraries.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL ARCHIVES
On Thursday, 17 May, six administrators and archivists from the Shanghai Municipal Archives visited UTL to exchange knowledge regarding digitization technology, web design and the improvement of user services through technology. In addition to tours of the Fisher Library and the University of Toronto Archives and Records Management Services, the delegates gained a general picture of the Libraries, the Archives and Information Technology Services through presentations given by library staff.

KEIO UNIVERSITY
The Keio University Media Center (KUMC) and UTL have established a close partnership that benefits both libraries in terms of inter-library cooperation, resource and knowledge sharing and the exchange of information professionals. On Monday, 4 June, Keio delegates Shunsaku Tamura, University Librarian, Saemi Miyagi, Administrative Director of KUMC, and Takashi Shimada visited the Libraries to consolidate and extend this successful partnership. Issues and concerns in the new information environment and Keio’s pilot academic e-books project, which was developed by Takashi Shimada based on his exchange experience at UTL, were discussed at meetings with UTL colleagues from the Chief Librarian’s Office, the International and Community Outreach Coordinating Group and Information and Technology Services.

MINISTRY OF CULTURE, CHINA
The Library highlighted its special collections accessible by community members to a delegation from China on Tuesday, 17 July. The group was led by Yu Qun, Director General of the Department of Community Culture, Ministry of Culture, People’s Republic of China. The delegates visited the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library and the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY LIBRARY OF REPUBLIC OF KOREA
On Monday, 1 October, the Chief Librarian of the National Assembly Library of Korea and his team paid a visit to the University of Toronto Libraries. The National Assembly Library of Korea is the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library’s second-largest Korean language materials exchange partner after the National Library of Korea.

One of their main purposes to visit Canada was to examine the state of Korean Studies in Canada, and to discuss future partnerships with UTL. In particular, an agreement is in the works to allow electronic access for U of T researchers to Korean online databases, including their repository of South Korean Masters and PhD theses.

Hana Kim, Acting East Asian Library Director, provided an explanation of the Korean Collection and Services.

This was a wonderful opportunity for us to show the representatives of the National Assembly Library the progress we have made in the past 30 years in building our Korean Collection, and we hope this will lead to future deepening of the bonds between the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library and South Korea.

Photo: Margaret Wall, Jack Leong, Zhang Meifang, Larry Alford and Fang Li. Photo courtesy of the Consulate-General of the People’s Republic of China in Toronto.
MAKING A DIFFERENCE EVENTS

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL JOHN SELTZER AND MARK SELTZER MEMORIAL LECTURE

The first event of 2012-2013 for the Friends of Fisher was held on Monday, 1 October, and was a great success. Speaker Scott Schofield, the INKE Post-Doctoral Fellow in the History and Future of the Book at the University of Toronto’s iSchool, spoke on the topic of “The Library Within A Library: The Forbes Collection in the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library.” The talk explored various aspects of the Forbes collection – an intact seventeenth-century non-conformist’s working library – including the complex provenances relating to particular books within that collection. The lecture touched on many different aspects of the collection, including what the books tell us about collecting habits from the period, and what the books themselves reveal through a close examination of their inscriptions, bindings and other physical features.

The lecture, including the question-and-answer period, was recorded in its entirety. To hear it visit http://fisher.library.utoronto.ca/lectures-audio. This annual lecture is generously endowed by Dorene Seltzer.

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL ALEXANDER C. PATHY LECTURE ON THE BOOK ARTS

Marjorie Garber, the William R. Kenan, Jr., Professor of English and Visual and Environmental Studies at Harvard University, and Chair of the Committee on Dramatic Arts gave a stimulating and expansive talk titled “Occupy Shakespeare: or, Shakespeare in/and the Humanities” on Wednesday, 24 October. Garber explored the question of Shakespeare’s place in humanities education from the nineteenth century, when English departments were founded and the first courses in Shakespeare were offered, to the present day, making mention also of the role of libraries and collections. Garber has published sixteen books and edited seven collections of essays on topics from Shakespeare to literary and cultural theory to the arts and intellectual life. She has a particular interest in Shakespeare and Newsweek magazine chose Garber’s Shakespeare After All as one of the five best nonfiction books of 2004, praising it as the “indispensable introduction to an indispensable writer.” This annual lecture is generously endowed by Alexander C. Pathy and was co-sponsored by the Jackman Humanities Institute.

GOVERNOR GENERAL’S LITERARY AWARDS EXHIBITION OPENS

The Fisher's latest exhibition has officially opened. It features books from the John H. Meier, Jr. Governor General’s Literary Award English Fiction Collection, the largest and most comprehensive collection of Governor General's Award winning books in the world. This exhibit highlights some of the treasures from his 500-volume collection, including signed first editions,
uncorrected proofs, advance review copies and author’s copies. The exhibit is supplemented with archival material, such as correspondence and photos, from the Fisher manuscript collections, including the Margaret Atwood Papers, the Douglas Lepan Papers and the William Deacon Papers. Deacon was instrumental in the founding of the awards in the 1930s.

This exhibit is also a celebration: it was 75 years ago, on November 24, 1937, that the first Governor General’s Awards were presented by Lord Tweedsmuir (John Buchan). The ceremony was held a short walk from the Fisher Library, at the University of Toronto’s Convocation Hall. The Fisher will have an event on November 23 to celebrate both the exhibit and the anniversary.

The exhibit runs until December 21.

Margaret MacMillan Begins the Season
On Wednesday, 12 September, Professor Margaret MacMillan spoke to a full house at the first Friends of the Libraries lecture of the season. Her title was “Can We Ever Understand the Outbreak of World War One?”

For an hour MacMillan held the audience spellbound as she described the circumstances and confluence of events which led up to the outbreak of the First World War, and why, for many reasons, such an outcome had been expected for some years. That the audience was attentive at every point was attested to by the many questions at the end of the lecture, and the many people who approached Professor MacMillan at the reception that followed.

Brilliance, Virtuosity and Creativity on Stage: From the Golden Age of Cantonese Opera to the Contemporary Theatrical Arts in Hong Kong
To celebrate the fifteenth anniversary of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, and to mark the finale of Asian Heritage Month, the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library and the Asian Institute of the University of Toronto, together with the Hong Kong-Canada Business Association and Starlight Chinese Opera Performing Arts Centre, hosted an exhibition from June 22 to 24 to showcase the golden age of Hong Kong’s stage arts from the 1960s to the present.

The opening ceremony on June 22 was well received and attended by over 60 people, with welcoming remarks by Julie Hannaford, Associate Librarian for the Humanities and Social Sciences, opening remarks by Stephen Siu, Assistant Director, Public Relations of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, Peter Lawler, President of the Hong Kong-Canada Business Association and Alice Chan, Director of the Starlight Chinese Opera Performing Arts Centre. A tribute was made to the famous Cantonese opera artist, Dr. Lam Kar-sing by his son, Raymond Lam, also the Chair of the Chinese Collective Arts Association, who generously donated books and CDs of his father to the library. The ceremony was followed by a mini-performance with solo singing by Alvin Yang and excerpts of “Butterfly Lovers” by members of the Starlight.

The exhibition offered an opportunity for attendees to revisit Dr. Lam’s legacy through the display of his historical photographs, costumes and artefacts. It also...
MAKING A DIFFERENCE EVENTS

featured works by the younger generation Hong Kong stage and costume designers, Ricky Chan and Mandy Tam, depicting the power of creativity and diversity in Hong Kong’s performing arts.

MODERN CHINESE HISTORY AS WITNESSED BY ITS CONTEMPORARIES

At a seminar on Friday, 21 September, Professor Deborah D.L. Chung talked about the training of female medical practitioners, the development of Christianity in China, the 1911 revolution, the post-revolution unrest and World War II. Her talk was mainly based on the materials from the book Piloted to Serve, written by her mother, Rebecca Chung. Rebecca Chung’s father was a leading participant in the 1911 revolution, and she herself served as a nurse with the Flying Tigers, the US Army and the China National Aviation Corporation.

POST-IMPRESSIONISM MODERN PAINTINGS DAZZLE GUESTS

On October 4 and 5 the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library hosted the first Toronto exhibit of world renowned Chinese-French painter, Li Zili. Entitled “Heaven, Human, Earth”, the exhibit featured 30 paintings that reflect the relationship between people and nature. As examples of the Post-impressionism Modern movement, Mr. Li’s paintings are vibrant in colour and carry a very distinctive and unique style.

Li Zili received his PhD in Arts and Philosophy from école nationale supérieure des Beaux-arts de Paris. He has been named the “Culture of Peace” ambassador for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and received the “Lifetime Achievement Award” from the same organization.

The opening ceremony was attended by the Honourable Charles Sousa, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration; MPP Reza Moridi, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Research and Innovation; Godwin Chan, City Councillor of Richmond Hill; Larry Alford; Meifang Zhang, Deputy Consul General of the Consulate-General of the People’s Republic of China in Toronto; Jean-François Casabonne Masonnave, Consul General of the Consulate General of France in Toronto; Xiao Hu, Cultural Consul of the Consulate-General of China in Toronto and Stephen Siu, Assistant Director of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto).

NEW LECTURE SERIES AT THE CHENG YU TUNG EAST ASIAN LIBRARY

The Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library has organized a new lecture series, “Tides on Our Pacific Shore: Celebrating Asian Canadian Heritage.”

As the University of Toronto believes in being an open institution that actively engages the surrounding community, to foster this goal, the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library has been presenting a series of lectures and events to strengthen community ties and facilitate academic research.

On Thursday, 27 September, the Library kicked off this series with a lecture by Arlene Chan, entitled “Chinese in Toronto from 1878”. A third-generation Chinese and graduate of the University of Toronto, Arlene is a well-known researcher on Chinatowns and Chinese Canadian heritage.

Vivienne Poy Honoured

The University of Toronto Libraries has received the archival records of The Honourable Vivienne Poy, who retired in September from the Senate of Canada after fourteen years of service. On Thursday, 1 November, Chief Librarian Larry Alford hosted a reception and ceremony in the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library to celebrate Dr. Poy’s retirement and her archival donation to the Library.

Left to right: Mr. Godwin Chan, Councillor, Richmond Hill; Mr. Kwang-Kyun Chung, Consul General of the Republic of Korea in Toronto; Dr. Neville Poy; The Honourable Dr. Vivienne Poy; Mr. Li Fang, Consul General of the People’s Republic of China in Toronto; Mr. Justin Poy; Mr. Larry Alford; Dr. Jack Leong.
MAKING A DIFFERENCE YOUR SUPPORT

Exhibitions

75th Anniversary of the Governor General’s Award
8 October–21 December 2012
Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library

Shanghai Living
25 October–21 December 2012
Robarts Library, First Floor Exhibition Area

From No Where: utopian and dystopian visions of our past, present, and future
January–April 2013
Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library

Events

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARIES LECTURE SERIES
From Economics to Culturomics: What can library collections tell us about innovation and prosperity?
Wednesday, 27 February 2013
5:00–7:00 pm
Blackburn Room, 4th floor, Robarts Library
Professor Michelle Alexopoulos

MICHELLE ALEXOPOULOS is a Professor of Economics at the University of Toronto. She holds a PhD in Economics from Northwestern University and has authored a number of papers on business cycles, technical change, labor markets and productivity. She currently serves on the Executive committees of the Canadian Economics Association and the Canadian Women Economists Network and is on the advisory board of the Canadian Journal of Economics. Most recently her research has focused on creating and analyzing new measures of technical and scientific change for developed economies based on publications and the patterns of library collections.

Space is limited; please contact 416-978-3600 or events.library.utoronto.ca if you plan to attend.

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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO LIBRARIES
Korean Collections Consortium of North America Receives Grant Renewal

THE CHENG YU TUNG EAST ASIAN LIBRARY OF
the University of Toronto Libraries is pleased to announce that it has successfully obtained a renewal of the Korea Foundation’s grant support for the Korean Collections Consortium of North America (KCCNA), under which the University of Toronto Libraries will receive US$20,000 per year in budget support for Korean Studies-related materials from 2012 through 2016.

The Consortium was established in 1994 with the aim of sharing resources and supporting Korean studies teaching and research programs in North America. To reduce duplication of resources and optimize effective use of limited budgets, specific subject areas for collection development and acquisitions are divided among member institutions, allowing each to specialize. Consortium member institution materials purchased under this grant program are then loaned free of charge to any Korean Studies scholar or student anywhere in North America.

Due to recent budget cuts at the Korea Foundation, the KCCNA’s very existence was in peril this time. But through much brainstorming and effort, the Consortium members managed to drive home the importance of sustaining the growth of Korean library collections in North America, and were able to negotiate a successful solution.

The University of Toronto Libraries participated in writing the grant proposal and preparing statistics related to the proposal. Also, the University of Toronto’s faculty and the University of Toronto Libraries showed their support by supplying letters of support for this project, as did the academic communities of the other consortium member institutions including Harvard University, Stanford University and Columbia University.

At the same time, the scale of the KCCNA was also expanded, with the number of members increasing from 12 to 14, welcoming two new members in 2012: Duke University and Princeton University. The University of Toronto has been a consortium member since 1997.