

# noteworthy

news from the university of toronto libraries

Spring 2019

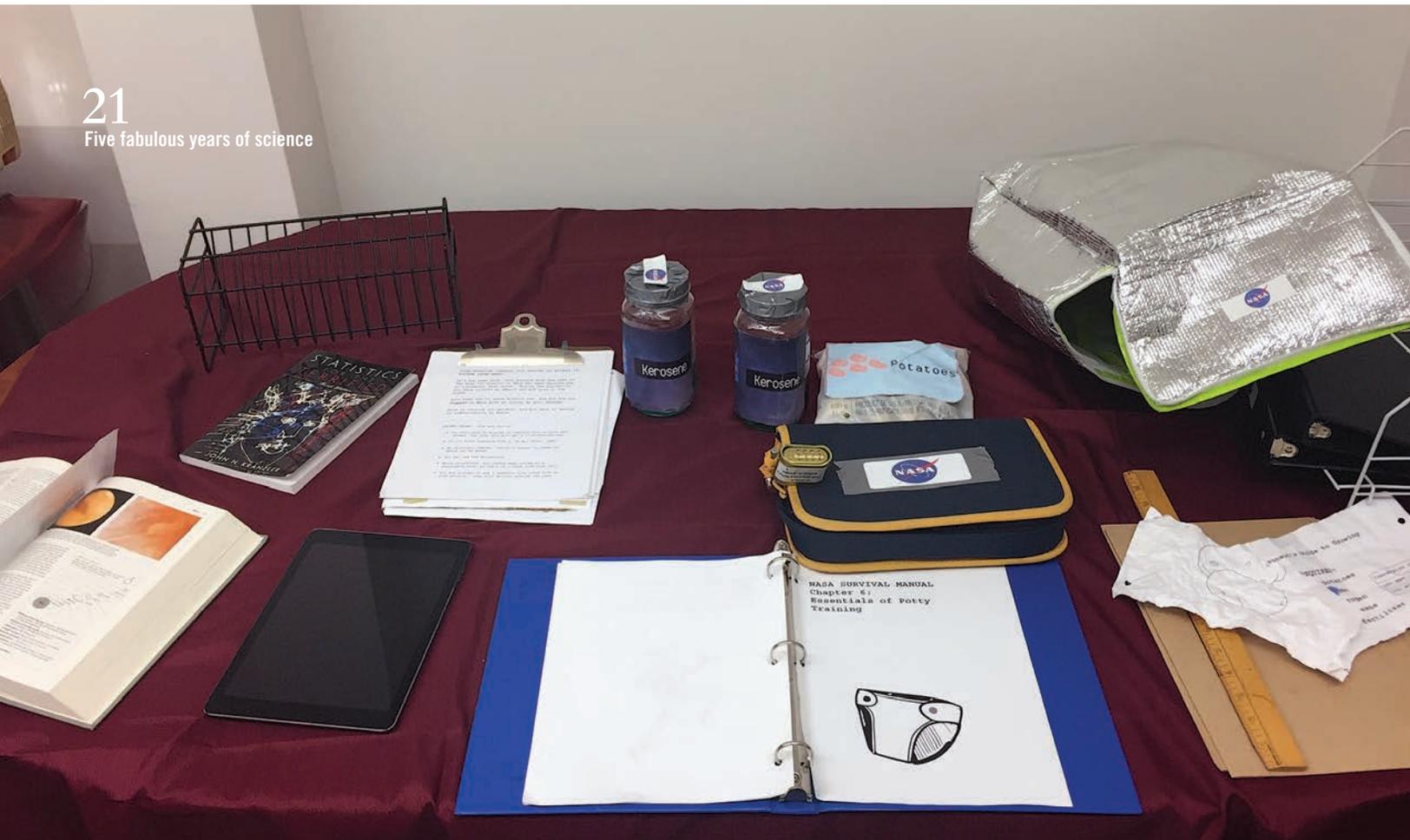


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Cover image: Chinese-Canadian archival material display at the announcement of the Richard Charles Lee Chinese Canadian Archive. Story on page 4. Above: Clues from the Escape from Mars puzzle game held at the Gerstein Library during Science Literacy Week. Story on page 21.

## WELCOME TO THE SPRING 2019

issue of *Noteworthy*. This year marked the one hundredth birthday of our former Chief Librarian, Dr. Robert Blackburn. While reflecting on Dr. Blackburn's impact over a celebratory lunch, we contemplated what will come next.

After almost eight years at the University of Toronto Libraries, I have been fortunate enough to be part of a remarkable story. The collections of the 42 libraries across our three campuses now surpass 15 million volumes in 341 languages, including 2.5 million electronic books and over 31,000 linear metres of archival material. Our data centre houses more than 1.5 petabytes of information, both for preservation and to open new avenues of research enabled by digital content.

To make it easier for scholars to use this remarkable, growing collection of scholarly resources—the bedrock of our institution—we have been searching for a new library services platform. This new platform will provide leading edge “next generation” discovery and access tools.

These new tools are important with the dramatic rise in cloud-based services and digitally native content. Unfortunately, our digital age has downsides including the proliferation of “deceptive journals” that may be of very poor quality. The libraries recently partnered with the Office of the Vice-President, Research and Innovation to create a checklist which helps scholars spot deceptive publishers. Students, faculty, and researchers can use the checklist to identify journals that may have little regard for academic integrity and rigorous peer review, while often charging significant fees to publish.

We still continue to protect our past in this digital age. Recently, the libraries

celebrated a \$4 million donation to establish the Richard Charles Lee Chinese Canadian Archive. This extraordinary gift will enable us to preserve the cultural record and personal stories of the Chinese diaspora in Canada, securing a diverse history that is rare and at risk.



None of this could have happened without our donors.

Since 2005, supporters of our libraries have donated well over \$200 million, much of it as gifts-in-kind, to help

build the wonderful collections, services, and spaces we share today.

Over the years we have had many leaders guiding this drive but, during my time, I have always leaned on the steady advice of Megan Campbell, our Director of Advancement. Megan has had a tremendous impact on the libraries. She has been passionate about seeking the resources needed to build great collections and signature spaces that will serve the U of T community, as well as Canadians for many generations.

It is therefore with mixed emotions that I share the news of Megan's upcoming retirement. However, I am hopeful. Megan, working with our supporters and donors as well as many dedicated staff, has set a strong foundation for the U of T Libraries to build upon and aspire to going forward. She will be missed, but her legacy will endure. I want to take this opportunity to thank her publicly on behalf of U of T students, faculty, and researchers. Our libraries are even greater because of her work and our many supporters.

I hope you enjoy this issue of *Noteworthy* and continue writing our story with us.

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# COLLECTIONS



## Preserving a Rich Cultural Heritage: New Chinese Canadian Archive at UTL

**ON JANUARY 31, TWO DAYS AFTER** heavy snow blanketed Toronto, U of T Libraries supporters and long-time friends in the Chinese-Canadian community gathered at the Fisher Library to celebrate an important occasion in the community. The Libraries announced the establishment of the Richard Charles Lee Chinese Canadian Archive.

The archive, made possible by a \$4-million anonymous donation, will collect, preserve and digitize the cultural record and personal stories from the Chinese diaspora in Canada, including oral histories, video and photographs.

“The plan of building this archive to document Chinese and Chinese-Canadian lives over the last century provides this historical backdrop to the evolution of Toronto and Canada, and the fact that it’s here in the University of Toronto is important,” says Joseph Wong, vice-provost and

associate vice-president, international student experience.

The creation of the archive will trace Chinese-Canadian history back to the earliest immigrants, including those who helped to build the national railroad in the late 1800s. Larry Alford, U of T’s Chief Librarian, notes that the new archive seeks to safeguard that history for generations to come, and build upon existing Chinese-Canadian collections at the University.

“We have the largest Chinese-language collection in Canada, one of the largest in North America, at the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library, and what we believe is the largest collection documenting Hong Kong outside of Hong Kong itself in the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library.”

The donation will assist U of T Libraries in capturing the lives and stories of Chinese Canadians in their own words through oral histories—a project that will expand on the

work that’s already being done by Lisa Mar, the Richard Charles Lee Chair in Chinese Canadian Studies at University College. It will also support the important task of digitizing existing and new collections of material related to the Chinese-Canadian community.

Most importantly, community programming related to the Chinese-Canadian archives, including exhibits and talks about topical research and collections, will help share the collected memories.

“Toronto, having a long history of a Chinese diaspora, allows us to really take advantage of, and fully preserve, the rich cultural history and people-based history here in our backyard,” says Wong.

*Adapted from an article by U of T News.*

Above: Guests celebrate the establishment of the new Richard Charles Lee Chinese Canadian Archive at a January event.

# A Dauphin's Guide to Princely Virtues

Fisher Library Acquires Christine de Pizan's *Le Livre de Paix*

**CHRISTINE DE PIZAN, ONE OF** the first women in the West to earn a living by her pen, is increasingly seen as one of the most important thinkers of her time. Described by one modern scholar as the “mother of humanist feminism,” Christine was the only woman in her day to make a living through writing.

University of Toronto Libraries recently acquired a rare fifteenth-century manuscript of Christine's *Le Livre de Paix* (*The Book of Peace*), making the announcement in the run-up to International Women's Day.

The copy, now at the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, was written on vellum

around 1470 and is one of just three manuscripts of *The Book of Peace* known to have survived. The other two are held at the Royal Library of Belgium and the National Library of France.

*The Book of Peace* was written when factions vied to fill the vacuum left by the death of Charles VI. The book, which Christine dedicated to the dauphin Louis of Guyenne, describes the princely virtues necessary for peace and good leadership. U of T's copy of the manuscript opens with a vivid illustration adorned with gold leaf that depicts Christine presenting the manuscript to the dauphin.

Timothy Perry, a medieval manuscript and early book librarian at the Fisher Library, says the book was rebound in the early nineteenth century to be added to the royal library of Louis XVIII. That sale ultimately fell through. More recently, it belonged to Pierre Bergé, the long-time business and life partner of fashion designer Yves Saint Laurent.

The acquisition was made possible thanks to the B.H. Breslauer Foundation and endowments established by supporters of the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library.

*Adapted from an article by U of T News.*



Left to right: Half-page miniature by Flemish artist Jean Hennecart depicting Christine de Pizan presenting her book to Louis of Guyenne, the Dauphin (or heir apparent) of France. Illuminated initials on pages from Christine de Pizan's *Livre de paix*. Flanders, ca. 1470.

## Boundless Campaign Celebrates \$2.6-billion Achievement

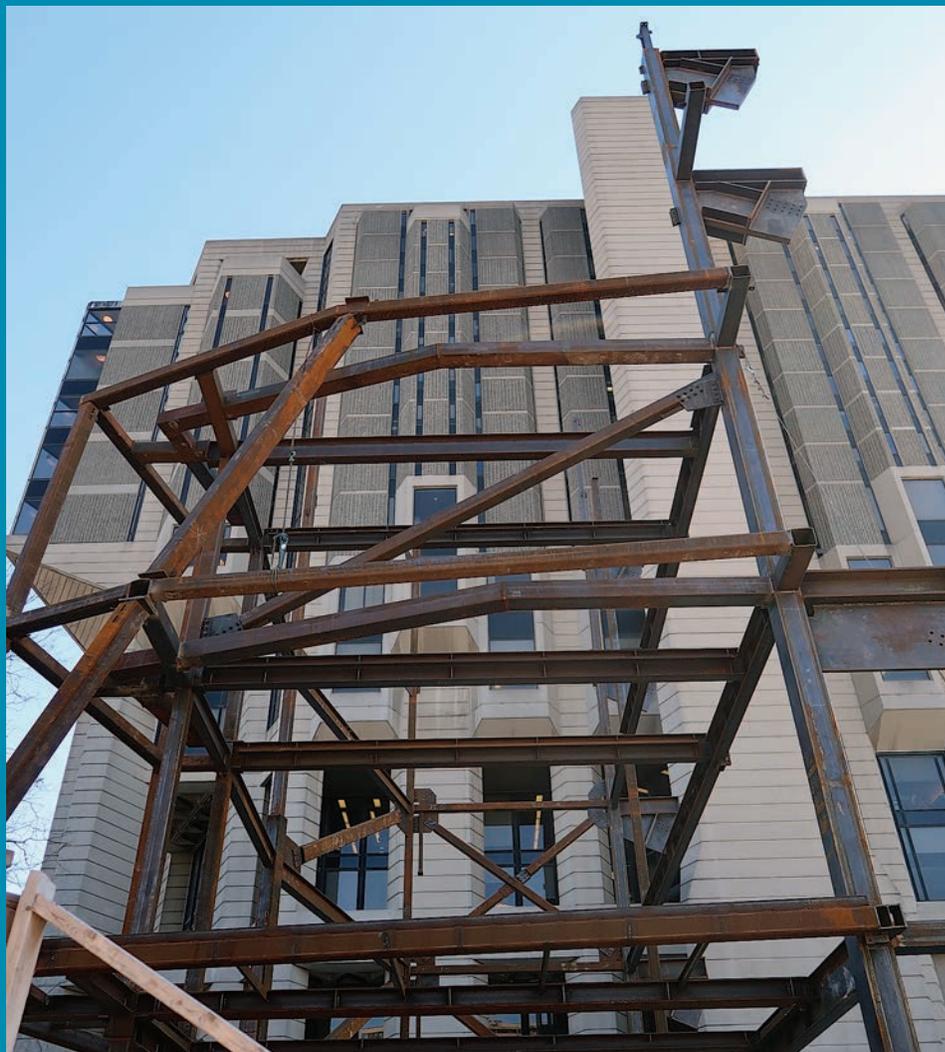
Through their generosity, U of T donors from around the world made history—and touched the future in the process. In recent months, the University announced that more than 104,000 donors gave \$2.64 billion to Boundless: the Campaign for the University of Toronto.

“This extraordinary achievement is more than a number—it is a symbol of the collective belief of our global community of donors in U of T’s power to imagine a brighter future for our city, our country and our world,” remarked U of T President Meric Gertler during the announcement.

The Boundless Campaign, which started in 2005, has advanced the University’s global leadership and impact. Donors helped bolster commitment to students by funding or creating nearly 4,000 scholarships and bursaries, contributing to the University surpassing \$1 billion in endowment funds dedicated to student support.

For our part, donors to the University of Toronto Libraries made a tremendous impact, contributing more than eight per cent of the Boundless total. Nearly 6,000 donors supported the growth of the U of T Libraries’ collections, including the acquisition our fifteen-millionth volume: the 1481 edition of William Caxton’s *Cicero*. As Canada’s oldest known printed English-language book, the volume was one of many remarkable acquisitions made possible through Boundless.

The libraries’ spaces have also been reshaped. With support from hundreds of donors, led by the late Dr. Russell Morrison and Dr. Katherine Morrison, Robarts Library was revitalized. The couple’s gener-



osity also led to the groundbreaking of Robarts Common. The new five-storey building will add 1,222 new study spaces, increasing Robarts Library’s total count to 6,027.

“Our donors are vital to the work of the libraries. They support our expert staff,

unparalleled collections, cutting edge technologies and user-centred services essential to the University’s mission to prepare global citizens and meet global challenges,” said Larry Alford, Chief Librarian of the U of T Libraries.

Above: Construction of the new Robarts Common has begun.

## Boundless Thank You to Our Donors

As we celebrate the end of Boundless, the University of Toronto Libraries gratefully acknowledges our generous donors who have made such a positive impact on the libraries during Boundless: The Campaign for the University of Toronto.

Donor financial support and gifts-in-kind are essential to the work we do at the libraries. The excellence of our collections and the facilities, resources and services we provide are all crucial to academic enquiry and preserving our knowledge for future generations.

On the following list, we recognize those benefactors who made gifts of \$25,000 or more to the U of T Libraries during the Boundless Campaign. Deceased donors are indicated by italics.

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# CELEBRATION

## Happy Birthday, Dr. Blackburn!

The University of Toronto and its surroundings have changed a lot since Robert Blackburn started at U of T Libraries in 1947. By 1954, Blackburn was at the helm of the libraries and was the first to officially hold the title of Chief Librarian—a position he held up to his retirement 27 years later.

On February 3, he celebrated another important milestone: his one-hundredth birthday. Under Blackburn's watch, the libraries amassed a collection that was the envy of institutions across the continent.

In the 1960s, the libraries acquired up to a quarter of a million books each year. Many of those materials are among the libraries' greatest treasures, including Shakespeare's *Four Folios* gifted by the Fisher family. The *First Folio*, published in 1623, was the first collected edition of Shakespeare's plays. As of 2018, only 233 copies were known to still exist.

His busy tenure at U of T also encompassed the building of Robarts Library. Construction of the library started in 1968 and finished four-and-a-half years later. It was named after the former premier of Ontario, John Robarts, whose support for the

project was vital. But for some, the library was and remains "Fort Book."

Another of Blackburn's signature achievements is taken for granted by most people who use the libraries today, says current Chief Librarian Larry Alford. In the early 1960s, libraries usually had card catalogues with entries for individual titles, each typed and filed by hand. Blackburn supported the use of computers to automate the libraries' catalogue, setting the example for institutions around the globe.

In late January, Blackburn celebrated his birthday at the U of T Faculty Club with Chief Librarian Alford and a few of his friends and family. Blackburn says much has changed at the libraries since his time, except, of course, "the intensity of study" all around. Speaking before his birthday, he said he would think

about the libraries when he blows out the candles on his cake.

His birthday wish? "Only that my work in all those covered-wagon days will continue to provide my successors with the flexibility and scope that are needed to command a great future."

*Adapted from an article by U of T News.*



## New Appointment for Loryl MacDonald

**FOLLOWING AN INTERNATIONAL** search, Loryl MacDonald was appointed to the position of Associate Chief Librarian for Special Collections and Director of the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library on April 1.

MacDonald served in this role on an interim basis since 2016. In that time, she has steadfastly led the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, the Media Commons and University of Toronto Archives and Records Management Services, while continuing to serve as University Archivist. With a comprehensive understanding of the complex needs of each library and wonderful relationships with many of our donors and antiquarian booksellers, she is deeply

committed to building the University of Toronto Libraries' special collections. In her interim role, she has led forward-thinking projects related to digitization and preservation.

MacDonald is well respected by her peers for her expertise, deep knowledge, outstanding accomplishments and her strong sense of collegiality. She has served as President of the Association of Canadian Archivists (ACA), the Archives Association of Ontario, and the Toronto Area Archivists Group, beginning a new term as President of ACA in January. She has both a Master's degree from the University of British Columbia iSchool and a Bachelor of Laws



from UBC. The new Associate Chief Librarian is a wonderful instructor and continues to teach at U of T's Faculty of Information on topics related to the records of organizations and legal issues in archives.

Image top: Dr. Robert Blackburn and his wife, Verna, at the Faculty Club. Image bottom: Loryl MacDonald.

# From Discovery to Display

## U of T Graduate Students Win Awards for Library Research

**THROUGH THE PASSING OF** centuries, Queen Hama was lost, until the University of Toronto’s Tracy L. Spurrier “found” her in a tomb—one that may have since been destroyed by the Islamic State. But rather than unearthing the 3,000-year-old Mesopotamian queen on an archaeological dig in Iraq, Spurrier, who is working on her PhD in the Department of Near & Middle Eastern Civilizations, identified Queen Hama by poring over old historical texts at the University of Toronto Libraries.

After U of T Libraries named her as one of the winners of the inaugural Graduate Student Exhibition Award, Spurrier installed the exhibit *Finding Hama: On the Identification of a Forgotten Queen Buried in the Nimrud Tombs* on the first floor of Robarts Library. The award recognizes work based

on papers and projects that demonstrate an effective use of library resources.

Two other exhibits were also created as a result of the awards, including one by Sandhya Mylabathula that looked at the science behind concussions. The other was by Nida Shahid and Tim Rappon who looked at the application of artificial neural networks (ANN) to decision-making across all levels of the health care system to provide more patient-centred, cost-effective health care.

The recipients were celebrated at a presentation and reception on January 17.

In her acceptance, Mylabathula quoted Sir Mark Walport, former Chief Scientific Advisor to the UK government, who said “science is not finished until it’s communicated.” With a combination of colourful posters and objects, the inaugural award winners displayed their research, including the story of Queen Hama’s discovery.

There are still questions that remain unanswered about Queen Hama, but Spurrier was nevertheless glad her exhibit helped to make sense of the findings. “This has to be more understandable to a general audience,” Spurrier says. “That’s my thing, you have to make things more approachable to the public.”

U of T’s Chief Librarian Larry Alford says the award exemplified why the U of T Libraries continually preserves materials for the future cultural and scholarly record.

*Adapted from an article by U of T News.*



Clockwise from top: Tracy L. Spurrier, Tim Rappon and Nida Shahid, and Sandhya Mylabathula.



## Celebrations of Monsters and Natural History

### WHERE THE MONSTERS ARE

*De Monstris: An Exhibition of Monsters and Wonders of the Human Imagination* was the culmination of a project that started in a U of T classroom in 2010. Professor Josiah Blackmore first introduced Fisher librarian David Fernández, his mentee and former student, to an array of texts on monsters that eventually became central to the exhibition.

In his remarks at the opening reception on October 3, 2018, Fernández, the exhibition's curator, encouraged guests to consider monsters as "expressions of precise cultural, social, religious, and political realities." The exhibition explored the European culture of writing on monsters and monstrosity from the Middle Ages to the end of the Victorian

era in a significant display of books, manuscripts, maps, and ephemeral material.

Professor Blackmore is now Chair of the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, and the Nancy Clark Smith Professor of the Language and Literature of Portugal at Harvard University. He shares Fernández's views on the prominence of monster stories in popular culture.

### CRAZY FOR NATURE

On January 30, a celebration marked the opening of *Nature on the Page: The Print and Manuscript Culture of Victorian Natural History*. This exhibition showcased both the collecting and manuscript practices of naturalists, and how books, in some examples, became keepers of specimens themselves. A special

focus of the exhibition was the works of women practitioners of natural history in their various roles as authors, artists, and collectors.

In her remarks, curator and Professor Maria Zytaruk spoke about a lesser-known side of the natural history collecting practices of Victorians, often requiring the plucking of whole fields to press specimens between the pages of a few hundred books. Ironically, these books, manuscripts, and ephemera are a now rare window into the biodiversity heritage of the past. Fortunately, as Zytaruk noted, special collection libraries such as the Fisher Library play a special role

Above: Fisher librarian David Fernández with Professor Josiah Blackmore at the *De Monstris* exhibition opening.

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in being respectful caretakers of these specimens, acknowledging the darker history while showcasing their value to our research into our past.

## ABCS OF MEDIEVAL ALPHABETS

This year marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of the George Kiddell Memorial Lecture, endowed by the late George Kiddell, bibliophile and great friend of the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library. The Kiddell Lecture focuses on historical bibli-

ography, and the large audience that gathered on March 27 was not disappointed.

Daniel Wakelin, professor of medieval English palaeography at the University of Oxford, captivated his listeners as he spoke on *The ABC of Medieval English Writing*. The focus of this talk was on the alphabet in the English Middle Ages—its letters (some of which have disappeared from modern usage), the forms they assumed, the mystical meanings behind the familiar sequences, and the habit of writing alphabets in the marginalia.



He suggested that these annotations—letters simply being repeated and scribbled in manuscript and printed books—communicate a great deal about the reading and writing habits of ordinary people from the fourteenth to the sixteenth centuries, and arguably beyond.

The intentional forming of one's letters in these books, over and over again, whether in the gothic or in cursive script, expressed a greater desire on the part of the "scribbler" to make his or her hand writing more beautiful. That aesthetic principle can easily become lost when such "pen trials" are simply seen as oddities, peripheral to the main text of the book at hand.

Such marginalia, however, bear witness to the fact that more and more people in the late Middle Ages were actually becoming, or wishing to become, literate. During this period, the letters of the alphabet were not only being used to form words, but also became crucial to organizing information, whether scientific, cartographical, or theological. As the ability to copy and understand the alphabet grew in importance during these centuries, it is not surprising that early "self-help" manuals even started to emerge, demonstrating, stroke by stroke, how to form one's letters.

In these ancient annotations, we find the attempt to achieve that harmonious proportion associated with letter shapes themselves. As Wakelin reminds us, "Learning to write is an artistic skill, as well as a linguistic one."

This annual lecture is generously endowed by the estate of George B. Kiddell.

**Miss a lecture?**  
To hear all of our past lectures visit the 'Listen to Lectures' page of the Fisher Library website at <http://fisher.library.utoronto.ca/audio>.

Above, top to bottom: David Fernández with *Nature on the Page* curator Maria Zytaruk. Daniel Wakelin delivers the ABCs of medieval alphabets at the George Kiddell Memorial Lecture.

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## Other Events

### RETIREES LEARN TO DECIPHER OLD DATA OVER A CUP OF TEA

Special collections librarian Jennifer Toews has seen an age-old process reshaped. As the personal computer grew in popularity, many works from the 80s and 90s were increasingly being donated to the libraries in media such as tapes, floppy disks, and even whole computers. While rapid technological advances have made accessing works in outdated formats challenging, it is not impossible. Retired UTL employees were invited to learn about U of T Libraries' digital preservation efforts at the annual Retirees' Tea on November 14, 2018.

Unlike books and microfilm, accessing digital content can quickly become difficult within decades or years. When Toews receives old media, she looks to librarians Steve Marks and Jess Whyte for assistance. As part of a larger digitization effort at the libraries, Marks and Whyte developed a

meticulous, low-error process to safely extract and preserve digital information.

Recently, the librarians received a box of floppy disks as part of the Margaret Atwood Manuscript Collection. Simply inserting the disks into a drive and loading them was too dangerous. Hardware can fail, causing irreparable damage, or newer software can overwrite old content during the loading process. Trial-and-error was too risky for these rare disks, which included a manuscript of

Atwood's 1988 novel *Cat's Eye*. The duo had to determine what exact hardware, software, and corresponding versions and configurations were originally used to avoid corrupting any data.

To do this, the team uses specialized technology designed to be stable and gentle. It allows the librarians to analyze the content of a medium during each step of the process, enabling them to make informed choices on what tools to use next. With the *Cat's Eye* disk, nearly half-a-dozen major steps were taken with Kryoflux and other proprietary technology. Eventually the manuscript was opened safely and returned to Toews for review.

As technology continues to evolve, the U of T Libraries has to anticipate how future users may prefer to access information. The retirees in attendance discovered that obtaining and maintaining specific versions of obsolete technology is difficult and costly, but essential for preserving our culture in today's largely born-digital scholarly record.

## Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library Highlights

The Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library is an integral part of the university's community of East Asian-related fields. Last fall, the library welcomed new and returning students and faculty by hosting several orientations and introductory sessions on library resources. The various events included a Department of East Asian Studies Orientation and a Tibetan Studies Open House that featured a bibliographic session facilitated by Tibetan Studies Librarian Dr. Lauran Hartley. During the 2018-2019 fall and early winter terms, the library also hosted several engaging presentations, exhibitions and screenings.

In early October, Professor Janet Poole, Acting Chair of the Department of East Asian Studies, celebrated the launch of her latest book, *Dust and Other Stories*, with Brown University professor Dr. Samuel Perry. The Korean translation experts had a thought-provoking conversation on October 4 about their experiences translating Korean literature, including the works of mid-twentieth century writer Yi T'aejun, the main focus of Dr. Poole's book.

On October 18, audiences were treated to a preview screening of *My Hometown Across the Ocean*, a five-part documentary



Above: Some of the equipment UTL uses to help preserve and access old digital files. Right: Dr. Lauran Hartley, left, with students at the Tibetan Studies orientation.

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series by Chinese director Song Gao. This documentary followed a group of idealistic young Canadian missionaries who practised medicine in China more than a hundred years ago. With research that drew on first-hand accounts, this documentary meticulously reconstructs the conditions of life in early twentieth-century China. The 45-minute preview received a great deal of interest from the descendants of the missionaries. The full series, once completed, will be donated to the library's permanent collection.

In November, the library's events took an artistic turn that started with the first Asian-Canadian literary festival in Toronto: LiterASIAN. Originally launched in 2013, the Vancouver-based LiterASIAN is a popular annual festival of Pacific Rim Asian-Canadian writing. In partnership with the Asian Canadian Writers Workshop, the library was thrilled to host the November 1 all-day festival with University

College's Asian Canadian Studies program. The panels featured ground-breaking Asian-Canadian writers such as Cheuk Kwan, Kai Cheng Thom and Joy Kogawa, author of *Obasan*. More than half a dozen panelists across multiple sessions discussed the inaugural theme of activism in Asian-Canadian literature, contemplating its impact on Canadian society and how it expressed the hopes of the LGBTQ+ community.

In mid-November, poet Carlina Chen, a Taiwanese-Canadian, opened the first Canadian showing of her exhibit "Line & Verse: A Visual Exploration of Poetry between Canada and Taiwan." The exhibi-



tion, which ran from November 14 until January 15, tasked 21 Canadian and 21 Taiwanese artists to interpret "the other" by painting a diptych inspired by one Canadian and one Taiwanese poem. During the opening ceremony, Claire Caldwell read from her art-inspiring poem, *See Also: Arctic Shrinkage*. This exhibition helped further the cultural exchange between Canadian and

This page, clockwise from top left: Film donation ceremony attendees Jingjing Sai, Cultural Consul of the Consulate-General of the PRC in Toronto; Shirley Cheng, current Chair of the Alumni of West China University Canada Chapter; Heather Wan, former Chair; Yaodong Zhuang, Deputy Consul General; Debbie Kirton, Chair of the Canadian School Association of the Canadian School in West China (CSACSWC); Marion Walker, Program Coordinator, CSACSWC; Song Gao, film director; Loryl MacDonald, Associate Chief Librarian of Special Collections; *My Hometown Across the Ocean* film poster (provided by director Song Gao). Guests viewing the *Line & Verse* exhibition. Facing page, top to bottom: Hana Kim (far left) with Professor and chef Leo Chan (speaking). Engaged audience members at the *Introduction to Xiqu (Chinese Opera) Performance* event participated in acting exercises.



Taiwanese artists, challenging mutual stereotypes and enriched understanding.

As winter rolled on, Professor and Chef Leo Chan visited the East Asian Library on February 27 to take audiences on a warm memory trip through the history of Toronto's bustling Chinatowns. Professor Chan, who teaches culinary arts at George Brown and Humber Colleges, explored the crossroads between Chinese-Canadian immigration, the development of Chinatowns, and the Toronto region's Chinese food community. The chef advocated for preservation of the rich culinary history of our city, and the essential nature of Toronto's Chinatowns.

Throughout these events, hundreds of attendees discovered East Asian heritage and communities, including the diaspora here in Canada. Many of the initiatives are the result of the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library's long-time relationships with



academic partners, such as the Department of East Asian Studies and University College's Canadian Studies program. Along with many student and community groups,

these partnership will help the library continue its mission to preserve and make accessible East Asian knowledge and heritage.

## Fall/Winter Events at the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library

In the fall of 2018, audiences at the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library (RCL CHHL) learned how to create an opera, wandered through poetry-inspired art, traced what made a city and witnessed a personal rediscovery. All were part of the Canada-Hong Kong Library's ongoing outreach programs to connect the public with the library's specialties.

On September 12, the library introduced audiences to the Xiqu (戲曲), a form of opera dating back to Chinese antiquity. Dr. Sam Chan Chak Lui, from the Chinese University of Hong Kong, engaged the audience, using decision-making activities to demonstrate why the Xiqu evolved a certain way. In one challenge, Dr. Chan asked the audience to share how they would emote scenery—many Xiqu had few to no set pieces. Audience members watched in



delight as volunteers sought to solve each challenge the way early Chinese opera composers did.

Shortly after, on September 25, Dr. Andrew Parkin, Professor Emeritus at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, and Dr.

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Kui-Wai Li, University of Toronto former visiting professor, illustrated the significant developments of Hong Kong since the 1960s. Professor Parkin drew upon his humorous anecdotes of growing up in Hong Kong to complement his analysis of the balance between east and west in the port city. Afterwards, Professor Li explored how Hong Kong embraced economic freedom with few ideological restrictions, leading to the region's thoughtful, pragmatic governance. These examples provided attendees with insights into what crafted Hong Kong's reputation as one of the most efficient cities in the world.

For a third year, the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong library continued a partnership with the Justin Poy Agency to foster the understanding of Chinese culture among Torontonians through art. From October 12–19, the partnership collaborated

with the Institute of Traditional Chinese Painting Creation and Research, the Chinese Artists Association, and the Department of East Asian Studies to commission an art exhibit inspired by Tang dynasty poems (c. 618–907). It was during this period, known as the Golden Age of Chinese Poetry, that Li Bai composed his renowned piece, *Quiet Night Thought* (靜夜思). This marked the first time in recent history an exhibit of such scale, anywhere in the world, was commissioned for the pairing of Tang poetry with painting.

At the end of October, attendees of the library's events were treated to a screening of *Myself Found* by director Amos Why and producer Teresa Kwong. The short film, based on a true story, uses subtle symbols of old Hong Kong to tell the story of Thomas, who left Hong Kong for Taiwan during the 1997 Asian financial crisis, only to return to

the city briefly in 2017 to rediscover himself. The screening of the nostalgic film was followed by a panel discussion of Why's cinematic career, and the indie film scene in Hong Kong. Along with Why and Kwong, panelists included: Candy Cheung, actress and Hong Kong Film Award nominee; Mannshin, novelist of Why's previous film, *Napping Kid*; and Bart Testa, Associate Professor of the Cinema Studies Institute at the University of Toronto.

Many of these events were developed in close collaboration with the Asian Institute, Chinese Canadian Studies Program, the Department of East Asian Studies, Hong Kong student associations and our many community partners, including the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office whose sponsorship is gratefully acknowledged.

Photo, left to right: actress Candy Cheung; novelist Mannshin; director Amos Why; U of T Associate Professor Bart Testa; producer Teresa Kwong; RCL CHKL Director Jack Leong; and Alfred Sung from BrokerTeam Insurance Solutions at the *Myself Found* film screening.

# In Honour of Our Late Friends



## TRIBUTE TO DR. ANTHONY B. CHAN AND THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF *THE ASIANADIAN*

On November 15, 2018, Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library Director Hana Kim presented a small gift of appreciation to Dr. Wei Djao, wife of the late Dr. Anthony B. Chan, and their daughter, Lian Chan. The framed gift contained posters from the 2018 exhibit celebrating Dr. Chan and the November tribute, and an early photo from the founding of the *Asianadian* Collective.

Forty years earlier, Dr. Chan gave a voice to untold stories from the Chinese-Canadian community, providing a

“Chinese-Canadian insider’s view of Canadian history.” From his co-founding of *The Asianadian* to his many other works, such as *The Panama* and *Perpetually Cool: The Many Lives of Anna May Wong*, Dr. Chan explored the complex intersectionality of the Asian-Canadian experience.

He poured his heart and soul into *The Asianadian* (1978–1985). This disruptive magazine was the first to provide an open forum for progressive Asian-Canadians. Produced quarterly by a collective of like-minded Torontonians, it emerged during a period of significant anti-racist activism in

Canada, doing its part to catapult Asian-Canadian voices into the public arena.

As a tribute to Dr. Chan’s trailblazing efforts, the East Asian Library partnered with Cheuk Kwan, fellow co-founder of the *Asianadian* Collective, to celebrate his work. Thirteen speakers shared their fondest memories of and respect for Dr. Chan and *The Asianadian* with a crowd of close to 100 attendees.

Dr. Wei Djao was deeply moved by the remarks and spoke about how essential the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library is to the Asian-Canadian community. Drs. Chan and Djao were long-time supporters, donating many of Dr. Chan’s publications to the library and providing invaluable guidance.

The close connection the East Asian Library has with the Asian-Canadian community was aided in large part by Dr. Anthony Chan. The reunion-like atmosphere of this tribute is an example of that relationship, and it will continue on with the library’s many programs and its efforts to preserve and share the heritage of the Asian community.

## A CELEBRATION OF DR. DAVID C. LAI

One by one, at a gathering on November 27, 2018, audience members shared their memories of the late Dr. David Chuenyan Lai, a scholar, a mentor, and a friend to many, including the Honourable Dr. Vivienne Poy, retired Senator of Canada and Chancellor Emerita, University of Toronto. Dr. Poy expressed her admiration for her long-time friend, as well as the

Above: Hana Kim (centre), Director, Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library presenting a gift to Dr. Wei Djao (left) and Lian Chan (right).

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important role he played in building the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library's collections and resources.

As a professor emeritus of geography and adjunct professor of Pacific and Asian Studies at the University of Victoria, Dr. Lai collected over 35 years' worth of books, theses, photos, and other scholarly materials. His research covered areas that included Chinatowns, Asian-themed malls, Chinese arches, Chinese associations, and Hong Kong society.

A long-standing supporter of the RCL CHKL, Dr. Lai frequently chaired, moderated and presented at the many seminars, symposiums and conferences held there.

Chief Librarian Larry Alford hosted the memorial that honoured Dr. Lai, who passed away in June 2018. York University professors Dr. Jessica Tsui-Yan Li and Dr. Xueqing Xu, and Bobby Jia, research fellow at two Chinese foreign studies universities, shared fond memories. They lauded his devotion to his own research and his support of others as they pursued their

academic interests, especially junior scholars like themselves. Professor Lai's son, Dr. Jim Yuan Lai, remembered him as an outstanding husband, father, and scholar.

The University of Toronto Libraries benefited greatly from Dr. Lai's generous

donations, which included much of his research collection. The David C. Lai Collection is now available for students, researchers, and the public to explore as part of the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library.



Photos, top to bottom: Guests at the RCL CHKL come together to celebrate the life of Dr. David Lai, while Dr. Vivienne Poy shares her memories.

# COLLABORATION

## U of T Libraries Receive Mellon Foundation Award to Study Early Bookbinding

THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO was awarded \$1.25-million by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for the initial phase of a collaboration led by English professor Alex Gillespie and co-principal investigators Suzanne Akbari, Director at U of T's Centre for Medieval Studies, and Sian Meikle, Director of Library Information Technology Services at U of T Libraries. Together they are undertaking an international research initiative to investigate the origins and development of book bindings in the project, *The Book and the Silk Roads*.

The project brings together a network of humanities scholars and scientists from around the world who are looking at various linguistic, religious, and national histories.

The project will include five separate research clusters that will examine the following: early Roman and South Asian contexts; Dunhuang bindings from the end of the first millennium CE; the influence of Islamic bindings on European decorative

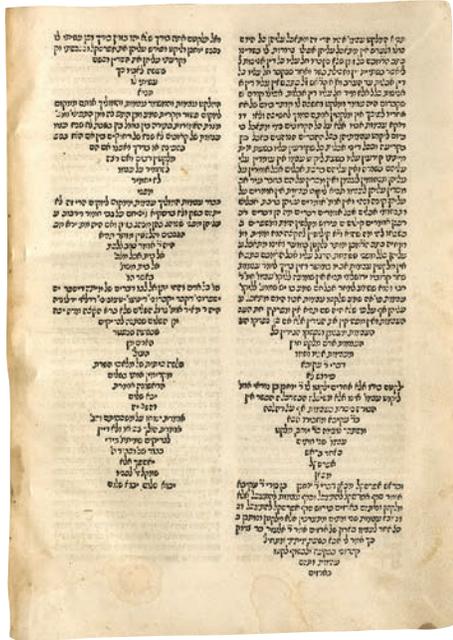
binding techniques; fifteenth-century Ethiopian binding; and early Hebrew printed books in Ottoman Istanbul.

With these close investigations, the project's research findings will help tell a new story about the making and movement of books along the Silk Roads, the ancient network of trade routes connecting the East and West.

This is not the first significant Mellon Foundation grant for the University of Toronto Libraries. In 2015, a project led by Gillespie and Meikle was awarded over \$1-million to support manuscript study and further develop the sort of digital scholarship

tools that have become a necessity for scholars in the humanities. They expect that this additional Mellon funding to the university will provide the foundation for a more ambitious future project that will explore the connections of this shift in knowledge transmission and the evolution of the book over time.

*Adapted from an article by U of T Mississauga.*



Above: Page from [Arba'ah turim]. Jacob ben Asher, circa 1269–1340.

**F**  
**FRIENDS**  
OF THE THOMAS FISHER  
RARE BOOK LIBRARY

*Let Us Welcome You!*

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.

# COLLABORATION

## IDENTIFYING DECEPTIVE PUBLISHERS: A CHECKLIST

Deceptive publishers (also commonly referred to as “predatory journals”) are for-profit entities that purport to publish high quality academic research, but who do not follow accepted scholarly publishing best practices. Their ultimate goal is to make money, not publish quality research. A deceptive publisher may acquire the copyright to your research but never publish your work. A deceptive publisher may publish your work, but then disappear, resulting in there being no public record of your published article.

The aim of this checklist is to assist you in avoiding publishing your work in a low-quality deceptive publication. Being associated with a deceptive publisher can lead to financial loss as a result of inappropriate fees, or be harmful to your reputation and that of your institution, even possibly impeding promotion and tenure.

**❌ If any of the following statements are true, do not submit your work. These are tactics commonly used by deceptive publishers:**

- Publication is guaranteed
- You received a spam-like unsolicited email invitation to publish work (Note: these are different in nature than emails received from organizations or societies you belong to or have published with in the past)
- The articles published in the journal do not match the journal’s title and stated scope

### Common Practices of Deceptive Publishers

While there is no single criterion that points to whether or not a publication is legitimate, the following are some of the typical practices used by deceptive publishers. An accumulation of negative indicators can point to a deceptive publisher.

#### PROCESS AND TIMELINE

Much of this information can be found in author guidelines or instructions. This information should be clearly presented and address quality control processes, style/formatting, copyright, and other journal policies (such as corrections and retractions).

- Publication is guaranteed
- The time of submission to publication is unexpectedly short
- The peer review process is unclear, lacking information, or not apparent
- There is minimal information about the various steps in the process from submission to publication
- The journal requires copyright transfer during the submission process
- Copyright is typically transferred after the acceptance of manuscript. Most open access journals will apply a Creative Commons license to the research that allows for reuse and remixing. In many cases, the author will retain copyright. If a journal isn’t in many cases, the author will retain copyright. If a journal isn’t in many cases, the author will retain copyright. If a journal isn’t in many cases, the author will retain copyright.
- The journal does not follow a regular publication schedule

#### ARTICLE PROCESSING CHARGES (APCs)

Many open access journals ask for Article Processing Charges (APCs), and this is an acceptable practice. Legitimate journals will always ask for payment after acceptance, and their fees are clear and easily available.

- APC payment is required before acceptance
- APCs are generally paid post-acceptance but pre-publication. You should not be asked to pay for an APC before the peer-review process begins. These charges should be clearly listed on the publisher’s website.
- It is unclear what fees will be charged in some fields, a modest submission or membership fee is charged at the time of manuscript submission. These fees fund editorial or peer review. In other cases there are post-acceptance editorial or peer review. In other cases there are post-acceptance editorial or peer review. In other cases there are post-acceptance editorial or peer review.
- Fees, which might include page, colour or figure charges. The amount and purpose of any additional fees should be clearly outlined on a journal’s website or policies. Look for unconventional charges like “handling fees”. If you aren’t sure, check with colleagues about accepted practices.

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## LISTE DE VÉRIFICATION POUR RECONNAÎTRE LES REVUES TROMPEUSES

Une revue trompeuse (communément appelée « revue prédatrice ») est une entité à but lucratif qui prétend publier des travaux de recherche universitaire de qualité élevée, mais qui ne suit pas les pratiques exemplaires reconnues en matière d’édition savante. Elle cherche à faire de l’argent et non à publier des travaux de recherche de qualité. Une revue trompeuse pourrait acquiescer les droits d’auteur pour votre recherche sans jamais la publier. Une revue trompeuse pourrait publier votre travail, mais disparaître ensuite, éliminant ainsi toute trace publique de votre article publié.

Cette liste de vérification vous aidera à éviter de publier vos travaux dans une revue trompeuse de faible qualité. Le fait d’être associé à une revue trompeuse pourrait entraîner des pertes financières en raison de frais inappropriés, mais aussi nuire à votre réputation et à celle de votre établissement, voire entraver une promotion et la permanence.

**❌ Si l’un des énoncés suivants s’applique, ne soumettez pas votre article. Il s’agit de tactiques fréquemment utilisées par des revues trompeuses :**

- La publication est garantie
- Vous avez reçu une invitation non sollicitée par courriel, ou un journal, à publier vos travaux. (Remarque : Ces courriels sont différents de ceux reçus par courriel, ou de sociétés dont vous êtes membre ou qui auraient déjà publié vos travaux.)
- Les articles publiés dans la revue ne correspondent pas au titre ou à la portée de la revue.

### Pratiques courantes de revues trompeuses

Bien qu’il n’y ait pas de critère unique qui indique si une publication est légitime ou non, voici quelques-unes des pratiques typiques de revues trompeuses. Plusieurs indicateurs défavorables pourraient signaler que la revue est trompeuse.

#### PROCESSUS ET ÉCHÉANCIER

Une grande partie de cette information se trouve dans les lignes directrices ou les instructions à l’intention des auteurs. Cette information devrait être clairement présentée et porter sur le processus de contrôle de la qualité, le style ou le formatage, les droits d’auteur et les autres politiques de revue (comme les corrections et les rétractations).

- La publication est garantie
- Le délai entre la soumission de l’article et la publication est étonnamment court
- Le processus d’évaluation par les pairs est obscur, l’information est tropes est rare, ou celle-ci est difficile à obtenir.
- Il y a peu d’information sur les diverses étapes du processus, de la soumission à la publication.
- La revue exige un transfert de droits d’auteur lors du processus de soumission.
- Le droit d’auteur est généralement transféré une fois le manuscrit accepté. Le plupart des revues à libre accès appliquent une licence Creative Commons (CC) à la recherche qui permet la réutilisation et le remixage dans de nombreux cas. L’auteur conserve les droits d’auteur. Si une revue n’utilise pas de licences CC, les conditions d’utilisation et de réutilisation doivent être claires.
- La revue ne suit pas un horaire régulier de publication

#### FRAIS DE TRAITEMENT DES ARTICLES (FTA)

De nombreuses revues à libre accès exigent des frais de traitement des articles (FTA), ce qui est une pratique acceptable. Les revues légitimes exigent toujours un paiement après acceptation, et leurs tarifs sont clairement établis et facilement accessibles.

- Le paiement des FTA est exigé avant l’acceptation, mais avant la publication. Vous ne devriez pas avoir à payer les FTA avant le processus d’évaluation par les pairs. Ces frais devraient être clairement indiqués sur le site Web de la revue.
- On ne sait pas exactement quels frais seront exigés au moment de la soumission du manuscrit. Ces frais peuvent varier d’un article à l’autre. Les frais s’appliquent après l’acceptation, notamment les coûts par page ou pour la couleur et les figures. Le montant et le but des frais supplémentaires doivent être clairement précisés sur le site Web ou dans les politiques de la revue. Recherchez les frais inhabituels comme des « frais de manuscrit ». En cas de doute, renseignez-vous auprès de collègues sur les pratiques acceptées.

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# A New National Resource Helps Spot Deceptive Publishers

**SOME JOURNALS MAY HAVE ALL** the trappings of a reputable publication but are really just seeking to turn a profit from unsuspecting academics. Since the content of these deceptive or “predatory” journals is not peer-reviewed by other academics before publication, it undermines the quality of published science and may promote the spread of false information.

To begin to address this growing problem, staff from the University of Toronto Libraries worked with the University’s Office of the Vice-President, Research and Innovation to create a checklist that helps researchers spot these deceptive publishers before it is too late.

The resource has received national attention, having been recently endorsed by

Canada’s Secretariat on Responsible Conduct of Research, which put it on its website. “This resource will go a long way in guiding not only the U of T research community, but the Canadian research community as a whole,” said Karen Wallace, a senior adviser at the secretariat.

University of Toronto’s checklist highlights red flags that indicate a publication might be illegitimate, including a short time between submission and publication; a journal name that is easily confused with another, better-known journal; and charging an article processing fee prior to acceptance.

“If a journal’s contents don’t line up with its title or scope, that’s another sign it may

be trying to trick you,” says Stephanie Orfano, U of T Libraries’ Head of the Scholarly Communications and Copyright Office, who helped make the checklist.

Lorraine Ferris, U of T’s Associate Vice-President of Research and Oversight Compliance, says teamwork among universities, government and researchers will help put a stop to the problem. “We need to be sure these journals don’t keep multiplying and that we end this,” she says.

The checklist and more information on deceptive publishers are available on the UTL website: <https://onereach.library.utoronto.ca/deceptivepublishing>

*Adapted from an article by U of T News.*

# COLLABORATION



## Science Literacy Week: Five Years of Engaging the Public with Science

**IN 2014, SOON-TO-BE U OF T** graduate Jesse Hildebrand reached out to the Gerstein Science Information Centre with an idea to improve science engagement. A few months later, Science Literacy Week was born.

From its grassroots beginning, Science Literacy Week has grown to become an annual celebration of science with more than 850 events staged by over 300 partners across 200 Canadian cities. This past September, it celebrated its fifth anniversary at the University of Toronto Libraries. In honour of Canadian astronaut David Saint-Jacques's recent International Space Station mission, the theme for 2018 was 'A Space Odyssey'.

Forty-seven events were held at eleven libraries across all three U of T campuses. Events ranged from UFO-themed book displays and interactive science demos to

augmented/virtual reality displays and a robot demo.

The Gerstein Science Information Centre led the way, organizing a popular series of 'Escape from Mars' games. The escape room puzzles were so challenging that only one team finished. Also held at the library were talks featuring astronomy PhD student Adiv Paradise, who dispelled entertainment myths about space, and U of T alumnus Ele Willoughby who spoke of the experience of vying to become an astronaut.

Several social sciences and humanities libraries also participated: the OISE Library brought in a portable planetarium to explore the universe, Robarts Library had a screening of *The Martian* to discuss the influence of the humanities on space sciences, and the Fisher Library led a popular self-guided tour of historical books related to astronomy.

In a 2014 interview, Hildebrand recalled witnessing a seventh-grader visiting the Fisher Library to tour important scientific books and discovered he was onto something: libraries are an ideal setting for the community to engage with faculty and researchers outside the classroom. The variety of yearly themes, including last year's 'Science in a Post-Truth Society', has allowed current events relevant to the public to be incorporated into the libraries' Science Literacy Week activities.

In the same interview, Hildebrand hoped to "... expand it a great deal, spreading the central idea and activities across the country." Considering that the event has now received NSERC sponsorship and become a nationwide phenomenon, Hildebrand has certainly reached his goal. The Gerstein Library, and the U of T Libraries as a whole, is proud to be a part of it.

Above: Gerstein Library mascot Skully greets Science Literacy Week guests.

# COLLABORATION



## Wikipedia Edit-A-Thon: Advocates for Women in STEM

ON FEBRUARY 7, A FEW DAYS before the UN International Day of Women and Girls in Science, nearly two dozen editors typed away in the recently donor-refurbished Gerstein Instruction Lab. Their goal: to highlight on Wikipedia the significant scientific research, policy, and communications contributions of Canadian female scientists and marginalized individuals.

Wikipedia is one of the top five most accessed websites in the world but fewer than 20% of the open-sourced editors identify as female. Consequently, fewer than 20% of articles on people are about women. To educate about and address the gap, Farah Qaiser, a U of T molecular

genetics student, co-organized an expert-guided Wikipedia Edit-A-Thon about Women in STEM with the Gerstein Science Information Centre.

The experts at the marathon editing session included University of Toronto Libraries' very first Wikipedian-in-Residence, Alex Jung. Jung provided a crash course on editing in Wikipedia, a site well known for a myriad of rules and a unique editing system.

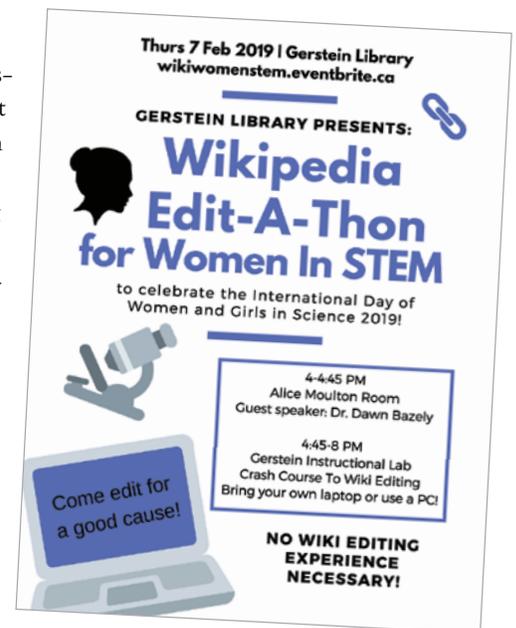
To prevent participants from violating Wikipedia's content rules, Toronto Academic Libraries intern (TALint) student Sabine Calleja showed them how to find reliable sources, while another TALint student, Guita Lamsechi,

provided guidance on image searching, copyright, and proper usage.

Dr. Dawn Bazely, Professor of Biology at York University, was also in attendance. Professor Bazely is an advocate for equity, diversity, and inclusivity in STEM and for excellence in science communication. The professor spoke about writing women back into the history of STEM and shared how she incorporated Wikipedia editing into the science communication assignments in her teaching.

After several hours, the group of 20 attendees at the Gerstein Library edited a number of articles, adding over 2,560 words into the encyclopedia. In less than a month, the changes had been viewed over 1,200 times.

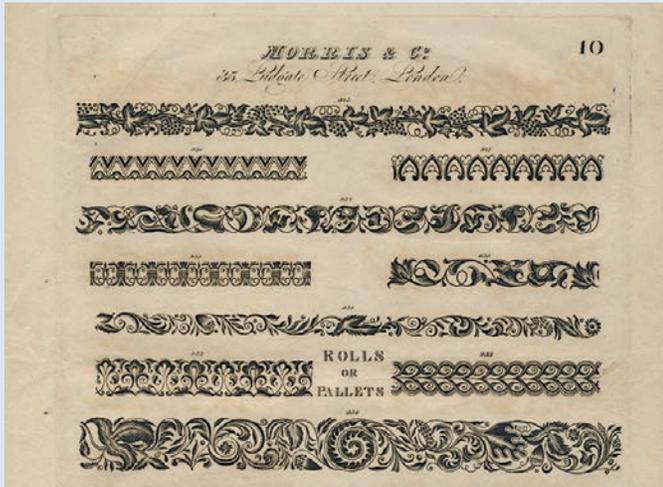
With more than 5.8 million English articles on Wikipedia, the impact may seem miniscule. But for the participants, Farah Qaiser, and the Gerstein Library, the addition of 2,560 words was an important step towards enhanced diversity in science engagement and communication.



Above, clockwise from back left: Ji Yun (Alex) Jung (GSLA, UTL); Krishana Sankar (Women of Colour in STEAMM); Heather Cunningham (Assistant Director for Research and Innovation Services, Gerstein Science Information Centre, UTL); Guita Lamsechi (PhD, Digital Initiatives and Projects, Information Technology Services, UTL); Farah Qaiser (principle organizer of Wikipedia Edit-A-Thons at UTL and elsewhere, PhD candidate in Molecular Genetics); Dawn Bazely (Wikipedian and Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, York University); and Giulia Cisbani (Co-Lead at Immigrant and International Women in Science). Not pictured: Sabine Calleja. Right: Poster advertising the event.

# YOUR SUPPORT

## Exhibitions & Events



### De/Constructing Artists' Books 2019

1 May–15 August, 2019 • Robarts Library, 2nd Floor Exhibition Area

This exhibition showcases work created by Faculty of Information students using knowledge and skills acquired during Liz Menard's "De/Constructing the Book" workshop course.

### Uncovering the Book

20 May–16 August, 2019 • Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library

Curated by the late Greta Golick, this exhibition features the covers and the bindings of books as a reflection of their production and consumption—or, in other words, the material book as witness to its manufacture, use, and survival.

### Fisher Small and Fine Press Fair

Saturday 7 September, 2019 • 10 am–5 pm • Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library

Join us at the Fisher Library for a rare weekend opening when we again host some of this country's finest small and fine presses at this biennial fair.

### The Lumiere Press Archives: Photography and the Fine Press

16 September–20 December, 2019 • Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library

This exhibition features material gathered from the Lumiere Press Papers donated to the Fisher Library in 2017. As the only fine press in the world devoted exclusively to photography and photographers, Lumiere Press has featured some of the most important photo artists of the last century. The books are entirely handmade in limited editions of between 150 and 300, making each book a unique object of artisanal skill.

### Fisher Library Fall Open House

Thursday 7 November, 2019 • 12–6 pm • Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library

On display will be recent acquisitions of the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, and staff will be in attendance to discuss these additions to our collections. This event is on a drop-in basis, and you are welcome to join us for a quick look or a longer visit to view some of our newest treasures.

### On Display: Monthly Highlights

Continuous • Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, 2nd Floor

These mini exhibits feature highlights from the Fisher collections not related to the main exhibition, including recent acquisitions or small curated exhibitions around a theme. Material rotates monthly, so there is always something new to see.

Above: 'Rolls or pallets' from *Catalogue of bookbinders' finishing tools*. Morris & Co. London, 1830.

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