

NEXUS

A RYERSON POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY NEWSLETTER PRODUCED BY THE LIBRARY

ISSUE NO. 9/SEPT. 96

INFORMATION ACCESS THE KEY FOR INFORMATION SERVICES

Library Homepage in Operation

Renovations in the Library in the summer of 1995 have allowed for a further reorganized second floor Reference area in 1996 centered on access to electronic information sources. It features nearly 40 PCs linked to a variety of services.

Catalogue Developments

There are now about 20 PCs offering access to the Library's online catalogue as well as a link to the ERIC education-related database. This access is also possible through other PCs throughout the Library and through the dial-in feature from a remote site (home or office) on or off the Ryerson campus.

From this area one may also link to Gophers, World Wide Web sites, the Toronto Freenet and the online catalogues of other universities.

The CDROM area features twelve PCs that link to the Library's networked CDROM service. Other PCs may also be used to access some of the "Stand alone" CDROM sources like Info CRTC, Canadian Research Index, GEOBASE, International Hospitality and Tourism Index and the 1989 - 1991 versions of the Toronto Star.

LEXIS-NEXIS

The Lexis-Nexis service is available through eight PCs on this floor as well. The LEXIS service contains libraries of English, French and Canadian law, and other legal materials from Australia, New Zealand, Mexico, Ireland and Scotland.

The NEXIS service is a leading news and information service which contains more than 5,800 sources, of which 3,700 provide their entire publications online. These include regional, national and international newspapers, news wires, magazines, trade journals and business publications.

In addition, the service has a full complement of research tools, including an online Guide which provides detailed descriptions of all NEXIS and selected LEXIS libraries.

Library on the World Wide Web

The Ryerson Library also has a new homepage on the World Wide Web (WWW) at URL: <http://hugo.lib.ryerson.ca>. From here the user can link to items concerning the Library itself, Internet resources and the Ryerson community.

The homepage intends to offer a WWW interface to the Ryerson Library catalogue, a link to some full-text items in the Library's Reserve area and to subject areas relating to topics of interest to the Ryerson community e.g. urban planning, chemistry, engineering, social work.

Through these initiatives the Library hopes to position itself as a resource to serve the needs of the innovative high technology university of the future. □

RYERSON POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY

LIBRARY

LIBRARY INFORMATION



- Ryerson Library Catalogue
- Library Hours
- Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada/CARL Survey on Scholarly Communications
- Services (Dial-in Access, Library Cards, Loan Periods, Locations, New Titles, MORE...

FINDING INFORMATION ON THE INTERNET



- Audio-Visual Resources (Internet Movie Database, WATMEDIA)
- Electronic News/Journals/Books
- Government Information
- Journal/Periodical indexes
- Library Catalogues
- Reference Resources
- Search the Internet
- Subject Resources

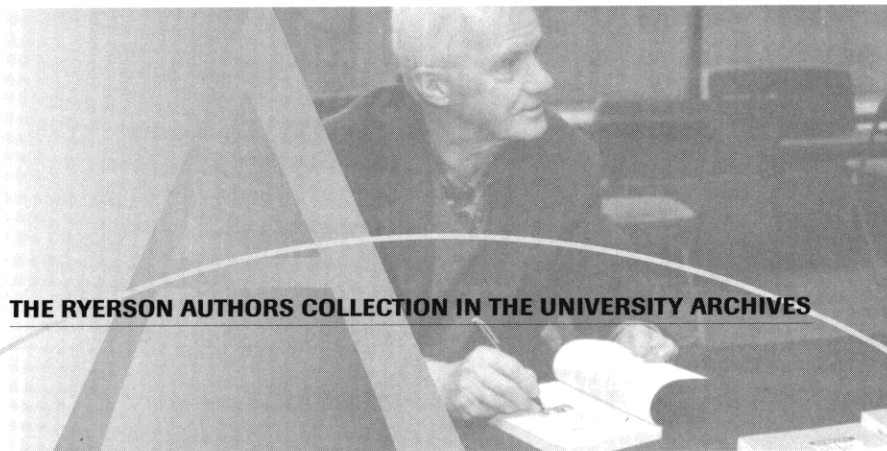
INFORMATION ABOUT RYERSON



- Ryerson Home Page
- Other Ryerson Home Pages
- Telephone Book
- Course Calendar
- Other Ryerson Resources

RYERSON LIBRARY

Comments to author: Sally Wilson swilson@hugo.lib.ryerson.ca
Ryerson Polytechnic University Library
350 Victoria Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5B 2K3
Revised: February 9, 1996
URL: <http://hugo.lib.ryerson.ca/welcome.html>



THE RYERSON AUTHORS COLLECTION IN THE UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

What do the following book titles have in common : Canadian Industrial Relations, A Single Death, Orange Juice as Medium for Streptococci, Dudley and the Christmas Thief, and Joint Motor Control Strategies for a Robotic Manipulator Arm ?

They were all written by members of the Ryerson Community and can be found in the Ryerson Authors Collection.

The Ryerson Authors Collection was first established on an informal basis in 1984 by the University Archives. Although technically not an archival activity, the Collection was considered necessary to compensate for a dearth of documentation on the academic achievements and activities of the University and to promote the impressive yet somewhat inconspicuous output of published (and unpublished) works by members of the Ryerson Community.

The Authors Collection consists of books, papers, journal articles, reports, studies and other miscellaneous publications and has been developed largely through donations. Material is arranged by author into the Archives collection management system and housed in the Archives holdings on the third floor of the Library. The Collection is accessible to users but only on a reference basis, in order to preserve the physical condition of individual items.

In most cases, items are also entered into the Library's Public Access Catalogue. Another finding aid, produced with the software program AUTHEX, provides useful listing capabilities and enhances the searching process. If available, information on published works

is entered into this database, regardless of whether items are actually in the Collection. However, because much of the bibliographic data for individual entries is insufficient or missing, the Authors Collection has not yet been placed on-line as a separate entity.

At the present time, the Collection includes a growing number of titles but is still very incomplete in its information and holdings. The main obstacles have been the familiar lack of resources (time, staff, space), the higher priority of other archival functions such as the processing of a sizeable records backlog, and apathy and indifference on the part of authors themselves.

In spite of these difficulties, the Authors Collection offers unlimited potential as a public relations tool for the University. In 1985, a major exhibit was mounted on Ryerson authors for National Universities Week and only several years ago, the Collection was publicized for the Minister of Colleges and Universities' visit which preceded the granting of university status to Ryerson.

A perception has often existed in the minds of many that Ryerson lags behind other more established universities as an institution of higher learning; however, if the Authors Collection is any indication, Ryerson need no longer feel humble about the scholarly achievements of its constituent members or the breadth of its academic interests. It can only be hoped that individuals within the Ryerson Community will themselves recognize their own accomplishments by supporting the Authors Collection.

EDITORS NOTE: The Archives has moved. See another article in this issue. □

Canadian Government Information on the Internet

(with excerpts from Anita Cannon, *Canadian Government Information on the Internet*, February 1996: <http://www.lib.uwaterloo.ca/discipline/government/CanGuide/>)

In April 1995 the Canadian federal, provincial, territorial and municipal governments got together and initiated the Canadian Government On-Line project to determine what electronic information and services are already being offered, and to identify further opportunities for delivering government information and services electronically. The Treasury Board's document: "The Internet — A Guide to Internet Use in the Federal Government" came out in July 1995 to assist federal government departments in using the Internet. At the "Government on the Web '95" Conference last fall, the President of the Treasury Board and the Minister responsible for information technology within the government, outlined the key elements of the Government's Internet strategy, which included setting up the official federal gateway site at <http://www.gc.ca>. Since then they have also developed a standard format for government web addresses, and for the basic elements of a government web page.

Most of the provincial governments have also established an official, provincial site which acts as a gateway to the information available on the Internet from their departments, agencies, and other affiliated institutions. For example, the Government of Ontario's Web site address is: <http://www.gov.on.ca/>. There are also some excellent web sites representing municipal governments - the City of Vancouver is one worth looking at, since they have clearly put a lot of thought and resources into its organization and its commitment to disseminating information (<http://www.city.vancouver.bc.ca/index.html>). Much of the City of Toronto site is still "under construction", but like everything on the Internet, this might not be true at time of printing (<http://www.city.toronto.on.ca/>).

Notable advances at the federal level include:

Parliamentary Internet Parlementaire
<http://www.parl.gc.ca/>

The site includes full text of the Debates of the House (Hansard), information on parliamentary pro-

cedure, evidence of committees of the House of Commons and minutes of proceedings.

Department of Justice

http://canada.justice.gc.ca/index_en.html

One can now access the full text of the Consolidated Statutes of Canada, keyword searchable, on this web site. In addition, it contains news, government initiatives, various policy publications and the full text case law from the Supreme Court of Canada.

Department of Finance

<http://www.fin.gc.ca/>

Contains news, speeches, evidence and minutes of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance, economic and fiscal information, the Federal budget (the same day!) and various related budget documents.

Treasury Board Secretariat of Canada

<http://www.tbs.sct.gc.ca/tb/>

This site contains the latest Estimates, the Public accounts, news releases, reports to Parliament and speeches. They also link to related sites around the world and Canada.

The Ryerson Library's Web site (<http://hugo.lib.ryerson.ca>) has many of the key links to governments around the country and the world. Anita Cannon's web document (address above) is also an excellent source of government addresses on the WWW. □

ARCHIVES, AV AND PERIODICALS MOVE

In addition to the extensive changes in the Reference area of the Library's second floor, several other areas have changed and relocated.

Archives which was formerly on the Library's 5th floor is now located in the more spacious and accessible area which Audio Visual vacated on the 3rd floor.

Audio Visual has been relocated on the second floor in the Reference area with its equipment in carrels in that area and its collections divided between that area and the Reserve area of Access Services.

The periodicals, formerly on the 6th floor and arranged in title order, are now located on the 5th floor in call number order. This new arrangement will facilitate many previously problematic aspects of title changes, filing of titles via acronyms (AMA, UNESCO, etc.) and bring magazines and journals of similar subject together. Newspapers and microforms will also be on the 5th floor but arranged as before. □

Fashion

RESOURCE AND INTERIOR DESIGN RENDERINGS COLLECTIONS IN RYERSON LIBRARY

The Ryerson Library has acquired two special format collections:

the Fashion Resource collection and the Interior Design Renderings collection.

Both of these collections will provide students with direct hands-on access to finished products in their area of study.

The Fashion Resource collection, which has been donated by Kathy Cleaver, consists of approximately 600 items of apparel, textiles and accessories spanning the period from the late nineteenth century to the present. The items vary from underwear to coats, shoes, and hats, and costumes from around the world. North American and European designers are represented and mass market and occupational clothing is also included.

This collection is a working one, where students may come and see the actual garments, the design, colour, texture, etc., rather than working with drawings or photographs.

In contrast, the actual illustrations and perspective drawings included in the Interior Design Renderings collection are the end product which students may come and view. The collection, which consists of renderings by Canadian artists, represents the development of current design and decorating styles in Canada and it spans over a fifty year period beginning in the 1930s. There are approximately 300 illustrations included in the collection, representing approximately 40 illustrators.

Both collections are available to students or faculty and interested patrons; those interested should contact the School of Fashion or the School of Interior Design before coming to the Library.

Once referral has been made, patrons should come to the Reference and Information Desk on the 2nd floor of the Library. □

THE LIBRARY'S NEW

INSTRUCTION LAB

The Library's new instruction lab has brought information literacy at Ryerson into the 21st century, says Bob Jackson, Associate Librarian, Technical Support and Systems.

The lab, which opened last February in L393A on the third floor within the library, is equipped with 25 top of the line 486 computers. Available on these computers are: the Ryerson Matrix System, where students can access their Ryerson accounts and email; the Library catalogue, which includes not only Ryerson, but also Internet resources; Mosaic, a graphical browser for the World Wide Web; and WordPerfect.

The main purpose of the lab is for classes in information literacy given by librarians. These include: subject specific class-related library and database instruction; drop in workshops on CD-ROM and Lexis-Nexis searching and the Internet; the highly popular Internet course, part of the Information Access Series, offered through the Continuing Education Division by librarians Bob Jackson, Don Kinder, Zita Murphy and Sally Wilson; and the electronic information sources segment of professor Dean Tudor's course, Journalism 027, which is conducted by librarians Liz Bishop, Sue Giles, Diane Granfield, and Zita Murphy.

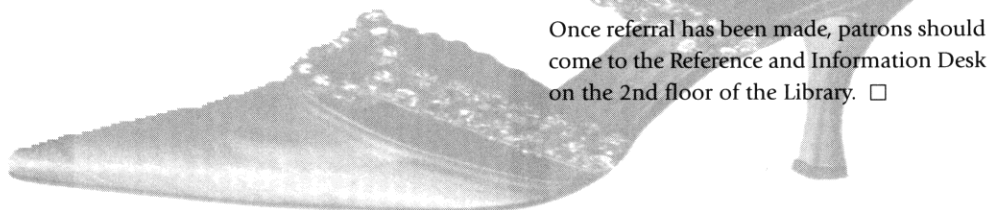
Further CE courses in subject-specific electronic information literacy/information technology, scheduled for Spring and Fall 1996 in the lab, as part of the Information Access Series include: Business; Science and Technology; Health and Medicine; Arts and Design; and Legal and Government sources, taught by the appropriate subject librarians.

When not in use for class instruction by librarians, the lab is available to the Ryerson community on a drop in basis. □

MEDIA IN CYBERSPACE

Many newspapers and magazines plan to distribute at least part of their publication electronically in the next few years. While 25% already do this, an additional 31% plan to within 2 years and 19% within 5 years. Only 23% have no plans to offer electronic publishing at all.

SOURCE: Media in Cyberspace a survey of 800 magazines and newspapers



Hello! I am Trina Richard, the Cataloguing Librarian at Ryerson's Library, and I'd like to inform you about our work in Technical Services, and the changes our Cataloguing Department is implementing in 1996.

I started cataloguing at Ryerson in August of 1995 under the capable leadership of Ross Thrasher. Until Ross became part of the team at Ryerson, cataloguing was done off-site by Bibliocentre, an outsourcing agency. With this important function brought in-house, a locally developed database that more closely meets the needs of Ryerson students and faculty is what I, and my team of Cataloguing Technicians, focus our time on. Ross left us for the University of Calgary in August, where he is managing the Bibliographic Services Department, and no doubt running a tight ship!

As the Cataloguing Librarian at the Robertson Davies Library, Massey College, University of Toronto, I had the chance to develop skills in bibliographic management. As a research assistant at the Faculty of Information Studies at the University of Toronto, I am currently jointly investigating the form and content of bibliographic displays in Canadian online catalogues accessible via the Internet, a SSHRC funded project. I collaboratively teach a Continuing Education workshop for librarians on Cataloguing Internet Resources at the Faculty of Information Studies, and teach in the Library Technician's Program at Seneca College. When I'm not creating MARC records, I spend my time reading Marshall McLuhan, cycling, or fishing in one of the many choice spots for bass, pike or rainbow in Southern Ontario.

People to meet

Above right is a photo of the cataloguing team at Ryerson's Library:

Clockwise from top left Tony Gallardo, Vineta Kanne, Aileen Farray, Carroll Blair, Anna Huta, Mariamma Cherian, Rosita Leung, Trina Richard, Wanda Case, and Susan Cochrane.

This skilled group builds and maintains the database of bibliographic records in the library catalogue. Together we work to create an information space that provides reliable access to the materials needed by the Ryerson community. This is an ongoing challenge; at the moment we are working on a number of focused collections, in addition to the regular flow of new materials.

Things to do

Ryerson Librarians successfully bid for the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship collection in 1995. This acquisition adds over 20,000 volumes of material well suited to the University's curriculum to our existing store, each requiring a bibliographic record, physical processing and shelving. The collection is presently available in Dewey Decimal order on the sixth floor, as pieces of it gradually get integrated into the main stacks. We are now preparing to receive the Ministry of Community and Social Services' library collection, totalling another 30,000 volumes! The Employment and Equity Commission Library offered Ryerson its unique collection of reports and research papers last Fall; the Premier's Council on Social Justice donated materials, and our librarians continue to

evaluate the calibre of various Ministry (and other) additions as they become available.

Donations from faculty and alumni have also greatly improved the diversity of the Library's printed materials. Recently we received a generous collection of 66 boxes of books belonging to the late Aileen Allen, dealing with languages and linguistics, art and travel.

Places to go

In 1996 the Technical Services team, assisted by a fine group of summer students, finished assigning Library of Congress call numbers to all periodical titles on the sixth floor, and then rearranged them in call number order on the fifth floor. What a project! Now that everything is in its new home, it will be far easier to find the magazines you are looking for, as well as any previous titles that your favourite scholarly journal may have donned in previous incarnations.

The Technical Services offices are located on the fifth floor of the library, and we welcome input from users of the online catalogue. Drop a note into the suggestion box, or email me at trichard@acs.ryerson.ca. □



FOCUS ON

Technical Services

Nexus

CONTRIBUTORS

The following people have been instrumental in the production of this NEXUS issue:
Claude Doucet, Diane Granfield, Susan Patrick, Trina Richard

Please address all comments and correspondence concerning this publication to:

Daniel Phelan, Editor, NEXUS, Library, 350 Victoria Street
Telephone: (416) 979-5000 ext. 7160

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