Award-Winning Mobile Applications

Stephen Marsden (left), Chief Librarian Madeleine Lefebvre (centre) and Graham McCarthy (right), accepting the OLITA Award for Technical Innovation for 2011 at the Ontario Library Association Super Conference.

The Library was recently honored for excellence in technical innovation by the Ontario Library and Information Technology Association (OLITA). Graham McCarthy, innovative technologies librarian and Steven Marsden, junior system programmer, developed an ISBN/QR barcode scanning application now available on iOS and Android. For this achievement, they were honoured with the OLITA Award for Technical Innovation for 2011.

If you need to quickly see if a book is available at the library, this application can be used to interpret QR and ISBN barcodes. Scanning the ISBN of a book will look for the item in the Ryerson University Library & Archives (RULA) catalogue. The application will interpret the data and display the results on screen, or if the data contains a URL, it will launch that website. Please see the following video for more information.

RYERSON UNIVERSITY

Everyone Makes a Mark

From The Chief Librarian
MADELEINE LEFEBVRE

Welcome to the Spring issue of NEXUS! As we start to look forward to the end of the academic year, this is also the time when senior academic administrators submit reports of 2009-2010 progress towards their academic plans. To develop our summary report for the Library, we requested detailed reports from departments on the objectives of our Strategic Plan. The compilation of their input ran to 47 printed pages! I then had the daunting task of summarizing the results into a short summary under our five goals, which I hope, will leave you as encouraged as I am about the Library's progress.

Build Our Space

All our initiatives under this goal were underpinned by an ethos of collaboration with other Ryerson departments. As a member of the Building Committee, I participated fully in the schematic design development process with the architects and other stakeholders. I'm excited that the design for the new Student Learning Centre was shared with the Ryerson community in April, so that everyone can share in the enthusiasm for this project.

Build Our Collections and Access

We continue to advance an e-resources strategy within the limitations of our budget. A major project currently underway is the implementation of a discovery layer called Summon – this will radically change the research process for our users, and promises a much simpler search environment to access our collection. We are launching this tool in beta during the Spring term , and I encourage everyone to give it a try. I'm also pleased that during the month of April, the Library is extending

hours to 1:30 a.m. to allow access to study space in preparation for the exam period. During this period, we will be collecting feedback from our users to determine their needs with respect to extended hours – this data will be important to help us plan for the new Student Learning Centre.

Build Our Support of Teaching, Learning and SRC

In reflection of their changing role, librarians are active participants in course development and sometimes delivery, working closely with teaching faculty. This trend was underlined by the inclusion of the Library in the planning for faculty teaching chairs. The Library has also taken a lead role with the Digital Media Projects Office (DMP) and the Learning and Teaching Office (LTO) in developing a social media education program for the faculty. Recently, the Library has also struck a working group to look at services and support for the Chang School – this group includes both library staff and staff from the Chang School. The group will be undertaking two projects in the immediate future: conducting an information literacy needs assessment of Chang School students and faculty during the summer in order to address their special needs, and increasing copyright literacy and education.

Build Our Technology Infrastructure

Due to the success of laptop loans for students, more laptops were purchased to increase access to this important service. A Library Information Technology Services (LITS) department was established to bring together technology staff and develop a strong identity to underpin all library services.

Build Our Reputation

The LibQUAL+ survey that was conducted in March 2010 gave us excellent feedback from the community, and we were pleased to see significant improvements in many categories. Our student advisory committee continues to provide us with wonderful input from the student perspective, particularly as we embark on many initiatives designed to encourage student success.

We continue to seek and develop collaborations across campus, solicit and act on feedback, and work to increase our profile. As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask – talk to your subject liaison librarian, or send us your comments and suggestions.

Madeleine Lefebvre, Chief Librarian

New Site for Archives and Special Collections

This new site is your one-stop shop for browsing the history of the university and campus. The site includes archival content such as past student newspapers, speeches, manuscripts, correspondence, and many photographs and cultural artifacts collected to support courses at Ryerson, including the Kodak Canada Archives, Canadian Architect Image Collection, Leniniana and Historical Photography Collections.

Each month, this site will feature an item or two from one of these collections and post information about displays and contests. Check back regularly for updates!

Portrait of Egerton Ryerson in the Archives

An early portrait of Egerton Ryerson was recently donated to the university by the Ryerson family. This original painting is currently on display in the Archives, on the 3rd floor of the Library. For more information on this donation, and images of the portrait, please view the following story in *Ryerson Today*.

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook!

Interior Design Installation in the Library

In February 2011, the Library hosted an exhibition featuring the work of students from the School of Interior Design, curated by Professor Lorella Di Cintio and titled *What's on the Table: The Designer's Response*.

Students partnered with The Stop Community Food Centre to design a fund-raising item for their annual gala, which helps raise money for The Stop's critical anti-hunger programs and services. The results of this experiential learning opportunity, the Objet de Cuisine studio, were on display in LIB-497 on the Library's 4th floor, with selected items also available in Special Collections. Students who created the pieces made a formal presentation discussing the exhibit to members of the Ryerson community.

Additional images of the students' work are available on the Archives and Special Collections website.

search everything.

RULA

Search Everything – A Single Access Point for Library Resources

Library research is about to get much easier! The Library is implementing a discovery layer, which is a tool that creates a single access point for both the Library's extensive collection of electronic resources and items in the Library catalogue, such as books and videos. You can search everything now and try it out!

Wizfolio Trial

Are you looking for a powerful citation management tool? Interested in trying another product besides RefWorks? Trial access to Wizfolio has been extended for another year by Scholars Portal to allow unlimited use by researchers and students at all 21 Ontario universities. To give Wizfolio a try, or to learn more, please visit the Library website for more information.

Course Support in Blackboard – Welcome Ares!

Beginning with Spring 2011 courses, the Library is piloting the use of the Ares System for managing electronic course readings (e-reserve) in Blackboard. Ares offers many benefits to both faculty and students:

For faculty
• More control over your own electronic course readings. You are encouraged to create and manage your course items but may continue to seek assistance from Library staff to create readings on your behalf.
• Organize course readings, your way. Tag and group materials by topics or by week.
• Check the processing status yourself; no need to contact the Library.
• Find out the usage of each of your readings.

For students
• Organize course readings your way.
• Stay informed. Learn about new readings through email notification or an RSS feed.

To learn more, please contact **reserve@ryerson.ca**

RULA-SAC – Thank you!

Thank you to our student advisory committee for 2010-2011! In its 2nd year of existence, RULA-SAC is a group of students who meet regularly with library staff to provide advice and the student perspective on library issues. In addition to helping with Learning Commons Open House in the Fall of 2010, committee members are a great support to the library and to the student community throughout the year.

Looking for Video Tutorials?

The Library has a number of brief video tutorials on topics such as identifying Peer Reviewed Articles, Quantitative vs. Qualitative Articles, and many more! These tutorials can be embedded in Blackboard course shells for easy access by your students. For more information, please contact your subject liaison librarian.

Donations Boost Collections

In 2010, the library received many donations, both large and small – some of our recent donations are listed below. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of our donors for their gifts to the Library – your contributions are much appreciated!
• Balfour Halévy presented an impressive collection of books and some journals on the History of the Book and related industries.
• Dr. Phyllis Grosskurth strengthened our collection in the area of psychoanalysis.
• Dr. Randall Hansen's significant donations in the field of political science helped improve holdings in this area.
• Harold Medjuck's donation strengthened our collection in the study of Native and Indigenous Peoples.
• Special Collections is the new home for two volumes of the 1923 edition of the *Atlas of the City of Toronto and Suburbs* published by Goad's Atlas and Plan Co., courtesy of Irena Koshchuk.

RULA-SAC members Aras (left) and Ali (right), announce the winner of an iPad at the Learning Commons Open House in October 2010

Librarians **Dana Thomas** (left), **Ophelia Cheung** (centre) and **Susan Patrick** (right) with their recently published book, *New Approaches to E-Reserve: Linking, Sharing and Streaming*, published by Woodhead Publishing in 2010.

Library Stars

Courtney Lundrigan, co-op student from the University of Western Ontario's MA program in Library and Information Science, won the award for the best presentation at the "Lightning Strikes@OCULA" session at the 2011 OLA Super Conference. Students gave 10-minute lightning talks on a diverse range of topics, with the audience voting for the best presentation. For her talk on "Getting to Know GIS: A Glimpse of the Academic Library to Come", Courtney won a $200 honorarium and a year's membership in the Ontario Library Association (OLA) and Ontario College and University Library Association (OCULA). Congratulations, Courtney!

Staff Notes

Jane Schmidt, Manager of Collection Services, is currently on leave – **Lei Jin** is acting on her behalf.

Collection Services has also recently welcomed **May Yan** as the new Electronic Resource Librarian, who will be providing additional support to the team. May received her Masters in Information from the University of Toronto's (U of T) iSchool and has worked at Scholars Portal in User Support and Instruction, as a reference librarian at the CPP Investment Board, and at the Engineering and Computer Science Library at U of T.

Weina Wang, Manager of Borrower Services, is currently on leave – **Kelly Kimberley** is acting on her behalf.

In May, the Library will welcome the new Data Librarian, **Kevin Manuel** (MA, MLIS). Kevin worked previously at the James A. Gibson Library at Brock University, where he was responsible for Data, Statistics and Government and Legal Information since 2007. He has actively participated in Statistics Canada's Data Liberation Initiative (DLI), the OCUL group Data in Ontario (DINO), the Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Science Research (ICPSR), and is actively involved in data group meetings and conferences, such as the International Association for Social Science Information Services and Technology (IASSIST), which are critical to data librarianship. Kevin has been involved with the development of Odesi, the Scholars Portal data gateway, as a member of the Technology Working Group. He has a keen interest in developing data and statistical instruction for integration at all levels of the curriculum, and is looking forward to working with faculty to encourage data and statistical literacy at Ryerson.

Want to keep up-to-date on what new books in your subject area have recently arrived in the Library? Check out the NEW TO THE COLLECTION application on the Library website!

Publications and Presentations

In 2011, **Kelly Dermody** co-published "Online databases and the research experience for university students with print disabilities" in *Library Hi Tech*, 29(1):149 – 160.

Naomi Eichenlaub and **Laine Gabel** presented "Ebooks in Academic Libraries: Challenges and Successes of Managing a Dynamic Format" at the Electronic Resources and Libraries Conference in March 2011 in Austin, TX.

Lei Jin co-presented "16 Schools, $150,000 and 9 days: Experimenting with the Patron Driven Acquisition Model in a Consortial Environment" at the Electronic Resources and Libraries Conference in March 2011 in Austin, TX.

Naomi Eichenlaub, Laine Gabel, Dan Jakubek and **Graham McCarthy** presented "Integrating iPads into Learning and Libraries" at the Computers in Libraries Conference in March 2011 in Washington, DC.

Diane Granfield co-presented "Student Advisory Committees at Work" at the 2011 Ontario Library Association Super Conference.

Cecile Farnum co-presented "Selling What Can't Be Seen: Marketing Virtual Library Services" at the 2011 Ontario Library Association Super Conference.

Madeleine Lefebvre, Weina Wang, Mandissa Arlain and **Sonny Banerjee** co-presented "Change Management: A View from Our Colleagues" at the 2011 Ontario Library Association Super Conference.

Dana Thomas co-presented "QAF, UUDLES, GDLES and IL: What Ontario's New Quality Assurance Framework Means for Academic Librarians" at the 2011 Ontario Library Association Super Conference.

Madeleine Lefebvre joined the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL) delegation that visited China in March 2011. The delegation visited academic libraries in Hong Kong, Beijing and Shanghai to learn more about research libraries in China, and make connections to further future information sharing and collaboration.

Nexus