

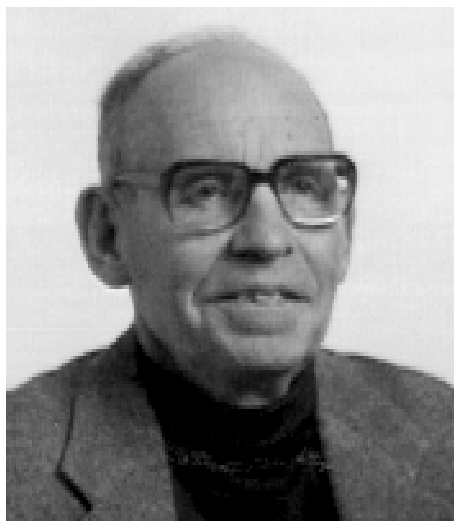


In Conversation: Dr. Robert Van Dusen

Dr. Robert Van Dusen, Associate Professor, taught German at McMaster from 1960–99. During his long tenure, Dr. Van Dusen was a familiar figure in the Library, spending many hours engaged in research, and since his retirement still makes frequent use of library materials. In a recent interview, he reminisced about his long academic career, and shared his reasons for making a bequest to the Library. *What attracted you to McMaster?*

I had a personal connection to McMaster as early as the late '50s through my friendship with David Stewart. What attracted me to McMaster itself was the size of the University: only 4 people in the Department of German; 1300 students, and about 200 faculty members. This was just a fantastic situation! Another thing that very definitely attracted me was the quality of the preparation of Grade 13 students in comparison to students entering university in the States. *What was the highlight of your career?*

It was an enjoyable progression of being able to do things at my own pace, teaching in the German Department and my involvement with the Association of the 18th Century Studies. The highlight of my career was a fantastic coincidence: so many things happened that were to my benefit at that particular point. I'm an 18th century specialist and the action in that field was right here at McMaster: [former University Librarian] Will Ready, [18th Century scholar] Roy Wiles, research opportunity and publication opportunity. *How would you describe the differences in the research environment*



Dr. Robert Van Dusen

between 1960 and the present?

Day and night! This was a split level University when I came here, as opposed to Harvard and Texas. That is, the Faculty of Humanities did not emphasize research as much as the Science [Faculty] did. Forty years ago the Faculty of Humanities was a teaching department; we won awards for this. The enormous pressure to write a book a year was not there. *McMaster's 18th Century Collection is one of the 7 most important collections in North America. Was that an important factor for you as a researcher?*

It is an important factor for me as a researcher and as a person who is going to make a bequest. *You have stated your interest in encouraging faculty and staff to support the Library. As a retired faculty member and a donor, why do you think this support is important?*

It's a continuation of an investment that was made 30 years ago at a time of extraordinary economic prosperity... and what you have to do now is simply build upon what was started many years ago and continue very purposefully along that line.

What would you say to others who are considering a gift/bequest to the Library?

Consider it seriously. A bequest is an investment in the future, beyond your own future. The University was and continues to be a profound part of my life. It's important for me to leave a legacy to the University.

What has influenced you to support the Library during this campaign?

There are many aspects to the University, but to me the faculty and the library are very, very important. A library is indispensable for the students, obviously, but also for the teachers. If you're going to build courses or build a curriculum, you've got to have the books to support them. The Library is the foundation of any educational institution.

What satisfaction does it give you to know that your gift will have an impact on the students and scholars of the future?

Immense satisfaction, great satisfaction—it ties in, for me, with what my life has been, a continuation, in a sense. ■

C.A. Stewart, A. Plessl

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Leaving a Legacy at McMaster's Library

McMaster has a long tradition of receiving planned gifts. Senator William McMaster founded the University in 1887 with a bequest. Since then, alumni and friends of McMaster have chosen to follow this same path, by making planned gifts to support his vision.

A planned gift is a charitable donation provided for during your lifetime but not available to McMaster until sometime in the future. Planned gifts include bequests, life insurance, gift annuities and charitable remainder trusts. You may not be in a position to make a donation during your lifetime but would like to give back to an institution that has had a positive impact on your life. By making a planned gift, you will create a lasting legacy at McMaster and may also enjoy the benefits of preferential tax treatment.

For example, a charitable bequest naming the Library beneficiary of cash or property for a specific or undesignated purpose can offer significant tax relief to your estate and often provides a more sizeable gift than you could comfortably afford during your lifetime. A bequest may take many forms and can be tailored to meet your philanthropic goals and financial needs. The Office of Gift Planning would be pleased to provide sample bequest wording to ensure that your personal objectives are met.

There are many other opportunities for you to invest in McMaster University's Library. For further information about making a planned gift to the Library, please contact the Office of Gift Planning at: 905-525-9140, ext. 27595. ■

J. Caron



Honour With Books

Celebrate the graduation or other special occasion of a family member, friend or colleague by giving a book in their honour to McMaster University Library. Your gift of \$150 will fund the purchase of a new book on a topic in the academic discipline of your choosing: Business, Engineering, Humanities, Science or Social Science. A commemorative bookplate bearing your name and the name of the honouree will be sent in a presentation folder, and a bookplate will also be placed inside the purchased book.

The University Library plays an integral part in each student's education. These books will be used by future generations of students and faculty at McMaster University as they learn, research or teach. Your participation in the Honour With Books programme will recognize the scholastic achievement or other significant event in the lives of your family members, friends and colleagues. At the same time you will be making an important contribution to teaching, scholarship and research at McMaster by supporting the continued excellence of its library.

For more information please call:
(905) 525-9140, ext. 24865

*Income tax receipts will be issued by
University Advancement.*



Library Donor Survey

In May '96 the Library hosted its first annual donor appreciation event, a successful gala concert. In the years following, a variety of events have been held: a lecture on Margaret Laurence by Dr. James King, "Primadonna on a Moose" presented by Mary Lou Fallis, "A Celebration of Collecting", and "Buckskin & Broadcloth, a Celebration of Poet/ Performer Pauline Johnson" performed by Sheila Johnston. The first two events attracted approximately 150 donors, but subsequent events failed to attract the same numbers. With mailings to 500-800 donors, attendance was generally between 80 and 100.

In May 2000, we decided to survey Library donors asking what kind of events they would be interested in attending. The survey was mailed to donors to the Library from 1996-2000, approximately 900 people. Of these, 115 responses were received, a response rate of 12.8%.

Respondents were asked to evaluate events they had attended, make suggestions for future events, and give general comments. We were pleased to learn that donors wanted to know more about the Library and its collections, rather than be entertained. Many respondents asked for tours, particularly of Archives and Research Collections, and information about what was new in the Library.

Based on the positive comments received, we will continue to plan various kinds of events to thank local donors, and find other ways to acknowledge donors who are unable to attend. In response to requests, we will include information on Library collections and tours at future events.

We are grateful to all donors who responded to the survey, and welcome any comments about future events. ■

A. Plessl

What's new in the Library?

Recently Received Books

We are pleased to announce the creation of a virtual new book shelf on our website. Lists of new books received each month at Mills, Thode and Innis libraries since January 2001 can be viewed at: <http://www.mcmaster.ca/library/services/collections/recentlyrecd.htm>

Lists for each library are arranged alphabetically by general subject area, and then by title. More complete information for books listed, including call number and availability, can be found in our catalogue, MORRIS, at <http://morris.mcmaster.ca>

Electronic Resources Being Tested

Libraries everywhere are struggling with the financial strain of the cost of subscribing to electronic databases and journals. In academic libraries at research-intensive universities like McMaster, these resources, containing the most recent research available, are high-demand items. With the constant need to balance demand and financial restraints, licensed access to these research tools must be purchased wisely.

Many publishers offer short trials

of their products for potential subscribers to test the site. A new library service allows McMaster users to visit trials of products we are considering purchasing, and comment on the products they find to be most useful. Please bookmark this site, and visit it frequently, as the selection of products being tested will vary: <http://www.mcmaster.ca/library/research/trial/chart-trial.htm>

CISTI Source Journal Database

The Library has subscribed to an electronic tables of contents and document delivery service, CISTI Source, from the Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information (CISTI). McMaster students, faculty, and staff can access bibliographic information on more than 10 million articles, and tables of contents of over 14,000 journals. Although all subject areas are represented, 65% of titles are in science, technology and medicine, and 35% in social sciences, arts and humanities. Updated weekly, CISTI Source is an excellent journal indexing and current awareness tool, but also serves as a document delivery service for articles in science, technology and medicine journals not held by McMaster. Orders go directly to CISTI;

articles are then sent electronically to Mills or Thode, usually within 3 working days. Cost for users is \$5.00 per article. For more information, see <http://www.mcmaster.ca/library/services/ilds/cisti>

Canadian National Site Licensing Project

McMaster is one of 64 participants in CNSLP, an initiative to license electronic versions of scholarly journals and research databases through a consortium of Canadian university libraries. The 3 year project was spearheaded by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) and the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL), and funded through an award from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) and contributions from participating institutions and other government partners. Products such as *Web of Science* and *MathSciNet* have been licensed for the entire term, and are available to authorized McMaster users. For a list of available products, go to <http://www.mcmaster.ca/library/general/lib-news.htm> and click on: New Resources Now Available through the Canadian National Site Licensing Project. ■

Campaign Update

In our fall 1999 issue we announced the launch of the *Library of the Future* campaign within the University's major three-year campaign, *Changing Tomorrow Today*. Our goal is to create a \$7 million endowment fund. As Graham Hill, the University Librarian, wrote at the time, "The books and journals that are the traditional core of the Library cannot be neglected as we keep pace with the applications of technology. Now our greatest challenge is to build the financial strength that we need to keep up with the pace of the electronic age.... We are the stewards of knowledge resources at McMaster, and we need to ensure McMaster

students and faculty have the best research resources available to them."

During the past two and a half years we have received significant support from many friends and supporters, including alumni, faculty and staff. We have presented proposals to foundations, corporate and individual donors. We are currently arranging visits to some of you to bring you up to date on our achievements and our goals, and to ask for your financial support.

Today we are very pleased to announce that with foundation gifts, pledges and bequests we have now achieved our first million dollars. Many generous gifts have been undesignated and will be used for the Library's greatest needs in books and journals. Among the designated gifts

are those to fund reference tools and resources for Canadian archives, to subscribe to an electronic journal in molecular biology, to endow the purchase of books and journals in British and international politics and history, and to endow subscriptions to new electronic databases. Among the initiatives we are hoping to fund are:

- computer clusters in Mills and Thode libraries (\$5,000 per workstation)
- e-commerce books and journals endowment (a new MBA programme)
- multi-media studies resources on web site creation, design and publication
- resources on the role of religious

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(Campaign Update — cont'd from p.3)

attitudes in political events and societal change

- ongoing subscription cost of SciFinder Scholar (Chemical Abstracts online)

- endowed funds to support new books in all subjects (average cost per title-Humanities/Social Science \$69, Science/Engineering \$110)

- Science and Engineering Reference commons (\$5,000 per workstation; funds to license new electronic resources)

We are confident of our ultimate success and will continue to work with our friends and supporters to create the Library of the Future our students deserve. We thank all our supporters, past and present, for their generosity. We ask you to continue to keep McMaster's Library in the forefront of your philanthropic activities. ■

C.A. Stewart

Preservation Tip: Book Endbands

A functional or ornamental band is often found at the head and tail of older books. These bands are usually made of coloured silk that is sewn to the book, or of cloth that is attached to the spine with glue. Because endbands project slightly beyond the heads and tails of books, care must be taken when removing them from shelves. We are often inclined to place our index finger at the head, pulling the book off the shelf. This puts pressure on the endband and depending upon its condition, can damage it. A far safer means of removal is to grasp the spine at the mid point with the whole hand and gently pull the book towards you. This is a form of preventative conservation and will ensure the preservation of your collection. ■

A. Schell

Recent Notable Gifts

The Library has received the following gifts from:

- ❖ Current and retired faculty members, J.D. Browning, J.N. Martínez, George Paul, Ian Spenser,

Gerhart Teuscher and Paul Walton, collections of books and journals on various topics.

- ❖ Editors' Association of Canada, its archives, consisting of minutes of executive meetings, annual reports, branch records, and other vital records.

- ❖ Carolyn Kinsley, books on religion from the library of David R. Kinsley.

- ❖ Estate of Helen Lothian, items related to Pauline Johnson.

- ❖ Robert Alexander (Sandy) Mowat, son of Farley Mowat, 67 letters written to him by Farley from 1961–78.

- ❖ Pigott family, the archives of the Hamilton builder, J.M. Pigott, textual records and photographs, consisting of his journals and diaries from 1910–68.

- ❖ Anna Porter, archives of the Canadian publisher, Key Porter Books, textual records consisting of editorial correspondence, Firefly Books Ltd. correspondence, files relating to Lester Orpen Dennys Limited, and manuscripts of authors.

- ❖ Bernard Fisher Trotter, archives of the McMaster alumnus and soldier-poet, Bernard Freeman Trotter (1890–1917), textual records, including letters sent to his family from Britain and France during WWI. ■

Grants

Labour Studies Research grant, \$1,200 to arrange and describe the records of a number of labour unions, including the Canadian Union of Public Employees, (CUPE) Area Office (Hamilton, ON).

Canadian Council of Archives grant, \$8,222.73 to arrange and describe the records of several accruals of the United Steelworkers of America, District 6.

Japan Foundation's Library Support Program 2001, grant of books valued at \$3,810. ■

Publications

The following recent publications made use of our collections:

Grattan-Guinness, I. *The Search for Mathematical Roots, 1870–1940: Logics, Set Theories and the Foundations of Mathematics from Cantor Through Russell to Gödel*. Princeton:

Princeton University Press, 2000.

Horrobin, David. *The Madness of Adam and Eve: How Schizophrenia Shaped Humanity*. London: Bantam Press, 2001.

Karr, Clarence. *Authors and Audiences: Popular Canadian Fiction in the Early Twentieth Century*. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2000.

McKenzie, Andrea. "Witnesses to War: Discourse and Community in the Correspondence of Vera Brittain, Roland Leighton, Edward Brittain, Geoffrey Thurlow and Victor Richardson, 1914 to 1918." Ph. D. thesis. University of Waterloo, 2001.

Monk, Ray. *Bertrand Russell 1921–70: the Ghost of Madness*. London: Jonathan Cape, 2000. New York: The Free Press, 2001.

Wellens, Oscar. "The Brief and Brilliant Life of *The Athenaeum* Under Mr. Middleton Murry" (T.S. Eliot)," *Neophilologus* 85 (2001): 137–52.

Woolf, D.R. *Reading History in Early Modern England*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2000. ■

Calendar

Exhibits in Archives and Research Collections, Mills Library:

May–June 2001: Riding off Madly in All Directions: The Literature of Canadian Humour.

August–September 2001: Science and Medicine, 1600–1800.

Events:

September 27, 2001: Luncheon for Library retirees. ■

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