



## Message from the University Librarian

A library is not only a collection of books, but it can also be a room, a building, even a group of buildings. It is also an institution in its own right. Within McMaster University, the Library maintains collections and facilities to provide the foundation for the teaching, learning and research undertaken by its students and faculty. As an institution, it is not only the keeper of history and record, it also serves as a focus for the academic enterprise, and should reflect the health and vigor that is the hallmark of the best universities.

The Library has existed at McMaster for as long as the University itself, and throughout its history, the Library's mission has been to serve the changing instructional and research needs of McMaster's faculty and students. This mission endures, despite the changes in direction and emphasis of the academic programmes and the development of new ways to store, discover and communicate knowledge. Now, more than ever before, change has become the norm. As we develop the *Library of the Future*, we nevertheless remain committed to our role in maintaining the record of history and discovery. Our vision is to the future, but like a careful motorist, we constantly glance in the rear-view mirror. And like the motorist, we cannot go forward with confidence if either we stare into the rearview mirror, or never give it a second glance. The future is ahead of us, not behind us, but by glancing constantly back, we remain aware not only of where we began the journey, but also of what is coming upon us, and are better prepared to make the decisions necessary to our progress.

The world's knowledge is vast, and the twin technologies of computing and communication have revolutionized the storage and accessibility of information. The rate of change has accelerated



Graham R. Hill

rapidly since the first personal computer came to the market twenty-five years ago, and is now truly astronomical. The Library strives constantly to stay abreast of changes, and to anticipate further developments. Information sources double every four to five years, and maintaining our forward motion in such a climate is demanding, requiring both time and resources. 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.

Through the generosity of many donors to the Library during the University's successful Centennial Campaign, we were able to renovate and expand the Mills Memorial Library, providing not only the increased space for collection and study facilities necessary, but also the technical infrastructure of wiring and network capability required to utilize digital communication. We work at the frontiers of information technology, and

must remain there for the benefit of the present and the future generations of McMaster scholars and students. The Library is fortunate to have an excellent staff and many supporters who are dedicated to the continuing success of our journey, and as challenging as the new library world has become, I am confident of the ultimate success of our endeavours. 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 as we embark on the third millennium. I ask you to help us achieve this objective. By helping us to change tomorrow today, by joining with us to build the Library of the Future. (Graham R. Hill)

*Some of our friends and supporters will find a pledge card for the Library of the Future Endowment enclosed. Current faculty and staff will receive their pledge card directly as part of the McMaster Community Campaign. For more information, please contact Charlotte Stewart, (905) 525-9140, ext. 24737.*

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Library Retirees Luncheon, 1999

## The way we were

On October 1, library retirees attended a luncheon in the West Room of Alumni Memorial Hall hosted by University Librarian Graham R. Hill. About 25 retirees enjoyed lunch, each other's company and memories of their working days in the University Library.

Graham spoke briefly to guests about changes that have taken place in the Library over the past few years and the anticipated changes ahead. He described the goals for the *Library of the Future Endowment* and how it will benefit the students and researchers of tomorrow.

On such a glorious fall day on Homecoming Weekend, it was a pleasure to welcome our valued retirees back! We hope to see them again next year. ❁ (A. Plessl)

## Innis celebrates 25 years

Innis Library is a perfect example of the changes on campus in the last 25 years. Originally a study and reading room containing reserve materials for social science and business students, Innis now houses an impressive collection to support the learning, teaching and research needs of the Michael G. DeGroote School of Business.

In the fall of '73 the first business librarian was hired with a mandate to establish a business library a requirement for accreditation of the University's new Faculty of Business. In

June '74, the former reading room moved operations to a nearby classroom, and Innis was closed in order to renovate and prepare for its transformation to a business library. In its first year of operation 180,000 people passed through its turnstiles. Innis contained a large reserve collection, some 2000 books, a small reference and periodical collection, and 400 company, industry and subject files.

By the mid80s, Innis had outgrown its space. With seating for only 90 and an annual entrance count of 195,000, overcrowding had become a perennial concern. In addition, 30% of the book collection was held in storage because of a lack of stacks space. With the construction of the DeGroote School of Business, Innis underwent a major expansion and renovation in 1992. Renamed the Innis Library, it now provides study space for 170 students.

Last year, Innis' entrance count was almost 208,000. Circulating books now number over 17,000 and cover topics in accounting, business, finance, human resources, labour relations, marketing, management science and information systems. Over 500 periodical subscriptions deal with current topics in business and economics. Innis also has an extensive reference collection which includes a growing number of electronic indexes and databases, many accessible remotely. To search MORRIS, electronic products and the Internet, sixteen workstations are available six of which were recently donated by the National Business Conference and the Management of Information and New Technology Research Centre.

As in other academic areas, the nature

of research materials in business and economics has changed dramatically. Rapid advances in technology and the growing emphasis on electronic information have had a tremendous impact on the Library. Innovations such as McMaster's new Educational Trading Centre will demand further change in both the collection and services. The challenge of the next quarter century will be to continue to respond to the pace of change, and ensure that the Innis Library remains a vital resource for the School of Business and the entire McMaster community. ❁ (A. Plessl)

## Library instruction at Mills

Each year McMaster welcomes about 4,000 new students, and sooner or later they walk through the library door for the first time. To the uninitiated a modern research library, with its huge collections and its many print and electronic search aids, can be daunting. This is where a Library Instruction programme comes in. Mills Library's Instruction programme offers a varied menu of services, from an information table at ClubsFest and library tours, to hands-on training in the use of electronic resources.

Nora Gaskin and Olga Perkovic are coordinators of the programme, which serves undergraduate, graduate and OAC students, as well as faculty, staff and members of the Hamilton community.

Library instruction has come a long way since it was called "orientation", and consisted largely of a walking tour of the library. Mills now boasts a small electronic classroom where up to 30 students can learn about campus libraries and their services, see demonstrations of MORRIS and other online research tools, and practice using them.

Librarians conduct 50-minute sessions, tailoring instruction to the needs of a particular class, or offering generic "drop-in" sessions on the use of specific research tools like MORRIS, journal indexes, or the Internet.

Increasingly, professors are arranging library instruction for their classes. Last year the number of students

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(LIBRARY INSTRUCTION continued from p. 2) participating in the programme topped 4,000 for the first time—twice the number only five years ago.

With the increased emphasis on inquiry-based learning, where students are expected to acquire research skills and become information-literate, the opportunity to integrate library research skills into the curriculum is greater than ever before. We're not just showing them the layout of the library and what buttons to press on a computer, Gaskin and Perkovic say, we're introducing concepts that are completely new to many of them: scholarly journals, periodical indexes, Boolean logic—it can be pretty dry stuff, but they need these conceptual tools to function fully in the research environment. Innovations like student computers in the Orientation Room (L112), presentation software and hardware, and more visual aids make instruction more effective, Aliven up—the sessions, and appeal to different learning styles. To find out more about the Mills Library Instruction programme, visit its webpages at: <http://www.mcmaster.ca/library/libinst/instruct.htm>. (N. Gaskin, O. Perkovic)

*Library instruction sessions are also available at Innis and Thode Libraries. For information on sessions available at Thode, visit its website at <http://www.mcmaster.ca/library/thode/libinst/index.html>.*

*For Innis, please call Vivian Lewis at ext. 27385 or email her at: [lewisvm@mcmaster.ca](mailto:lewisvm@mcmaster.ca).*

## Library survey 1999

In the spring of 1997 the University Library administered a user survey designed to rate levels of satisfaction and importance in a number of service and collections categories and to indicate lack of awareness or use of a particular service. The survey was administered in fundamentally the same format in March 1999 to allow a degree of comparison with responses from the first survey.

Generally, 1999 responses from both faculty and students indicate that the Library meets with high approval for: hours of opening, loan periods, access services and staff, and use of reserve services. There has been some improve-

ment in areas that the Library specifically targeted after the 1997 survey, for example microform reader/printing facilities, and types of study space. In Mills Library the percentage of students surveyed who do not use Internet resources was down to 48% from 74% in 1997 and the percentage of faculty across campus who were not aware of the Library's training programmes was down to 10% from 20% in 1997.

Along with library staff, faculty and students are still deeply concerned with collections. In the words of one student respondent: "Acquiring as many books and volumes as possible is the most important thing a library can do!"

The Committee managing the survey concludes that the Library continues to target the greatest strength of its resources in areas that are of the greatest importance to its users. Framed within a general concern about collections in all formats is a growing emphasis on the type of electronic services the Library is able to deliver. Improvements to the Library's online catalogue, MORRIS, have not resulted in as great an indication of increased user satisfaction as anticipated. Therefore, the Library plans to focus on electronic services, including both collection content and access to such services through MORRIS and the web, in another very specific survey to be conducted in February 2000. (S. Pepper)

## Celebrating collecting

On May 16 President Peter George and University Librarian Graham R. Hill hosted the Library's donors at an open house and champagne reception to meet and talk with collectors of books, maps and music. Collectors who displayed valuable items from their collections included Rabbi Bernard Baskin, Rick Davis, Dorothy Farquharson, Ray and Donna Findlay, Karl Freeman, Don Jones and Carl Spadoni. For more information about these collectors see: <http://www.mcmaster.ca/library/services/development/collectors.htm>.

Guests enjoyed a beautiful Sunday afternoon in the Great Hall of Alumni Memorial Hall, and were fascinated by the various collections. Mr. Hill spoke briefly about positioning the University Library for the digital information age

through the University Campaign's *Library of the Future Endowment*, and the need for continuing support at a time of constrained funding to higher education and the escalating costs of books and journals. (A. Plessl)



## David Cook (1935-1999)

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the death on Nov. 1, 1999 of our dear colleague and friend David Cook. In 1995 David became Manager of Reference Services in Mills Library and prior to that was Head of Government Publications. David joined the Library staff in May 1975.

Students, faculty and his colleagues will miss his extensive knowledge of reference resources, his support of the Library and its services, and his witty sense of humour. A memorial service will be held December 7 in the Divinity College Chapel at 2:00 PM.

## Bring Your Old Books

The Library's 4th annual BYOB event was held on June 5th, 1999 as part of Alumni Weekend. As in past years, the event was open to alumni, members of the McMaster community and the general public. Attendees paid a \$5.00 appraisal fee per item to be evaluated. Among the many interesting items brought in was a 1650 edition of the poetry of John Donne!

Thanks go to antiquarian book dealers John Rush and Richard Shuh for generously donating their time, and to Audrie Schell, Preservation Technician,

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who offered advice on preserving books. Proceeds from the BYOB event have been put towards the Library's acquisitions budget. ❁ (A. Plessl)

## American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies

Candace Ward, English, Illinois State University, spent her fellowship month at the library in July 1999. She worked with McMaster's collection exploring the role that 18th-century medicine played in the manifestation of inner turmoil in physical illness in novels of sensibility such as Frances Sheridan's *Memoirs of Miss Sidney Bidolph*. She presented one of the papers resulting from her research, *A Fit of Illness: Sick Bodies and Aching Hearts* at the August conference of the North American Society for the Study of Romanticism.

The second 1999 McMaster-ASECS fellow, James Dybikowski, Philosophy, University of British Columbia, is spending his visit this fall completing research for his edition of the letters of the British free-thinker Anthony Collins (1676-1729). McMaster's holdings of works by and about the deists and free thinkers of the 18th-century are particularly important for his work.

A new book by Hans Turley, a 1996 fellow, was published in May. *Rum, Sodomy, and the Lash: Piracy, Sexuality and Masculine Identity* (New York University Press, 1999) makes use of McMaster's extensive holdings of the works of Defoe and other narrators of pirate adventures. ❁ (C.A. Stewart)

## Recent notable gifts

❖ From Rabbi Bernard Baskin, approximately 150 books on various topics, the earliest a volume containing two books by Fray Luys de Leon, *De los nombres de Christo en tres libros* and *La perfecta casada* (1595).

❖ From Pierre Berton, diaries of his great grandmother, Sarah Robson Thompson, and his grandmother, Delia Florence Thompson, including some family correspondence, 17 cm.

❖ From CDG Books, additional papers of the Canadian publisher Macmillan Canada, 4.2 m.

❖ From Copp Clark Professional, archives of the Canadian publisher, Copp Clark, 10.8 m. records, 29 photographs, 6 framed items.

❖ From Mary Harvey, 11 books of Canadian poetry, including a signed copy in dust jacket of L.M. Montgomery's *The Watchman and Other Poems* (1916).

❖ From Jackie Lautens, two books, including a copy of Lord Brougham's *Albert Lunel* (1844) in three vols. given to her late husband Gary Lautens by Professor Chester New.

❖ From Peace Brigades International, papers from their Guatemala and London offices. 4.6 m.

❖ From retired faculty member Klaus Pringsheim, a collection of books on East European and Asian politics.

❖ From J.H. Taylor, Chancellor Emeritus, approximately 125 books he received as chair of the 1999 Lionel Gerber Prize Committee for the year's best work in English on international relations, including the prize winner, *King Leopold's Ghost* by Adam Hochschild.

❖ From Ed Thomas, additional area office archives of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), Hamilton, ON, approximately 5.4 m.

❖ From Alan Walker, \$1,000 to continue development of the Archives and Research Collections website.

❖ From faculty member John Weaver, scholarly books on Australia and New Zealand, and a collection of books on urban studies and Canadiana.

We are grateful to all donors for their generosity to the Library. ❁

## Grants

Control of Holdings grant, Canadian Council of Archives (CCA), \$4,000 to arrange and describe an accrual of the archives of David McFadden.

Young Canada Works in Heritage Institutions, CCA, \$1,958.70 to arrange and describe the archives of *Canadian Fiction Magazine*.

Research Grant on Labour Studies Issues, McMaster University, \$1,000 to arrange and describe several locals and the area office archives of the

Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), Hamilton, ON. ❁

## Publications

The following recent publications made use of our collections:

Almeida, Claudio de. *Russell on the Foundations of Logic*. Porto Alegre: EDIPUCRS, 1998.

Dejnozka, Jan. *Bertrand Russell on Modality and Logical Relevance*.

Aldershot, Hants: Ashgate, 1999.

Grant, Judith Skelton, ed. *For Your Eye Alone: The Letters of Robertson Davies 1976-1995*. Toronto: McClelland and Stewart, 1999.

Greenspan, Louis and Stefan Andersson, eds. *Russell on Religion: Selections from the Writings of Bertrand Russell*. London: Routledge, 1999.

Irvine, Andrew, ed. *Bertrand Russell: Critical Assessments of Leading Philosophers*. London: Routledge, 1999. 4 vols.

King, James. *Jack: A Life with Writers: The Story of Jack McClelland*. Toronto: Alfred A. Knopf Canada, 1999.

Miah, Sajahan. *Russell's Theory of Perception (1905-1919)*. Dhaka: Dhaka University, 1998.

Pigden, Charles, ed. *Russell on Ethics: Selections from the Writings of Bertrand Russell*. London: Routledge, 1999.

Verduyn, Christl, ed. *Marian Engel's Notebooks: Ah, mon cahier, Jcoute Y@Waterloo, ON: Wilfrid Laurier Press, 1999. (Life Writing Series.)* ❁

## Calendar

Exhibits in Archives and Research Collections, Mills Library:

*November-December 1999*: Letters from a Lost Generation: Selections from the Vera Brittain Archive and the First World War Collection.

*January-March 2000*: Glimpses of Millennium: Prophets, Seers and Visionaries Through the Ages. ❁

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