

UNBC UNIVERSITY OF
NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA
Geoffrey R. Weller Library

Annual Report

2016

Geoffrey R. Weller Library

Geoffrey R. Weller Library
University of Northern British Columbia
3333 University Way
Prince George, BC V2N 4Z9

REPORT

Highlights



6 RDC Under Construction

The RDC@UNBC started construction in 2016 and is scheduled to open in spring 2017.

The Research Data Centre (RDC) at UNBC will provide researchers with access to confidential microdata from Statistics Canada. New Academic Director Dr. Cindy Hardy explains the benefits this will have for academic research at the university and throughout the region on page 6.



10 What Happened In The Library: Our Events

Open Access Week (pictured above) was just one of the many events held at or supported by the library in 2016.

From cleaning the reading room (for the first time in 25 years!) to hosting book launches and storytelling sessions to supporting various events such as Open Access Week and Freedom to Read Week, the library was a busy place in 2016! For more details about these events, go to page 10.



14 All Hands On Deck: Library Inventory

Both the second and third floor stacks (pictured above) were fully shelf-read and inventoried in 2016.

Library staff spent 2016's summer months completing an inventory - by hand - of our collections. The ambitious project was the first of its kind since 1995! To learn more about the project, check out page 14.



18 Win Your Textbooks?

Contest winner Kirsten Gaukel is pictured above with University Librarian Allan Wilson and Manager, Retail Services - UNBC Bookstore Mardeana Berg.

The Geoffrey R. Weller Library launched its inaugural "Win Your Textbooks" Facebook contest in September 2016. One lucky winner, UNBC Nursing student Kirsten Gaukel, walked away with a \$500 gift card to the UNBC Bookstore! Find the full story on page 18.

About Us



What an interesting year! New university-wide academic planning, recommitment to values of the North and beyond, reaching out to donors and past supporters, and arguments and conflicts, but as UNBC Professor Dr. Jonathan Swainger so notably entitled his book: *Aspiration*. To a packed audience on the first floor of the Geoffrey R. Weller Library for the book's release, Dr. Daniel Weeks, our president and leader, introduced Dr. Swainger in an address that looked to the future with his own thoughts on the next 25 years, acknowledged the past and present, and pointed to distinguished visitors and UNBC supporters in the audience. Drs. Weeks and Swainger both concurred on the word aspiration and I felt a genuine sense of healing. Great event!

We were honoured to conclude the year with such an event in the library, in an evolving first floor development that features student activity, digital signage, and the Research Data Centre due to open in spring 2017. In 2016 we moved towards indigitization, while finishing a major digital project, courtesy of our wonderful archives. A special hats-off to instructional staff, circulation, and tech services who moved mountains to build the Research Data Centre and complete an inventory of our library collection - decked out in lab coats. We continue to look at space improvements in the library to welcome students, staff, and faculty. The library is our laboratory.

The library, like any lab, can be a beehive of activity: quiet, then busy, a living organism of students, staff, and researchers. For a lot of students it's their living room.

“The Library Is Our Laboratory”

We are constantly looking for new ways to improve our space through digital media and signage, new study rooms, or projects such as the RDC@UNBC. We are also working on a new and improved circulation desk that speaks of wood. A special thank you to Facilities and many other supporters. We cleaned the library and replaced lights and through all of our other projects librarians served their instruction, project, and reference roles during some significant disruption.

Hats off to everyone! Our collection inventory, new and developing spaces, new technical equipment and computers, and collection is ongoing. In a world moving to digitization, you need to know that the library is unique, like UNBC; we are an evolving destination of the physical and virtual, and our intention is to continue that work in support of UNBC initiatives. Well done everyone! My sincerest thanks to you all.

Happy New Year, and many more to come.



Allan Wilson, University Librarian

Library Facts

581,495
Titles Held

312,532
Library Website Visits

2224
Reference Desk Transactions

2500+
Interlibrary Loan Requests

178
Library Instruction Sessions

Based on 2015/16 Fiscal Year

RDC@UNBC

Research Data Centre

SHORT COMMUNICATION

Does rural residence limit access to mental health services?

C Hardy¹, KD Kelly², D Voaklander²

¹University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George, British Columbia, Canada

²University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Submitted: 22 March 2011; Revised: 10 September 2011; Published: 28 October 2011

Hardy C, Kelly KD, Voaklander D

Factors Predicting Depression across Multiple Domains in a National Longitudinal Sample of Canadian Youth

Sherry Bellamy • Cindy Hardy

Alcohol Consumption and Health Status in Older Adults

A Longitudinal Analysis

Lucy Y. Chen

Cindy L. Hardy

University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George

Objective: This longitudinal study examines the relationship between alcohol consumption to mortality and changes in mental and functional status.

After years of planning, the RDC@UNBC is finally on the verge of completion. The Statistics Canada Research Data Centre, housed in the Geoffrey R. Weller Library, will be one of 31 research locations in Canada providing researchers with a huge array of confidential microdata from Statistics Canada surveys, Canadian censuses, and an increasing number of administrative data sets. Now, instead of traveling to Vancouver or Edmonton to access such data, local researchers will be able to tap into the RDC network right here at UNBC. UNBC Academic Director

Dr. Cindy Hardy (who has used the RDC network for her research, such as the work pictured above) notes that the RDC@UNBC offers many benefits to researchers and decision makers in Northern BC, including access to:

- large sample data on a range of health and social topics,

“It’s like having the sandbox open.”

- UNBC Academic Director Dr. Cindy Hardy on the new Research Data Centre at UNBC.

- nationally representative samples of Canadians, including local samples, and
- data from longitudinal samples where individuals are followed over long periods of time (e.g. birth to young adulthood; middle age to older adulthood).

Available datasets include, for example, surveys of perceptions of neighbourhood environments, blood samples for measuring exposure to toxins, and census data.

There are two other advantages to having a local Research Data Centre, according to Dr. Hardy: “First, the RDC@UNBC offers the potential to link Statistics Canada survey data with administrative data, such as health authority data regarding hospital admissions and discharges. The second advantage is the lower cost of conducting research, in terms of time and financial burden, because this valuable data is now available close to home.”

The RDC@UNBC is set to open in February 2017. While the main space is ready, some equipment must still be installed and Statistics Canada must conduct a final inspection to ensure all confidential microdata is secure.

The RDC@UNBC was made possible by the generous support of various local and national partners:

- University of Northern British Columbia
- Northern Health
- UNBC Northern Medical Program
- Statistics Canada
- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
- Canadian Institutes of Health Research.



Dr. Cindy Hardy started on faculty at UNBC in September 1994. She completed her doctorate in 1997 at Concordia University, Montreal.

Dr. Hardy’s interests are in child and adolescent clinical psychology, and human development. Her current research projects address parenting, and delivery of health services to children, youth, and families living in rural and remote Canada. Dr. Hardy is involved in research and development projects that focus on parenting, parent education, and fetal alcohol spectrum disorder.

WHERE WE WENT AND WHAT WE WROTE:

Keeping Up With The Library

To Nepal and Back

Mary Bertulli, our resident interlibrary loans expert, recently visited Nepal and spent some time in a few libraries in Kathmandu, the largest city and capital of Nepal (pictured right). She was hosted by the Armed Police Force Command and Staff College, which opened in 2015. The library there is divided into two spaces: a small book library with approximately 1000 titles and an e-library stocked with computers and various e-resources.

The Kathmandu Valley Public Library (KVPL) hosted a meet and greet with Mary and their directors and a discussion ensued regarding the state of the library; in particular, the lack of space! The library relies on the Nepal Government for financial support and, understandably, since the 2015 earthquake, resources are being directed to repairs and rebuilding. “The support staff (Ritesh, Shova, and Bhuwandevi) showed me how the public library catalogues, processes, sorts, and shelves their books and how they manage their patrons - anyone can use the library, but a patron would need to pay 1200 Nepali rupees (around \$14 Canadian) to take books out of the library,” says Mary.

The General Secretary of the Society of KVPL organized an information/Shared Experience program where Mary spoke about UNBC library and interlibrary loans. Interlibrary loans is not a service currently

used by libraries in Nepal and there was interest in this borrowing/lending process. Mary also visited the Army Command & Staff College in the beautiful Shivapuri National Park. Overall, Mary says her library experiences in Nepal were very enlightening and made possible by the generosity and welcoming nature of all the people she encountered.



- **UNBC Collaborative Partnerships with First Nations Communities, Vancouver, June 2016.** Ramona Rose, Head, Northern BC Archives, presented at the Indigitization Futures Forum on the indigitization work the NBCA is doing with local First Nations. Indigitization is a collaborative program that provides funding and training to First Nations community groups to support the digitization of their analog audio holdings.
 - **Aleza Lake Research Forest Society Annual General Meeting Presentation, UNBC, May 2016.** Ramona Rose and Erica Hernandez-Read, Archivist & Access Librarian, presented on the Aleza Lake Experimental Station fonds materials that are housed at NBCA and the work that is being done to promote use of the materials for research.
 - **Copyright & Fair Use: What it Means and How to Educate Library Users and Diagnosing ILLs: Revitalizing Services in an Age of Fewer Requests, Portland, September 2016.** At the Northwest Interlibrary Loan Conference, Digital Initiatives Librarian James MacDonald was a panel discussion member on copyright and gave a presentation on the challenges of interlibrary loans in a modern library. James also attended conferences this year in Lille, Ottawa, and San Francisco.
 - **Fact-finding Mission: Completing Our Library Inventory, March 2016.** The library's Supervisor - Circulation Services, Vaunda Dumont, visited three lower mainland post-secondary institutions (Douglas College, Langara College, and Capilano University) to gather information on methods and best practices for completing a collection inventory. This trip gave valuable insights that we used for our inventory project.
 - **Scholarly Communication at UNBC.** In May 2016, Collections & Acquisitions Librarian Heather Empey took a 6-month leave to research scholarly communication at UNBC. The research study examined current publishing behaviours and practices of faculty, current levels of awareness and attitudes of faculty regarding Open Access, and what library services faculty need to support their scholarly communication activities. The research was performed in conjunction with Rose Croft of Royal Roads and Nancy Black of Nipissing University to get a sense of the scholarly communication needs and practices of faculty at small Canadian institutions.
 - **Retroactive Collection Development: Gap Identification through Citation Analysis.** Research and Learning Services Librarian Kealin McCabe analyzed monograph citations in the most highly cited journals within the subject area of development economics. The analysis showed that the most highly cited books within the discipline were a major gap in our collection. Therefore, these titles were purchased and added to the collection. The findings were published as an article in *Evidence Based Library and Information Practice* in 2016.
 - **RhD Negative Pregnant Women and RhD Alloimmunization.** In 2016 Northern Health Sciences Librarian Trina Fyfe conducted a research study on why RhD negative pregnant women continue to be at risk for RhD alloimmunization within the context of Northern BC, as partial requirement for a doctoral degree with the UNBC School of Health Sciences. Trina interviewed RhD negative women who had been pregnant and healthcare providers that care for pregnancy in Northern BC. The study provides information into the depth of care for these groups, guideline adaptation, decision-making, and health literacy in rural healthcare settings. Trina is currently writing her dissertation and hopes to defend in 2017.
- Trina also conducted a qualitative study with Orvie Dingwall of the University of Manitoba titled *Canadian Academic Health Sciences Libraries and their Relationships with Healthcare Practitioners*. Key stakeholders from Canada's 17 academic health science libraries and 10 Canadian health science information consortia were interviewed to discover how these relationships are impacted by various factors and how they are evaluated. Trina and Orvie are currently writing an article to further disseminate their findings.

WHAT HAPPENED IN THE LIBRARY:

Our Events



Sometimes it is easy to get so tied up with work that we forget to have fun. Whether it is celebrating birthdays or meeting for a Christmas party, the library is always looking for new ways to bring some entertainment into the workplace. When the invitation for a UNBC kickball tournament at the Northern Sport Centre arrived in early 2016, we just couldn't say no! You may not associate the library with

athletic prowess, but our 2 wins in 3 games suggests otherwise. Despite our winning record, we did not win the tournament, but we had a blast. Count us in for 2017.

Of course the year was not all play. Through various events and day-to-day projects we strived to improve our library space, services, and resources for the UNBC community. A small sampling is found on the next page.

Library Cleaning and Maintenance

After a long wait and some careful planning and execution, the library finally received a thorough and well-deserved cleaning in addition to regular maintenance.

Over the summer months of 2016, the library reading room was closed to make room for a cherry picker which was used to clean the lights, walls, and windows in that area for the first time in 25 years. However, the project was not without its roadblocks: to get the equipment into the building, the doors on the second floor of the library had to be removed!

In addition to the library cleaning, UNBC Facilities Management & Capital Projects were hard at work in the library building a new study room (and the RDC@UNBC) and performing general maintenance and upkeep.

A big thank you to Facilities for their hard work in the library this year. The library has never looked better!



Book Launch

The library was honoured to host Dr. Jonathan Swainger for the launch of his book *Aspiration: A History of UNBC to 2015*. The event was held on November 29 by the library fireplace and was attended by numerous university notables, including UNBC President Dr. Daniel Weeks. Find the book in our stacks!



Storytelling

UNBC Visiting Elders Rita George (Wet'suwet'en First Nation) and John Cuthand (Little Pine First Nation) engaged with our university community in storytelling and cultural exchange by the library fireplace in January and October, respectively.



Support

While we didn't organize the events, the library was proud to support several local and national events throughout the year, including Inspiring Women Among Us 2016, Raise-A-Reader, Open Access Week, and Freedom to Read Week.

News From The Archives



Kathryn Louro, UNBC History-English alumnus and Project Student Assistant (left), and Ramona Rose, Head of the Northern BC Archives, show off historical photographs from Northern BC's rich railway history. Credit: UNBC Communications

In 2016 Indigitization– a toolkit for the digitization of First Nations knowledge – added UNBC as one of its partnering institutions. Indigitization is a collaborative initiative to facilitate capacity building in Indigenous information management between Indigenous communities and organizations, the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre (UBC), the Museum of Anthropology (UBC), and the School for Library, Archival and Information Studies (UBC), and now the Northern BC Archives at the University of Northern British Columbia. This project is committed to clarifying processes and identifying issues in the conservation, digitization, and management of Indigenous community knowledge. It does so by providing information resources through the Indigitization toolkit and by enabling community-led audio cassette digitization projects through grant funding and training. Indigitization seeks to grow and work with a network of practitioners to develop effective practices for the management of digital heritage that support the goals of individual communities.

By signing on as the “Northern Satellite” for the Indigitization program, the Northern BC Archives, a department of the Geoffrey R. Weller Library, has joined the Indigitization Steering Committee and is involved in planning the future direction of this innovative program. In support of this new relationship, the Weller Library generously purchased an audio cassette digitization toolkit for loan via the Archives to regional First Nations communities to assist them in their digitization activities. The Archives is also now providing consultative services and technical support to those northern communities both applying for the Indigitization grant funding and facilitating their successful grant projects.

Indigitization grant funding was awarded to eight communities throughout BC in 2016, with four of the grant recipients coming from Northern BC communities. The 2017 funding program is now accepting applications; the application deadline is March 3, 2017. For more information please consult the Indigitization website, application guidelines, and form: <http://www.indigitization.ca/application/>

Mapping BC's Rich Railway History

In 2016 the Northern BC Archives initiated a project to create online finding aids to engage researchers in understanding the role of railways in Northern BC's development. Through the generous donation of \$15,000 from Canadian National Railway (CN), the Archives hired UNBC Alumnus Kathryn Louro (pictured left) to create online access to CN's archival records held here as part of the *Prince George Railway & Forestry Museum Archival Collection*. This particular collection includes 8+ metres of textual and photographic materials spanning 100+ years documenting CN's regional developments including its predecessor Grand Trunk Pacific Railway (GTPR), as well as that of Pacific Great Eastern Railway and BC Railway. Geographically speaking, these records document railway history throughout Northern BC including Prince George, Bulkley Valley, Hazelton, Terrace, Prince Rupert, and the Peace River. Of particular note, the GTPR materials include early 20th century images of railway surveying, construction, surveying crews, First Nations communities, and town construction. Such unique records not only highlight resource industries that have been the basis of BC's economy for almost a century,

but also serve to demonstrate how important they were to the opening of the Northwest to settlement.

This archival project not only ensures CN's contributions to Northern BC's economic development are accessible for future generations, it also provides immediate benefit to local and visiting students, teachers, researchers, and the general public by making information about Northern BC's transportation history more accessible for education, appreciation, and research.

"Natural resource developments in BC, including rail development and its impact on Northern British Columbia's natural environment, its people, economy, and culture, are a strong research focus at UNBC," explains Ramona Rose, Head of Archives and Special Collections at UNBC. "Having this collection is particularly important to enhance our resources for faculty, student, and community-based research." The online finding aid will be available in late spring 2017. For more information about Northern BC Archives online resources see library.unbc.ca/archives

The Value of Indigitization

Sarah Dupont, Indigitization Programme Coordinator, spoke of the value of the program at a community information session at UNBC in February 2016:

"Digitization grants have typically required that digitized content be openly accessible. Key to the development of the Indigitization Program is the acknowledgement that First Nations heritage knowledge is often subject to complex traditional ownership and access protocols. Recipients of the Indigitization funding grant are not required to share their digitized content publicly, but are encouraged to develop culturally informed access protocols and policies. This enables communities to retain control over their traditional knowledge recordings and share them in ethical and appropriate ways."

ALL HANDS ON DECK:

Library Inventory

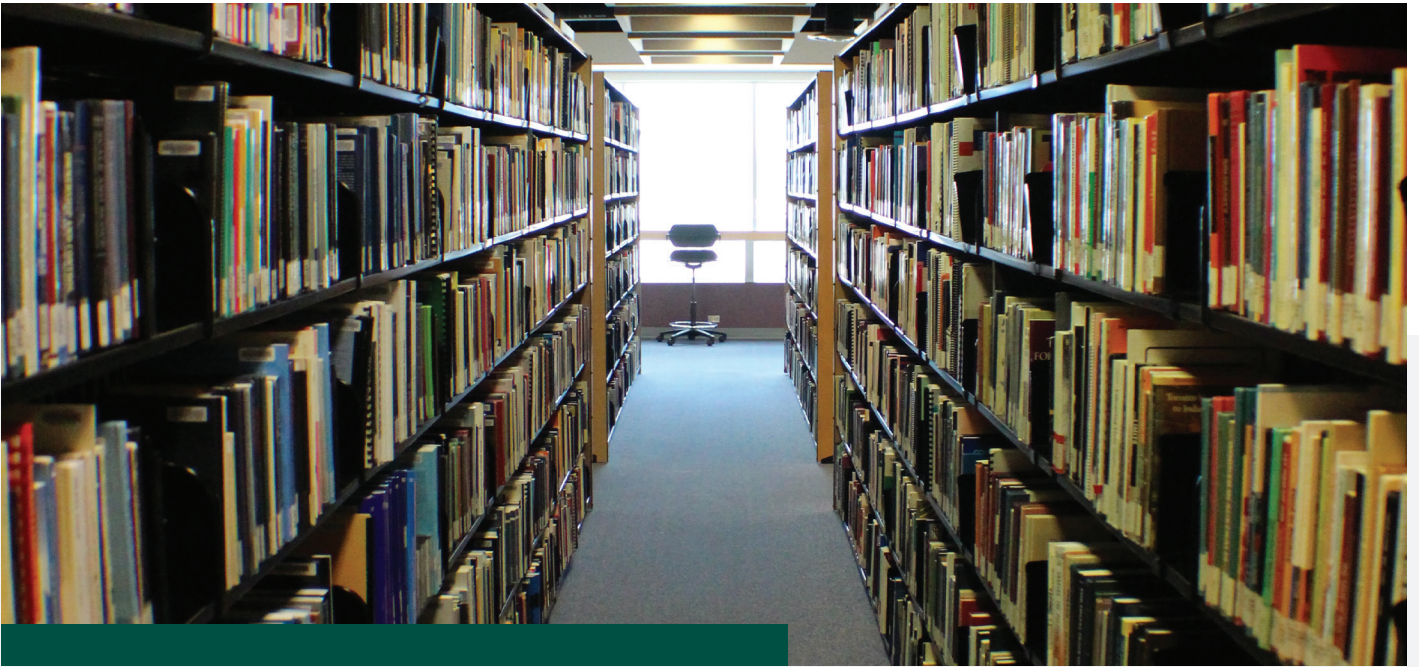


Digital Initiatives Librarian James MacDonald in the stacks scanning books for the library's summer inventory project.

Between April 11, 2016 and January 6, 2017, the library completed a full inventory of our collection on the second and third floors. Prior to this round of inventory, the only evidence of an inventory date in our systems was back in 1995. The purpose of the collections inventory was to ensure accuracy of catalogue records, estimate loss rates, withdraw and/or replace missing items, evaluate the condition of material on the shelves, and identify general collection strengths and weaknesses. We also

inventoried the Education Resource Centre, Reference and Oversize collection, Atlases, Northern Medical Program Reserves, and Storage.

The main tasks involved with such an undertaking are shelf-reading, individually scanning sections of the collection by hand, uploading the data into the library database server, and analyzing and addressing error reports created by cross-referencing the scanned items against the library database server.



232,500 Items. By Hand.

Missing items were searched for at least three times before sending lists to the Cataloguing Department and selection librarians to determine whether missing items will be replaced.

All library circulation and support staff (along with the university, digital initiatives, catalogue, term acquisitions, and collections librarians) took part in the library-wide project by shelf-reading, scanning, and reporting. Six teams of four tackled assigned sections in the stacks from May 9 to September 2, with circulation staff and student assistants finishing off the project once the regular semester began in September.

Overall, the teamwork method helped staff get to know each other better and learn more about the collection and library along the way. A huge thank you to all staff who participated and continue to finish off the last stages of the project!

**April 11, 2016 to
January 6, 2017**

Project timeline

232,500 (by hand)

Total inventoried items

897

Items identified as missing

0.38%

Loss rate

Comings and Goings

Additions to the Team



The library was fortunate to welcome two new staff members this year: Sajni Lacey (left) and Brad Dondale.

Brad Dondale joined the library as our new systems administrator in January 2016. As a member of the Technology Services Division, Brad is tasked with ensuring our critical services remain online and working as they should. His work is integral to ensuring the library offers UNBC students the tools and resources they need to succeed in their research.

A graduate of the University of Northern British Columbia computer science program, Brad has worked in Prince George for 10 years in the computer systems industry for education and health clients.

Sajni Lacey joined the team as the collections & acquisitions librarian to cover a colleague on academic leave and her term has since been extended.

Sajni is originally from London, Ontario but has made her way to us after previous positions at Lakehead University and Okanagan College.

Though Sajni joined us in 2016, she will only be with us until the end of February 2017 as she has accepted a position at the University of British Columbia Okanagan. We wish Sajni well and thank her for her contributions to the library!

Gail Curry Says Goodbye

“It is with both sadness and excitement that I leave UNBC. Sadness because my job has always been interesting and stimulating and has allowed me to work with many amazing colleagues both at UNBC and beyond.

I started at UNBC as a reference librarian, but I accumulated several other hats along the way. The most rewarding of these was rather accidental. I was innocently working in my office one day when Darrel Bailie, a former UNBC colleague, walked in looking for someone to attend ACCOLEDS (A COPPUL Consortium of Library Electronic Data Services) training. I had no idea what he was talking about, but I agreed to go. I discovered the whole new world of data librarianship, which I am convinced is the best possible field of academic librarianship. The Data Liberation Initiative (DLI) partnership between Statistics Canada and academic libraries has offered a great deal of support and comradery, and I have been impressed by the calibre and expertise of Canadian data librarians and of the folks at Statistics Canada. Over the years, I have been a western regional trainer, and I have served first on the DLI Education Committee and later on the DLI External Advisory Committee (EAC).

Early in my time at UNBC, I was troubled by the large number of maps that were hidden away on the tops of shelves in the back area of the library. I rolled up my sleeves and took to purchasing and scrounging map cabinets. Around the same time, Roger Wheate, UNBC's walking encyclopedia of all things maps, approached me about organizing a couple of hundred thousand provincial air photos. Somehow I assumed a map librarian hat and discovered the world of map librarianship, which, by the way, competes with data librarianship for that “best possible field” title. I discovered that Roger is by no means the only passionate map lover in the country! I owe a lot to Scott Emmons who contributed precious time and technical expertise in developing our UNBC Air Photo Finder, a searchable database of our air photo collection.

It was with great satisfaction when I heard the other day that a UNBC program is using the RDC@UNBC as a



Gail looks forward to exploring new territory around her new home in Nelson.

plum to attract new empirical researchers. I have been insisting for years that researchers at UNBC must be put on a level playing field with other Canadian researchers in terms of access to Canadian socioeconomic and health data and was thrilled when Allan Wilson, Geoff Payne, and others joined the fight to establish a new Research Data Centre (RDC) at UNBC. The RDC@UNBC is now taking on a life of its own under the very capable hands of its first Academic Director, Cindy Hardy. Thank you Cindy for taking this on!

I am excited about my retirement because I will not just be sitting around knitting, gardening, and reading (although I will be doing my fair share of all of those). In June, I will be moving into my new home in a cohousing community just outside of Nelson, and I look forward to playing an active role in both the cohousing community and the larger community of Nelson. I am also excited about exploring the Kootenays by foot, ski, snowshoe, bicycle, and paddle.

I wish all my colleagues at UNBC all the very best in their future endeavours, especially Susie Wilson, whom I am confident will do a great job in building upon what I have started.”

INAUGURAL FACEBOOK CONTEST

Win Your Textbooks?

The inaugural Geoffrey R. Weller Library “Win Your Textbooks” Facebook contest was launched in September 2016, during the first week of the new term. The contest, which was run on the newly resurrected Geoffrey R. Weller Library Facebook page, drew the attention of a large number of people: over 400 Facebook users entered the contest and the contest itself reached over 18 thousand!

The contest was straightforward: users simply had to like the library’s Facebook page and like the contest post. Kirsten Gaukel, a UNBC Nursing student, was randomly selected as the winner at the end of the contest period and received a \$500 gift card to the UNBC Bookstore.

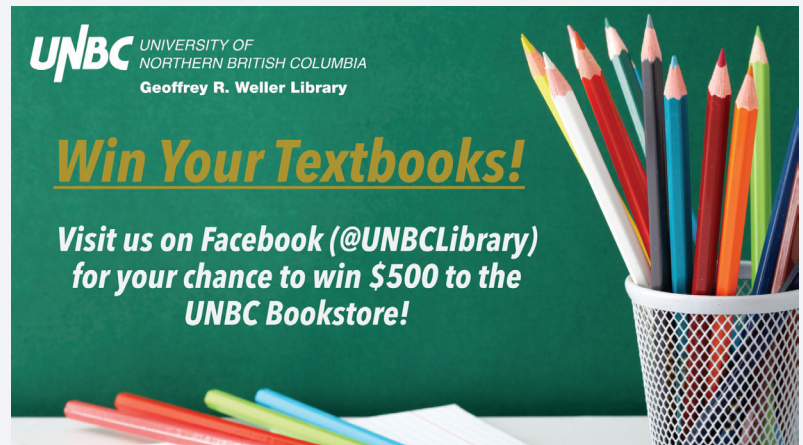


From left to right: University Librarian Allan Wilson, “Win Your Textbooks” contest winner Kirsten Gaukel, and Manager, Retail Services - UNBC Bookstore Mardeana Berg.

Should We Make This A Thing?

A university student has lots to worry about: classes and grades, studying, a social life. One of the biggest worries, however, is finances. When planning out a semester, a \$500 gift certificate for everything from books to school supplies to UNBC clothing can really make a difference.

Because of this, and because of the success of the first contest, the library is currently running a second “Win Your Textbooks” contest for the start of the new term in January 2017. We hope this “unofficial scholarship” can help a student have a successful term. And who knows, maybe we’ll do it again sometime...



Our “Win Your Textbooks” contest is run on Facebook, but we also take advantage of the library’s digital signage on the first floor to let students know the contest is open. You might also see a poster like this one around campus, such as in the UNBC Bookstore. If you do, head to the library Facebook page to enter!

Why a Facebook contest?

Through our social media strategy, the library seeks to ignite our existing social community and attract new members by amplifying the experience and exposing new users to the library with relevant and engaging content.

A Facebook contest allows the library to grow our social community, which in turn will increase reach for future posted content. However, and more importantly, the library is invested in the success of all UNBC students and we strive to provide the resources necessary for students to excel in their academic careers. Therefore, we like to view our “Win Your Textbooks” contest as an unofficial scholarship; \$500 for the bookstore can go a long way in ensuring that a student has the tools they need to succeed in the classroom. In the end, a Facebook contest is a win-win-win for the library, students, and the UNBC community.

Student Assistants

The library regularly hires student assistants to work in the Circulation Department on a daily basis during the academic semesters. Circulation assistants shelve books, shelf-read collections, and help maintain neat collections so that material is easy to find. They also assist with projects such as inventory and de-selection of items, searches for material that can not be found where it should be, and periodically perform the more tedious tasks of dusting shelves and material.

We currently have seven student assistants employed within the Circulation Department, working between 6 and 11 hours per week per student.

Thank you to all student assistants for your continued support with maintaining the library's collections!

In February 2016 it became clear that our history and geography ranges in the 2nd floor stacks were at full capacity, with little room to shift backwards towards the start of the collection. Instead, we spread the collection out across the 2nd floor to utilize empty bottom shelves. The entire 3rd floor collection was also shifted to create more space for higher growth areas such as education, science, and medicine/nursing. On both floors, available space was measured and compared to subject areas and 5-year growth rate figures to plan for future spacing. Thankfully we didn't need to shift between the 2nd and 3rd floors!

The project began on April 4 and lasted until August 4, taking approximately 400 hours to complete, with extra student assistants hired to help complete the project. The result is an evenly spaced collection with growth space for the future.

In Focus: Chelsea Lloyd

The library hired a full-time Library Technician Student Assistant, Chelsea Lloyd, to help complete the last sections of the collection shifting in the 3rd floor stacks, complete regular inventory duties, and assist with training staff. Chelsea worked full-time from May 9 - August 25, 2016.

Chelsea was an immense resource during the completion of both the collection and inventory projects. She continually took the initiative with her projects, ensuring everything was being completed properly while offering helpful suggestions where processes could be improved.

The library is grateful for her assistance.

Self-Guided Tour

Did you know that the Geoffrey R. Weller Library has over 7,500 maps and 150,000 air photos? Or that the Founders Lounge houses the original architectural model of UNBC's Prince George campus?

The Geoffrey R. Weller Library has numerous services and resources, from data and maps to the Education Resource Centre. We even house the Northern BC Archives. While some patrons may be familiar with most of our services and resources, many may not be. The Geoffrey R. Weller Library Self-Guided Tour was created to better educate patrons about what the library does and what we offer. Completed in August 2016, the tour features 24 QR-code stickers located at key information points throughout the library. Patrons can start the

tour from any point and make their way through the library learning about services and resources along the way. The digital tour is located on the library website, meaning you don't even have to be at the library to complete it. Just head to library.unbc.ca/tour to follow along from the comfort of home.

The tour pages feature audio, text, images, maps, and other key information for a variety of key library locations, such as the Reference Help Desk, Northern BC Archives, RDC@UNBC, and the Founders Lounge.

Next time you are in the library find one of the QR-code stickers on any floor (like the one below located in the Northern BC Archives hallway) and see what the library has to offer!



Our Thanks



Stuart Daniel, pictured above (left), has graciously volunteered his time to organize and run library book sales for the last 2 years. We wish him well in his move to warmer climes.

The library would like to extend its thanks to everyone who has supported the library through your generous donations. Your contributions allow us to continue to provide access to research materials and support for our students.

The library is integral to the success of the University of Northern British Columbia and the student body.

Your gifts and donations enrich and enhance our existing collection and support the instructional and research programs of the university.

We value our community, its knowledge, and rich culture, and we care passionately for the people who make up the community, including our supporters. Thank you.



Stay in Touch

Contact Us

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University of Northern British Columbia
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Prince George, BC V2N 4Z9

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Reference: 250-960-6475
Regional Services: 1-888-440-3440
(toll free within 250 area code)

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On Facebook: facebook.com/unbclibrary

On YouTube: youtube.com/wellerlibrary

