



The LS Horizon

Volume 2, Issue 7

Learning Services: "Key to knowledge creation, acquisition and dissemination"

LEARNING SERVICES & OFFICE OF THE VICE-PROVOST

This year, the month of May is more significant than usual, not just because it hints the coming of warm summer days with nature's splendour on luscious display but also because our University was born this month. Unbeknownst to most of us on campus, it was exactly 100 years ago on May 9th that Alberta's Lieutenant-Governor signed the University Act and officially established the U of A. The Act laid down the legal foundation for the university, outlining its function, structure and goals, and established a governing body for the U of A. In addition, this Act created faculties, a registrar and the establishment of a chancellor. A celebration spearheaded by Vice-Provost Ernie Ingles was held to commemorate the anniversary. The day has been in the University Calendar for a long time, but has been all but forgotten. To commemorate the event, the university distributed replicas of the University Act and handwritten minutes from early U of A meetings proposing Charter Day as a U of A holiday.

Congratulations to Ernie Ingles on his recent award from the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL) with the 2006 CARL Award for Distinguished Service to Research Librarianship. The award is presented annually to an individual at a CARL member institution who has made a substantial local, national or international contribution to research librarianship. Ernie received the award for his outstanding and dynamic contributions to the profession as a scholar and a library leader in many fields.

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It's that time of year again! LS and its various departments are working on their contribution to the Academic Plan. Each unit is preparing a high level strategy to address the President's vision and cornerstones, as well as to respond to the major themes that have been established. The strategies for each area in LS will be merged to create an academic plan for LS. More detailed strategic and operational planning for the portfolio and constituent units will take place in the fall.

To complement the Lois Hole Campus Alberta Library Digital Library Initiative and in response to President Samarasekera's vision, U of A Libraries has undertaken a project to provide library systems and establish more robust library services at the First Nations colleges in the province. A team is working with the colleges to assess requirements. Watch for more exciting details later this fall.

This is a final reminder that all staff are invited to the Staff BBQ this Thursday, May 25th, 11:30 am-2 pm. Those who register on or after May 23rd can pick up their tickets at the event. To register click on the following: <http://www.ls.ualberta.ca/register/section/index.cfm?cid=5>.

LEARNING SERVICES & OFFICE OF THE VICE-PROVOST CONT...

Printing Services

The University has been well-served by an outsourced printing and duplicating service for more than 10 years. However, our contract with McCallum Print Group is soon to expire. We are in the process of doing due diligence and going out to RFP for printing and duplicating services. This process will occur over the summer so that we have a new contract for printing and duplicating services in late fall.

LEARNING SYSTEMS ENTERPRISES

Museums & Collections Services (MACS)

On April 19th, the Department of Museums and Collections Services (MACS) hosted the seventh annual U of A Museums Volunteer Recognition Celebration. Janine Andrews, MACS Executive Director, presided over the celebration and along with special guest Eric Newell, U of A Chancellor, presented the U of A Museums 2006 Volunteer of the Year Award. The Volunteer of the Year Award recognizes the achievements of particularly outstanding volunteers and this year MACS presented awards to Peter Kirchmeir (Archaeology Collections, Department of Anthropology) and to Dr. Ronald Burwash (Mineralogy and Petrology Museum and Collections, Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences). From photographing fossil hominids and famous hosiery; through researching, accessioning, labeling, and cataloguing museum objects; to community outreach programming such as the annual Science Sunday event for kids—U of A Museums volunteers do it all!

The depths of space are much closer to home following the U of A Museum's acquisition of the Tagish Lake Meteorite, a meteorite that is the only one of its kind known to exist on Earth! What makes it so rare? The meteorite is 'pristine'—that is, still frozen and uncontaminated—and so provides an invaluable preserved record of material from when the solar system formed 4.57 billion years ago. "What's fascinating about the Tagish Lake Meteorite is that it enables us to probe the farthest reaches of our Solar System by studying material that has come to us," noted Dr. Christopher Herd, Curator of the U of A Meteorite Collection. In addition to its impact on teaching and research, the Tagish Lake Meteorite augments the Canadian cultural property held by the U of A and continues to put collections development within the U of A Museums at the forefront of new knowledge and ideas.

The U of A, through the Department of Museums and Collections Services and the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, led a consortium of partners that acquired the pristine material for mutual research and heritage interests. These partners include the Department of Canadian Heritage, the Royal Ontario Museum, Natural Resources Canada, and the Canadian Space Agency. Although at this time the Tagish Lake Meteorite is not publicly accessible, everyone is welcome to visit the permanent meteorite exhibit in the Mineralogy and Petrology Museums, B-08 Earth Sciences Building. For more info call 25834.



Peter Kirchmeir, U of A Museums Volunteer of the Year Award winner, flanked by Shirley Harpham (L), archaeology technologist, Department of Anthropology, & Janine Andrews (R), MACS Executive Director



Dr. Ronald Burwash, U of A Museums Volunteer of the Year Award winner, flanked by (L to R): Chancellor Eric Newell, Janine Andrews, MACS Executive Director, Dr. Pat Cavell & Dr. Andrew Locoock, Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences.

LEARNING SYSTEMS ENTERPRISES CONTINUED...

This summer, MACS offers *Grade "A" Certified (fresh)*, an exhibition featuring recent acquisitions of the U of A Art Collection (UAAC) certified as cultural property. What's new? What's cultural property? What's that 'A' all about? Discover *Grade "A" Certified (fresh)* at the Print Study Centre, 3-78 FAB, U of A, June 23-July 5. For more info call 25834.



Dr. Christopher Herd, Curator of the U of A Meteorite Collection, Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences. Photo credit: Michael Holly, Creative Services.



Figure 1

Did You Know...?

The Technology Training Centre (TTC), located on the basement level of Cameron Library offers an extensive selection of over 100 different courses to choose from... interested in learning more about InDesign? MS Excel? Sign up for a course and pick up a practical new computer skill. Work during the day? TTC offers evening courses to suit your schedule. Go to www.ualberta.ca/TRAINING.

U OF A LIBRARIES

The Bruce Peel Special Collections Library has recently acquired one of the eminent treasures from the Huntington Library in California, the Ellesmere Chaucer, which is aptly described as a full-colour facsimile of one of the earliest manuscripts of Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*. The Ellesmere manuscript is arguably the most renowned literary manuscript in English, distinguished by its lavish decoration, floriated borders, and an arrangement of twenty-three equestrian pictures of the famous storytellers (Chaucer himself is featured in Figure 1, see above). A warm welcome is extended to all Chaucer scholars and interested parties to avail themselves of this invaluable research tool.

NEOS Manager, Anne Carr-Wiggin has been seconded as Interim Manager of Circulation at Rutherford Library, with special responsibility for implementing self-serve borrowing across the U of A Libraries system. NEOS plans to have a replacement Manager in place for June 1.

Trish Chatterley, a new sessional librarian at the JW Scott Health Sciences Library, has won the Canadian Library Association (CLA) student paper award this year for a paper that she wrote on intellectual freedom. She has won a \$150 cash prize, free registration, accommodation, and transportation to the CLA Annual Conference. The article will be published in *Feliciter*. Congratulations Trish!

U OF A BOOKSTORE

The McClelland & Stewart Unbeatable Backlist Sale starts June 15th at the U of A Bookstore. Choose from 100 select titles. Buy one, get 10% off, buy two, get 20% off OR buy three or more and get 30% off! To view the title list, please go to <http://www.mcclelland.com/100years/books/essential100.html>.

U OF A PRESS

The U of A Press (UAP) crew traveled to Calgary for the Alberta Book Awards (ABA) reception held May 13th at the Hyatt Regency and came home with several publishing awards including Book Design of the Year (*Portraits of the Bison*, Wes Olson, photographs by Johane Janelle), designed by Alan Brownoff and Trade Non-Fiction Book of the Year (*Mapper of Mountains*, I.S. MacLaren with Eric Higgs and Gabrielle Zezulka-Mailloux). Special recognition goes to highly-acclaimed UAP fiction author, Birk Sproxton who won the coveted and prestigious Grant MacEwan Author's Award (\$25,000) for his title, *Phantom Lake*, which was announced at the ABA as well. Sproxton was shortlisted for the ABA's Wilfred Eggleston Award for Non-Fiction and had also recently won the Manitoba Historical Society's Margaret McWilliams Award in the Local History category for the same title. Keeping the winning streak alive, UAP was nominated in the AAUP Book, Journal and Jacket Competition's Pictorial category (part of The Alcuin Society Citations for Excellence in Book Design in Canada) for John Conway's title, *Saskatchewan* and came away in 2nd place. Congratulations to Alan Brownoff, UAP designer! Alan's work on the title, *ReCalling Early Canada*, also received Honourable Mention in the Prose Nonfiction category.

April was a non-stop, fast-paced month for UAP as it hosted a slew of book launches and celebrations. Vice-Provost Ernie Ingles and Dr. Carl Amrhein, U of A Provost and Vice-President made an appearance and helped provide some poignant opening remarks. Below are some photos from the various parties:



Dr. Amrhein (L) with Linda Cameron, UAP Director and Ernie Ingles at the Alberta Formed-Alberta Transformed book launch at Rutherford House on campus.



UAP author Birk Sproxton shows off his latest book, *Phantom Lake*, and his MHS Margaret McWilliams Local History Award at UAP's Literary Cocktails at the Faculty Club.



Ernie Ingles (R) provides opening remarks at the well-attended Atlas of Alberta Railways website launch held at the Provincial Archives of Alberta.

TECHNOLOGY TRAINING CENTRE (TTC)

The Technology Training Centre will be offering Summer Computer Camps in July and August for youth ages 8–17. Camps are split 8–12 year olds and 13–17 year olds. Areas of interest will include 3D animation, digital art, programming, digital video magic, and web design. Recommended age: children from 8 to 12 and teens from 13 to 17 years old. Camps run for one week, 8:30 am–4:30 pm with drop-offs starting at 8 am and pick-ups until 5 pm. For more info, visit <http://www.ualberta.ca/TRAINING/> or call 21397.

ON THE HORIZON

Evaluating Library Instruction Workshop

This workshop will explore how evaluation can help instructors make a difference to their own practice and to student outcomes, and will provide tips on how to incorporate evaluation into your instruction when you're pressed for time and other resources. It will be presented by Dr. Heidi Julien from the School of Library and Information Studies at the U of A.

May 24, 2006, 9–11 am
3-01 Rutherford South Library

For info and to sign up visit
<http://staff.library.ualberta.ca/training/>.

U of A Corporate Challenge

U of A Corporate Challenge is seeking competitors, participants, volunteers. Come help U of A defend its dual title as Overall and Spirit Team Champion. There's something for everyone. Register online now at www.ualberta.ca/challenge.

May 26-June 10, 2006
Various locations in Edmonton
Check website for full details

NEOS Mini-Conference

Stephen Abram, Vice President for Innovation at SirsiDynix and President Elect of the Special Libraries Association is the keynote speaker. Ernie Ingles, Vice Provost and Chief Librarian, U of A, Kathleen DeLong, Associate Director, U of A Libraries, and Allison Sivak, U of A Librarian and Researcher, will present a plenary session on the 8Rs national research project.

The one-day conference is offered free to staff of NEOS member libraries and will include a variety of breakout sessions. Register at <http://www.library.ualberta.ca/neosminiconference/registration/index.cfm>. Deadline to register is May 26.

June 2, 2006
Grant MacEwan College

For more info contact the NEOS Continuing Education Committee (<http://www.neoslibraries.ca/content.aspx?p=228>).

Feedback & submissions: send to Chau Lam, chauminh@ualberta.ca

Next Submission Deadline: August TBA

The LS Horizon is a newsletter to inform LS staff of events and activities happening in LS units and to recognize individuals, teams and groups who have received honours and awards. The LS Horizon will be on summer hiatus and will return with a fresh issue in September.