SFU Library Highlights 2016-2017

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WINNER OF THE PULITZER PRIZE Carol Shields on Writing

> EDITED BY NE GIARDINI AND NICHOLAS GIARDINI



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Gwen Bird

Gwen Bird

Message from the Dean

The libraries on all three SFU campuses continued to evolve, to grow, and to deliver a wide range of services over the past year. The more than 1.8 million visitors to our buildings and over 4 million visits to our website indicate how busy we were but do not necessarily illustrate the Library's impact on learning and research. The short profiles in this report will help to tell that story.

This year we also looked toward the future by developing a new strategic plan for the SFU Library, covering the period 2017-2021. The new plan charts our course in three strategic directions—the Library is: Open for Research, Open for Learning, Open for Collaboration. We have organized this annual report around these themes.

It has been my privilege to lead a remarkable and dedicated team over the past year, and it is my pleasure to present this report of our annual highlights.

Maggie Nelson in conversation with Amber Dawn at One Book One SFU: The Argonauts

Welcome to the SFU Library

In the 2016-2017 fiscal year, SFU Library welcomed 1.85 million visitors to our three campus locations: W.A.C. Bennett Library in Burnaby; Fraser Valley Real Estate Board Academic Library in Surrey; and Samuel and Frances Belzberg Library in Vancouver. In addition to the in-person visits by students, faculty, staff, and community members, we had over 4 million visitors to our website, lib.sfu.ca.

This past year, we held the 11th annual Celebration of SFU Authors and were delighted to recognize an impressive array of publications representing the full range of academic and creative output at SFU. The list of works published in 2016 included topics as yet unimagined when we began this celebration in 2006, and each year we see and celebrate more electronic-only publications and multimedia installations. What has remained constant is the reach and range of authors, including faculty, staff, students, alumni and retirees.

In March of 2017, we hosted the award-winning Canadian poet and writer Gary Geddes for a reading and conversation at Bennett Library. In his newest book, *Medicine Unbundled: Dispatches from the Indigenous Frontlines*, Geddes embarks on a long and difficult journey across Canada to interview Indigenous elders willing to share their experiences of segregated health care. Speaking to a sold-out crowd, Geddes told the audience that he was prompted to write the book when he met Songhees elder Joan Morris at the Truth and Reconciliation Commission hearings in Victoria, British Columbia.



Open for Research

Open Access Policy at SFU

In January 2017, SFU Senate officially endorsed an Open Access Policy that demonstrates the academic community's commitment to share its research with the broadest possible audience.

Faculty, students, and postdoctoral fellows can satisfy the new policy by submitting an electronic copy of their published papers to the SFU Library through an online deposit form. The text will then be made available to the public in our open digital repository, Summit, once the Library has considered requirements for access delay.

"Growing our open access, open data and open innovation activities is a key aspect of SFU's Strategic Research Plan. SFU is recognized as a trailblazer in open access and open knowledge initiatives, and the new open access policy further supports our vision of being Canada's leading engaged university."

—Joy Johnson, Vice-President Research & International

Digital Humanities Innovation Lab

The DHIL launched in May 2016 and is run by a Planning Committee that includes the Digital Scholarship Librarian, the Web and Data Services Developer, and two academic co-directors. Over the course of a busy first year, the DHIL developed and established its vision for a library-based digital humanities lab. This vision developed through extensive consultations with stakeholders—SFU faculty, staff, and students—and through strategic hiring of a software developer and research assistants.

The work of the DHIL in the first year has set the stage for achieving our goal "to promote the development and dissemination of high-quality research that will position SFU as a world leader in digital scholarship." In its second year, the DHIL will continue to support research capacity and training as well as the dissemination of digital scholarship; it will also work to identify and enhance key areas of research strength.

Directed Study in Special Collections and Rare Books

In collaboration with Dr. Michelle Levy and the Department of English, the first directed study in Special Collections and Rare Books was developed and offered. Reese Irwin undertook a Directed Study in 19th century first editions held by Special Collections and Rare Books.

Irwin's resulting bibliography of nearly 400 books will be used by Library staff to create more comprehensive catalogue entries, including the identification of a significant number of books not explicitly catalogued as first editions. Her research led Irwin to explore three areas in which the bibliography might be utilized for further scholarship. She discusses these in her paper "First Editions and Rabbit Holes: Discoveries in Special Collections." The first is the use of quantitative data to "distant read" the bibliography, comparing the representation of female and male authors, and the distribution of genres; the second explores the "stack rescue," or books which had previously been in circulation and are now in Special Collections; and the third, the selection of titles published in or on Canada, resulted in a physical exhibit.

Student Learning Commons 10th anniversary celebrations

STUDENT LEATNING COMMENTS 2004-2014 2016

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Open for Learning

10th Anniversary of Student Learning Commons

Student Learning Commons opened its doors in Fall of 2006 to offer services and programs supporting SFU students' writing, learning strategies, and Englishlanguage learning. To celebrate their 10th anniversary, the SLC hosted an afternoon reception on October 4th in their Bennett Library location and welcomed colleagues from across the Library and University.

The original mandate of the SLC was to support the WQB (Writing, Quantitative, and Breadth) requirements introduced into the undergraduate curriculum at the university in the Fall 2006 term.

For the past 10 years, the Student Learning Commons has offered all SFU students expert and friendly help with academic writing, learning, and study strategies in an environment of collaboration, discussion, and peer learning. The SLC has expanded its services to all three SFU campuses and offers a variety of one-to-one consultations, workshops, and online resources.

Open Educational Resources Pilot

In response to a request from the Library and the Teaching and Learning Centre (TLC), the Vice President Academic provided \$45,000 during 2016 to fund the pilot year of an OER program at SFU. The grants were jointly administered by the Library and TLC, awarding faculty members up to \$5,000 to help them redesign a course to use OER as their primary course material, and to help them adopt and/or adapt open textbooks and other OER for that purpose.

In addition to the funding provided by these grants, staff from the SFU Library and TLC worked with recipients to assist with locating, evaluating and adapting highquality open resources as an alternative to commercial course materials.

Three calls for proposals were announced in February, June, and October of 2016. Fifteen proposals were received across the three rounds and a total of 10 projects were funded at a cost of \$43,600. If each OER project replaced a course textbook that averaged the cost of \$100, we can assume an overall saving of \$230,000 for SFU students across many departments and faculties.

All-in-a-day Workshops

All-in-a-day workshops organized by Research Commons librarians bring together a suite of our most popular graduate workshops. They allow graduate students and post-doctoral researchers to connect with one another while gaining advanced skills in digital literacy, data management, literature searching, and academic writing.

"I found the Research Commons services of the library to be a wonderful and very valuable addition to my graduate education in urban studies at SFU Vancouver. I made use of those services several times throughout my degree program, including technical workshops in data analysis, GIS and reference management programs and also the fantastic thesis bootcamp. The instructors in the various workshops I attended were always informed, helpful, patient and good-natured. I think the library does a good job of keeping up with the evolution of technology and software that graduate students are interested in and need to learn. I especially appreciated it when these services were made available at the SFU Vancouver campus in "all-in-a-day" workshops..."

-SFU Vancouver Graduate Student

Yaa Gyasi, John Freeman, and Colson Whitehead at Vancouver Writers Fest

Open for Collaboration

A Platform for the Literary Arts

In the past year, we worked in collaboration with internal and external partners to create, host, and support vibrant literary programs. In October 2016, we sponsored "Chimes of Freedom" with Yaa Gyasi, John Freeman, and Colson Whitehead at the Vancouver Writers Fest.

In January 2017, we partnered with SFU's Vancity Office of Community Engagement and UBC Creative Writing to host Maggie Nelson in conversation with Amber Dawn for the second installment of One Book One SFU. The support and feedback from our faculty, students, and community for this series has been overwhelmingly positive.

"Congratulations on co-creating such a radical beautiful intellectual space on Campus!" — One Book One SFU attendee

Throughout the year, our Special Collections & Rare Books Department hosted a number of well-attended readings, lectures, and exhibits on a wide range of topics related to the literary arts and publishing.

Public Knowledge Project

In 2016, SFU Library's Public Knowledge Project (PKP), under the directorship of Dr. John Willinsky, Professor in the SFU Publishing Program and Khosla Family Professor at the Graduate School of Education at Stanford University, received the Connection Award from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC). The award "recognizes an outstanding SSHRC-funded initiative to facilitate the flow and exchange of research knowledge within and/or beyond the academic community. It is given to an individual or team whose project has engaged the campus and/or wider community, and has generated intellectual, cultural, social and/or economic impacts."

PKP started with an initial SSHRC grant to Dr. Willinsky and SFU co-applicant Dr. Richard Smith in 2000, and has since expanded into a global research and software development project at the SFU Library working to facilitate the expansion and increased quality of open access publishing.

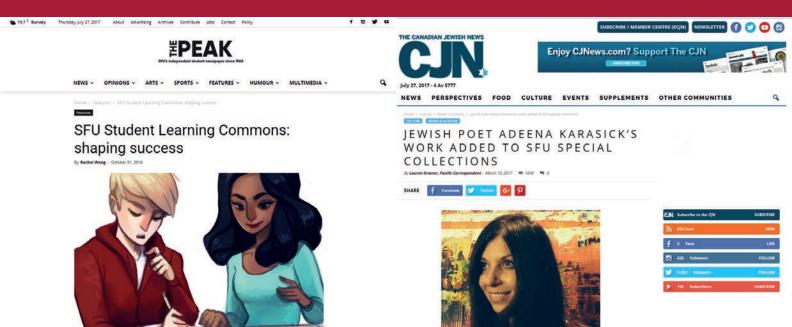
Employment Exchange Pilot with UBC Library

Simon Fraser University and University of British Columbia Libraries participated in an employment exchange pilot program between two Associate Deans of Libraries.

The exchange provided professional growth and development for the two librarians involved, Natalie Gick (SFU) and Rue Ramirez (UBC), and was a unique opportunity to share best practices on library management between the two university libraries.

Work undertaken by the Associate Deans during this exchange period included diversity initiatives, space planning, preservation of library collections, and staffing plans. The ADL exchange was governed by the respective policies at each institution and was mutually beneficial to our institutions and the individuals involved.







TEAM CONTACT

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Commonly Used Abbreviations

SFU promotes public access to research with new policy

February 3, 2017

Simon Fraser University's senate has officially endorsed an Open Access Policy that demonstrates the academic community's commitment to share its research with the broadest possible audience. Faculty, students, and postdoctoral fellows at the school can satisfy the new policy by submitting an electronic copy of their published papers to the SFU library through an online deposit form. The text will then be made available to the public once the library

SFU Library in the News



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SFU librarian Holly Hendrigan to present TechBC **Memory Project**

April 05, 2017

COMMUNITY

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B.C's first technical university opened in 1999 amidist worldwide fears that computers would cease to function when the new millernium dawned.

SFU given J.S. Woodsworth letters and photos spanning a century

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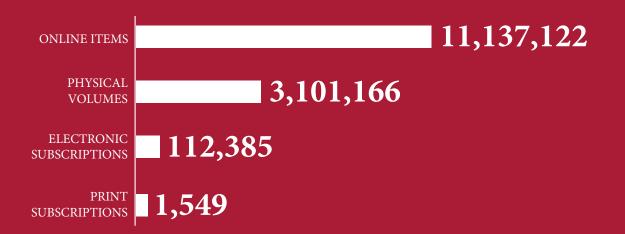
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Statistics at a Glance



26,003 STUDENTS INSTRUCTED
8,844 CONSULTATIONS
1,414 INSTRUCTIONAL SESSIONS







Online Use of Library's Digital Resources

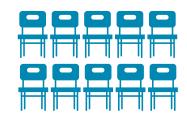
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