

## Welcome from the Dean of Library Services

It has been a landmark year for SFU Library. As you will read in this issue, our Special Collections gifts-in-kind has reached an all-time high thanks to librarian Eric Swanick. In October, we inaugurated the beautiful Thesis Defence Room at Bennett Library, which is already heavily used.

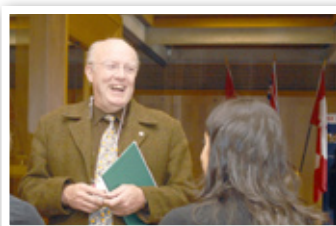
The Library is also participating in four initiatives that have attracted significant funding. These are the Synergies project to transform Canadian social science and humanities research results online; the Canadian Research Knowledge Network project to bring humanities and social science information resources to researchers; the AlouetteCanada metadata toolkit project, which will enable small and large institutions to manage digitization and online access to Canadian historical collections; and the Multicultural Canada digitization project featured below.

In addition, our liaison librarian programme continues to grow, providing collection development, reference, and instruction support, setting the stage for another successful year in 2008/09.

Lynn Copeland  
University Librarian & Dean of Library Services

## Preserving and sharing Canada's history

On February 20, 2008, the Honourable Jim Abbott, Parliamentary Secretary for Canadian Heritage, announced a \$500,000 grant from the Canadian Culture Online program for SFU Library to lead a multi-stakeholder initiative aimed at preserving the history and heritage of Canada's minority groups.



Jim Abbott talks  
with SFU students.

Multicultural Canada will digitize multicultural collections of newspapers, magazines, audio tapes, photographs, local histories, speeches, letters, and oral histories that currently reside in a variety of locations. The collections will be enhanced with contextual materials and participatory opportunities for users, including K-12 teachers, students, community members, and academic researchers.

"In keeping with SFU's slogan, 'Thinking of the World,' we are committed to sharing our digitization expertise and making information available to the general public, worldwide," says SFU President Michael Stevenson.

Eleven collections will be digitized in this phase of the project including materials from the Chinese, Doukhobor, Hungarian, Japanese, First Nations, Indo-Canadian, Vietnamese, German, Pakistani-Urdu, Jewish, and Ukrainian communities. SFU hopes to add more collections representing other ethnic groups with the support of community members.

"By preserving these materials and making them available online we will help citizens better understand and appreciate the multicultural heritage of their country, and the global world we inhabit today," says University Librarian Lynn Copeland.

Project partners for this phase include the Multicultural History Society of Ontario, University of Calgary, University of Toronto, University of Victoria, and the Vancouver Public Library.

The collections and educational materials will be available online at [www.multiculturalcanada.ca](http://www.multiculturalcanada.ca), at no cost to users, by June 2008.

## Biblio-File

SFU Library is pleased to introduce Janis McKenzie as the new head of Reference.



Janis brings library friends a book recommendation that is sure to charm both young and old alike.

**Moomin Volume One: The Complete Tove Jansson Comic Strip, by Tove Jansson. Montreal: Drawn and Quarterly, 2006.**



Imagine Finland, with long stretches of coastline much like our own, darkly wooded with steep rocky shores and not a lot of sunlight. But the forests of Jansson's comic strip (like her children's books) are inhabited by creatures who make up a kind of fun-house mirror image of our own society, including the title character, a troll who is not only philosophical and subversive in a way that is reminiscent of Peanuts, but also looks oddly like a hippo. The adventures are absurd and a little edgy (there is an episode where our hero's parents run away from home for a while), and Jansson's illustrations are spare and beautiful, whimsical without succumbing to cuteness. These cartoons originally appeared in the London Evening News in the 1950s.

This book is available at SFU Library. SFU alumni have borrowing privileges and community members can obtain an external borrower card. Visit us in person or at [www.lib.sfu.ca](http://www.lib.sfu.ca)

## Making the library a better place for students

After more than 20 years, SFU's Campus Giving Campaign is still going strong. Each spring, staff, faculty, and retirees show their community spirit by banding together to raise money for students. The 2008 campaign kicks off in April.

As part of the campaign, the Library raises funds for a special library project that directly benefits students. Past projects have included purchasing audio-visual projector kits for loan and enhancing student study spaces.

This year the Library is fundraising to create a quiet study area for students on the 6th floor of Bennett Library. The area is currently stuck in the 1970s with its purple and orange carpet and wood-paneled study carrels. We want to bring it into the 21st century by adding new carpet, tables, and reading lamps to create a comfortable study space for students.

"Each and every student uses the library," says Wanda Dekleva, SFU's Director of Annual Giving. "Donors want to know that their gift will help as many students as possible, and a gift to the library is a gift to the entire university community."

One of the Library's goals for the 2008 campaign is to increase the participation rate of staff, faculty, and retirees. "There is no such thing as a gift that is too small", says Garth Lauer, library campaign chair and manager of building and equipment services. "Every dollar we raise helps improve the library experience for students."

And every dollar raised becomes two dollars again this year! The Library has announced that it will use income from its endowment funds to match all donations received through the campaign.

For more information or to make a gift go to [www.lib.sfu.ca/campus\\_appeal](http://www.lib.sfu.ca/campus_appeal)

## Celebrating scholarship and creation at SFU

On November 1, 2007, honoured authors and special guests congregated in Special Collections at WAC Bennett Library to celebrate the scholarly and creative output of the SFU community. The event feted 87 students, staff, and current and retired faculty who collectively published 91 titles, including textbooks, anthologies, monographs, a DVD, and an online computer game, between January 2006 and June 2007.



Authors Peter Dickinson and Carolyn Lesjak.

"SFU authors, write, edit and translate an impressive number of works," says Lynn Copeland, University Librarian. "The titles celebrated have been translated into other languages and published by companies all over the world indicating that SFU authors are making contributions far beyond our campus."

The reception included a display of celebrated titles, arranged by SFU Bookstore, and remarks from Lynn Copeland, Ms. Jan Whitford, and Dr. Mario Pinto. The speakers commented on the diversity of titles produced by SFU authors and the role authors play in advancing the university's reputation as a leading research institution.

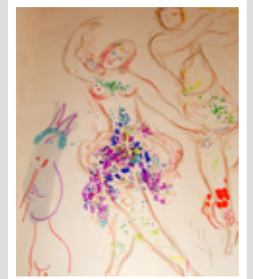
"The library's celebration of SFU authors was a wonderful event," says Carolyn Lesjak, Associate Professor, Department of English. "It highlighted the rising profile of SFU as a Canadian research institution and showed in concrete form just how productive SFU's faculty are."

The Library is currently accepting submissions for the period of July 2007 to June 2008. For more information visit [www.lib.sfu.ca/about/author/](http://www.lib.sfu.ca/about/author/)

## Record breaking

Special Collections and Rare Books received an unprecedented \$1.2 million in gifts-in-kind in 2007/08.

Highlights include more than 1,000 editorial cartoons by John Larter, the archive of noted author and SFU professor Robin Blaser, a large collection of William Cobbett material, an early Carrier hymn-book (1901), a book with an original Chagall lithograph, the papers of Eden Robinson, Christian Bok, and Jeff Derksen, and much more.



Chagall lithograph

Donor support plays a critical role in the development of Special Collections. We continue to seek donations of books and materials in the following areas; editorial cartoons, 20th century modern, post-modern, and avant-garde writing, Vancouver punk materials, BC-focused collections on history, literature, publishing, gay/lesbian studies, politics, multiculturalism, environment and social issues.

For more information contact, contact Eric Swanick at [eswanick@sfu.ca](mailto:eswanick@sfu.ca) or 778.782.4626.



SFU's Open House will be held on Saturday, May 31, 2008 from 12:00 pm to 4:30 pm, rain or shine, at the Burnaby campus. We're opening our doors to the world and showcasing all that SFU has to offer with an afternoon full of music, hundreds of interactive displays, and fun for all ages. Be sure to stop by the Library and say hello! [www.sfu.ca/openhouse/](http://www.sfu.ca/openhouse/)

## Contact

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