

# News LETTER/ Nouv ELLES

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## NEWSletter/NOUvelles

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## President's Message

It is with excitement that I begin my term as President of OALT/ABO. As our association has grown and is now moving into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, we are all looking forward to the "Blueprint for Change" that the Committee will report to us at the annual meeting next May.

However during this year just ahead of me, I make the commitment of sharing with you, all of my knowledge and wisdom that I have gathered over my years of being a Library and Information Technician.

I hope that this year will be as exciting for you as it will be for me. Remember that my phone, email and door are always open to all of you for comments and concerns. Your executive and board under my leadership will serve you to the best of our ability.

I look forward to hearing from you the members on our discussion list,

Respectfully yours,  
Pam Casey  
President

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## Have you....?

The Ontario Association of Library Technicians/Association des bibliotechniciens de l'Ontario has a new website address sponsored by Rowe Com Canada. This can be viewed at the following address: <http://www.oaltabo.on.ca>

Our Webmaster, Gerry Estrada, the creator of some wonderful web pages deserves our congratulations and our thanks for his willingness to share his talents with our community. Have you viewed the website recently?

Please indicate to the Newsletter Editor, Sue Callaway, if you would be interested in receiving the newsletter in an electronic format via email.

Contact her at [scallaw@sympatico.ca](mailto:scallaw@sympatico.ca)



## Executive biographies

Are you wondering who the executive are for the new year? Please check the following:

### Pam Casey, President

Pam is our current President for 2000/2001. Pam has been with OALT/ABO since 1994 and during that time, graduated from Sheridan College in the Library & Information Technician program. During Pam's time with the association, she has earned two awards. In 1996 it was the Halton/Peel Eva Schnurr award for top con-ed. student of the year and in 1998 it was the Halton/Peel Regional Award of Merit for outstanding work for the association. Pam is currently employed with Glaxo Wellcome Inc. as an Information Specialist, working in their Information Centre. Pam is married with 3 children and lives in Burlington.

### Sean Crowe, Vice-President OALT/ABO:

I have been a member of Halton-Peel Regional Branch since 1996. This is my first term on the OALT/ABO Provincial Executive, however I have been active on the Halton-Peel Regional Executive, since joining the association. For me, getting involved was the best way to learn more about my profession and our association. I studied for my L.I.T. at Sheridan College and graduated in 1997. Since then I have complemented my library skills with Information Systems knowledge. I am currently employed as the Systems Administrator at Wentworth Libraries in Hamilton.

### Maxine Corea, Provincial Treasurer

Maxine is a Graduate of the University of Western Ontario obtaining a B.A. in Anthropology in 1980. After graduating I worked in museums/archives and also did secretarial work. I always wanted to work in a library and decided in 1995 to attend a Library Technician course at Sheridan and graduated in 1997. A resident of Fergus, just north of Guelph, she works for Homewood Health Centre in Guelph.

### Janet Iles, Membership Co-ordinator

Janet, a member of Huronia Regional Branch is the Membership Co-ordinator. A graduate of the Library Technician Program at Sheridan College and a BA from Western, she is currently taking courses in genealogical studies from the Faculty of Information Studies University of Toronto and the National Institute for Genealogical Studies. In her free time, she pursues her family history and holds a variety of positions at her church.

### Valerie Barten, Provincial Secretary

Valerie is a member of OALT/ABO Thunder Bay region. She graduated from the Library and Information Studies program at Lakehead University in 1993. This is Valerie's second year as Provincial Secretary. Prior to this she was Thunder Bay's Regional Director for two years. Valerie is a member of OALT/ABO because of the opportunity to meet and network with others in the information and technology field. Currently Valerie is working for the Lakehead District School Board as an Information Services Technician at 3 schools.

### Diana Brown, Public Relations Coordinator

Diana graduated in 1983 from Algonquin College. She is currently working at the National Library of Canada as a Cataloguing Technician. Since 1991 Diana has served on the Executive of the Ottawa Regional Branch/Section régionale d'Ottawa as Treasurer and Director. Her hobbies include: reading, movies, games and dried flower arrangements. This is her 2nd term as Public Relations Coordinator, and has enjoyed her work on both the regional and provincial executive.

Valerie Barten, Pam Casey, Sean Crowe, Maxine Corea missing are Janet Iles and Diana Brown.



## Closures: Sheridan College


### Sheridan's Library and Information Technician Program – 30 Years of Excellence

By Marion Wilburn, Co-ordinator

It is a time of transitions and changes in all areas including the library field and the education system. After 30 years of existence Sheridan's Library and Information Technician program graduated its final group of students in May 2000.

The program began in 1970, also a time of transition. The first graduates worked hard to establish themselves in the new career path. Under the coordination of Geraldine Hughes, Sheridan's program gained a reputation for solid knowledge and skills in card typing, audio-visual productions, cataloguing, circulation, acquisitions and basic reference. By Hughes retirement in 1983, students were trying out their first tentative online searches using a terminal and floppy-eared modem.

In 1983, I took over the program and continued pushing technological and curriculum changes to reflect the leading edge changes in our field. Students soon began cataloguing online and learning the basics of word processing. Audio-visual slides gave way to Power Point presentations. In 1995, I led the Sheridan Web Pilot Project and successfully moved the web from pilot to production. At the same time, students began to build web pages and explore issues in electronic publishing. Soon students were studying hardware and software maintenance and office systems for libraries. I received many calls from colleagues commenting on our grads' comfort level and knowledge in library systems. Graduate's jobs also reflected these changes – systems administrator, web designer, database technician, electronic services representative and knowledge manager.



*"celebrated 30 Years of Excellence  
with over 120 guests"*

Throughout the program, many associations and organizations sponsored awards -- the SLA, Toronto Chapter Award, the Sheridan Park Library and Information Science Award, the Records and Information Management (RIM) Technology Award, the OALT/ABO Library Technician's Merit Plaque and Eva Schnurr Awards, the Micromedia Reference and Indexing Awards and others.

To encourage active involvement in our associations, I released students from classes so they could volunteer at the OLA Annual Conference. Although initially fearful, they soon recognized the value of volunteering and the excitement of being an active part

*(Continued on page 9)*

## A reunion: Fanshawe College

Contributed by Jan McClelland

In the fall of 1999, Fanshawe College announced it was suspending enrollment in the Library and Information program. Many were surprised and saddened, especially the graduates of the program. Marilyn Turner, the Fanshawe College Alumni Officer, suggested organizing a reunion. The Ontario Association of Library Technicians (OALT/ABO) Lohania branch worked with the Fanshawe College Alumni office to plan a reunion. Invitations were sent to graduates, students and faculty who had taught in the program.

The reunion was held in Fanshawe College's Saffron's dining room on Saturday, April 29, 2000 from 2 to 5 PM. About 100 attended to say farewell to the program and to honour the program co-ordinator, Marie Wiley. The early graduates of the program were delighted that Cliff Weaver, the first co-ordinator, was able to attend. It was a wonderful afternoon of reminiscing and reacquainting with former classmates and teachers. Everyone had one last visit to the lab where classes were held for many years. There they helped Marie clean out the room by taking home mementos such as books, class newsletters, pictures, etc.

Thank you to Fanshawe College for providing us with the education to pursue our careers. We hope, in the future, there will be a need for Fanshawe to once again provide a similar program.

## Lakehead University's Library Technology Program 1966-2000

In 1966, the School of Library Technology, Faculty of Professional Studies at Lakehead University, developed the first program for the training of Library Technicians in Ontario, and the second program of its kind in Canada. Lakehead adopted the two-year program for its students. In 1988, The School of Library Technology became the Department of Library and Information Studies, Faculty of Arts and Science offering a three-year Bachelor of Arts Degree with a major in Library and Information Studies. In 1990, due to the government's decision not to fund the B.A. program, the Department discontinued the B.A. and offered a two-year Diploma in Library and Information Studies, with the option of continuing into the third year of a B.A. Degree program. Students with a B.A. Degree could take the fourteen LIS credits during a further year of study and receive the Diploma in Library and Information Studies. Whatever the program, graduates were qualified Library Technicians.

The Library and Information Studies Diploma program at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay was unique, in that it was housed in a university. LIS students were admitted on the same basis as any other student pursuing a university undergraduate degree program; many scholarships and awards being available. Since our students were taking degree credit liberal arts subjects, upon graduation from the Diploma program, they were allowed into the third year of a B.A.; students with a B.A. already having completed the liberal arts component of the Diploma, could complete the two year Diploma in one further year of study. LIS graduates were well versed in technical library skills as well as having obtained a well rounded liberal arts background which furthered their employability. Many of our students having completed their Bachelor of Arts Degree continued to the Master of Library Science Degree offered at University of Western Ontario, University of Toronto, Dalhousie University, University of Alberta, etc.

Although the objectives and basic structure of the Library & Information Studies Diploma at Lakehead University have changed little, the course content has been continually revised in response to the changing needs of the library profession – public, school, academic, special, and emerging information marketplace. Despite financial pressures and space restrictions, the Department managed to maintain its learning laboratory collection of professional journals, books, multimedia products, and databases. This is due in large part to the publishers who are sending library schools free books and materials, demonstration disks, and “classroom” programs, which have allowed the introduction of new services at minimal or no cost to the Department.

*“first Library Technician program in  
Ontario...Lakehead University”*

The first Library Technician program in Ontario was developed at Lakehead University by Dan Sudar to fill the need for trained library staff on a para-professional level in Thunder Bay and Northwestern Ontario. Since 1966, one of the main objectives of the program was that the School/Department offer its program off campus. Maintaining program enrolment in the program over an extended period of time has been challenging. The need for fully qualified and trained library personnel in the region is as important today as it was in the sixties. During the 34 years of the program, students came from all over the world, and likewise Lakehead's graduates found employment worldwide.

The Department recognized the importance of life-long learning for a professional in today's ever-changing and technologically advanced world. Since 1998, the Department offered a variety of cost-recovery workshops for students in the program and library professionals in the field. These workshops included CDROM searching, AACR2, DDC20, MARC records, Dialog searching, Security Systems, Video Cataloguing, Computer-Assisted Research in Law, Careers for LIS Graduates, Reference, and Quick Law Database Searching, etc. Professionals from outside of Thunder Bay facilitated these one to two day workshops. Cost recovery workshops were discontinued in 1994.

In 1990, Senate approved 3.5 full course equivalent Library & Information Studies courses as Degree credit open to all university students as academic electives for their B.A. Degree programs. These courses are the ones that now make up the Minor in Information Studies being offered for the first time in September 2000.

In 1994, Lakehead University launched its world wide web site. The Department of Library & Information Studies was one of the first departments to have a link to the Lakehead University home page. In 1999, the first web-based LIS course was available for delivery. The Department now has two web-based courses available to students both on and off campus.

At its Senate Meeting of April 2000, the University decided to discontinue the Diploma program at Lakehead University and at

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## Lakehead University's Library Technology Program 1966-2000

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its meeting of June 2000, to begin a Minor in Information Studies effective September 2000. A minor concentration in Information Studies, consists of three full course equivalent courses from the Department of Library and Information Studies.

The main objectives of the Minor in Information Studies is to provide students with the ability to develop the strategies to locate, access, retrieve, evaluate, and use, information in all its forms. The key to a strong Information Studies program will be the successful integration of the program across the university curricula.

The Library & Information Studies Diploma program was unique, was one of high quality, was highly effective, and well-recognized in the library field. The decision to discontinue the program was based on the belief that Lakehead University should discontinue all diploma programs within the University.

### News from a past President

Penni Lee would like everyone to know that she married Wayne Chalk over the summer. The picture shows Wayne and Penni Chalk on their wedding day.

Penni is taking a well earned break from OALT/ABO to enjoy her time with her new husband. We wish you well, Penni.

Congratulations and best wishes!



### Looking for articles....

Attention! Your input is greatly needed.

Have you written an article? Or done something of interest that would appeal to all of us?

If so, and you would like to contribute towards the newsletter, please consider doing so. The newsletter editor can be contacted via email: [scallaw@sympatico.ca](mailto:scallaw@sympatico.ca)

Pictures can also be included with the newsletter.

## Workingfaster.com

Enroll today in Workingfaster.com's most popular course, Searching Faster and Smarter on the Web! Delivered by Workingfaster.com, the North American leader in web search training. Registration for this full day, hands-on course is limited to \*\*12\*\* participants per session, so sign up soon!

Here are the details:

Dates: Thursday November 2, 2000 or Thursday Feb. 8, 2001

Time: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Location: Knowledgeability, Mississauga campus, 151 City Centre Drive, Suite 700

Price: CANS\$400 + applicable taxes includes all materials, coffee throughout the day, and 30 days post-training aftercare to all participants.

For more information or to register: Call KIM GOULD at Knowledgeability, toll free (800) 801-2267. You can also find more information and a course outline at the Knowledgeability web site:

<http://www.knowledgeability.ca/WorkingFaster/WFOutline.asp>

## Judy Koenig 1951—2000

It is with a sad heart that I write this about Judy Koenig. Judy had been a long-standing member of OALT/ABO in the Huronia Region, when suddenly she passed away on May 20, 2000.

The announcement of Judy's untimely death was put on the listserv by Pat Henry and Gale Moreau of Huronia and read as follows:

*It is with deep sorrow Huronia Regional Branch informs the membership of the sudden and untimely passing of Judy Koenig on Saturday, May 20, 2000.*

*Judy has a long and enthusiastic history with OALT/ABO and Huronia Regional Branch. As one of our founding members, Judy create Huronia Regional Branch, was instrumental in establishing the Library Technician program at Georgian College and has the distinction of being the first graduate of that program; served in all most all executive positions in our region; as HRB Director and helped establish the Nomination Committee for annual OALT/ABO executive elections and was awarded the Presidential Award in 1994 and was recently appointed chair of the 2001 Committee for Change.*

*Judy is survived by her husband Wes, son Aaron and daughter Sandra. Predeceased by daughter Andrea.*

*The service will be held Tuesday, May 23 at 2pm at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Collingwood.*

*Gale Moreau, President, HRB [2moreaus@ionsys.com](mailto:2moreaus@ionsys.com)*

*Pat Henry, Director, HRB, [simlawlib@interhop.net](mailto:simlawlib@interhop.net) or [whenry@interhop.net](mailto:whenry@interhop.net)*

It is most unfortunate that our association has lost such a valuable member. Our thoughts and prayers are with Judy's colleagues at her work – Collingwood Public Library and with her colleagues in her region – Huronia.

If anyone wishes to make a contribution in her memory, contributions can be made to the Collingwood Public Library Building Fund. The association has made a contribution in her memory to this worthwhile project.

Pam Casey  
President

## Director biographies

### Halton-Peel

Treasurer/Membership Coordinator

Vicky Lynham joined the OALT/ABO while a student in 1995. She was elected Treasurer of Halton-Peel Region in 1998, and this position was combined with Membership Coordinator in 1999. After the Regional AGM in March of this year, the position of Director was still open. At the Provincial ABM in Ottawa in May, she agreed to take over the duties of Director for Halton-Peel. Her last contract position was with Petro-Canada at Sheridan Park in Mississauga. When that contract ended in July, she travelled with her daughter for three weeks in Britain. Since then she has been seeking a permanent full time position.

### Huronia

Pat Henry graduated from Cambrian College in 1970 and began working at the North Central Regional Library System in Sudbury right after graduation. She moved to Barrie and assisted in the founding of Huronia Regional Branch. Pat presently works as the Law Librarian for the Simcoe County Law Association Law Library located in the Court House in Barrie. She has held almost every position on the executive except for Treasurer. Pat's forte is not accounting and numbers. Pat has been married to Bill for over 28 years, has a 22-year old daughter, a wonderful soon to be son-in-law, and the most awesome 10-month-old (in September) grandson ever known to man.

### Lohania

Jill Anderson has maintained her long involvement with Lohania since its inception in 1983 when London, Hamilton and Niagara regions became one. She has previously been employed at the School of Library and Information Science at the University of Western Ontario. Presently she is on a contract with RoweCom (Faxon Canada). Jill values the friendships made through the Association and anticipates the future changes.

### Ottawa

Ann Censner returns to her past duties as a Director for Ottawa Region. She has been heavily involved with ORB over the past six years. Her involvement as Director was during her first year as a member of OALT/ABO. She's certain that there will be a major improvement as she won't be such a rookie. Ann is presently editing a union catalogue of alternative formats for the visually impaired at the National library of Canada where she has worked since 1989.

### Sudbury

Sudbury Region's director, Jo-ann Larose, is a 1981 graduate of Cambrian College. Jo-ann is in charge of the library at Network North, a psychiatric facility located in Sudbury and previously worked at the Ministry of Education and Laurentian University libraries. A long-time SRB executive and conference committee member, Jo-ann resides in Lively, Ontario with her husband, son, and several pets.

### Thunder Bay

This is Valerie Welsch's second year as Regional Director from Thunder Bay. She graduated from Lakehead University with a Library Technology diploma in 1986 and has been actively involved with the association ever since. Valerie is a strong believer that one only gets out of something what you are willing to put into it. With this in mind she tries hard to represent Thunder Bay Region and their views.

### TALTA

Marina Dranitsaris graduated from Seneca College LIT program in 1987. She has served on the TALTA Executive Board in a number of roles since then: Treasurer/Memberships, Vice President, President, Publicity Coordinator and part-time Newsletter Editor. This is her first position on the OALT/ABO Executive Board. Since March 1999, Marina has been seconded from Centennial College Learning and Resource Centres as Manager to the Bibliocentre position of Manager, Marketing and Sales.





## News from Lohania

Lohania Region is proud to recognize students from the Library and Information Technician Programmes at Mohawk and Fanshawe Colleges demonstrating outstanding academic performance.

This is an annual activity for Lohania Regional Branch and every year at least one graduating student from each College is presented with an award. The recipients for the 1999 Outstanding Academic Achievement Award are as follows: Sarah Bullock—Fanshawe College, Carol Cernile and Elaine Hancock—Mohawk College. Congratulations to the 1999 award winners!

Sarah Bullock, Fanshawe College received her award from Esther Spicer, President, Lohania Region, at the Lohania Regional Branch annual Christmas lunch on November 27, 1999. Sarah is currently employed at Rowe Com Canada (formerly Faxon Canada).



## 2001 OALT/ABO Conference

**Hosted by Halton-Peel Region**

**Join friends old and new for a conference to kick start the  
New Century.**

**When: May 2-6, 2001**  
**Where: Sheridan College**  
**Oakville, On**

Scheduling, workshops and pricing details to follow.

If you have any questions contact:  
Diane Baksa, [diane@ica.net](mailto:diane@ica.net) or 905 842-5820



## National Library of Wales

Contributed by Sue Callaway, TALTA region

A visit to Aberystwyth, in mid-Wales, resulted in the fulfillment of a lifetime dream. I was born in Wales and have always wanted to visit the National Library of Wales. That dream was fulfilled as I went on vacation to England and Wales.

Aberystwyth (pronounced Aber-ist-with) is situated in the county of Ceredigion (the Welsh) or if you want the English – Cardiganshire. It's a coastal town, subject to the high winds and storms associated with that position. The University of Wales main campus forms a part of the fabric of the town. I noticed a sign that pointed out to students that they should not wade in the waters during high winds, as the tides will sweep them away. In fact, students had lost their life due to an attempt to test the waters.

The library building is situated on the south side of the university campus. The afternoon weather cleared as we approached the National Library of Wales so that I was able to take a series of shots of the sea front before we entered the building. Upon entering the building, one is aware of the display cases that showcase various items of the library.

I was most impressed with a large collection of treasures that can be found at the library. This included many maps, prints, paintings, furnishings, globes and most importantly, the books. It was wonderful to view a first book actually printed, while it was illegal, during a time when religious books were not allowed. A monk printed this book in a cave. But I can't remember the date! I was also able to view a video that spoke about the daily activities of the library. A new addition has just been built which will allow another 20 years of storage. At that point, they'll have to build out in the parking lot, as I had asked. But CD-ROMS and microfiche should assist in the struggle to preserve space.

You may wish to check out their website. It can be found at <http://www.llgc.org.uk> with the Welsh on the left hand side and English on the other.

The Welsh are well known for their Welsh dragon and the Welsh language. In fact, the longest place name in the world belongs to a village in Wales. They have just established their very own website and I will not endeavour to spell that name for you. But I can say it!



*"resulted in the fulfillment of a  
lifetime dream"*

## Closures: Sheridan College

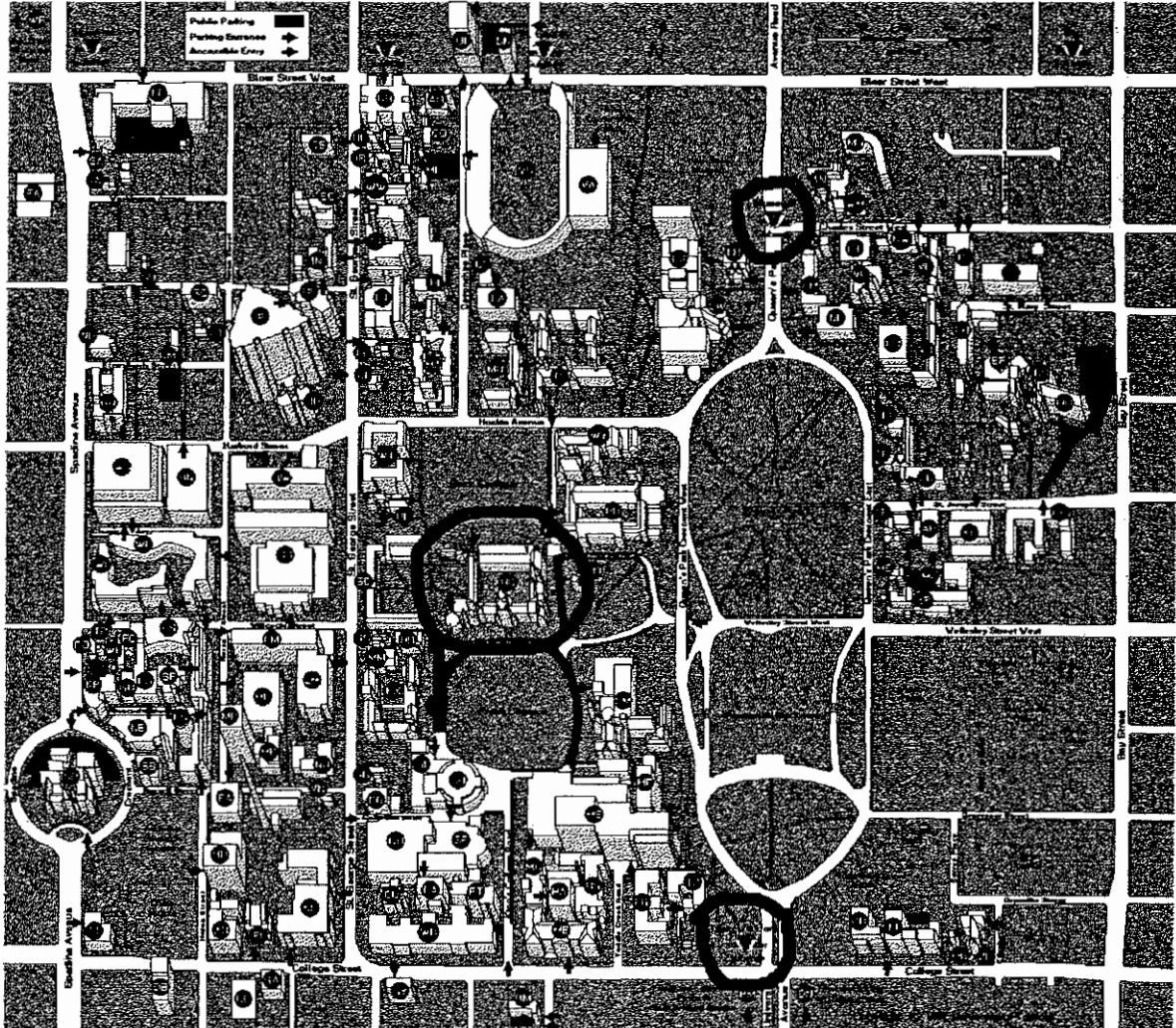
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of our field. Many subsequently joined OLA, SLA and OALT/ABO eventually serving on committees and taking leadership roles.

By 1998, despite a growing need for grads, many prospective students were no longer willing or able to attend full time. They wanted distance education and/or part time studies. Given the changing needs of students and a number of changes in Sheridan's educational environment, the Program Advisory Committee agreed that it was time to conclude our very successful program.

On May 7, 2000 we celebrated 30 Years of Excellence with over 120 guests including former coordinator, Geraldine Hughes. Celebrants renewed friendships, shared memories and congratulated our day and evening graduates. May they continue the tradition of excellence Sheridan is known for.

## Directions to Hart House



**7 Hart House Circle, on the University of Toronto Campus**

**From College St. walk one block south  
Accessible from Queen's Park or Museum subway stations**



Ontario Association of Library Technicians /  
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# An evening of Holiday Cheer



## SLA-CASLIS-OALT/ABO Holiday Social

Don't miss this opportunity to meet and network with your colleagues from three professional associations.

Menu will feature a selection of fancy canapés, hot hors d'oeuvres, crudités and one complimentary drink.

## December 7, 2000

### Music Room, Hart House

### University of Toronto, 7 Hart House Circle

(Directions on reverse side)

Registration 5:30pm,

Reception 5:30pm-8:30pm

*Don't forget to bring a food donation for the Daily Bread Food Bank*

### An evening of Holiday Cheer

To register, please mail or fax this form (cheques payable to OALTABO) by November 8, 2000 to: Pam Casey, 350 Camelot Court, Burlington ON L7L 2G3. No refunds will be available after this date. Confirmations will not be sent out.

E-mail: [pcasey1@home.com](mailto:pcasey1@home.com)

Fax: 905-819-3096 (please include cover page)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

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City: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_ Members: \$15.00 (for SLA/ARMA/CASLIS/CIPS/OALTABO/SCIP/TALL/THLA members)

\_\_\_\_ Non-Members: \$25.00

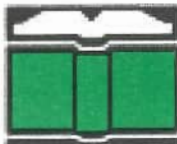
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**Our thanks are extended to the following sponsors: Rowe Com for our website and discussion list; Lexis-Nexis for our 1999 Membership Directory.**



## OALT / ABO Discussion List

The OALT/ABO discussion list is a moderated discussion list of our provincial association, OALT/ABO. It provides information concerning job opportunities, meeting notices and professional development activities.

The list is sponsored by Rowe Com Canada and is run on their server using Majordomo software.

To subscribe, send the following message to **[oaltabo-request@faxon.ca](mailto:oaltabo-request@faxon.ca)**

**subscribe oaltabo**

Be sure to leave the subject line empty and write the message in the body only.

You will receive a confirmation and welcome message from our list manager. Questions or comments can be directed to Ronn Cheney, [ronn.cheny@ca.pwcglobal.com](mailto:ronn.cheny@ca.pwcglobal.com)