

TECH TALK



Volume ²²21, No. ⁴9 March 1995

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Normally, the Annual Dinner meeting is our last "get-together" for the year, the election of new executive, and the chance to visit with Library Technicians in all walks of life. All Library Technicians, members and non-members, are invited to share an evening of fellowship while remembering the past and looking ahead to new challenges in our jobs. However, this year the Annual dinner meeting becomes a stepping stone to renewing acquaintances before Interconnections '95 on May 24-28.

There are two executive positions open so give some thought to volunteering for Regional Director or Treasurer when a member of the OALT/ABO calls.

On behalf of the executive, I would like to thank everyone for an exciting year. The workshops and presentations have been well attended giving the executive positive feedback and validation for their efforts.

See you at the Dinner!

Valerie Welsch



REVIEWS

The following are the minutes from the 11 February 1995 OALT/ABO Teleconference.

1. Membership directories ready to be mailed by February 20th.
2. Profile of OALT/ABO members to continue in the provincial newsletters.
3. The next issue of the newsletter will be Brady Leyser's last as editor. Brahm Gilman has agreed to take over as editor for the next two years.
4. Along with the next newsletter, the salary survey and membership directory will be sent.
5. Susan Morley said that OALT/ABO needs to apply to be an information provider on the freenet. She suggested for us to be on Halinet instead of Toronto freenet as OALT/ABO mailing address is Halton. Mary Grace Stewart is to investigate getting a freenet licence and application for an address.

6. Deadline for presidential award nominations has been extended to March 15th.

7. French translation of the constitution will be ready for the 1995 ABM meeting in May.

8. No region has volunteered to host the 1996 conference. Therefore, it will have to be a provincially hosted one, Huronia offered to look into the possibility of hosting a shorter conference in Collingwood. Judy Koenig will report back at the April meeting.

9. Directors are asked to bring lists of 10 year recipients to the April Board meeting.

10. Susan Morley will send a list of the outgoing executive who are to receive the recognition awards at the ABM. The hosting region is responsible for arranging the recognition awards.

11. Any new incoming Directors are invited to come to the next meeting in April.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen Hyvarinen, Director
Thunder Bay Region
February 11, 1995

GALT/ABO 22ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE
MAY 24-28, LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY

inter connections '95

Our conference is fast approaching! Preliminary seminar topics include Internet, Freenets, Marketing, Soloing, Communications, CISTI, CD-

ROM, Electronic Document Delivery, Reference Work, and Customer Service. All programs are aimed at library technicians and library workers interested in upgrading their skills. Social activities are being planned as well. Judy Sennett and Helen Heerema are working hard to make this endeavour a success. If you have any time to help them out, please call Judy at 625-6713(w), or 983-2205(h) or Helen at 475-6208(w), or 767-4987(h).

Registration/program packages will be available shortly.

OLS-NORTH THUNDER BAY AREA
CONFERENCE

LIBRARIES AND THE LAW

The theme of OLS-NORTH'S Thunder Bay Area English Language Conference is Libraries and the Law. It will be held at the Prince Arthur Hotel from May 11-13.

Delegates this year will have the opportunity to participate in two video-conferences which will link the Sudbury and Thunder Bay area conferences. The sessions are DEVELOPMENTAL FRAMEWORK FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES on Thursday evening and LIBRARIANS AS CYBERSPACE HEROES: THE INFORMATION HIGHWAY on Friday morning.

There will a three hour hands-on INTERNET session, as well as a special "SHOW AND TELL" discussion on children's programming.

WORKER'S COMPENSATION, EMPLOYMENT EQUITY, EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS AND MUNICIPAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST LEGISLATION are the legal topics which will be covered at the conference.

The Volunteer Centre of Thunder Bay will present a session on recruiting, training, using and keeping volunteers.

The EXCEL BANQUET on Friday night

will feature Carole Aitken as guest speaker. The Coyote Dance Club will provide instruction in the art of line dancing following the banquet.

FEES: \$15.25

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Friday, April 7, 1995


For registration information please contact:

Suanne Howes
 OLS-NORTH
 910 Victoria Avenue E.
 Thunder Bay, ON P7C 1B4

FAX: 807-623-4623

No registrations will be accepted by phone.

EXECUTIVE - 1994/95	
PRESIDENT	Valerie Welsch H: 767-2177 W: 625-5240
TREASURER	Jill Otto H: 622-1781
SECRETARY	Carol Young H: 475-9635 W: 625-5246
PUBLIC RELATIONS COORDINATOR	Karen Cocks H: 475-0248 W: 345-1461
NEWSLETTER EDITORS	Kathy Crewdson H: 345-6414 Margot Ponder H: 767-6835
REGIONAL DIRECTOR	Helen Hyvarinen H: 767-3679 W: 343-4351
PAST PRESIDENT	Carolyn Enns H: 344-0768 W: 623-2500
ARCHIVIST	Helen Heerema H: 767-4987 W: 475-6456



The annual DALT/ABO dinner meeting will be held at the Pagoda Gardens, March 29th.

6:30 Symposium
 7:00 Dinner

Cost: \$20.00

Tickets may be obtained from any executive member or from Nancy Mazure Hall at the Library Tech office. All Library technicians are welcome. Come and join the fun!

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF....

NANCY MAZURE HALL

Much of my work at the Department of Library and Information Studies at Lakehead University is dictated by the academic calendar. My day-to-day duties include maintenance of the lab collection; liason with students, the library community and various departments within the University; troubleshooting computer problems; performance of secretarial and office duties such as booking audiovisual equipment, preparing correspondence, word processing, sorting mail, ordering supplies, and keeping track of the Department budget.

Lately the bulk of my time has been spent scheduling field placements for students in various libraries for the April/May period. Thank you very much to all the librarians and

library technicians who have agreed to take placement students. I know this requires a great deal of planning, instruction and patience on your part. The Department will also have a placement student this spring so I will know firsthand what this responsibility is like. I have also been making arrangements for the the second year students' annual field trip - this year to Toronto. I hope everyone made that 7:00 A.M. flight! Soon I will be preparing for final exams.

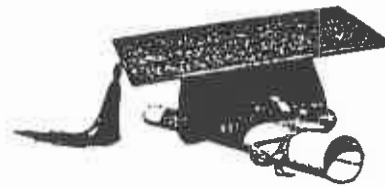
For me, the most interesting part of my job has been the library-related work. I have just started updating the Reference Study Units for LIS 2030 - which I really enjoy. Interestingly enough it takes me significantly longer to create the questions than it ever took me to answer them as a student. I also perform literature searches for the Chairman using CD-ROM and order articles on interlibrary loan. I surf the Internet regularly for useful information and place orders for materials destined for the lab reference collection and for the Chancellor Paterson Library. One of my pet projects has been the creation of a Department Handbook. I want the next Library Technician/Secretary to have easy access to information about Department procedures and University policies. Eventually, I would also like to have Department postings on LUCI (the University's gopher). Postings would include information on current course offerings, course descriptions, special announcements, course outlines, office hours, etc.

I originally enrolled in the Library and Information Studies Diploma program because like many B.A. recipients I could not find full-time, meaningful work. I thought LIS courses might provide me with some technical training and otherwise occupy my time while I waited for a transfer out of Thunder Bay. Well, in hindsight, it was a wise decision. The program has been much more than a way to fill my time - it has opened up a new career path for me (I'm off to graduate school in May) and has led to valuable work experience in the Department. My

association with the Department and the program has been one of the most positive aspects of my stay in Thunder Bay. Thank you and goodbye to all those who have supported me along the way.

"Learning is most often figuring out how to use what you already know in order to go beyond what you currently think."

Jerome Bruner



FROM THE HALLS OF LEARNING

The following courses will be offered during the summer session:

Information Resources I
Information Resources II

These "Introduction to Reference" courses are open to all students for degree credit. For further information contact Margaret MacLean at the Library and Information Studies office at 343-8420.

LIS students recently returned from their field trip to Toronto and Mike Wilson has kindly offered to tell us about their trip.

LIS Students Invade the Big City or How Yuh Gonna Keep Them Down on the Farm

What does an agnostic, dyslexic, insomniatic library technician think of at night? This age old question along with many others were answered

when the LIS graduating class of '95 made their annual shopping trip, um, er, I mean academic field trip. Yeah, that's the ticket! This year the class decided to go all out and travel to the centre of the universe. Yes, that's right, Toronto, also known as BobRaeVille.

After setting up base camp at the Bond Hotel, we were off to brave the wilds of the Big City. Our first stop was the Ontario Government Book Store, located at the corner of Grosvenor and Bay St. Here many freebees were had by all, like the perennial favorite Ontario Shepherds Manual by the Ministry of Agriculture and Foods. Included here was a how-to method for castrating lambs.

After a hearty high-ho lunch consisting of prairie oysters and tea, we were off to the Metro Toronto Public Reference Library. This was a beautiful building, the crown jewel of the Toronto Public Library system. The library was divided into seven subjects on five floors. Of notable interest was the Sir Arthur Conan Doyle Special Collection, which contains every edition of every Sherlock Holmes mystery ever written. Also included here was the Baldwin Room, which held a collection of pre-Confederation photographs. It was interesting to find that many librarians here feel that CD-ROMs are passé, the reason being that on-line databases with full text journals will save the patron steps in doing research.

It was time to call it a day, and everyone stampeded to the PUBLIC Library; a Pub across the street from the hotel where everyone imbibed their favourite libation.

The next morning we took the TTC to the U of T, ASAP. Our first stop was the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library. This place has more character than a Rich Little floor show. It holds the largest rare book collection in Canada. It includes everything from papyrus to a first edition of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet. For obvious reasons patrons are not allowed to

browse the stacks. Rather the selection is received by the staff and brought to the patron in the reading room.

Right next to this library was the Robart's Library, a Reference collection of the Social Sciences and Humanities geared to post-graduate students. Among the special collections are a map library and the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library. Here is housed a unique collection of books and periodicals in Chinese, Japanese and Korean. But we were off again. The omnivorous rumblings of our gastrointestinal systems impelled us to procure sustenance.

After lunch we made our way to the Ontario Government Archives. Three and one-half percent of all Ontario Government records end up here. At least one copy of these is kept for eternity. That's longer than infinity. The reference questions most asked were either general history or genealogical. All of the archives were accessed by "finding aids". I would become intimately involved with these aids, since I volunteered my services to fellow student Judy Dowhos in researching her boyfriend's Masters Thesis on Aboriginal Hunting Rights. We spent the next Saturday afternoon glued to the "finding aids". A great learning experience, but...like my dear old Irish/Scot Dad always told me, "Son, never volunteer!". I should have listened to him.

So that about sums up the big trip. Oh, by the way, you are probably wondering what an agnostic, dyslexic, insomniatic library technician thinks of at night? Okay here goes: Is there a DOG!

Submitted by

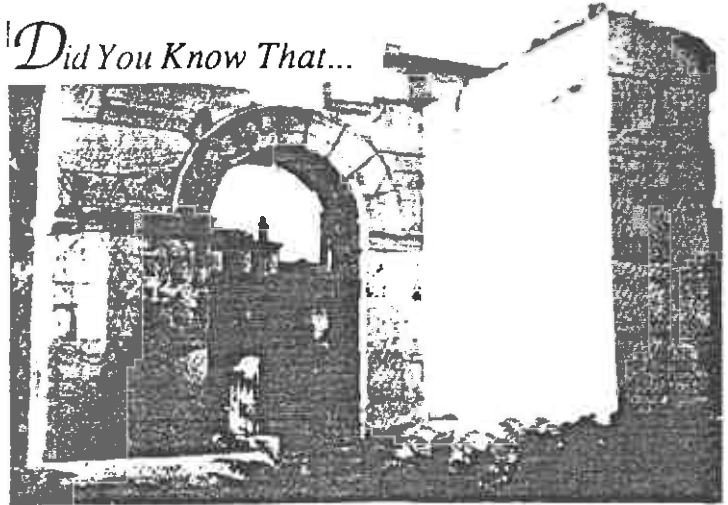
C. Mike Wilson

Anxious faces will be a familiar sight in the LIS Department for the next little while as students rush to finish up assignments and study

for final exams. Good luck to all of you! For those who are leaving us after the year is over we hope you enjoyed your stay in Thunder Bay. Happy job hunting for those seeking employment! Keep in touch with us - we like to hear from our graduates.



Did You Know That...



Entrance to one of the Reading Rooms in Hadrian's Library

The first public library in Rome was erected some time between 39 and 27 B.C. The tradition of public libraries continued to the end of the Roman Empire in the 5th century A.D. Public libraries were a common feature in other towns of Italy and in the provinces. Well-known libraries outside Italy included that of Hadrian at Athens. As did other libraries of its type it faced the east, possibly because the morning light was better for reading.

THE ROVING REPORTERS



Sometimes being a co-editor of this newsletter comes with some gratifying quirks, not many, but some. Thus this issue's Roving Reporter centers on a special collection at Lakehead University and of course the special person who

catalogued it, namely me, one of your co-editors.

Welcome to the Gender Issues Centre! The Gender Issues Centre, or G.I.C., is located in the tunnel four doors down from the Student Union office in Room SC-0019. Elaine Hogard is

the co-ordinator and one of the nicest people I have had the opportunity to work for.

The Centre provides an atmosphere conducive for guidance in the day to day life of a student. Introspection and lounging are encouraged through the use of a comfortable sitting area with access to a television, VCR, posting of events, workshops and complimentary coffee. The Centre also provides a unique collection - perhaps the best kept secret on campus! Academic texts and popular works which complement research, curriculum development and personal development are available for borrowing. The G.I.C. also houses videos, again touching a variety of topics: historical reconstruction, poverty, inequity in the classroom, aging, spirituality, etc. Control and promotion of this unique collection became my responsibility two years ago last December.

I was hired to catalog this collection of over 900 monographs, 60 videos, various government publications, and numerous periodicals in two weeks, say what! I promptly arrived complete with my tools of the trade, namely my Dewey, Sears Subject Headings, AACR2 bible and a bottle of Tylenol. Needless to say, I was a by the thought that I had complete control over cataloguing the collection and an impossible deadline!

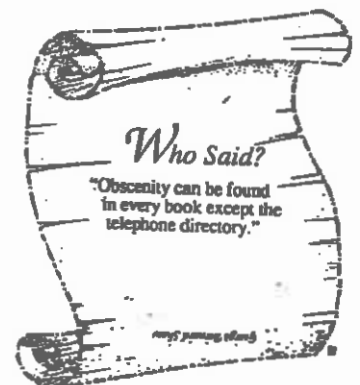
One of the first tasks before me was to order materials that I would need such as book cards, pockets, spine labels, catalog cards, catalog drawers, etc. Since I like spending money, this was no problem. So I let my fingers do the walking through Carr McLean and ordered what was needed. My next task was to decide at what level to catalog this unique collection for easy access. A combination of first and second level descriptive cataloguing was mutually decided upon. Subject headings were my main concern, so I decided on a combination of LCSH plus Sears. Books in the collection were already arranged under major subject areas

such as RACE, GENDER, SPIRITUALITY, PSYCHOLOGY, THEORY, SEXUALITY, HISTORY, AND HEALTH. This subject arrangement worked for this special collection so when I catalogued material I modified subject headings to fit into the collection. I then installed Librarian's Helper and began cataloguing everything in sight and saving it to disk. Cards were printed later at the Library Tech Lab. Thank you again, Margaret for letting me use the printer. To date, I have filled five 5 1/4 in. disks with cataloguing information. I also created an accession list complete with publisher, price, accession number and title of book.

Since my last name is not Dewey, I did not finish cataloguing in two weeks- two weeks was totally unrealistic. I finished cataloguing books in April. After this a grant was secured and I was further employed until June to finish cataloguing the videos. During this time, I also weeded and created a subject access to the vertical file, set up a Kardex and established a borrowing policy, gathered more resources for areas in the collection which needed to be developed, such as law and sports, and produced a brochure to promote the Center.

In closing, I would like to express my sense of fulfillment and gratification for having had the opportunity of a lifetime to arrange a special collection all on my own. The Gender Issues Centre is filled with numerous invaluable resources which can be accessed through a card catalog which we are very proud of and would like to share with everyone. Just please, remember, don't reshelve your books!

Kathy Crewdson



TOP TEN REASONS FOR BECOMING A LIBRARY TECHNICIAN

- 10) You get to tell people to "SHHHHHH"
 - 9) You actually get paid for doing Arts and Crafts
 - 8) You know more acronyms than anyone else on the planet
 - 7) You get to oggle good-looking patrons
 - 6) If you have an annoying patron, you can always send them searching in the wrong direction
 - 5) You get first crack at the New Releases
 - 4) You know how to catalogue
s a n g i a m
Phrasedetsurentharathibodi
 - 3) It's fun
 - 2) You always win at Jeopardy or Trivial Pursuits
- AND THE NUMBER 1 REASON TO BECOME A LIBRARY TECHNICIAN IS**
- 1) You get to belong to OALT and get this neat newsletter!!!!



Many of you I'm sure were involved in the preparation for the Nordic Games for the last few months. You should all be pleased that your efforts were such a success. Barb Koppenhaver and I went to the Opening Ceremonies. When we finally reached Wheeler's parking lot after the ceremonies, we spent at least fifteen or twenty minutes searching for our car as there were no markers to guide us. Who did we meet wandering around in the dark looking for her car but LaRae Moody! I

suppose we can blame the cold weather for our lack of a "good memory" which, according to Margaret MacLean, library techs are supposed to have!



The latest news from L.U. : Kathy Crewdson's stay in the Cataloguing Department has been extended until the end of August. Needless to say, she is delighted to be there for a few more months.

The Education Library in the Bora Laskin building has moved into their new extension.

Thunder Bay Public Library's plans for the big move are shifting into gear now. Renovations will be starting on the ground floor of Brodie Library shortly to accomodate the fiction collection which will be arriving from Victoriaville Library when it closes this spring. Some of the collection will be kept for the new County Park Library which will be opening in the Fall. Check out the new self-check machine in the Circulation Department at Waverley Library.

On a more personal note, we would like to congratulate Donna Bright, the Children's Librarian at Brodie Library, who has now taken over the Bizfax job. Roberta Casella has replaced Donna as Children's Librarian.

Editors' note: Thank you Nancy and Mike for contributing articles for this edition. We REALLY APPRECIATE any contributions from our readers!

We have been asked by the Provincial Executive of the OALT/ABO to include the next page in our newsletter. If you have any nominations for Provincial Executive, please fill in the form and send it to them.

Ontario Association of Library Technicians/
Association des Bibliotechniciens de l'Ontario
Abbey Market P.O. Box 76010
1500 Upper Middle Rd. W.
Oakville, Ontario L6M 3H5



**Nomination Form / Fiche de Presentation
OALT/ABO Provincial Executive / Comite Executif Provincial**

**Nomination for the position of:
La présentation à la fonction de:**

Name/Nom: _____

Address/Adresse: _____

Tel./Tél.: Home/Résidence _____

Business/Bureau _____

Region/Région: _____

Nominators/Présentateurs:

Name/Nom: _____

Address/Adresse: _____

Tel./Tél.: Home/Résidence _____
Business/Bureau _____

Region/Région: _____

Name/Nom: _____

Address/Adresse: _____

Tel./Tél.: Home/Résidence _____
Business/Bureau _____

Region/Région: _____

**I hereby accept the nomination for the above position:
J'accepte la présentation:**

Signature of nominee/signature du candidat

**Nominations must be received by:
Les nominations doivent être reçues avant le:
Marian Doucette, President, by Monday, May 1, 1995**