

NewsLETTER NouvELLES

ISSN: 0229-2645 Publication Agreement # 40688591

Volume 36 No. 1 Winter 2013

Message from your President

~ Michael David Reansbury



Invariably when one hears the word action an image is called to mind; a hand pushing down a clap stick onto a slate as simultaneously the word 'Action!' is shouted.

While our working lives as library technicians may not be as dramatic as the set of a major motion picture, each day as technicians we enter into a wide variety of professional tasks, each in itself an action. Most of these actions we perform on the behalf of our patrons, coworkers and our colleagues. Some actions however we undertake on our own personal behalf.

As an association OALT/ABO is constantly in action. Here is but a short list of those actions that have occurred in the preceding months:

1. The executive wishes to thank Kelly Sobie, Cathy Richard, Judith Banville, and Philip Walsley for attending the Saturday November 22 meeting of the executive.
2. On behalf of the executive and its members I wish to thank Millie Yip for her efforts as Chapter Coordinator over the past year and a half. Millie has stepped down in her role to concentrate on personal matters.
3. Successful Student Meet & Greets for the Algonquin, Durham, Mohawk and Seneca students of the province's LIT programs have been held.
4. Creation of a Special Libraries Chapter has

been deferred until that time as a review of the organization of the association has been completed.

5. A thank you for all those who have completed and returned their membership form along with dues.
6. OALT/ABO and OHLA, Ontario Health Libraries Association, have entered into an informal association. At this time the presidents of each association have agreed to keep the other informed of the goings-on of their respective associations. Each president has also extended to the other an opportunity to publish an article in their respective newsletters. More information about OHLA can be found here: www.ohla.on.ca
7. The OALT/ABO sponsored sessions at OLA Super Conference and the plans for the Library Technician booth the association shares with Algonquin, Durham, Mohawk and Seneca colleges have all been finalized.
8. Planning and preparations for the 2013 OALT/ABO conference from the evening of Wednesday May 15 until the afternoon of Saturday May 18th at Fanshawe College in London, ON are firmly in hand.

In the coming months you as members of OALT/ABO will be asked to engage in more action. To attend OLA Super Conference, to nominate your fellow

Newsletter/
Nouvelles is
published three
times per year in
the Fall, Winter
and Spring and is
available with
membership in
the Ontario
Association of
Library
Technicians /
Association des
Bibliotechniciens
de L'Ontario. We
welcome your
feedback as well
as your letters,
articles and
photos, but must
reserve the right
to edit for style
and space.

technician for the Presidential and Innovation Award, as well as positions on the Board of Directors of the association, and finally and most importantly to attend our own conference and be present at the AGM. This is your call to action, please do not miss it.

Yours in Action,

Michael David Reansbury
President, OALT/ABO

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EDITOR'S

NOTE

Happy New Year! I hope this issue finds you all well and that you had a wonderful holiday season with your family and friends.

The theme for our Winter issue is "Action" which ties in with the theme of our 2013 Conference. We've received some great submissions from how to be active at work to a lovely little poem from Maggie Weaver about inaction. Perhaps these writings will inspire you to take action in your personal and professional lives. Enjoy.

Hope to see you all at the conference in May.

Carolin



DISCLAIMER:

The views and opinions expressed in Newsletter/Nouvelles are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the OALT/ABO Executive.

OALT/ABO'S 40TH Annual Conference

La 40ieme conference annuelle de l'OALT/ABO

Wednesday May 15 to Saturday May 18, 2013

ACTION!



Ontario Association of Library Technicians/
Association des bibliotechniciens de l'Ontario

Conference 2013

<http://oaltabo.on.ca/node/473>

Fanshawe College – London, ON

1001 Fanshawe College Boulevard London, ON N5Y 5R6

Things We Need To Know!

Friday, January 11, 2013

RE: ABSCENE OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS LIABILITY INSURANCE

Dear Members of the Ontario Association of Library Technicians/Association des bibliothécaires de l'Ontario:

Since the September consultation with John B.A. Wilkinson of WeirFoulds LLP the Board of Directors began and continues the process to review the association's organization and structure to ensure not only our adherence to *Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, 2010* but also to increase the transparency and accountability of the association.

Recently, it has been brought to the Board of Directors attention that the association does not have Directors and Officers Liability Insurance. Directors and Officers Liability Insurance protects directors, officers, employees, volunteers, trustees, and duly constituted committees of the corporation from any allegations of wrongful act(s).

At this time the Board of Directors has sought two (2) quotes for the cost of Directors and Officers Liability Insurance. Once these quotes are received the Board of Directors will convene a special Board meeting to review and select a policy that protects directors, officers, employees, volunteers, trustees and duly constituted committees who do work on behalf of the association's membership to fulfill the mandate set forth for in the By-Law. Purchasing of such insurance is deemed by the Board to be a necessity to ensure the ultimate transparency and accountability of OALT/ABO.

The Board has undertaken to make the membership aware of the current insured status of the association as it stands to date. The membership will again be made aware when the insurance status of the association has changed.

The Board of Directors would also like to take the time to invite members to attend an information session that will be held on Thursday, May 16, 2013 at the association's annual conference where current President, Michael David Reansbury, will review matters related to the review of the association's organization and structure, and talk to the future of the association.

Regards,

Michael David Reansbury,

President, OALT/ABO

1. Directors and Officers Liability and Commercial Office Package form Members. Toronto: Marsh, 2012.

2. The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors is on Friday, February 1, at OLA Super Conference. Depending on the timing and manner of quotes returned the Board may choose to ratify a decision at this meeting in lieu of convening a special Board meeting.

New Name, New Members [?]

Board of Directors 2013/2014

Same, Though Important Old Jobs!

By Michael David Reansbury, President



OALT / ABO

Within the province of Ontario Not-For-Profit Corporations, like our association, are regulated by the, now amended, Not-For-Profit Corporation Act, 2010 (*Not-For-Profit Corporations Act*, S.O. 2010, c 15). The Act states that directors, no less than three, shall manage or supervise the management of the corporation. In a Not-For-Profit Corporation of considerable size, in terms of membership, and finances, yearly budget, the corporation may choose to put in place an executive council, who oversee the daily operations of the Corporation. In essence an executive. This executive then reports back to a board of directors, the board reviews the actions the executive have taken in the name of the corporation and using the Act as well as the association's By-Law(s) gauge the appropriateness of the executive's management and offers direction of the association's affairs.

Historically, OALT/ABO members have elected executive members who have fulfilled the role of executive, performed the daily operations, and acted as directors of the cor-

poration. At this time it is necessary to amend the By-Law of the Association to accurately reflect the terms of the Act. Thus what was the Executive of OALT/ABO shall be hence forth referred to as the Board of Directors. The roles, powers and responsibilities remain unchanged for the board members.

Another change to the association that must occur is the replacement of the term *constitution* with that of *By-Law*. Within provincial law *constitution* as a term for a document governing corporations does not exist. The term *By-law(s)* is used, both for profit and not-for associations.

At this juncture in the history of the association the current board feels it is necessary for each of the chapters to have a representative who sits on the Board. Some of the changes required to the association with the passing of the amended Act directly relate to the chapters. As such the Board feels that having a representative of each chapter on the board will assist in the dialogue that will occur at the board level as it relates to chapters. As with all matter related to changes in governance of the association members will be made aware and will vote on the amendments. At this time the position of Chapter Coordinator will be allowed to remain vacant.

If you would like to find out more about the roles and responsibilities of board members you can be find the information at: <http://www.oaltabo.on.ca/node/387>.

If you are interested in standing or nominating a member for a position on the board please email

your intentions to the info@oaltabo.on.ca using the subject line "2013/2014 Board."

At this time the following is the composition of the 2013/2014 board. Please take note of the applicable end of terms for those board members willing to stand again.

President: Michael David Reansbury [will not stand 2014/2015]

President-elect: Cyndi Smith [will not stand 2014/2015]

Treasure: Daisy Collins [will not stand 2014/2015]

External Communication Coordinator: Lisa Elchuk [will not stand 2014/2015]

Internal Communication Coordinator: [vacant]

Conference Coordinator: [vacant]

Chapter Coordinator: [vacant see paragraph 3 on previous page]

Appointed officers:

Membership Coordinator: Rachel Kelly

Editor *NewsLETTER/NouvELLES*: Carolin Toppan [will not stand 2013/2014]

Archivist: Kathi Vandenheuvel

I would also like to take this opportunity to invite all members to a session I will be holding at our conference this year. This session will review some of the changes made to the association so that we comply with current legislature as well as outlining future points of discussion for the association. As well I hope to offer members a better appreciation of the work that board does, so that members have a better understanding of matters that lie within the scope of the association and those that lie outside our sphere of influence.

As always if you have any question, comments or queries please direct them to the info@oaltabo.on.ca email account.

2013 Presidential Award Nominations

Those interested in nominating a member of OALT/ABO may submit their nomination by Monday April 1, 2013 to:

OALT/ABO Nominations Committee
Attn: Maria Ripley
#68-3175 Kirwin Avenue
Mississauga, ON
L5A 3m4
Email: mariaripley5261@hotmail.com

Details regarding the award, criteria for selection and the nominating form can be found at:

www.oaltabo.on.ca/node/43

EDITOR'S DRAW!

The names of contributors to the Fall 2012, Winter, 2013 and Spring 2013 issues of *NewsLetter/NouvElles* will be entered into our draw. Keep those submissions coming in and you could be our next Editor's Draw winner!



How Working For The OALT/ABO Executive Can Help You!

Life As OALT/ABO Treasurer

By Daisy Collins, OALT/ABO Treasurer

The 2013/2014 year will mark my third and last year as Treasurer on the Board of Directors for OALT/ABO. I have discovered in these three years, there are tremendous benefits to becoming involved in the association. When I first considered this opportunity, I wasn't sure about the time commitment, the position and what was involved. At the same time I wanted to become involved in an association that specifically supported library technicians.

Initially, I was motivated to get involved because after years of working full time, I felt a bit disconnected from what was going on in the field. I wanted to become involved in the library community and to meet other technicians working in different libraries from across Ontario. At this time, my colleague at Conestoga College Shannon Matthews, then Treasurer was leaving the position and encouraged me to put my name forth.

Upon joining the executive I was met with incredible enthusiasm and support. My time on the Board has been extremely positive on many levels. It has given me the opportunity to meet many other library technicians, people who are passionate about the field and have renewed energy to revitalize the association. Becoming involved in the association, by default, also got me more involved in some of the issues surrounding libraries. I became more aware and motivated by the events that are happening within the library community.

I have a new appreciation of those who volunteer their time and efforts to the association and also a better understanding of how the association works. It has also been an exceptional learning experience. I have learned so much, from the basics of bookkeeping that is part of the position as Treasurer, to the many different components to what is involved behind the scenes of the association.

If you are considering a position on the board, I highly recommend it. The association is always looking for those willing to contribute their time and ideas. It's a fantastic opportunity you won't regret!

Why does the OALT/ABO need you?

By Cyndi Smith, President Elect OALT/ABO

This article began as an opinion piece, however as I wrote, I found I had more questions than I have answers for. I believe that every question will need to be addressed by each member of the OALT/ABO.

I am much too busy to do half the things I do. I work full time; I volunteer several times a week in my community; I have a busy family life, complete with teenagers and a husband who wants more of my company; I have aging extended family members who are needing more help within their lives and homes; I recently moved out to the country and now have a commute to contend with. I also belong to three different library organizations, of which I sit as a member or contributor for all three. I am much too busy to volunteer my time. I really am.

But I think that is true for all of us. Yet, there are still those who find the time to get involved with their library associations. When I was asked about filling the position of President Elect for the OALT/ABO, I was too busy and I wanted to say no. But in reality, there was no one else to fill the role. Why is that? If I said no, who would have done it? If no one would, then what would happen? Would the association falter? And if it did, would we find that we had needed it? Miss it? In fact, do we need a provincial association? Is it valuable or appreciated? Do you know the answers to these questions? I only know the answer for myself. I don't know the answer for each one of you reading this article. What I do worry about are the implications if you do not take the time to answer those questions regarding this professional provincial library association.

Professional associations take time to organize, fund, build, run, staff. Perhaps we think associations take too much from us which we can't afford to give when we are short of time and energy. The reality is that associations were built to *give* to us. They give us community, opportunity, experience, reputation and status. Without an association we would have none of those things.

- Do you have a lack of experience? Use the opportunities of work within a professional association to give you experience.
- Do you lack a library network? Use the contacts you make while volunteering within a professional association to find you a place in the community.
- Do you have an opinion? Use a professional association to air it.

Right now, you have access and opportunity to use all of the resources that this professional library association offers. It has need of people to step up and gain experience, to become part of a network of library associates, and to voice ideas, thoughts, and opinions. In short, the OALT/ABO needs us in order to stay alive and to be strong and vital within the library community,

Whether you are busy or even too busy, you give a little and you gain so much. It is how an association works.



I joined the OALT/ABO Listserv because...

I am a graduate of the Library and Information Technician Diploma from Seneca College, Toronto and would like to join this group to develop a network to others in the field.

To join go to:

<http://www.oaltabo.on.ca/node/17>



OALT/ABO OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARDS

Each year OALT/ABO sponsors an award to a student enrolled at each of the LIT Programs. The award, the Outstanding Student Award, goes to the candidate who demonstrates a commitment to progressing the profession of library technicians within the province of Ontario and throughout Canada. Recipient's of the award receive one year's free membership to OALT/ABO. This year the recipients were:

Algonquin College

Mr. Ryan Tucci. Ryan's activities within and outside the classroom epitomize those skills and attributes that all library technicians strive for. His work with Algonquin Reads, the Student Association as well as the applied research project related to the construction at Algonquin demonstrate his overriding desire to assist, maintain and disseminate information all of which are the hallmark of the work of a library technician.

Mohawk College

Ms. Carole Lafontaine. Carole's work and grades within the classroom were outstanding. They exemplify those skills and attributes that all library technicians strive for and will help to position Carole for an outstanding career.

Seneca College

Ms. Jolene Bennett. Jolene's grades were outstanding, to say the very least, however, it was Jolene's willingness and desire to work with fellow classmate that made her an outstanding candidate. On the job, a willingness and a desire to work with others, be they coworkers, clients or external parties is crucial in ensuring the continued relevance of all types of libraries. In the professional realm it is a desire to work with and for your fellow library technicians which propels individuals to take up positions on the executive and on committees of association. Jolene's willingness and desire to work with others will keep her in good stead throughout her career.

On behalf of the OALT/ABO Executive I would like to extend congratulations to this year's recipients on a job well done.

Michael David Reansbury
President, OALT/ABO

OALT/ABO 2012 Library Technician Student Meet and Greets

by Lisa Elchuk,

OALT/ABO External Communications Coordinator

OALT/ABO had the extreme pleasure of hosting three separate Library Technician Student Meet and Greets during this past November. Seneca College, Mohawk College, and Durham College Library Technician students, instructors, professors, and coordinators all participated.

We had an excellent turn out for each of the Seneca College and Durham College in-person Meet & Greet's, and a well-attended show for our first ever **virtual** Meet and Greet for the Mohawk College distance education Library Technician program. At each event, students were invited to ask questions regarding the work done by practicing LTs, seek insight into the profession, and get further details about the association. Your OALT/ABO President, Michael David Reansbury, and your External Communications Coordinator, Lisa Elchuk, attended and answered the array of the LT student's questions.

The Seneca College Meet and Greet was held on a rainy and dismal November 3rd, at 3:30pm. The Durham College Meet and Greet was held on a chilly November 26th, from 1:00pm to 4:00pm.

The virtual Meet and Greet for the Mohawk College LT students was held on November 22nd, from 7:30pm to 8:30pm. Students were invited to submit questions prior to the M & G, and these questions were answered during the time frame allotted, via Twitter, Facebook, and email. It was chaotic at times as Michael David and Lisa tried to facilitate and answer all the questions and comments submitted! For the next virtual Meet and Greet, it was determined it will be held exclusively via Twitter for sake of ease.

We had an amazing time at each of these events and will definitely be hosting another round of Student Meet and Greets in the year to come! Thank you to everyone who assisted and participated.

It was fantastic and encouraging to meet so many eager Library Technician students.

On behalf of the third semester LIT students at Seneca, I want to thank Michael David Reansbury and Lisa Elchuk for the informative OALT/ABO Meet and Greet.

On Monday, November 12 close to fifty students attended the event where Michael David and Lisa talked about not only OALT/ABO, but their career paths, professional development and the need to be involved in the profession. On a dreary November day with exams looming for the students, Michael David and Lisa gave them actual examples of what they can achieve in the field. Hopefully, OALT/ABO also will benefit from the students' enthusiasm. Michael David and Lisa, thank you.

Deborah Kay

Deborah Kay

Professor

Coordinator, Library and Information Technician Program (full-time)

Seneca College



Want to follow OALT/ABO on Twitter?

To create a Twitter account

- 1 Go to <http://twitter.com/> click on 'sign up'
2. Fill in the registration details and click on 'create my account'

After creating your account the next page allows you to type "oaltabo" and click on 'search'. If you already have an account, sign in and search for "oaltabo". OALT/ABO twitter account details will pop up with a Follow button:



Click on '+Follow' and you will be able to see OALT/ABO's regular tweets on Association and Library Technician news.

If you have any questions please contact info@oaltabo.on.ca

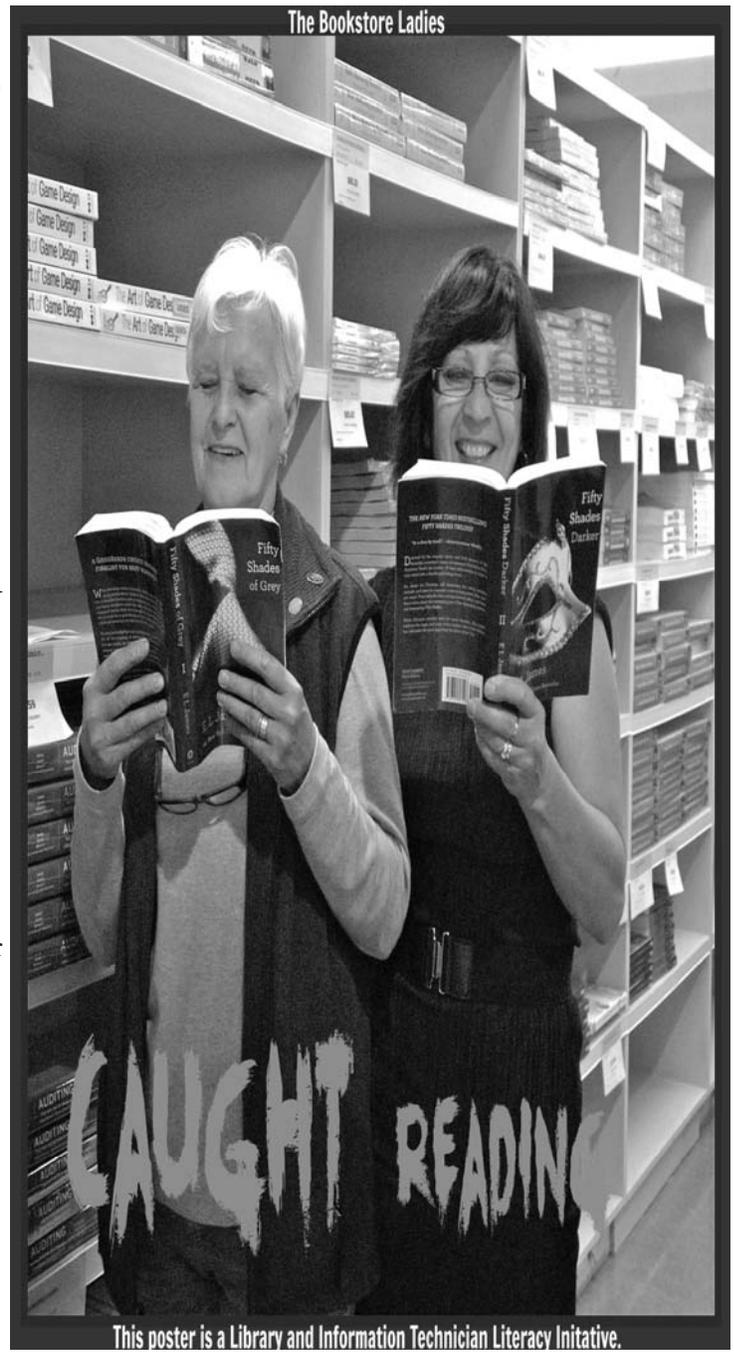
Happy Holidays

Holiday Social

The association's annual Holiday Social was held for the second year on the premises of Nicholas' Hoare Bookstore, located on Front Street East in Toronto. For over two hours, some forty members and invited guests descended upon the store to chat with one another, browse the store's stock of books, and enjoy the refreshments provided.

The Board of Director's wishes to thank Dana Schwarz for her expertise in selecting the wines for this occasion. A special note also goes out to Robert Marshall and the library technicians from the new George Brown Waterfront Campus Library that attended the social. I also wish to personally thank Maxeen Paabo and Christopher Johnson of Nicholas Hoare for being so accommodating.

The Board welcomes any comments or suggestions related to the annual Holiday Social. Please submit all to the info@oaltabo.on.ca account, using the subject line "Holiday Social".



Can You Help?

OALT/ABO Executive is looking for old issues of the NewsLETTER/ NouVELLES and/or the OALT/ABO conference programs. We would like to digitize and make the materials available on our website. If you have back issues and can part with them long enough for us to scan them it would be very appreciated.

Please contact the executive at info@oaltabo.on.ca subject line "Back Issues".

LIT Program News

LITs @ Durham College

The province's newest library technician program got underway at Durham College in Oshawa in September 2012. Throughout the first semester, students heard presentations from various information, library and literacy representatives. One of their first guest speakers was Jennine Agnew-Kata from the Literacy Network of Durham Region. Students shared the network's message through an advocacy project which *caught* many Durham College *celebrities* reading (see photo). Other guests included Emily Cartlidge, Records Manager and Archivist, Northumberland County, publishers Jennifer MacKinnon (Scholastic) and Lisa Gillman (McGraw-Hill), Nicole Doyle, legal research professor (Durham College), technical services experts Elaine Dobbin (Whitby PL) and Lorna Young (TDSB), Elizabeth Gordon (KPRDSB), Laurie Coleshill, Jane Dubis and Cathie Griffin (Durham/UOIT Library) and Blue Heron Bookstore owner Shelley Macbeth, who shared thoughts about their work, career pathways and employment opportunities open to information specialists.

In addition to learning about library and information science in their courses at the college, students had an opportunity to learn LIS skills firsthand by venturing into the workplace to job shadow information professionals in many settings, such as public libraries, school libraries, archives and academic libraries as well as an art gallery, an information agency, a health science library, a government library and more. Employers were exceptionally supportive of the college's requests for job shadow placements, arranging opportunities for

students to observe and even participate in a variety of tasks. This experience gave the students a better understanding of real world applications of their classroom learning. At the end of the semester, students organized a thank you event featuring storefronts with photos detailing their placement work and participation in placement activities. As well as employers, guests from OLA and OALT/ABO attended the event and enjoyed conversation and refreshments with very appreciative students and college faculty. Lisa Elchuk, Beckie MacDonald and Michael David Reansbury stayed after the event to provide students with information about professional associations as well as advice about future career opportunities.

As the second semester begins, students are excitedly planning their schedule for the OLA SuperConference, where the majority of them are volunteering their time for a few hours in exchange for the opportunity to attend the conference without charge – thank you OLA! Watch for the close-knit Durham College contingent – they will be the enthusiastic volunteers wearing huge smiles and *first edition* Library and Information Science Technician program sweaters. Please be sure to welcome these library and information science professionals in training when you see them.

Sue

Sue Pratt is a professor who, together with Anne Donnellan, leads the LIT team at Durham College. Both are very grateful for the support received for the new program from the library community, from booksellers, LIT program colleagues at other colleges, as well as professional associations. A very special thank you to Michael David for his advocacy and support of the new program!

LIT Program News

LITs @ Mohawk College

Greetings from the library and information technician program at Mohawk College. Hopefully the new year is off to a good start for all of you.

At Mohawk our convocation is held annually in October. This past October we were very pleased to recognize 61 graduates from the library technician diploma program and 6 graduates from the records management certificate program. It was a wonderful celebratory evening. This fall we honoured two of our graduates in particular with awards based on their academic achievement: Michelle Harrison with our Library Technician Award, and Carole Lafontaine with the OALT/ABO Award. All of our graduates can be proud of their hard work in achieving their goal by completing the program.

Winter term courses in our program have just begun, on Friday January 11. We had a successful fall term and expect that the same will be true for winter. The fall term saw the first offering of some new courses in our revised curriculum, which involved changes in our information work courses, and introduction of cataloguing courses covering Resource Description and Access guidelines.

OALT/ABO members may be interested in these or other courses in our program for professional development. Our courses are all taught online.

Our course offerings for upcoming terms are listed at: <http://disted.mohawkcollege.ca>

under "Program of Studies". Registration for spring term opens on March 5, 2013.

In late January, Mohawk will again be join-

ing with the library technician programs from Seneca and Algonquin colleges, as well as the OALT/ABO, to share a booth at the OLA Super Conference in Toronto. If you are at the conference, please stop by to say hello.

If there are any questions about our courses, please contact me at 905-575-2309 or email dolores.harmspenner@mohawkcollege.ca

Respectfully submitted,

Dolores

Dolores Harms Penner
Program Manager
Library and Information Technician Diploma Program
Records & Information Management Certificate Program
Mohawk College

LITs @ Seneca College

There are big changes in the cataloguing courses. RDA not AACR2 now is being taught in Seneca's LIT cataloguing courses. This change began last Fall 2012 with the first semester students taking a new course LIT103: Cataloguing I. In this course, students created core elements using RDA and learned to code them using MARC and ISBD. In the Winter 2013 semester, the second semester students are taking LIT203: Cataloguing II where they are learning more about RDA. Since students still need some knowledge of AACR2, they also are learning to identify AACR2 and hybrid records. Since the fourth semester students who are completing their diplomas this Winter 2013 have taken earlier cataloguing courses based on AACR2, they are participating in an additional cataloguing course LIT503: RDA combining the contents of LIT103 and LIT203.

If you are interested in learning more about the new courses, take a look at the subject outlines on the Seneca website found at: <https://secure.senecac.on.ca/ssos/login.do>

LIT Program News

Enter the subject code, for example LIT103, in the Quick Outline Search box. The semester for LIT103 is Fall 2012 and the semester for LIT203 and LIT503 is Winter 2013.

We had a busy November, 2012 in terms of events. We started with the OALT/ABO Meet and Greet on Monday, November 12 with approximately 50 third semester students gathering to hear a presentation by Michael David Reansbury and Lisa Elchuk. On Saturday, November 24 the LIT program participated in Seneca's Open House for prospective students. While over 5,000 participants attended, a somewhat smaller number made inquiries about the LIT program, but we were kept busy.

Finally, on Thursday, November 29, the LIT program with the other programs in the School of Legal and Public Administration hosted a Field Placement Appreciation event. Those who host field placements were entertained with music, food and beverages, and received certificates of appreciation. Attendees heard a graduate from each of the programs speak about the benefits of field placements. The LIT program's representative was Adele Magowan, an employee of Seneca Libraries. One of those receiving a certificate of appreciation for her work with field placements on behalf of her employer CSA group was Susan Morley, who many of you also know through OALT/ABO.

Deborah

Deborah Kay
Program Coordinator
School of Legal & Public Administration
Seneca College



Penni Chalk has retired!

After 30 years of working for the Ontario Ministry of Revenue / Ministry of Finance, I retired on June 6, 2012. I am looking forward to spending more time with my husband, Wayne, who has been on disability since 2006. I am also planning on spending more time enjoying my three granddaughters, McKenna, and Arden, my son's two daughters, and Karalynn who is my stepdaughter's daughter.

Our plans for the future are moving away from Oshawa. We are looking at Bracebridge or Minden. We are going to wait until 2013 before we start looking.

I have missed the last two conferences, but hope to meet up with everyone at the 2013 conference in London.



Thank You

Dear Michael David,
My sincere thanks to you and the Association. I must admit I am still in shock and amazement at being selected for the Editor's Draw prize. I've never considered myself much of a writer but this recognition certainly forces me to rethink that idea and to write more.

It is truly satisfying to think that many were inspired by the description of events and action that I took on that particular day.

I accept this with gratitude and in a humble, serving spirit.

Theresa Ziebell

what's your story?

Meeting the OALT/ABO Community One Member

At a Time



When asked to write a short article for the OALT Newsletter on being a library technician in a college I said yes without hesitation. It was only when I actually sat down to write that I realized how difficult it was going to be. Summarizing my years as a library technician at Seneca Libraries, the changing role of the library technician and the trans-

formation of the college library environment is a challenge.

In 20 years, I have seen many changes, worked at two campuses, and held an assortment of positions in circulation, technical services and reference. Most recently, I've been part of a multi-campus collection development team. Regardless of how many times my position has changed over the years, the one thing that has remained constant is the increasing level of responsibility given to library technicians.

The role of the technician in the college library has evolved and expanded and now includes areas once considered the sole responsibility of librarians. Collection development and library instruction are two good examples of these growing responsibilities. Perhaps the one area with the most significance is the technician in the classroom. This is a very big change. While technicians may be in the classroom they are not autonomous. Currently our technicians do not work alone or create the content of their classroom instructional visits, their actions are regulated and reviewed by librarians. Possibly, the next change for tomorrow's technicians will be obtaining the academic freedom to develop their own library programs without limitations.

The library itself has gone through many changes as well. Who remembers card catalogues, microfiche, and 16 mm projectors? Today, service delivery is online; OPACs, databases, eBooks, DVDs, and streamed videos are the norm. No longer the quiet zone of the past, libraries have become a shared space, encouraging group work with the introduction of couches, media booths, and tables where many students can gather. I'm not sure whether I should blame or give credit to the bookstore Chapters for most of these changes. It

may just depend on your perspective. Not all users appreciate the new library regretting the loss of quiet sociability formerly associated with the library. Today the library is not only a place for study it is also a destination and a meeting place. Yes, the library is busy - most days students cannot get a seat. It's crowded, loud, boisterous, and *the* place to be on campus. Without question, students are engaged and the library space has been repurposed to suit the shifting needs of students in our brave new electronic world.

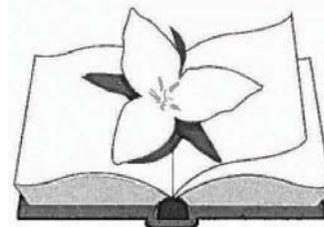
Gone are the "No" policies of the past, the no talking, no food, no drinks, no cellphones. Our students arrive coffee in hand, find a comfy chair, chat with friends, and even bring their lunch. Anything goes and judging from the number of students using the library, they really like this change in policy. We also tried to solve the difficulties arising for those library traditionalists seeking quiet study or solitude by creating a separate quiet study area.

When I think about the past and all the changes that have taken place over the years I wonder what advice an older wiser me would give to a younger me. Maybe a warning about a former spouse, something about cars, and absolutely, without question, **do not** get that perm! One thing is certain though, 20 years later I still think becoming a library technician was the best decision I ever made.

Sharon Doyle

Sharon Doyle works as a Library Technician at Seneca College's King Campus Library.

Have You Visited Our Website Lately?



OALT / ABO

www.oaltabo.on.ca

Conferences, Conferences, Conferences

Ex Libris Association Conference & AGM

By Doug Willford

The annual Ex Libris Association Conference & AGM was held at the Northern District Branch on November 5, 2012 with about 40 members in attendance

Members were welcomed by the President, Mr. Lorne Bruce who outlined the days program and encouraged all members to enjoy the day and participate by asking questions of the speakers

The first speakers: Mr. Michael Ridley, Chief Librarian, University of Guelph and Noel S. McFerran, Thology Librarian, Kelly Library, University of Toronto spoke on the topic of “**New Directions in Academic Librarianship and Libraries**”

Mr Ridley’s presentation was very provocative in that he questioned if Librarianship is disappearing into oblivion. He questioned if today’s students are really getting the bang for their buck and that Academic Librarians should be there to make sure they do and further reinforce the learning process

To do this he challenged librarians with the following:

- Academic Librarians should be teaching more in classrooms and not so much about literacy information but more with the direction and assistance in major research projects
- Do away with the Reference Desk. It should no longer be a service but more of an exploration and learning centre. It would be a transition from service to a learning experience for students.
- Change our direction and become more involved with publishing
- Definitely think outside the box !!!

Moe McFerran spoke on how they are tweaking the service they offer to the faculty & students at

the Kelly Library. Some examples are allowing students and faculty to eat and drink in the library, the development of the Kelly Courier Service where the faculty send in a request for a particular book or article and it is delivered to their office or they can come to the library and pick it up themselves.

The Kelly library is trying to portray to their patrons that the library remains the best place to go for information.

After the morning coffee break Shelagh Paterson, Executive Director, Ontario Library Association spoke to us about the success of the Reading Programs and how they are becoming more popular in the school libraries. She mentioned that OLA is now offering a Copyright Service to libraries. Just send in your query to OLA and they will get back to you with a reply.

OLA continues to lobby for what they call the “Demise of Our Culture” especially with Library and Archives Canada (LAC) who continue to cut back in services and have recently hired a new CEOw who is not a librarian.

Following the AGM and a delicious lunch the afternoon speakers were Steward Boden, Archives of Ontario, Paul Sharkey, City of Toronto Archives, and Sarah Ferencz, President, Archives Association of Ontario.

The speakers spoke on the services they offer such as travelling exhibits, speakers bureau, public events and in the light of the bicentennial of the War of 1812 the work they are doing to help preserve and promote information about this major event.

The noted how the major social networks such as Twitter, Facebook and the photo sharing service Flickr help to promote and reinforce the archive

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Reports from Technicians Out in the Field

service they offer.

All in all it was a very enjoyable and educational day.

If you are retired or close to retirement please consider joining Ex Libris. Check out their website at : <http://exlibris.ischool.utoronto.ca> and on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/ExLibrisAssociation>.

Doug Willford

One Cataloguer's Perspective on the Art Libraries Society of North America's (ARLIS/NA) Annual Conference 2012

By Kathleen O'Reilly

Through the generous support of the Art Libraries Society of North America-Montreal, Ottawa, Quebec's Michelle Gauthier Travel Award and of my home institution, the National Gallery of Canada, I had the opportunity to attend the 40th annual ARLIS/NA conference, held from 30 March to 1 April in Toronto, Canada.

As the conference approached, I eagerly browsed through all the various informative sessions and workshops being offered. In fact, there were so many, that I had difficulty narrowing down my choices.

This year's conference theme "Colouring Outside the Lines" was meant to reflect the ideals of creative thinking while addressing the numerous areas that are of interest to a varied group of information professionals. These included past favourites such as the future of art bibliography, collection development, and emerging technologies. As a cataloguer, creative thinking is a highlight for me, as it enables an open mind to embrace change. Anyone in cataloguing today knows that what lies ahead with the introduction of Resource Description and Access (RDA) is an unknown factor, so maintaining

an open mind to change will only be beneficial.

As a first-time attendee, I wanted to make the most of my opportunity, so had decided early on to enlist into the mentee/mentor program offered by the ARLIS/NA conference planners. This required providing information about my own experiences so that I could be best matched with someone sharing a similar background.

Through this program, I was paired with a fellow-cataloguer from the Library of Congress. We agreed to meet at the Cataloguing Section meeting which was held on Friday afternoon. Not only did she share her time and introduce me to various colleagues, she also shared her knowledge of RDA and its implications for both the cataloguing world and for me personally. I now have a great resource to contact for any cataloguing issue that may come up.

My first official session was the Collection Development Special Interest Group held on Friday afternoon. This was followed by the Cataloguing Section meeting, where RDA was indeed the topic of choice. The next time-slot provided me with my first difficult choice: Whether to attend the First-Time Attendees Section or the Canadian ARLIS/NA Meeting. While I was indeed a "first-time attendee", I eventually opted to join my Canadian colleagues. I felt that I would have a better chance of networking among them, and I was not disappointed.

My first evening ended with the Opening Plenary Speaker, Diana Thorneycroft, and the 40th Anniversary Celebration and Welcome Party.

Saturday morning began with "The Future of Art Bibliography Initiative". It included five speakers and updated the Future of Art Bibliography (FAB) Initiative, including describing ongoing digitization

Conferences, Conferences, Conferences

Reports from Technicians Out in the Field

projects, web-archiving and issues with born-digital materials. In addition, Michael Rocke of Harvard University provided an update on Artlibraries.net. Since my home institution is a participant in this initiative, I was very much interested in this thorough update. This session was followed by “Digital Humanities, the Changing Book, and the New Librarianship.” Four speakers discussed the role that digital materials have in the work of Information Professionals, both in terms of the building of collections and in making those collections available to users. “Metadata: the Changing Information Landscape” was my final session for the afternoon. The presenters discussed numerous issues facing cataloguers and metadata librarians: the increasing need to provide enhanced image cataloguing, linked open data and its growing role in cataloguing, and RDA and the implications its acceptance (or not) will have on libraries and archives. For me, this particular session was an helpful addition. While I had been feeling overwhelmed by the upheaval in cataloguing, I was able to make numerous contacts that will help me in the future. In addition, and perhaps most importantly, I realized that most people in the room were sharing similar feelings to my own. We are definitely on this road together!

Sunday morning began bright and early with the session “Information Design in a Digital World.” Mikael D. Kriz from the St. Louis University Library began by providing an overview of general Information Design principles for library websites. Jutta Treviranus from OCAD University discussed issues surrounding the design of accessible websites for varied users, including those with visual, mental and/or physical disabilities. The session ended with Adam Lauder from York University describing his online catalogue raisonné of Canadian conceptual artist Iain Baxter&. By creating a website that is

both researcher and artist-generated, Adam Lauder is attempting to expand the traditional print catalogue raisonné format into something that is more collaborative and fluid.

The next session “Provoking Change: Creativity, Leadership, and Planning for the Future” discussed ways of adding more creative thought and practice into our daily work, thus becoming more innovative and providing possible avenues for embracing change, even when that change is not entirely welcome.

My conference concluded with “Curating in Context: Representing Cultural Significance in Library Exhibitions.” This session focused on curatorial practice and the roles that culture, politics, and religion can play when creating library exhibitions. Examples from exhibitions held at the Royal Ontario Museum and the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library were provided. They revealed just some of the many issues curators of exhibitions face when deciding which items to display and why. In addition, this session reminded us that our users are a varied group of people that come from varied backgrounds. While this factor should not determine our curatorial practices, it is always beneficial to acknowledge and respect the fact that not everyone will agree.

I am extremely grateful to ARLIS/NA MOQ and the Michelle Gauthier Travel Award for providing me the opportunity to attend such an enriching conference. Through my time at the conference, I made new contacts and met some old friends. My experience was certainly a positive one and I look forward to future conferences.

Kathleen is a graduate of the Algonquin College Library Technician Program and works at the National Gallery of Canada, Library and Archives

Theme Feature



How To Stay Active At Your Workstation

By Dr. Jonas Eyford

There is nothing wrong with sitting per se. Sitting down to eat breakfast is good. Sitting down while the plane is taking off is good. Sitting down at your desk after you walk 5km to work is good too. But sitting all day at work, then sitting in your car on the way home, sitting down for supper and then sitting down to watch TV might be a bit much.

The best way to think about sitting is as a break from what your body does best – move. Your body thrives with movement. Sitting too much is damaging to your spine and takes a big toll on your overall health.

For many people, staying active at work is a challenge. Although with a little creativity and discipline, it is possible to turn your work hours into hours that contribute to your health rather than destroy it.

Work demands your constant attention and for the most part it needs to be done at your desk. The good news is that, similar to exercising or healthy eating, once you get going you feel great and it is hard to stop. The trick is just to figure out how to get up and get active in ways that work well for you. Baby steps.

It's important to first dispel a couple myths. The first myth we have to deal with is that if you are not sitting you are not working. Most of us believe this. I mean, who do you think is working harder, the guy who sits at this desk for hours at a time without moving or the guy who gets up for a glass of water every twenty minutes. Some of us even brag how long we sit working at one task. "I was so engrossed in that spreadsheet, I forgot to pee."

Although the reality is that increased movement and mini-breaks increase focus and productivity, your colleagues and, perhaps more importantly your boss, may still have the idea that long stretches of immobility mean concentration and productivity. If you start moving around and stretching more, they might think you are distracted. So before you start stretching at your desk, tell your colleagues that you are trying to use this strategy to be even more

productive. Make them think that you are only doing it to be more productive. The things we do for the company!

The second myth about sitting is that it's easy on your body.

It's not. Sitting puts significant strain on your low back. The discs in between your vertebrae are being compressed in a bent position. With time, this does damage to the tissue, and puts you at greater risk of having low back pain, a disc herniation or sciatica. Then there is the strain on the muscles, tendons, ligaments and fascia of your low back. These are all elastic tissues that lose their elasticity when stretched out for too long. This affects the proper function of all the back tissues. When people 'put out' their back, it is most often because the back muscles are not working properly from being under-used and stretched out all the time. That's not to mention the negative effects of sitting on your cardiovascular health, metabolism and energy levels.

If you want to get rid of back and neck pain at work, reduce the risk of getting injured and have more energy, then forget about your chair, start with your brain. The most important factor to consider in terms of your workplace ergonomics is your *movement*.

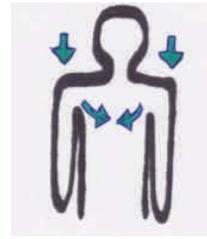
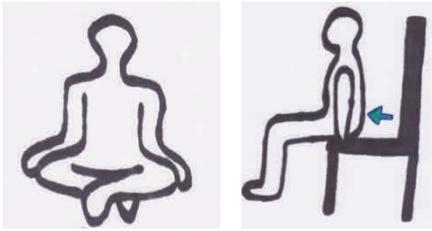
When you get up and move, not only are you dissipating the strain on your muscles and ligaments, but as you stretch and contract muscles your body releases hormones like endorphins, serotonin and dopamine. These hormones circulate in your blood and affect your brain, directly contributing to your mood. Therefore, movement equals happiness.

The best ways to prevent pain and strain is to **shift, stretch and move**.

Shift your sitting posture every ten minutes. Put your feet up on the desk, cross them underneath you, cross the other leg, sit up straight, slouch... do *whatever* you want but not for more than ten minutes. A great strategy is to try and reverse your previous posture. This is easier than you imagine. Learn to be fidgety again. Try the combinations below, sitting in each position for ten minutes.

Cross your legs on one side, then the other, then cross both. Sit upright at the edge of your seat and then lean back, put your feet up and have your keyboard on your lap.

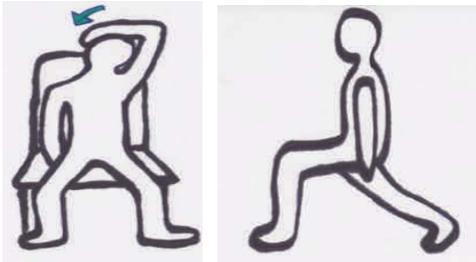
Theme Feature



Stretch the muscles that are being shortened by sitting.

Start with your trapezius muscles on each side, then a lunge with your back leg straight, and finish off by sitting on the edge of your seat, sticking your chest out and rotating your hands outwards.

Do each stretch three times, holding it for ten seconds.



If you are too busy to pry your hand off your mouse, here are a few exercises you can do that can help keep you active without leaving your chair. Bring your shoulder blades together, tilt your pelvis forwards and backwards, and then draw your abdominal muscles into your spine. Try each exercise five times, holding each contraction for ten seconds.

Move as frequently as you can. Standing up lessens the compression on the spine and it activates the body's largest muscles. Our bodies are made to move, so keep those joints happy. Use any opportunity you can to stand, walk, squat or play hopscotch. Get a little creative and you'll be doing your body an immense favour. You can stand up and walk around when you talk on the phone. Stand sporadically to do sorting or filing. Stand every time you send a text message. Keep in mind that the effect of an increased movement contributes to increased focus, productivity and morale.

If you feel like trying regular stretching and taking breaks is not doing enough, consider using a tool to help out with your particular issue. There are straps, braces and tapes that help prevent slouching, many types of lumbar support, wrist supports for forearm pain and carpal tunnel syndrome and all sorts of creative devices to facilitate ergonomic sitting. There are products out there that can help just about any problem. Using an ergonomic device can be a very useful temporary measure to help ease the strain and re-train your postural muscles.

What about your chair? It is common that people think they need a better, more 'ergonomic' chair at their desk. Bosses everywhere dread the inevitable rounds of requests. Chairs are not the problem, what is important is how they are used. Simply put, sitting is sitting, the difference to your spine that one chair will make over another is negligible. Learning to use your chair and using its features consistently is important. Most office chairs are adjustable, so adjust them! Adjust them as frequently as possible. Tilting the seat pan forward and backwards increases and decreases the curve of your lumbar spine, raising and lowering the height of the chair changes the angle of the hips and affects the way you use your shoulders and arms. Adjusting the lumbar support will also change the curve in your low back and will change the posture of your upper body. The most important thing is to change the chair configuration regularly to reduce the strain being placed on a particular

Theme Feature



part of your body.

There are also many good alternatives to a chair. You can sit on a ball, an active stool, or you could stand at your desk. It is even becoming more common for some offices to have treadmill workstations. The treadmill desk has some great benefits, but my favorite option is the active stool. It has a base that stays still while the seat moves with your body in any direction. Sitting on a freely moving seat activates your postural muscles (the muscles that stabilize your spine), making sitting productive rather than destructive. For active stools and other ergonomic sitting devices you can visit the online store HappyOffice.ca.

A little shifting, stretching and moving will go a long way. If you make it habit at work your body will thank you and so will your boss. Moving well for eight hours at work is better for your body than an hour at the gym after sitting still all day. Making a commitment to stick to this strategy will not only make you stronger, but will give you more energy, keep you injury-free and will contribute to your overall health and happiness.

Dr. Jonas Eyford is a Chiropractor at Mahaya Forest Hill Integrative Health in Toronto.

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1. Ratey, J. *A User's Guide to the Brain: Perception, Attention, and the Four Theatres of the Brain*. 2002, Vintage.
 2. *Is sitting-while-at-work associated with low back pain? A systematic, critical literature review*. *Scand J Public Health* July 2000 vol. 28 no. 3 230-239.

Some Doggerel About In-Action

By Maggie Weaver

I always go upon the plan
Of shunning effort where I can –
A skill that most deem a disgrace,
But I wholeheartedly embrace.

I learned it first when I was small –
My brother always fetched the ball;
He did the chores, was paid in sweets,
And then donated half his treats.

At kindergarten, girls fought boys,
And I scooped up neglected toys.
I learned the art of looking cute,
And from my uncles wheedled loot.

At junior school I only played,
But found out how to make the grade
By bringing in my mother's bakes
And swapping homework for some cakes.

Senior school brought out my best –
I copied essay, note and test,
And pushed my marks a little higher
By singing sweetly in the choir.

I used the library a lot
At university, but not
For studying; instead,
It was a place to lay my head.

In fact, I put in my CV
That libraries were right for me.
They fell for it, so therefore here
I've stayed throughout a long career.

Next time you're in, take a close look
At someone who, with nose in book
Avoids your eye, keeps head bent low,
And scowls when asked "Please, do you know....?"

It's me, performing at my best....

I'm stopping now – I need a rest.

Theme Feature

Being a Page is Good for My Health

By Pamela Maten

At age 48, I was looking for more. Along with my husband, I had raised two talented children. I had been self-employed for five years painting houses, doing custom gardening, and housekeeping at three local Bed and Breakfasts. I experienced job satisfaction when the fruits of my labour smiled back at me, but my brain felt neglected. I needed to put my gray-matter to work. Like many mature students choosing to become Library and Information Technician, I had spent a number of years as a school library volunteer loving every moment of it. When I discovered that Mohawk College offered the LIT program through distance education, I knew I had found my new career path. In January, 2009 I began my first online course.

While immersing myself in my studies, it was difficult not to become discouraged about my decision. The news was inundated with reports on public service cut-backs, especially in school library programs; but I chose to have faith that my turn would come. Indeed, this September I was hired on at the Stratford Public Library as a part-time page. Now if you have ever seen a job posting for a library page, you will have noticed that one of the required qualifications is the physical strength and flexibility to push and pull book trucks, lift library materials, and reach and squat while shelving library items. Don't take this lightly.

As a gardener, hiker, paddler and walker to any place I can get to without a car, I consider myself physically fit. I had this job requirement "in the bag". The reality is, at the end of week one on the job I was flaked out on the couch with ice packs on my knees unable to move! I estimate that I perform at least eight hours of deep knee-bends and fourteen hours of walking per week, including the walk to and from the library. Three months into the job, I am proud to announce that I no longer have to ice my knees and I have thighs of steel. But what about stimulating my brain – the motivation that brought me back to school in the first place?

In the library hierarchy with the Library Board and CEO at the top, pages come dead last. But does that mean they are valued the least? From the manner in which I am treated by library staff at Stratford Public Library, I can confidently answer, "no." Every employee is regarded as an important link in delivering excellent customer service. My input matters. Just recently, I sat among Library Board and Foundation members, the CEO, and library staff actively brainstorming ideas to update the library's strategic plan. My supervisor regularly calls on pages for their ideas and opinions on issues that affect how we do our jobs effectively. And my suggestions for additions to the professional collection are welcomed and acted upon.

Not only does being a page keep my body strong and active, my brain gets a work-out, too. Being a page is good for my health. Is there a down side? Well, I have to admit there is one. Library staff are skilled at finding the best recipes out there and they embrace every occasion as an opportunity to celebrate with food. Unless I learn to resist this tasty temptation, I just might undo the healthy benefits I have gained!

Being a LIT Student, Volunteer and Working Keeps Me Active.

By Carole Lance

While volunteering at the school library I watch how the students are participating in the Blue Spruce, Silver Birch book readings, I don't just take their submissions, sign their copies, I actually love to read the books in the different categories. Keeping your mind active through reading is very important.

Out and About

FROM RUSSIA WITH LOVE

By Doug Willford

Part of my “Bucket List” was checked off early this October with my long anticipated trip to Russia. Instead of writing a boring article about my experience I have opted to highlight some of my trip with pictures and commentary. Hope you enjoy!!!



Royal staircase in the Hermitage,
St. Petersburg



Triumphal arch in St. Petersburg



St. Isaac's Cathedral in St. Petersburg



Beautiful fountains in Peterhof.



Looking across the Moskva River to
Cathedral in the background.



Standing in Red Square with St. Basil's
The Kremlin.

Library of Congress

By Carolin Toppan

When I received Doug's submission on his trip to Russia it sparked an idea for me to share photos from a trip to Washington D.C. I was attending the SLA conference a few years ago and I convinced my husband to join me on the trip. We added a couple of extra days to see the city. His idea of tours were historical sites and museums. Not on his list at all was a tour of a Library. In the car en route I jokingly said to him "what kind of nerd takes a tour of a library on their holiday?" He rolled his eyes and smiled obviously humouring me. What a delight it was when our cab pulled up to let us out. Appreciation for the Library of Congress starts on the sidewalk in front of the Jefferson Building. Built in the Italian Renaissance style the first thing you see as you approach is the Neptune Fountain.



From there it only gets better. It is a beautiful building architecturally & offers a host of statues, artistic murals and mosaics to be admired, as well as a collection of books that would make any bibliophile drool. If you ever have the opportunity put this tour at the top of your sightseeing list!



The Great Hall



Mosaic of Minerva



Cherubs Representing Asia & Europe

The black and white images don't do the library justice. If you are interested in seeing the photos in colour I will post them on Flickr. Search under Library of Congress Tour or ctoppan.

For our next issue if you have a story about a library tour/trip that you have taken, send us a story with some photos to

oaltabonewsletter@gmail.com

Welcome / Bienvenue

A very special welcome to all our new members:

Mary Neilans	Carmela Chabchoub
Judith Goodwin	Scott Shub
Wendy Coulter Baarda	Michelle Deas
Lisa Cirka	Brandy Smith
Jennifer Reynolds	Marieke Junkin
Luanne Wolfe	Jill Cameron
Gordon Brennan	Nicole Clark Morgan
Elizabeth Logue	Stephanie Coward
Emily Snider	Samantha Mackie
Amanda Murdoch	Anne Mariah Langille
Shannon Arsenault	

The association wishes to make amends for the following omissions and insertions:

1. In the Membership Directory the phone number of Joanna Zalewa was printed when it should not have been. The executive wishes to express our regret and remorse for having done so.

2. The following members information was not printed in the Membership Directory but should have been:

Malvern, Catherine
Chapter(s):
Employer: Waterloo Law Association
Address: 20 Weber Street East.
Kitchener, On
phone: [519-742-0872](tel:519-742-0872)
email: cmalvern@waterloolaw.org

Haayen, Wanda
Chapter(s):
Employer: Waterloo Law Association
Address: 20 Weber Street East.
Kitchener, On
phone: [519-742-0872](tel:519-742-0872)
email: whaayen@waterloolaw.org

Call for Submissions

We would love to hear from you, all and any (even a quote) contributions are appreciated. This newsletter is your window of opportunity, to which YOU can send :

- * Professional development and education matter to us, so please send us your experiences
- * Upcoming events/workshops/training etc...
- * Updates about yourself, your work, job developments etc... How about telling us about a day in the life of your workplace?
- * New technologies/tools/database
- * Book reviews are a fantastic ice breaker if you are nervous about writing
- * Library related anecdotes, humour, interesting facts and quotes
- * Your blogs or blogs you enjoy, websites, your social cataloguing profiles; GoodReads, Shelfari, LibraryThing
- * Photographs

**Please submit your articles to:
oaltabonewsletter@gmail.com**

Submission guidelines:

- * 1000—1500 words. We will accept longer submissions if room permits.
- * Microsoft Word Documents
- * Photos can be submitted in black and white or colour. Please send as a “.jpg” file.
- * Indicate the names of the people in photos you submit
- * With your submission please include your name and a line or two about yourself
- * We welcome articles in French

The deadline for our next issue is April 1, 2013.

Thank you!