

UBC Library Community Report

STRATEGIC PLAN: YEAR TWO

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a place of mind

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



“The Library continues to connect people with information — and each other”

Welcome to UBC Library's second annual Community Report — a collection of stories that illustrate how we are meeting our strategic plan objectives and transforming into a 21st-century research library.

This year's report highlights some of the ways that technology is driving change within UBC Library, and redefining our programs and services.

A UBC faculty member or student can disseminate research globally. An historian from a small B.C. town can discover front-page community news from the early 20th century. First Nations cultural materials, including rich oral histories, can be preserved for the digital age thanks to an innovative digitization project. These are just some of the new and exciting ways in which the Library is evolving to connect with its users.

Indeed, the Library continues to connect people with information — and each other. More than 80 students have benefited from a peer-based coaching program at the Chapman Learning Commons. We are also supporting the professional development of our staff by providing learning opportunities to align their skills with the library of the future.

We are honoured to share these stories as we work to serve communities at UBC and beyond. We invite you to be a part of the Library's future — follow our progress at www.library.ubc.ca.



Ingrid Parent
University Librarian





ENHANCE STUDENT LEARNING

HAE JUNG MIN (L)
AND TERI GRANT
of the Coaches Corner
program.

**Coaches Corner
helps students
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for success**

COACHING FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

University life can be exhilarating and mind-expanding — but it can also be stressful for harried students juggling classes, assignments, papers and exams.

Enter Coaches Corner, an award-winning program offered in the Chapman Learning Commons (CLC) in collaboration with UBC Student Development that helps students assess their study habits and skills, reflect on their academic strengths and weaknesses, and set goals for success.

Coaches Corner takes up two tables in the CLC, located on level three of the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre. “At any point, any student from any faculty and any academic year can come and speak to any of our student-volunteer coaches,” says Teri Grant, the Student Development Coordinator who oversees the program.

Coaches discuss issues confidentially with students, and help them formulate an action plan. Students may be referred to other nearby services in the Learning Centre, such as AMS Tutoring and the Writing Centre.

By mid-March, the Coaches Corner program had served nearly 80 students during the 2011/12 academic year. Most are undergraduates from the Arts and Science faculties. Yet some belong to other units, including the Faculty of Land and Food Systems, the Sauder School of Business, the Faculty of Dentistry and others. The most popular topic of discussion? Time management.

The experience has also been valuable for the coaches. “Coaches Corner has benefitted me by helping me open up to meeting new people and know more about events going on on campus,” says Hae Jung Min, a coach and Arts student in Cognitive Systems.

Exciting times lie ahead for the program, as it expands to include new campus cohorts such as Arts Peer Coaches, a partnership between the Faculty of Arts and Student Development.

For more information, please visit learningcommons.ubc.ca



ACCELERATE RESEARCH

HILDE COLENBRANDER
has managed cIRcle since its
inception.

OPEN ACCESS TO UBC RESEARCH

Want to find a UBC thesis on the biological feasibility of Pacific oyster and California sea cucumber polyculture, but not sure where to start? How about guidelines on mine haul road design from the School of Engineering at the Okanagan campus?

Have no fear — cIRcle, UBC's digital repository, is here to help users near and far access a treasure trove of research. As cIRcle Coordinator Hilde Colenbrander notes, "We're aiming to be a digital archive of the University's intellectual output."

cIRcle is based on an open access model, which allows anyone with a Web browser to access more than 40,000 works from UBC faculty and students for viewing, research and other scholarly pursuits.

Since its beginnings five years ago, cIRcle has made tremendous strides. Today, it ranks 15th among top U.S. and Canadian repositories, and 36th among 1,435 repositories worldwide.

Rankings aside, what makes cIRcle so valuable is its depth and breadth. As an example, Colenbrander highlights the UBC Retrospective Theses and Dissertation Collection, where users can explore documents dating from 1919 to 2007.

The repository also made a big impression at a recent Vancouver mining conference by making valuable content freely available online — for the first time — for attendees and users around the world. More than 70 conference papers were featured in cIRcle ahead of the conference. At the time, the most popular paper was viewed hundreds of times from users in countries including Canada, the US, Brazil, Peru, the UK, Iran, Chile, Australia, Japan and Mexico.

Colenbrander and her staff will continue to grow cIRcle as a core Library and campus-wide service. In the coming year, the focus will include developing a digital preservation strategy and working with campus partners to capture more of the University's research output.

For more information, please visit circle.ubc.ca

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BELLA COOLA

COURIER

IF YOU WANT GOOD SPORT
VISIT BELLA COOLA. EXCEL-
LENT HUNTING AND FISHING.

VOL. 5—NO. 27

BELLA COOLA, B. C., SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1917.

WEATHER REPORT FOR MAY
Compiled by Mr. C. H. Urseth, of the
Bella Coola Observatory.
Temperature: Maximum, 62. Minimum, 28.
Highest Max. (30th) 76. Lowest Min. (4th) 27.
Rainfall, 1.54.
Rainfall for the year (1916) 40.89 inches.

\$1.00 a Year

Abbotsford Post

VICTORIA

MANAGE COLLECTIONS IN A DIGITAL CONTEXT PAPER.

BRINGING B.C.'S HISTORY ONLINE

More than 45,000 pages chronicling B.C.'s storied past are available online following the completion of the British Columbia Historical Newspapers Project in late 2011.

The project, led by the UBC Library's Digital Initiatives Unit and generously supported by a private family foundation, features digitized versions of 24 historical papers from around the province. The titles, which range from the *Abbotsford Post* to the *Phoenix Pioneer*, date from 1865 to 1924. All are available for free online viewing.

"This is an excellent example of UBC Library advancing its digital agenda and connecting with communities at UBC and around the province," says Allan Bell, Director of Library Digital Initiatives. So far, the project has been a hit, as the site has attracted more than 22,000 visits from users in 69 countries.

"UBC Library's digital collection of British Columbia newspapers makes the exciting history of the province's early development readily available to a wide reading public," says Bob McDonald, an Associate Professor in UBC's Department of History.

"These newspapers tell the story of logging at Port Alberni, farming in the Fraser Valley, silver mining in the Kootenays and social conflict at Cumberland."

The publications are fully searchable and browsable; single pages can be downloaded in the JPEG format, while entire issues are downloadable as PDFs. Another highlight is the "Today in History" feature, which allows users to discover the news stories of small-town B.C. that correspond to the present date but took place in centuries past.

In the coming year, another 48 reels of digitized microfilm will be added to the site, and it's likely that more titles will be featured in the future.

For more information, please visit historicalnewspapers.library.ubc.ca

THE FRONT PAGES
of the *Bella Coola Courier*
(1917) and the *Abbotsford*
Post (1924).

“This is an excellent example of UBC Library advancing its digital agenda and connecting with communities at UBC and around the province”



ENGAGE WITH COMMUNITY

XELSILEM RIVERS
is helping digitize First
Nations oral histories.

PRESERVING CULTURAL HERITAGE

An innovative UBC Library project is helping preserve First Nations history and culture for the digital age.

The project, dubbed Indigitization, is a collaboration between various UBC units, including the Library's Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, the First Nations House of Learning, the Museum of Anthropology (MOA) and the School of Library, Archival and Information Studies. The First Nations Technology Council and three First Nations communities in B.C.— Heiltsuk, Ktunaxa and 'Namgis — are also partners in the endeavor.

One of the project's key goals is the development of an online "toolkit" for the digitization of First Nations cultural materials, which should be available by May. The kit is a how-to resource, with equipment and software available for lending to participating communities.

"We have been developing a portable digitization system for First Nations communities. This system will assist them in preserving and digitizing their own valuable oral histories and language recordings," says Xelsilem Rivers, an intern at MOA involved with the Indigitization project. "These recordings carry valuable information and histories about our ancestors. Through digitization they can be preserved and accessed by researchers and community members for generations to come."

"By supporting First Nations communities, we are safeguarding future generations' access to valuable community information," adds Mimi Lam, a Digital Projects Librarian based at the Learning Centre.

Thanks to the toolkit, the Ktunaxa Archives was able to digitize an 1894 dictionary of the Kootenay language. "The original manuscript and printed copies had been lost to time and fire," explains Margaret Teneese, Ktunaxa Archivist. The project, however, allowed Teneese to digitize six reels of microfilm dealing with language records — and amazingly, one of those contained an English translation of the dictionary, a discovery that Teneese calls "an incredible treasure."

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CREATE AN EXCEPTIONAL WORK ENVIRONMENT

SUPPORTING STAFF GROWTH

CAROLYN CARVAJAL
calls the Learning
Opportunities program
a “win-win situation.”

Academic libraries are changing rapidly in response to user needs, and so are the skill sets required by those who work in libraries. As part of its retention strategy and a commitment to nurture professional development from within, UBC Library created a Learning Opportunities pilot program in early 2011.

Internal positions are created within the Library as learning opportunities, with staff encouraged to apply as a short-term step to gain new skills without having to leave the organization. Employee groups such as CUPE 2950 and the Faculty Association recognized the pilot program as a way to provide new experiences and new work environments, says Ina Reiche, Human Resources Manager at the Library.

Carolyn Carvajal, an Instructional Support Assistant at the Library, applied for a learning opportunity with the Teaching and Learning division. In her new role, she provided instructional and technical support, and honed her teaching and leadership skills, something she believes she'll be able to apply to her home position.

Carvajal's supervisor, Aleteia Greenwood — the Branch Head of Science and Engineering — is also a big supporter of the Learning Opportunities program. She notes that Library managers can be more creative and collaborative in staff training, and encourage flexibility in workflow arrangements.

In its inaugural year, the Library posted 11 positions as part of the Learning Opportunities program. The program will continue for CUPE 2950 members, as well as Management and Professional staff, and Technicians/Research Assistants. “I'd absolutely recommend the Learning Opportunities program to other staff,” says Carvajal. “Whatever else happens, you can only grow as a person – both personally and professionally. It's a win-win situation.”

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Did you know that UBC Library:



Has more than **6.3 million volumes**, more than **875,000 e-books** and more than **157,000 e-journals***

Opened an innovative and inviting student space on the main floor of Koerner Library in April 2012

Logged nearly **6.9 million visits** to its website — www.library.ubc.ca*

Has more than **1,900 Twitter followers** and over **50 social media accounts** (Twitter, Facebook, blogs and more)

Is home to the outstanding **Chung Collection**, a designated national treasure

Holds the extensive archives of **Douglas Coupland**, the renowned Canadian author and artist

Is an active member of the **International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions**, which features University Librarian **Ingrid Parent** as its first Canadian President

Houses much of the exceptional film collection from **Videomatica**, a long-loved video store that specialized in rare and esoteric titles

*all figures from fiscal 2010/11



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