I have spent my first year at UBC Library getting to know the campus including the extensive library system and all of the faculties and departments we partner with and support. I’ve seen firsthand the work that goes into building and maintaining excellent collections, helping students in their academic success, and making invaluable connections with faculty, researchers, and the community.

As one of Canada’s top academic research libraries, UBC Library strives for excellence in all that we do. Over the past year, we’ve seen impressive additions to our collections – both physical and digital – which have garnered attention both locally and internationally. We have continued to focus on students and researchers to ensure our services are aligned with their most pressing needs. We’ve increased our community programming to reach important groups across Vancouver and draw them to campus to experience our unique exhibits and events. I am particularly proud of the work we’ve done to connect with important groups on campus through our Asian language book clubs, visits with the Musqueam First Nation, and participation in UBC’s Pride Picnic.

The efforts and dedication of our librarians, archivists, professional and support staff are evident in the impressive outcomes covered in this report.

- SUSAN E. PARKER
Growing our collections

2.4M
TOTAL E-BOOKS

6.6M
E-JOURNAL ARTICLE
DOWNLOADS*

5.5M
TOTAL PHYSICAL ITEMS

4.6M
E-BOOK DOWNLOADS*

81
ARTICLE DOWNLOADS PER
STUDENT, FACULTY AND
STAFF MEMBER

56
E-BOOK DOWNLOADS PER
STUDENT, FACULTY AND
STAFF MEMBER

*For 2017 calendar year
Unlatching Knowledge with help from alumni

UBC Library’s 2017 annual contribution to the Knowledge Unlatched initiative is funded by an endowment established by UBC’s class of 1932 for development of the library’s collections. The initiative brings together libraries from all over the world via a crowdfunding platform to support Open Access scholarly e-books in the humanities and social sciences, ‘unlatching’ more than 500 e-books since its inception in 2013. The unlatched e-books are made accessible to UBC students via OAPEN and Hathitrust.
Contributing to new discoveries with old news

In August 2017, the BC Newspapers Digitization project made 47,249 issues of 163 newspapers—published across the province between 1859 and 1995—available through the library’s Open Collections portal. Launched in 2011, the project brings the vast inventory of community newspapers around BC to British Columbians through an online, open access historical resource for research, teaching and learning. A subsequent four-week promotional campaign increased the collection’s usage rates by more than 100% year-over-year.

The Vancouver Weekly Herald

Rare Books & Special Collections acquires the only known surviving copy of the first item ever printed in the city of Vancouver. Published on Friday January 15, 1886 and printed in seven columns, the front page of the Vancouver Weekly Herald contains among other things, local advertisements, histories of the Granville and Vancouver townsites, reportage of the meeting of locals to draft a request for incorporation and a column entitled “The Chinese Question”. The acquisition underscores the library’s commitment to collecting and preserving materials that directly relate to the history of British Columbia. The document is available for viewing in person at RBSC or online through Open Collections.
Rare Books and Special Collections acquires a journal believed to be the earliest first-hand account of B.C. by an English woman. Written by Susannah Weynton (née Hack, 1821-1901), wife of the master of the Hudson’s Bay Company supply ship Cowlitz, Captain Alexander John Weynton, the hand-written journal documents, among other travels, Weynton’s four months spent on Vancouver Island at Fort Victoria and Fort Rupert and on the mainland at Fort Langley between March and July 1850. With donor support, a digitized version of the journal is made available for viewing in UBC Library’s Open Collections, providing another tool for teachers, students and the community to learn about the rich history of the province.
Helping students succeed
INSTRUCTIONAL WORKSHOPS OFFERED

PARTICIPANTS

1,145
29,733

Equipping students for success on and off campus

Student writing consultants at UBC Okanagan’s Writing and Research Centre and UBC Vancouver’s Centre for Writing and Scholarly Communication are approved for the College Reading and Learning Association’s International Tutor Training Program Certification. Adoption of the certification sets an internationally accepted standard of skills and training for tutors and allows for a clear and cohesive curriculum that increases collaboration with the university’s units and faculty experts for tutor training.
Donor support allows the library to enhance student learning, help researchers find answers and advance knowledge to its fullest potential. Donations can help build spaces, connect ideas, and allow the library to provide a margin of excellence beyond what public dollars provide.

**TOTAL FUNDS RAISED**

$1.24M

**NUMBER OF GIFTS**

932

**FUNDS RAISED**

- $461K Outright donations
- $302K Gifts in kind
- $278K Pledges
- $119K Realized bequest
- $95K Planned gift

*Numbers reflect the fundraising efforts for UBC Library's Vancouver campus only.*
The Centre for Writing and Scholarly Communication sees unprecedented use

The Centre for Writing and Scholarly Communication sees unprecedented student traffic. By focusing on an appointment-based model rather than a drop-in model, the CWSC ensures a ‘reserved’ time for students to discuss their writing, which prevents long wait times and maximizes the time and talents of the Centre’s peer writing consultants. The most popular service is the writing consultation, a 25-minute (50 minutes for Grad students) one-on-one appointment where students work with peer writing consultants to improve their writing, shape their writing process, and meet their goals.

36%
INCREASE IN ONE-ON-ONE SESSIONS CONDUCTED AT THE CWSC
The Library launches an exhibit featuring images from the Uno Langmann Family Collection of B.C. Photographs in Ike’s Café in the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre in the Fall of 2017. The exhibition is curated by graduate student Ashlynn Prasad under the guidance of archivist Krisztina Laszlo and provides hands-on learning for iSchool students while making the collection more visible and accessible to UBC students and the wider UBC community.

The collection is a point of pride for UBC Library and consists of more than 18,000 rare and unique early photographs from the 1850s to the 1970s. It is considered the premiere private collection of early photos of B.C. and an important illustrated history of early photographic methods.
# Statement of Revenue & Expenditures

**Vancouver campus**

Fiscal year April 1, 2017 - March 31, 2018.

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<th>SALARIES</th>
<th>BENEFITS</th>
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<th>OTHER</th>
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<th>REVENUE</th>
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<td>17,228,881</td>
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<td>474,551</td>
<td>5,895</td>
<td>556,600</td>
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<td>Sponsored Research</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>400</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenditures</strong></td>
<td>17,418,755</td>
<td>3,267,182</td>
<td>17,450,844</td>
<td>4,479,885</td>
<td>42,616,666</td>
<td>42,255,274</td>
<td>-361,392</td>
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* General purpose operating funds

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## LIBRARY EXPENDITURES

- **Collections**: 41%
- **Salaries**: 41%
- **Benefits**: 8%
- **Other**: 10%
Responding to researcher needs
Mapping worlds

Advances in technology have made map data more accessible, and the extensive print map and atlas collection held at Koerner Library is a rich resource for researchers interested in adding a spatial component to their work. Marking this shift in interest towards geospatial research, UBC Library hosts Visualizing the World: A Maps and Geographic Information Systems Speaker Series. In this free series, selected cartographers and geospatial researchers are invited to talk about their specialties, which range across a wide spectrum of disciplines, from the art of hand-drawn maps to the science of medical geography.
Celebrating 50 years of the Colbeck Collection

The Library partners with the Faculty of Arts and Department of English to present An Unmatched Devotion, an exhibit and symposium celebrating the 50th anniversary of UBC’s acquisition of the extensive Norman Colbeck Collection, one of the world’s most comprehensive collections of Victorian and Edwardian English and Anglo-Irish literature.

55,241 REFERENCE QUESTIONS ANSWERED IN PERSON AND ONLINE REQUIRING LIBRARY KNOWLEDGE
Connecting research to community
Collaborating on open data

The open data movement has been gaining ground each year as more data is made freely available online by public institutions. While increased access to larger and more diverse datasets is a critical step forward for open data advocates, making sense of all this information has become the next big challenge.

Library students, instructors and practitioners collaborate to build mutual learning opportunities and enhance our extensive Open Collections platform. One cross-functional team created interactive maps with platform data, by plotting digital objects from two collections according to their geographic points of origin. The completed maps provide a highly visual search method for researchers and enriched metadata for the thousands of scanned digital photos, maps and rare texts found in The MacMillan Bloedel Limited fonds and the UBC Institute of Fisheries Field Records, both housed at UBC.

Our Open Collections provide researchers with a platform for open, linked, and visualized data projects that demonstrate how UBC can contribute to a growing international trend.
Woodward Library co-hosts the “In Search of Nursing’s History” symposium

The Woodward Library hosts the “In Search of Nursing’s History” symposium in partnership with the School of Nursing’s Consortium of Nursing History and BC’s History of Nursing Society. The day-long event opens with a brief history of the library, its unique collections and branches through the years and is followed by a panel presentation and walkabout to engage with the Woodward Library’s spaces, nursing history resources, collections and artifacts.
The Library hosts the Canadian Jewish Experience exhibit, A Tribute to Canada 150 (CJE) on level 2 of the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre for ten days. The exhibit serves as an educational tool to share Jewish aspects of Canada’s story with the UBC community and explores patterns of immigration, war and diplomacy, public service, justice and human rights, economic growth, arts, culture and sports.
Staff and faculty in Rare Books and Special Collections are awarded a Certificate of Appreciation from Metro Vancouver Transit Police for their contribution to Constable Graham Walker’s discovery of the 102-year-old unsolved murder of Charles Painter, a special constable for the BC Electric Railway, in 1915. The discovery culminated in a provincial memorial for Painter. RBSC employees pulled over 100 years’ worth of transit policing history, which led Walker to the City of Vancouver Archives, BC Hydro Archives, and the Vancouver Police Museum.
The Asian Library and Rare Books and Special Collections partner with the Department of History to present Double Exposure | Japan-Canada: Missionary Photographs of Meiji-Taisho Japan, an exhibit and symposium that features photographs of Meiji-Taisho Japan taken by Canadian missionary John Cooper Robinson. The photos offer a rare glimpse into Japan from the 1890s through to the 1920s.
Engaging with Community Partners
The Asian Library partners with the Faculty of Arts to expand their Asian language book club programming, adding Korean and Punjabi language book clubs to their existing Chinese and Japanese language book clubs in the Spring of 2018. The clubs are open to the UBC and broader Vancouver community and attract students, alumni and community members with advanced language skills. The clubs launch with an initial meet and greet session and conclude with a second facilitated book discussion, with refreshments served at both. The expanded programming is supported with a strategic promotional campaign and sees impressive results. Both the Chinese and Japanese clubs reach capacity.
Collaborating on Traces of Words

The Asian Library and Rare Books & Special Collections collaborate with the Museum of Anthropology (MOA) on Traces of Words, an exhibit that explores art and calligraphy from Asia. The library hosts and co-curates a satellite exhibit at the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre that features Asian materials from the UBC Library collections, providing a venue for students to engage with some of the library’s most fascinating collections.
Experiential learning with the Musqueam First Nation

UBC Library employees visit the Musqueam First Nation for an experiential learning tour to expand learning and relationships. Community members share traditional stories and insights on culture, while showing staff and faculty the heart of Musqueam—the administration office, community centre, longhouse, cultural centre, lands and rivers at the reserve. Staff and faculty participate in discussions about how to build relationships with Musqueam and move beyond consultation.
Active participation in on-campus community events is a direct way that UBC Library connects with community members to provide specialized library resources. Together with UBC Campus & Community Planning and the Equity & Inclusion Office, members of the UBC Library Diversity & Inclusion Team and the Exceptional Workplace Committee found a new way to add a literary layer to the resources on offer at UBC’s inaugural Pride Picnic. Creating a pop-up Library at Lee Square at the Vancouver campus, UBC Library staff and faculty were on-hand to check out books, promote other LGBTQI2S+ library collections, and help visitors create custom-made celebratory buttons.
The Digitized Okanagan History project, jointly led by archivists from both UBC campuses, launches a new online resource which features rich, local content from project partners, bringing the people and places of the Okanagan region onto the screens of Valley residents. The resource includes over 6,000 photos and documents dating back to the turn of the last century with additional images added to the portal every day. The project allows for further research into the region and contributes to long-term stewardship efforts and preservation of Okanagan history. Other highlights include the redesign of the Library’s Peer Technology Assistant program, the Writing and Research Centre’s International Tutor Training Program Certification from the College Reading and Language Association, and the launch of the Frequencies podcast series.

Find out more in the 2017 Report to UBC Okanagan Senate.
Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the many contributors to this report and those who contributed to its development and production.

Susan E. Parker
University Librarian

PHOTOGRAPHY CREDITS

COVER
Katya Roxas, Library Communications

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PRODUCED BY

Library Communications and Marketing
University of British Columbia Library
Irving K. Barber Learning Centre
1961 East Mall
Vancouver, British Columbia
Canada V6T 1Z1

Assessment Librarian
Jeremy Buhler

Design and Production
Anna Moorhouse and Katya Roxas

July 2018