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Message from the University Librarian

It has been an exciting year at UBC Library and one defined by the creation of a new Strategic Framework that identifies our vision, captures our values and sets our strategic directions for the future.

This year has seen the library take a proactive role in the area of Open Access on campus. We hosted a talk on the subject by Ginny Steel, University Librarian at the UCLA Library, and played a pivotal role in the area of Open Access on campus.

This year has also been marked by the COVID-19 outbreak. When physical locations closed temporarily in March 2020, librarians adapted to provide the support needed by the campus community to continue research, teaching and learning. We pivoted rapidly to offer online programming, source electronic versions of print material, and establish our new materials pick-up service.

We welcomed two new branch heads this year. Sarah Dupont was appointed Head of the Xwi7xwa Library and is joined by two new librarians at that branch. Eugene Barsky was named Interim Head of the newly completed purpose-built Research Commons space on the 4th and 5th floors of Koerner Library.

The library hosted several engaging exhibits in collaboration with our community. We explored topics from Queer history in Canada, the impact of local historian, editor and poet Jim Wong-Chu, the 50th anniversary of the iconic Vancouver Fluevog footwear brand and RavenSpace, a new model of publishing for books in Indigenous studies.

We continue to create and deliver responsive collections and, most notably, celebrated the addition of the Wallace B. Chung and Madeline H. Chung Collection to the Canadian Commission for UNESCO’s Canada Memory of the World Register in recognition of its historical value in September 2019. I was also honoured to attend the IFLA Press Reader International Library Marketing Awards ceremony in Athens, Greece, where I accepted the award for our free, downloadable colouring book series using art from items in our Rare Books and Special Collections.

Every day at UBC Library, we are inspired by the work and dedication of UBC students, faculty staff and community members. I hope our work to find new and better ways to support you in your research, teaching and learning inspire you.

~ Dr. Susan E. Parker

UBC Library develops Strategic Framework

In August 2018, UBC Library takes its first steps in developing a new Strategic Framework. The project spans nearly a year and culminates in the publication of a comprehensive framework that identifies our vision, values and strategic directions, providing a blueprint for all future work, in alignment with the UBC Strategic Plan. The UBC Library Strategic Framework aims to keep library users at the heart of the decision-making process, ensuring that we are supporting students, researchers, faculty and community members in their work. The Strategic Framework Steering Committee works with consultants from DeEtta Jones & Associates to explore trends in library services, consult with library employees and campus stakeholders regarding priorities and strategic directions, collaboratively develop the values, vision and mission, define roles and support for UBC Library, and clarify goals.

World Café sessions, held throughout the year, facilitate discussions around thematic areas and provide feedback on the draft. Looking ahead, the Library has started work on an implementation plan, which will provide more specific direction and detail about how we will move towards our vision.
The Asian Library and Rare Books and Special Collections present a summer drop-in series in honor of the 60th anniversary of the library’s acquisition of the Puban Collection. The biweekly tour showcases items from UBC’s largest Chinese rare books collection, consisting of 45,000 volumes spanning subject fields like history, literature, philology and philosophy. Hosted by Ya Min Wu, Chinese Rare Books Cataloguer, the full tours are popular with UBC faculty, staff, and students and include Wendy Yip and Dr. Wallace Chung in attendance.
Major contributor to award-winning Public Knowledge Project

The library plays a pivotal role in improving the quality and reach of scholarly publishing, serving as one of six development partners in the Public Knowledge Project, a not-for-profit multi-university initiative that develops open source software and services to make open access a viable option for journals. Founded in 1998 and currently based out of Simon Fraser University, the Public Knowledge Project is best known for its Open Journal Systems (OJS) software, used to publish more than 10,000 open access journals around the world. The free journal management and publishing system assists with every stage of the refereed publishing process, from submissions through to online publication and indexing and is supported by a group of librarians, scholars and developers in various capacities at a number of universities worldwide.

Sharing the basics of text and data mining

The library hosts a seminar to discuss Text and Data Mining (TDM) of library licensed electronic resources. Featuring UBC experts and UBC Library moderator, the discussion covers the various aspects involved in negotiating TDM rights and the role Canadian copyright plays, as well as introducing the library’s detailed research guide, which includes a central list of relevant resources and contact information.

Fundraising for the future

Donor support enables 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.

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From left to right: Ginny Steel, Norman and Armena Powell University Librarian at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), Dr. Susan E. Parker, University Librarian at UBC Library, and Dr. Santa J. Ono, President and Vice-Chancellor of UBC.
Experiencing the Holocaust, Sharing Memories: The UBC Community Reading and Witnessing Auschwitz

Partnering with UBC Arts, the library presents an historical exhibition commemorating the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. Through books and documents housed at the library and University Archives, the exhibit focuses on the stories of survivors who later worked in the UBC community and on the earliest published testimonies to come out of Auschwitz, including rare copies of Byliśmy w Oświęcimiu (We Were in Auschwitz) and Z otchłani (From the Abyss), the very first books written about the camp.

Items from the exhibition A Queer Century, 1869-1969, on display in the Rare Books and Special Collections (RBSC) reading room.

From left to right: Dr. Susan E. Parker, John Fluevog, and Katherine Kalsbeek meeting in the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre to view the exhibition 50 Years of Sole: A History of Fluevog.

RavenSpace: Digital Publishing in Indigenous Studies

As part of Indigenous (Un)History Month, the library presents a collaborative exhibit with UBC Press and Musqueam First Nation to showcase RavenSpace, a new model of publishing for books in Indigenous studies. The exhibit takes a behind-the-scenes look at how the media-rich, interactive books are made.

A Queer Century, 1869-1969

Rare Books and Special Collections presents a new public exhibition, A Queer Century, 1869-1969, opening to coincide with UBC’s hosting of the 2019 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences. The exhibition tells stories from the history of sexuality, progressing from the emergence of homosexuality as a named concept in 1869 to the announced decriminalization of homosexual activity in Canada in 1969. Books, ephemera and archival materials in English, German, and French feature, alongside original correspondence from the University Archives and materials loaned by local private collectors. The exhibition is made possible by the Queer Collections Project (QCP), a joint, interdisciplinary initiative organized by faculty in the Faculty of Arts with the support of the library.

50 Years of Sole: A History of Fluevog

The David Lam Library and Canaccord Learning Commons, Rare Books and Special Collections, and Irving K. Barber Learning Centre present the exhibition 50 Years of Sole: A History of Fluevog. Honouring a Vancouver Icon. Known for his witty and unconventional style, as well as the uplifting messages that he includes on every pair of shoes, John Fluevog’s designs are among the most distinctive footware of the last fifty years. The exhibition coincides with the 50th anniversary of John Fluevog Shoes and the publication of a new book, Fluevog: 50 Years of Unique Soles for Unique Souls. As part of the exhibition, UBC Library hosts John Fluevog at a book signing to meet with the UBC community.
Past Purrrfect: Cats in the Collection

Rare Books and Special Collections with support from Vancouver Orphan Kitten Rescue Association (VOKRA) and the Catfe presents Past Purrrfect: Cats in the Collection, an exhibit that highlights materials from the library’s diverse holdings from the 19th and 20th centuries, including photographs and family albums, children’s literature, correspondence from noteworthy individuals, pop-up books, bookplates and artist editions. Additional exhibits are hosted at multiple branches of the library, including the David Lam Library, Koerner Library, Education Library and Woodward Library, and In the Doghouse: Historic Hounds, an exhibit curated by an iSchool graduate student.

Jim Wong-Chu exhibit
Rare Books and Special Collections, in collaboration with Emily Carr University of Art + Design, The Vancouver Asian Heritage Month Society and the Asian Canadian Writers’ Workshop, present an exhibition that captures the continual impact of iconic Asian Canadian Jim Wong-Chu. Born in Hong Kong, Jim Wong-Chu (1945-2017) came to Canada in 1953 and is best known for his work as an Asian-Canadian historian, editor, author and poet. He is considered one of the first Asian-Canadian authors to give a voice to Asian Communities by co-founding the Asian Canadian Performing Arts Resource and the Asian Canadian Writers’ Workshop.

Asian Language Storytime at Congress

EXHIBIT LAUNCH EVENT
Thursday, October 10, 6 p.m.
Sikine Room (Rm 260)
Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, UBC Library

LISTENING EVENT
Readings of Jim Wong-Chu’s poetry
Saturday, October 19, 1 - 5 p.m.
IMF Studio (Rm D1400),
Emily Carr University of Arts & Design
520 E 1st Ave, Vancouver, BC

EXHIBIT
October 10 to November 15, 2019
Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, UBC Library
1961 E Mall, Vancouver, BC

JIM WONG-CHU: ICONIC | ASIAN | CANADIAN
An exhibit that captures the continual impact of Iconic Asian Canadian Jim Wong-Chu.

“Sam.” Portrait photographed by Mihailo Subotic, featured as part of the 2 Paycheques Away exhibit.

Photograph featured in the Past Purrrfect: Cats in the Collection exhibit (1919). Rags (cat) and father, Gleichen, from the Wallace B. Chung and Madeline H. Chung Collection.


Poster promoting the collaborative exhibit Jim Wong-Chu: Iconic, Asian, Canadian.

2 Paycheques Away
The library partners with local non-profit 2 Paycheques Away, founded by Alysha Osborne, to bring an exceptional and striking photography exhibit to two library locations, Woodward Library and Ike’s Café in the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre. The exhibit aims to bring the campus and Vancouver communities a little closer together and facilitates portrayals of spirited and resilient individuals from Vancouver’s Downtown Eastside, by displaying their portraits and stories as shared during their visits to the barber.

Past Purrrfect: Cats in the Collection


Poster promoting the collaborative exhibit Jim Wong-Chu: Iconic, Asian, Canadian.
Create and deliver responsive collections.

The Chung Collection celebrates two notable milestones

UBC Library’s Wallace B. Chung and Madeline H. Chung Collection is added to the Canadian Commission for UNESCO’s Canada Memory of the World Register in recognition of its historical value. UNESCO’s Memory of the World program is an international initiative launched to safeguard the documentary heritage of humanity, and the Canada Memory of the World Register highlights exceptional works and documents that reflect the wealth and diversity of Canada’s documentary heritage. Accumulated over 60 years by Dr. Wallace Chung, the extraordinary Chung Collection covers three main themes: early British Columbia history and exploration, the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, and early immigration and settlement with a focus on the Chinese diaspora.

The Chung Collection exhibition at Rare Books and Special Collections has been open to visitors in its current location in the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre since April 2008 and celebrated its 10,000th visitor in August 2019. The Chung Collection exhibition features only a small portion of the Chung Collection’s more than 25,000 items.

The library acquires access to the digital archive Part III of Gale’s ‘Archives of Sexuality and Gender’, which contains nearly one million pages of unique and rare content that was previously banned. The material in the archive provides a window into how sexuality and gender roles were viewed and how they evolved over centuries, while covering a wide array of fields, providing multiple perspectives in research areas such as medicine, biology, anthropology, law, the classics, art and erotic literature.

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UBC Seed Lending Library builds a budding community

Established with the help of a UTSen@UBC grant, the Seed Lending Library allows anyone to “borrow” seeds free of charge from the Woodward and Education libraries. Members can borrow a variety of high-quality vegetable, herb, and flower seeds that are well-suited to local growing conditions and later, as each summer gardening season comes to a close, are encouraged to return seeds from their crop to the library to promote local seed sharing.

The collection is critical to the work being done in UBC’s Orchard Garden, which hosts 25 teacher candidates every year during a three-week Community Field Experience and has produced more than a dozen Master’s theses, PhD dissertations and graduation projects.

Access to the most authoritative resource on world languages

With new access to Ethnologue, an authoritative encyclopedic resource on world languages, UBC Library users gain entry into a database containing datasets, analytics, maps, country profiles, language families, and language profiles of the world’s 7,111 known living languages, enabling users to find in-depth information about maps, dialects, usage, and more.

UBC Library at a glance

Vancouver campus

79.6K REFERENCE INTERACTIONS
29.5K WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS
1.1K CLASSES OFFERED

3.1M TOTAL E-BOOKS
7.4M E-JOURNAL ARTICLE DOWNLOADS
5.6M TOTAL PHYSICAL ITEMS

2.4M E-BOOK DOWNLOADS
52 ARTICLE DOWNLOADS PER STUDENT, FACULTY AND STAFF MEMBER
28 E-BOOK DOWNLOADS PER STUDENT, FACULTY AND STAFF MEMBER

* Includes Okanagan; excludes Canaccord Learning Commons

Photo collage of various issues of Maclean’s Magazine and the Toronto Star.

Maclean’s Magazine and the Toronto Star digital archives

UBC Library users can access the full digital archives of two of Canada’s major publications: Maclean’s Magazine and the Toronto Star newspaper. The archive for Maclean’s, Canada’s leading news and general interest magazine, includes 3,400 issues with more than 100,000 stories by some of Canada’s greatest writers and journalists, including Pierre Berton, June Callwood, Peter Newman, Mordecai Richler and Peter Gzowski. The Toronto Star archive provides full text access to issues of Canada’s highest-circulation newspaper from 1894 to 2016 and includes editorial and opinion pieces, advertisements, want ads, birth and death notices and even cartoons in addition to news stories.

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With new access to Ethnologue, an authoritative encyclopedic resource on world languages, UBC Library users gain entry into a database containing datasets, analytics, maps, country profiles, language families, and language profiles of the world’s 7,111 known living languages, enabling users to find in-depth information about maps, dialects, usage, and more.
Statement of revenue & expenditures
Vancouver campus


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**LIBRARY EXPENDITURES**

- **39%** Collections
- **41%** Salaries
- **9%** Benefits
- **11%** Other

UBC-founded publication
*Fish Physiology* celebrates 50 years

Founded in 1969 by UBC Zoology faculty members, *Fish Physiology* is regarded as the leader in the field of fish physiology and a must-read for anyone interested in this domain, from senior undergraduate researchers through to mainstream university, government and industry employees. After 50 years and 37 titled volumes, the series is a frequently-used resource at UBC Library and continues to be shepherded by UBC faculty members.

More than 100 years of BC’s provincial governmental papers now accessible online

The British Columbia Sessional Papers, an annual collection of selected papers tabled in the Legislative Council of British Columbia and the Legislative Assembly, becomes publicly accessible through Open Collections. The collection, which now includes more than 4,000 items in total, highlights the cultural, economic, social and political atmosphere of their historical era and are being used for research in multiple fields.

From left to right: Fish Physiology series co-editors, Dr. Colin Brauner and Dr. Anthony Farrell with Sally Taylor, Interim Head of Woodward Library and Biomedical Branch Library.
Koerner Library renovations carve out new dedicated Research Commons space

Renovations are completed on the 4th and 5th floors of Koerner Library to create a dedicated, purpose-built space for the UBC Library Research Commons. The new space includes additional project and presentation rooms, a new digital scholarship lab, and a hoteling office to support collaboration in the spaces. Eugene Banks leads the Research Commons as the new Interim Head. He continues the essential work, begun by Anne Olsen, of building out the unit as a research-focused academic service for UBC faculty, staff and students with the support of a dedicated team of professionals.

Walk Station added to active workstation at IKBLC

The Chapman Learning Commons collaborates with UBC Recreation by adding a walk station to its active workstation, located in the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre. The treadmill desk is a welcome addition to the workstation, which includes two stationary bikes and an adjustable-height desk and serves as a prototype for future active workstations on campus.

Upgrades to the Chapman Learning Commons

Upgrades to the Chapman Learning Commons (CLC) are completed in late 2019 which allow for improved lighting, a 15% increase in study spaces, new furniture and enhanced computer workstations. Reconfiguration also makes for easier navigation of the CLC by foot.

New syllabus service for processing course reserves

UBC faculty can submit course readings and syllabi via direct upload into the Library Online Course Reserves system (LOCR) in addition to via email, thanks to a new Syllabus Service created by the library. The Syllabus Service offers faculty a full-service option for providing learning content to students in LOCR, which is integrated with Canvas, while conforming with Canadian copyright law and existing UBC license agreements and policies.
**Without the Library**

UBC Library launches *Without the Library*, a student profile series that welcomes the unique stories of UBC students and showcases how the library helps shape each student’s academic success and campus experience. This video series features undergraduate students from various disciplines who share an appreciation for different library branches, services and spaces. “Without the Library, I would probably spend thousands of hours going through resources on the internet instead of having it customized and delivered to me when I needed it,” says Glichelle Pereyra, Bachelor of Education student. This effort aligns with UBC Library’s strategic direction to foster students’ passion for growth and cultivate their learning experience by using the library’s resources and innovative spaces.

**The Preservation Rendezvous lecture series**

UBC Library’s Preservation Unit, which works with all branches of the library in the care, repair and storage of physical collections, presents *The Preservation Rendezvous*, a series of lectures on conservation. Presented to UBC librarians and library staff, the first lecture covers conservator Anne Lama’s visit to Fudan University in November 2019 as part of the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the two universities. Lama speaks about her visit, the knowledge acquired, and the plan for UBC’s collections.
Head of Xwi7xwa Library selected for ARL Leadership and Career Development Program

Following her appointment as Head of Xwi7xwa Library, Sarah Dupont is selected for the 2020–2021 ARL Leadership and Career Development Program (LCDP), the only person of Aboriginal heritage in her cohort of 24 fellows. The ARL LCDP is a year-long program that prepares librarians from historically underrepresented racial and ethnic groups for leadership roles as they move forward in their careers and the profession at large. Among other significant aims, the program addresses the need for greater representation of people of colour in leadership roles within research libraries and archives. In her new role as Head, Xwi7xwa Library, Dupont provides strategic leadership for people, services and operations at the branch, as she continues to champion Xwi7xwa Library as a vital resource in advancing Indigenous scholarship at the University and beyond.

UBC Open Education Resource Champions

UBC librarians Erin Fields and Dean Giustini are recognized as UBC Open Education Resource Champions in October 2019 by the UBC Vancouver Alma Mater Society, VP Academic and Provost, and UBC Library at a celebration event in the Nest. These champions are individuals who have made a significant contribution to the use of open educational resources (OER) at UBC Vancouver.

Japanese paper conservation workshop

The Asian Library hosts a free Japanese paper conservation workshop by renowned conservator, Kazunori Oryū. The workshop, which incorporates lectures, demonstrations and handling of Japanese traditional materials, focuses on Japanese scroll mounting and bookbinding using Japanese restoration and conservation techniques.

TOP LEFT: Sarah Dupont, Head of Xwi7xwa Library. BOTTOM LEFT: View of Xwi7xwa Library interior. TOP RIGHT: Dr. Susan E. Parker, University Librarian at UBC Library, addresses audience at the UBC Open Education Resource Champions awards event. BOTTOM RIGHT: Erin Fields, Liaison Librarian and Flexible Learning Coordinator at UBC Library.

Kazunori Oryū addresses workshop participants in the Seminar Room at the Asian Centre.

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The launch of the new Student Learning Hub in Fall 2019 brings together the expertise of the Library and the Student Services portfolio in a new, student-centred library space and delivery model unifying writing and language learning, math/science tutoring, and Supplemental Learning programs in one easily-accessible location for students on the Okanagan campus. Other highlights include a funding award to develop modules guiding students in foundational information literacy skills, advancement of the bi-campus strategic move toward Open Science through institutional launch of the Open Science Framework platform, introduction of a Kootenay/Columbia pilot project and community newspaper digitization initiative within the context of Digitized Okanagan History, the unveiling of a new Okanagan Library website, acquisition and exhibition of key special collections, and significant cross-campus advances in records management.

Acknowledgements

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

Dr. Susan E. Parker
University Librarian

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3, 5-8, 10-11, 13, 15, 16-17, 19-21, 25: Library Communications and Marketing
4: Dr. Susan E. Parker (Paul Joseph, UBC Brand & Marketing)
7: Puban Collection item (Martin Dee, UBC Communications & Marketing)
12: (1919). Rags [a cat and] father, Gleichen. (Wallace B. Chung and Madeline H. Chung Collection)
22-23: Fudan University visit (Meiyu Wang, Fudan University)
24: Sarah Dupont (Paul Joseph, UBC Brand & Marketing)
24: Open Education Resource Champions event (Library Communications and Marketing)
26: The Commons (UBC Okanagan Communications and Marketing)