


# The Library Place

Issue Number 2

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*The University College of the Cariboo*

## Happy New Year from UCC Library Staff

 **The Library Place** is available electronically as a menu item on Libcat. Select "**Library information**" item #11 on Libcat. The file includes the current issue and back issues.


### Library Integrated System


The Consortium for Administrative Systems Development (CASD) is working with the BC colleges, university-colleges, and institutes libraries to acquire an integrated library system for each academic library.

In October 1994, an RFP was sent to a number of library vendors. A short-list of vendors will be invited to make presentations to librarians early in 1995. Vendor selection is scheduled for Spring 1995 and implementation to follow over the Summer and Fall.

CASD is coordinating the process and will assist libraries with the evaluation, selection and installation of appropriate systems. Such a collaborative approach can ensure lower costs and consistent development and support of software systems.

A new library system would allow the integration of library functions and improve access to other campus databases (student records, finance, etc.), as well as to catalogues and databases at other libraries.

By upgrading library software to an integrated system, the UCC Library will improve service to users, streamline processes for staff, and allow for more effective management of library resources. Future newsletters will feature updates on the selection process and implementation plan. 

 **Attention: To Faculty who get Table of Contents e-mailed from CARL Uncover:**

Please do not order articles directly by fax or e-mail as you are encouraged to do on each e-mail you receive. The base price (excluding copyright) when you order by fax or e-mail is \$8.50 rather than the \$6.50 base price when you sign on to eln.carl.org and order online. We get a lower base price because UCC as a member of the Electronic Library Network signs on via a dedicated gateway.

*Nancy Levesque*




## **Task Force on Academic Libraries**

The Canadian Association of Research libraries (CARL) and the Association of Universities of Colleges of Canada (AUCC) are proposing that a Task Force on Academic Libraries be established.

The increasing proliferation of scholarly publications, their increasing prices, and the limited purchasing power of libraries have created a challenge that is becoming a crisis.

The issue is beyond libraries' ability to remedy alone, and requires consultation with vendors, publishers, faculty departments and administration.


New technologies enable electronic access and distribution of information in a networked environment. Such developments promote interdependence and collaboration among libraries and scholars. Yet the current models in academe support the practices of tenure based on research and publishing. Most journals require contributors to give up copyright in exchange for publication. Libraries must then buy back research information produced on university campuses, and now available in expensive journals.

The issue of research and scholarly communication is complex, but serious and it is affecting all academic institutions. A broadly-based Task Force can review the situation, consult widely, and draft proposals for recommended action by Canadian institutions. 

*Nancy Levesque*

## **New Titles Consideration File**

You may have noticed in accessing LIBCAT that there is a new menu item entitled "New Titles Consideration File." This is a file of recently published books (3 - 4 months worth at any one

time) covering most of the disciplines taught at UCC and intended as an aide in developing Library collections. One particularly useful feature is that it contains table of contents information -- just use the 'list' command to display. If you come across an item which you wish the Library to order, this may be done directly by e-mail....contact John Weller at local 5303 (or username WELLER on the vax) as to how to do this. 

*John Weller*

## **Lifelong Learning**

More and more businesses are seeing the value of having their employees participate in purposeful and systematic learning throughout their lives. This is known as lifelong learning. If this education is distributed over the lifespan in a recurring way it is sometimes known as recurrent education. In Scarborough, Ontario, Honeywell Inc. has established the Honeywell-Scarborough Learning for Life program, which offers education opportunities for its employees. Courses are offered in conjunction with Humber College at Honeywell's plant immediately after work. Initially adult basic education and ESL courses were offered, but the program has expanded to include many job-related courses and some that lead to college degrees. Honeywell has found that this investment in human capital had paid off with higher productivity per employee, faster order to delivery time and less work-in-process inventory.


We, as employees in the education field, are finding that we are promoters of lifelong learning and it is hoped that ultimately we will also be users. In his book, *Education Renewal: Better Teachers, Better Schools*, John Goodland states, "The concept of being a lifelong learner should be part of the socialization process from the outset." Unfortunately, Goodland feels that there is "little in teacher education programs to fuel our



confidence that this kind of intellectual orientation is being fostered." He is also critical of in-service activities as they are presently structured. On a more positive note he states, "I envision a time when centers of pedagogy will either contribute significantly to (or operate as part of their outreach) professional development centers offering a wide range of educational opportunities..."

Joanne V. Stern has written a document based on the assumption that all community college staff members should be lifelong learners. She outlines the purpose and principles underlying a quality staff development program including elements, activities and incentives needed to achieve success.

In the journal *New Directions for Teaching and Learning*, Maryellen Weimer contends that faculty should be conscious of the need for continuing education in teaching as well as in mastering their disciplines.

There seems to be some agreement that whether you are in business and industry or education, there is a need for some form of lifelong learning. Although it is hoped that today's graduates will have abilities that will last many decades, the reality is that we are living in a time of ever-changing technology. As employees in the field of education it would seem that it is our duty to our students to be involved in lifelong learning, and to instill this concept in them so that they can have the skills to compete now, and continue to compete in the ever changing global economy. Bibliography available on request. 

*Jim Dupuis*

**Next issue: *The Library's Role in Lifelong Learning.***

## Overdue Notices

*Effective immediately we will only be sending out 2 overdue notices on items rather than 3.*

Previously the first overdue notice was sent the day after the item was due, the second notice one week after the due date, and the third (final) notice two weeks after the due date. Knowing that most material is returned in the first week after the due date, the Library would have preferred to change timing of the first notice to come out one week after the due date but our system would not allow this flexibility.

The volume of first notices had increased to the point where it was becoming quite a drain on staff time (stuffing envelopes) and on resources (paper, envelopes, postage). The solution that the Library has come up with is to suppress the printing of the first overdue notice which effectively eliminates it. The previous second and third notices now respectively become the new first and second notices.

## UBC Library Cards

All UCC faculty are eligible to get a UBC extramural library card. Only those UCC faculty teaching in degree programs affiliated with UBC are entitled to the same privileges as UBC faculty - term loans, database access, journal borrowing, etc. If you fall into this category and are applying for a new card, the UBC library will require some form of verification such as an introductory letter from your dean or associate dean, or a list from your division. New cards must be obtained in person, but renewals of existing cards may be done at a distance through an application form. UBC cards normally expire at the end of August.



## **New Approach to Library Orientation**


Each year the Library reference staff conduct approximately 180 library classes. These classes are usually 45 minutes long and consist of a brief introduction to our services and resources, a tour of the building, and a short session on LIBCAT and periodical indexes.

Reference staff have found that these classes are not very effective in teaching students how to use the library. Most of the classes take place early in the semester before students have been assigned their research papers and therefore there is very little incentive for them to pay attention or even put into practice the concepts they have learned. By the time they start their research, the library class has faded into distant memory. The other major problem is the amount of material we have tried to cover in the allotted time; this has been compounded by the proliferation of online and CD-ROM databases.

Reference staff recently met to discuss the Library's orientation program and how we could make these classes more relevant for the students and more effective in providing them with the necessary skills to help them with their assignments. The following recommendations emerged from that discussion:

1. **That we should eliminate the tour of the building, and the introduction to our services and resources portions of the class.**
  - this information could be just as effectively conveyed via a map, better signage, and student Library handbook
  - this would allow us to concentrate more of our time on research tools
2. **That we cover only 2 or 3 research tools per class.**

3. **That faculty requesting classes supply us with a copy of their research paper assignment or any other assignment which requires library research prior to the class.**
  - this would allow us to customize the class to better meet the immediate needs of those students
  - students needing information to do a research paper or other assignment might better appreciate the relevance of such a class
4. **That we encourage faculty to participate in these classes with their students.**
  - we have found this to be a motivating influence on student attention
  - faculty can often reinforce the concepts and skills we are teaching
5. **That the Library produce user guides for the online and CD-ROM databases.**
  - this would serve as a helpful reference when students sit down to do their own literature searches.

Our goal is to have a revised orientation program in place by next September. We invite faculty to comment on our recommendations and to come forth with other ideas and suggestions. Please forward your comments and suggestions to Peter Peller at the Library. 

*Peter Peller*

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The Library has just acquired a **new CD-ROM database** called SOCIOFILE. Sociofile provides access to the world's literature in sociology and related disciplines. The database contains citations and abstracts of journal articles published in Sociological Abstracts and Social Planning/Policy and Development Abstracts since 1974.

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