

# Leddy Library and the University Community: *Emergence*



M. Sen-Roy



images from the new Stewart Moore Carolinian Garden, located in front of the Leddy Library and dedicated on Sept. 25th, 2002

University Librarian's Annual Report  
2002/2003



## Message from the University Librarian

This is an exciting and challenging time for post secondary education. We are faced with several challenges including the increased numbers of the double cohort of secondary school students. There is a need for more and better teaching, learning and research space; more student residences; sufficient increases to base operating funding from the government; and recruitment and retention of highly qualified faculty, librarians, and staff at a time when the demand for such is greater than the number available.

At the same time we are continuing to deal with the issues arising from the change in the way the scholarly community is conducting its activities. Academic libraries continue to fulfill their traditional role of collecting the most recent information and ensuring there is an archival record of past scholarship. However, we are no longer just warehouses of information with guides to that information. New roles are emerging for academic libraries and librarians. We are forging new services in areas of collection development, information access and user services. The library as place is as essential as ever.

All of this is true for Leddy Library. We have purchased more monographs in the past 3 years as a result of our participation in several consortial initiatives that have at the same time resulted in a strong digital collection. Currently Leddy is involved in national and provincial initiatives to bring the Canadian learned journals online and to enhance our digital collection of social sciences and humanities content in particular, but also additional resources for all disciplines. We are part of a CARL pilot project in which we are establishing an institutional repository that will allow us to archive large research data collections as well as provide a home for conference papers, traditional research articles and pre-prints, learning objects, University of Windsor theses, and other material. We have an information literacy programme in place and are working with some individual faculty on incorporating searching and evaluation skills into their curriculum. In partnership with other sectors of our University, these activities will empower our students and faculty to achieve new heights in learning and research.

I would like to close by taking this opportunity to thank the University community for their support of Leddy and in particular to thank all library staff for their outstanding efforts in fulfilling our goals.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "G. Ebbet". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Gwendolyn Ebbet  
University Librarian

# Collections to Meet Your Needs

## Electronic Resources

It has become apparent that many publishers are moving to publish their material in digital format. Increasingly heretofore “only available in print” collections are now available online in full text. Publishers are also mounting extensive retrospective conversions of their products to provide access to a growing body of back files. The breadth and scope of available digital information opens the prospect of bringing your specific research needs to your doorstep, or more specifically, to your desktop.

Leddy Library has worked hard over the past 10 years to build a complement of digital resources that meet a broad range of research and teaching needs. Initially centred around the areas of science and technology, our recent initiatives focus on building digital collections in the humanities and social sciences.

The challenge for the future will be to choose and maintain a broad range of digital resources from a rapidly growing array of products in the face of continued fiscal restraint. The Library will have to monitor the use and evaluate the scope of its digital resources on an ongoing basis as well as evaluate new products that become available. Subject liaison librarians work closely with faculty so that we may develop and maintain a collection of digital resources that continues to meet the University’s teaching and research needs.

Maintaining the type of infrastructure required to support digital collections requires vigilance, because firewall and security issues continue to test the mettle of our network. The use of the library’s digital resources has been increasing every year. In Fall of 2002 there were 116,038 sessions using the library’s digital indexes, abstracts and full-text journals and 136,882 sessions in the winter term. This is almost a 30% increase from the previous year. Seventy percent of these sessions came through the library’s home page. Management of URLs is also a persistent issue as we provide digital content to

### New in 2002/2003

- Digitized archives of The Globe & Mail (“Canada’s Heritage from 1844”);
- the Toronto Star (“Pages of the Past: the archives of the Toronto Star back to 1892”);
- LION or Literature Online (an English literature database of full-text poetry, essays and journal articles);
- ATLAS (combining a Religion Index published by the American Theological Library Association with over 50 full text religion titles),
- the complete back files of Annual Reviews providing access to an additional 834 volumes (e.g. Annual Review of Biochemistry back to 1932, the Annual Review of Psychology back to 1950 and the Annual Review of Sociology back to 1975),
- Oxford Reference Online (providing online access to 100 key Oxford dictionaries and reference works such as Oxford Companion to Twentieth-Century Poetry in English, the Dictionary of Political Biography, and the Oxford Dictionary of English Grammar).

## Electronic Resources (cont'd)

our users through a myriad of providers. Leddy has tried to remain on top of these issues, and has been the first Canadian library to participate in the Shibboleth initiative, a next generation authentication system to support inter-institutional sharing of web resources that are subject to access controls. Leddy Library also works closely with Information Technology Services in order to provide a robust infrastructure and maintain critical access, since over 35% of our users access our resources via off-campus networks. This past year Leddy collaborated with IT Services to install a new AIX server which would primarily handle the increasing load of library operating and authentication software. Such infrastructure remains crucial to keeping our resources available.

## Ontario Scholar's Portal

Scholar's Portal is an OCUL (Ontario Council of University Libraries) initiative that provides a common search interface to journals from several publishers. Funded by the Ontario Innovation Trust, Scholarsportal will bring together a growing number of scholarly digital resources. Currently Scholar's Portal provides access to 2,148,676 articles from 3,198 full text journals published by Academic Press, Elsevier, Kluwer (Kluwer Academic Publishers, Kluwer Law International and Kluwer/Plenum), Springer-Verlag and Wiley. Usage statistics obtained within the first four months of the launch revealed that it was one of the busiest e-journal sites in the world.

### Top 10 Journals from Scholar's Portal Total downloads for AY 2002-2003: 102,235

Title	Accesses
Journal of Power Sources	1139
Materials Science and Engineering: A	1129
Journal of Organometallic Chemistry	1000
Coordination Chemistry Reviews	839
Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta	786
Journal of Biomechanics	647
European Journal of Operational Research	593
Tetrahedron Letters	589
Powder Technology	476
Atmospheric Environment	470

## Print, Multi-Media and Special Collections

The library regularly commits an annual monographs budget of over \$500,000. This past year over 16,000 new items were processed for addition to the collection. Over 800 more monographs were ordered, processed and put on the shelves in 2002/2003 than in the previous year.

Archives, Special Collections and Rare Books received some interesting collections, each of which focuses on the history of our local community. The substantive collection of papers of Anthony (Tony) Techko were obtained through the aid of the Faculty of Human Kinetics. This collection contains files created by Mr. Techko, an avid sport historian, and includes newspaper articles, photographs, correspondence and memorabilia pertaining to athletes, organizations and all facets of sport history in Windsor and Essex County. A biography section with over 1000 entries chronicles the accomplishments of our local sports figures and highlights the depth of interest shown by Mr. Techko. Two students from Kinesiology worked for two months to help document and prepare the collection for use, and the collection and accompanying web site were unveiled at a reception on November 30<sup>th</sup>. Significant new additions to the Archives



also include: the records of St. John's Church in Sandwich covering the years 1802 to 1980; several first editions by the abolitionist author Harriet Beecher Stowe and a number of 19<sup>th</sup> century slave narratives including "*Twenty-two years as a slave, and forty years as a freeman*", 1859, by Austin Steward.

Leddy Library received a collection of over 8,000 LPs, 800+ CDs and 83 cassettes from the Music Department. This collection, and all the necessary listening equipment is housed in the Media Centre (Ground Floor Main). The library, in collaboration with the faculty of Music is planning to evaluate, catalogue and incorporate the collection records into a database so that it may be augmented in the future to support teaching, learning and research for faculty and students.

Leverage gained through the consortial acquisitions of digital resources has made a significant amount of one-time funding available to purchase monographs and multi-media materials. Over \$200,000 was allocated this year to acquire materials in the pinnacle subject areas and in reference. Some of the titles purchased include:

- Globalization: critical concepts in sociology (6 volume set)
- Equality and justice (6 volume set)
- Class: critical concepts (4 volume set)
- Jurgen Habermas (Sage Masters of Modern Social Thought, 4 volumes)
- Slavery and antislavery pamphlets from the libraries of Salmon P. Chase & John P. Hale (microfilm - 4 reels)
- Birds of North America
- Dictionary of Substances and Their Effects
- Metabolic and Molecular Bases of Inherited Disease (4 volume set)
- ASME boiler and pressure vessel codes
- Science and engineering of materials
- Encyclopaedia of Public Health
- AIP Physics Desk Reference

## Leddy Library - The Place to Be

Leddy Library has reported September gate statistics which have already surpassed our busiest end of term counts from the previous year, and in October our numbers nearly doubled. Preparation for this influx, brought on mostly by the Class of 2007, had begun early in 2002/2003 with structural renovations and an increase in the number of computer workstations and is wrapping up with a cafe and the installation of high-tech classroom space. In September we instituted augmented services and together with the renovations they have made Leddy Library quite the destination. The number of people coming to Leddy Library has increased steadily each year, and in the past year we have seen an increase even during the Spring/Summer term. The number of people in the library from May to August inclusive in 2003 rose by 30% over the same period of 2002.

The library is considered a centre for technology on campus, and at Leddy the upgrade of machines and software will continue to be an annual pull on the library budget. A second bank of 24 scholars workstations have been added to 1st Floor Main. Leddy now has approximately 250 workstations available for use. To accommodate the Class of 2007, a computer classroom and a lab were added. The Library received one-time funding for an area of 42 workstations on



1st Floor Main

Ground Floor West and a 41-workstation computer classroom on Ground Floor Main. Nearly completed is our new instruction room on 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor West, which contains state of the art computer and presentation facilities to enable us to showcase our digital resources effectively during our instruction sessions. Future plans include a wireless pilot project that will enable students and faculty to independently connect their laptops to the network at various locations in the Library.



Main Building G101A

Leddy Library has instituted several service changes and additions to meet the increased demand by students, faculty and staff. Hours of opening have been significantly extended during the fall and winter terms (to 2 a.m. Monday to Thursday, to 11 p.m. Fridays and 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays). These hours offer the students a place to study or work for 18 more hours per week compared to last year. In conjunction with opening hours, the Reference Help Centre operates on a longer schedule into the evenings and on weekends, the circulation desk staff complement has been increased and all circulation desk staff are being trained to answer basic reference inquiries. Additional services have been added, such as the Racer interlibrary loans software system, enabling patron-initiated interlibrary loan requests for items at most Ontario universities. IT Services and Leddy Library have come together to provide student consultants to help users with their computer questions. The consultants work in both the Main and West Library buildings and cover the hours between 10 a.m. (or 12 p.m.) until closing. These students have been a welcome addition to the Library; students and librarians have been saying that they are a great help. Other staff that may be spotted around the Library in the evening hours are the student monitors, who aid the staff in enforcing library policies, and in closing the library. Additional service enhancements include a

## ...The Place to Be (cont'd)



continuing pilot project in electronic course reserves to allow 24 hour access to course materials in digital format, and Virtual Reference, which has become a fixture of our reference service.

The renovations to the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor have revitalized the area, providing light and a welcoming atmosphere to sit and read. Patrons have been asking for comfortable seating in the Library, and we now have the opportunity to offer a spot where patrons may peruse new books, read current newspapers or simply relax by the windows. The reference desk is now in plain view as one enters the Library. The occasional book launch and readings such as the “Literary Quickie” series have been held in the comfortable seating area. These readings began in winter of 2003, and you can find a complete list of past events and upcoming guests on our web site: [http://athena.uwindsor.ca/units/leddy/2002.nsf/AboutEvents! OpenForm](http://athena.uwindsor.ca/units/leddy/2002.nsf/AboutEvents!OpenForm). At the entrance to the Library, in cooperation with Food Services, a *Williams Coffee Pub* franchise was installed. The café gives people a place to enjoy a coffee, sweet or sandwich without leaving the library. Williams is popular with faculty, staff and students in particular, who have been asking us for this type of service for years, and who have expressed an interest in expanding the hours of operation to include weekends.



The library will continue to evaluate its facilities to accommodate growing in-house collections, space needs for equipment, (group/quiet) study space and staff space. In 2002/2003 over 53,000 items were processed by the Acquisitions/Bibliographic Services department to the shelves. This included 13,553 books, over 2,500 government documents, 5,000 pieces of film or fiche, 22,758 current serials issues and 3,118 bound serial volumes. The challenge for the library is to monitor its collections and the space needed to house those collections in order to meet the current and future needs of faculty and students. The increase in students this year has ratcheted up the demand for individual and group study space, a growing concern for our students. The need for study space, coupled with growing demand for access to current technology within the library and the need to house our collections in the most efficient way has made it clear that ongoing facilities management is a priority for the library.



## Leddy Library: The People

All of the staff of the Leddy Library dedicate themselves to providing effective service and support to the University of Windsor community. The accomplishments described below attest to the commitment of the librarians and support staff.

**Cathy Maskell** received a \$1,000 research grant from the Canadian Library Association to assist in the data collection for her Ph.D. research on Consortia Activity in Academic Libraries.

**Patricia Moore** became co-convenor of the ETIG (Emerging Technologies Interest Group)/CLA (Canadian Library Association) group.

**Sharon Munro** became President of SOHLIN, the Southwestern Ontario Health Libraries and Information Network, and is Councilor-at-Large for OCULA, the Ontario College and University Library Association.



Art Rhyno presenting at "Zap your PRAM" in PEI, Fall 2003

**Art Rhyno** was appointed Incoming Regional Instructor for the Library and Information Technology Association, a subdivision of the American Library Association.

**Mita Sen-Roy** and **Lisa Sloniowski** collaborated with faculty members from the Communication Studies and Philosophy Departments on a panel presentation and open discussion of press coverage of the war in Iraq. The web site "Iraq 2003 – Sources of News" was created by Mita and Lisa to support this discussion, and they were invited to present at the Zap your PRAM conference in October.

**Leila Wallenius** became a Director-at-Large on the Canadian Association of College and University Libraries.

**Peter Zimmerman** and **Lisa Sloniowski** presented their research project "Using Focus Groups to Design a Responsive Information Literacy Programme" at the Workshop on Instruction in Library Use conference in May.



Lisa Sloniowski and Peter Zimmerman at WILU, Spring 2003

Staff changes this year included:

Jason Yu was hired as Data Librarian

Art Rhyno stepped down as Head, Systems Department after 10 years of service, and

Patricia Moore was appointed as Acting Head, Systems

Nanda Gamage, Adelaide (Dely) Gaudario and Carol Pageau retired this year



# Information Literacy

The Leddy Library continued to build its information literacy activity this past year. The University Library Administrative Committee unanimously passed the Information Literacy policy, laying the groundwork for an overarching information literacy programme (see <http://cronus.uwindsor.ca/units/leddy/2002.nsf/AboutPolicyInfoLiteracy!OpenForm> ). This document was designed to marry the Association of College and Research Libraries information literacy competency standards with the unique needs of the University of Windsor community. The goal of the Information Literacy programme is to plot a course for cooperation between the Library, faculty, the Centre for Flexible Learning and other groups on campus to promote lifelong learning through information literacy, an essential skill for all graduates.

Leddy has begun to put this policy into practice through the development of a pilot project with the History Department to integrate information literacy competencies into the curriculum. This pilot project outlines progressive learning objectives from first through fourth year and aims to ensure that Windsor graduates will be able to determine their information needs, access and evaluate information effectively, as well as understand the cultural, ethical, social, legal and economic issues surrounding the production and use of information. We are pleased that the President has incorporated these outcomes into the University's 2004 – 2009 Strategic Plan.

Individually, librarians were very busy throughout the year teaching students (and faculty) and becoming involved in information literacy initiatives across campus. Librarians taught 174 information literacy sessions to 5,847 people, 45 more sessions than the previous year. A research project undertaken by two of our librarians consisted of several focus groups with students to help the library define students' expectations, their specific library instruction needs and contribute towards the development of an effective learner-centred programme of instruction. This project culminated in a presentation at the Workshop on Instruction in Library Use, which was well-received. Several sections of the Leddy's web site dealing with library instruction and research help were revamped for the newest version of the site, and several new help guides, including "How to translate Journal Abbreviations", "Evaluating Web Sites: A Critical Framework", "Designing Research Assignments: A Guide for Faculty" were added. A large number of new subject-specific guides have also been created, as part of our on-going efforts to provide flexible delivery of instruction.

## Strengthening Our Community through Collaboration

Cooperation among libraries has been part of what libraries do and how they have operated for decades, even centuries. Sharing expertise, sharing knowledge and resources to implement services such as interlibrary loan and reciprocal borrowing have been the mainstays of academic library collaboration.

Technology has enabled library cooperation to move to a new level, acquiring impressive collections of digital resources, sharing technical and service infrastructures and becoming key in the digital makeover of scholarly research publishing and dissemination. Consortia activity has become an integral part of how academic libraries acquire resources and offer services. The Leddy Library is a member of several consortia. The key organizations are: the Ontario Council of University Libraries (OCUL); the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL), and the Canadian National Site Licensing Project (CNSLP).

Leddy's consortia activity has allowed us to acquire a significant array of digital resources. It has also provided us with a means to work together to improve services and institute collaborative projects that will ensure a strong access for the academic community. The Ontario Information Infrastructure project (through OCUL) is mandated to enable access to scholarly information resources. As well, OII has acquired VDX software and implemented a new interlibrary loans service, Rapid Access to Collections by Electronic Requesting (RACER), that allows patrons to initiate their own interlibrary loans transactions from their desktop. The goal is for all OCUL institutions to be using the software to search all member OPACs, AMICUS, the Library of Congress, CISTI, and the British Library to request items online, and track their requests. OII has also brought librarians together to examine the uses of virtual reference as a shared service between institutions to expand services while still having the ability to accommodate different staffing levels and service hours. Ontario academic libraries are also working together to create a bank of templates for web-based information literacy tutorials that are based on common principles of information needs, access and use, which would save hours in programming time.

Through consortia activity Canadian academic libraries are also taking a stronger role in developing digital resources available for Canadian researchers and scholars. The Synergies project, a national application in which University of Windsor is 1 of 12 participants would see the digitization of Canadian learned journals so that this information can be more freely and more completely accessible to Canadian scholars and the world. The Research Knowledge Network for Social Sciences and Humanities (RKN) is a proposal from CNSLP to offer a suite of social sciences digital resources to Canadian institutions. Both Synergies and RKN are still in the proposal phase, applying for funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation. If both are successful, the result will be a massive increase in the array of digital information available to scholars across Canada.

## Collaboration (cont'd)

Consortia activity can no longer be considered to deal with resources and services on the periphery of how academic libraries meet the needs of their communities. The Leddy Library has built strong consortial ties at the provincial and national level and even internationally. Our University Librarian is Treasurer of CARL and Chair of OCUL. The Associate University Librarian sits on the OCUL Information Resources Committee and Leddy Librarians are involved in these OCUL initiatives (RACER, the Information Literacy Resources Sharing Committee, the Virtual Reference Project and the Stable URL Committee). All of the librarians at Leddy contribute to evaluating resources available through consortia initiatives, looking very closely at the added value those resources may bring and how they blend with local collections.

## Taking the Initiative: Research Support

In 2003 the University of Windsor's new Data Librarian came on board to contribute expertise and provide leadership in developing data access, management and literacy for the University of Windsor community. Data, whether quantitative or qualitative, is a cornerstone of research and learning. Advances in technology have made it possible for the underlying data that has driven research and learning to be collected and organized and made available for other researchers or at least for continued reference by the original researcher or research team. Data files can be catalogued through open source coding to allow researchers to retrieve older data sets and merge them with new data, to merge disparate data sources into one file or table and to generally mine data for hitherto unrealized connections or hypotheses. Leddy Library is ready to partner with departments across campus to provide data storage and retrieval for ongoing research. Meetings with various departments such as the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, GLIER and the Department of Earth Sciences have taken place. As information is gathered on the data needs of University of Windsor researchers the Library hopes to work with them to realize a comprehensive and effective plan for data management.

### We would like to thank our donors for their support:

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