

[View this message online](#)**February 2021**

We acknowledge with respect the Lekwungen peoples on whose traditional territory the University of Victoria stands, and the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSÁNEĆ peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

& NEW LIBRARY SERVICE



photo credit: UVic Photo Services (2017)

INTRODUCING ADVANCED RESEARCH SERVICES AT UVIC LIBRARIES

by: J. Matthew Huculak, Head, Advanced Research Services

February marked the beginning of exciting new developments at UVic Libraries. As part of a broader visioning and reorganization process, the Libraries launched a new interdisciplinary area called Advanced Research Services (ARS), which brings together expertise from across our organization

to focus on the more advanced research needs of students, post-doctoral fellows, and faculty at UVic.

Technology is constantly evolving, and ARS will provide services that can respond to ever-changing software and information environments. Building on the great work and free workshops offered in the Digital Scholarship Commons, ARS will expand training and support for digital research tools, software, and platforms—and more importantly, ARS will be there to help instructors incorporate that technology training into their classrooms.

With the changes we are seeing in how information is created, we need to be at the forefront of how we manage and disseminate that information to the world. ARS will work with other areas in the Libraries to help connect researchers (from students to senior faculty) to open publishing initiatives so that our research can have an immediate effect globally. More and more of that research comes in the form of raw data, so the Libraries are investing in systems, services, and people to help ensure that data is both discoverable and preserved using the best tools available.

UVic's librarians and staff continue to respond to the promises and the challenges of shifting information environments. Sometime during the third century BCE at the ever-growing Library of Alexandria, the head librarian, [Callimachus](#) created the first library catalogue (called the [Pinakes](#)) so that researchers would have an easier time finding information on the scrolls, codices, and other information-bearing objects housed in the library. That tradition continues in the 21st century as libraries adapt and respond to the ways we create and disseminate data and other forms of scholarship. Advanced Research Services will help UVic respond to the opportunities that are only beginning to unfold in new research environments.

For more information, please contact [Matt Huculak](#).

& MESSAGE FROM UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN JONATHAN BENGSTON



Dear Friends,

In some late breaking news just prior to issuing this latest edition of Ampersand, we were delighted to receive word that the Libraries received a grant of over \$13,000 from the BC History Digitization Program to digitize more than 3,000 items from the architectural fonds of [Alan Hodgson](#). The project will commence in summer 2021, following the completion of our current grant-

We also learned sadly that one of our friends and donors recently passed away at the age of 100. Elizabeth Spencer had a remarkable life that this short [obituary](#) hardly captures. Missing from it, for instance, is her remarkable skill and a deep love of the craft of fine art bookbinding. Her bindery has been donated to us by her family which, along with the bindery and conservation equipment of library friend and donor Fr. Charles Brandt (also recently deceased, at the age of 97), will provide opportunities for current and future generations to work with the equipment. Elizabeth was predeceased in 2015 by her husband Geoffrey, a founder of the Alcuin Society which supports Canadian book arts.

Stay safe. Stay well. Stay connected.

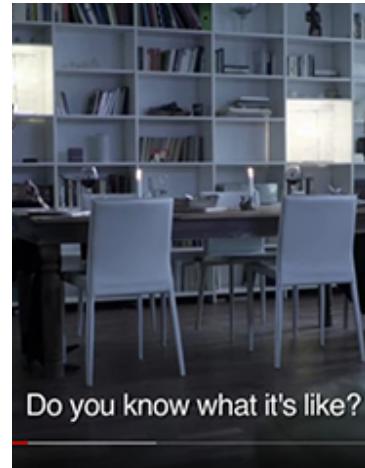
Cheers,

Jonathan Bengtson
University Librarian

funded project devoted to digitizing the films of
[Karl Spreitz](#).

On another happy note, librarian Dr. Shailoo Bedi's (Director, Student Academic Success) newly published, co-authored book *Visual Research Methods* has been cited as "a seminal and significant curriculum textbook" and "a core and unreservedly recommended addition to the Library Science collections of community and academic library systems."

& ACROSS THE CAMPUS



PLAYLIST PARTNERSHIP

We are pleased to present this [playlist of original compositions](#) from the talented students in UVic's School of Music. These instrumental pieces evoke peaceful reflection, concentration, and mindfulness--a perfect soundtrack for studying.

Thank you to Professor Kirk McNally and Vancouver Island's Flood Tide Music for supporting this creative work with help from the LTSI Experiential Learning Fund.

FILM DISCUSSION: DEPT. OF GERMANIC AND SLAVIC STUDIES

Date: Monday, March 1
Time: 10 a.m.
Register for Q+A: [online](#)
 Watch the film in advance of the Q+A event.

Berlin, capital of Germany. The integration of East and West, multicultural society, departure, movement, creativity, active life, but also loneliness, solitude, and anonymity. Everyone yearns for togetherness, and each love is possible. *At Second Glance* is a film about Kay and Falk, Benjamin and Elena, Till and Pan—three visually impaired couples in the big city juggernaut Berlin

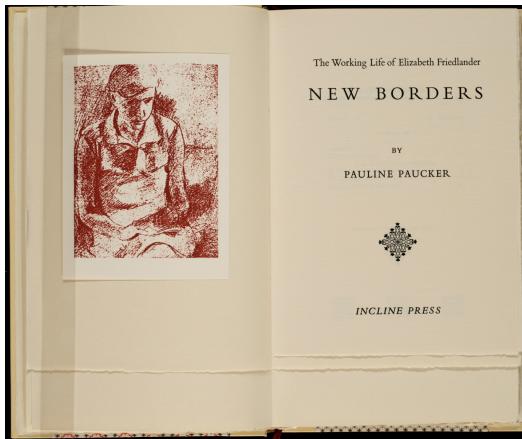
LAND TITLE AND SURVEY AUTHORITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA MAPS

We have partnered with the Land Title and Survey Authority of British Columbia to make some of their [rare historic maps](#) openly available to our community. These maps include some of the earliest surveys of Vancouver Island and Victoria dating from the mid-1800s.

Discover the history of your neighbourhood from a new perspective!

—who meet, discover, and
feel attracted to each other.
[Watch the movie trailer.](#)

& IN THE VAULT



DESIGNING BOOKS, PRINTING HISTORY: CELEBRATING DESIGNER ELIZABETH FRIEGLANDER THROUGH PRIVATE PRESS AND DIGITAL EDITION

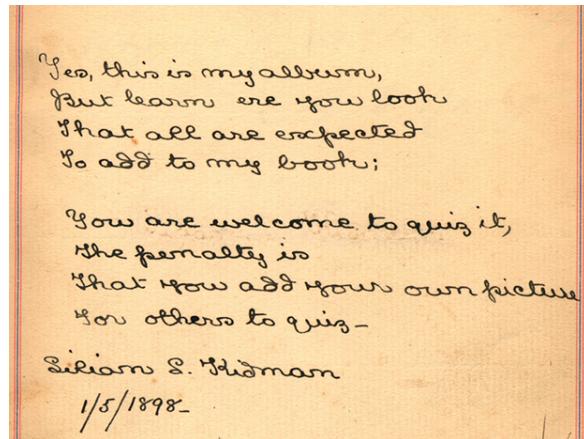
Graham Moss (letterpress printer, Incline Press) and Lauren Elle DeGaine (Dept. of English, University of Victoria)

Date: Monday, March 29

Time: 10 a.m.

Register: [online](#)

Join Graham Moss, private letterpress printer at Incline Press (Oldham, England), and Lauren Elle DeGaine (Department of English) to celebrate the launch of a digital edition of Incline Press's 1998 publication *New Borders: The Working Life of Elizabeth Friedlander* by Pauline Paucker. Originally hand-bound and letterpress-printed in an edition of 350 copies, this rare monograph is now open access [online](#) through UVic Libraries. The book tells the fascinating story of German-Jewish designer Elizabeth Friedlander (1903-1984), from her beginning as a calligrapher in Berlin to her exile. [Read more.](#)



VICTORIAN SCRAPBOOKING WORKSHOP

Elizabeth Bassett (Digital Access Assistant) and Heather Dean (Associate Director, University of Victoria Libraries Special Collections)

Date: Friday, March 12

Time: 11 a.m.

Register: [online](#)

This 75-minute virtual workshop was designed by Elizabeth Bassett and Heather Dean in conjunction with a new UVic digital exhibit called "Yes, this is my album": Victorian Collections of Scraps, Signatures, and Seaweed. The workshop will begin with a historical overview of Victorian scrapbooks and autograph albums, featuring volumes from UVic Libraries Special Collections and University Archives. The remainder of the workshop will include four hands-on activities designed to teach participants how to make scrapbooks according to popular Victorian-era scrapbooking and album-making trends. Registered participants will receive a workshop materials handout.

& IN THE NEWS



Pages and notes from the graphic novel collaboration between artist Barbara Yelin and Holocaust survivor Emmie Arbel. Credit: Martin Friedrich

GRAPHIC NOVEL COLLABORATION

In time for International Holocaust Remembrance Day on January 27, and in honour of those whose stories have not or cannot be told, a UVic-based international project—one that connects graphic artists with Holocaust survivors to transform their stories into compelling visual narratives—released excerpts from a forthcoming collection of graphic novels.

"Being able to work with this community to preserve these stories is both an honour and a great responsibility. At its heart, the [Narrative Art and Visual Storytelling in Holocaust and Human Rights Education](#) initiative is about cultural memory and making sure that future generations will have access to accurate representations of the survivors' experiences. UVic Libraries is proud to be able to provide physical and digital spaces for the global community to gather and reflect on the work produced by this project."

—Matthew Hculak, Digital Scholarship Librarian and Head of Advanced Research Services at UVic Libraries, who has been involved with the project since its inception

Read the [Ring story](#).



VICTORIA DAILY TIMES

Following the success of digitizing the [British Colonist](#) (1858-1980), UVic Libraries has partnered with Dave Obee, editor-in-chief of Victoria's *Times Colonist*, and CRKN/Canadiana, a consortium dedicated to expanding access to research across Canada, to make more than 13,000 issues of the *Victoria Daily Times* (1884-1940) freely available online. Historic issues of both newspapers are accessed by people from around the world and are particularly popular with the local community, including authors, genealogists, historians, and students.

Read [Times Colonist story](#).

Read more:

[One Day at a Time, Nearly a Century of History Unfolds at the Victoria Daily Times](#)

[A Distinguished Roster of Victoria Daily Times Editors](#)



ACTS OF KINDNESS INSPIRE US

Librarian David Boudinot and his personal dedication to clean neighbourhoods has been in the news of late. Listen to David's many interviews:

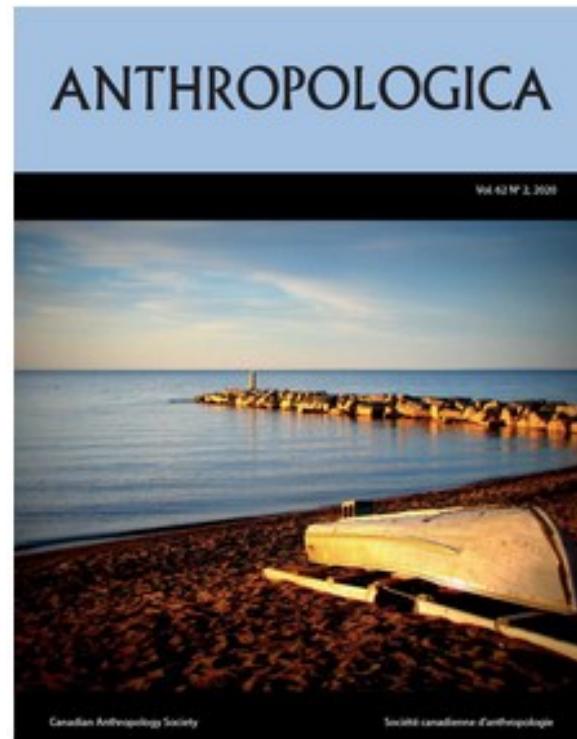
- [CHEK News](#)
- [Times Colonist](#)
- [Victoria News](#)
- [CFAX radio - part 1](#) and [part 2](#)



photo credit: Nardella Photography

RY MORAN: OP-ED IN THE TYEE

In response to a [Canadian Press](#) story about the decision to destroy a residential school in northern BC, Associate University Librarian -



ANTHROPOLOGICA

The journal *Anthropologica* is now open access and hosted by UVic Libraries.

News release: "The journal is now hosted on the Open Access Journal (OJS) platform at the University of Victoria libraries. Libraries have long rung alarm bells about exponentially rising costs of journal subscriptions, and small university presses are under pressure from big commercial publishers. Publishing with a non-profit university press that charges moderate subscription fees is one way in which *Anthropologica* tries to counter this trend."

TWEET: NEWS! *Anthropologica* is now [#OpenAccess!](#) In our move to open access, the journal becomes an international leader in promoting non-commercial, open source, ethical, sustainable and free access to scholarly research

HAPPY 100th NOEL PARKER-JERVIS

Noel Parker-Jervis turned one hundred on Christmas day, and one of his pleasures is sending letters to UVic librarians suggesting book titles to add to the collection. Thank you,

Reconciliation Ry Moran published an [op-ed in The Tyee](#).

"But more than five years after the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action demanded a comprehensive national strategy to address these sites of pain, suffering and memory, there are still only fragmented response," Moran writes in his opinion piece.

Noel—we love receiving your mail and wish you many more years of good health!

Read [Times Colonist](#) story.

& OUR PEOPLE, YOUR LIBRARY IN CONVERSATION WITH...

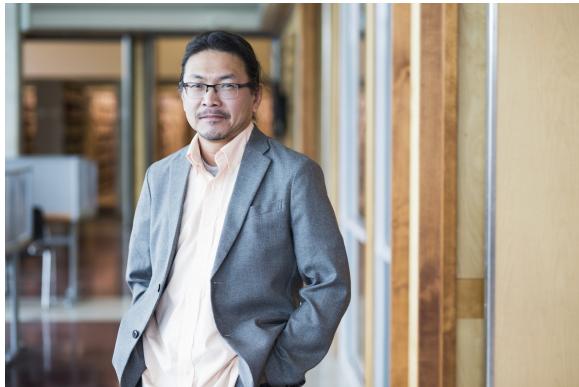


photo credit: UVic Photo Services

LEARNING MANY LANGUAGES GUIDES LIBRARIAN TAD SUZUKI IN HIS PRACTICE

by: Zehra Abrar

The most amazing thing that I learned about you is that you are a flawless self-taught acrylic artist. Do you still paint and have exhibitions? If so, when is your next exhibit?

I was working on a series for a show at the end of 2018. After that, I've been thinking a bit about a change in direction and stopped painting. Last year and a half, cottage renovation projects and my new hobby of making book boxes occupied my weekends and evenings. I'm getting back to painting perhaps this summer. I don't have an exhibition scheduled at the moment.

How do you think UVic has facilitated your transition to the world of art librarianship?

Very well, I would say. The transition was part of the accommodation arrangement after I came back from an extended medical leave in 2007-2011. The library allowed me to take



photo credit: UVic Photo Services

THE MANY PASSIONS OF LIBRARIAN JOHN DURNO LEAD TO UNIQUE COMPUTING AND MEDIA LAB

by: Zehra Abrar

You started a unique [Obsolete Computing and Media lab](#) in the library. How did you acquire those age-old computers?

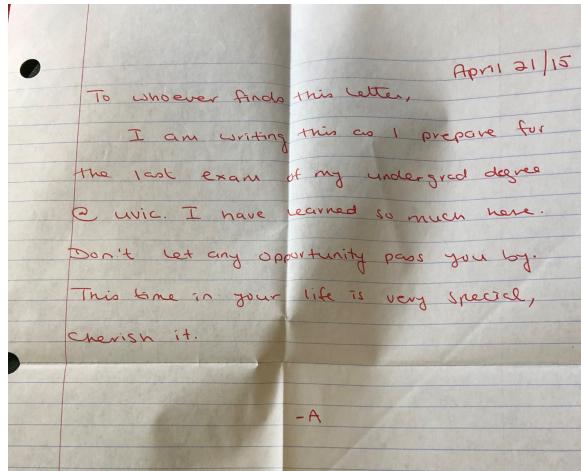
The collection was actually started by a fellow in our Purchasing Services department named Stephen Wylie. It's Stephen's job to deal with surplus stuff—furnishings, equipment, that sort of thing. Every so often, an interesting old piece of computing equipment would come his way, and he would squirrel it away in his warehouse rather than sending it off to the e-recyclers. He had no immediate takers for it, but he had the foresight to realize that this old gear might one day have some value. We connected back in 2016 when I did a study leave focusing on working with old computer media in our archives as a case study in digital archaeology. At the time, I was looking primarily at emulation and format migration as strategies for keeping old digital artifacts accessible. I wasn't that interested in old

several night courses in art history and contemporary art criticism at the Vancouver Island School of Art (VISA) in my neighbourhood. That helped me a lot, combined with my affiliation with the Art Libraries Society of North America (ARLIS/NA). My participation in ARLIS chapters (Northwest Chapter, Canada Chapter, and Texas-Mexico Chapter) and the International Relations Committee connects art library colleagues near and far.

Read the [full interview with Tad](#).

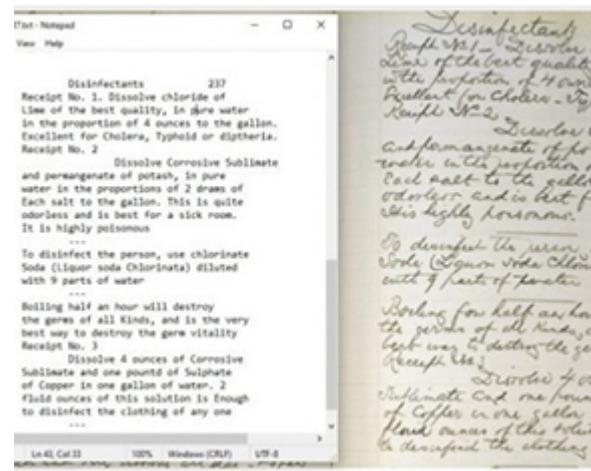
hardware because I thought it would be a lot of work to keep it running. But when Stephen offered up the old equipment that he had collected to the library, I couldn't very well turn it down. That became the core of a collection that has since expanded considerably thanks to additional finds in various storerooms around campus plus some wonderful community donations. We're getting an increasing number of those. Also, the library has been quite supportive of the project and has contributed both space and funding. One or two of the computers in the collection are ones we've purchased.

Read the [full interview with John](#).



SURPRISE!

You never know what messages of inspiration will be found inside the pages of a returned book. Our friendly staff in the interlibrary loan office came across this note tucked inside the pages, and it became one of our most popular Instagram posts!



DIGITIZATION BLOG

Frank Sylvester was one of the first Jewish settlers in Victoria. He was active in business and politics during the late 1800s, and he kept meticulous notes on his activities. Page DeWolfe, from the Libraries' Digitization Centre, spent a couple of months transcribing his handwritten notes. She describes that work in a new [blog post](#).

& LAST WORD



Examples of dried and pressed specimens from the exhibit's featured seaweed album: the *Edward Morell Holmes Herbarium*.

"YES, THIS IS MY ALBUM": A NEW DIGITAL EXHIBIT OF VICTORIAN SCRAPBOOKS

by: Elizabeth Bassett, Digital Access Assistant, Special Collections and University Archives (YCW)

The University of Victoria Libraries Special Collections and University Archives houses a variety of Victorian-era scrapbooks. You can now see a selection of these in my online exhibit, "*Yes, this is my album*": *Victorian Collections of Scraps, Signatures, and Seaweed*. In addition to providing access to the fully digitized volumes, the exhibit contextualizes the materials with a narrative overview of Victorian scrapbooking.

Although scrapbooking has a long history, the term "scrapbook" was first used in the 19th century. The activity became highly accessible during the Victorian era; as printing technologies improved, ephemeral print materials became more widely circulated. People began cutting these materials up and gluing them into what would become personally meaningful books. The pastime was enjoyed by many people, regardless of age, gender, vocation, or socioeconomic status.

Often, people chose to include other things in their scrapbooks: for example, locks of hair, pressed flowers, dried seaweed, and signatures. Because of the varied contents, the term "scrapbook" sustained a flexible meaning. It was used interchangeably with the term "album," and both simply indicated that things (printed or not) were being collected in books.

Despite the flexible boundaries of the practice, categories of scrapbooks emerged. "*Yes, this is my album*" explores three of these categories: traditional scrapbooks, autograph albums, and seaweed albums.

The exhibit's featured volumes include, among other examples:

- a traditional scrapbook created by an anonymous London theatre critic
- a pair of matching autograph albums created by two artistically inclined sisters who grew up on a Hertfordshire farm
- a seaweed album collaboratively created by a botanist, his wife, and colleagues.

While none of the featured volumes were created by famous figures, the exhibit aims to highlight the value of scrapbooks as records of everyday life. Often compiled by people who were never mentioned in published books, scrapbooks shed light on how people chose to memorialize their own lives.

As “Yes, this is my album” was curated over two remote work terms (funded by UVic Libraries and the Government of Canada’s *Young Canada Works in Heritage Institutions* program), I designed the exhibit with an eye to supporting research and teaching in both digital and in-person environments. As well as allowing viewers to browse digitized versions of the featured scrapbooks, the exhibit promotes future in-person access with its inclusion of an annotated list of Victorian scrapbooks held at UVic.

If you are interested in learning more about the exhibit, the scrapbooks, or Victorian-era scrapbooking, please join me for a hands-on Victorian scrapbooking workshop on March 12.

Learn more and [register](#).

Thank you to everyone who made the curation of this exhibit possible:

- Tiffany Chan, Digital Scholarship Developer/Analyst, Systems Services
- Heather Dean, Associate Director, Special Collections
- Page DeWolfe, Library Assistant, Digitization Centre
- Karen Dykes, Library Assistant, Metadata
- John Frederick, Library Assistant, Special Collections
- Braydon Justice, Digital Scholarship Developer/Analyst, Systems Services
- Samantha MacFarlane, KULA Managing Editor and Special Projects Administrative Officer
- Katharine Mercer, Supervisor, Digitization Centre
- Dean Seeman, Head, Metadata
- Lara Wilson, Director of Special Collections and University Archivist



**University
of Victoria**

Libraries

This newsletter is sent to you by the UVic Libraries Communications Office: libcomm@uvic.ca

