



THE AMPERSAND

**& COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS**



**LENDING A HELPING HAND, THREE PRINTERS AT A TIME**

*by: Erica Groening, Stacks Maintenance Resource Assistant*

In April 2019, my husband Kelly left his cook position at the University of Victoria to fulfill his passion of making, designing, and printing props and costumes. He started out with a bunch of foam and

one 3D printer. Flash forward almost a year, and three printers later, and he has created several different commissions for local Victoria residents old and young—from **Mandalorian costumes** for the family to a golden **Arch Angel costume** for a local realtor.

When the coronavirus became a worldwide pandemic, he closed down his shop and put all of his energy and time into printing medical personal protective equipment (PPE) such as **face straps, ear savers, and face shields** for our local hospitals and frontline workers, completely free of charge.

Since he started this project he has been in articles in *The Capital* and *The Tyee* acknowledging his hard work. After reaching his goals for the two GoFundMe campaigns that he created when this began, he purchased an incredible amount of filament as well as two new 3D printers. When the pandemic is over, he will be donating both new printers to two local Victoria schools along with free lessons.

Words can't explain how proud I am of him. Not only is he spending over 15 hours a day keeping up with order demands, but he is father of two small children, and a loving husband. We have been together 17 years and he still amazes me every single day. Keep up the amazing work and thank you for inspiring all of us to stand up and fight this pandemic. We are all in this together!

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## **SIGNED, SEALED AND DELIVERED**

*by: Lisa Abram, Communications Officer*

With over 1.8 million annual visitors, the library rarely closes its doors, but on March 19 the lights were shut off due to the COVID-19 pandemic and ensuing university closure.

On most days, Mailroom Resource Assistant Emilie Ducharme has been the sole library staff person, keeping the engine of the building humming along with her cheery disposition and love of the work. "It is definitely strange and eerily quiet. In a way it is nice to enjoy the peacefulness, but at the same time it makes you realize that the true meaning of our work is in the bustling activity that takes place in the library," says Emilie.

First hired in 2016, Emilie's first year at the Mearns Centre for Learning—McPherson Library had her working in the stacks, and she soon fell in love with the library and the people who work there. She began overseeing the mailroom in 2017. "The first time I visited the mailroom I thought that it would be such a fun place to work, so when the opportunity came up I jumped on it! I joined the Technical Support Unit three years ago, started working in the mailroom, and have been enjoying it ever since!"

Remember those sanguine days of pen-pal writing, when the anticipation of receiving mail at home was on par with opening birthday gifts? The same feeling of joy precedes the arrival of mail in the library. A typical day for Emilie begins at 7 a.m. and she spends most of it processing hundreds of pieces—letter mail, serials, newspapers—along with packaging books, arranging shipping for interlibrary loans, and delivering new books and donations to library colleagues, who are uplifted by receiving packages addressed to them.

If all the world's a stage, then the library plays a starring role in the UVic show. But without students in the building, it feels more like a theatre production just before the doors open, explains Emilie. "Everything is ready and there is a feeling of expectation and excitement for what's to come!" Just like mail delivery. But for now, the library will be closed until further notice, awaiting direction from the university.

What's the most unusual delivery item that Emilie has received? [Read more](#) to find out.

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## EXPANDED LIBRARY RE:QUEST SERVICE NOW AVAILABLE

On May 11, in light of the COVID-19 situation, the **Re:Quest** service was relaunched to support faculty, staff, and students during the summer session. The expanded Re:Quest service is offering physical retrieval/borrowing of books from the print collection, and scans of journal articles and book chapters.

The service has been very well received, with 768 requests fulfilled and 695 of those have been fulfilled so far.

The pick-up location is currently at the Mearns Centre for Learning—McPherson Library between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday.

While library buildings remain closed to access for users, we will continue to provide the university community with selected materials physically and digitally over the summer months.

Requests are coming in steadily from faculty, and graduate and undergraduate students, some of whom are regular users of Re:Quest.

The service is presently not available to community members, but may be rolled out more broadly in the fall.

Presently, there is a 72-hour turnaround time to fulfill orders and keep up with the demand.

A limited number of library staff members work on a rotating basis, and greet patrons in the lobby where they pick up their requested material.

**Tweet support:** "This is exactly the support we need right now! Thank you @UVicLib!"

**Tweet love:** "My library colleagues always give such stellar support & I couldn't do my research without them!"

**Tweet love:** "So many thanks to my subject librarians at @UVicLib who got me digital access to the books I need within 24 hours! #uvic"

**Tweet love:** "Very safe and friendly service. Thank you."

Physical distancing protocols are in effect.

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## & MESSAGE FROM UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN JONATHAN BENGTON

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In the meantime, if you have a moment I encourage you to check out two primary source resources that UVic Libraries had a direct role in making available in the past few years: **Points to the Past**, a database of some 200 million pages with content from archives, newspapers, and magazines; and **Canadiana** with tens of millions of documents related to Canadian history and heritage.

If you want a break from reading then have a look at this fascinating **five minute video** from *The New Yorker* on bookbinding terminology.

Dear Friends,

Take care and best wishes,

In this issue of *The Ampersand* you will find stories about some of the ways we are supporting our community, and our students and faculty during the pandemic. We all look forward to the time when we can welcome you back to campus and into the buildings.

Jonathan

### & ACROSS THE LIBRARIES

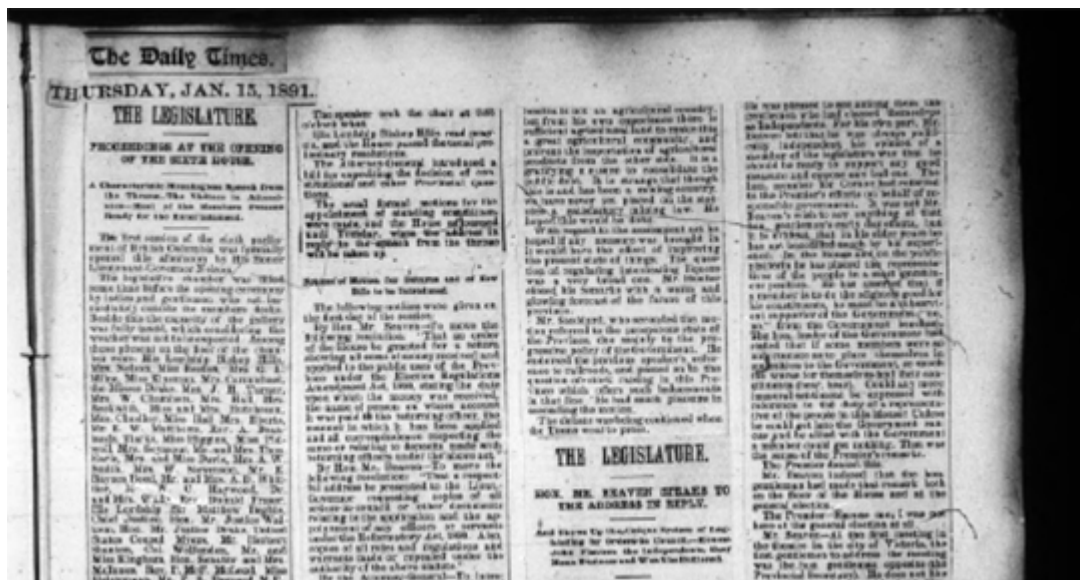


Photo: *Sessional Clippings Book, 1891*

### HOW THE SECRETS WERE REVEALED: A journey towards the making of BC Legislative Assembly Sessional Clippings Books

by: Sarah Miller, Law Librarian and Zehra Abrar, work study student

It was in 1738 that the British House of Commons passed a resolution calling it a breach of privilege for any newspaper or magazine to publish a record of its proceedings, even during the recess.

This resolution was harsher than previous resolutions limiting newspaper publications of house proceedings, to ensure that the conversations of parliament remained secret; whoever was found

guilty of reporting was charged and silenced.

While some journalists tried to veil the fact that they were publishing the discussions by calling them debates of fictitious societies or bodies (such as the *Debates of the Senate of Magna Lilliputia*), other journalists were more open in their approach, resulting in reprimands from House Speakers and prison sentences. However, the practice of punishing journalists with fines and imprisonment was eventually relaxed, partly due to campaigns defending free speech.

A leader in these campaigns was John Wilkes, an MP whose controversial publications and elections and expulsions from the House renewed interest in publications of House proceedings. In 1771, the House called eight newspapers to appear before the Bar of the House.

With support from Wilkes and his allies, three publishers fled to the city of London, whose officials (including Wilkes, who was a London alderman) refused to arrest them. In response, two city magistrates were arrested and imprisoned in the Tower of London, a move that was not supported by the public and did not stop the publication of House debates.

At the end of the House's session, the magistrates were released, and the House conceded that it was unable to stop newspapers from publishing the debates, implicitly sanctioning the publication of proceedings from that point on.

Read more about the history of the [Clippings Books](#), complete with footnotes and references.

## & FROM THE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS VAULT

PUBLISHED  
1960-1986  
FOUNDED BY  
VIRGINIA  
PRINCE

**TRANSVESTIA**

NOW ONLINE @ [TRANSGENDERARCHIVES.CA](http://TRANSGENDERARCHIVES.CA)

111 ISSUES  
VIEW ONLINE ONE  
OF THE WORLDS  
1ST TRANS  
MAGAZINES

Chair in Transgender Studies  
The Transgender Archives

University of Victoria Libraries

### **TRANSVESTIA NOW ONLINE**

by: Chair in Transgender Studies and UVic Libraries

The University of Victoria Libraries and UVic's Chair in Transgender Studies are proud to announce that all 111 issues of *Transvestia* magazine (1960-1986) are now digitized and [available online!](#)

Fully text searchable, the entire run of one of the world's first regularly published trans magazine can now be viewed from anywhere on earth as part of UVic Libraries' Transgender Archives digital collections.

### **About *Transvestia*:**

In 1960, [Virginia Prince](#) founded *Transvestia* magazine. Published six times a year in Los Angeles by Chevalier Publications, it was edited by Prince until 1980 and then sold to Carol Becroft who continued to publish it until 1986.

*Transvestia* was the first widely distributed magazine focused on the cross-dressing community. In time, it expanded to include content about the larger trans community. In an era before the internet, the publication became a major life-line for its readers.

In *Transvestia*, trans people could openly write about their experiences, challenges, and successes. Subscribers to the publication were able to network and connect with each other by way of articles, ads, and by personally writing to the editors.

*Transvestia* magazine, including the articles and events mentioned within each issue, have also been indexed in UVic Libraries' Transgender Archives' recently launched [Discovery Tool \(beta\)](#).

[Watch the promo video.](#)

Student intern [Instagram shout-out](#): *"During my time in the Trans Archives, I made new friends, I learned a lot, and I grew up immensely - not only as an academic, as a researcher or as a historian, but also as a human being. I believe so much in the work we did last summer and I can't wait to see the results of it. Thank you @transarchives for giving me this opportunity and for embracing me so kindly."*

### **Thank you to the *Transvestia* online project team:**

**Aaron Devor** – Chair in Transgender Studies; Founder & Academic Director, Transgender Archives

**Michael Radmacher** – Administrative Officer, Chair in Transgender Studies

**Lara Wilson** – Director, Special Collections and University Archivist

**Shahira Khair** – Data Curation Librarian

**Dean Seeman** – Head, Metadata

**Braydon Justice & Tiffany Chan** - Library Systems

**Katherine Mercer** – Libraries Digitization Centre Supervisor

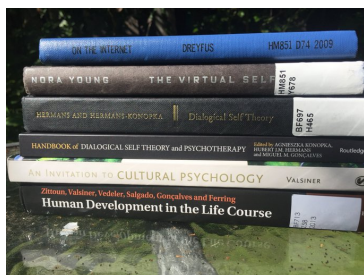
**John Frederick** – Special Collections Assistant

*Correction: Michael Radmacher's title was incorrectly listed in the April 2020 newsletter. Michael's current title is Administrative Officer, Chair in Transgender Studies. We apologize for this error.*

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## **& IN THE NEWS**

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## SOCIAL MEDIA KUDOS

**Tweet:** "So grateful that the @UVicLib is back open for curb side pickup! Finally got my hands on @digitalpromises new book."

**Tweet:** "So happy to pick up books from @UVicLib this morning! Glad to get back to my @Society\_ISTP 2019 proceedings manuscript."

**Tweet:** "Haven't been on campus for 10 weeks. Today I used the excellent new curbside pick-up service to get McGann's Poetics of Sensibility, which I desperately need for a chapter I'm writing. Not many books I'd venture out for. Thank you @UVicLib!"



## PIA RUSSELL

Education Librarian Pia Russell is no stranger to homework, recently graduating with her **fourth university degree**. Last month, she was featured in the media for creating a **K-12 LibGuide** to help parents homeschool their children during the pandemic.

Her work was retweeted by **Education Minister Rob Fleming**.

Read about Russell in the **Times Colonist** and on UVic's **The Great Indoors** blog.



## JULIE ANGUS

Congratulations to Julie Angus, MSc '01, who won a **BCBusiness Women of the Year Award** as an "Innovator." Angus is co-founder & CEO of Open Ocean Robotics, which offers clean-tech solutions to gathering ocean data.

Julie won the UVic Libraries **Distinguished Alumni Award** in 2018.

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## & OUR PEOPLE, YOUR LIBRARY

Featuring staff from Special Collections & University Archives



*Photo credit: UVic Photo Services*

## **RECORDS MANAGEMENT ARCHIVIST DAVE YOUNG REFLECTS ON HORSES AND HUGS**

*by: Zehra Abrar*

**You are a [Records Management](#) Archivist. How will your job be helpful for a UVic student?**

Well, I guess I'd have to say my job is part of the infrastructure that supports the more obvious work of the institution. My job is to help staff with managing the records of the institution, whether in databases, Connect sites, shared drives, or even email. As a public institution there is a higher level of accountability which is met in large part by how well those records are managed, both in the sense of documenting the activities—the decisions, the transactions—but also that those records are managed efficiently, easily found, and not kept longer than they need to be. There are compliance issues associated with records management, but if we do it right, compliance happens by coincidence, and the more tangible effect is work being done easier and better.

**You are a UVic alumni. How would you describe your time at the university?**

I seem to recall smaller trees and more corduroy... My former professors have shown up from time to time—Pat Martin Bates and Don Harvey (I was a visual arts major), plus the work of faculty is in the UVic art collection so, in various offices and meeting rooms, John Dobreiner, Darryl Plater, Bill West have all made appearances. John Durno, our Head of Library Systems, was recently involved in the [recovery of computer graphic works by Glenn Howarth](#), my painting instructor, so that happy time is not far away.

*Photo credit: UVic Photo Services*

## **ARCHIVIST LARA WILSON TALKS ALL THINGS COLLECTIONS, COMMUNITY AND CADETS**

*by: Zehra Abrar*

**What do your professional activities include?**

For a number of years I participated in different phases of the [InterPARES Project](#), based out of the University of British Columbia's School of Library Archival and Information Studies. This international research project focused on developing the knowledge to enable the long-term preservation of digital records (documents). Preservation of born-digital records (versus documents in paper or other physical media) is a significant challenge during our time of rapid hardware and software obsolescence. Other professional contributions have included two terms as President of the Archives Association of BC, as well as several terms as Chairperson for the Canadian Council of Archives. I am currently volunteering on a few boards, including the [Friends of BC Archives](#).

**If you were given a chance to have an exclusive tour of a private rare collection of some historical figure, who would it be?**

It would definitely be the David Bowie Archives, which I believe is in New York City. I am a great fan of Bowie—his acting, music, art—and I don't doubt his archives would be fascinating! His archives were drawn upon for the touring exhibit "[David Bowie is ...](#)" which opened at the Victoria and Albert Museum in 2013. It came to the Art Gallery of Ontario that year, but I didn't have the opportunity to see it.

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

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

Learn more about [Special Collections](#) and [University Archives](#).

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## & THE LAST WORD

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### **KULA: KNOWLEDGE CREATION, DISSEMINATION, AND PRESERVATION STUDIES**

*by: Samantha MacFarlane, Associate Editor, KULA*

In 2016, the University of Victoria Libraries, supported by a generous endowment from UVic donors Dr. Brian Gaines and Dr. Mildred Shaw, launched *KULA: Knowledge Creation, Dissemination, and Preservation Studies*, an open-access, peer-reviewed digital journal exploring how knowledge has been generated, circulated, and preserved throughout history and how knowledge processes evolve in response to advancements in technology. Particularly in the context of academic and cultural heritage institutions, the journal is interested in how existing technologies are employed and repurposed for scholarly purposes, how new knowledge processes are envisioned and developed, and how the nature of scholarship itself changes as a result of technological innovation. The journal is multidisciplinary, with much of its content related to library and archival studies, digital humanities, and scholarly communication. In its first five years the journal, which boasts a prestigious international editorial board, has published a total of 52 articles, including special issues on open social scholarship and endangered knowledge.

Currently in production is a special issue on Indigenous Knowledges, which was inspired by the 2019 University Librarian's Lecture on "Building Reconciliation through Archives" and will be published early next year. The issue is being guest edited by Rob Hancock (PhD, LE, NONET Academic Manager, Office of Indigenous Academic and Community Engagement and Adjunct

Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Environmental Studies, UVic), Ry Moran (Director, National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation), Carey Newman (OBC, Multidisciplinary Artist, Master Carver, and Audain Professor of Contemporary Art Practice of the Pacific Northwest, UVic), Shelagh Rogers (OC, Broadcast Journalist, Host and a producer of CBC Radio's *The Next Chapter*, Honorary Witness for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada, and Chancellor, UVic), and Andrea Walsh (PhD, Associate Professor of Anthropology, UVic). The issue is scheduled to be published in early 2021. We also have an issue on metadata planned for later in 2021, which will focus on the intersection and association of metadata with knowledge and open knowledge projects.

We are also very excited to announce that *KULA* will be transitioning to a new publication platform in Jan. 2021. We will be joining Coalition Publica, a non-commercial, open-source Canadian national infrastructure developed by Érudit and the Public Knowledge Project (PKP), who have partnered to support humanities and social sciences journals transitioning toward sustainable open access. Combining PKP's Open Journal Systems and Érudit's dissemination platform, Coalition Publica is working to advance research and digital scholarly publishing and dissemination. *KULA* will be an important part of this large-scale initiative to promote open scholarship in Canada, which aligns with UVic Libraries' **Strategic Directions** (Open, Engaged, Enduring), particularly the principle of openness.

UVic Libraries is dedicated to connecting people, knowledge, and expertise through partnerships and collaborations, as well as creating open avenues to research and to physical and virtual spaces. Joining Coalition Publica is an important step in making scholarly research openly accessible nationally and internationally.



This newsletter is sent to you by the UVic Libraries Communications Office: [libcomm@uvic.ca](mailto:libcomm@uvic.ca)

