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

June 2022



& MESSAGE FROM UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN JONATHAN BENGTON



Photo: UVic Photo Services

Dear Friends,

Summer is upon us though you would hardly know it given how relatively cool and wet the spring has been. Here at UVic Libraries we will be starting this summer with a bang, given that we are upgrading our library management system, including our public-facing catalogue for the first time since 1999. We move to the new systems (called “ALMA” and “PRIMO”) on June 28.

At the start of my third term and after ten and a half years as University Librarian, I will be taking a brief leave from July through December to restart some research projects, catch up on lots of reading, and do some writing. Lisa Goddard, Associate University Librarian for Advanced Research Services, will be acting University Librarian during this period of time.

On behalf of everyone at UVic Libraries I wish you a happy, healthy, restful summer!

Very best,



& AROUND THE LIBRARIES



JEWISH HERITAGE MONTH

For the month of May, a display of library resources was featured in the lobby to celebrate Jewish culture and history.

[Message from President Kevin Hall](#): "I join others across the country and at UVic in reflecting on the significance of Jewish Heritage Month in Canada. The alarming increase in anti-Jewish incidents must be answered by all of us standing against antisemitism whenever & wherever it arises."

[Read the full statement.](#)

LIBRARY SCHOLARSHIPS

Every year, the University of Victoria Libraries offers three student awards, valued at \$1,000: the [David Harris Flaherty Undergraduate Library Scholarship](#); the [William Petrie Graduate Student Library Scholarship](#); and the



ASIAN HERITAGE MONTH

UVic celebrated Asian Heritage Month in May with stories, research and contributions by members of the Asian community on campus, in our city, and beyond.

UVic Libraries hosted a month-long exhibit, *Tradition to Transformation: Visualizing Home in the Art and Book Collections of Asian Canadians*, with artwork on loan from the Victoria Chinese Painting and Calligraphy Association (VCPCA).

"We would like to express our heartfelt thank you to UVic Libraries for organizing the exhibition and the library tour with VCPCA. Some of our members during the tour discovered treasures in the collection; some appreciated the special collection materials; and some felt amazed about reproducing artistic seals by using modern technologies. We also deeply appreciate the opportunity to

[Gladys Nipp and Stephen Mah Family Award.](#)

The awards recognize and honor the contributions and achievements of all our students, enhancing the sense of personal growth and accomplishment in our academic community. The annual deadline is May 31. Watch this space to read the winning essays.

For more information about sponsoring a student award through the Libraries, please email ulo@uvic.ca

showcase our members' art works at UVic Libraries." - Freeman Meng, VCPCA Chair

[Learn](#) about the exhibits, new research, and resources that were highlighted.

& IN THE COMMUNITY



BC HISTORICAL NEWSPAPER ARCHIVES

British Columbia and Yukon residents now have [online access](#) to three Canadian historical newspaper archives: the *Vancouver Sun* (1912-2010), the *Times-Colonist* (1884-2010), and *The Province* (1894-2010). This access has been made possible thanks to library members of the [British Columbia Electronic Library Network](#) (BC ELN), the BC Libraries Cooperative, and Focused Education Resources.



Associate University Librarian - Reconciliation Ry Moran. Photo: Hannah Mashon

215+ REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

On June 1, a four-day sacred fire was lit and tended to by community fire men Will Sam, Rob Morris, Floyd Pelkey, Michael Charlie, Kenny Charlie, Tony Dick, and Peter Sam at the University of Victoria to honour, commemorate, and remember all the children that never returned home from the residential schools. Christine and Eugene Sam from [Songhees Nation](#) started the day in a good way with a welcome and opening prayer.

President Kevin Hall, Chancellor Marion Buller, residential school Survivor Barney Williams, along with Associate Director Academic Rob Hancock, Associate University Librarian - Reconciliation Ry Moran, and Impact Chair in Indigenous Art Practices Carey Newman spoke about the important work of Truth and Reconciliation, and the pursuit of human rights for Indigenous Peoples.

[Reflecting on one year later.](#)

& IN THE VAULT



A selection of wood engravings given to UVic Libraries by Dr. David Bond.

WHAT A RELIEF: UVIC LIBRARIES ACQUIRES NEW COLLECTION OF WOOD ENGRAVINGS

by: Heather Dean, Associate Director, Special Collections

Through the generosity of Dr. David Bond, UVic Libraries' Special Collections is enhancing its collection of wood engravings. This unique printmaking technique uses relief printing and involves an artist carving an image or text into the end of a block of wood, referred to as the end grain. UVic Libraries anticipates this collection will benefit students, faculty, and community members with an interest in incorporating this technique into their artistic practice, and studying the relationship between illustrations and the written word, among other topics.

While Dr. Bond acquired his first wood engraving (a portrait of Martin Luther King drawn by Ben Shahn and engraved by Stephan Martin) in 1965, he began collecting seriously in the 1990s. At this time Dr. Bond became acquainted with Crispin and Jan Elsted, proprietors of the Barbarian Press, a fine press located in Mission, British Columbia. It is one thing to carve a wood engraving, but it is another thing to print it, applying the correct amount of ink, and the right degree of pressure to the press, among other factors. Jan is well known for printing wood engravings, and her expertise is visible in the Barbarian Press's Endgrain Editions, books dedicated to wood engraving.

With a focus on historical and contemporary book arts, Special Collections welcomes this new addition to the collection, including a more comprehensive representation of books printed by Barbarian Press as well as a significant reference collection providing contextual information on wood engravers. Dr. Bond is committed to carefully expanding the collection to inspire future artists, and emerging scholars drawn to this unique art form.

Introduced at the close of the 18th century, wood engraving vastly expanded the ability to produce illustrations alongside print, as well as individual prints with their own artistic merit. Among artists

well-known for their early work in this medium are Thomas Bewick (1753-1828), Gustave Doré (1832-1883), and Gwendolen Raverat (1885-1957) as well as more contemporary artists such as Canadian artists Gerard Brender à Brandis and Wesley W. Bates, and English artists Simon Brett, Andy English, and Hilary Paynter. Over time the collection at UVic Libraries will expand to include representations of artwork from these and a number of other noted wood engravers.

& EXHIBITION OPENING



ABSENCE, ADDRESSED

On May 18, Special Collections & University Archives held its first in-person event since the beginning of the pandemic—a new interpretative solo exhibition, *Absence, Addressed*, created and curated by Amogha Lakshmi Halepuram Sridhar (Department of English), one of this year's [Peter and Ana Lowens University of Victoria Libraries Special Collections Student Fellows](#).

The exhibition highlights letters from Special Collections, featuring Modernist poets Ezra Pound (1885–1972), T.S. Eliot (1888–1965), and Robert Graves (1895-1985) alongside their poetic works. The exhibition explores how Modernist correspondence transformed the genre of the epistolary through poetic responses created by Halepuram Sridhar in the form of experimental postcard poems.

Absence, Addressed is open to the public in the Special Collections & University Archives Reading Room until the end of August.

Visit our [website](#) to check hours of operation.

& IN THE NEWS



LIBRARIAN PIA RUSSELL RECEIVES TWO BRITISH COLUMBIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION AWARDS

[Librarian Pia Russell](#) received two awards from the British Columbia Library Association (BCLA)—The BCLA Champion of Intellectual Freedom Award for the British Columbia Historical Textbooks Project Team, and the BC Academic Libraries Section (BCALS) Outstanding Contribution Award for her achievements in making a difference.

Pia leads the team for [The BC Historical Textbooks Project](#), a multi-year initiative that preserves and highlights unique textbooks of the province's history, while also confronting many untruths that had been systematically taught for decades. The project influences BC libraries as they strive to make decisions about problematic historical materials as part of decolonizing and indigenizing their collections.

[Read the press release.](#)



RY MORAN APPOINTED TO NEW FEDERAL LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

The Canada Research Coordinating Committee announced the appointment of UVic Libraries' Associate University Librarian - Reconciliation Ry Moran as one of only 18 members in the inaugural [Indigenous Leadership Circle in Research](#).

The Leadership Circle will advise the presidents of Canada's federal research funding agencies — including [CIHR](#), [NSERC](#), [SSHRC](#), and [CFI](#) -- on the implementation of the interagency strategic plan, *Setting new directions to support Indigenous research and research training in Canada 2019–2022*, and ensure that the path to building new models for Indigenous research and research training will be informed by First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples.

[June Ring issue](#)

Ry discussed the new Royal BC Museum on CBC Radio's [The Early Edition](#).

& OUR PEOPLE, YOUR LIBRARY



LIBRARIAN TAD SUZUKI RETIRES

After 20 years at UVic Libraries, Fine Arts & Humanities Librarian Tad Suzuki officially retired in June 2022. Thank you to Tad for all his years of dedicated service and inspiring creativity! Tad was presented with a special book of messages and artwork from colleagues, bound in a beautiful embroidered cover.



Lisa Kalynchuk
@LisaKalynchuk

So proud of UVic and our 12th place finish in the THE Impact Rankings! Huge thanks to Cathie Krull, Raul Mendoza, the strategic research initiatives team, campus sustainability office, UVic libraries, UCM, and all others who contributed to our data submission.

[@uvicnews](#)

UVIC RANKS 12th IN THE WORLD

UVic has been recognized by [Times Higher Education](#) as a global leader for its impact on the world's most pressing issues.

["The Impact Rankings"](#) are the only global assessment of universities against the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This year's results highlight our success in addressing important topics about our economy, society and the environment. We particularly excelled in three SDGs, placing second in the world on both SDG 13



LIBRARIAN LISA GODDARD RECEIVES AWARD OF MERIT

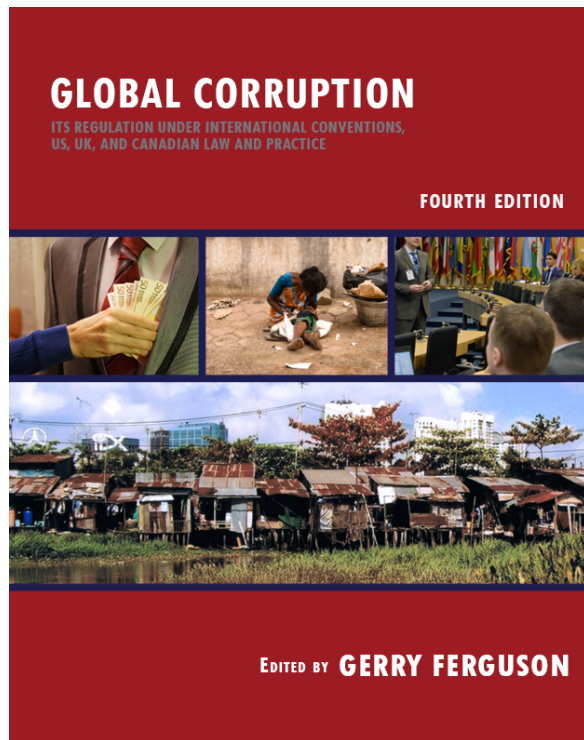
Congratulations to Lisa Goddard, Associate University Librarian, Advanced Research Services, who received the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL) [Award of Merit](#) at the first in-person meeting since fall 2019. The award is given to an individual who has made an outstanding local, regional, or national contribution within an area of research librarianship, and whose contribution has had broad and beneficial impact within the CARL community.

[Lisa in the news: Martlet interview](#)



FAREWELL LIBRARIAN ALEX BURDETT

(Climate Action) and SDG 15 (Life On Land) and fifth for SDG 14 (Life Below Water)." - UVic President Kevin Hall



NEW OPEN TEXTBOOK

The 4th edition of UVic Law professor Gerry Ferguson's book "Global Corruption: Its Regulation under International Conventions, US, UK, and Canadian Law and Practice" is now available. [Read more.](#)

Alex Burdett, Director, Law Library, was feted in June at a farewell event with University Librarian Jonathan Bengtson, Interim Dean Law Val Napoleon, and library and law colleagues before he starts his new position as a law librarian at NYU. All the best Alex!



LIBRARIAN ADITI GUPTA RECEIVES FIRST-EVER NSERC PROMOTION GRANT

Congratulations to Aditi Gupta for receiving the first-ever [National Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada \(NSERC\)](#) promotion grant awarded to a librarian at UVic.

& THE LAST STORY



Sybil Harrison, Shelagh Rogers, Jonathan Bengtson, Leslie Weir, and Maureen Sawa.
Photo: Jen Wells, Co-Chair, VILSC

RETURN OF THE VANCOUVER ISLAND LIBRARY STAFF CONFERENCE

by: Lara Wilson, Co-Chair, VILSC, and Director, Special Collections & University Archivist

On May 5, 2022, nearly 200 library staff members from across the region gathered on lək'wəŋən territory at the University of Victoria for the 7th annual [Vancouver Island Library Staff Conference](#) (VILSC). It was the first in-person VILSC since 2019; and the theme *Reflect, Rethink, Renew* encouraged presentations on the challenges and successes faced by libraries during the pandemic.

VILSC, the brainchild of UVic University Librarian Jonathan Bengtson, began in 2015 and is a partnership between the library directors Sybil Harrison (Camosun College), Maureen Sawa (Greater Victoria Public Library / GVPL), and Jonathan Bengtson (University of Victoria). Based on the Toronto-based TRY Library Conference also founded by Jonathan, VILSC creates opportunities for learning and meaningful dialogue, partnerships, and long-lasting friendships across the library sector. VILSC is a free conference, open to all library employees in the region of Vancouver Island, Powell River and the Gulf Islands. A volunteer-run conference, the organizing committee and subcommittees this year were made up of staff from the BC Legislative Library, Camosun, GVPL, UVic, and the Vancouver Island Regional Library.

Our 7th annual VILSC began with a moving welcome to the territory and blessing by Tsartlip Elder and UVic Elder-in-Residence May Sam. UVic Chancellor Emerita and CBC broadcast journalist Shelagh Rogers joined us for the keynote, which was a dynamic and insightful conversation with Leslie Weir, Librarian and Archivist of Canada. Attendees learned about what drew Leslie to the profession and her insights on the importance of libraries in the digital age; as well she provided an update on Ādisōke, the new joint facility between the Ottawa Public Library and Library and Archives Canada opening on July 1, 2026.*

The day was filled with dynamic sessions on a variety of topics including: inclusive pedagogy for library instruction; new technologies; outreach programming with cultural organizations; Indigenous knowledges; digital preservation; and the universe of Star Wars publications. Programming also included two popular workshops: learning to meditate, and bookmaking. The conference concluded with a brilliant Book Smack session, presented by staff from GVPL – with all their favourite [Book Smack picks](#). As well, we recognized and thanked Sybil for her many years of leadership at Camosun College and in the library community, prior to her retirement this spring.



Leslie Weir. Photo: Jen Wells, Co-Chair, VILSC

In addition to the institutional partnerships, VILSC 2022 was realized through the generous financial contributions of Camosun College Library, the Greater Victoria Public Library, University of Victoria Libraries, Vancouver Island University Library, Royal Roads University Library, the BC Legislative Library, the BC Ministry of Education Libraries Branch, the Vancouver Island Library Regional Library, the Island Link Library Federation, and University of Victoria University Systems; and Sybil Harrison for her special support of the reception.

*In Anishinābemowin Algonquin language, Ādisōke refers to the telling of stories, which are at the heart of Anishinābe Algonquin culture, and the vision of both founding institutions.

[Learn more about the joint facility.](#)



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