



MESSAGE FROM JONATHAN BENGTON, UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN



Recently I attended the 4th Building Reconciliation Conference, hosted by the University of Victoria this year, a major gathering formed in the wake of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action to bring multiple stakeholders from Indigenous and academic communities together. This year's theme was *Ts'its'u' watul tseep*, meaning to help one another. As the conference materials asserted, "the teachings of Coast Salish First Nations guide us to *work together in a good way and to be prepared for all work to come* so that universities across Canada make a difference in the lives of Indigenous students and their communities." This is certainly a path that we, at UVic Libraries, are prepared to walk as the spirit of partnership and collaboration is core to what we do. In the new year we will be identifying enabling strategies in the Libraries to align ourselves with UVic's Indigenous Plan, and the UVic Strategic Framework priority of fostering respect and reconciliation.

2018 has been a busy and fruitful year in the Libraries. I want to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful librarians and support staff for all that they do to support the academic success of our students and faculty; as well as our many donors who allow us to offer many more opportunities to engage with all of the communities that we serve within, and beyond, the university. With best wishes for the holidays.



Dr. Guy Berthiaume, Librarian and Archivist of Canada (left) and UVic University Librarian Jonathan Bengtson sign a collaborative agreement.

UVIC AND LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA STRENGTHEN THEIR AGREEMENT

UVic has a **new agreement** with Library and Archives Canada (LAC) that will strengthen existing engagements between the two institutions and lead to new endeavours to facilitate the sharing of expertise and knowledge.

“The University of Victoria is delighted to be the latest university to enter into a partnership with Library and Archives Canada to work on topics of mutual interest and share expertise and knowledge,” says University Librarian Jonathan Bengtson. “UVic faculty, staff, and students already work closely on projects with LAC, and this new agreement will help us expand these opportunities more broadly across the community in Victoria and the local region.”

A current example of collaboration between UVic and LAC is Dr. Eric Higgs' Mountain Legacy Project that involves LAC's resources for scanning and describing photographs from the Dominion Lands Survey and other relevant collections.

A Memorandum of Understanding, signed during a ceremony on Oct. 16 in Vancouver, will provide a framework of collaboration for UVic faculty and students, supporting academic advancement, research practices, technological developments, and proactively facilitate community outreach to promote the broad value of Canadian documentary heritage.

LAC now has multiple bilateral agreements in place with a wide range of Canadian universities including the University of Ottawa, Dalhousie University, Queen's University, the University of Toronto, Western University, the Université Laval and the École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information at Université de Montréal.

& ACROSS THE LIBRARIES



"Biodiversity" by Allison Meier. American Museum of Natural History. Under Creative Commons license.

KULA JOURNAL: SPECIAL EDITION

by Kevin Tunnicliffe, KULA Editorial Assistant

KULA: Knowledge Creation, Dissemination, and Preservation Studies is very excited to announce the launch of its first special collection, entitled "**Endangered Knowledge**." Inspired both by initiatives addressing the precarious state of public information in the current political climate and, more broadly, by considering endangerment as a critical category of analysis, this collection explores issues underpinning the dissemination and preservation of "endangered" material—that is, records, data, collections, languages, ecosystems, and networks that are currently, or that might become, at risk of disappearing.

Guest edited by Samantha MacFarlane (UVic), Dr. Bethany Nowvskie (CLIR; UVA), and Dr. Rachel Mattson (UMN), this exciting new collection is comprised of 22 essays from a diverse array of disciplines and fields; composed by 34 authors—from academics, librarians, and archivists to grassroots organizers, activists, and artists—readers will find an assembly of articles including scholarly research articles, pedagogical reflections and teaching materials, and a set of 'project reports' that cohere around and engage with the concept of endangered knowledge.

Understanding the infrastructural and ethical foundations of knowledge processes is urgently needed; and while the juggernaut of "the digital" is increasingly heralded as the panacea to the physical and logistical challenges in preserving knowledge, dangers to, and issues with, preservation techniques and standards have seemingly only increased in number and complexity—especially in light of rapidly proliferating formats and fragile networks, often operating under hostile regimes.

The authors represented here collectively ask: "how might we preserve and most effectively disseminate knowledge in the face of environmental, political, financial, infrastructural, and related risks? What types of data are most at risk and what are the implications of their loss? What are the key values governing the preservation of knowledge in various communities and at different scales? How can we best grapple with the politics of data absence and destruction, and better develop methods and ethics of information preservation and knowledge transmission—suited to the world as we wish to know and share it, and the world that is to come?" "Endangered Knowledge" invites readers to reflect on a range of theoretical and practical considerations to these questions.

& IN THE VAULT



J. M. W. Turner's painting of the Golden Bough incident in the Aeneid

INSPIRING TITLES FROM SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

by Lara Wilson, Director, Special Collections & University Archivist

December has arrived, and with it short days, cold nights – and on our wild west coast – rain, wind and the occasional snow flurry! It is time of reflection, celebration and renewal, as the darkest days flow past and spring is anticipated.

For those fortunate to have vacation time during the month, it can be an opportunity to curl up with a good book. To inspire these pursuits here are few titles, found in our circulating and Special Collections, related to cultures, creativity and seasonal change:

Kwulasulwut : stories from the Coast Salish, by Ellen White; illustrations by Vincent Smith; call # E99 S2W52. Ellen White (1922-2018), known as Kwulasulwut, or Many Stars, was an author, storyteller, educator, medicine woman, Snuneymuxw First Nations (Nanaimo, BC) elder, and recipient of the Order of BC. Her collection of five tales includes original stories by White, as well as Salish stories. The back of the first edition notes: “in each story the young reader travels on a journey through both nature and the supernatural, and at the end discovers one of life’s lesson, just as they were once revealed to Salish Children by their Traditional Storyteller.” The volume includes “The Stolen Sun,” which describes the imprisonment of the sun by a mischievous seagull and the Sun’s rescue with the help of a clever raven.

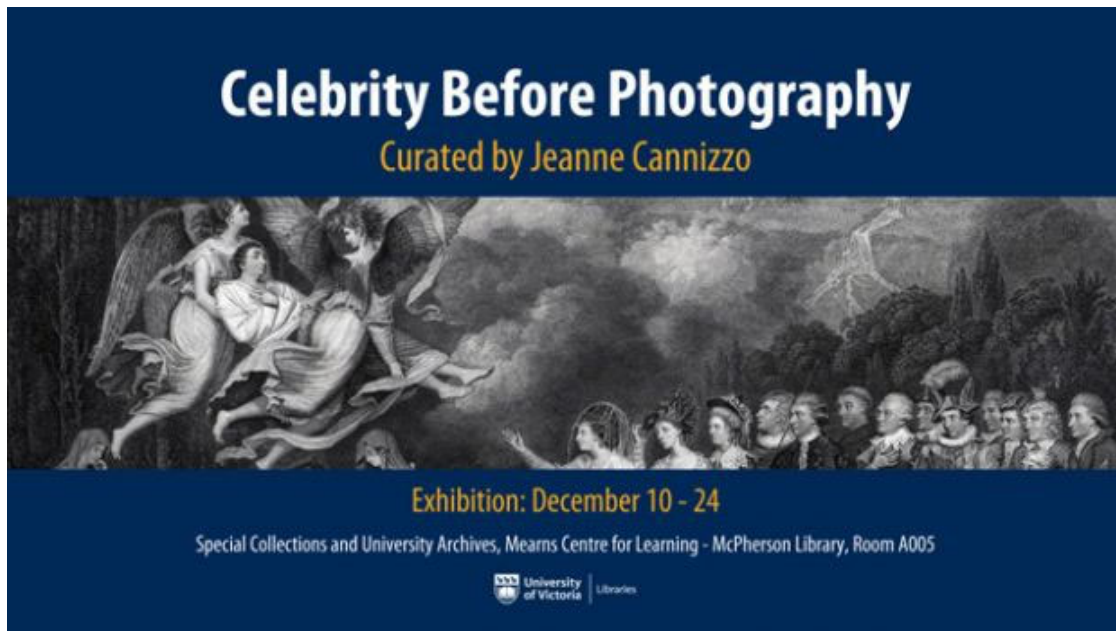
Slipping between Season: Haiku Canada member’s Anthology 2014, edited by Mike Montreuil and Nick Avis; call # PS8285 H3M46 2014. Special Collections is home to an extensive donation of publications (339!) from Haiku Canada and the estate of the haiku poet Anna Vakar. Haiku Canada was founded in 1977 as a society of poets and enthusiasts dedicated to promoting the creation and appreciation of haiku (a short form poem with origins in Japan) and related poetic forms, and fostering connections and support among haiku poets in Canada and abroad. Haiku poets often take their inspiration from the natural world, however many subjects can be found in modern haiku. In addition to the Haiku Canada Collection, UVic Libraries’ main collections includes many publications of and about haiku in English and Japanese.

The Golden Bough: A Study in Magic and Religion, by James George Frazer call # BL310 F73 1923. First published in 1890, Frazer’s study of spiritual beliefs, practices, and cultures throughout

the world was ground-breaking for its time. The work's title was inspired by J.M.W. Turner's 1833 oil painting of the same name (which is reproduced in the book's frontispiece), depicting the visit of the Trojan hero Aeneas to the prophetess, the Sibyl of Cumae, at the gateway to the underworld.

Special Collections holds the 1911 edition in twelve volumes, as well as the 1923 abridged edition. The latter edition was a gift to the Libraries from the artist Margaret Peterson (1902–1997) and her husband writer Howard O'Hagan (1902–1982); both of whom drew on myths and archetypal motifs for their works; both Peterson's and O'Hagan's archives are amongst the holdings of Special Collections & University Archives.

To peruse our archives, [visit us](#).



CELEBRITY BEFORE PHOTOGRAPHY

Curated by Jeanne Cannizzo

December 10 - 24, 2018

Special Collections and University Archives, Mearns Centre for Learning - McPherson Library, Room A005

Celebrities existed before the invention of the camera. Then, as now, fans and followers demanded to "see" their favourites. From the 18th century, cheap printed images circulated widely to meet that demand, until replaced by photographs. Engravings of actors, opera singers, playwrights, managers, and many other personalities associated with the world of theatre, were mass-produced. Scenes from performances which people had attended, or wished they had been present for, were popular as a souvenir from a notable experience; others collected prints featuring plays by certain playwrights. For more [information](#).

& IN THE NEWS



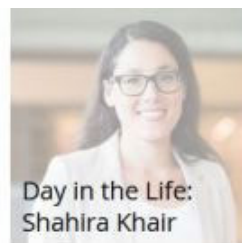
Chester P. Lyons fonds, AR409, File #2007-039.4.12.3

"Mt. Seymour 1940's Uphill the hard way. Climbing."

SPECIAL MESSAGE

Wishing you happy holidays and the very best of the season. The **library hours** vary in December so please check our calendar. We look forward to seeing you in 2019!

Play



LIBRARY NEWS

We have a newly designed **News page** that features our UVic stories, announcements, and the events calendar. A one-stop shop to UVic Libraries!

& OUR PEOPLE, YOUR LIBRARY



DIGITAL PRESERVATION WORKSHOP IN GHANA

by Lisa Goddard, Associate University Librarian, Digital Scholarship and Strategy

Associate University Librarian, Lisa Goddard, went to Ghana in November as part of a research team under the leadership of Archaeology professor, Dr. Ann Stahl. The team delivered a week long digital preservation workshop to 25 graduate students and researchers at the University of Ghana in Accra. While there, Lisa had the opportunity to meet with a number of staff from the university library, and from the National Museum of Ghana. Pictured here are staff from the National Museum of Ghana, as the UVic library bag goes international.



WE ARE EVERYWHERE!

Our high quality cloth library bags are very popular - popping up everywhere in Victoria and beyond. Recently spotted downtown, the library bag can be used to carry groceries, work-out clothes, and yes, even your books! They can be purchased for \$5 at the main loan desk at the Mearns Centre for Learning - McPherson Library and the Law Library. Show your library love!

& THE LAST WORD



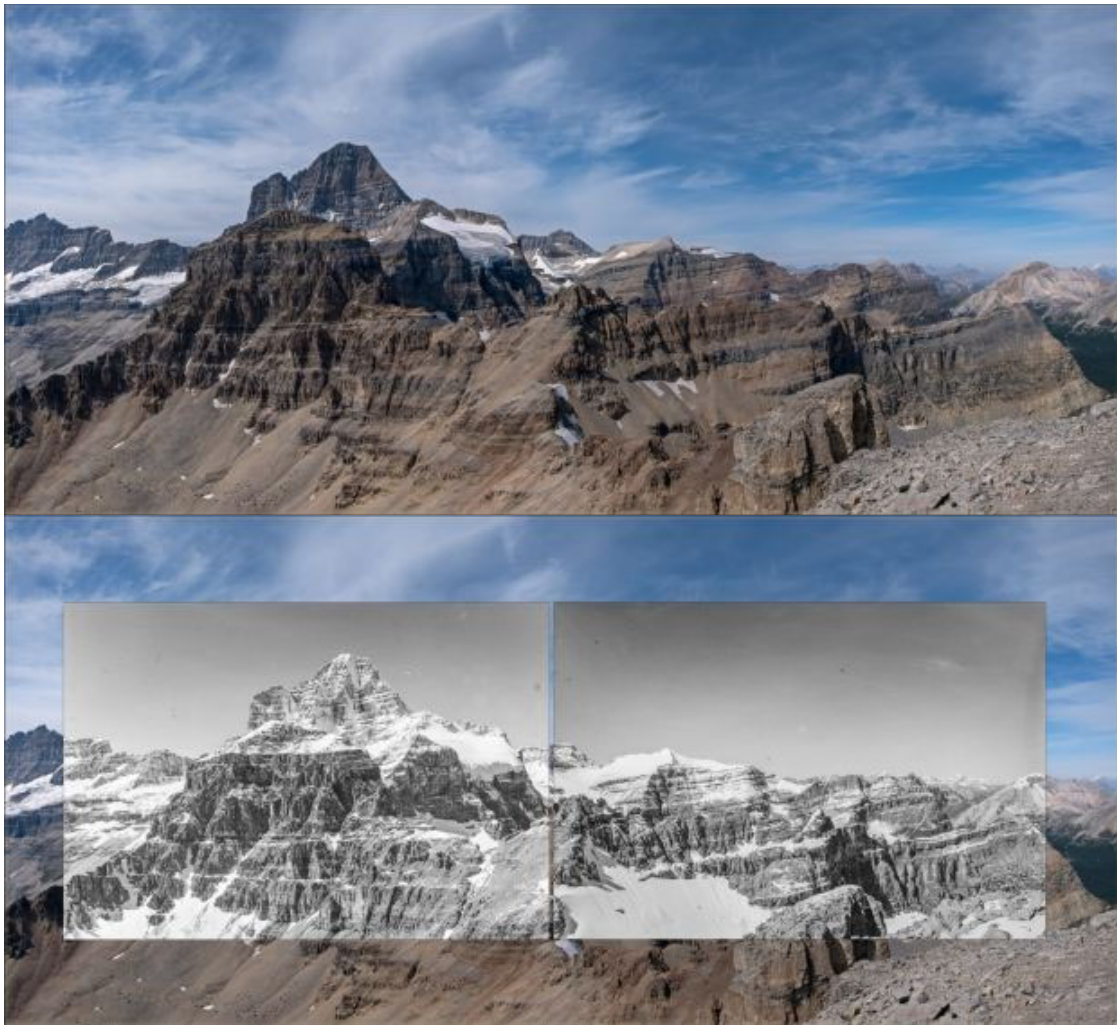
Looking up to The Towers. Mountain Legacy Project members surveying the route ahead during a recent expedition. Photo courtesy of M. E. Sanseverino and the Mountain Legacy Project, 2017.

MOUNTAIN LEGACY PROJECT: MOUNTAINS OF DATA
UVic Research Group Among First to Collaborate with New Canadian Data Repository
by Shahira Khair, Data Curation Librarian

From the 1880s through the 1950s surveyors with the Dominion Topographic Survey, the Geological Survey of Canada, and other government departments deployed an effective method of surveying the mountains of Western Canada known as phototopographic surveying. These methods left a legacy of systematic photographs with nearly complete coverage of much of the landscape, offering an unprecedented data set for researchers to analyze landscape conditions during a period of intense development and ecological transitions.

The [Mountain Legacy Project](#), based at the UVic School of Environmental Studies, has combined archival research, repeat photography, and analysis of these historical survey photographs and their modern repeats to assess landscape change in the Canadian Rocky Mountains. The project has unearthed a vast collection of systematic phototopographic survey images, maps, and other data dating back to the late 19th century from [Library and Archives Canada](#), and have re-photographed thousands of images over the last 20 years.

This effort requires considerable computing resources, and in our digital age, an important question for all large-scale research projects is how to best preserve this mountain of data. The Mountain Legacy Project reached out to the University of Victoria Libraries for support with long-term storage and preservation of its collection of digital photographs. Due to the large file sizes of these high resolution images, the project was deemed a strong candidate to test out a new national data service called the [Federated Research Data Repository](#), a collaboration between Compute Canada and the Canadian Association of Research Libraries.



Looking at the eastern faces of Terrapin Peak (2,954 m) and Mt. Assiniboine (3,618 m) from the summit of The Towers (2,842 m). The inset black and white images were taken in 1916 by Arthur Wheeler as part of the Inter-provincial Boundary Survey to accurately set the border between BC and Alberta. Photos courtesy of The Mountain Legacy Project and Library and Archives Canada / Bibliothèque et Archives Canada. [Click](#) to see more historic images from this location.

The Federated Research Data Repository is designed to address a longstanding gap in Canada's research infrastructure by providing a single online platform from which research data can be stored, preserved and shared. The platform's federated search tool provides a focal point to discover and access Canadian research data, while the range of services provided by local curators help researchers store and manage their data, and preserve their research for future use.

With the deposit of the project data now completed, these unique and invaluable datasets will be securely stored and preserved for future use, and lessons learned throughout the process by the UVic community will provide valuable feedback to shape this national data service moving forward.



**University
of Victoria**

Libraries

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

