

noteworthy

news from the university of toronto libraries

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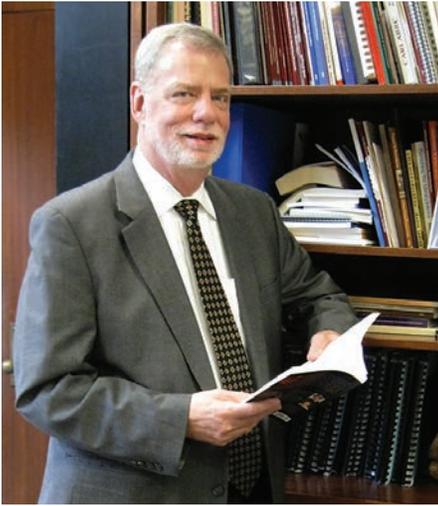
Spring 2012

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Cover image: The 'Sharpless Strawberry', illustrated in *The Canadian Horticulturist*, vol. 3 (1880). Article on page 8.



I AM HONOURED AND PLEASED

to welcome you to the first *Noteworthy*, the Libraries' newsletter to our donors and friends. As you read on, you will know that we have been extremely active since we published the final edition of the *University of Toronto Libraries Newsletter* last fall. On reflection, I am struck by how much is being accomplished by our excellent staff to make a real difference for U of T's students, faculty, the wider community of research libraries and the many people who rely on what we do – while challenging us to do more.

The notion of being purposeful about making a difference figures throughout this edition of *Noteworthy*. As my first academic year at the University of Toronto concludes and my knowledge of this institution deepens, I recognize the foresight of many in U of T's past – donors, university leaders, faculty and library professionals – who imagined our libraries becoming one of the world's leading library systems.

Like previous junctures in the University of Toronto Libraries' history, the present reality calls for innovation and resolve. We are balancing demand for physical space, the influence of electronic information and the need to steward resources well in the face of profound change. Within the University's campaign, *Boundless*, we have identified key priorities which call for the

unprecedented support of our friends. We will secure funds to create student study space within Robarts Library and the Gerstein Science Information Centre in the Sigmund Samuel Library; to form dedicated endowments for our foremost special collections; and to develop our collection – including curating and preserving “born digital” information.

The following gives context to our identified priorities. Our data is at odds with conventional wisdom that suggests library users access us remotely and have little use for physical space. Just Robarts Library alone, one of our 44 libraries, is used by as many as 14,000 people on a busy day interacting with librarians, using collections, working independently and collaborating.

On other fronts, scholars and members of the public expect increasing, comprehensive online access to knowledge resources. The costs of digital materials have come to dominate our collection investment budget, placing pressure on print acquisitions, which for many geographic regions are the most important sources of knowledge. At the same time, continuing to acquire, preserve and make available the documentary history of Canada remains a high priority. All these considerations require us to secure long-term resources for the benefit of future students and scholars.

These pages feature stories about people who are intent on strengthening our collections, our affiliations and our capacity to serve those who depend on us to preserve for the future the record of the past. I hope you enjoy reading about the innovation of staff and the support of friends that places us among the world's great libraries and makes us a Canadian treasure. As my predecessor, Carole Moore, said, “It was an audacious vision.” I would be delighted to hear from you in response to *Noteworthy*. Thank you for your interest in the University of Toronto Libraries.

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noteworthy

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MAKING A DIFFERENCE DONORS AND FRIENDS



Fisher Library Receives Endowment for Philosophy Acquisitions

FOR MORE THAN 27 YEARS, THE Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library has been the destination of a remarkable and growing collection thanks to the attentive efforts of Michael Walsh, a talented book collector with a special interest in philosophy. Recently, Michael generously established the Walsh Collection Fund, an endowment for acquisitions in philosophy at the Fisher Library.

A retired investment banker and investment industry executive, Michael is Chair of the Steering Committee of the Friends of the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library. Michael was invited to give the Seltzer Lecture in 2004, where he spoke of what motivates both his collecting strategy and his philanthropy towards the Fisher Library. Here are a few highlights from Michael's remarks:

"When our (previous Gift-in-Kind) gift to the University was announced... there was a surpris-

ing amount of public attention—newspaper reporters and even a brief moment of fame on the local CBC news programme. One thing that struck me about the experience ... was the persistence of the question: 'Why do you collect?' As well, many people had a curious desire to learn when and how I had started, as if knowing this might help them to ward off the affliction.

... That is collecting. The urge to gather or take possession of something. To identify and acquire the various kinds. To prefer the scarce over the common. To have the best exemplar of each kind. And, to not stop until your capacity to take them home has been met. Why do we do it? I simply do not know—psychologists have put forward various theories, but none has ever seemed fully convincing to me. I am satisfied and comfortable with knowing that it is just part of who I am.

In this case, (I) might bring to your minds a few memorable lines from the General Prologue of the *Canterbury Tales*. Chaucer is describing the Clerk of Oxenford. You will perhaps recall that

this young scholar was still reading logic. Chaucer tells us that he rode on a horse leaner than a rake and that he too was thin, with hollow cheeks and a sober look. Threadbare was his overcoat, as he had no worldly office or benefice. Indeed, Chaucer writes:

*Ne was so worldly for to have office.
For hym was levere have at his beddes heed
Twenty bookes, clad in blak or reed,*

of philosophy, rather than rich apparel, fiddle, or fine psaltery. For upon books and learning he would spend all he could obtain. Learning was all he cared for:

And gladly wolde he lerne and gladly teche."

To ensure that others have the benefit of using a great collection, Michael has not only given his collections, among the most valuable received, to the Fisher but his recently endowed fund will help to ensure that the collection will continue to thrive, grow, be properly housed and made accessible. We are deeply grateful to Michael for not only adding to the collection but for having the forethought to realize that the Fisher also needs the financial means to care for collections gifted and to have taken steps to ensure that these needs can be met.

Larry Alford, Chief Librarian, notes, "The Walsh Collection Fund will provide vital funding for a key dimension of the outstanding collection in the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library. I am delighted by Dr. Walsh's extraordinary generosity."

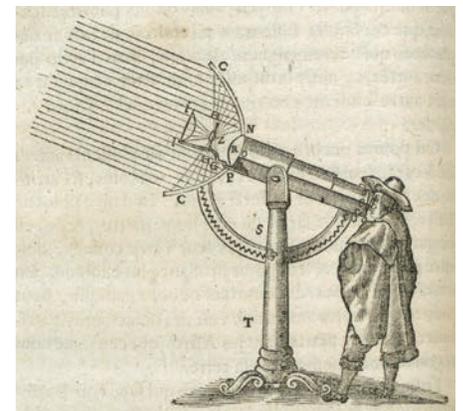


Photo above: Virginia Walsh, Anne Dondertman, Acting Director, Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library and Michael Walsh. Image right: Diagram of a telescope from the discourse entitled "La dioptrique" from Descartes, *Discours de la methode*, 1673.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE DONATIONS

Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library Receives Korea Foundation Grant for Korean-Canadian Heritage Archives Project

THE CHENG YU TUNG EAST Asian Library at the University of Toronto and The Asia Library at the University of British Columbia have received a grant of US\$16,800 to support the Korean-Canadian Heritage Archives (KCHA) Project and have received approval for an extension for a second year.

The KCHA Project is a collaborative initiative between the two libraries to create an online searchable database to document the Korean experience in Canada by collecting records into one location and making these readily accessible to the public. This project will use existing catalogued material and previously undocumented primary sources (such as historically significant manuscripts) relating to Korean-Canadians. Initial efforts will be focused on collecting data, cataloguing and creating the basic framework of the database. Later stages of the project will

involve digitizing the accumulated documents and uploading this content into an online searchable database.

In addition to the Korea Foundation's generous grant assistance, the project is also supported by the Sharon's Credit Union, which has provided an amount of \$10,000, and the *Korea Times Daily*, which is providing free use of its archives. Further funding is being sought for what is expected to be a five-year initial stage to the project, after which the resulting database will be updated on an ongoing basis.

This project was initiated by Hana Kim, Korea Studies Librarian at the University of Toronto and Helen Kim, Korean Language Librarian at the University of British Columbia to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Korea and Canada in 2013.



March Symposium Enriches Minds and Holdings

On March 19, the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library hosted *China's Macao SAR: 12 Years of Breakthrough & Transformation*, a one-day international academic symposium co-organized by the University of Macau (UM) and the University of Toronto.

Both the University of Macau and the International Institute of Macau generously donated books to the University of Toronto Libraries to



enhance our collections on Macau, Portugal and China studies. Read the full story on page 9.

Photo: Attending the symposium were Jack Leong, Director, Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library; Ming Chan; University of Macau Vice Rector Simon Ho; Consul General of Portugal in Toronto Júlio Vilela; Deputy Consul General of the People's Republic of China in Toronto Meifang Zhang; Vice-President and Provost Cheryl Misak and Chief Librarian Larry Alford.

How Great Libraries are Created

Profile of Anna U,
Cheng Yu Tung
East Asian
Library Director
from 1974–2011



ANNA U STARTED HER LONG and distinguished career at the University of Toronto Libraries after her graduation from the Faculty of Information Studies, University of Toronto. She first worked in the U of T Science and Medicine Library and was assigned to head the East Asian Library (EAL) in 1974. In this position, Anna worked tirelessly for nearly 37 years, during which time she built one of the strongest East Asian research collections in North America.

Anna's great contributions to the library include, but are not limited to, cultivating an expanding East Asian collection to meet the teaching and research needs of the U of T community, improving access to library resources, implementing the latest technologies in library services and

tirelessly promoting the library to the U of T and external communities.

Collection statistics reflect great changes at the library under Anna's leadership. In 1974 the collection numbered 90,000 volumes. As of the end of 2011 it numbered 512,000 print volumes, 30,000 microform items, 5,000 Chinese e-book titles, over 3,000 titles of e-serials as well as other Chinese, Japanese and Korean databases of newspapers and reference materials.

With her vision, extensive experience and hard work, Anna has been the pivotal force in elevating the East Asian Library to be among the best of its peers in North America. Anna will be sorely missed but we wish her all the best in her well deserved retirement.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE LIBRARIANS

鄭裕彤東亞圖書館

Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library: Thirty-two Years of Achievement and Still Growing

1970–1989

- 1979: The Korean Collection was established with seed funding from the Korean Scholarship Society.
- 1983: EAL became the first library in North America to provide automated East Asian catalogue information, paving the way for North America's first East Asian electronic union catalogue for libraries. EAL was also the first in North America to adopt and use this system.
- 1987: Dr. Cheng Yu Tung donated \$1.5 million to pave the way for the library's transformation.



Photo: The Mu Collection in the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library.

1990–1999

- 1991: Dedication of the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library.
- 1993: Participated in the International Union Catalogue of Chinese Rare Books Project. Project funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and coordinated by the Research Libraries Group.
- 1996: With funds from the Cheng Yu Tung donation, plus a gift of \$100,000 from the Japan World Exposition Commemorative Fund, the library expanded and built the East Asian Current Resources Centre.
- 1997: EAL first Canadian East Asian library to become a member of elite North American Korean Collection Consortium. Received funding of US\$20,000 per year from the Korea Foundation to support special areas of Korean Scholarship. In 2006, funding was increased to US\$30,000 per annum.



Photo: Dr. Cheng Yu Tung delivers remarks from the podium during the dedication of the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library in July 1991, while University of Toronto President, Robert Prichard (second from left), looks on.

2000–PRESENT

- 2001: Initiated and created first East Asian Studies Internet Courseware management system (EASIC) for East Asian Studies.
- 2002: In-kind donations from The Fo Guang Shan Temple of Toronto and the Toronto Consulate of the People's Republic of China.
- 2005: Digitized six significant Chinese titles published before 1925 for the Internet Archive. One of the digitized titles, *Who's Who in China*, published in 1925, became the most downloaded book in the Internet Archive.
- 2005: LG Electronics donated US\$27,000 to help establish the basis for an endowment to develop Korean e-resources.
- EAL sole Canadian recipient of the National Library of China's "Window to China" book donation program, annually receiving 510 volumes of academic publications from this source.
- Collaborated with scholars and members of the local community to host public lectures, forums and exhibitions on a wide range of topics related to East Asian Studies.
- 2010: Private donation of \$20,000 to support the creation and development of resources on Chinese-Canadian studies.
- 2011: Formal agreement with the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office to be contact point of the virtual Taiwan Academy.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE EVENTS



Left: Ben McNally with Mrs. Johanna Sedlmayer-Katz. Above: Professor Antonette DiPaolo Healey. Below: Anne Dondertman, Janet Dewan and Barbara Tangney.

Friends of Fisher Spring Lineup

FOURTH ANNUAL LEON KATZ MEMORIAL LECTURE

On Thursday, March 13, Ben McNally, proprietor of Ben McNally Books, delivered the *Leon Katz Memorial Lecture*. McNally outlined the recent history, present and future of independent bookstores in Canada, concluding that, while these are hard times, there is a future for both the independent bookstore and the printed book. The talk was informative and at times wittily anecdotal, and was received avidly by the standing-room-only crowd, one of the largest audiences we have had at a Friends' event. This annual lecture is generously endowed by Johanna Sedlmayer-Katz.

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL GRYPHON LECTURE ON THE HISTORY OF THE BOOK

On Tuesday, April 3, Antonette diPaolo Healey gave the *Gryphon Lecture on the*

History of the Book. Her talk was titled "The Dictionary of Old English: Linking past to present". Healey explained how not only rare words but also the most common words of the language afford surprising insight into the culture of Anglo-Saxon England, taking as her examples three very common English words and tracing how their meaning has changed or not and the implications for cultural perceptions. This annual lecture is generously endowed by George Kiddell.

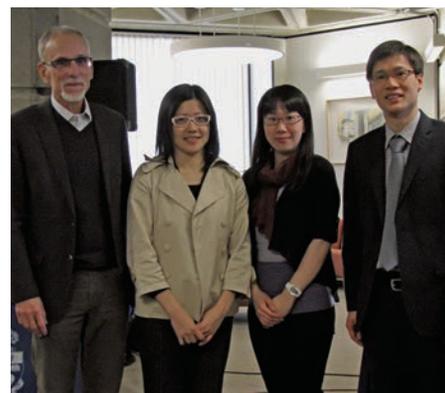
EXHIBITION OPENING

On Thursday, May 3, horticultural enthusiasts filled the Fisher Library for the opening of "How Does *MY* Garden Grow: The Evolution of a Gardener". Julie Hannaford, Associate Librarian for the Humanities and Social Sciences, welcomed guests and introduced Anne Dondertman, Acting Director, Thomas



Fisher Rare Book Library and curator of the exhibition. Anne drew parallels between libraries and gardens and book people and nursery/gardening people. The audience of book and garden lovers was enthralled. Our sincere thanks go to Janet Dewan and Barbara Tangney for supporting the production of the stunning exhibition catalogue in memory of their parents Marian and Harry Ade, long-time Friends of Fisher and avid gardeners. You can purchase the catalogue for \$25. To obtain a copy, email darlene.kent@utoronto.ca.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE EVENTS



Left: Jack Leong talks to University of Toronto Libraries' staff, scholars and information professionals about items on display in March. Above: Bart Testa, Cinema Studies, University of Toronto; Jessica Li, Faculty Associate, York Centre for Asian Research, York University; Jing Jing Chang; and Jack Leong.

Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library Attracts an International Crowd

THE NOSTALGIA OF FILMS, HISTORY AND MEMORY IN HONG KONG

On Friday, February 17, the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library hosted *Pan-Chinese patriotism and postwar Hong Kong's Cantonese cinema*. Co-organized with the Pan-Asia Student Society and co-sponsored by the Asian Institute and Hong Kong Economic & Trade Office (Toronto), this seminar investigated the role of Cantonese film development in the postwar Hong Kong period. Professor Jing Jing Chang of Wilfrid Laurier University examined the films of the Zhonglian Film Company (1952–1967), whose artists became the new cultural elites in postwar Hong Kong. The seminar also deciphered Zhonglian's fan magazine, the *Union Pictorial*, in order to re-conceptualize the

role of audiences beyond Hong Kong in constructing a postwar moral universe of pan-Chinese patriotism. This seminar highlighted our film-related materials and was reported by the Chinese media.

SPECIAL SHOWCASING THE COLLECTIONS HELD FOR AAS CONFERENCE

On Friday, March 16, the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library opened its doors to staff, scholars and librarians from the Association for Asian Studies (AAS), which held its annual conference in Toronto this year.

The *Showcasing the Collections* open house provided an invaluable opportunity for AAS members from around the world to meet, discuss and exchange ideas. Sample items from the research collection, community newspapers, archives and manuscripts gave guests a better understanding of the library and allowed them to take home new ideas of collection development and space management.

Showcasing the Collections is a series of events launched in 2010 by the University of Toronto Libraries' Staff Development Committee. The aim is to provide library staff with an opportunity to visit campus libraries, meet colleagues and examine highlights from their collections.

CHINA'S MACAO SAR: 12 YEARS OF BREAKTHROUGH & TRANSFORMATION

China's Macao SAR: 12 Years of Breakthrough & Transformation, a one-day international academic symposium co-organized by the University of Macau (UM) and the University of Toronto, was held on Monday, March 19. The symposium promoted the achievements of Macao SAR following its return to China in 1999. It covered a wide range of topics, including overviews of the Macao Special Administrative Region (MSAR)'s first 12 years, the University of Macau's new cross-border campus, the Pearl River Delta integration breakthrough, MSAR's governance, economy, identity, culture and heritage, as well as its external links and relationships.

The symposium was attended by Vice-President and Provost Cheryl Misak, Chief Librarian Larry Alford, UM Vice Rector Simon Ho, Deputy Consul General of the People's Republic of China in Toronto Zhang Meifang and the Consul General of Portugal in Toronto Júlio Vilela. Over 20 scholars from around the world with Macao-related research expertise presented their reports and findings.

Read about a donation on page 5.

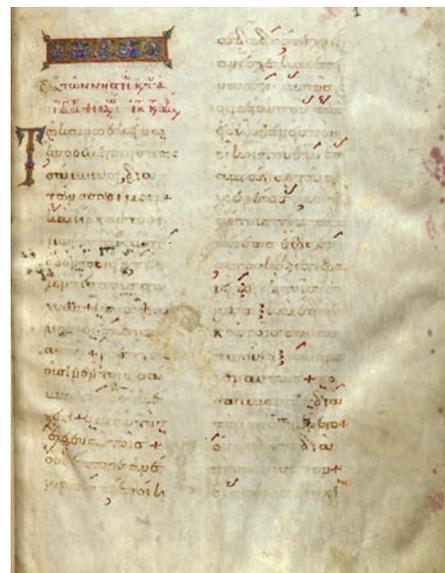
MAKING A DIFFERENCE ACQUISITIONS

Codex Torontonensis Receives a Byzantine Companion

FOR 111 YEARS, THE *CODEX Torontonensis*, the oldest complete book in the Fisher Rare Book Library, has been awaiting a companion from its Byzantine home to join it on our library shelves. In February of this year, that long wait finally ended when, through the auspices of the Office of the Chief Librarian and the Libraries' Collection Development Department, a Greek Gospel Lectionary was added to the Fisher's medieval manuscript holdings. Like the *Codex*, it was most likely transcribed at Constantinople in the middle of the eleventh century, and displays many of the same artistic and calligraphic traits. Apart from its antiquity and simple beauty, what sets this manuscript apart from the others in the library is its remarkable provenance. It was most likely created for use in one of the provincial churches outside of Constantinople and, by the late sixteenth century, formed part of a parish library near Trebizond, on

the southern shore of the Black Sea. Its whereabouts between the sixteenth and the nineteenth centuries are unclear, but what is certain is that it was housed at the Metochion (or ecclesiastical embassy church) of the Holy Sepulchre at Constantinople in 1892, together with the now famous "Archimedes Palimpsest". At some point in the 1920s, both manuscripts were purchased by the Turko-French antiquarian and bibliophile, Salomon Guerson (1872–1970). It is now known that Guerson altered his manuscripts, supplying forged miniatures in some, while removing folios from others, including the Archimedes, to reinsert elsewhere with "new" texts and images. What treasures this new addition to the Fisher collections will reveal is now in the hands of our scholars; and for our students, it represents one more piece of literary archeology on which to train their codicological eyes.

PEARCE J. CAREFOOTE



Illuminated page from the newly-acquired Greek Gospel Lectionary

Gerstein's Pre-1924 Imprints Are All the Rage

IN MARCH 2012 THE GERSTEIN Science Information Centre became a contributing member of the Medical Heritage Library (MHL), joining many other libraries and museums worldwide, including prestigious institutions such as the Countway Library of Harvard Medical School and the Whitney Medical Library at Yale. Sponsored by the Division of the History of Medicine at the National Library of Medicine in the United States, the MHL promotes research and scholarship in the area of medical history.

About 5500 items from our collection with pre-1924 imprints that had previously been scanned by the Internet Archive have been tagged as historically important and added to the publicly accessible collection of items in the Medical Heritage Library.

Access and publicity make all the difference! Suddenly Gerstein's older materials have been given new life and are again quite popular far and wide. We suspect that some download numbers precede our joining the MHL but the download numbers are nevertheless notable. Current highly popular items include:

<i>Manual of veterinary microbiology</i> by Mosselman	15,645 downloads
<i>Melting and boiling point tables vol. 1</i>	10,380 downloads
<i>Gaelic names of beasts (Mammalia) ... Gaelic-English; English-Gaelic</i>	5912 downloads
<i>Essentials of physiology for veterinary students</i>	5706 downloads
<i>Calculus for beginners</i>	3399 downloads
<i>Merck index 1910 ed.</i>	3381 downloads
<i>Gaelic names of plants (Scottish and Irish) ...</i>	3379 downloads
<i>The Elephant man and other reminiscences</i>	2234 downloads
<i>La peste de 1720 à Marsellie & en France</i>	1613 downloads

The MHL announcement about our joining is available at <http://www.medicalheritage.org/2012/03/the-mhl-welcomes-the-gerstein/>.

Details of the titles below, including weekly download counts for individual titles, are available at <http://archive.org/details/medicalheritagelibrary>.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE YOUR SUPPORT

Exhibitions



How Does *MY* Garden Grow: The Education of a Gardener
30 April–14 September 2012
Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library

75th Anniversary of the Governor General's Award
Fall 2012
Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library

Our Students Say...

ON TWITTER

“Robarts has more books on British constitutionalism than my British university library. God, I love UofT.”

sallykaz, 12 March 2012

ON YELP

“Gerstein, in my opinion, is the nicest library on campus.

As the science library on campus, the stacks are full of science papers and textbooks—but really the best thing about this library is all the study space!”

Susan G., 28 February 2012

DONATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

I would like to help students with a gift to U of T Libraries of:

- \$100 \$250 \$500
 \$1,000 \$1,827 \$5,000
 I prefer to give \$ _____

Please designate my gift as follows: _____

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Card Number _____ Expiry Date _____

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 \$208/month \$417/month
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 My company's HR Department has confirmed that my donation will be matched.
 I have provided for U of T Libraries in my estate planning.
 Please send me gift planning information.

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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
LIBRARIES

MAKING A DIFFERENCE VOLUNTEERS



Left to right: Sandra Dixon, Josy Visser, Theresa Ryan, Larry Alford, Wiebke Smyth, Agata Park (behind), Tessa Bishop, Michael Rosenstock, Karen Turko, Julia Antonoff

Books and Book Lovers Populate Robarts Book Room

Walk into the Robarts Library Book Room and the air is simply humming with energy.

The volunteers on hand are talking excitedly with each other about their daily lives, about books or about current events. Their enthusiasm is palpable, and it all starts with the organizer of this fundraising venture for the library development fund, Wiebke Smythe.

“She is an absolute dynamo,” said Karen Turko, director of donor relations and development. “She spends a lot of her own personal time driving around, picking up books from people. She has incredible enthusiasm, runs a really tight ship and has lots of ideas about promotion.”

Smythe is a 15-year veteran of book sales at Woodsworth College. Retired chief librarian Carole Moore met her at the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library

(another of her volunteer gigs), recognized her dedication and energy and recruited her to help Robarts Library. Smythe set up the Robarts Book Room five years ago in a space that was formerly a closet and hasn’t looked back. She has recruited seven other volunteers to staff the Book Room, and together, they raise funds for the library by selling donated used books. There are two drop boxes available for donations.

“It’s all found money,” said Turko. “The books are donated and it’s volunteer labour, so a substantial sum goes into the library coffers.”

Smythe and her crew keep the Book Room open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. throughout the year, with the exception of December, July and August. During the last week of each month, they make themselves more visible, using wheeled carts to move from the

Book Room – located behind the eating area on the second floor of Robarts Library – into the second-floor lobby area. Books sell for a few dollars apiece, with hardcovers fetching more than paperbacks. Lovers of popular fiction can fill a bag full of books for five dollars.

“When people come in, they can also do some horse trading with us,” said Smythe with a smile.

The books for sale comprise a variety of topics, such as mythology and religion; science and technology; Canadiana; history; and English literature. Poetry is a top seller, as are the books for the Literature 101 course. Literature students are delighted to discover many of the books they’ll need at a discounted price.

If browsers and buyers make the time to chat, they’ll also be delighted to find lively, interesting volunteers on hand.

“Every day is a party,” said Smythe.

Julia Antonoff, a retired English teacher, has been volunteering at the Book Room since it opened.

“I love it,” she said. “Just being with books and being with the people here is wonderful.”

“I always come across something I’ve never seen before and I always learn something.”

Next up for the Book Room volunteers? An exhibition featuring 50 best-loved books. Don’t miss it.

ELAINE SMITH

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Return Undeliverable Canadian Address to:

University of Toronto Libraries
130 St. George Street
Toronto, ON M5S 1A5

www.library.utoronto.ca