The Lois Sleightholm Teacher Resource Center collection supports classroom practice and includes curriculum, picture books, fiction and non-fiction children’s books, kits and other materials. Some of the highlights of last year’s additions to the collection include:

⇒ French picture books, fiction, and non-fiction and FSL teacher resources
⇒ Secondary level non-fiction to support the growing number of Intermediate/Senior teacher-candidates
⇒ Children’s and young adult literature nominated for the Ontario Library Association’s Forest of Reading awards
⇒ Picture books that can be used to teach mathematics, social justice and diversity
⇒ Special needs puppets and a variety of kits
⇒ New science textbooks

Some areas of special focus for the Education collection, which supports research and professional practice, are e-learning, digital technology, digital literacy, adult education, social justice, problem-based learning, and inclusive education.
All Bachelor of Education classes visited the Education Library for orientations and tours in September. These interactive sessions highlighted the different types of print and electronic resources available to students, from e-journals to kits. In addition, students were introduced to the breadth of resources supporting each K-12 subject. Instructional sessions were also delivered to graduate students and teachers taking Additional Qualification courses. Presentation topics throughout the year included copyright for teachers, the role of the teacher-librarian, e-resources for graduate students, RefWorks, and French as a second language resources. Overall, there were 21 orientations and instructional sessions, an increase from last year.

“...personnel in the library [are] extremely helpful and go far beyond expectations to help me... I have made use of ...the laminating services, the die cutting machines, paper cutter ... manipulatives and video camera...I am extremely thankful that these services were available to me...” — Student
Children’s Author Event: Helaine Becker

The Education Library hosted Canadian children’s author Helaine Becker at the Faculty of Education Library on November 10, 2010.

Helaine is a prolific writer of picture books, chapter books and non-fiction for different grade levels, as well as professional resource books for teachers. She has been nominated for and won a number of awards, including the Lane Anderson Award for best Canadian science book. Her books include What’s the Big Idea?, the Insecto-Files and the Looney Bay All-Stars series.

A dynamic speaker, Helaine talked about her writing process and how to use her books in the classroom.
Expansion of the Downtown Campus

UOIT's downtown campus is growing! In September 2010, students in the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities began taking classes in downtown Oshawa.

While the Social Science Library was under construction, the Education Library hosted four additional library staff members and about 1000 social science and humanities books. Social science students made good use of the Education Library in the first semester, resulting in all time high visitor and circulation rates.

The Social Science Library opened at 61 Charles St. in January 2011. Social Science students now use their own library, but some still visit the Education Library to take advantage of the study space and services.

“Easy to navigate [and] find what you need… love the set up and organization of the library”

“[Staff are] very approachable. I feel comfortable asking for help.” —Student

Online Kit Guide

A collection of more than 150 educational kits and manipulatives is now browsable online. Students can search by keyword, subject or grade level and can view pictures of the kits’ contents.