When asked about the Library, students often mention how much they like the award winning building. They also are keen to note the helpfulness of the staff and wide array of print and digital resources. But they may not immediately connect that what the Library is really all about is supporting teaching and learning! The Library assists students with their success in the classroom and lab by focusing on those information skills so needed in the academic environment, in the workplace and in society today.

In the library world, these skills go by the name “information literacy” or “information fluencies”. The terms encompass a set of skills that extend well beyond finding information on the internet. Information literacy forms the basis of lifelong learning by teaching students how to formulate a search, select, evaluate and use information to accomplish specific goals. Librarians assist users with effectively finding and communicating information within their various subject areas and professions. For example, engineering and nursing each have their own vocabulary and way of stating things.

As the world of information changes in scope and complexity, the library staff are constantly learning as well. We learn from each other, from the students and faculty, as well as, through various courses, web-seminars, and conferences throughout the year.

The librarians teach approximately 10,345 students in 265 class sessions annually. Sometimes these sessions take place in classroom settings, but they also happen individually through online tutorials and at the reference desk where each encounter is a “teaching moment” when a student and librarian consult on what is needed, what the best source for the information is, and why it is most appropriate. Building students’ information skills, helping them to learn to think analytically about what they read, and consider why it is right for their assignment is a core library activity here in the Library, each and every day.

Dr. Pamela Drayson
Chief Librarian
Information Literacy

May & September 2009: Get Ready to Research Sessions:

Librarians held special “Get Ready for Research” sessions to familiarize graduate students, research assistants, and faculty with library resources and tools.

◊ RefWorks;
◊ RACER (Inter-library loan);
◊ Advanced book and article searching in library databases;
◊ Sources for other types of information: Government, Statistics/Data, and Legal Dissertations;
◊ Specialty databases to locate and evaluate journals for publication.

New Spaces

The Education Library opened its doors in September 2008 and has become a popular study space for students from the Faculty of Education. A new part-time Librarian, Kate Gibbings was hired in July 2009 to support the curriculum.

During the Fall of 2008 the Graduate Study Quiet Study Zone first opened its newly constructed space on the fourth floor of the Campus Library building. The space provides Graduate students with a much needed space to meet, conduct research, and study. Lockers are available to students on a weekly basis. Access is by swipe card only.

Instruction to students and support to faculty:

In 2008-2009 the Librarians provided instruction to students and support to faculty in the areas of research and information literacy.

Classes offered:

◊ Information Literacy Skills - An Introduction;
◊ Using Library Resources to Conduct Research for a specific assignment;
◊ RefWorks - An Introduction;
◊ Guest Lecturer;
◊ Library Tour.

Librarians fielded more than 7,000 reference transactions in 2008/09. In addition, 24/7 accessibility to research help was made available through the library website:

◊ On-line tutorials;
◊ Help with researching a topic and finding resources;
◊ General information on how to start the research process;
◊ How to evaluate sources of information; and
◊ How to properly cite sources;
◊ Online help with using the library catalogue and article databases;
◊ Librarian prepared subject guides which are documents outlining recommended resources for a subject.
Reaching Out


Library Bookplate Dedication Program for Retirees

I recently received your letter advising me of the dedication of a book in my name. What a very charming surprise. I feel honoured and grateful for the action. The choice of books was perfectly appropriate. Thank you for sharing that information with me.

Lynda Sauriol

October 27 2008. The library co-hosted the Trent University Writers Reading event. Neal McLeod, author of Cree Narrative Memories, read from Gabriel's Beach, his second collection of poetry.

Library Hosted Events

Other Campus Library outreach activities for the year included:

◊ Co-sponsored Diversity Month & Black History Week celebrations with the Diversity Office;
◊ Provided practicum experience for students from Durham College & the University of Toronto;
◊ Library staff served on a number of campus committees including disabilities and technology;
◊ Hosted tours for visitors from the University of Manitoba, Trent University, Centennial College, Georgian College, as well as representatives from several ministries of the Ontario government.

October 9, 2008. Campus Library celebrates its recent milestone of one million. UOIT President Ron Bordessa, Durham College President Don Lovisa and students Sam Ashtiani (UOIT) and Chandra Paddock (Durham College) help celebrate the Campus Library's recent milestone of one million and one million and one visitors.

March 10, 2009. “The Power of Personal Branding” by Howard Breen Chairman and CEO of MacLaren McCann Canada. Sponsored by the Communication Program and the Faculty of Education. Co-sponsored by the Faculty of Business & IT and the Campus Library.

Digital Resources

The following digital resources are provided to the campus library thanks to Knowledge Ontario (KO) which is a provincially funded grant project.

Auto Repair Reference Center

Data for most major manufacturers of domestic and imported vehicles, with repair information for most vintage makes from 1945 onward - Drawings and step-by-step photographs; technical service bulletins & recalls issued by the original equipment vehicle manufacturer; wiring diagrams - New repair procedures and updates are added continuously.

Canadian Points of View Reference Center

A balanced series of articles that present multiple viewpoints on a variety of issues from a Canadian perspective - Essays, newspapers, radio & TV news transcripts, primary source documents and reference books - Guides to debate, developing arguments and writing position papers.

Career Cruising

Detailed occupational profiles – Each includes a job description, information on working conditions, earnings, education and training and multimedia interviews.

CEDROM-SNi Newspapers

20 English-language daily newspapers from Ontario as well as some francophone resources.

Staff Development

Passion Development Day Fair—June 12th, 2008

Library staff Rebecca Lucescu, Laurie Coleshill, and Helen Labine demonstrated their “library love” by serving Passion Flakies and displaying the library staff’s “Passionate Pics” (recommended fiction and non-fiction books) at the Passion Day Development Fair for Durham College and UOIT staff.

Gifts and Donations

Many thanks to all the faculty, staff and community members who so have so kindly donated books and journals to the library. Your generous support is much appreciated.

A big thank you to the following students who have been employed by the library for their part in making this a successful year.

Jonnell Briscoe Kim Churcher Rachel Daize Angella Edwards Andrea Harris Lindsay Miller Josh Lines Nathan Korczynski Wargha Peiman Erin Robinson Sajana Sivakumaren Rafay Shamin Melody Vallier

Library Student Workers

Erin Robinson Wargha Peiman Lindsay Miller Rafay Shamin