



Librations

Newsletter of the Mona Library

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Readers

Once again the editorial team is delighted to share with you another issue of Librations.

We wish to say special thank to Judith Rao who has been a resourceful member of our team and who has retired. Her invaluable contribution will never be forgotten.

A new look webpage, easy to navigate and easy to read will be rolled out on August 2, 2010.

Help us to keep improving this page by giving us your views, suggestions and comments via the Library's Blog at <http://tiny.cc/qrlly>.

We are always happy to hear from you.



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University of the West Indies Mona
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THE LIBRARY EXTENDS

UWI-MINET

UWI-MINET or University of the West Indies Mona Information Network is designed to achieve closer collaboration among the libraries on the Mona Campus as well as with other affiliated libraries. In keeping with the UWI Strategic Plan, some of the main objectives of the network are:

- To maximize the use of human and physical resources;
- To transform administrative culture in order to achieve greater efficiency; and
- To facilitate teaching and learning by widening access to resources through greater use of ICT.

Network libraries such as the Departmental of Library and Information Studies (DLIS), Mona School of Business and the School of Nursing (UWISON) have begun adding their collections to the UWI Library's OPAC (on-line public access catalogue) thus allowing students, faculty and librarians anywhere to know what is available and in which library on campus. Work has begun on rationalizing the collection of the School of Education Documentation Centre. Future plans include working with collections of the Department of Community Health and Psychiatry. **Other departmental libraries are invited to contact the Campus Librarian for further information.** JR

FULL-TEXT ELECTRONIC BOOKS AVAILABLE AT THE LIBRARY

The Library recognizes that e-book is becoming a vital resource for teaching and learning.

As such the Library is steadily improving the users' access to its collection. The growing collection has reached nearly 3, 700 titles and links to thousands of other free e-books from the World Wide Web are being incorporated in the OPAC.

Subject areas include Arts, Business, Technology, Education, History, Law, Library Science, Literature, Mathematics, Philosophy, Political Science and Psychology.

Users have access to the collection 24/7 from NetLibrary on the Library's webpage, or by doing a keyword search in the OPAC or from EBSCO Host database. PN

LIBRARIAN PROFILE

Congratulation Dr. Paulette Kerr!

It is with pleasure and pride that the Library welcomes back a colleague, **Dr. Paulette Kerr.**



Dr. Kerr returned from Rutgers University having been conferred with a PhD in Communication, Information and Library Studies.

She successfully defended her Thesis "Conceptions and Practice of Information Literacy in Academic Libraries: Espoused Theories and Theories-in-Use". The paper examined relationships between understandings of information literacy as seen in policy documents and the practice of information literacy as seen in a range of online instructional tutorials of academic libraries. The research provides a model and tool for evaluating dimensions of information literacy practice.

Dr. Kerr is a graduate of the University of the West Indies with a Master of Arts Degree in History, a Postgraduate Diploma in Library Studies and a Bachelor of Arts Degree (Hons.) in History and Sociology. In 2005 she was the recipient of a Fulbright-LASPAU Faculty Development Programme Award and pursued studies at Rutgers University.

She started her career as a Research Officer with the National Library of Jamaica in 1980 and moved on to the position of Senior Librarian, Special Collections, 1984-1986, before joining the UWI library system in 1986.

Paulette has several publications to her credit, attended and made presentations at numerous conferences and workshops and has won several awards. She is an active contributor to the development of the Library and Information Association of Jamaica (LIAJA) having served as President in 1995.

FS

LIBRARIANS SHINE AGAIN

ACURILEAN STAR Award for Excellence in Research

Miss Sandra Stubbs, Librarian at the Western Jamaica Campus Branch Library received the ACURILEAN STAR Award for Excellence in Research. The award was presented at the 40th Meeting of ACURIL held in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic from June 06-12, 2010. The Conference theme was: *Innovation and Informational Impact in the Caribbean: Evidence-Based Practice of the Library and Information Professional and her research paper was entitled: **Developing Information Savvy Students: Using Evidence Based Research to Promote Awareness & Use of Electronic Reference Resources at the University of the West Indies, Mona.*** Congratulations Sandra.

Other Librarians who attended the Conference included Mrs Leona Bobb-Semple and Miss Dorothy Palmer. **SS**



Ms. Sasekea Harris (2nd right), Cataloguing Librarian, has returned to the Library with a wealth of knowledge having been exposed to library management pedagogies, best practices and information technology applications in libraries in the United States of America and Europe.

Ms. Harris who received the 2009 Jay Jordan Early Career Development Fellowship spent six weeks visiting various libraries, library associations, and other organizations.

Her most memorable library practices include:- Library hotlines, drive-thru libraries, library cafes, book lending machines, book depositories, vending machines inside the library, no registration policy, etc.



She hopes to translate her learning experiences into specific professional plans that will guide her contributions to the libraries in Jamaica. **SH**

The Science Branch Library in Transition

The Science Branch Library has been on an aggressive transformation path since last year. In December 2009, users were invited to utilize the new MERIC (Mona Electronic Reference Information Centre). This had been relocated to the ground floor with a new lab consisting of 41 computers. It is now possible for researchers to conduct their research in a more comfortable environment.

Coming soon is the opening of the (PGLC) Postgraduate Learning Commons. Situated on the top floor of the Branch Library, it will facilitate graduate research and teaching. Since its establishment in the Main Library, the PGLC has become popular among graduate students. This facility in the Science Branch Library will, therefore, obviate the need for researchers in the Pure and Applied Sciences Faculty to trek to the Main Library. The facility will include a large conference room for meetings, four seminar rooms for group discussions, and large areas for study and relaxation. Look out for further details on the opening **BL**

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Library Sandbox

'Under the theme, "Cellular Technologies and their Impact on organizations" Brian Bennett Easy, Head of Business Services at Digicel Jamaica presented a tantalizing overview of the mobile products while Cheryl Keane and Pauline Nicholas spoke on mobile technologies and their impact on libraries. This session of Sandbox was held in March 2010.

Customer Service Training

The Library customer service team conducted training for all categories of staff in October 2009. The training which was tailored for the library environment, focused on behaviours that are necessary for delivering excellent customer service to our user.

Library Software

The library also offered a refresher's course on searching the OPAC, SFX, Metalib and Netlibrary to clerical staff and library attendants. **CK**

PATRON PROFILE

This is the first in a series of Librations feature on Library Patrons.

James Robertson, PhD**POSITION:**

Senior Lecturer in History in the Department of History, Faculty of Humanities.

RESEARCH INTEREST:

His research interests include early Jamaica, West Indian urban history and sixteenth and seventeenth-century London.

Dr. James Robertson was born in London and educated at Southampton University in England and Washington University in St. Louis USA. He teaches undergraduate courses on European Culture and Society, Early Modern Britain, Anglo American Societies and Jamaican Urban History as well as the introductory course for the post graduate Heritage Studies degree in the Department of History and Archaeology at the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus.



For nearly a decade, Dr. Robertson has served as the History and Archaeology Departmental Representative in the Library/Faculty Liaison Programme. He is enthusiastic and very conscious of the importance of building and keeping the collections in his discipline up-to-date and as such he encourages and even coerces, where necessary, all members of his department to make suggestions for addition to the Library's stock. Nearly every week, he examines the shelves with new arrivals and keeps his colleagues informed of the "goodies" in the Library.

An important aspect of Dr. Robertson's lecturing programme is his 'library seminars'. He brings entire classes as well as individual students in to the Library, indicates the location of the sources relevant to various courses and even goes further by exploring specific items in depth and expounding on the value of each "treasure". The Library appreciates the energy that Dr. Robertson has injected into the Liaison Librarian programme.

He also uses the Library for his personal research and to date he has written 1 book and several journal articles. Dr Robertson has received a number of fellowships and awards and has served on various committees. **JV**