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/qrl1y.

We are always happy to hear from you.

Dr. Paulette 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.

Editor: Pauline Nicholas
Editorial Committee
Co-Editor: Karlene Robinson, Thelma White, Allison Walder, Cheryl Folkes, Anthony Bushay

Telephone: (876) 935-8479, 935-8294-6
Fax: (876) 927-1926
Email: main.library@uwimona.edu.jm

University of the West Indies Mona Library © 2007
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 6-12, 2010. The Conference theme was: **Innovation and Informational Impact in the Caribbean: Evidence-Based Practice of the Library and Informational Impact in the Caribbean: Evidence-Based Practice**. Dorothy Palmer, included Mrs. Leona Bobb-Semple and Miss Dorothy Palmer.

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

**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.

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**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.

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**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.

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**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.

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**Library Software**

The library also offered a refresher’s course on searching the OPAC, SFX, MetaLib and NetLibrary to clerical staff and library attendants.

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