

AABC newsletter

ARCHIVES ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

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President's Report

Janine Johnston, AABC President

JANUARY AND February are very busy months for the Archives Association of British Columbia (AABC). We are actively planning our services and projects for the upcoming year, writing and reviewing grant proposals, planning our annual conference held in April and recruiting for our executive and committee positions for the upcoming year. While this is a busy time for our volunteer executive and committee chairs, it is also satisfying to see the year's activities coming together.

We are happy to see how well the community is utilizing the provincial archival information network, MemoryBC . We have 183 institutions contributing archival descriptions to the network and 10,742 fonds have been published online as of early January. In December 2010, MemoryBC's software platform was upgraded to ICA-AtoM 1.1, which marks the first non-beta release of this software. This release has improved consistency and stability throughout the application, adding further developments to the administrative functions of the database, as well as refinements to the search page for new and updated records. Additionally, the upgrade has improved the data-entry fields for dates in archival descriptions, authority records and functions.

By piloting the ICA-AtoM software platform for MemoryBC, AABC has become a leader in the archival description revolution that is taking place in Canada. Archival networks in Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario are now actively involved in projects to make ICA-AtoM the platform for their provincial databases and union lists. This is great news for the AABC since any investments made in developing tools or applications for ICA-AtoM will be felt across the country!

In addition to our conference, Networks and Archives/Networks in Archives, we anticipate that April 2011 will see the launch of our major initiative for this year: the ICA-AtoM Data Migration Project. This is a collaborative project between the AABC, Artefactual Systems Inc., Simon Fraser University, the University of Victoria and the Archives of the Anglican Diocese of New Westminster. Together we are developing a migration tool and methodology for ICA-AtoM. This will make it easier and more affordable for institutions to import their databases

into ICA-AtoM and to use it as their institutional archival management system. We are pleased to have the National Archival Development Program (NADP) and the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre (IKBLC) supporting this important project.

As mentioned above, the AABC is now actively recruiting for Executive and Committee Chair positions for the 2011/12 fiscal year starting in April. You will see a list of available positions in this newsletter. AABC volunteer positions are a great way to gain further professional experience and to share your knowledge while giving back to the archival community. I hope you will consider these important volunteer opportunities!

The AABC Needs YOU...

Peter Johnson,

AABC Nominations Committee

THE AABC will need the willing support of several new volunteers as AABC officers, committee chairs, committee members, and regional representatives this year.

The Executive position of Treasurer falls vacant on April 29, 2011. This position is responsible for the Finance Committee and is a two-year term position. Elections for the Executive will be held at the AABC Conference Annual General Meeting on April 29, 2011

We are also seeking committee volunteers. The Membership Standing Committee and the ad hoc Conference Committee are both seeking Committee chairpersons, who will be appointed by the Executive Committee.

Additionally, Regional Representatives are also required for the Fraser Valley, Kootenay-Columbia and South Vancouver Island regions respectively.

If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact either Melanie Wallace at 604-822-9583 (anglican-archives@vst.edu) or Peter Johnson at 604-502-6458 (pnjohnson@surrey.ca) to find out what is involved.

South Vancouver Island Regional Group Going Strong

Sonia Nicholson, Evelyn Wolfe & Caroline Duncan, Saanich Archives

THE SOUTH Vancouver Island Regional Group (SVIRG) is a very active one where local archives - from small volunteer-run organizations to larger institutions - come together for a variety of activities. Saanich Archives has acted as the Regional Representative of the SVIRG since 2008 and has enjoyed the opportunity to enhance communication and cooperation between archives in the area.

As a way to explore archival and reference resources in the Greater Victoria area and to provide an opportunity for members to meet informally on a more regular basis, a series of field trips were organized for regional members to participate in. Initial field trips focused on local history and genealogy resources and included visits to the Victoria Family History Centre (Church of Latter Day Saints), the Victoria Genealogy Society Library and the local history room of the Central Library Branch, Greater Victoria Public Library. A regional meeting was held in May 2009 at Saanich Archives' new facility at the Saanich Centennial Library where participants were given a tour of the purpose-built facility followed by a talk by Rosaleen Hill on digitizing audio recordings. Nineteen archivists and volunteers from the region took advantage of the opportunity to exchange ideas and to ask questions on preservation and storage issues.

Further field trips focused on land title and map resources and included the Victoria Land Title Office and the Surveyor General Division of the Land Title and Survey Authority of BC. The fall meeting in 2009 was held at the Royal Jubilee Hospital School of Nursing Archives and was attended by representatives of the Girl Guide Archives, Saanich Pioneer Society, Royal BC Museum & Archives, Saanich Archives, Anglican Archives of BC, St Margaret's School Archives, Sisters of St Ann Archives and the Greater Victoria Public Library local history section. Bea Johnson of the Royal Jubilee

Hospital School of Nursing Archives gave a presentation on their oral history project which was followed by a talk by Liz Koolman on the history of the Pemberton Chapel. Attendees were given a tour of the archives and enjoyed tea in the garden.

By 2010, interest in the SVIRG activities was stronger than ever. The spring meeting was held at the Girl Guide Archives in honour of the Girl Guides centennial celebration. Representatives from twelve archival institutions attended, and discussions included methods of communication with the public, as well as general challenges. Attendees enjoyed a tour of the Girl Guide Archives followed by refreshments. Spring visits focused on school archives with visits to St Margaret's School Archives and St Michaels University School Archives. In the fall, group members met at and toured the Esquimalt Archives, where Sherri Robinson and Greg Evans spoke about the history of the archives as well as plans for Esquimalt's centennial in 2012. The theme for the fall field trips was church archives with visits to the Church of Our Lord Archives and the Anglican Diocese of BC Archives.

The feedback on the SVIRG field trips and meetings has been excellent, particularly from volunteer-run community archives. Participants appreciate the opportunity to share information and ideas. Many of us from smaller organizations are working in relative isolation and by meeting regularly with others who are facing the same issues and challenges we realize that our experiences are not unique and that support is out there. Organizing and running a group such as this one does not have to be complicated, and the benefits to the local archival community are significant.

News from SLAIS: SLAIS to Celebrate 50th Anniversary

Michelle Mallette, Student Services Coordinator, SLAIS, michelle.mallette@ubc.ca

PLANS ARE well underway for the 50th anniversary celebration of the School of Library, Archival and Information Studies (SLAIS), to be held April 29 and 30, 2011. Details on the events can be found at <http://www.slais.ubc.ca/about/SLAIS-50.htm>; the page includes photos of faculty, staff, alumni and space, and there is an impressive photo showing the demolition of the original SLAIS quarters in the north wing of the Main Library.

There is also a regularly updated section on activities and celebrations, including a link to secure online purchase of tickets for the Gala Anniversary Dinner & Dance on April 30 at the Sutton Place Hotel. Only 300 tickets are available and we expect them to sell out so be sure to reserve yours so you can celebrate with alumni, friends of SLAIS and both current and past faculty and staff.

The SLAIS Alumni Association is coordinating the Distinguished Alumni Awards – ten will be presented at the dinner, including several to MAS graduates. The Association is also planning a fundraising silent auction as part of the evening's events, and is welcoming donations for this event, from gift cards to unique experiences and everything in between. If you would like to make a donation for the auction contact Jill Teasley at jill.teasley@gmail.com.

Keep up with news of the event, including weekly tweets of past gems uttered by SLAIS faculty, by following us on twitter ([@slais50](https://twitter.com/slais50)). And don't miss out on the 50th Anniversary's Virtual Memory Wall – visit <http://slaismemorywall.wordpress.com/> for a trip down memory lane, and be sure to make your own contribution of a memory, a photo, or a shoutout to friends and classmates.



SLAIS and the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre in the snow.
Photo: Michelle Mallette

Société historique de Saint-Boniface Upgrades Archives Search Interface and Launches Voyageurs Contracts Database

Jonathan Jacobsen, Andornot Consulting (<http://www.andornot.com/>)

THE CENTRE du patrimoine (Heritage Centre) of the Société historique de Saint-Boniface (<http://shsb.mb.ca/>) is an archive and research facility dedicated to the preservation, study, dissemination and development of Francophone and Metis history in Manitoba and Western Canada. The Heritage Centre holds more than 500 archival fonds documenting every facet of life from culture to commerce, education to politics and religion to the economy.

"The Centre du patrimoine - Heritage Centre decided to do a completely new web site two years ago. Our goal was to have a user friendly website both for the general public doing research and for the staff updating the various sections of the site. One of the main objectives was to use as much as possible the Web 2.0 features in the limits permitted by our budget and staff resources. We wanted to have those features integrated into the database search and results interfaces as much as possible," says Gilles Lesage, Directeur général of the Heritage Centre.



Screenshot showing search results in Societe historique de Saint-Boniface Archives database

Archives Database

In the fall of 2010, Andornot Consulting merged and converted various archival databases to the latest version of the Andornot Archives Starter Kit – Desktop Edition. We then created a new web interface, in French, based on the Andornot Archives Starter Kit – Web Edition. The search results include images for some records, which are dynamically generated in several sizes by the Andornot Image Handler. A selection list allows researchers to mark records of interest, then email, save or print those records, or submit them to the Heritage Center to request additional information. All of these add-ons can be found on the Andornot website at <http://www.andornot.com/products/andornot-add-on-options.aspx>

Although the database and web interface are hosted by Andornot, it appears to users to be seamlessly integrated into the Historical Society's website, thanks to tight integration between the two systems. The search interface dynamically fetches the site header, footer and navigation menu from a blank page in the Drupal content management system used by the main website and wraps it around the database search and results pages. If the main website changes, the portion hosted by Andornot will always be up to date.

The new archival web interface is available at <http://archivesshsb.mb.ca/search.aspx>

Voyageurs Contracts Database

The heritage Center also asked Andornot to develop a database and web search interface for a collection of 35,000 records of contracts between fur traders (Voyageurs) and companies engaged in the fur trade in Canada between 1700 and ca. 1822. Further

information and links to articles giving background information on the database is available at http://shsb.mb.ca/engagements_voyageurs. The search interface is also available in French at <http://voyageurs.shsb.mb.ca/search.aspx>.

Search results are grouped by the name of the voyageur, showing the multiple contracts many voyageurs undertook. Additional information includes parishes of origin, hiring company, length of contract, destination(s), advances and wages, supplies, conditions of hire, date of signing and more. Eventually the Heritage Centre hopes to be able to include digitized images of these contracts.

The database was created from a FileMaker database converted to a custom-designed Inmagic textbase.

As with the archives web interface, the Voyageurs interface is hosted by Andornot, but tightly integrated with the Heritage Center's main website.

"We are very pleased with the quality of the database products, the special features Andornot was able to

integrate, the successful seamless integration into our main website and ease with which we were able to upgrade from our previous databases to this new solution. In the short time since these applications were made available online, the comments have been very positive. We were also happy to work with the Andornot people and impressed by their efficiency, attention to our goals and objectives and courteous service." says Gilles Lesage.

Andornot is delighted to have been able to assist the Heritage Centre to improve access to these important sets of historical records.



Screenshot of Voyageurs Contracts Database

Best of the Web: Archives Edition

Sonia Nicholson, AABC Newsletter

This edition of Best of the Web highlights the site [canadiansoldiers.com](http://www.canadiansoldiers.com), "a comprehensive source regarding the organization, vehicles, weapons, uniforms, traditions, and insignia of Canadian soldiers in the 20th Century." This site can be especially helpful in dating military photographs, particularly for those of us who are not as familiar with the topic.

Individual subject pages include diagrams, photographs and detailed information useful for researchers and archivists interested in Canadian military history. The site describes itself as comprehensive, and indeed it is. The scope of information is broad, while the site itself is engaging and easy to navigate. This site is certainly one to bookmark for repeat reference use.

Visit this site at <http://www.canadiansoldiers.com>

Do you know an interesting, useful and/or unique archives-related website that you would like to share with other Archives Association members? Send your suggestions of must-browse sites to the Newsletter Editor at leah.pearse@gmail.com. Be sure to include the URL and a brief summary.

International Data Privacy Day Presentation at the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for British Columbia

Leah Pearse, AABC Newsletter

ON TUESDAY, January 25, 2011, various records managers, freedom of information and privacy officers, archivists and others attended a talk hosted by BC's Information and Privacy Commissioner Elizabeth Denham as part of a week-long celebration of Data Privacy Day. Data Privacy Day is an annual international celebration officially held on January 28 that aims to raise awareness and generate discussion about information privacy. To learn more about Data Privacy day, please visit the 2011 website at <http://dataprivacyday2011.org/>

The Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (OIPC) was pleased to present Dr. Ben Goold, Associate Professor, UBC Faculty of Law who spoke on the topic of "Privacy, Democracy, and Institutional Trust: Why individual privacy should matter to government." Dr. Goold's major research interests include privacy rights, the use of surveillance technologies by the police and intelligence communities, as well as the rhetoric and language of human rights. His talk centered on the politics of privacy, particularly in relationship to his own studies into surveillance cameras installed in public areas and businesses around the United Kingdom. As an advocate for privacy, Goold outlined the tenuous balance between privacy, security and the efficient delivery of public services that compete in a post-911 world.

Goold found that when the large scale installation of surveillance devices were implemented in the UK, most of the public felt that the benefits of security vastly outweighed concerns about privacy infringement. He felt that there were three main reasons for this:



Free graphics created for Data Privacy Day

1. The public's growing concern of risk and the need to collect information to mitigate this;
2. The public's growing public preoccupation with security borne of a fear of crime; and
3. Easier to collect, store and transmit information today, so why not?

But what are the costs on the other side of these three arguments, asked Goold? His answer: trust. He feels that there is a tipping point where the public finally loses trust after it is gradually eroded away over time. News of major losses of private information reported in the media may help bring privacy issues into the public eye, but these warnings are rarely enough to effect significant change in the public's attitudes and practices.

Goold admitted that raising privacy concerns with the public is a difficult task. A common conception that many people hold is that they have nothing to hide so they have nothing to fear, but Goold points out that what people have to hide may change over time. For example, one's involvement in a pro-Islam march right before 911 would have felt like nothing to hide on September 10, but by September 12 one's feeling might have changed.

Goold often tells people that giving up privacy is giving up freedom of speech, because, as he said, how can one speak freely when you're conscious of being recorded? One of the talk's attendees also pointed out that privacy is choosing what you share and controlling what you share. As privacy workers, we can work to help educate the public on their rights to privacy and teach them about precautions they can take to safeguard their

personal information now and in the future.

Read more about Dr. Goold and his research via UBC's Faculty of Law website at <http://www.law.ubc.ca/faculty/Goold/index.html>.

Read the press release "British Columbians Celebrate Data Privacy Day (24 Jan 2011)" from the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for British Columbia, which includes two fact sheets on protecting personal information on mobile devices for individuals and the workplace: http://www.oipc.bc.ca/news/2011Releases/NR_DataPrivacyDay2011.pdf.

On Page 8, there is one of the many free graphics created for Data Privacy Day that are available for download from the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada at http://www.priv.gc.ca/resource/dpd/2011/images_e.cfm.

News from SLAIS: Students, Alumna Win Major Awards

Michelle Mallette, Student Services Coordinator, SLAIS, michelle.mallette@ubc.ca

SLAIS students and alumni continue to collect an impressive number of awards and honours. SLAIS was thrilled to learn that one of its Master of Arts in Children's Literature alumni, Wendy Phillips, received the Governor-General's Literary Award for Children's Literature. She was presented with the distinguished award at a gala dinner at Rideau Hall in Ottawa. Wendy received the honour was for her young adult novel *Fishtailing*, published only last spring by Coteau Books. Wendy wrote the novel in verse as her creative writing thesis for the Master of Arts in Children's Literature at SLAIS. The award was presented as part of the 2010 Governor-General's Literary Awards ceremony honouring 14 authors and illustrators of Canadian literature for children and adults, in both French and English.

Current students are also earning accolades. For the first time since the scholarship's inception, ARMA Educational Foundation has awarded AIEF Graduate Scholarships to two SLAIS students in the same year. MAS student Jamie Sanford and Dual MAS/MLIS student Myron Groover have been awarded the 2010 ARMA International Educational Foundation (AIEF) Graduate Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded annually to a full-time student entering the second year of a graduate records and information management program or equivalent library science or archival studies program which contains a significant number of records management and information courses. The award was established to encourage the development of the international records and information management community, and SLAIS students have consistently been among the annual winners (several awards are available), but this is the first time two SLAIS students received the award at the same time.

CCA Releases Brief on Canadian Copyright

Leah Pearse, AABC Newsletter

ON JANUARY 31, 2011, the Canadian Council of Archives submitted a brief on Canadian copyright to the Legislative Committee on Bill C-32 and requested an opportunity to appear before the Committee on behalf of the Canadian archival community to speak to the issues that are of concern to our profession and our work.

Ian Forsyth, University Archivist/Coordinator of Information and Privacy at Simon Fraser University, described this brief in his post on the Arcan-1 listserv thusly: "The analysis and suggested improvements to Bill C-32 contained in this brief would make it a better law to administer copyright for unpublished works, thereby enabling archives and archivists to preserve and make accessible unique and valuable resources for use by Canadians and users beyond our national borders.

The CCA brief has six sections which address, in turn:

- Unpublished photographs and other unpublished works;
- Photographs;
- Orphan works;
- Technological protection measures (TPMs);
- Rights management information; and
- Internet service provider (ISP) liability.

To read the Brief from the Canadian Council of Archives (CCA) To The Legislative Committee on Bill C-32 (CC32) in its entirety, please visit the Copyright Committee's page on the CCA website at http://www.cdncouncilarchives.ca/copycomm_rep.html.

Though archivists have lobbied about Crown Copyright for some time, it is not part of Bill C-32 and is therefore not in this current CCA brief. Ian Forsyth pointed

archivists to some resources on Crown Copyright, including a Government of Canada Publications announcement (<http://publications.gc.ca/site/eng/news/whatsNew.html>) from December 3, 2010 that is published on its website that addresses Crown Copyright. This announcement said:

Great news! Crown Copyright and Licensing (CCL) is pleased to announce that permission to reproduce Government of Canada works is no longer required, in part or in whole, and by any means, for personal or public non-commercial purposes, or for cost-recovery purposes, unless otherwise specified in the material you wish to reproduce.

To read more detailed information describing when permission is not required and when it is still required with regards to Crown Copyright, please visit http://publications.gc.ca/site/eng/ccl/aboutCrownCopyright.html#permission_not_required.

Networks and Archives/Networks in Archives: AABC Conference 2011

Friday, April 29, 2011 – Saturday, April 30, 2011

Irving K. Barber Learning Centre

University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC

AABC Conference 2011 Planning Committee

The Archives Association of British Columbia will hold its 2011 annual conference in Vancouver at the UBC Irving K. Barber Centre on April 29th and 30th. The theme of the 2011 conference is “Networks and Archives/Networks in Archives.”

Social, intellectual and technical networks define today’s society. Networks:

- Increase access to education and resources needed to manage information and cultural assets;
- Build awareness of archival holdings in and among diverse communities; and
- Reach new audiences by using new technologies, such as social networking tools.

The 2011 AABC conference will explore the development and use of networks of all kinds by memory institutions and the people who work with them. We are pleased to announce that Daniel Caron, Librarian and Archivist of Canada, will be giving a keynote address at the conference. The conference will include pre-conference workshops on the preceding two days (April 27th and 28th).

Details about the conference, the pre-conference workshops and registration will be coming shortly. Please visit the conference page on the AABC website at <http://aabc.ca/conference.html>.

Archives Embrace Open Source Software – Can Records Management?*

Corinne Rogers and Elizabeth Shaffer,

Graduate Research Assistants, InterPARES 3 Project

OPEN SOURCE software can be freely used, modified and redistributed through access to its source code. It is defined by the license that makes it available to the public, which at a minimum, must allow access to the source code, not just compiled versions of the code. Users must also be able to modify the code and redistribute the modified versions (derivatives). A key requirement of all open-source licenses is that a user must not redistribute the code under terms that are more restrictive than those under which it was originally released. Because the code is freely available, development tends to be collaborative, and the distribution mechanism is not based on licensing fees imposed by a commercial distributor.

The library and archival communities have embraced open source software for digital preservation. Projects for developing open source tools are beginning to coalesce into stable, long-term national and multi-national undertakings. In the U.S., many leading institutions have developed and distributed open source tools for digital preservation, including repository software and tools for format identification and validation. The Library of Congress, which released its first open-source tool in 2008, recently announced the establishment of new internal procedures for streamlining the process of creating open-source software, in order to “allow the Library and its partners to more fully participate in the open source development community.” Additionally, a number of British, European and Australian projects have developed or are currently developing tools and frameworks that support open-source repository software use and development. In Canada, a project is underway to design an OAIS-based preservation system that

integrates a suite of open-source tools and makes them available via a single user interface.

In contrast, open source software has made very few inroads into the world of records management. Until recently, electronic records management systems have been exclusively proprietary. Why is this?

1. Archives are collaborative, records management is institution-based

Redundancy is becoming one of the cornerstones of digital preservation. Redundancy means that one institution can preserve the digital objects of another institution, either at the same time for the sake of backup and security or as a successor organization in the event the original repository ceases to exist. The popular repository software LOCKSS (Lots of Copies Keeps Stuff Safe) is built around the premise that a consortium of institutions, preferably no fewer than seven, work together using the same systems to preserve, back up and provide public access to each other's content. Many other preservation projects are collaborative. This type of collaborative environment favours the development and use of open-source software.

In contrast, records management programs typically work in isolation. Inter-institutional sharing of records for the purposes of providing redundant storage and care of active records is rare because of security and privacy concerns, and since planning for permanent preservation is not the focus of a records management program, successor planning (i.e., designating another institution to take custody and control of the records in the event the originating institution ceases to exist) is rarely considered.

2. ERMS software development is lucrative

Many organizations which might never consider putting money into an archival program are required by practical and legal considerations to manage their electronic records. This means that there is a much larger pool of potential clients for private companies developing proprietary software. In fact, proprietary software for electronic records management has reached a high level of maturity. Only the largest of archives, however, have the resources to pay potentially millions of dollars for software licenses. Electronic records management system (ERMS) implementations require anyone within an organization who creates and uses records to have a desktop license to interact with the records repository; an archives may need only a few specialized staff to interact with a digital preservation system. The differences in expenditure for software licenses mean that commercially licensing ERMS software is highly lucrative while commercially licensing digital repository software may be hardly worth the effort.

3. Active records are not considered cultural assets

Archives and libraries hold cultural assets. In practical terms, this means that they often receive government funding, typically in the form of short-term grants that require outputs that will provide a general benefit to society, such as the production of new software tools that can be shared freely with others. However, organizations that hold records for the purposes of conducting their daily business and meeting their legal obligations are not perceived as providing an immediate, tangible cultural benefit to society at large through their records. Therefore, they must come up with their own money, removing any incentive to develop tools that can be shared for free with other organizations.

4. ERMS systems are integrated with other software products

In digital preservation, the digital objects are removed from their originating systems and placed in the custody and control of the preserver. The preserving archives may have a well established culture of using non-standard, niche and open-source tools to accomplish its tasks because its activities are highly specialized. ERMS

software, on the other hand, is by necessity tightly integrated with the operating systems, office products and other software tools used by the parent institution. Managers may feel that an open-source product is not a good fit with the existing software environment and IT departments may be unwilling to support software that does not have the backing of large, well established and familiar software vendors.

Good electronic records management supports the creation and maintenance of authentic records capable of long term preservation. In many organizations, the lack of electronic records management capability can be one of the most serious impediments to creating, maintaining and preserving authentic electronic records. For archives receiving electronic records, verifying the authenticity of records generated outside an ERMS is a daunting challenge. The shared network drives of even a small organization may contain tens or hundreds of thousands of poorly identified, disorganized, fragmented and redundant documents and records. However, commercially available electronic records management systems tend to be prohibitively expensive, both in licensing fees and in integration and training costs.

The recent emergence of several open-source ERMS tools appears to offer the possibility that resource-poor organizations will be able to implement good electronic recordkeeping while avoiding heavy software licensing and integration costs, relying on publicly available developer support and a community of users for assistance. It remains to be seen if the collaborative atmosphere that has led to the success of open source tools in libraries and archives can successfully be transferred to the business model of organizational records management.

**This article derives from a general study of open source software for records management conducted as part of the InterPARES 3 Project (International Research on Permanent Authentic Records in Electronic Systems) at the University of British Columbia. The authors are doctoral students in the School of Library, Archives and Information Studies at UBC and graduate research assistants for InterPARES 3.*

University of Victoria Archives Accepts \$26,000 Gift from Victoria Foundation for Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association Fonds

Lara Wilson, University Archivist, University of Victoria Archives

LARA WILSON, University Archivist at the University of Victoria (UVic), is pleased to convey to the community that the Victoria Foundation has awarded UVic Libraries a \$26,000 grant to complete the digitization, translation and on-line presentation of the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (CCBA) fonds, housed at UVic Archives.

Founded in 1884, the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association was a crucial force in Victoria's immigrant history. The oldest Association of its kind in North America, the CCBA was an active participant in Canadian life, struggling to build an inclusive society and to gain individual and group rights for people of Chinese origin. UVic Archives holds CCBA records from 1884 to 1923, which mark a difficult era for Chinese immigrants, when the completion of the Trans-Canada Railroad in 1885 threw thousands out of work. At the same time, the Canadian government instituted the "Head Tax," and anti-Chinese riots broke out in several Canadian cities. The majority of Canada's Chinese population was based in Victoria, which became the centre of the immigrants' struggle for human rights.

In 2006, portions of the CCBA material were selected and digitized through a partnership project with Simon Fraser University and Multicultural Canada. 55 documents were scanned and translated at that time and are available on the University Library website at <http://www.library.uvic.ca/site/lib/dig/Chinese-Canadian.html>. Those present at the New Years' dinner and funding announcement were Dean Fortin (Mayor of Victoria), Christopher Causton (Mayor of Oak Bay), Carol James (MLA Victoria), Denise Savoie (MP Victoria), Murray

Coell (MLA Saanich and the North Islands) and Ida Chong (MLA Oak Bay Gordon Head).

List of the elected Directors, Vice Directors, Councilors and Contribution Councilors for the appeal to abolish the discriminating laws and to establish the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association by the merchants in Victoria, dating from 1884. (University of Victoria Archives, 1977-084.1.1.4)



(University of Victoria Archives, 1977-084.1.1.4)

News from SLAIS: ACA@SLAIS – International Symposium Held at Barber Centre

Michelle Mallette, Student Services Coordinator, SLAIS, michelle.mallette@ubc.ca

THE SLAIS student chapter of the Association of Canadian Archivists held an international symposium at the Barber Centre at UBC on February 11. The students sought to engage custodians of the world documentary heritage in an interdisciplinary dialogue about the preservation of its newest forms and expressions. The topic was inspired by current issues in social media, the web, and mobile communications, which are producing a documentary heritage quite different from the traditional one. In advance of the symposium, two days of seminars were planned to give students and guests an opportunity to engage less formally and wrestle with some of the knotty issues surrounding mobile communications, social media, and heritage. The proceedings from this event will be published at <http://www.slais.ubc.ca/people/students/student-groups/aca/symposium2011/proceedings.html>.

Upper Right: Seminar led by Marnie Burnham and Ewa Piorko from Library and Archives Canada. Several seminars exclusively for students and faculty were hosted during the days before the Symposium.

Lower Right: ACA@UBC Coordinator, Ellie Kim, speaking at the Symposium.



Seminar led by Marnie Burnham and Ewa Piorko.
Photo: ACA@UBC



Ellie Kim, speaking at the Symposium.
Photo: ACA@UBC

InterPARES: Update on Survey Results & Products You Can Use

Cindy McLellan, Graduate Research Assistant, InterPARES 3 Project

THE RESULTS are in from the survey on Acquiring and Preserving Digital Records in Small and Medium-sized Archives in Canada. Now, analysis is being conducted on the answers given by 93 respondents. InterPARES GRAs Cindy McLellan, Shamin Malmas and Anneleen van Dijk would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the survey. In the next issue of the AABC Newsletter look for an article summarizing and analyzing the results of this national survey.

Now that some products are completed, a change has been made to the InterPARES 3 website to make it easier to find them. Generic versions of products made for specific Case or General Studies will all be made available for download in the 'Products' section of the InterPARES 3 Project website. Currently, the generic version of the educational outreach brochures and the digital records acquisition policy from the North Vancouver Museum & Archives (NVMA) Case Study can be found in the 'Products' section under 'Education Modules' at http://www.interpares.org/ip3/ip3_products.cfm?item=1.

Check back to the Products section of the InterPARES 3 Project website for additional products in the near future. Several General Case Studies (such as the Policy and Procedures Templates General Study) will soon post products on this website as well. Please use, share, disseminate and modify any of these products to suit your needs and make your job easier.