

## Member News

### BCLA Office

BCLA's new Executive Director, **Errin Morrison**, works Tuesday through Thursday from 8 am to 4 pm each week. Errin can be reached during those hours at the main office number (604-683-5354) or at any time by email at [execdir@bcla.bc.ca](mailto:execdir@bcla.bc.ca). For issues of an urgent nature outside Errin's regular office hours, please contact Allie in the BCLA office.

**Allie Douglas**, BCLA's Office Manager, is in the office from 8:30 to 4:00 Monday through Friday each week. Allie can be reached at the main office number (604-683-5354) or by email at [office@bcla.bc.ca](mailto:office@bcla.bc.ca). On occasion there may be no one in the BCLA office to take your call. Please leave a message – either Allie or Errin will get back to you as soon as possible.

**Alane Wilson** is working as BCLA's Conference Coordinator organizing the upcoming 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in Victoria, April 7-9, 2011. Alane can be reached by email at [bclc@bcla.bc.ca](mailto:bclc@bcla.bc.ca).

### Vancouver Public Library

The Vancouver Public Library Board of Trustees is very pleased to announce that a new City Librarian has been hired to commence work on December 20.

Following an extensive international search, **Sandra Singh** will be the city's 11<sup>th</sup> head librarian and will oversee the operation of the landmark Central Library, 20 neighbourhood branches, the rapidly expanding virtual branch [vpl.ca](http://vpl.ca) and over 800 Library staff.

"The Library Board is thrilled that someone of Sandra's calibre will be our next City Librarian and lead the Library during a period of exciting and challenging change," said Board Chair Joan Andersen.

"Sandra's passion for public libraries, her profound understanding of the important role Vancouver Public Library plays in the city and her vision for the future make her an excellent choice," she added.

The Library Board was pleased with the number of extremely qualified candidates who applied for this leadership position.



Sandra Singh (photo courtesy of VPL).

A former director at Vancouver Public Library, Ms. Singh is currently Director of the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre at the University of British Columbia. The Centre is dedicated to the intellectual, social, cultural and economic development of people in British Columbia. Prior to joining UBC, Sandra held two senior management positions at VPL overseeing east side library branches and leading the Library's computer systems department. While at VPL, she led the award-winning national project *Working Together* which pioneered community development techniques to plan and implement services with socially excluded communities.

Ms. Singh succeeds **Paul Whitney** who became Vancouver's City Librarian in 2003 and who is retiring

after a distinguished 36-year career in BC public libraries.

"While the Library Board regrets that Paul has chosen to retire, we are confident that Sandra's extensive knowledge, experience, skills and enthusiasm will make her an exceptional City Librarian," said Ms. Andersen. "The 13 Library Board members and all staff congratulate and welcome her back to the Library."

Ms. Singh said she is thrilled to return to VPL at such an exciting time for public libraries.

"I am both delighted and honoured to be given this opportunity to become part of VPL's future and look forward to working with the remarkable people who have helped make VPL the exceptional library system it is today – the Board, staff and community" said Ms. Singh.

"The constant growth in the use of mobile devices presents wonderful opportunities for the Library to examine new ways of delivering service. And, at the same time, we must explore how the Library can further contribute to making our community economically, socially and environmentally sustainable," she added.

"I believe it is critical that all public institutions work with their communities to determine the future. Vancouver Public Library will continue and expand upon community engagement to determine how best to respond to community issues and will develop services taking advantage of evolving technological advances."

#### Okanagan College Library

Okanagan College Library welcomed five new employees in Summer/Fall 2010:

- **Trish Boleen** (Processing/Serials Clerk)
- **Daniel de Groot** (Vernon Campus Library Assistant)
- **Leanna Jantzi** (Public Services/Business Liaison Librarian)
- **Roan Janyk** (Web Services Librarian)
- **Megan Neilans** (Cataloguing & Acquisitions Technician, Temporary Full-Time)

In April, **Garth Homer** retired after a 31-year career with Okanagan College Library. During his time at the College, Garth took on a number of different jobs within the Library, including a period as its Director. Most recently, he developed close ties with students

and faculty in the School of Business in his role as liaison librarian to that department.

**Karen Bright** retired from Okanagan College Library at the end of July, having spent 16 years at OC in several different positions, the last being Vernon Campus Library Assistant.

In December, **Faith Peyton** will retire from her 30-year career with Okanagan College Library. Since 2005, Faith has provided exemplary service to students and faculty as Library Assistant for Reference & ILL.

#### Simon Fraser University Library

After 12 years as University Librarian and Dean of Library Services at the SFU Library, **Lynn Copeland** stepped down from her position at the end of August 2010. As a testament to Lynn's impact on libraries, in the last year she picked up a trio of awards including BCLA's Helen Gordon Stewart Award, the Canadian Association of Research Libraries Distinguished Service to Research Librarianship Award and the CLA's Outstanding Service to Librarianship Award for 2010. Does this mean retirement for Lynn? Well not really. Although she is on a year's administrative leave, newly minted SFU President Andrew Petter has already asked her to work with his office on his upcoming Strategic Plan. As well, she continues to work with the SFU Library and its fulfillment of the Synergies Project.



Chuck Eckman (Photo courtesy of SFU Library).

Following in her footsteps is **Charles "Chuck" Eckman** who took over as of September 1, 2010. Eckman was head of Collections at the UC Berkeley Library. Before

that he worked at Stanford University. In 2008 he met Canadian John Willinsky, founder of the Public Knowledge Project, in which SFU is a major partner developing software for Open Access journals and monographs. It was one of the attractions of SFU for Eckman who says, "I have been watching SFU for some time because what's going on here with Open Access is critical to scholarly publication. It's the future of sustainable scholarly communications, a new way for the academy to take control of a process that it has delegated to large commercial firms."

Eckman is deeply honoured by the challenging opportunity he's been given. "It's a huge change, probably bigger than I even thought," he says. "I'm in a personal immersion process" and to get up to speed, he's been looking through Bill C32 and other documents related to library planning and budgeting that are different here from his previous workplace. There won't be much time for that transition as the Library is set to go through an external review and then following that Eckman will lead the Library in developing a Strategic Plan for the next three years.

Eckman is particularly excited about SFU's context as a young university. After reading Hugh Johnston's *Radical Campus* he said, "It will be a great place to work together to shape the future of libraries in a networked world, and expose material in creative new ways." He stresses that he's open to anything people want to share: "I'm really approachable, accessible, and want people to feel they have no barriers talking to me about library directions."

The Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries (COPPUL) presented its **2010 Outstanding Contribution Award to Mark Jordan**, Head SFU Library Systems on September 16, 2010. Jordan was presented with the award by Kim Isaac, Chair of COPPUL at its directors meeting held in Winnipeg, MB.

Among other contributions to COPPUL efforts Mark was recognized for his work leading the COPPUL Private LOCKKS program. This is a program that utilizes the LOCKSS digital preservation system as a means to archive collections of local interest to members of COPPUL that are not being preserved through any other means. Digital materials such as small university press publications, open access journals, born digital government publications, and other electronic journal collections that are at risk of being lost will be preserved as part of the program.

#### Publications

**Bassett, Dawn, Brooke B. Scott, and Jenny Fry.**  
*Facelifts for Special Libraries: A Practical Guide for Revitalising Diverse Physical and Digital Spaces.*  
Oxford: Chandos Pub, 2010.

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