

# Vancouver Island University Library Marks Welcomes and Departures

By Dana McFarland.

The Library at VIU has celebrated a number of noteworthy careers in recent months as some long-time colleagues have chosen retirement. We also look forward to the arrival of new librarians over the summer term.

## Departures

*Eileen Edmunds* played several key roles in the VIU Library after joining our team in 2002: regional campus librarian, loan services librarian, reference & instruction coordinator, and liaison to International Education, Career & Academic Preparation, Trades & Applied Technology, and Arts & Humanities. Eileen was a pioneering member of the VIU Positive Space Committee and has worked tirelessly for LGBT rights at VIU. We will miss Eileen and especially her patience, humour and skill.

*Nellie Starke*, acquisitions staffer, made many quiet contributions to the technical services operations of the Library over a remarkable number of years of service. Most recently we were so impressed by the grace and enthusiasm that she brought to exploring new areas of library work in our changing environment.

This Spring we also said farewell to our Director of Libraries, *Bob Foley*, who had served us with wisdom, humour, and skill since 2003. In his rich and varied career, Bob worked in every province from Ontario west. Through those experiences he earned what might be a uniquely close understanding of our regional academic library landscape. Perhaps there is no one who is better at appreciating a place for what makes it special, noting its quirks. Bob brought

that keen, appreciative perspective to our collective work, as a friend and a guide, respecting differences, admiring strengths, amused by foibles, and always challenging us to look for opportunities to do better, together. Thanks so much, Bob. You made us better, and you leave us an example that we'll strive to live up to.

## Welcomes

*Cameron Hoffman* joined us as Learning Services Librarian on June 2. Cameron comes to us from the University of Western Ontario, where he is currently a PhD student in Library and Information Studies (with a specific focus on information literacy in higher education). Prior to Western, Cameron worked as an academic librarian at the University of Lethbridge, and more recently, at Concordia in Montreal.

*Meg Ecclestone* will join the VIU Library team as Learning Commons Librarian on August 5. Meg comes to us from the York University Library, where she worked as a public service librarian, with responsibilities that included research assistance, information literacy instruction, and faculty liaison. She has delivered workshops in York University's Learning Commons, and worked on development of York's Student Papers and Academic Research Kit. She has also worked as a Management Librarian at the University of Ottawa, and in the private sector.

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