Canadian Circumpolar Library: A New Beginning
By Robin Minion, CCL

It has been over a year now since the Boreal Institute for Northern Studies Library at the University of Alberta was renamed and relocated. On July 1, 1990, the library became the Canadian Circumpolar Library (CCL). Soon after that, material was loaded on book trucks and moved across campus to become physically, as well as administratively, part of the Science and Technology Library in the University Library System. The integration of CCL and its staff means that many policies and procedures have been discussed, debated, and reviewed, but the support from the University library system, particularly Science and Technology, has been substantial.

The most visible change in the last year has been the new location. The collection was moved to Cameron Library in late July 1990. In May 1991, the furniture moving team was in action again as more study and stack space was made available.

There are new faces at the reference desk as part of the resource sharing which is encouraged within the library system. This not only provides help in dealing with increased use of CCL but also means staff is developing closer relationships with other areas. Staff is gaining familiarity with the resources and collections available elsewhere in the system.

Much of the support has been less visible. Funds were provided to help with binding and preservation of the collection which is underway. In addition, most of the tasks associated with subscriptions and exchanges have been taken over by other sections of the Library System. Circulation has been integrated. Interlibrary Loans is now a joint undertaking. Work is underway to rationalize the CCL collection in terms of the mandates of other libraries and collections at the University of Alberta. The University of Alberta has the third largest research collection in the country. Since this collection is accessible to CCL users, material of peripheral relevance to the north is no longer being acquired by CCL but is still available for use. Funds have been freed to ensure the acquisition of material directly related to the circumpolar world.

It is likely that CCL will continue to evolve its policies and procedures in such a way as to increase the accessibility of northern information.

Movement has finally begun on the backlog and hopefully some of this material will make its way into the stacks. We are examining the Northern Titles KWIC Index to determine if materials included there are covered by other reference tools. At first glance, it seems that there is no other consistent source of coverage. We are also investigating the possibility of integrating the Northern Titles KWIC Index into the BOREAL database in order to provide users with just one source to search. We are also considering a microfilming project for native and northern newspapers.

Cataloguing is one area in which final decisions have not yet been made. Material is slowly being added to both the Library System's DOBIS database as well as the BOREAL database. Material is catalogued twice, once with Library of Congress subject headings and once with UDC subject headings. The increase in cataloguing workload is substantial. Discussions relating to the advantages of UDC versus LC continue. An analytics format will be developed for the DOBIS database. As this has not been done, periodical and monograph analytics are not currently catalogued and on the BOREAL database.

Please turn to page 5
U.S. Polar Bibliographical Information Working Group

by Martha Andrews, INSTAAR

U.S. Polar Bibliographical Information Working Group met on April 5-6, 1991 in Hanover, New Hampshire to assess accomplishments and report on current activities relating to the U.S. Polar Bibliographical Information System supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF) through grant DPP-8913041. This year participants from Canada and England were present, a reflection of the international realities of a polar bibliographical information system.

The meeting was opened by remarks from representatives of the host institutions: Ed Link from CRREL and Margaret Otto, Dartmouth College Librarian. An introduction by Martha Andrews followed, providing a context for the meeting in the larger setting of the Arctic Research and Policy Act (ARPA). This act, passed in 1984 and amended in 1990, provided for the U.S. Arctic Research Program of 1987 (revised 1990-91), the Arctic Research Commission (ARC), the Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee (IARPC), and the parallel efforts (funded by NSF as lead agency, and by the other IARPC agencies) to provide polar researchers and managers with improved access to both data and information.

The first session, a discussion of the PolarPac CD-ROM, was chaired by Sharon West, UA Fairbanks. She reported that the evaluation results for PolarPac were being processed; comments solicited from the group present reflected responses received in the evaluation:

- The CD-ROM is easy to install and use, including use on a local area network (LAN) at Rasmussen Library.
- It functions particularly well for the following purposes:
  - as an in-house online catalog for participating libraries.
  - as a vehicle for remote access to databases, particularly for agency offices in the Alaskan bush.
  - for interlibrary loan (ILL).
- The file on PolarPac 1 is agreed to have the following strengths:
  - the union list of polar serials with holdings is very useful.
  - the monographic holdings are very comprehensive regarding Alaska.
- Suggestions for augmenting the present file and upgrading its features include:
  - better representation of polar areas other than Alaska
  - better Boolean searching capability
  - addition of analytic files, such as BibAK, WDC-A files, and reprint files from BPRC
  - addition of polar archival records.

**POLARPAC 2 is now being prepared**

Paul McCarthy, UA Fairbanks, led a discussion of future issues of concern to the continuation of PolarPac. Some of these issues are: associated products such as a print version of the union list of polar serials; a current file on floppy disc, or other appropriate medium, between CD-ROM updates; use of the file as an aid to collection development; the expense involved in addition of further large files such as SPRI; overall funding issues for development and distribution at an affordable cost; an assessment of the market for PolarPac; and questions of focus and control of the product. This discussion continued at day's end, with questions raised concerning the user's point of view, NSF's networking activities, and the pros and cons of the polar literature being on one, rather than on two, CD-ROMs.

### Canadian Polar Information System

The second session was chaired by Ross Goodwin of the Arctic Institute of North America. Royal assent has been given for a new Canadian Polar Commission; 12 members will be selected soon. CPIS will receive CAN $100K/yr for each of 3 years for development by a working group; this development will be based (at least in part) on the CPIS survey results included in a draft report distributed to participants. The ASTIS and BOREAL databases are growing again and both BOREAL and Boreal Northern Titles (BNT) will appear for the first time on the Arctic and Antarctic Regions (AAR) CD-ROM in summer, 1991. Calvin Evans spoke of the possible inclusion of McGill University holdings as part of CPIS PolarPac, or AAR. Some 20-40K "northern" holdings are estimated to be part of the online catalog at McGill but there is no easy way to identify and download these holdings. The probable expense involved could not be shouldered by the university at this time because of its large deficit. Sue Hanley spoke of including the Dept. of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Canada) DIAND holdings in a larger system. DIAND is spending
Can$25K now to pull its holdings from UTLAS. Participants suggested that Canadian polar libraries could make a valuable contribution to bibliographic control of the Canadian polar literature by increased indexing of their own publications.

Networking update
The third session, chaired by Nick Flanders, Institute of Arctic Studies, Dartmouth College, was a networking update. He stated that the MAB Northern Sciences Network (NSN) is sponsoring a student internship/fellowship at the Arctic Centre in Rovaniemi. Martha Andrews passed on (to Paul McCarthy) Lisa Kurppa's letter regarding the "Cold Climate Literature in Finland" index at the Arctic Centre. The question of NSN as a possible superstructure for the Polar Libraries Colloquy was raised, and again at the planning session for the 14th Polar Libraries Colloquy. Martha Shepard reported that CONRIM will be meeting in April. Martha Andrews reported on the desired link between the polar information providers/users and ARCUS; it is hoped that a closer link will be established within the year. Jerry Brown reported on AEDD and ADI - the latest version of ADI will be sent to all participants for evaluation. In regard to the Polar Libraries Bulletin, suggestions were made to include more international news, and news on the health and medical literature. Regarding the issue of health and medical information, a letter from Barbara Sokolov, Director, Consortium Library (University of Alaska-Anchorage) was circulated. The group was encouraged to use the POLARLit Bulletin board on Orange more often, and to consider changing the board's name to POLAR.INFO to reflect the interests of data as well as information news; the SOVIET.GATEWAY board was described by Guy Guthridge.

Preceding the fourth session, Dan VanBelleghem informed the group of the latest possibilties of networking information via Internet. Dozens of online catalogs are accessible through the Internet, which is an exciting prospect. However, their use can be difficult even for experienced librarians due to local differences in accessing Internet and the complexities of interfaces and protocols.

Arctic and Antarctic Regions (AAR) CD-ROM and the Cold Regions Bibliography Project (CRBP)

Chaired by Nancy Linton

Cold Regions Bibliography Project (CRBP)

Stuart Hibben, Sci-Tech Division, Library of Congress, spoke on the CRBP production process and the need to modernize inputing. He stated that both the Antarctic Bibliography and CRBP monthly lists will be on a 12 month basis now, with simulations at the end of the 12 month period. Over 500 serial titles are searched each year for input. The AAR CD-ROM is proving to be a good selection tool. The CRBP adds 45,000 records per year. Current Antarctic Literature is mailed to 1,000 addresses. Ruta Godwin spoke about the CRBP and Antarctic Bibliography modernization plan which had been worked out at CRREL the previous day. Plans include allowing controlled remote input on a cooperative basis, and continuance of the several output products. She also provided a handout on "Getting Files from STIS at NSF using BITNET."

AAR CD-ROM

Fred Duerr of NISC, producer of the AAR CD-ROM, was not available but sent a three page statement which was provided to all participants, as well as an advertising flyer circulated with the latest issue of Arctic. His letter raised several issues which were discussed. A favorable product review of AAR from the CD-ROM librarian was also provided. William Mills spoke about loading SPRILIB to AAR. SPRILIB is in a "near MARC" format, based on MUSCAT software (which allows for printed products from the database). Mills is very pleased with the way the file was handled for AAR, as were other AAR contributors present. Concern was raised that AAR be kept at an affordable price. Permission to LAN AAR was seen to be desirable; CRREL already does this. Duerr's letter states that AAR contributors are rewarded with royalties, whereas PolarPac contributors are charged per holding. However, AAR costs over twice as much ($795) to license as PolarPac ($250-$300) does to purchase. Discussion of some version of the PolarPac file being added to AAR took place; many participants viewed this possibility with favor, although there was not a consensus, and various problems.

Please turn to page 8
Scott Polar Research Institute
by William Mills

As I write, the main news is that today, (6 August), should have reached the North Pole. Is she the first polar librarian to reach either pole? I suspect not. Robert is travelling on a Soviet icebreaker and will be making the trip in more style and comfort than most.

Good news has been the award of an ESRC grant to fund the cataloguing of Soviet Arctic social science material. SPRI has extensive holdings relating to the Soviet North and this grant will enable us to make considerable inroads into our cataloguing backlog for this region. Another development has been the establishment of a prototype SPRI-MAP database providing greatly improved access to SPRI’s map collection. A user-friendly interface has been designed by Martin Porter, and Ron Wilbraham has been collecting the necessary information and putting it into computer-readable form. Amongst new publications, Ailsa Macqueen, Manager of the World Data Center for Glaciology, has just produced a comprehensive iceberg bibliography in Iceberg Research 1991 (16):1-51. (Copies available for L10 from SPRI, Lensfield Rd., Cambridge CB2 1ER, UK).

Our new facility may be of particular interest to readers of this bulletin. To assist in the cataloguing of biological literature, we have set up programmes which generate a series of indexes coordinating Linnaean species names with their common name equivalents and also with UDC numbers. Cooperation with other polar libraries would ensure that a comprehensive range of common names is included. Let me know if you are interested in helping with this project.

From Nunatta Atuagaaqatqia
Elisa Jeremiassen

Ms. Marianne Olsen is director of the National Library in Greenland. Ms. Elisa Jeremiassen is head of the Groenlandica Collection. The library also has PolarPac, CD-ROM, and another EDB called, (DDE) Dansk Data Elektronik.

Cold Regions Bibliographies at Library of Congress
by Stuart G. Hibben

A formal program is now under way to modernize the production of the CRREL and Antarctic Bibliographies at LOC. To organize this process, a special committee was formed in March by CRREL and NSF to study the problem and recommend solutions. This committee has now drafted an Information Systems Plan which lays out a modernization program covering a three-year time frame.

The first phase calls for development of a state-of-the-art system for entering citations in the database. The recommended system will include MS-DOS PC workstations tied into a local-area network with a host minicomputer to house the database. This system will retain links to LOC’s mainframe for batch processing, and will eventually provide for connection to Internet. Subsequent features planned include a methodology for input of citations from outside locations. The new system will mark a radical change in the input process, and it is estimated to take approximately a year to get the new front end program in place and running properly. Production would continue under the old system until the new one is able to take over the process. Pending acceptance of our grant request, we hope to have a Request For Proposal for the new system out to vendors early in FY 92.

International Library Link

Representatives of the University of Alaska Fairbanks Rasmuson Library, The University of Lapland, Finland, and the Kola Science Centre in the Soviet Union signed a new protocol agreement during a meeting in the Soviet Union in April. The plan calls for the development of telecommunication links among the three institutions and sharing full-text information electronically. It also seeks further personal contacts between polar region libraries.

CISTI Librarian Named
by David Clark

David Clark (Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information) is the new librarian for CISTI, Marine Dynamics Branch. Joy Tillotson is now the acting head of the Memorial University of Newfoundland Library, Reference Department.
Canadian Polar Information System Update

by Robin Minion, CCL

The third of four planned background studies on the design of a Canadian Polar Information System (CPIS) was completed in May 1991. Undertaken by the Arctic Institute of North America and the Canadian Circumpolar Library, this study examined the needs of potential users of a CPIS.

A detailed questionnaire was mailed to potential CPIS users. The amount and quality of the information received was excellent. As with other CPIS background studies, a group of 18 participating specialists reviewed the study methodology and final report.

This study determined that:

- there is a high level of support for CPIS among potential Canadian Polar Information System users
- users’ priorities for CPIS information types, from highest to lowest are: bibliographic citations, research project descriptions, listings of Canadian polar experts, listings of Canadian organizations with polar expertise and descriptions of significant Canadian polar numeric datasets. Several additional information types were suggested.
- user’s priorities for CPIS products and services, from highest to lowest are: online searches by users, a CD-ROM, online searches by CPIS staff, a selective dissemination of information service, topical bibliographies, an annual printed bibliography, an annual current awareness bulletin, an annual directory of Canadian polar expertise, and a document delivery service. Information was also collected on users’ price expectations for these products and services.
- CPIS should use the southern limit of discontinuous permafrost as the southern border of its coverage
- CPIS should provide access to northern information from other circumpolar countries
- CPIS should make the provision of

information about the Antarctic a low priority
- CPIS should give a high priority to the inclusion of abstracts
- CPIS should contain as much retrospective coverage of bibliographic information as funding allows
- CPIS should use a relatively long retention period for research project descriptions

This study has answered all outstanding questions about the CPIS design except for those technical questions that will be answered by the fourth background study, and except for those questions that can only be answered when the level of the funding of the system is known.

As with all of the other background studies, the “Background Study on the Needs of Potential Users of a Canadian Polar Information System” was successfully completed because of funding received from the Circumpolar and Scientific Affairs Directorate and because of support received from many Canadian polar information centers and libraries.

Further work on the design of a CPIS will await the establishment of a Canadian Polar Commission. Legislation to establish such a Commission was passed by Parliament in the spring of this year. In the meantime, a report summarizing work done to date is being prepared.

Copies of the “Background Study on the Needs of Potential Users of a Canadian Polar Information System” are available from: Robin Minion, Canadian Circumpolar Library, B-03 Cameron Library, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, T6G 2E9 or Ross Goodwin, Arctic Institute of North America, The University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, T2N 1N4.

NEW BEGINNING, continued

It is likely, that CCL will continue to evolve its policies and procedures in such a way as to increase the accessibility of northern information. One of the most positive aspects of the move has been access to the human resources available in the larger setting. People have been extremely supportive and cooperative in working towards the re-establishment of the northern collection.

Last year, the Boreal Institute was closed and replaced by the Canadian Circumpolar Institute. The mandate of the former Boreal Institute was reviewed and departures and revisions made as follows:

“The Canadian Circumpolar Institute/Institut circumpolaire canadien (CCI/ICC) is the centre for Northern research at the University of Alberta serving northerners, students, academics, government, industry, and the general public. The mandate of the Institute is:

- To promote and support research on the Circumpolar North, especially that involving interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary programs;
- To promote and support the Canadian Circumpolar Library as a distinctive northern research collection of international importance;
- to foster communication among northern oriented researchers;
- to disseminate information about the Circumpolar North.”

The Director of CCL is Dr. Cliff Hickey. For further information about the Institute, contact:

Canadian Circumpolar Institute
G213 Biological Sciences Building
University of Alberta
Telephone: (403) 492-4512
Fax: (403) 492-1153

The Institute’s newsletter, Polar Access, is aimed at campus students and researchers. An external publication is planned for the late fall.

Although administratively separate, Please turn to next page
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
by Sue Hanley

The Library at the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development has undergone some major changes this year. Sue Hanley has been Acting Departmental Librarian since February and Dan Denault has become Manager, Technical Services.

We have an RFP out for a new integrated library system - closing date is late August so we won't be able to tell you about our new system in time for this issue! We're hoping the system will make it easier for us to contribute our records to PolarPac. We will not be cataloguing onto UTLAS after August 1st but rest assured that we will be making our records available through a union catalogue—most likely via the National Library of Canada.

Yukon Archives News

Lesley Buchan completed her last day on May 29. The Yukon Council of Archives, thru the Challenge '91 program, will be updating two of the Archives' finding aids - "Alaska Highway" & "Genealogical Sources" and will also assist the Archives in creating a subject index to the map and poster collections which will improve access to both collections. Matthew Kwock will be working on the finding aids and Ann Jobage will be working on the subject index to the map and poster collections.

The Archives imprint and pamphlet collections, including the Coutts rare book collection, are being added to the LaserGuide database presently in use by the Public Library system. When this project is completed, researchers will be able to identify imprint material from the Archives collection using Romeo at any public library in the Territory.

NEW BEGINNING, continued

the Canadian Circumpolar Institute continues to provide support to the Canadian Circumpolar Library. Up to $16,000 is provided annually. The librarian also holds ex-officio positions on the University of Alberta Northern Research Committee as well as the Institute's Advisory Board. The groups continue to work cooperatively to support northern research at the University of Alberta and beyond.
23-24 October 1991
Third National Student Conference on Northern Studies
Government Conference Centre
Information: Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies
130 Albert St., Ste. 201
Ottawa, Canada K1P 5G4
Tel: 613-238-3525

24-25 October 1991
Canadian Arctic Global Change Research
Information: Association of Canadian Universities for Northern Studies
130 Albert St., Ste 201,
Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5G4
Canada
Tel: 613-238-3525
FAX: 613-238-6012

22-25 January 1992
PolarTech '92, Montreal, Quebec.
Information: Dr. Marianne Stenback,
Centre for Northern Studies and Research,
McGill University
805 Sherbrooke Street West
Montreal, Quebec, Canada
H3A 2R6, Tel: 514-398-6052.

14th Polar Libraries Colloquy—May 1992

The 14th Polar Libraries Colloquy is planned for May 3–8, 1992 at Columbus, Ohio, USA. The Colloquy will be a forum for sharing information on current international initiatives which aid in the bibliographic control of polar literature, especially grey literature, and will also provide an opportunity to share knowledge of specific polar libraries' collections. The Colloquy will emphasize the current status of accessibility of polar information and ways in which the participants can cooperate, either as individuals or as a group, to further the goal of increasing access to this information.

Six sessions are planned for the Colloquy.

SESSION I: Cooperative Databases and Database Products
Papers on the development and progress of polar databases and products are invited, and may also include commercial databases which contain polar information. Technical issues concerned with producing the databases or use of the databases are encouraged.

SESSION II: Polar Archival Resources
The technical aspects of archival management will be featured. Topics include: maintenance of archival records, how material is catalogued, entry of catalog records onto bibliographic utilities, and the production of finding aids.

SESSION III: End Users of Polar Information
Is the user of polar information being served adequately? Papers on the coverage of the literature, document delivery, access tools, training to maximize access, input from users, and problems of gray literature are appropriate.

SESSION IV: Antarctic Treaty System and Antarctic Literature
SESSION V: Editors of Polar Journals
A panel discussion with the editors of polar journals.

SESSION VI: Should the Colloquy Become a Formal Organization?
Examination of both sides of the issue and participants are encouraged to voice their concerns. Perhaps a consensus of opinion can be reached by the conclusion of the Colloquy.

For further information, please contact: Ms. Lynn Lay, The Ohio State University Byrd Polar Research Center, 103 Mendenhall Lab, 125 South Oval Mall, Columbus, OH 43210, U.S.A., Tel. 614-292-6715, FAX 614-292-4697.
would have to be addressed.

**International resource sharing in support of the Antarctic bibliography**

*Chaired by David Walton.*

David Walton, British Antarctic Survey, had put forward a resolution to this effect that was approved by the 13th Polar Libraries Colloquy. Sharing of the increasing workload connected with the widening scope of the Antarctic literature as more and more countries (38 have endorsed the 1959 Treaty - 26 voting and 12 non-voting) become involved is desirable. There is also scope for adding up to 10,000 retrospective references from the “Roscoe” bibliography and SPRI files; archival materials also could be added. Discussion revolved around how to input in a cooperative manner - whether this should be a U.S. managed effort, and how closely it is possible to conform with present policies of Antarctic Bibliography (i.e., providing microfiche copy of all entries), etc. David Walton and Guy Guthridge were to have further discussions in Washington and will keep the group informed.

**Field trip and reception**

Nancy Liston acted as guide for an excursion to the CRREL facility, including the library. A reception followed in the Dickey Endowment at Baker Library, Dartmouth College.

**Excursion and dinner**

Nick Flanders acted as chauffeur and guide on an excursion to the Center for Northern Studies in Wolcott, VT on Saturday afternoon, following the planning meeting for the 14th Polar Libraries Colloquy. Steve Young met the group at the Center for a tour. Nick and Virginia Flanders hosted the group for a fine dinner at their home in Danville, VT.