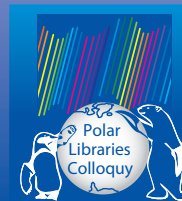


Polar Libraries Bulletin

POLAR LIBRARIES COLLOQUY



Spring 2009, Issue 62

The 2008 Hubert Wenger Award

Established in 1996 and funded by the proceeds of the PLC Silent Auction, this award honors the work and many contributions of Hubert Wenger and his wife, Beatrice. It is given biennially to support the participation of individuals at the Colloquy who otherwise might not be able to attend. In 2008, two participants received the award: Mary Katherine Jones, University of Tromsø, Norway, and Sharon Rankin, McGill University Library, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. They both gave presentations at the Edmonton Colloquy and have each contributed a piece to this issue of the *Bulletin*. Congratulations Mary and Sharon!

"We May Not Always Get the Right Analogy"

by *Mary Katherine Jones*

University of Tromsø, Norway

"When we are trying to make sense of a situation (and may well have more information than we can absorb) to come to a decision, we use analogies to try to discern a pattern and to sort out what is important from what is not... We may not always get the right analogy, but we are almost certainly bound to try to use one."

Margaret MacMillan, *The Uses & Abuses of History* (Toronto, Penguin, 2008), pp. 173–4.

At the beginning of August 2007, the Арктика (Arktika) 2007 Russian expedition travelled from Murmansk to the North Pole, where expedition members descended to the seabed in submersibles and planted a titanium Russian flag. News of this achievement and the expedition's prior claim that "the Arctic is Russian" was broadcast around the world. Within a couple of weeks I felt impelled to investigate this sudden global interest in my geographical area of research. Ditching a paper I had been preparing about citation and reference in nineteenth-century texts about Spitsbergen, I turned my attention to a comparative analysis of coverage of the Арктика expedition published on newspaper Internet sites in the four Arctic nations most directly affected by Russia's seemingly territorial action: Canada (*Toronto Star*), Greenland/

Denmark (*Sermitsiaq*), Norway (*Aftenposten*), and the USA (*New York Times*).

A very rough and ready paper was presented at an Arctic Discourses seminar in early September 2007 and I was asked to write an article for the regional newspaper *Nordlys* on the same topic. By the end of the same month I had also presented a paper on the subject at a North Norwegian History Seminar in Vardø. National attitudes appeared to divide rather neatly between overall emphasis on the part of the Nordic nations on the need to observe the "rule of law" and a more belligerent stance on the part of Canada and the USA incorporating references to the "Arctic Cold War." This apparent dichotomy was included in a poster summarizing my findings and presented at an Arctic Frontiers conference in Tromsø in January 2008. The level of interest and feedback I received from all these academic offerings was intense, and seductive. I was fully aware that the appeal lay in the immediate contemporary relevance of my research: would research on any historical Arctic topic have excited the same intensity of response from audiences whose qualification to comment stemmed from an abiding interest in the Arctic and the perusal of a daily newspaper— *any* daily newspaper?



"We May Not Always..." continued

I applied for, and was most grateful to receive, a Hubert Wenger Award enabling me to attend the Polar Libraries Colloquy in Edmonton in June 2008, and it was agreed that I should present a paper on this same Arctic topic. My presentations in Norway had generally begun by focusing on the Scandinavian media response and expanded westwards to incorporate Greenlandic, Canadian, and American viewpoints. This time the Canadian media response would form my initial focus, which in turn would expand to incorporate the USA, Greenland, and Norway. Simple. Since I was making this presentation in Canada, I decided to incorporate material from a French Canadian newspaper (*Le Devoir*), as well as my existing Canadian media source (*Toronto Star*). This decision proved to be not so simple.

As early as February 2008, when I presented an update of my findings at the Arctic Discourses conference in Tromsø, a Canadian delegate politely challenged my decision to focus on *Toronto Star* coverage: despite having the largest distribution of any daily newspaper in Canada, its sphere of interest and readership were geared—in her opinion—to that city rather than the country as a whole. (An American delegate at the same conference pointed out the perils of relying on *New York Times* coverage to the exclusion of a contrasting media source, such as *The Wall Street Journal*.) Still, I plowed on, but as I sought to incorporate French Canadian media coverage, various tremors began to disturb the structure of my academic argument. The media response to the Арктика expedition in *Le Devoir* appeared to be less belligerent than that of *Toronto Star*: far fewer articles on the subject, and less of what had initially presented itself as a Canadian 'knee-jerk' response. As I investigated further, the original Canadian media response, which had dovetailed and contrasted so well with other North American and Nordic coverage, respectively, started to take on an elusive quality. It in fact became apparent, in the course of my PLC lecture, that discrepancies I had perceived between Canadian

media reports published in English and in French involved chance allusions to matters unrelated to the Arctic (e.g., Prime Minister Stephen Harper's relationship with press journalists), rather than consistent discrepancies in reportage styles relating to the Arctic itself.

In the course of investigating Canadian media coverage written in French as well as English, the limitations of my approach to coverage of this topic in the Greenlandic press gradually dawned on me as well. With no knowledge of Greenlandic, I was relying on the Danish version of the Greenlandic newspaper *Sermitsiaq*. Yet given Denmark's control over Greenland's foreign affairs, was it possible to ignore coverage of such a significant Arctic territorial matter in the mainstream Danish press (e.g., *Berlingske Tidende*), even if the extent and accuracy of Danish media coverage might not be the equal of Greenlandic articles published in Danish? It seemed I would need to go back to the drawing-board in this respect as well.

The chance purchase of Margaret MacMillan's excellent new book, *The Uses and Abuses of History* (cf. quotation at the start of this article) in the bookshop in Old Strathcona just before the start of this year's PLC was the final straw or—as I now prefer to see it—the saving grace. Polar Libraries Colloquy was probably the only forum where I felt able to throw myself upon the mercy of my colleagues, and they did not let me down. Presenting the media coverage at my disposal, and acknowledging its incomplete state of analysis to date, I was fortunate to receive constructive and useful comments from the floor. I learned a valuable lesson about the perils of believing that when research 'facts' appear to fit together they necessarily form a complete, set picture: sometimes there are more pieces to fit into the jigsaw puzzle, and the picture may change altogether. As far as this particular strand of research is concerned, the hunt for "the right analogy" continues....

Caninuit: A New Web Resource for Canadian Inuit Periodicals

by *Sharon Rankin*, McGill University Library, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

At this year's Polar Libraries Colloquy at the University of Alberta, my attendance supported by the Hubert Wenger Award, I presented an overview of my work to build *Caninuit*, an annotated web bibliography of the periodicals (newspapers, magazines, newsletters, and catalogues) published by or about Canadian Inuit.

The research work for this new web resource was conducted in September 2007 to May 2008 while on sabbatical from McGill University Libraries. The PLC presentation covered the following topics: the rationale and need for the work, a survey of the existing printed bibliographies, the data collection and decision making for the resource content and design, the use of controlled subject category vocabulary, and the selection of technology (wiki/blog/website) for the resource.

The [Caninuit website](#) was designed by Reference Press, a small independent, librarian-owned Canadian company. The *Caninuit* website is database driven; it has a record structure and includes browse indexes by title, geographic, and format categories, as well as keyword searching across the entire periodical information in each record.

Record descriptions will be updated in the coming years as new information emerges and new indexing sources become available. In addition, updates will be made as new digitization projects provide access to full-text versions of publications and as new titles begin publishing. I look forward to receiving your feedback on this project (email: sharon.rankin@mcgill.ca).



The Caninuit Website.



Minutes of the 22nd PLC Business Meeting

June 5, 2008, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Respectfully submitted by

Sandy Campbell, PLC Secretary

1. PLC 2010 will be held in Bremerhaven, Germany, at the invitation of Marcel Brannemann. The group also thanked Berit Jakobsen (UNIS) for her invitation to hold the 2010 meeting in Svalbard.

2. Daria Carle requested contributions from the membership for the *Bulletin*. David Walton suggested that panelists write up their presentations and submit them to the *Bulletin*. Other suggestions included planning reports and Committee Chairpersons reports.

3. The new Steering Committee members were introduced to the group.

Andie Smithies is Incoming Chair.

The role of Treasurer and Secretary has been split:

David Walton, Treasurer

Sandy Campbell, Secretary

Incoming members were welcomed:

Shelly Sommer (INSTAAR)

Ross Goodwin (ASTIS)

Marcel Brannemann (Alfred Wegener Institute)

4. Treasurer's Report:

David Walton raised the issue of Insurance and will provide follow-up.

There was general discussion about projects that the PLC could undertake with its current funds.

Suggestions included:

Compiling an oral history of the PLC from long-time members

Digitizing the conference proceedings

Developing a web form for the PLC libraries directory

A question was raised about whether or not the PLC had any financial interest in UArctic-related

activities. PLC did not take on any financial interest in the proposals discussed at Colloquy. PLC is willing to work with UArctic to find solutions to the information needs of its students.

5. There was discussion about the rules for the William Mills Book Prize. Difficulty arose this time because the rules state that the book must be published between the dates of the last Colloquy and the next. However, it was difficult for the Committee to get books published in the weeks before the Colloquy and have time to give them a fair review. It was recommended to set the closing date for publication as December 31 of the year prior to the next Colloquy.

6. Pierre Beaudreau of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada spoke about changes to the PLC website. Discussion followed about the use of the Blog and the email list.

7. Marcel Brannemann led a discussion about the style of the 2010 Colloquy.

The group agreed that there needs to be more time for follow-up questions and further discussion after the presentations.

There was discussion about how long the conference should be and the group decided to keep it the same length.

The group heard that there was a desire for more panel and/or group discussions.

8. Everyone was invited to sign up for a committee. Members not at the meeting were also invited to join the following committees:



Minutes of the 22nd PLC Business Meeting *continued*

Union List of Digital Projects

Betty Galbraith, Chair
Lynn Lay

University of the Arctic Digital Library Project

Sandy Campbell, Chair
Heather Lane
David Ongley
Julia Triplehorn

William Mills Book Prize

Jude Baldwin, Chair

Bylaws

Heather Lane, Chair

Conference Organizer's Checklist

Marcel Brannemann, Chair

Membership

Shelly Sommer, Chair

PLC Chair's Report

Greetings from a sunny Cambridge! Although it seems no time at all since our last meeting, and with just over a year to go to the next Colloquy in Bremerhaven, now seems to be a good time to reflect on the goals we set for ourselves in Edmonton and what we have achieved so far. The PLC website and online *Bulletin* go from strength to strength; work on a new version of the polar libraries directory is almost complete; and the polar digitization projects survey has been launched.

Sandy Campbell continues to fly the flag for PLC in discussions with the University of the Arctic. Many of you signed up to participate in the working groups to consider a wide range of other issues, and I thank everyone who has committed time and effort to making such good progress. In addition, thanks to David Walton, a thorough revision of the constitution and bylaws has been undertaken and will be discussed in detail at the 2010 Colloquy in Bremerhaven.

As some of you will recall, in 2007 the Scott Polar Research Institute had embarked on a project to digitize the first 20,000 of our historic photographic negatives. I'm pleased to report that the [Freeze Frame: Historic Polar Images](#) website went live in early March 2009 with great press attention, and received 1.9 million hits from users worldwide on the day of its launch. Further confirmation (as if any were needed) of a global appetite for polar information.

SPRI is now also engaged on the renovation of its Polar Museum, with plans to reopen in June 2010, so I shall be wearing my curator's rather more often than my librarian's hat for the next 12 months. However, I would encourage all PLC members to send me any ideas you have for the development of the Colloquy. I shall be very pleased to hear from you.

Best wishes,
Heather Lane, PLC Chair



The Danish Polar Center Has Closed

by **Vibeke Sloth Jakobsen**, Librarian
Ministry of Science, Technology, and Innovation
Copenhagen, Denmark

The Danish Polar Center no longer exists, having closed down on 1st February 2009. Some of the employees and duties formerly associated with the Danish Polar Center have been integrated into the Danish Agency for Science, Technology, and Innovation; some have been transferred to other institutions. The Zackenberg Secretariat, the Nuuk Basic Secretariat, The Greenland Ecosystem Monitoring Secretariat, The Danish Polar Center Logistics Department, and the Forum of Arctic Research Operators Secretariat have all moved to the National Environmental Research Institute at Denmark's University of Aarhus.

The Polar Library is still in existence as it also holds collections from Eskimology and Arctic Studies (University of Copenhagen) as well as the Danish Arctic Institute. At the moment, it is still located in Strandgade 102 in Copenhagen. It is expected that the collections belonging to the former Danish Polar Center will be transferred to the University of Copenhagen to become part of its Polar Library. The library staff will most likely also be transferred to the University of Copenhagen, but no agreements have been signed yet.

When final agreements about the Polar Library's future have been made, more detailed information will be posted on the PLC website and reported in the next *Bulletin*.

UArctic Digital Library Project Update

by **Sandy Campbell**, Chair, UArctic Digital Library Committee
John W. Scott Health Sciences Library
University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

After the discussion with the UArctic instructors at the 2008 Colloquy in Edmonton, a committee was formed to develop a proposal for a digital library for the University of the Arctic. The committee, made up of Arto Vitikka, Judie Triplehorn, David Ongley, Heather Lane, and me, subsequently began working with Kati Dana and Amanda Graham, who are the UArctic instructors we met with during Colloquy.

We have since added two more members: Elaine Maloney, editor of the UArctic Press, and Scott Forrest, who has a funding proposal in the works for a UArctic Open Textbooks project. We would expect that digital versions of both UArctic Press materials

and UArctic Open Textbooks would be part of the UArctic Digital Library.

We have sent a proposal, based on the one Kati Dana presented to us at Colloquy, to the UArctic Secretariat, to be included on the agenda for the next Council Meeting, which will be held in Kiruna, Sweden. I will be attending the Meeting in August 2009 to present the proposal and will report on our progress in the next *Bulletin*.



Data Publication—Where Do Libraries Stand?

by **David Walton**, Emeritus Fellow
British Antarctic Survey, Cambridge, UK

Data has become hot news over the past few years. The attitude of the National Science Foundation that data from grant-funded research must be posted within a given period is spreading into other countries (like the UK). There are two primary reasons for this. First, the data are a key part of the science that is published in the journals and need therefore to be available for validation and assessment by the community. Second, the data need to be available for others to use.

Curating this data is seen by some as the exclusive preserve of data centres whilst others point

to the need for a direct interaction with the published papers where libraries can play a role. This development of linkages to pool specialist knowledge is providing a future service not only in finding data and using it but also in publishing the data in an effective way.

Such publishing is seen by some as “giving away their data” whilst others see it as an opportunity to gain credit. Clearly such an approach risks crossing the organisational and territorial lines that may separate these groups but as libraries become increasingly digital in their holdings and management it does seem a relevant development. See the recent report from the UK, [To Share or Not To Share](#), for some of the lessons learned so far.

Polar Medical Community Mourns Robert Fortune, M.D.

It is with great sadness that we note the death of retired U.S. Public Health Service physician and historian Robert Fortune at age 75. He died May 12, 2009, from pneumonia at his home in Wasilla, Alaska.

Speaking for many Alaska Native Medical Center staff, Anchorage oncologist Greg Marino, M.D., remembered Fortune as “our dear friend, colleague, mentor, and role model. Many of our senior physicians were inspired by his leadership. He was a well-known physician who dedicated his professional life to the care of Alaska Natives. He was also a scholar and widely recognized as the medical historian of Alaska.” In addition to his writing, Fortune began training a generation of Alaska’s future physicians by joining the faculty of the Alaska WWAMI program in 1989. (WWAMI gets its name from the first letter of participating states: Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho.)

Dr. Fortune received his medical degree from McGill University in 1960 and his Master of Public Health from Harvard University in 1968. He served with the Public Health Service from 1961 until his retirement in 1987. He first came to Alaska in 1963 and served as Service Unit Director for Alaska Native hospitals in Dillingham, Bethel, and Anchorage until he became Deputy Chief of Family Medicine at the Alaska Native Medical Center in 1980. Fortune was active in several national and Alaska medical professional associations, as well as the American Society for Circumpolar Health and the International Symposium for Circumpolar Health.

For more information, see the [UAA Green & Gold Daily](#).



Alaskana Award Winner Announced

by **Jude Baldwin**, Fairbanks North Star Borough Libraries, Fairbanks, AK

The Alaska Library Association has named the winner of its 2009 Alaskana Award for titles published in 2008: *Anóoshi Lingít Aaní Ká : Russians in Tlingit America : The Battles of Sitka, 1802 and 1804*, edited by Nora Marks Dauenhauer, Richard Dauenhauer, and Lydia T. Black (Seattle : University of Washington Press; Juneau : Sealaska Heritage Institute, 2008). The award winner was announced at the association's recent annual conference held in Kodiak. Each year the Alaskana Award honors outstanding adult fiction and nonfiction titles published in any format that make a significant contribution to the understanding of Alaska and that exhibit originality, depth of research, and knowledge of Alaska.

Russians in Tlingit America is a large book and with over 500 8.5"x11" pages it is not light reading, literally or figuratively. What makes the book stand out is not so much its heft, however, as the amount of information, much of it unique, that it collects in one place. Its preface, "Russians in Tlingit America: New Perspectives on the Baranov Era, 1792–1818" gives an overview of the events that led up to the battles for Sitka, Alaska, as well as the battles themselves and the aftermath, including the events' place in the modern Tlingit community.

The editors then delve into the details by breaking history up into segments: The Prelude: First Encounters of Russians and Tlingit; The First Battle Encounter: Prince William Sound, 1792; The First Settlement in Tlingit Territory: Yakutat, 1796; The Russian Push into Southeast Alaska before 1799; The Founding of Old Sitka; The Battle of 1802 at Old Sitka; Baranov Returns: The Battle of 1804 at Indian River; And Life Goes On: 1805–1806, 1818.

Each segment is comprised of different accounts of the same events. For example, "Baranov

Returns" includes five accounts of events from various Russian perspectives and four from Tlingit perspectives, as well as an account of the historical and archeological investigations of the events.

A number of the accounts in the book are making their publication debuts. Many of the Tlingit stories are transcribed here for the first time from oral history recordings of elders, and many of the Russian accounts are either appearing in print for the first time (from previously inaccessible archives), are appearing in English translation for the first time, or are a revised translation appearing for the first time. Having multiple accounts of a pivotal event in Alaska history side by side in the same book makes *Russians in Tlingit America* quite special.

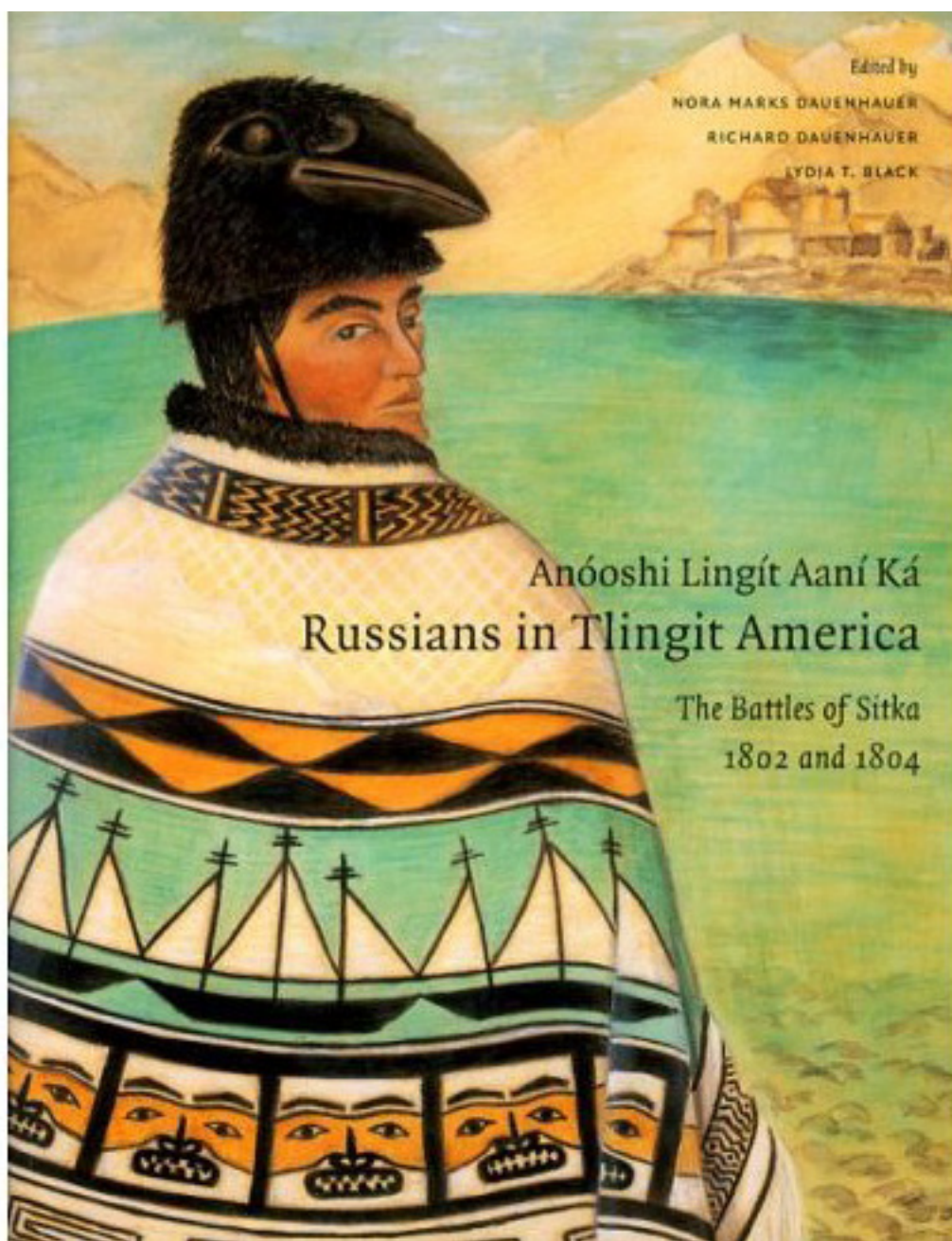
As the editors state in the preface (p. xv): "Many books have been written about Russian America and about the Tlingit. Ours features primary documents, letting the participants speak for themselves. As editors, we match the Tlingit and Russian points of view, and we also attempt to link the events of two centuries ago to the living Tlingit community of today. The views expressed in the primary documents and by various contributors are not necessarily the views of the editors, and there may be conflict among accounts, but only from two perspectives does one create a three-dimensional view."

Having just these accounts alone would make for a fascinating book but the editors added even more. They include cultural information to provide context to events, 17 maps and charts, over 60 figures, and 8 pages of color plates. There are also 12 appendices including information on Tlingit armor and various cultural artifacts such as the Raven Helmet; Russian, Aleut, Euro-American, Tlingit, Ahtna and Eyak participants' names; biographies of the elders who contributed the oral histories for the book; a gazetteer of place names; a glossary; extensive footnotes; a lengthy bibliography; and an index.



Considering the wealth of information the authors have included, it is no wonder that the project took 20 years to complete! The editors are well qualified for the task: Nora Marks Dauenhauer is a native Tlingit speaker with training in anthropology and linguistics; Richard Dauenhauer has extensive experience with both Russian and Tlingit and is Professor of Alaska Native Languages and Culture at the University of Alaska Southeast; and the late University of Alaska Fairbanks professor emerita Lydia Black was a well-known anthropologist specializing in the Russian-American period in Alaska history and a native Russian speaker.

Other 2009 Alaskana Award nominees were: *Red Summer: The Danger, Madness, and Exaltation of Salmon Fishing in a Remote Alaskan Village*, by Bill Carter (New York : Scribner, 2008); *Family After All: Alaska's Jesse Lee Home* (Vol. II, Seward, 1925–1965), compiled by Jacquelin B. Pels (Walnut Creek, CA : Hardscratch Press, 2008); *Shopping for Porcupine: A Life in Arctic Alaska*, by Seth Kantner (Minneapolis : Milkweed Editions, 2008); and *White Water Skippers of the North: The Barringtons*, by Nancy Warren Ferrell (Surrey, BC : Hancock House, 2008).





New Name for NSIDC

by **Allaina M. Wallace**, Librarian and Analog Data Archivist

Roger G. Barry Resource Office for Cryospheric Studies, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO

The Library and Archives at the National Snow and Ice Data Center have a new name: the Roger G. Barry Resource Office for Cryospheric Studies (ROCS). The new name honors the contributions of Dr. Barry, who retired as NSIDC's director in 2008 and continues as director of the World Data Center for Glaciology at NSIDC.

ROCS is an information resource for people studying Earth's frozen regions, the history of science, or past climate related to the cryosphere. ROCS is located at NSIDC's offices in Boulder, Colorado, and is open to the public. ROCS holds many rare and unique items, and it is a popular stop for researchers visiting the Denver/Boulder area.

We are currently working to make our collections more visible and accessible. We're also undertaking several initiatives to develop the collection and ensure its long-term stewardship.

Visit [ROCS' website](#), where you can obtain more information on our holdings and contact a librarian or archivist regarding your research needs. Visit our [new blog](#) as well to receive current news about ROCS and read *Frost Byte*, the newsletter of ROCS @ NSIDC.

The Role of Librarians in Training Researchers

by **David Walton**, Emeritus Fellow, British Antarctic Survey, Cambridge, UK

In the rapidly changing information environment of today, what is expected of libraries and librarians in making sure researchers have the competence to access the information they need? In the UK this has been recognised as a key part of career development skills, with initiatives provided both by the Research Councils and by higher education institutions (HEIs), yet the role that libraries and their staff should play in this seems, at best, confused.

Many researchers these days expect to access everything they need from their desk and rarely trouble the librarian unless the subscription to their favourite journal is cancelled! And training programmes organised by units that are not linked closely to libraries may not be providing the right tools.

In the recent report, *Mind the Skills Gap*, on attitudes to training in information skills and competencies, a review of UK HEIs has shown that researchers often overestimate their competencies in using online tools and that, at least in the UK—and I suggest probably elsewhere!—the organisation of training for researchers is poorly structured, may be based on a generic approach which is often only partly successful, and has almost never any follow-up to assess effectiveness and continuing needs. There are some interesting ideas in the case studies where librarians and academics have teamed up to provide more effective specialist training of the type which might be appropriate for polar libraries.

More information about the report, including the executive summary and background information, is available on the [website](#). There is also a briefing sheet covering a summary of the main findings and key recommendations.



Digitization Projects in Polar Libraries

As promised last time, this issue of the *Bulletin* features a sampling of new and ongoing digitization projects happening in our libraries. By stretching existing resources or tapping new grant funds, our polar colleagues show their creativity and initiative in getting these projects going, all to the good of making polar information widely available. We'd like to showcase even more digital innovations in the next issue, so please keep those contributions coming! —The Editors.

Digital Ice:

Grant Makes Possible Digitization of Arctic Collections at Dartmouth

Dartmouth College, Office of Public Affairs Press Release

Submitted by **Jay Satterfield**, Special Collections Librarian, Dartmouth College Library, Hanover, NH

Dartmouth's [Rauner Special Collections Library](#) houses one of the world's most extensive bodies of research materials on the North and South Poles, and thanks to a grant from The Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation, two key collections from that material will be fully digitized, making them easier to access and available to scholars everywhere.

The \$20,000 grant will be used to digitize 1,500 Arctic photographs and the unpublished 12,000-page *Encyclopedia Arctica*. Both projects are from the Stefansson Collection on Polar Exploration, which is comprised of research materials collected by the late anthropologist and polar explorer Vilhjalmur Stefansson.

Digitizing the 1,500 photographs from the Stefansson Collection, the bulk of which were taken during Stefansson's 1913–1918 Canadian Arctic Expedition, involves more than simply scanning each image, explained Jay Satterfield, special collections librarian. "The images will be scanned, stored, and served according to international standards for digital preservation and dissemination. These standards include the production of multiple resolutions for different end uses, including publication, online display, and ongoing preservation of the scanned images."

The photos will become part of an online digital archive which will provide public access to the

images as well as notes and captions. Library staff will tag each photo with keywords, making it possible for users to search the archive by image content, photographer, subject, and date.

Additionally, key documents surrounding Stefansson's use of these images in his popular lectures on the "Friendly Arctic," and an essay describing his advocacy of that concept, will help researchers understand how the images were initially presented to the public, so that modern scholars can use the material to study not just the Arctic, but the sometimes controversial man behind the collection.

"These photos provide detailed views of an Arctic that no longer exists," said Satterfield: "flora and fauna; earthen and snow-covered landscapes; ice formations and leads; boats and temporary camps; work stations; scientific experiments; and indigenous housing, clothing, and hunting and fishing practices. Rauner Library regularly receives requests from scholars to study or reproduce them."

The Delmas Foundation funding will also support digitizing Stefansson's 12,000-page *Encyclopedia Arctica*, a compendium of knowledge about the Arctic regions assembled by Stefansson in the 1940s under contract to the U.S. Navy. "The project was abandoned in its late stages by the Navy," said Satterfield, "in large part because of Stefansson's ties to members of the Communist Party." The work was never published and only a few copies exist,



Vilhjalmur Stefansson dragging a seal. From the Stefansson Collection on Polar Exploration (courtesy Rauner Special Collections Library).

including the original typescript that is owned by Dartmouth College.

The work covers topics from polar bears to the development of the Trans-Alaska Highway. It includes a treatise on kayaks, geographical profiles, and numerous anthropological studies.

Digitizing the *Encyclopedia* will open it to new audiences of scholars and enthusiasts. Individual pages will be scanned so that they can be viewed by users in their original layout, and the text will receive article-level tags that will allow keyword searching across the entire document.

For Rauner Special Collections, however, these projects represent the tip of the iceberg in the move toward digitization. Not only will they make the Stefansson material widely accessible, they will serve as procedural models for future digitization projects. "As the Dartmouth College Library develops its digital program and infrastructure, projects such as these supported by the Delmas Foundation, expand our experience resulting in important resources being made accessible,"

said Jeffrey Horrell, dean of libraries and librarian of the college. "We have an opportunity and a responsibility of sharing these unique Dartmouth materials with our students and faculty and the greater scholarly community."

The Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation, which supports the humanities, research libraries, and the performing arts, agreed to support the digitization projects because "the Dartmouth grant fits well within the context of our mission to improve access to neglected archival collections," said David H. Stam, a foundation trustee, "and the inclusion of a web-accessible version of Stefansson's famous but never-published *Encyclopedia Arctica* should prove a boon to all Arctic historians."

The foundation's funding will augment funds already allocated to digitizing the two projects given by Evelyn Stefansson Nef, the widow of Vilhjalmur Stefansson, and by the Kane Lodge Foundation. With the addition of the Delmas Foundation gift, said Satterfield, Rauner will have the resources to properly digitize the two collections and open them to the world.



Digitisation Up and Running at Australian Antarctic Division

by **Andie Smithies**, Librarian

Australian Antarctic Division, Kingston, Tasmania, Australia

Several years ago the Australian Antarctic Division (AAD) Library had the idea of digitising the Antarctic Division's two major research series, ANARE reports and ANARE research notes. These two series from the Australian National Antarctic Research Expeditions, more commonly known as ANARE, were produced in hard copy between 1950 and 2002. Stocks of many of these titles were dwindling in our store [storage] and despite ongoing requests for copies which we could not always fulfill, there was no money available for a digitisation project.

However, where there's a will, there's a way. The AAD's Data Centre offered assistance, and over some two years staff member Dave Connell was able to digitise in-house on his desktop scanner the 147 reports and 105 research notes from guillotined copies supplied by the Library.

In another more recent initiative, with assistance from AAD staff member Bruce Hull, the Library was able to assemble a full second set of the Scientific Reports of Douglas Mawson's Australasian Antarctic Expedition (1911–1914) and have them guillotined and ready for digitisation. In this case, the reports were digitised commercially thanks to financial assistance from the Mawson's Huts Foundation.

All of these documents are now available electronically on [AAD's website](#). Simply click 'Publications' on the toolbar, then 'Download' to gain access. Users from outside the Antarctic Division will be asked to 'Create a new account' before full access is provided, but the process is quite straightforward and takes only a couple of minutes.

So please take a look for yourselves and see what can be achieved on a shoestring when staff is willing to give their time and to work together towards a common goal.

Wilkins World War I Image Collection

New Digital Project by the Byrd Polar Research Center Archival Program

by **Laura Kissel**, Polar Curator, University Archives
The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

Last year at the 2008 Colloquy in Edmonton, Lynn Lay (Goldthwait Polar Library, Byrd Polar Research Center, The Ohio State University), presented a paper on the Byrd Polar Research Center's use of the OSU Media Manager. For those who were not present at Lynn's presentation, or need a refresher, the Media Manager is a tool which "helps organize, share, and present digital media files." It was developed by OSU's College of Arts and Sciences,

and has been made available to the wider OSU community.

Using Media Manager, the Byrd Polar Research Center (BPRC) now offers a web-accessible database of images and related documentation, created by BPRC scientists and other donors, pertaining to research in polar and other cold regions. In addition, it includes links to items and information available through the Goldthwait Polar Library and BPRC Archival Program.



The papers of Sir George Hubert Wilkins is just one of many interesting collections in the Archival Program. Contained within Sir Wilkins' papers is a remarkable series of original World War I images. Though the subject matter is not polar, we decided to give access to this small, but important collection via Media Manager. We found that this was the perfect venue to showcase these images and still maintain control over them. In addition, Media Manager materials are discoverable via Google, so this is a great way to lead users to an otherwise unknown group of images housed within our Archives.

We used student help in researching the metadata for each image, as well as in uploading and inputting the data. Fortunately, the Australian War Memorial has many of the corresponding negatives for these images. Even better, they have an extensive web database from which we were able to obtain detailed caption information. The end result is an extremely thorough record for each image. Media Manager allows us to watermark the images to maintain control while providing high-quality digital scans to allow research in this amazing collection. Please visit the [BPRC webpage](#) to see the Wilkins World War I images and many more fascinating collections.



Above, c. 1918, Somme, Picardy, France. A group of unidentified Australian soldiers who had just finished clearing out German dugouts. Note the German helmet in the foreground. The "SB" arm band of the soldier cut out of the picture stands for stretcher bearer.



Left, c. 1918, Somme, Picardy, France. Seven unidentified Australian soldiers resting and smoking in a trench.

See page 17 for additional photos.



Institute of Polar Studies Reports and Digitization Project Byrd Polar Research Center

by **Lynn Lay**, Librarian, Goldthwait Polar Library
Byrd Polar Research Center, The Ohio State
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The Byrd Polar Research Center at The Ohio State University (OSU) will be celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2010. Established in 1960 as the Institute of Polar Studies (IPS), it changed its name to the Byrd Polar Research Center (BPRC) in 1987. As part of the celebration, the Goldthwait Polar Library has agreed to digitize the Center's various report series and make them available in OSU Libraries' institutional repository, the [Knowledge Bank](#) (KB).

The IPS Publication Program first published the Report 825 series, which was the result of research conducted during the International Geophysical Year, 1957–1958. After the IGY, a central core of researchers assembled at OSU for data reduction and analysis. The research staff who conducted the fieldwork in Antarctica wrote the 21 reports in this series; OSU's Research Foundation published them and the American Geographical Society in New York was responsible for their dissemination to interested parties.

The three reports in the Report 968 series include the results of research completed during the International Geophysical Cooperation (IGC) in 1959. The Research Foundation again published these reports, but the newly formed Institute of Polar Studies distributed them. This report series ended in 1961 in conjunction with the end of the other IGC reports.

The original Report Series has 87 reports and spans the years 1962 through 1987. These reports constitute results of research that were either too lengthy or too detailed to be accepted as journal articles, and the reports often contain preliminary research findings. In the later years of this series, master theses and Ph.D. dissertations of IPS-affiliated graduate students were modified and

produced as reports. There are some gaps in the series because not every report was published.

In 1987, the report series name was changed to reflect the new name of the Center. The Byrd Polar Research Center Report Series started with report number 1 in 1987 and is still published, although not on a regular basis. The Byrd Center also publishes a technical report series that is distributed on a much smaller scale. These reports will also be available in the Knowledge Bank.

The Goldthwait Polar Library is responsible for the Publication Distribution Program and sends out needed reports to other international polar institutes and agencies and interested researchers on a gift/exchange basis. Due to budget constraints, some of the most recent reports are only available in limited print runs. The library possesses a few of these later reports in digital format; these will be added to the KB as time permits.

The library received a generous donation that allowed for professional scanning of the 825 and the 968 report series, as well as a few of the out-of-print IPS reports. The remaining IPS and BPRC reports are being scanned in-house. Student library workers scan the reports and work relatively independently on this project. The scanned documents are saved as pdfs as that is an acceptable and supported file format in the KB.

The BPRC librarian is responsible for uploading the files and adding the metadata for the reports in the KB. If someone contacts the library and needs a specific report not available in print, then that report is scanned as soon as possible and sent via email to the requestor, in separate parts if necessary because of the size of the files.

As of May 2009, 81 reports are available in digital format, and 16 reports are archived in the KB. In June, we will assess whether or not we are on target



Institute of Polar Studies Reports continued

for our goal of completing the scanning and the uploading of all of the series by the end of 2010. If not enough progress has been made, the librarian at the Orton Memorial Library of Geology at OSU has volunteered to collaborate on this project by

enlisting her students to help with the scanning and by adding reports to the KB. This is an ambitious project, but having all the publications available in the KB will improve access to these valuable and often requested documents.

IPY Publications Database

As of April 2009, the [International Polar Year Publications Database](#) (IPYPD) described 1,466 publications. The database, freely available online, is attempting to identify and describe all publications resulting from, or about, IPY 2007–2008 and the three previous IPYs.

Any library contributing records to the *Arctic & Antarctic Regions* database can help build the IPYPD. On the IPYPD “About” page, see the link to “Contributing Records.” Colloquy members who don’t contribute directly to *Arctic & Antarctic Regions*

can report publications from IPY 2007–2008 to ASTIS, CRBP, or SPRI as described on the “Reporting Your Publications” page of the IPYPD website. Publications from the three previous IPYs can be reported to [DAHLI](#) (Discovery and Access of Historic Literature from the IPYs).

To make the IPYPD available to the users of your library, and to remind IPY researchers that they should let us know about their publications, please put a link to the IPYPD on your library’s website.

Digitizing Makivik Corporation Publications Using IPY Grant Funds

Thanks to the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec, all of [Makivik Corporation’s publications](#) (*Taqralik*, *Atuaqnik*, *Makivik News*, *Makivik Magazine*, *Annual Reports*) are now digitized, preserved, and accessible.

Makivik periodicals are a unique history of the peoples of Nunavik recorded by themselves for themselves. The issues contain stories and letters from readers, local history, political stories, chronicles, and many photographs and drawings.

The digitized Makivik publications are also being indexed for the [Nunavik Bibliography](#) by ASTIS and McGill University.

Both outreach projects are part of “Entendre et communiquer les voix du Nunavik / Hearing and sharing the voices of Nunavik,” a joint Université du Québec à Montréal and McGill University initiative funded by the Canadian program of the International Polar Year 2008–2011. For more information, please consult the [project website](#).

Announcing

The 23rd International Conference on the History of Cartography will be held July 12–17, 2009, in Copenhagen, Denmark. Entitled [Maps, Myths and Narratives: Cartography of the Far North](#), the conference is divided into five themes, the first of which is “Cartography of the Arctic, North Atlantic, and Scandinavian Regions.” A preconference meeting for map curators will be held July 11. This marks the first time this international conference has been held in Denmark.

Noteworthy Publications by PLC Members

Submitted by **Deirdre C. Stam**, Associate Professor, Palmer School of Library and Information Science
Long Island University, Bobst Library, New York, NY

David H. Stam and Deirdre C. Stam. "Bending Time: The Function of Periodicals in Nineteenth-Century Polar Naval Expeditions." *Victorian Periodicals Review*, Vol. 41, No. 4 (Winter 2008), pp. 301–322.

"Regular and timely appearance characterized nineteenth-century periodicals for most readers, but that was not the case for a subset of Victorians, the officers and men of the Royal Navy, and other nineteenth-century polar travelers who brought and read plenty of newspapers and magazines, however outdated, on their voyages, and who in some cases produced their own newsheets and periodicals while isolated on expeditions to high latitudes.... Periodicals, whether brought from home or produced aboard ship or base, shortened periods of boredom, gave rhythm to undifferentiated periods of darkness, and reduced the sense of distance from home ports" (p. 301–2). The article also includes a "provisional list" of polar shipboard and base periodicals with notes on format and length of run, 1819–1922.

Matthew A. Henson. *Matthew A. Henson's Historic Arctic Journey; the Classic Account of One of the World's Greatest Black Explorers*. Introduction to the Explorers Club Edition by Deirdre C. Stam. New York: The Explorers Club; Guilford, CT: The Lyons Press, 2009. [Originally published as *A Negro Explorer at the North Pole*.]

"The new introduction discusses the phenomenon of celebrating Henson's achievements and participation in Peary's 18-year quest for primacy at the North Pole, which ended in 1909. It documents changes in public interpretations of Henson's role and includes an extensive listing of events, honors, publications, and collectibles that have been intended to honor Henson's place in polar exploration."

More Photos, Wilkins WWI Collection



Sept 1917. Members of the 1st Australian Tunneling Company excavating at Hooge, in the Ypres sector.



22 Oct 1917. Duckboard track across mud at Garter Point near Zonnebeke, in the Ypres Sector.



18 Sept 1918. German soldiers surrendering to troops of the 45th Battalion, beyond Ascension Farm near Le Verguier.



18 Sept 1918. German prisoners bringing in wounded from battlefield near Jancourt.



New Book Announcements

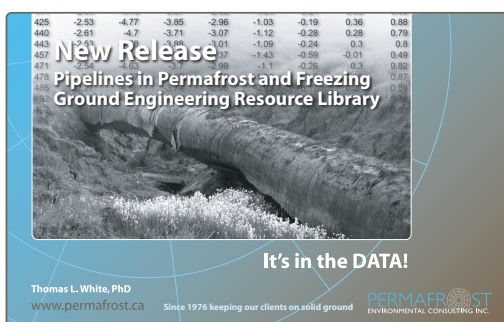
The second edition of *Pipelines in Permafrost and Freezing Ground*, a 14-volume book set first released in 2006, is now available. This edition features a CD-ROM containing the *Pipelines in Permafrost Database*.

Also newly released is *Contaminants in Permafrost and Freezing Ground*, a 12-volume book set equipped with a CD-ROM containing the *Contaminants in Permafrost and Freezing Ground Database*.

The timely release of these two titles provides engineers and geoscientists working in universities, research institutes, corporations, governments, and regulatory bodies an in-depth examination of the interdependence between cold climate infrastructure and the behaviour of freezing soils and permafrost-affected soils.

Readers deciding to purchase both book sets can take advantage of an incentive by the publisher and apply a 50 percent discount to the purchase price of the second book set.

For more information, contact Dr. Les White, Principal Permafrost Scientist at Permafrost Environmental Consulting, Inc., 27 Lindenlea Rd., Ste. 103, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1M 1A9, phone 613-746-4422.



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The *Bulletin* is published twice yearly in the Fall and Spring. Members of the Polar Libraries Colloquy receive the *Bulletin* as part of their membership. Personal dues are £20 or US \$35 for a two-year period. Institutional dues are the same. Please send dues to David Walton, Emeritus Fellow, Environment and Information Division, British Antarctic Survey, High Cross, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0ET, United Kingdom.

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