

The Library as **classroom**, the Librarian as **teacher**



When we think of teaching, we tend to think of a traditional classroom – a teacher at the front of the class, students in seats, and some kind of transmission of knowledge from one to the other. In the current landscape of post-secondary education, the classroom is not the only place where learning happens. At Ryerson, we know this well already. Having been a leader in online learning for many years, and with programs that emphasize experiential learning opportunities, we have embraced the concept that teaching and learning often happens, and can happen best, outside of the classroom.

Libraries have always been learning spaces. When students and faculty interact with items from the collection, either in print or online, learning happens. Students who visit the Library to work together as a group learn how to integrate different perspectives, mediate differences and collaborate towards a shared common goal. These activities have always taken place organically, given the role libraries play as spaces which nurture and encourage learning and discovery.

If the library is a classroom, the librarians are its teachers – and information literacy is what we teach. Faculty who request library instruction see the value in librarians teaching their students how best to find, evaluate and integrate library resources into their assignments. Librarians can also provide advice on how best to structure a library-based assignment. With our experience fielding common questions from students, and our understanding of how information is organized, our advice can sometimes make all the difference.

Librarians have already been embedded in a number of courses at Ryerson, such as BUS 100 and SSH 205, which include instruction from a librarian within the course itself, or lab-based instruction to aid in the completion of an assignment requiring the use of library resources. Librarians are also part of the Faculty Teaching Chairs initiatives, with librarians participating in faculty committees to help integrate the library more formally into the curriculum.

Librarian Don Kinder was recently awarded the OCUFA Academic Librarianship Award for outstanding performance from the Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations (OCUFA). As the co-ordinator of Library Instruction and Reference Services, and as the Library Faculty Teaching Chair, Don is involved in many learning and teaching initiatives at Ryerson. His role is emblematic of the role librarians can play in teaching at the university, and the impact we can have on student success.

To learn more about how librarians can help with your teaching, please contact your [subject librarian](#), or contact Don Kinder at dkinder@ryerson.ca

Remembering Jack Layton

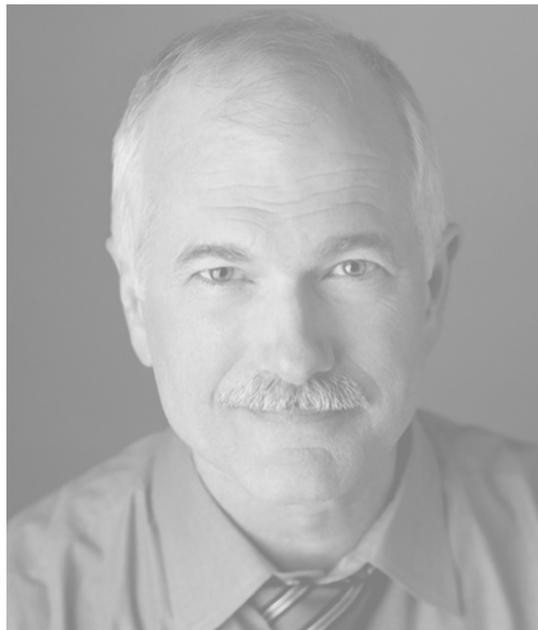
The late Jack Layton, the first NDP leader of the official federal Opposition, gained some of his formative political experience at Ryerson University, where he taught political science for almost 10 years. After his passing in 2011, his wife, Olivia Chow, and his family donated a collection of Jack's books and artefacts to Ryerson in honour of his affiliation with the university.

Jack's legacy was celebrated recently at Ryerson with a reception followed by the inaugural Jack Layton Lecture. Noted philosopher Charles Taylor, professor emeritus at McGill University, delivered the talk on Reimagining, Restoring and Reclaiming Democracy. The evening was also the occasion for the announcement of the inaugural Jack Layton Chair – Myer Siemiatycki, Professor in the Department of Politics and Public Administration. The Jack Layton Chair will engage in a range of activities related to Jack's interests, including the environment, homelessness and labour rights.

The evening also featured the opening of an exhibit in the Ryerson Library Archives (350 Victoria Street, 3rd floor), that includes some of the books, personal holdings and other memorabilia that were donated to the Library. The exhibit runs until the end of the 2012 year.

Approximately 500 volumes from Jack's library are now available for circulation at the Ryerson Library. The remainder of the 1400-plus donated books, along with textual records and various items in other formats, will be housed at the Ryerson Archives. More details about the donated materials can be found at a dedicated [website](#).

In attendance at the reception and lecture were members of Jack's family, including Olivia Chow, NDP MP.



Chief Librarian Madeleine Lefebvre (left) in conversation with inaugural Jack Layton Chair, Professor Myer Siemiatycki (right).

Photo credit: Clifton Li

Need Help? Ask Us!

The Library reconfigured some of its service points on the main floor during the fall term in response to the wide variety of queries from our users. This is a pilot project which will be evaluated at the end of term. Visit the Library website to learn more about the research help options available at the Library.

The **iDESK** will now greet users as they enter the Library, providing general information and orientation to the Library. Staff at this desk will also provide basic known-item searches and, when appropriate, redirect users to other service points as needed.

9 a.m. – 7 p.m., Monday to Thursday
9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Friday

The newly named **RESEARCH HELP DESK** provides research assistance in all subject areas.
10 a.m. – 7 p.m., Monday to Thursday
10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Friday
12 p.m. – 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday

The Library's chat reference service, **ASK US**, connects students, faculty and researchers from participating libraries with real-time research assistance through chat.

10 a.m. – 10 p.m., Monday to Thursday
10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Friday
11 a.m. – 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday

A new appointments service starting this fall, **BOOK A LIBRARIAN**, allows students to book a 30-minute, one-on-one appointment with a library staff member to discuss their research needs. There is also an existing appointment service for graduate students.

Appointments are available from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday to Friday, and will take place near the Research Help Desk on the Library's main floor.

TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANCE is available most hours the Library is open. This includes help with passwords, printing issues and wireless support. The printers have also been relocated next to Technology Assistance.

We hope these changes will provide a better user experience for our patrons – but we want to hear from you! Please give us your [feedback](#) throughout the term.

From the Chief Librarian Madeleine Lefebvre



Alongside more than 500,000 books and 1,300 print journal titles are more than 45,600 e-journals, 165,000 e-books, databases and indexes, geospatial data, and catalogued websites or electronic documents.

Artist rendering of the inside of the proposed Student Learning Centre



The concept of a learning centre, sometimes called the library of the future, relies to a large extent on the rise in recent decades of technology-enabled learning.

With the groundbreaking of the new Student Learning Centre on Yonge Street at the end of May, Ryerson University took another significant step in the continuing evolution of digitally-enhanced learning. The new space is much anticipated by our scholarly community, which continues its rapid expansion beyond existing borders – physically, intellectually and creatively. Between the constantly robust rate of enrolment applications and the creation of new academic programs at undergraduate and graduate levels, our growing population means we are bursting out of our physical space. It's time to expand, and the Student Learning Centre will provide Ryerson students with an outstanding environment in which to study, to collaborate and to discover. The Library, which provides daily evidence that we are outgrowing existing resources, is hive-like with the intense activity of scholars studying, collaborating on assignments, conducting research. The Library will be physically linked to the Student Learning Centre. It will also be linked virtually, as a crucial hub in the network of technology-enabled learning that is playing an increasingly important role in education at Ryerson and in all learning environments today.

The concept of a learning centre, sometimes called the library of the future, relies to a large extent on the rise in recent decades of technology-enabled learning. We are evolving through a series of technological developments from scanned and uploaded original materials to digitally-born materials that have never experienced the medium of print. We are gaining, at an exponential rate, unprecedented access to information via the internet, electronic publications and virtual databases. Every year extends the scope of available material, in breadth of subject, historical range and geographic reach.

The Ryerson Library has embraced electronic resources since their first appearance, often constrained by budgetary considerations but never by a lack of imagination or enthusiasm. The project has continued to evolve and now offers our scholarly community ready access to an increasing digital inventory of information across all disciplines. And we work hard to stay ahead of the curve. From a library that housed exclusively hard copy resources just a couple of decades ago, the Ryerson Library now provides a well-balanced collection of electronic resources along with print materials and audio-visual materials. Alongside more than 500,000 books and 1,300 print journal titles are more than 45,600 e-journals, 165,000 e-books, databases and indexes, geospatial data, and catalogued websites or electronic documents. In 2011-12, the Library spent more than \$4 million on acquisitions; 84 per cent of that was for digital resources that included databases and geographic information systems (GIS) data along with e-books and e-journals.

We constantly review the needs of our scholarly community in order to serve it better. With generous support from our Annual Fund donors, this year we purchased licences to two humanities digital collections. This supplements an extensive and growing list of electronic resources to which the Library subscribes – including [Springer e-books](#), a collection of over 4,000 titles spanning many subject areas, including Architecture; Biomedical and Life Sciences; and Humanities, Social Science and Law. (Elsewhere in this issue, you can learn more about other recent e-resource acquisitions by the Library.)

With astonishingly small portable devices and increasingly versatile modes of connectivity, most of this information is available remotely. By virtue of being members of Ryerson's community, our students, faculty and staff can access an impressive range of materials from inside or outside the Library and soon, from the inspiring comfort of the Student Learning Centre as well.

When the Ontario government recently asked colleges and universities to respond to a discussion paper on a 'transformation process' in post-secondary education, technology-enabled learning, online learning and lifelong learning figured prominently in the consultation. Ryerson University's submission to begin the process of developing a strategic mandate agreement detailed a solid combination of proven career-related programs along with a visionary agenda that continues to build on our entrepreneurial, innovative and creative curricula. Not surprisingly, digital technologies and e-resources have a prominent place throughout. And always, helping to provide the necessary underpinnings to the success of the whole academic project, is the Library.

We're proud to be part of it, and proud of the role we play.

Welcome to new members of RULA-SAC

A new academic year means a new student advisory committee! Since 2009, the Library has formed a student advisory committee, RULA-SAC, which meets regularly throughout the year to provide feedback on library services. The committee is chaired by librarians, with student members from different years and disciplines, undergraduate and graduate programs and The G. Raymond Chang School of Continuing Education.

Some initiatives which have resulted from RULA-SAC's contributions include:

- Silent Study on the 10th floor
- Signage at Help Desks (Research/IT and reconfiguration of Research Help services)
- Student Ambassadors at the iDesk

We look forward to hearing what this year's RULA-SAC has to say!

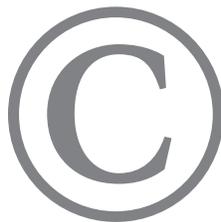
Learning Commons Open House

The annual Ronald D. Besse Information and Learning Commons Open House was held on Hallowe'en from 1-3 p.m. This event exposes students to the various academic support services available to them in the Library's Learning Commons. Ten zones were created so that students could hear first-hand about the services that can help them succeed academically. Participants included the Writing Centre, Math Centre and Student Learning Support. Students collected passport stamps as they explored the zones during Open House, then entered their passports in a draw for an iPad. Congratulations to the lucky winner!



Thanks for another great open house – we are looking forward to next year! And thanks to Ryerson alumnus Ron Besse for supporting the Library and the Learning Commons.

Copyright Questions? Ask Ann



Librarian Ann Ludbrook, the university's first Copyright Coordinator, is charged with educating the campus community on copyright issues. Based at the Library, Ann has been involved in creating the One-Stop Course Reading service, and has been busy meeting with faculty and students to discuss their copyright questions, and further educate the university on copyright compliance in an increasingly complicated digital environment.

Ann can be reached at copyrt@ryerson.ca or ext. 6910.

One-Stop Course Readings... Easier, Faster, Better!

In April 2012, the Library and the Campus Bookstore started a collaborative pilot project – the One-stop Course Reading Service. It is designed to streamline the permission management of course readings by providing online access while ensuring copyright compliance.

Faculty can choose which of several options work best for their course readings. However, all requests are now first routed through the Library to determine if any of the material is already accessible. Available options are:

- Custom Course Manual (course packs and reprotexts from the Campus Bookstore)
- E-Reserve Materials (Online articles, streamed video, digitized materials)
- Print Reserve (Photocopies of articles, books, DVDs, VHS)

The project has quickly resulted in a high-volume increase in e-reserve materials. In Fall 2011, prior to the One Stop Course Reading Service, about 100 book chapters were created in .pdf and 4,000 links posted to articles available in e-reserve. Since this Fall, 770 book chapters have been created in .pdf, and nearly 7,000 links to articles are available in e-reserve!

For more information on how you can put your course readings online, please visit the Library website or email reserve@ryerson.ca

Library Support for Open Access Publishing

The Library's open access fund supports authors who wish to make their research open access and who are required to pay an article processing fee in order to make this possible. To date, the Library has supported researchers in Nutrition, Chemistry and Biology, Electrical Engineering, and Nursing. The fund covers all journals with an open access option, as well as Biomed Central. For more information, contact Brian Cameron at bcameron@ryerson.ca or ext. 6886.

Renew Books on Your Phone

You can now renew books on your mobile phone from the Library's mobile site. Click on the renew icon, and log in with your my.ryerson.ca account details to view books you have checked out. Select items to renew – it's that easy!



New to eResources

Mergent Annual Report Collection: this collection of over 180,000 corporate and industry-related documents covers over 100 countries and includes equity research reports, annual reports, and industry analysis and forecasting.

University Press Scholarship Online: 9,000+ titles in 23 subject areas, from nine leading university presses, including Oxford University Press.

A full subscription to **Passport GMID**, which includes 8 million internationally comparable market statistics on industries, countries and consumers, 18,000 full text market reports, company reports and country reports and expert analyst comment on emerging industry trends, country trends and consumer trends.

A complete list of recent digital acquisitions is available [online](#).

Staff Notes

Cataloguing librarian **Val Lem** is currently on a year-long sabbatical.

Cecile Farnum has returned from maternity leave. Thanks to **Courtney Lundrigan**, who acted on her behalf as communications and liaison librarian. Courtney has since joined York Libraries.

Alison Skryme has joined Special Collections and Archives as a curatorial assistant.

After many years of service as a librarian, the Library bid a fond farewell to **Zita Murphy** at a celebration attended by many staff from across the university. All the best, Zita – we will miss you!

May Yan has been appointed to the position of e-resources access and discovery librarian.

Josephine Choi has been appointed to the position of library technician, working in serials and electronic resource management.

Librarian **Jane Schmidt** has been elected councillor at large of the Canadian Library Association (CLA) starting in January 2013.

Library Stars

OCUFA President, Constance Adamson (left), presenting Librarian **Don Kinder** (right), with the OCUFA Academic Librarianship Award for outstanding performance.



Photo credit: Juris Komets, Natural Selection Photography

The Wilhelm E. Nassau Camera Collection

The Library's Special Collections' Heritage Camera Collection was significantly enhanced earlier this year with a [donation](#) of approximately 500 cameras and pieces of camera equipment from Wilfrid Laurier University. The collection supplements the existing holdings in European and Japanese manufacturers, and provides a greater inventory for research in early camera designs. To view items from this donation, please contact [Special Collections](#).



Polaroid 110A from the Wilhelm E. Nassau Camera Collection

Publications and Presentations

Susan Patrick, Librarian, and Professor **George Kapelos** from the School of Architecture co-authored "Teaching with the Canadian Architect fonds – a collaboration between Ryerson University librarians and instructors in architecture using Special Collections" *Art Documentation* 31 (2): 245-262.

Librarians **Ophelia Cheung** and **Ann Ludbrook** co-presented "Link it right! Everything you want to know about electronic course readings" at the May 2012 Ryerson Faculty Conference.

Lei Jin and **May Yan** co-presented "The matching game: Experimenting with librarian mediated patron-driven acquisition" at the Electronic Resources and Libraries Conference in Austin, Texas in May 2012.

Kevin Manual and **May Yan** co-presented the session "If we build it, will they come?" at the TRY conference in May 2012. They also co-presented the poster session "Analysis of the Summon Service at Ryerson University" Poster at the CLA National Conference and Trade Show in Ottawa.

Library Hours

Monday to Friday –
8 a.m. to 1 a.m.

Saturday and Sunday –
10 a.m. to 1 a.m.

Contact Us

Please address all comments and correspondence concerning this publication to the co-editors of *NEXUS*:

Cecile Farnum, Librarian
cfarnum@ryerson.ca | 416-979-5000, ext. 4093

Joanna Beyersbergen, Director of Development, Library
jbeyersb@ryerson.ca | 416-979-5000, ext. 6891

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