

## **OCULA Annual General Meeting Reports, 2015**

**The following reports will be delivered or referred to at the OCULA 2015 Annual General Meeting on January 28, 2016.**

Thank you to the 2015 OCULA Council and our Members-at-Large for all your hard work and support in making this year's OCULA activities a success. Below is a comprehensive overview of the full range of activities undertaken by OCULA in 2015. As of December 31, 2015, we had 598 OCULA members.

### **2015 Council:**

Shanna Pearson (President)  
Denise Smith (VP/President Elect)  
Sophia Apostol (Past President)  
Sharon Munro (Councillor-at-Large)  
Peter Duerr (Councillor-at-Large)  
Fiona Inglis (Councillor-at-Large)  
Jack Young (Councillor-at-Large)  
Jessica Samuels (Councillor-at-Large)

### **Super Conference Co-Planners:**

Jeannie An  
Paula Cardozo

### **Editorial Team:**

Elizabeth Yates (Editor-in-Chief [as of November 2015])  
Jenaya Webb (Co-Editor-in-Chief [to October 2015])  
Graeme Campbell (Deputy Editor)  
Michel Castagne (Junior Editor)

### **New Librarian Resident:**

Caleb Domsy (January - August 2015)  
Chris Landry (September - December 2015)

## **Strategic Initiative: Growing Career Paths & Potential**

*Our goal for this initiative is that our members look first to OCUA for progressive, thought-provoking, and practical professional development that expands their thinking, their capabilities, and their career opportunities. OCUA continues to focus on providing professional development to our members, and all of our events were received positively by participants.*

### **OCULA Spring Conference (Held April 24, 2015)**

The OCUA Spring Conference was once again held at the Inn on the Twenty in lovely Jordan Station. The conference theme was “Crossing Thresholds”. There were 60 registrants, one of the highest attendance rates to date. The event’s keynote speaker, Dr. Karen Louise Smith (Mitacs Elevate post-doctoral research fellow with Mozilla and the University of Toronto), presented an engaging and interactive talk about makerspaces and participation in digital society. Denise Smith, Peter Duerr, and Member-at-Large Mark Weiler worked together to organize this year’s successful event and we would like to thank them for all of their hard work.

### **OCULA Spring Dinner (Held May 13, 2015)**

The OCUA Spring Dinner was held at the Amsterdam Brewery on downtown Toronto’s Harbourfront. The theme was pop-up events in academic libraries which the planners embraced full-heartedly. During the first hour participants built zen gardens and made bowls out of recycled magazines. During dinner, participants reviewed 32 event submissions from Ontario college and university libraries and voted on their favourite pop-up events based on different award criteria. The event was very well-received, and we would like to thank Robin Bergart and Shanna Pearson for organizing this engaging dinner.

### **OCULA Fall Event (Held November 17, 2015)**

OCULA decided to try something different for this year’s Fall Event and held a virtual conference. We partnered with OLITA and used OLA’s Adobe Connect software to host three speaker presentations and discussions. The event was titled: *Touting your own Horn: Advocacy for Academic Libraries*. Our three esteemed speakers were:

**Myron Groover** - Archives and Rare Books Librarian at McMaster University Library

**Angela Henshilwood** - Faculty Liaison and Instruction Librarian at the University of Toronto’s Engineering and Computer Science Library and OCUA representative on the OLA Advocacy Committee

**Alain Lamothe** - Head of Collections and Technical Services at Laurentian University

The event was well-attended, and the online format allowed for participation from attendees who might not have been able to attend an in-person event. Our thanks to the planning committee consisting of Sophia Apostol, Sharon Munro, Martha Attridge-Buften, and Beth Mens (OLITA).

### **New Librarian Residency Award**

The New Librarian Residency Award (NLRA) was created to provide entry-level professional work experience in an academic or research library to a new librarian. This award has been presented to six institutions since 2009. OCUA awards \$20,000 to the successful academic library and the host institution funds the remainder of the librarian's salary. OCAD University was the successful recipient of the 2015 award and they hired Chris Landry to be a Scholarly Communications Librarian/Digital Projects Officer.

Chris has already completed many exciting projects for OCAD U. He has organized Open Access Week events and drafted policies for OCAD's institutional repository, including a non-exclusive license agreement for deposits. He has also met with the Office of Graduate Studies to harmonize policies pertaining to student theses and major research papers/projects (MRPs). Additionally, Chris has developed user guides and has reached out to faculty members to deposit items into the collection. He will soon begin developing workflows for images, exhibitions, and other types of deposits that do not yet have clear guidelines in place for the repository.

### **OCULA Lightning Strikes Student Award (OLA SC)**

We had many great submissions for this year's Lightning Strikes session at the OLA Super Conference and 6 amazing presentations. The winner of this award will be announced at the OCUA Awards Reception following the OCUA AGM. Many thanks to Denise Smith, Fiona Inglis, and Jack Young for making this a successful session.

### **OCULA Award for Special Achievement**

The Award for Special Achievement is being given to Colin Clarke from York University. Colin's Syriac Inscriptions Project demonstrates how information professionals can help to preserve and, in some cases, salvage endangered world heritage in texts through digital humanities. His efforts to conserve collections in India through the use of solar-archival units proves the worth of professional librarianship. In giving Colin this award, OCUA recognizes the merit of his contributions and the value of his work. His endeavours provide a service to library organizations and offer a library program which serves as a model to others.

### **OCULA Award for Lifetime Achievement (Shanna)**

The OCULA Award for Lifetime Achievement is being given to Karen McGrath, Director of Library and Bookstore Services at Niagara College, in recognition of her outstanding contributions to OLA, OCULA, and the broader library community. During her career, Karen has been the Executive Advisor to the National Librarian of Canada and CEO at both Lincoln Public Library and Niagara-on-the-Lake Public Library. She has been very active within the Ontario Library Association and has served as President of OLA and Past President of OPLA. She has been a strong supporter of OLA council activities and ABO-Franco initiatives. Karen was OLA President when post-secondary institutions were beginning to take a different approach to managing copyright. She worked with the OLA Board to develop and implement values that would help the Board to navigate through copyright issues. She has also served on the Board for the Southern Ontario Library Service and is the current Chair of Colleges Ontario's Heads of Libraries and Learning Resources. Her career in academic libraries began in 2008 when she led the development of the new Library and Learning Commons at Niagara College. She remains a leader of the library team and services there to this day. She has just completed her Graduate Certificate in Executive Coaching and so continues to serve as an outstanding mentor and source of inspiration to others in the library community. OCULA is delighted to present Karen McGrath with the OCULA Award for Lifetime Achievement.

### **Information Briefs**

Information Briefs are two-page backgrounders on issues relevant to Ontario's college and university library staff. Each brief addresses an issue in terms of who, what, where, when, why, and how, focusing on the benefits and challenges, as well as the implications for libraries in higher education.

This year all of our information briefs were updated, and a new Information Brief focusing on Instructional Design, written by Caleb Domsy, has been published and [posted](#). Our thanks to Peter Duerr and Jack Young for soliciting and coordinating the updates of the information briefs.

### **Practicum Student from the University of Toronto's iSchool**

In winter 2015, OLA and OCULA jointly hosted an iSchool Practicum student for a 105 hour placement. Katey Stickle was selected to work with us for her practicum. For OLA, Katey worked with Michelle Arbuckle to compile statistical reports on the feedback given about 2015 Super Conference sessions. For OCULA, Katey participated on a number of projects including compiling and organizing information about past OCULA events, projects and awards. She also attended a council meeting and wrote an article about an academic poster featured at the OLA

Super Conference. We would like to thank Katey Stickle for her contributions and we wish her the best of luck in her career as a professional librarian.

## **InsideOCULA**

As usual, it has been a busy and productive year for the newsletter and its team. Some highlights from the year include:

### **Publishing in OpenShelf**

*InsideOCULA* has been publishing as part of *OpenShelf* since November 2014. The partnership between the OCULA newsletter and the OLA magazine continues to grow and has resulted in increased visibility for *InsideOCULA* content; the recent addition of direct access to *InsideOCULA* via the *OpenShelf* left navigation menu makes it easier for readers to find and read features and regular columns including *Around the Province* and *Research Spotlight*.

In November, OCULA Council accepted the decision for *InsideOCULA* to reduce its publication schedule to five issues per year: February, April, July, October and December. Publishing five editions instead of nine will ensure that there is sufficient content for every issue, while also allowing the editorial team time for more in-depth planning and for investigating readership analytics and other issues.

### **Editorial Team Changes**

As 2015 began, Martha Attridge-Buften finished her term as Editor-and-Chief and Jenaya Webb and I – who had been editors-at-large since 2012 – began sharing the role of Co-Editor-in-Chief. In March, two new members joined the editorial team: Graeme Campbell as Deputy Editor and Michel Castagné as Junior Editor. In September, Jenaya moved on to new challenges. I am now carrying on as Editor-in-Chief and will complete my term in January 2017. *InsideOCULA* was very fortunate to benefit from the skill, talents and hard work of Jenaya and Martha – they are missed!

The *InsideOCULA* editorial team would also like to extend its gratitude to members of OCULA Council and OLA staff, especially Annesha Hutchinson and Brian Pudden, for their support.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Yates, on behalf of the InsideOCULA editorial team:

Graeme Campbell, Deputy Editor

Michel Castagné, Junior Editor

## **Strategic Initiative: Collaborating to Extend Libraries' Strategic Voice**

*Our goal is to contribute to the view that libraries are essential contributors to the economy, education, lifestyle, and culture of a community. Our ultimate goal is to be an influential voice for libraries and the information sector.*

### **Library Day at Queen's Park (Held November 25, 2015)**

One of our key initiatives this year was participation in OLA's second Library Day at Queen's Park. OLA contracted with Impact Public Affairs, a public relations firm, and delegations of diverse members from OLA and FOPL met with MPPs and other key decision makers. A message kit was developed and the theme for the day was the positive impact that libraries have on people, communities, and Ontario. Specific requests this year focused on the inclusion of public libraries in Ontario's Culture Strategy as well as support to extend the funding that allows public and school libraries to purchase eResources for their communities. Angela Henshilwood and Shanna Pearson attended Library Day at Queen's Park on behalf of OCUA, and spoke with numerous MPPs and attended Question Period. The MPPs were very engaged in OLA's key messaging and they supported the need for eResources funding for public and school libraries.

### **OCULA Strategic Voice Committee**

The Strategic Voice Committee coordinates responses to various advocacy issues that arise or are submitted by our members. This year OCUA wrote a letter of support for the McMaster University Academic Librarians' Association who were trying to negotiate fair and equitable rights for librarians at their institution. Issues can be submitted to OCUA council through our "Call for Action" form located on the OCUA website.

## **Transforming Ideas into Solutions**

*Our goal is to foster innovative thinking throughout the library sector that is translated into solutions that keep library services growing and meaningful within the changing Ontario culture and environment.*

### **OCULA Super Conference Planning**

We would like to thank Jeannie An and Paula Cardozo for their amazing work as our OCUA Super Conference Co-Planners. Please refer to their report below for more information. We would also like to welcome Jennifer Peters of Seneca College and Courtney Lundrigan of the University of Toronto who will be joining us as the incoming Super Conference Planners for 2016/17.

### **OCULA Super Conference Report**

The theme of OLA Super Conference 2016 is "Library Lab: The Idea Incubator." A number of potential Spotlight Speakers were proposed by OCUA Council and the Super Conference

Planners. We are very pleased that Caroline Haythornthwaite, of the University of British Columbia's iSchool, agreed to be our Spotlight Speaker. Haythornthwaite is an active speaker whose research interests include social informatics, peer production, online social networks, and e-Learning. Her spotlight session, "Redefining Learning for a Networked World" is sure to be of great interest to conference delegates.

There are thirty-eight OCULA sessions in the final program, including the popular *Lightning Strikes Student Award* session and the Spotlight Speaker. OCULA's Annual General Meeting is also in the program. OCULA received almost 100 session proposals, a very large increase from the previous year, and this made for some tough choices. Several strong proposals were traded to other divisions or forwarded to the Poster Committee for consideration.

The OCULA sessions presented at the 2016 conference included innovative public services, theoretical and practical applications of the ACRL Framework, collaboration within and beyond academic libraries, library-press partnerships, eLearning, special collections, student mental health, creativity, bibliometrics and altmetrics, and user expectations.

Respectfully submitted,  
Paula Cardozo and Jeannie An  
OCULA Super Conference Planners, 2015/16

## **Strengthening the Organization**

*Our goal is that OCULA/OLA has the near-term and long-term strengths in terms of people, finances, and infrastructure to fulfill our mission and realize our vision.*

### **OCULA New Librarian Residency Award Fundraising Committee**

This year the New Librarian Residency Award Fundraising Committee's efforts have focused on identifying ways OCULA can independently fund the award without impacting OLA's status as a charitable organization. If OCULA can find the means to fund the NLRA independently, the sustainability of this very valuable award would be ensured. After extensive input from the staff at the OLA office and many creative brainstorming sessions, the fundraising committee developed a prospectus for potential corporate sponsors. The committee will work towards attracting sponsorship in 2016 with the aim of funding the award in 2017. Special thanks to Shelagh Paterson, Stephanie Pimentel and Annesha Hutchinson at the OLA office for contributing their expertise to this initiative. Additional thanks to Denise Smith, Sharon Munro, and Sophia Apostol for their continued efforts to find ongoing funding for this award.

### **OCULA Ambassador Communications & Volunteer Coordination**

This year we expanded this activity to include volunteer coordination so that there is a main contact for people who are interested in volunteering for OCULA. We would like to thank Peter

Duerr, Jessica Samuels and Jenaya Webb for all of their outreach and communication with the Ambassadors.

We currently have an Ambassador for 18 Ontario Universities and 8 Ontario Colleges with communications being sent directly to the Library Director or Chief Librarian for the other Ontario Colleges without Ambassadors. We are looking for a new Ambassador for the following libraries. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Denise Smith from OCULA Council.

Nipissing University and Canadore College

Wilfrid Laurier University

Algonquin College

Cambrian College

College Boreal

Conestoga College

Fanshawe College

Fleming College

George Brown College

LaCite College

Lambton College

Loyalist College

Northern College

St.Clair College

St.Lawrence College

Sault College

### **OLA Governance Review Committee**

A key strategic initiative for the OLA Governance Review Committee was to review OLA's governance structure, including its Terms of Reference. As a result, OCULA updated nine terms of reference for our various committee responsibilities and in the process streamlined some of our workflows, committee work and documents.

### **OLA Committees**

We would like to thank all of our OCULA Council members and Members-at-Large who represent OCULA on several OLA Committees, including:

- OLA Mentoring Committee (Jenn Peters, Denise Smith)
- OLA Advocacy Committee (Angela Henshilwood)



- OLA Governance Review Committee (Sophia Apostol)
- OLA Finance Committee (Fiona Inglis)
- OLA Revenue and Fund Development Committee (Denise Smith)
- OLA Board (Shanna Pearson, Denise Smith)

**OCULA Treasurer’s Report, Year Ending 2015**

Submitted by Fiona Inglis

- Some 2015 invoices are yet to be booked
- 2015 year-end numbers are preliminary and have not been audited

**Expenses for OCULA Council (unaudited)**

Expense	Budget	Actual	Difference (\$)
Telephone	0	73	(73)
Catering	750	961	(211)
Travel, etc. OLA	4200	3171	1029
Awards	350	235	115
Printing	225	0	225
Supplies	50	64	(14)
Special Projects	500	0	500
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>6075</b>	<b>4504</b>	<b>1571</b>

**Expenses for OCULA Education (unaudited)**

Revenue	Budget	Actual	Difference (\$)
Revenue: Registration	12025	10570	1455
Revenue: Exhibits	350	0	350
Revenue: Sponsorship	1050	3101	(2051)
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>13425</b>	<b>13671</b>	<b>(246)</b>

Expense	Budget	Actual	Difference (\$)
Catering	6600	4986	1614
Travel, etc. OLA	1660	450	1210
Travel, etc. non-OLA	0	0	0
Awards	0	350	(350)
Printing	50	0	50
Supplies	75	301	(226)
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>8385</b>	<b>6088</b>	<b>2297</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>5040</b>	<b>7584</b>	<b>(2544)</b>

<b>DIVISION TOTAL</b>	<b>(1035)</b>	<b>3080</b>	<b>(4115)</b>
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## **President-Elect Report**

I would like to thank everyone who voted for me in December 2014, granting me the incredible opportunity to serve as OCULA President in 2016. I have been extremely fortunate to work with a wonderful group of people on OCULA Council this past year, and I look forward with great anticipation to the wonderful initiatives that we have planned in the upcoming year.

I would like to offer an especially large “thank you” to our 2015 President, Shanna Pearson, who has tirelessly and graciously mentored me in my role as Vice-President, answering all of my questions and offering me a nudge in the right direction when I faced any uncertainty. This year, Shanna’s exemplary leadership has demonstrated her commitment to advocating for libraries and library professions of all kinds. I am grateful that I will continue to benefit from Shanna’s cool head and extensive expertise in her role as Past-President.

Respectfully submitted,  
Denise Smith

## **Introduction of the 2016 OCULA Council**

Denise Smith (President)  
Sarah Shujah (VP/President Elect)  
Shanna Pearson (Past President)  
Fiona Inglis (Councillor-at-Large)  
Jack Young (Councillor-at-Large)  
Jessica Samuels (Councillor-at-Large)  
Jennifer Browning (Councillor-at-Large)  
Andrew Colgoni (Councillor-at-Large)

## **Super Conference Co-Planners:**

Jennifer Peters  
Courtney Lundrigan

## **Editorial Team:**

Elizabeth Yates (Editor-in-Chief)  
Graeme Campbell (Deputy Editor)  
Michel Castagne (Junior Editor)

## **New Librarian Resident:**

Chris Landry (January - August 2016)