

Ontario College and University Library Association



Nathalie Soini
OCULA President
Queen's University

2009 OCULA Membership: 510

OCULA Council 2009 Accomplishments and Activities:

This year, OCULA Council decided to evaluate our awards. Without taking away the value of the awards had in the past, Council agreed that there was a need to differentiate between a Lifetime Achievement award and a Special Achievement award (formerly known as just one award: the OCULA Award)

Special achievement award

The OCULA Award for Special Achievement honours exceptional achievement(s) in at least one of the following areas over the past 2 years:

1. Service to OLA/OCULA and any other library organization, or
2. Research and publication in areas of academic librarianship, or
3. Planning and implementing a library program which serves as a model to others.

This year's inaugural Special Achievement Award goes to Conifer.

Lifetime achievement award

The OCULA Lifetime Achievement Award honours exceptional

achievements in the following areas:

1. Service to OLA/OCULA and any other library organization, and
2. Research and publication in areas of academic librarianship, and
3. Planning and implementing a library program which serves as a model to others.

This year's winner is Toni Olshen from York University. Congratulations Toni.

Student award

We also tweaked our Student award. We created the "Lightning Strikes" Student session at the OLA Superconference. The delegates voted for the best speaker/presentation and we awarded the winner at the OCULA AGM/Awards Ceremony. Laura Beauchamp was the winner of the first "Lightning Strikes" student award.

New Librarian Residency Award

In addition to the 3 OCULA awards given at Superconference, OCULA also introduced a 3-year award called the New Librarian Residency Award. The intention of the residency program is to enhance recruitment of new librarians to academic librarianship and provide entry-level professional work experience in an academic or research library setting. Through this program, college and university library administrators can apply for funding towards the salary of a new librarian for a minimum of 10 months to a maximum of 12 months. (Length is dependent on the institution and funding, but should be no less than 10 months.) To our knowledge, this residency program is the first in Canada to be funded by a library association.

We had 7 universities apply for the funding for this award. Brock University was the successful institution and Monica Rettig was the successful applicant for a 12-month contract at Brock. As part of the award,

Monica has the chance to come to council meetings (ex-officio) and become involved with OCULA council and projects, in addition to learning more about her profession at Brock. Monica also has the opportunity to be mentored by the librarians and staff at the James A. Gibson library. Our interview with Monica was printed in the Fall edition of *InsideOCULA*.

The call for the 2010 proposals from colleges and universities was distributed in March. The award is a great opportunity for institutions to benefit from a new librarian. In return, the new librarian will gain the necessary experience needed for future employment.

Events

The Spring event took place at Ryerson university. This was the first time I had ever attended the Spring workshop and I was not disappointed. This year's guest speaker was Dr. Arne Kislenco, Associate Professor of History at Ryerson University and Adjunct Professor in the International Relations Program at the Munk Centre for International Studies at the University of Toronto. Those who attended enjoyed Dr. Kislenco's stories from his time as immigration officer at the Pearson International Airport. His insight into International Relations was enlightening and it is no wonder that he won the TVO Best Lecturer award in 2004. Thank you, Ryerson, for hosting such a lovely and thought provoking affair. The venue and the food were superb.

Publications

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Jennifer Peters-Lise (Editor-in-Chief, 2007-2009) for her outstanding work with the newsletter and the website. She managed to get things done so efficiently and quickly. She will bring these skills to her new role on council as Councillor-at-Large. Brian (Deputy Editor, 2007-2009), you are now the Editor-in-Chief (2010-2012) and

I know that you will do a great job. With our new Deputy Editor, Martha (2010-2012), you will make a great team. I would also like to thank our departing Access Editor, Cecile Farnum. The OCULA contributions in Access were great. Eva Dodsworth is our new Access Editor – thank you Eva for taking on the job. All of our OCULA publications are in good hands.

Advocacy

OCULA has taken a stronger role in regards to advocacy this year. There are many changes taking place in our institutions, content providers and governments. The economic crisis is affecting us all, but we must be vigilant that our integrity, services, and professionalism are not diminished. You may notice more position papers on our website in the next year.

The 2010 council will be in excellent hands as Caroline leads us into a year of evaluation and creation of a new strategic plan. Caroline understands the importance of reaching out to our current and potential members. I also encourage you all to become active members in our organization. You will gain a greater understanding of OLA, its members as well as OCULA's professionals across the province.

Ontario Library Boards' Association



Margaret Wicklum
OLBA President
Brockville Public Library Board

2009 OLBA Membership: 1,054

The year flew by, but looking back OLBA again accomplished a great deal in 2009 on behalf of library trustees across Ontario.

Our first major event was the rollout of the fifth element of our stellar Leadership by Design programme at Super Conference 2009. This module, entitled Learning from our Peers, was a compilation of the key findings from the research conducted in April through December of 2008. During that year, visits were made by members of OLBA council and consultants to 16 libraries across Ontario, chosen for their exemplary commitment as leaders in the cultural, economic, educational and/or social development of their respective communities. The summary of their common characteristics and competencies is available on the OLBA website.

Also at Super Conference 2009 OLBA awarded the W. J. Robertson Medallion for Public Librarian of the Year to Wilhelm Eisenbichler of the Sault Ste. Marie Public Library.

OLBA is unique in having representatives from every corner of the province on its council. OLBA is truly a provincial organization, which gives us great credibility. Over the course of the year various of the 10 members of our council, who came from as far away as Fort Frances, and Cornwall and as close as Richmond Hill, attended the SOLS Trustee Council meetings in 16 different locations in southern Ontario, attended the OLS-North spring library conference, served on the OLS-North board, served on the Ontario Library Association awards committee, supported libraries which asked for assistance with governance issues, were panelists at Libraries 2020 Symposium in September, assisted with pilot focus group meetings in anticipation of the sixth and final element of Leadership by Design, and of course

continued to serve as trustees on their own OLBA member library boards, as well as attending our own council meetings in Toronto four times a year, and OLA Board meetings. One of us attends Toronto Public Library board meetings as well. And remember—we are volunteers!

At our own meetings, we developed plans for the implementation of the sixth and final element of Leadership by Design; Networking with our Peers, a series of 10 meetings across Ontario to which all board chairs and CEO's were invited, met jointly with OPLA council, organized trustee workshops for Super Conference 2010, and kept up to date with our website plans.

We added an extra day to one of our usual Saturday meetings, and developed our Strategic Plan for 2010 through 2014, with the assistance of our capable consultants Margaret Andrewes and Randee Loucks. Through it all we have been supported most ably by Shelagh Paterson, Executive Director of the Ontario Library Association, and her staff, who smooth our way, answer our questions, and make it seem easy.

It was an enormous pleasure to serve as President of OLBA in 2009, leading a dedicated and talented group in their efforts to improve library governance. Outgoing Presidents can be forgiven a twinge of 'Did I accomplish all I set out to do? And will the next President catch and carry the torch?' Believe me when I say that Jane Hilton is more than capable, and OLBA can be confident of yet further triumphs under her leadership.

My most heartfelt thanks to all who made 2009 such an effective and productive year, and who make library leadership such a terrific arena to work in.

Ontario Public Library Association



Bessie Sullivan
OPLA President
Haliburton County Public Library

2009 OPLA Membership: 1,368

I sincerely hope that the actions of the OPLA Council will speak for themselves and that the projects begun and carried over from previous years will yield enhanced benefits to you as members.

PROJECTS

I am especially proud of the Enabling Change Grant we received to make accessibility training DVDs in partnership with a film school, and the PLA Bursary program. The OPLA Council is a vibrant self starting group that managed despite busy schedules and only four meetings to put into practice many good ideas through the course of the year.

Vice President /President elect Jill Nicholson along with OLA Executive Director Shelagh Paterson wrote the Enabling Change Grant. We received more than \$27,000.00 to fill a need for library specific accessibility training.

Sandi Lopenen dreamed up the Bursary while researching other library association incentive programs. Every two years the OPLA will budget for a bursary that will enable one OPLA member to attend the PLA Conference. Working quickly the OPLA Council was able

to put this in place for an OPLA member to attend in March of 2010.

Laura Carter continues to maintain the OPLA webpage as well as liaise with the Children and Youth Services Committee.

Karen Milligan-Thurston had a baby (she did other things as well but that seemed most significant to me).

Linda Del Grande and Joanna Aegard took on the roles of Treasurer and Secretary respectively.

Patricia Eastman attends Reader's Advisory Committee meetings and reports back to the OPLA Council.

Paul Walker and Louise Proctor Maio provided editing, research, and procedural help on a number of projects.

ADVOCACY

Four resolutions were passed at last year's AGM that provided a framework for advocacy work for the OPLA Council. The resolution about early literacy initiatives was addressed by OPLA's Child and Youth Services Committee and the OPLA as well as OLA joined in lobbying and support of Knowledge Ontario. The council did discuss a letter campaign supporting French Language materials and services in public libraries as well as newcomer's services.

COMMITTEES

Elise Cole of Oakville Public Library continues as our representative and was chair of the Ontario Public Library Monitoring and Guidelines Committee. This is the committee responsible for the writing of the Accreditation Guidelines and accrediting and re-accrediting the libraries in the province.

The Readers' Advisory Committee held yet another successful RA in a Day workshop in October with

115 paid delegates. The committee continued to develop templates for core competencies, the skills needed by public library staff to provide a high level of service to adult readers. These can be found on the OPLA Website.

The Child and Youth Services Committee conducted a province wide survey. They also partnered with the Readers' Advisory Committee and provided some of the content for RA in a Day.

The conference planners worked all year to put together a fabulous program for Super Conference. They were also invaluable in the process of recruiting and retaining new conference planners for future conferences.

I have been thrilled to be surrounded by such dynamic people.

Thank you for this opportunity.

Association des bibliothèques de l'Ontario-Franco



Pascal Lupien
Présidente d'ABO-Franco
University of Guelph

2009 ABO-Franco Membership: 135

ABO-Franco a offert sept sessions au congrès annuel en langue française sur des sujets variés: gestion, le Prix Tamarack, les bandes dessinées, les services en français dans un environnement minoritaire, les livres numériques, la lecture dans les écoles et les technologies.

Après avoir travaillé avec Knowledge Ontario, la banque de données Actualité Francophone, incluant accès à plusieurs journaux, périodiques et médias en français, est maintenant disponible.

Le Prix Micheline Persaud a été présenté à Louise Godbout-Le-gault pour reconnaître son travail au niveau de la promotion de la langue française en Ontario.

ABO-Franco est toujours représentée sur la table de concertation du livre Franco ontarien.

Le premier Prix Tamarack a été décerné en 2009. Le comité de sélection continue à travailler sur le programme.

Lors de la réunion annuelle de l'ABO-Franco 2009, les membres nous ont demandé de développer un plan stratégique pour guider les priorités de notre division. Afin de pouvoir déterminer ces priorités, le conseil a préparé un petit sondage pour mieux connaître les besoins des membres.

A partir des résultats de ce sondage, ABO-Franco a développé son premier plan stratégique. Ce plan a quatre priorités : Résautage (faciliter la collaboration et l'échange entre employé(e)s de bibliothèques de toutes sortes qui ont un intérêt francophone), Promouvoir et grandir ABO-Franco (continuer à développer notre présence comme sous-organisme de OLA, promouvoir ABO-Franco pour augmenter le nombre de membres), Promotion des services en ligne en français et Promouvoir la littérature franco-ontarienne. Le conseil a aussi développé des activités potentielles pour avancer ces priorités.

Monique Brûlée a été élue vice-présidente/présidente élue 2011. ABO-Franco a aussi des conseillers cette année: Steven Kraus et Patrick Labelle.

Ontario Library and Information Technology Association



Peter Ellinger
OLITA President
Ontario Legislative Library

2009 OLITA Membership: 2,306

OLITA Council's 2009 Accomplishments Include:

2009 Digital Odyssey:
Digitisation: Theory and Practice

OLITA's Digital Odyssey was held at the University of Toronto Faculty of Information on Friday, June 5.

With increasing interest and commitment to digitizing and making accessible digital content this year's Odyssey proved to be particularly well attended. As with past Digital Odyssey's, this year's event was financially sound, generating a positive balance of \$7,547.

Thanks to Liz Kerr and OLA staff for providing support and making many of the arrangements that made the event such a success.

OLITA was responsible for organizing: 30 technology related sessions at OLA's 2010 Super Conference, including the ever popular OLITA spotlight session: Top Tech Trends with Steve Abram, Mike Ridley and Marty Tarle. It is a testament to OLITA membership's depth of talent that notwithstanding the late and unavoidable absence of two origi-

nal panelists, the event took place with out a hitch.

Our Super Conference planners Adam Taves and Bartek Kawula deserve a special mention for the stellar job they did in arranging speakers and sessions for the event.

OLITA recognized innovation in the province by selecting Project Conifer for the 2009 OLITA Award for Technological Innovation.

Project Conifer is a consortial installment of the Evergreen Open Source library system. It is the first academic consortium to implement Evergreen and represents the largest bibliographic database supported by Evergreen. Project Conifer went live in August 2009.

OLITA thanks the award selection committee members Krista Godfrey (Chair), William Denton and Lester Webb in selecting this project from a strong field of 16 submissions.

OLITA provided regular contributions to Access, OLA's magazine, on technology related issues in 2009 and completed the development of our InsideOLITA blog www.accessola2.com/olita/insideolita/wordpress/

Also in 2009, OLITA continued providing input in the ongoing development of theLibrary Networking Group site.

The OLITA President and Vice president were also participants in OLA's strategic planning initiative which resulted in a re-focussed mission and vision for the organisation.

OLITA also contributed to a study commissioned by SOLS "...to examine Library Technology Trends emphasizing both Federated Search Engines (FSE), Open Source ILS and to look at other technology trends including social networking and the introduction in Ontario of the AODA and service to individuals who are disabled"

Ontario School Library Association



Ruth Hall
OSLA President
Toronto District School Board

2009 OSLA Membership: 2,078

We completed a successful year, bringing projects to fruition, taking on new challenges and continuing to represent and advocate for school libraries.

- ❖ School library visioning document, Together for Learning, funded with support of the Ontario Ministry of Education's Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat, was complete in 2009 in time to be launched at Super Conference 2010. Sincere thanks and appreciation go out to Peggy Thomas and Larry Moore who formed the core of the writing team, with support from Bobby Henley and Diana Maliszewski.
- ❖ Continued representation at Curriculum Forums for Subject Associations through the OTF (Ontario Teacher's Federation), in conjunction with the Ontario Ministry of Education and Faculties of Education
- ❖ Continued representation at TALCO's (The Association of Library Consultants of Ontario) 4 quarterly meeting and with the CASL (Canadian Association of School Libraries) sector of CLA (Canadian Library Association), at the CLA annual conference
- ❖ In late spring the Ministry of Education released an additional \$10 million in funding for elementary school libraries to be

spent by Sept. 30th

- ❖ August launch of our first OTF funded subject association summer camp. Held at OISE, the 3 day workshop was attended by 38 teachers, many from boards outside of the GTA. Presenters included: Carol Koechlin, Dr. Elizabeth Lee, Gay Stephenson, book publishers, and an experimental "unconference" portion where attendees presented highlights from their professional practice. The camp was facilitated by Diana Maliszewski with co-planner Ruth Hall.
- ❖ Attempted to use LNG as a blogging/wiki platform for the summer workshops but found it was not robust enough to handle traffic by 40 simultaneous users
- ❖ Celebration to recognize school library month in October with an intimate visit by guest author Linda Bailey, held at the Lillian H. Smith branch of the Toronto Public Library, followed by a visit to the 50th anniversary celebratory display of the Osborne's collection of fairy tales for young and old
- ❖ Representation in November at TD National Reading Summit and People for Education annual conference
- ❖ 3 successful issues of the Teaching-Librarian, print and electronic issues are now being issued simultaneously, a change from previous policy to only make prior issues available electronically
- ❖ Thanks go out to our OSLA Super Conference Planners: Sharon Mills, Pat Whitehouse and Nancy Dalrymple who facilitated the 41 school library related workshops presented at Super Conference as well as OSLA Spotlight speaker Dr. Chris Spence author of Leading With Passion and Purpose: Creating Schools that Help Teachers Teach and Students Learn and new director of the Toronto District School Board
- ❖ A well attended OSLA Awards Ceremony recognized: Distinguished Administrator of the Year: John Kostoff (DPCDSB);

- Achievement Award Co-Winners: Tim Gauntley (TDSB, retired), Marlene Turkington (TVDSB, retired); and Teacher-Librarian of the Year: Marybeth Snyder (WRDSB). It is an honour to be able to publicly celebrate the contributions made by these individuals, their passion, their inspiration and their leadership
- ❖ OSLA has joined with other library associations across the country to sponsor a research symposium examining the future of school libraries. The symposium, called Treasure Mountain Canada, modelled on the work of David Loerschter will be held in Edmonton, in conjunction with CLA's annual conference. This first ever Canadian event has been created as a catalyst to develop much needed scholarly studies and grassroots research in order to connect school libraries to the larger education landscape and to identify the practices which will ensure the best school library programs for all students.
- ❖ Council opened 2009 with a fresh group of faces, successfully filling 5 vacant positions on council. An unusual set of work-related circumstances resulted in the resignation of Lisa Weaver (Past President) and Marilyn Willis (President) from their roles. Council acted quickly to put a new executive team in place: Paul Kay (former Toronto Councillor) stepped into the role of Acting Vice President and Ruth Hall (VP) assumed the position of President. Thanks go to Anita Brooks-Kirkland who returned to Council to take up the post of Acting Past President, giving invaluable help in steering the ship with a new council and neophyte executive team.
- ❖ Council has begun the task of examining our Strategic Plan which is in need of renewal and are now looking to align OSLA's goals with those of OLA as a whole. This is anticipated as a future project for Council to tackle.