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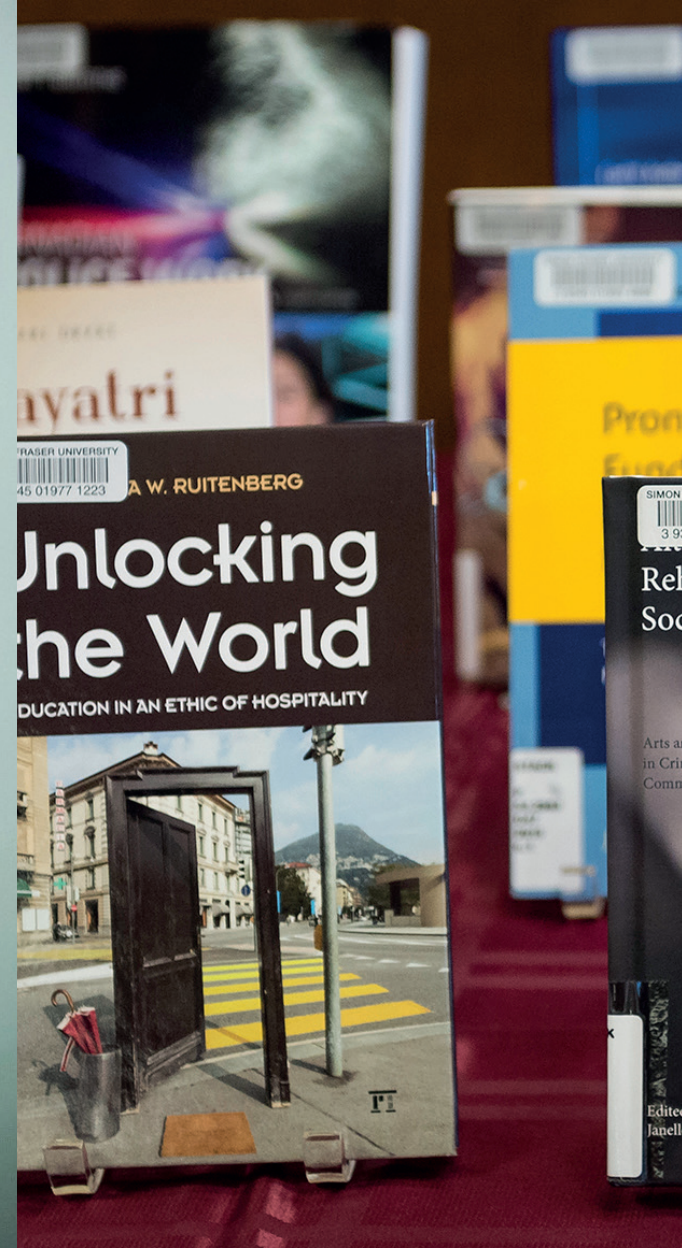
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Library Highlights

2015/ 2016



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Cover photo: Teju Cole and Eleanor Wachtel at One Book One SFU



Gwen Bird

Message from the Dean

It has been a full and lively year at the SFU Library. As you'll see in the pages of this report, the Library is busier than ever in our core areas of work: learning, research, and community and campus collaborations. Our collections continue to grow in keeping with the evolution of teaching and research at SFU, and the expertise of our staff is similarly developing to reflect new forms of scholarship.

In addition to these daily activities, the Library hosted a number of events to connect members of the campus and community, including author readings, our annual Celebration of SFU Authors, open houses for SFU's 50th Anniversary, and our inaugural One Book One SFU initiative. We continued to build out our virtual presence with digital collections and exhibits, making more of our resources accessible to wider audiences.

The Library was also pleased to lead planning on behalf of SFU for the very successful Burnaby Festival of Learning, held in conjunction with the City of Burnaby and School District 41, as a closing event for SFU's year of 50th Anniversary celebrations.

Library staff are now looking forward as we create our Strategic Plan for the next five years. It is both a pleasure and a privilege to be building our future on such a strong foundation.



Welcome to the SFU Library

In the 2015-2016 fiscal year, SFU Library welcomed over 1.8 million visitors to our three campus locations: W.A.C. Bennett Library in Burnaby, Fraser Valley Real Estate Board Academic Library in Surrey, and Samuel and Frances Belzberg Library in Vancouver. In addition to the in-person visits by students, faculty, staff, and community members, we had over 3.3 million visitors to our newly re-designed website, making lib.sfu.ca one of the most heavily trafficked sites on campus.

In March, we held the 9th annual Celebration of SFU Authors (photo this page) and were delighted to recognize 174 books, book chapters, films, musical compositions, and works in other formats by 125 SFU authors. Every year, this event is an opportunity to encourage academic dialogue and ensure

that scholarly works by SFU Authors are available to the University community through the Library's collections. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Joy Johnson and Mark Winston who joined us as our distinguished speakers at this year's event.

The Public Knowledge Project (PKP) hosted its 5th International Conference at SFU Vancouver in August. With 125 participants from around the world, it featured a program on scholarly publishing, open access, digital humanities, as well as a software sprint and community consultations with development partners, funders, and other collaborators.



Teaching & Learning

This year, SFU librarians and learning specialists delivered more than 1200 information literacy and academic skills classes to over 24,000 students and held over 9300 one-on-one consultations.

- The Library partnered with SFU's Teaching and Learning Centre to sponsor small campus grants in support of Open Educational Resources. The grants provide funding to SFU faculty members for the redevelopment of credit courses, to adopt Open Textbooks or other OER in place of conventional textbooks. The goal of the program is to refresh courses with high quality resources at a lower (or zero) cost to students. Funding is provided by the VP Academic, and the first awards were distributed in spring of 2016.

◀ **SFU alumna, Lauren Shandley, credits her SFU education with developing her critical thinking and improving her writing skills.**

“ I was a terrible writer and I hated it. I spent my first two years developing and honing my writing skills in the Learning Commons, and now I'd say one of my biggest strengths is my writing. ”



- Julie Jones, GIS, Map, and Geography Librarian, was drawn to SFU's vision to be the leading engaged university and to initiatives such as the SFU Library Research Commons and the Semester in Dialogue. Prior to coming to SFU in 2015, she was the Geography and Urban Planning Librarian at McGill University for five years, and welcomed the opportunity to expand GIS services for SFU researchers in all disciplines. In her work as GIS Librarian, she helps researchers find, access, and use the data and tools they require to use GIS in their research. Jones is drawn to this area of librarianship because of her interest in the ways spatial thinking and GIS can enrich research, make complex data more accessible, empower citizens, and help us better understand each other.

“ I think your space is fantastic. I work full-time and take courses so your services have been extremely helpful! At each stumbling block, you have been there to assist me in solving the problem myself and finding ways to learn more through on-line tutorials, handouts, IT help, etc. Thank you. ”

Vancouver Campus Student about the Yosef Wosk Student Learning Commons



“ Visualizing information spatially — that is, on a map — is often more powerful and effective than communicating textually or in a spreadsheet. ”

Julie Jones, GIS, Map, and Geography Librarian

Research & Scholarship

Access to rich resources for faculty and student research and sophisticated programming is a hallmark of the SFU Library. Below are a few noteworthy initiatives in this area.

- In 2015-2016, the Library forged ahead with a phased approach to implementing a full range of research data management services and support for SFU researchers who wish to deposit, share, and preserve their research data. We continued to develop and operationalize Radar, SFU's research data repository and expanded our awareness-building and outreach efforts. SFU Library participated in several national research data

management initiatives with CARL (Canadian Association of Research Libraries) Portage and Compute Canada.

- With support from the Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies and the Vice-President Research, SFU Library's Research Commons hosted Research Bazaar (ResBaz), a worldwide festival promoting digital literacy emerging at the center of modern research. Partly a connecting event and partly a suite of workshops, this popular festival included sessions on finding and managing data, building an online academic presence, using Twitter for research, text scraping and parsing, and more.

- SFU Library's Special Collections and Rare Books division received a generous donation from Dr. Robert and Rosemary Coupe of an extensive and significant collection of rare books, pamphlets, and other items by and about William Morris. William Morris (1834-1896) was an English artist and textile designer, poet, novelist, typographer, and socialist activist. He is considered to be one of the most influential figures in Britain during the Victorian era. Associated with the British Arts & Craft movement, Morris's designs became a major influence on Victorian interior design and decoration. We are honoured to make this rare and stunning collection, including materials from Kelmscott Press, available to the community.

- For the past four years, SFU's Indigenous Initiatives Librarian, Jenna Walsh has been working with Aboriginal communities and SFU students, faculty, and staff to establish, develop, and grow the Library's services for Aboriginal students. She has been working with graduate students across disciplines with an interest in Indigenous methodologies. In the Indigenous research methodology workshops, she addresses a broad range of issues including Indigenous intellectual property and knowledge systems. The introductory workshops have been one way for students to meet and learn from each other while discussing their research goals, challenges, and accomplishments. They help build and strengthen a community of researchers committed to preserving Indigenous voices and building resistance to the dominant, colonial discourse.



Illustration by Walter Crane from *The Story of the Glittering Plain* by William Morris. Printed at the Kelmscott Press, January 1894.



“Students, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous, engaged or about to engage in research with Indigenous peoples, would benefit from learning about Indigenous research methodologies.”

Jenna Walsh, Indigenous Initiatives Librarian



Community & Partnerships

The SFU Library is an active participant and partner in the University's engagement strategy.

- In partnership with Mindset Social Innovation Foundation, SAGE Publishing and Springer Nature, SFU Library piloted the Community Scholar Program, a unique program to provide leaders of 100 charitable and non-profit organizations in British Columbia with access to the latest research and knowledge in their fields. Given that scholarly research is generally written for an academic audience, the Library is also working with our partners at Mindset to provide tailored research assistance to participating community scholars and non-profit organizations.



It's been at least six years since I last had access to academic journals. I saw signing up for this program as an opportunity to see what new research has been published at the intersection of social justice activism and adult education, topics and ideas that will greatly support our work.



Don Wright, Regional Activism Coordinator at Amnesty International

- In November, the Library partnered with SFU Public Square to present the inaugural One Book, One SFU event as part of the 2015 Community Summit at SFU Vancouver. The featured book was Teju Cole's *Open City* and we were thrilled to host Cole, a distinguished writer, art historian and photographer in conversation with CBC Radio's Eleanor Wachtel. Over 200 participants were treated to a lively discussion of Cole's work and stayed long after the event to meet the New York based author. (Photos this page + cover)



Connections & Collaborations

In response to direct student feedback, this year saw the expansion of hours at our Surrey Campus Library. For the first time since the Campus first opened in 2002, Fraser Valley Real Estate Board Academic Library opened on Sundays during exam periods on a pilot basis.



Having been a student at SFU for nearly four years now and as a resident of Surrey, I frequent the Fraser Library 3-5 times a week. The Fraser Library is the main library I go to as most of my classes are at the Surrey Campus and it is close to home. It is incredible how much they have to offer. It is very reassuring to know that I can depend on my school's library. The launch of the Sunday pilot is an added benefit for students as the Library is open and fully operational all weekend during the most stressful time of the year! Having an important resource like the Fraser Library available alleviates the stress of finding books, signing out electronic devices, and using the computers and study space within the Library.



Hajira Khan

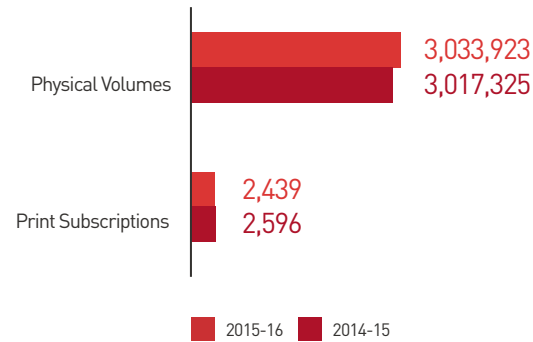
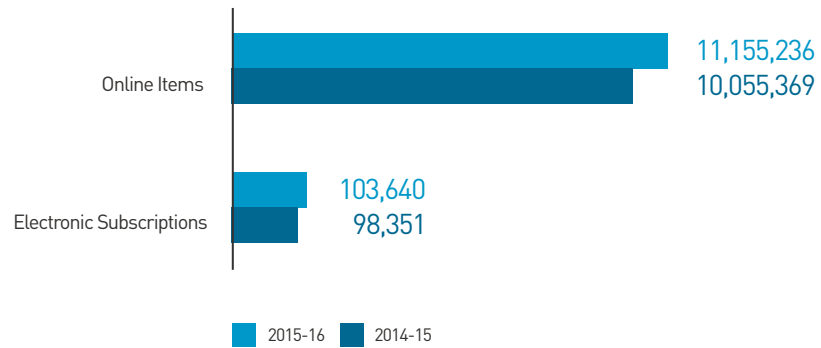
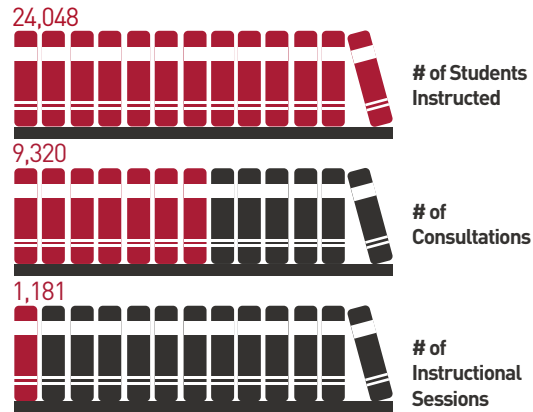
• Emily Bragg was announced as the second recipient of the SFU Library Undergraduate Student Award.
• Emily's passion, determination, and commitment to social justice impressed this year's selection committee chaired by University Librarian, Gwen Bird. Just about ready to graduate from SFU with a double major in Linguistics and English, a Certificate in Speech Science, as well as a TESL Certificate, Emily was hard at work on a directed study project in the area of queer sociolinguistics. Her interests in this area range from the political impact of language on culture and society to reclaiming of language by gender and sexual minority groups. Winning the 2015 SFU Library Undergraduate Student Award meant a brand new computer for Emily, which we are sure she will use to push boundaries, create change, and apply for graduate school! This annual award is made possible with generous gifts from SFU staff, librarians, friends and other supporters into an endowment established in 2014 as part of the SFU Annual Campus Campaign. This award recognizes a full-time student who has volunteered or worked for the Library.



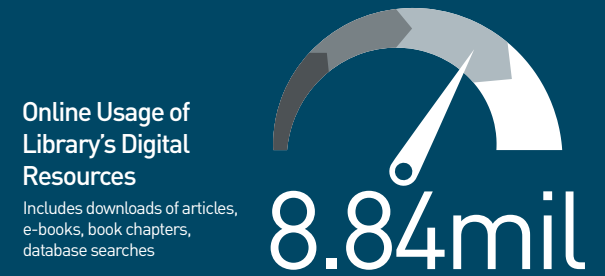
If you're keeping within everyone's comfort zone, you're not doing it right.



Emily Bragg



Statistics at a Glance





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