

## Copyrighting “Freedom of Expression” ~ The endangerment of public resources: who is controlling public meaning?

by *Tanya Rogoschewsky & Tamara Monster*

David Bollier, in his talk “Librarians as Stewards of the Commons,” challenged the audience to think of new ways to reclaim resources that corporations and states are constantly attempting to privatize and “commodify.”

Using recent examples of corporations’ attempts to enclose ideas and images, Bollier asks a crucial question that we all need to ask ourselves: Who should control public meaning? Bollier argues that, as librarians, we are in the perfect position to preserve access to knowledge and creativity.

Through history, the market and the state, leaders and individuals have sought to control intellectual property and freedom of expression. In the Internet and digital age, large companies seek to privatize what was once available to everyone. It is the role of librarians to act as stewards of an intellectual ‘commons.’

With his humorous anecdotes, Bollier acknowledged the financial power of companies like Disney, Mattel and Fox when restricting the use of images and phrases, but he also showed how empowered citizens and librarians can continue to ensure that intellectual property remains a resource for all people.

## The Role of Public Knowledge in the Future of the Library Movement

by *Emma Hill Kepron*

John Willinsky’s engaging and energetic presentation on the open access movement sounded the call to arms for librarians to take up the challenge of promoting and supporting the public’s right to access publicly funded research.

Through the use of self-archiving and open access journals the open access movement is a direct response to the “knowledge lock-down” undertaken by many publishers and copyright holders. This attempt to restrict access to research and knowledge to only certain segments of society should be opposed by educators and librarians. The public not only has a right to find and use this research, it has much to contribute to what has previously been considered special or academic subjects.

Librarians are in a unique position to foster, in the general public and in academic communities, the expectation of the right to know.

### Internet Café

The Internet Café has 10 workstations available for email in the North Hall Foyer located on the upper level, North Building of the TELUS Convention Centre.

### Hours

Saturday, June 18 ~ 8:00 am – 11:00 am

This conference service has been generously sponsored by Useful, a Calgary desktop computing company.

## **The Canadian Bookcamp – A Week of Kids Mentored By Canadian Authors** *by Tanya Rogoschewsky*

In this workshop, Joy Gugeler, Janice Douglas, and Annette DeFaveri gave a practical start to librarians interested in having this innovative program in their libraries. Bookcamp is a five day camp for kids interested in writing and illustrating their own books. Started by Ms. Gugeler, it has been successfully running at the Vancouver Public Library and the Toronto Public Library.

The Bookcamp connects interested writers in the 9-12 age range with Canadian authors, illustrators and editors in a non-competitive environment. It embraces a wide range of writing styles including song writing, graphic novels, fiction, poetry and journalism.

Running from 9:00 a.m - 3:00 p.m., the camp begins each day with a keynote speaker (generally a notable author), and includes a number of workshops allowing students the chance to hone their writing skills while having fun and meeting other children with the same interests.

The Bookcamp starter kit, given out at workshop, gives advice on the importance of partnerships, recruiting volunteers, finding authors, locating space, promoting the program and much more. For more information, contact [info@bookcamp.ca](mailto:info@bookcamp.ca).

## **E-Learning in the Classroom and Information Literacy Instruction: Where do Libraries Fit In?** *by Emma Hill Kepron*

Online teaching of information literacy seems like a great opportunity for academic libraries to reach many students at once with minimal strain on library resources. The projects for online literacy instruction initiated by the University of Calgary and the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) revealed some of the weaknesses and limitations of online instruction. This session outlined some of the strategies these institutions have adopted to overcome these weaknesses.

The University of Calgary has had success using a method of blended learning in which online instruction is undertaken in a classroom setting and is supported by an in person facilitator. NAIT initially implemented strictly online stand-alone library instruction modules but this proved to be problematic as students were unable to make meaningful connections between the library instruction and their course work. It was determined that information literacy instruction was much more effective when it is integrated, with the cooperation of the instructors, into existing online courses. Using this method, students can make use of library instruction at the point of need and thus make the instruction more relevant.

These two initiatives show that libraries need to be working in tandem with faculty and instructors in order to ensure that

### **CLA JobLink Centre**

Looking for that important new career opportunity? Need advice on landing the job interview for your dream job? The Joblink Centre will be in TELUS 103 located on the Main Level, North Building of the TELUS Convention Centre.

#### **Hours**

Saturday, June 18 ~ 8:00 am – 11:00 am

The Canadian Union of Public Employees (Alberta Division) has generously sponsored the Joblink Centre for the conference.

students can make links between not only the library's resources and their courses, but the library's role in their lifelong learning.

### **Info Commons or Learning Commons: Lessons Learned to Guide New Initiatives**

*by Lina Gordaneer*

What are the commons? I am ashamed to admit that before I attended this session I had no idea. Thankfully the five panelists gave a comprehensive view of what exactly the commons are, what they can be and what to watch out for when designing one.

So what are they? In the context of higher learning institutions, they are a space where students can study together or alone, where they have access to computers or wireless space and where they can access help in the form of reference, IT help and even tutorials.

Some important concepts highlighted in the talk were how to keep partnerships in the commons viable, to keep the students' needs as the prime focus, and on the IT side, to always remember that printing is a thankless job.

### **Distinctly Canadian? Balancing Canadian Resources in a Learning Society**

*by Janine Jevne*

In the course of writing a book on Canadian children's illustrated books, Professor Judith Saltman interviewed a large number of Canadian publishers for children. Almost all noted that the publishing health of the Canadian children's book industry has deteriorated. The reasons include "the disappearance of a viable domestic market due to the terrible cutbacks to professional teacher-librarians who were their conduits into the schools, as well as, cuts to school library budgets."

## **CLA Conference Bloggers Wanted!**

### **CLA's Conference 2005 Blog is here!**

CLA's President, and lead blogger, says that "CLA is happy to offer this service for all members to experience the conference - either here in wonderful Calgary or from afar. It's the latest tool we have to strengthen the Canadian library movement.

The blogging doesn't have to stop with the end of the conference...so once we leave Calgary...keep on going with your thoughts, reflections, comments!

To get started, send an email to [pwilson@cla.ca](mailto:pwilson@cla.ca) and say you want to blog!

A blogger.com invitation will go out shortly thereafter. Simply follow the simple instructions on creating a blogger.com account (if you don't already have one) and away you go...

In order to access the American market, many Canadian publishers are taking out Canadian spelling and place names. This type of 'censorship' is often presented as a choice to authors. Do they want to sell more books? OR Do they want their text to reflect Canada?

"Canadian children's literature has an important role to play in young Canadian's developing understanding of what makes Canada a country, what makes Canada different from other nations, and what it means to be Canadian in a globalized society." Joyce Bainbridge outlined two of her studies in which teachers were asked about the importance of Canadian literature and their use of it in the classroom. Although ninety percent of teachers believed it was important to use Canadian

books in their classrooms, many did not seek out or 'know' Canadian books.

Our publishing industry is of crucial importance to the development of our culture, heritage and identity as a nation. Canadian publishers and school libraries are closely related and interdependent institutions. Strong school libraries, staffed by professional teacher-librarians help connect Canadian children's publishers and their books and authors to Canadian students and teachers.

### **Insights from Higher Ground with Sharon Wood**

Sharon Wood, the first woman from North America to climb Mount Everest offers delegates inspiration and insight in her keynote address on Saturday. Don't miss "Insights from Higher Ground" at 12:15 pm in TELUS Exhibition Hall E.

The keynote address of Ms. Wood will be available through the CLA Web site following the conference.

### **Toronto Public Library Makes Generous Contribution to CLA Tsunami Relief Fund**

Toronto City Librarian Josephine Bryant presented CLA President Stephen Abram with a cheque in the amount of \$10,000 in support of CLA's Tsunami Relief Fund. The donation was made during the CLA Awards Ceremony in Imperial Room 5-7-9 at the Hyatt Regency Calgary.

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