



NEWSLETTER
OF THE
CARLETON
UNIVERSITY
MACODRUM
LIBRARY

COLLECTING MEMORIES

SUMMER 2016

The Ugandan Asian Archives presents and preserves the perspective of a unique immigrant community.



WELCOME



Welcome, dear readers, to M.

It seems fitting that our very first issue of M, the magazine of Carleton's MacOdrum Library, should make it into your hands on a lazy, hazy summer day. On campus, August is a month that starts with a low buzz of excitement that builds gradually into pyrotechnic levels of activity come September. So this is the perfect time to tell you about some of the fuses we've lit at MacOdrum this year.

The library in late summer is a fireworks show in the making. MacOdrum is an incredibly vibrant, electrifying and illuminating community space, with new collections – like our Ottawa Resource Room and the Ugandan Asian Archives – as well as intrepid leaders, award-winning student-staff and a very dedicated donor, to keep things exciting.

I sincerely hope our inaugural issue of M will spark the interest of students, parents, faculty, alumni, staff, donors, researchers, and new friends. I'm very proud to share with you some of the bright spots of our collaborations, and our commitment within Carleton to ignite ideas that will ultimately make our world a better place.

I welcome your suggestions and your feedback, and look forward to seeing you enjoy all MacOdrum has to offer.

Wayne Jones,
Carleton University Librarian



STORIED CITY

Two students from Mario Santana's Building Pathology course are combing through the floorplans of an office complex built in 1902. They are assessing building materials that could be used to improve the energy efficiency of the heritage site. The discussion moves quickly as they compare old editorial photos to the ones they took today on site. The process is much simpler since the recent opening of the Ottawa Resource Room at MacOdrum Library.

The Ottawa Resource Room is a bright, cheerful space on the first floor, beside the Maps, Data & Government Information Centre (MADGIC). The room houses a collection of Ottawa-area maps, cartographic information, government documents, data, books, photographs, and other resources, organized by neighbourhood and relevant to an array of Carleton courses,

assembled in one easily accessible, on-campus space.

One of its valuable resources is Monica Ferguson, Ottawa Resource Room Coordinator. Ferguson is the driving force behind the room, and the energy within it. She works closely with colleagues in MADGIC and in Archives and Research Collections to identify and secure resources that would enhance the collection, and facilitates research by curating materials for current courses of study.

Ferguson pulls blueprints for architecture students, news articles for history students, maps for geography students, and government publications for Canadian Studies students. But she also helps students broaden their searches. Part of the mandate of the Ottawa Resource Room is to encourage cross-disciplinary collaboration, and this taps into Ferguson's

true passion.

"That's the opportunity I was really excited about: so often we see different disciplines study similar topics but from different perspectives. So when you bring different resources like maps, history books, photographs, archive collections and webpages together, that strikes me as a great opportunity for students to rub shoulders and dream up new ideas."

Online, the Ottawa Resource Room shares digital files and invaluable links. Its intuitive website offers a treasure trove of digital resources like census profiles, topographical maps, financial information, community studies and links, organized by neighbourhood and by topic.

"When materials are in digital format, they can be layered, which allows new patterns or connections to be made that mightn't otherwise be understood. Providing a baseline of resources to layer digital information supports the study of digital humanities."

Which means the Ottawa Resource Room will be relevant to graduate students in Carleton's Collaborative Master's in Digital Humanities, who examine methodologies in humanities scholarship through digital media, texts and tools.

"It would be very exciting to create digital exhibits too," Ferguson explains. "There are so many avenues yet to explore with this collection."

In both physical and virtual forms, MacOdrum's new Ottawa Resource Room provides a more thorough understanding of how Ottawa was and is, and a powerful catalyst for what Ottawa could become. /M



On the cover

Top photo: Ugandan President Idi Amin with international diplomats at a press conference following the expulsion order. August 10, 1972, Uganda Argus. Bottom photo: Ugandan Asian refugees board the last chartered plane to Canada from Entebbe airport, November 1972. Roger St. Vincent Collection.



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Entebbe Airport, Uganda. November 8, 1972. Roger St. Vincent Collection.

assembled a rich perspective of the refugees' journey to Canada, and preserves the collective memory of a significant immigrant community.

Currently, the collection comprises:

- The Paul Hempel Collection – five volumes containing hundreds of Canadian, British and American newspaper clippings on the events in Uganda and the Canadian response from August to December 1972.
- The Wayne Bennett Collection – three volumes containing hundreds of clippings from Ugandan newspapers from 1970 to 1972.
- *Seven Crested Cranes*, a memoir by Roger St. Vincent, leader of the Canadian immigration team in Uganda, which provides a day-by-day account of the selection, processing and transportation of 6,000 people to Canada.
- Canadian and U.K. government decisions documented in cabinet records.



“Ms. Chimanlal Varu and baby rest on luggage upon arrival in Montreal,” September 29, 1972. Montreal Gazette.



“Ugandan Asians make new home, Windsor welcomes first refugees,” October 14, 1972. Windsor Star.

EXPULSION IN 1972

“This is a humanitarian movement; this is not primarily an attempt to get people to meet the selection criteria – it’s a humanitarian movement. Your officers have the discretion to approve people whether they meet the points system or not. And the three thousand limit is off. You are to process as many people as you possibly can – no upper limit. Go, go, go ...”

Mike Molloy is recounting the shifting expectations he and a small team of Canadian immigration officials faced in 1972, working in Kampala, assigned to expedite passage to Canada for Asians expelled from Uganda by then-President Idi Amin.

Molloy’s voice is warm and pleasant, even as he recalls exhausting days filled with urgent decisions in a foreign place and a dangerous time.

His detailed account is part of the Oral History Project, a component of the Uganda Collection recently established at MacOdrum Library.

The 1972 South Asian expulsion is a notable event in Canadian history, impacting our country’s population as well as national immigration policy and procedures that came after. MacOdrum Library Archives and Research Collections has

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- Several hundred additional media reports (English and French) from 1970 to 1973.
- The Uganda Asian Archive Oral History Project, phase 1.

The Uganda Collection is extensive and multi-faceted. Through digitization (arc.library.carleton.ca/exhibits/uganda-collection), the full collection is accessible online. And the

collection is growing – so far, only two of nearly 100 scheduled oral histories have been posted in audio and transcribed forms. Carleton research student Heather LeRoux, MA/15,



Photos: Ben Nelms

Milton and Val Carrasco display the log book by C.W.O Randall at the Vancouver event on April 2nd, 2016.



Log book by C.W.O. Randall which documents the arrival times, names, and destinations of Ugandan Asian refugees who arrived at the Longue Pointe reception centre in the fall of 1972.

conducted and transcribed the interview with Mike Molloy. Her interest in oral history as a research approach introduced LeRoux to the multiple perspectives of this immigration story.

“Oral histories from an interview format are an interesting way of recording a personal side of history, different than reading documents. It’s something I’ve always been interested in. From someone’s retelling of memories you can really fill in those intangible aspects of historical records.”

Two very successful events in Toronto and Vancouver introduced the collection to Ugandan-Canadian communities and reached out to gauge interest in contributing to the oral history project. The results were positive and overwhelming,



Articles from the Uganda Argus newspaper announcing the Asian expulsion. August, 1972. Wayne Bennett Collection.

with several hundred people attending each event and agreeing to future interviews.

Val Carrasco attended the event in Vancouver. About 25 years ago Carrasco had inherited

When Carrasco and her husband Milton learned about the Ugandan Asian Archive, they decided to donate the incredible record, along with \$20,000, to the Archive project. The gift

recounts in his own interview, “Not a month goes by in my life right now where somebody doesn’t contact me through the [Canadian Immigration] Historical Society to ask me a

The archive helps bring this period of Canadian history back to life, as it continues to affect populations and individuals around the world.

a log book – a hand-written record of everyone who came into Canada from Uganda during the 90-day notice period – from George Randall, a former member of the Royal Canadian Service Corps, who had helped Carrasco and her sister when they arrived.

will assist with Phase 2 of the Oral History Project, collecting and digitizing LeRoux’s many interviews.

The archive helps bring this period of Canadian history back to life, as it continues to affect populations and individuals around the world. As Molloy

question about Uganda. We get these questions coming in from England, from Europe, from all across Canada. It’s nice now to be able to say, ‘Oh, have you heard about the Carleton website? Go take a look at that, it’s got everything you ever need to know and then a bit more.’”/M



Colin McLeod winner of the Melody Mastad Award in Student Excellence

SPIRIT AWARD

Colin McLeod, due to graduate from Carleton with a BA in History in 2018, has been working 20-30 hours a week among the stacks of MacOdrum Library for the past three years. During weekday shifts he works alongside a team of resource staff, curators, faculty and library staff to serve patrons and keep the stacks in order.

On any given weekend, MacOdrum Library is under the close watch of student-supervisors and student-staff members. That's when you really see how much McLeod adores

the work and embraces his role as supervisor seriously.

When he is called on to supervise fellow students, McLeod steps up. "I really enjoy the people that I work with so I try to promote a positive work environment. It's really about showing appreciation and thanking people for their work earnestly. It's important to build those strong relationships of respect. When it's the weekend, it's our building, problems are our problems, patrons are our patrons."

This year, Colin's dedication

earned him the Melody Mastad Award of Excellence in Student Assistantship, which recognizes excellence among MacOdrum's student-staff. Colin was nominated for his strong work ethic, positive attitude and proven ability as a leader.

Usually that comes in the form of tracking down a needed book, or offering a resource a patron didn't even know was there. Colin's sincere spirit is widely recognized. In one of the nomination letters for the Mastad Award, a co-worker notes that "Colin has earned the respect

of his peers through hard work and the steady good nature that he brings to work with each shift. He can be counted on to complete any task that is given and is always there for his co-workers - whether it is taking an open shift for a colleague or even driving someone home late in the evening, Colin can be counted on."

Colin loves the building itself, mentioning the "great places to work, plus natural lighting, and silent spaces" of MacOdrum. He says that he has written almost every paper in the hush of the 5th-floor history stacks.

Between the books he loves, the opportunities to show leadership and the camaraderie of like-minded student-staff, Colin finds his work at MacOdrum very satisfying. But he sees the bigger picture as the greatest reward:

"People have been studying and researching and writing in libraries for hundreds of years. They enter with a goal of writing a paper or completing some research, and we're there to help achieve that. It's rewarding for us to see someone be able to fulfill their potential and complete that task." /M



Professor Don Beecher

SHELF LIFE

There exists, in some people, a profound love for the written word and the soft pages, textured covers and solid bindings in which they are contained. Professor Donald Beecher is clearly one such bibliophile, who has built an amazing collection of books over 50 years. Recently,

the avid collector began turning prized volumes over to MacOdrum Library. What would ever bring a bibliophile to part with his treasures?

It was as a graduate student at the Shakespeare Institute of the University of Birmingham that Beecher decided "it would be

fun to become a gentleman book collector.” He haunted small bookshops scattered across the Midlands as far as the Welsh border and delighted in his early success: “I had some lucky finds and actually managed to buy a couple of collections at remarkable prices.” When Beecher returned to Ottawa in 1972, he continued his selective buying “every now and again with little treats.”

For Beecher, collecting was never motivated by the

moment of my career.”

While the hard-covered memories do hold personal value, Beecher’s appreciation for the impact of the written word means he simply can’t keep the volumes confined to his own shelves.

“As the years went along, I could see that I would never get to all those books I’d been purchasing, and that it was time to get them back into circulation. So I started giving a few books to the Carleton library every year.”

It was a task that was not

books I’ve been able to supply over the years, maybe close to 1,000, and finding one still needed is like a little victory. You can make that out to be a moral victory over the self, an act of generosity, a gesture of corporate citizenship, whatever you want, but I can only smile, knowing that in fact it’s more like a game between me and the catalogue, and I get a kick out of winning!”

Professor Beecher notes that he is younger than Carleton

For Beecher, collecting was never motivated by the investment value of the volumes. It is a happy hunt for hidden treasures closely associated with memorable moments.

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“Just last week I found an exquisite copy of Hawthorne’s *House of the Seven Gables*, all signed by the editor and beautifully bound. I couldn’t leave it. I reread it, cover to cover, for the first time since 1958, when I did a report on it in my third-year English class. I had been in teenage-rebellion mode until the remarkable Jim Sims, my English teacher, told me just to forget about the course and tell him what I really wanted to do. Scrambling for an answer I replied, ‘Read Hawthorne.’ He called my bluff and told me to do just that, which led to real interest and a sense of direction. That book was the turn-around

always easy.

“A special moment came about three years ago when I decided it was time to part with much of my seventeenth- and eighteenth-century collection. That was a tougher moment, because these really were old friends, each one with its little acquisition history. But after all, I have visiting privileges! And I’m really happy that they are out there for leafing, consultation, and study.”

Now, imparting items from his collections has become an annual activity, and Beecher works closely with librarians to find titles that meet the needs of the library – which is a treasure hunt of its own kind.

“Now it’s a contest to find new things in my collection still not in the library, and it’s getting harder. I don’t know how many

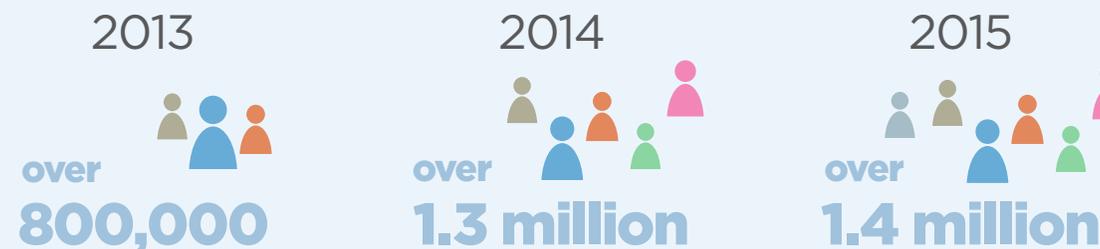
University by only 10 days, arriving at the university in 1967 as a lecturer “when we were both 25.” Next year will mark his 50th anniversary as a member of the Carleton community, and avid library patron. He has chosen to mark this milestone by engaging the library’s practice of naming spaces in the MacOdrum building after donors of large gifts.

“The old cliché about ‘giving back’ isn’t such a cliché with me. I have been a real beneficiary over the years, because so much of my work entails looking at lots of books. The library is the heart of the university, for me at any rate, and hence I want it to thrive and prosper. I want our students to have the richest resource we can give them, and a library gift feels substantial; it has long shelf life.” /M

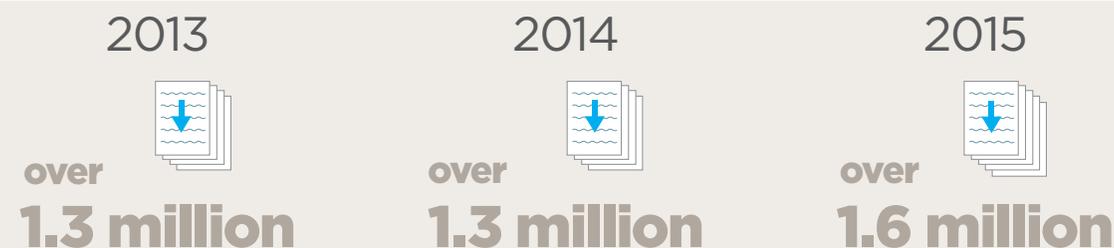
CARLETON MACODRUM LIBRARY — QUICK FACTS



PATRONS ENTERING THE BUILDING



DOWNLOADS OF E-JOURNAL ARTICLES



LIBRARY WEB VISITS



Both virtually and in person, the number of visits to MacOdrum is growing. We believe the greater variety of spaces, resources and media we provide, the more learning we enable.

EVENTS



Please consider attending our upcoming events! For more information visit carleton.ca/events

September 14th 7:00 – 9:00 pm – Join us at the MacOdrum Library for the 2016 Throwback edition of Carleton Reads – Carleton Deceives.

September 29th 7:00 – 9:00 pm – See the Ugandan Asian Archive Collection up close and personal.

UPCOMING EXHIBITS

Recent renovations at MacOdrum provide new spaces and cases for an abundance of surprising and enlightening exhibits. The library exhibits committee has adopted Start with Yes as a mantra, allowing a fluid flow of creative curation. The committee expressly invites staff, alumni, educators, community groups, et al to bring forth ideas. If you have a suggestion, idea, or passion project that is begging to be shared, please email Patti Harper: patti.harper@carleton.ca.

Sept. 19 – 25, 2016

Science Literacy week, a bibliography of library materials related to science literacy and popular science on a broad range of topics.

Oct. 24 – 30, 2016

Open Access Week
An opportunity for the academic and research community to continue to learn about the potential benefits of Open Access, share what they've

learned with colleagues, and inspire wider participation for a new norm in scholarship and research.

Nov. 2016

International Cartographic Association (ICA) Children's map competition winners. A selection of winning maps from the international Barbara Petchenik Children's Map Competition, archived annually at Carleton University since 1993. The biennial

drawing competition promotes creative representation of the world in graphic form by children. In addition to displaying the images online, Carleton University Library (OR, simply 'MacOdrum') archives copies of all entries.

Nov. 14 – 18, 2016

Geography Awareness week
Geography Awareness Week celebrates the importance of geo-literacy and geo-education.

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Library
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