

CASLIS TORONTO NEWS

CASLIS

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF SPECIAL LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION SERVICES

From Our President

Greetings CASLIS Members.

In my last column, I asked for your input and ideas for how we can make the chapter better.

One way to invite your feedback was to re-introduce program evaluation forms. While the context is specifically designed to make our programs better, the last question of the form is devoted to more general suggestions for the CASLIS Toronto Executive.

We were delighted to receive your feedback from the September event on Transitioning Beyond Libraries, and will relay the suggestions to future moderators and speakers. If you missed the session, check out Mary Cordeiro's write-up of the event in this issue of the newsletter. For those who attended, thank you again for your patience and understanding regarding the caterer's traffic delay, as well as the evaporated online registrations (and subsequent last-minute scramble to feed another 15 participants).

Rest assured, our Registrar and Webmistress have ironed out these wrinkles so that we have a problem free Registration for the November 1 event with Canadian Library Association President, Steven Abram. Thank goodness for important family birthdays so we could snag this intrepid traveller to share his wisdom about influencing senior leadership. While the program is geared for special librarians and those of us in non-traditional roles, the message easily applies to other library types as well, so invite your public, academic, and school library chums to hear one of our profession's visionary leaders speak on this essential communication skill.

Returning to the topic of the September event, I was particularly pleased to see a number of students and new graduates there. Thanks go to Robert Pestrin, our FIS Liaison, and Stuart von Wolff, our CASLIS Toronto Treasurer, both second-year FIS Students, for encouraging attendance from the next generation of the profession. For returning members, in addition to catching up with your buddies at events, please make sure to introduce yourself to new attendees and welcome them to CASLIS Toronto.

We are assisted in attracting students to our evening sessions through the efforts of a team of speakers who will be conducting five free lunchtime sessions geared to raising awareness about CASLIS, professional associations, and professional life. Thanks go to the FIS Brown Bag series speakers: Helen Kula, Sandy Iverson, Laura Knapp, and Lisa Diner. While geared to FIS students, the sessions are open to all CASLIS members, so if you feel like dropping in for one of the sessions, you will be most welcome. For details, check the CASLIS Website.

For me, encouraging greater interaction with students and new graduates is just one way of addressing my goal of good organizational renewal and succession planning. Another key element is ensuring active participation at the committee and executive level. If you are

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interested in volunteering for the chapter, but not really sure what each role entails, check out Michel-Adrien's new series of interviews with different executive members.

If something from the series (or other interactions in the chapter) strikes a chord, please follow up with that individual to find out more information and see whether you might consider volunteering in that area. This way, you could try something out as another hand on deck, before taking on an executive role. For example, writing for the newsletter, working on the website, pinch-hitting with the registration desk at an event, contacting members with the membership team, or helping us plan our 30th Anniversary celebrations. The chapter needs a variety of competencies on its leadership team to get the job done well.

The executive would welcome volunteers for any of its areas.

Most importantly, we are seeking a Membership Director. Regrettably, Robyn Stockand has had to pull back from executive involvement at this time. The executive will miss her creativity and insightful leadership. Given the important role this Director plays in encouraging membership and welcoming new members, I would gratefully accept your nominations of colleagues with outstanding interpersonal communication and organizational skills.

For myself, I would dearly love a Correspondence Secretary who will write several thank you notes each month on behalf of the chapter. We have much to be grateful for, and a skilled and sincere wordsmith who could take this on would be most appreciated.

We have also had some requests from potential mentors and mentees to consider facilitating a more formal mentorship program. If this interests you, and you would like to help explore developing or leading such a program, please contact me.

Long-standing chapter members, your voices would be most welcome as we plan our 30th anniversary celebrations. We would like to be able to share anecdotes about the chapter history at each of our events this year, building to a special celebration at the time of the AGM in May 2005. Please consider whether you have an anecdote to share either through an online format, either the newsletter or website, or at one of our events this year. Please feel free to contact me with your ideas.

Finally, I should mention the Holiday Social, which is not so far away. As someone who always registers at the last minute, I know I'm one to talk about encouraging early registration. But as this promises to be a very popular event, and there are some space limitations, I invite you to register early to ensure your attendance.

Best wishes for a fulfilling autumn, and looking forward to seeing you at our upcoming events,

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September Program

Advancing Your Career: What to consider when moving beyond libraries

Sept 30, 2004

Speakers:

Elske Bosma, Business Analyst, Technology Solutions;
Phong Kieu, E-Business Manager, Term Investments
Brian Moore, Business Consultant, Intranet and Knowledge Solutions
All from BMO Financial Group.

Let's face it, the opportunity to step out of the confines of the Information Centre, is not usually presented to us on a silver platter. At the first CASLIS-Toronto event of the current season Brian Moore, Elske Bosma and Phong Kieu outlined their respective career paths for an appreciative audience at the Toronto Reference Library Beeton Auditorium.

There are five common threads running through their experiences – visibility, information, preparedness, willingness to take a risk, and pursuing activities they love.

Enjoy your work

We are at our happiest and we feel most fulfilled when our work is something we enjoy. Having a feeling of excitement as each work day begins is exhilarating; finalizing a project provides a sense of achievement.

As a first step to leaving the familiar surroundings of the Information Centre the suggestion is to identify which particular aspects of work are most enjoyable and rewarding. An investigation of other applications and alternate situations where they may be employed can then begin.

Be visible

Though an Information Centre serves many departments in an organization such as BMO, the connection is fleeting and usually only relates to one or two facets of departmental responsibilities. Recognize the isolation of your current workplace and foster relationships with a wide variety of departments or organizations. The opportunity to move 'out' may come from any of them.

Avoid holding the same responsibility in the same job for too long. As well as running the risk of being too closely identified with what you do, as opposed to the skills, knowledge and techniques you employ to do it, your value is likely to be questioned if you are remain in place for too long. Though Brian, Elske and Phong have been with BMO Financial Group for over ten years both their roles and departments have changed frequently throughout that time. (Two years is roughly the average length of time they spent in any single role.)

Cast your net widely when networking. Attend open house events, product launches, leaving parties... Volunteer your time for cross-departmental activities such as United Way campaigns.

Be informed

Take the time to understand the business. Find out what the hot topics are in the broader arena in which your employer operates. Watch out for the creation of new departments or teams as they may present opportunities for you. Networking will allow you to learn about the processes in various areas of the organization. It is equally important to learn about the different attitudes and cultures that co-exist within the employer organization as well as what it is that creates passionate involvement within various departments. For instance, in the case of investment bankers, it could be the novelty of developing new financing arrangements.

For most of us who are not working for a large and diverse employer, networking will mean extending beyond professional activities and our workplace as we pursue what we enjoy. We need to develop an awareness of societal trends and business trends.

Prepare yourself

As Information Professionals we have a combination of people skills and computing skills; we are adept at organizing and communicating information. In order to avoid being typecast we can conduct an inventory of our skills and develop a version of our resume that does not use information-specific language.

[See the Employability Skills Toolkit - <http://www.conferenceboard.ca/education/learning-tools/pdfs/esp2000.pdf>]

By adopting entrepreneurial tactics - creating a 30 second infomercial about our abilities; following up with contacts; seeking information interviews; keeping a log, we can prepare the groundwork for a career move.

Be a risk-taker

Strengthened by knowledge and personal readiness, taking a risk need not be a leap into the total unknown. Entrepreneurs frequently fake it till they make it, and we can too. Brian provided a good example of this tactic when he told us of how he was hired to create a taxonomy which was required as part of the development of a web portal for all branch employees. He was ready for a challenge and quite sure that his (self-described) limited knowledge of taxonomy was balanced by a solid understanding of banking operations. This combination of knowledge was far ahead of the knowledge level of any developer that might be hired to fill the need.

Last words

Having heard of the entrepreneurial aspect that is particularly in evidence in both Brian and Phong's work, some attendees wondered why they had not left BMO to run their own companies respectively. In their answer we were told, if we had not gathered from their career histories, that BMO fosters entrepreneurial activity. Changes in the organization provide both opportunities and risk, but less risk than going out on one's own.

Mary Cordeiro
Business Information Centre
Rotman School of Management, U of T

Our very own Toronto International Film Festival wrap-up

For the past few years, CASLIS member Susan Murray has been providing us with her "best of" the festival. Susan is the Manager of the Consumer Health Information Service, Toronto Reference Library. She was a CASLIS Director from 1998-2001.

I viewed 61 films and 2 shorts at the Toronto International Film Festival (September 9-18, 2004). Some of the most remarkable films were documentaries and films from Africa. I didn't generally see the mainstream films that would be opening soon in major theatres. Sadly, many of the films that I enjoyed are not likely to be in first-run theatres, but may turn up later at art houses, such as Cinematheque Ontario.

Here are my recommendations:

Alzheimer Case, The – see **De Zaak Alzheimer**

Bluebird (The Netherlands, 2004), Mijke de Jong

A bittersweet story about a talented and caring 13-year-old girl who becomes the target of vicious bullying by her classmates and must decide if she will allow it to destroy her.

Brødre/ Brothers (Denmark, 2004), Susanne Bier

Examines the relationship between two brothers: black sheep Jannick, and devoted family man Michael who is shipped out to Afghanistan as part of a United Nations peacekeeping mission. The film probes the ethical choices Michael makes to survive and the shattering effect of his post-traumatic behaviour on his family.

Brothers see **Brødre**

Cinévardaphoto (France, 2004), Agnès Varda

This is a collection of three short films spanning a 40-year period on topics reflecting Varda's eclectic interests: **Ydessa, les ours et etc.**, documenting Toronto art collector Ydessa Hendeles's exhibition of thousands of photographs featuring teddy bears; **Ulysse**, an analysis of an enigmatic photograph of a boy, a man and a dead goat on a beach taken in Egypt 28 years earlier; and **Salut les Cubains**, a montage of 1,500 photographs Varda took while vacationing in Cuba that she calls "Socialism and cha-cha-cha."

Crimen Ferpecto/ Ferpect Crime (Spain, 2004), Alex de la Iglesia

Delightful comedy about a Latin Lothario vying for a top management job who accidentally murders his rival. The plot thickens when a homely, lovesick staff witnesses the crime and abets him in exchange for marriage.

Daremo Shiranai/ Nobody Knows (Japan, 2004), Hirokazu Kore-eda

Hirokazu Kore-eda, director of my favourite film at the 1998 festival – **After Life**, returns with a heartbreaking tale about the struggle for survival of four children abandoned by their mother that is based on a true story. Features an extraordinary performance by 14 year-old Yuya Yagira, who received the best actor award at the 2004 Cannes Film Festival.

De Zaak Alzheimer/ Alzheimer Case, The (Belgium, 2003), Erik Van Looy

A noir thriller about an aging hit man with the onset of Alzheimer's disease on his last contract. When he draws the line at murdering a child and discovers corruption at the highest level, his revenge becomes a race against time.

Der Neunte Tag/ The Ninth Day (Germany/Luxembourg, 2004), Volker Schlöndorff

Schlöndorff (**The Tin Drum**) recounts events based on a true story of a young Catholic priest incarcerated in Dachau who faces a moral dilemma. He is given a nine-day leave to return home to convince the local bishop who rings the church bells in rebellion to write a letter in support of the Nazis, or he will be returned to the concentration camp and probable death.

Ferpect Crime see **Crimen Ferpecto**

Forest for the Trees, the see **Wald vor Lauter Bäumen, Der**

House of Flying Daggers see **Shi Mian Mai Fu/ House of Flying Daggers**

Inconscientes/ Unconscious (Spain/Germany/Portugal/Italy, 2004), Joaquín Oristrell

Set in Barcelona in 1913, this comedy/love story/mystery lampoons Freud's theories about the unconscious and the sexual taboos of the period. The protagonists are a progressive woman and her staid brother-in-law whose assistance she enlists to find her missing, preeminent psychiatrist husband.

Innocent Voices see **Voces Inocentes**

Isn't This a Time! A Tribute Concert for Harold Leventhal (USA, 2004), Jim Brown

This Thanksgiving 2003 Carnegie Hall reunion concert is a thank-you letter to Harold Leventhal, folk music supporter and concert promoter extraordinaire, as well as a fascinating look at the history of folk music and its ties to political activism. The film features glorious performances by folk greats Arlo Guthrie, Peter, Paul and Mary; Theodore Bikel, Leon Bibb, and The Weavers - the only musical act to be blacklisted during the McCarthy era whom Leventhal steadfastly supported – performing together for the first time in 28 years. A highlight is the Weavers rendition of "Sinner Man" as a "tribute" to George W. Bush.

Ladies in Lavender (United Kingdom, 2004), Charles Dance

Set in Cornwall on the brink of WW II, **Ladies in Lavender** features inimitable Dames Maggie Smith and Judi Dench as elderly sisters who become captivated by the half-drowned, badly injured young man who they rescue. The sisters discover that he is a talented, Polish violinist and must overcome their feelings of ownership/jealousy to give him the freedom to pursue his career. The soundtrack features a memorable performance by violinist Joshua Bell.

Lightning in a Bottle (USA, 2004), Antoine Fuqua

Terrific concert movie filmed at **Radio City Music Hall in 2003** that examines the blues through archival footage and electrifying performances. Features B.B. King, Bonnie Raitt, Buddy Guy, and Mavis Staples.

Mar Adentro/ The Sea Within (Spain/France/Italy, 2004), Alejandro Amenábar

The Sea Within continues Amenábar's exploration of quality of life and the choice to die. The film recounts the story of a man paralyzed in a diving accident many years ago who has tired of struggling and desires to die with dignity. The viewer is drawn into the world of this sensitive and artistic man – wishing for him to find happiness and stay a little longer, but respecting his desire to end his life.

Moolaadé (Senegal/France, 2004), Ousmane Sembene

Consummate, octogenarian African filmmaker Ousmane Sembene has crafted an important social film about a courageous woman who defies the tradition of female circumcision. When four young girls come to her for protection, she declares moolaadé, a legal asylum zone and doesn't back down despite insurmountable pressures.

Nobody Knows see **Daremo Shiranai**

Sea Within, The see **Mar Adentro**

Shi Mian Mai Fu/ House of Flying Daggers (China/Hong Kong, China, 2004), Zhang Yimou

Set in ninth century China during the decline of the Tang Dynasty, **House of Flying Daggers** - an underground Robin-Hood army that steals from the rich and gives to the poor – is pitted against the authorities who are hell bent on destroying them. This is both a love story and an astonishing martial arts epic (computer-generated imaging gives the characters breathtaking powers) with no end of plot twists and double-crossing.

Unconscious see Inconscientes**Untergang, Der/ Downfall (Germany, 2004), Oliver Hirschbiegel**

Drawn largely from the memoirs of Hitler's secretary Traudl Junge, this epic film chronicles Hitler's decline and last days during the fall of Berlin in 1945. Bruno Ganz (**Wings of Desire**) captures Hitler's powerful presence and the mesmerizing hold he exerted over the German people even as the Third Reich was collapsing. **Blind Spot: Hitler's Secretary**, a documentary about Traudl Junge, was shown at the Toronto Film Festival in 2002.

Voces Inocentes/ Innocent Voices (Mexico, 2004), Luis Mandoki

A coming-of age story that examines the devastating effect of the war in El Salvador from the perspective of a young boy and depicts courageous acts of resistance in the face of insurmountable odds.

Wald vor Lauter Bäumen, Der/ The Forest for the Trees (Germany, 2004), Maren Ade

Bittersweet story of an enthusiastic, idealistic young woman who leaves her family and friends in the country to take her first job as a high school teacher in the city. After a promising start, antagonistic students, unhelpful colleagues and derailed friendships drive her life on a downward spiral. This film should be required viewing for any potential teacher.

Yesterday (South Africa, 2004), Darrell James Roodt

Yesterday, the first Zulu-language film released internationally, confronts the taboo of HIV/AIDS. It is the story of a young African mother diagnosed as HIV positive who has to contend with ostracism by her village, her husband's vehement denial and eventual caregiving of him, and must make plans for her daughter's future. Features a tour-de-force performance by Leleti Khumalo.

Z Channel: A Magnificent Obsession (USA, 2004), Xan Cassavetes

A cinephile's dream documentary that examines the life and death of the troubled Jerry Harvey, inspired programmer for the Z Channel in Los Angeles. Harvey had a genius for eclectic programming, mixing film classics with lowbrow fare and was responsible for "rescuing" films, such as the uncut version/director's cut of **Heaven's Gate**. The film features enticing clips from many films that I'd love to see, and interviews with film people such as Robert Altman, Quentin Tarantino, Jacqueline Bisset, and James Woods provide insights into Harvey's life and times.

Below are films that I did not see that received acclaim from the press and public:

Choristes, Les

Hotel Rwanda

Kinsey

Merchant of Venice, The

Motorcycle Diaries, The

Omagh

If you'd like to read about all the 300+ films shown at the festival, the program with descriptions is available at: <http://www.e.bell.ca/filmfest/2004/filmsschedules/filmlist.asp>

WEB WATCH

Finding used and out-of-print books

By Michel-Adrien Sheppard

"40 bucks for a novel? FORTY bucks", I was almost yelling at the indifferent bookstore clerk in the mall. "Yeah, right, bite me!", I added as I stomped out of there. I'm sure I'm not the only one who has been overcome with that feeling of surprise, anger and disgust at the price of some books. You can always wait for the local library to order what you want or turn to the world of second-hand bookselling. Or, increasingly, you can go online as the sale of used and out-of-print books has embraced the Net.

Abebooks

<http://www.abebooks.com/>

Claims to be "the world's largest online marketplace for used, rare, and out-of-print books." There are currently more than 12,000 bookseller members in ABE across 45 countries. Features include a message board to find books, and a newsletter

AcqWeb's Verification Tools

http://acqweb.library.vanderbilt.edu/verif_rare.html

Lists European and North American sites - AcqWeb is the web base for acquisitions and collection development librarians

Alibris

<http://www.alibris.com/>

Behind Amazon and Abebooks, there are a gaggle of rivals, some of which specialize in rare or antiquarian books. The biggest of the pack is Alibris, a US-based firm, which boasts a slick website with more than 10,000 participating dealers and 35 million books. Includes a message board

Antiquarian Booksellers Association of America

<http://abaa.org/>

Many book dealers do NOT list their inventories on the major book databases. This site lists hundreds of dealers in rare books available online

Bibliofind

<http://www.bibliofind.com/>

Partner with Amazon. Boasts database of ten million used, antiquarian and rare books, periodicals and ephemera offered for sale by thousands of booksellers. Founded in 1996. Features include currency conversion.

Book Depot

<http://remainders.com/>

Calls itself "the Internet's #1 destination for remainders and overstocks."

Bookfinder

<http://www.bookfinder.com/?mode=advanced>

Bookfinder, is another meta-search engine for used book catalogs. Scans 15,000 bookseller databases, Booksellers on BookFinder.com: ABE, Alibris, Amazon.com, Antiqbook, Bibliofind, Powell's Books. So it is like a metasearch engine of metasearch engines.

Books Canada listserv (Canadian Antiquarian & Secondhand Booksellers)

<http://www.ramsaybooks.com/bookscanada/dealisting.html>

Books Canada is an email forum for the discussion, buying, and selling of antiquarian, out of print, and secondhand books in Canada. Postings of books wanted, books for sale, discussions on book collecting, authors, titles, book care and repair, bibliographic information, book fair announcements, etc. are examples of welcome topics.

Powell's Books

<http://www.powells.com/>

Portland, Oregon-based indie bookseller with a huge selection of new, used, and remainder books. Fast shipping, frequent sales (even on used books), free stuff, contests, and good competition for Amazon. One can subscribe to newsletters.

Also check:

- Chapitre.com <http://www.chapitre.com/> - French equivalent of ABE
- International League of Antiquarian Booksellers <http://www.ilab-lila.com/> : Site for the International League of Antiquarian Booksellers and the Ligue Internationale de la Librairie Ancienne. Thousands of dealers worldwide
- Zentrales Verzeichnis Antiquarischer Bücher. (ZVAB) www.zvab.com - "the professional European catalogue of antiquarian books on the Internet"
- Bookwire listservs <http://www.bookwire.com/bookwire/lit.listserv.html> - Subscribe to these groups to receive information via e-mail. *BookWire* is the US book industry's most comprehensive and thorough online information source.
- Listservs from Littera Scripta - <http://www.litterascripta.com/buyers/searchmaillists.shtml> - posting a request on these lists is pretty likely to get some kind of response

Bookfinder.com mentioned earlier also produces a monthly report of the "Top 10" used and out-of-print books being ordered online. It is a real window into the Zeitgeist for those who love to track cultural and political trends.

In September 2004, the top out-of-print Arts and Entertainment book being sought in North America was the very explicit photographic "oeuvre" *Sex* by Madonna (then again, it is probably the most sought after book in January, February, March, April etc.). The most sought-after title in Fiction was *Sisters*, a 1981 bodice-ripper of a romance, written by Lynne Cheney, wife of none other than – you guessed it – conservative US Vice-President Dick Cheney. And the top out-of-print book being sought in Society and Culture was the 1971 collection *The New Soldier*, a series of essays by Vietnam Veterans Against the War edited by some really tall skinny kid from Massachusetts named John Kerry.

Michel-Adrien Sheppard (mshppard@blgcanada.com) is the Communications Librarian at Borden Ladner Gervais LLP in downtown Toronto.

Who We Are and What We Do

*This is the first in a series of profiles of CASLIS Toronto executive members to give people a better idea of the roles available to volunteers. This month, the newsletter profiles **Astrid Lange**, listserv and publicity director.*

Astrid graduated from the Faculty of Information Studies at the University of Toronto in 2000. She has a B.A. in International Relations and a Master's in History from the same university. Currently, she is a library and research specialist in the editorial library at the Toronto Star. She is also the intranet administrator there.

She joined CASLIS in 1999, became website administrator in 2001 and then publicity and listserv director in 2002.

Her responsibilities include maintaining and updating the chapter website, which means mostly posting announcements, events and the newsletter. More and more functionality is gradually being added to the website, for example online registration for events. "It has become more of a communications tool than when I inherited it [responsibility for the website]... it was more of a simple bulletin board back then," she explains.

The job requires basic technical knowledge, especially HTML coding, the creation of online forms and FTP'ing. This largely meant building on basic skills she already had but there was still lots to learn. "I knew how to create [web] pages, but not how to maintain a site. It can seem like a lot of work, and there can be a real crunch around program time," she adds, because the web allows for rapid changes to program details such as venue, time or even speaker. The advantage over traditional mailings is that the chapter can now communicate instantaneously with the membership.

Is there anything she dislikes about the job?

"When I get a constant flow of e-mails about updating the site, that can be seen as one downfall of the technology, you know, 'can I add this, can I put this up, can I take that down'," she comments.

Despite the occasional frustration, she would recommend the position for anyone with a basic grounding in HTML coding and basic web skills. "It keeps my web design skills sharp," she answers without hesitation. And it is a great way to stay involved with CASLIS, which she describes as "this invaluable network of people to contact anytime."

The Evolution of CASLIS Toronto

*This year, we will also be profiling prominent CASLIS members who represent the full range of generations and experiences among special librarians over the 30 years of existence of the chapter. This month, the newsletter profiles **Helen Kula**.*

Helen Kula is currently on maternity leave from her position as business information specialist with Info Solutions, the fee-based research service affiliated with the Business Information Centre at the Rotman School of Management. She has worked there since 1999.

Helen graduated from FIS in 1999, after an undergraduate degree in English and French at the University of Toronto and a Master's in English at McGill.

In her first year at FIS, Helen confesses that she first joined SLA. But she quickly joined CASLIS towards the end of that year. She realized that the Canadian scene was quite distinctive and SLA felt a bit US-centric, so CASLIS "felt like a more natural choice" for someone who had always intended to work in the special library sector.

She explains that she had worked for Canadian Parents for French before library school. This had “introduced me to the world of associations, their values, the career possibilities, the support offered, the information sharing involved. It felt like a natural step for me to join [CASLIS] and to investigate and explore the profession and the work that we do.”

Her first eye-opening experience about what CASLIS had to offer was at the 1998 CLA conference where she volunteered to introduce a session.

Helen attributes her plunge into active involvement in the association to Maggie Weaver who recruited her to the national CASLIS executive right there at the conference. “I naively said, sure, why not, and there, voilà, I’m on the national executive,” Helen quips.

She has never sat on the Toronto executive, making her experience somewhat atypical. She feels, however, that chapter-level participation is just as valuable because members “can often exert more power by being active at the grass roots.”

As a national CASLIS director until last year, Helen was in charge of projects such as the CASLIS Award for Special Librarianship. She also was one of the coordinators of the CASLIS Strategic Plan.

The Strategic Planning process involved a real effort to increase accountability at all levels of CASLIS and to formulate tangible goals. Helen feels the exercise to revamp the organization’s priorities was necessary to address the needs and interests of people who have been joining the profession in the last few years.

“One can sense a tendency of maturing [in the organization], there is a new generation coming up, with a new set of expectations,” she explains. “People are not joining just because it’s a ‘good thing’ to do so, but because people want the organization to offer value,” in terms of guidance and professional development.

A trip down memory lane

30 years ago: In our first year of existence, one of the chapter’s top events is a session on tracking down government information – cynics will quip “And we’re still looking for it!”

In information industry news, Wilson launches the very first issue of the *Canadian Business Periodicals Index* covering the *Globe and Mail*, the *Financial Times*, The *Financial Post* and Southam and Maclean-Hunter trade publications. An early version of the Dow Jones News/Retrieval database is marketed to brokers and investors (the regular online service will be available in 1977). The *New York Times* offers the commercial version of its Information Bank (Infobank) abstract service via the BRS database system.

On Top 40 radio that year: The Way We Were (Barbra Streisand), Band on the Run (Paul McCartney), Bennie and the Jets (Elton John), Rock On (David Essex), Waterloo (Abba). Major rock star we lost in 1974: Mama Cass of The Mamas and The Papas (folk hippie classics California Dreamin’, Monday Monday), from a massive heart attack. Top movies we went to see: Godfather Part2 (Oscar for best film) and The Last Detail (Cannes). Bill Davis is Premier of Ontario. The Maple Leafs do not win the Stanley Cup.

20 years ago: The first event of the season features a speaker from the Ontario Ministry of Labour’s Quality of Working Life Centre speaking on technology and new forms of work organization. Cost: three bucks (\$3). The November 1984 session explores telemarketing, a “new marketing technique”.

Information industry news: The 3 1/2 inch disk drive is introduced by Apple and Hewlett-Packard. The Dow Jones News/Retrieval service offers full-text versions of *The Wall Street Journal*. H. W. Wilson begins offering online access to its popular indexes via WILSONLINE.

On the radio, young librarians listen to: What's Love Got To Do With It (Tina Turner), Born in the USA (Bruce Springsteen), Footloose (Kenny Loggins), Like a Virgin (Madonna), Jump (Van Halen), Jump for My Love (Pointer Sisters). Most talked about music world death of 1984: Marvin Gaye (Motown classics I Heard It Through the Grapevine, Let's Get It On, Sexual Healing), shot to death by his father. Top movies we went to see: Amadeus (Oscar for best movie), Paris, Texas (Cannes). Bill Davis is still Premier of Ontario. The Maples Leafs still do not win the Stanley Cup.

10 years ago: at the May 1994 AGM, members are treated to a presentation on something called "The Internet". And that year, the chapter introduces the now famous "five-for-four" money-saving deal – people who sign up for the year's 5 public sessions are charged the price of 4.

Information industry news: Netscape releases the beta version of its Navigator Web browser. The Yahoo Internet index is started as a personal list of sites by David Filo and Jerry Yang, Ph.D. candidates in electrical engineering at Stanford. Yahoo stands for "Yet Another Hierarchical Official Oracle." Reed-Elsevier buys LEXIS and NEXIS services from Mead Data Central in 1994. In the same year, InfoPro Technologies sells its three divisions - Orbit, BRS, and BRS Software - to Questel, CD Plus (future OVID Technologies), and DataWare respectively.

Top of the charts: All I Wanna Do (Sheryl Crow), Come to My Window (Melissa Ethridge), Loser (Beck). Shocking music world death of 1994: Kurt Cobain of Nirvana (grunge slacker anthem Smells Like Teen Spirit, Lithium), suicide by shotgun. Top movies we went to see: Forrest Gump (Oscar for best movie), Pulp Fiction (Cannes). Bob Rae is Premier. The Maple Leafs fail yet again to win the Stanley Cup.

5 years ago: a capacity crowd turns out at the Toronto Reference Library for the first programme of the season on the "relatively new but burgeoning field of competitive intelligence". Veteran CASLIS Toronto member Maggie Weaver receives the national CASLIS Award for Special Librarianship for her work as an educator and course developer, a voice for library technicians, a conference organizer and a master networker.

On the Top 40: Wild Wild West (Will Smith), Believe (Cher), Livin' La Vida Loca (Ricky Martin), Baby One More Time (Britney Spears), Slide (Goo Goo Dolls). Most memorable music world death of 1999: Curtis Mayfield (People Get Ready, Blaxploitation classic Superfly), in his sleep. Top movies we went to see: American Beauty (Oscar for best film), Rosetta (Cannes). Mike Harris is Premier. The Maple Leafs... oh, never mind.

From the "Aren't we wonderful" department

If you're ever feeling blue and thinking librarians sometimes "don't get no respect", this will cheer you up.

The BBC recently declared librarians from the British Library in the UK to be the "brainiest" in its "University Challenge – the Professionals", a contest that pitted specialists from 22 areas of expertise against each other to determine who the most brilliant people are.

The British Library squad achieved overall supremacy by handily beating the team from Oxford University Press in the final match. Other contenders who went down to defeat included teams of Crown prosecutors, paleontologists, journalists, opera people, Foreign Office diplomats and crossword compilers.

British Library team captain Bart Smith attributed victory to "team-work, a thirst for knowledge and a real hunger to win."

<http://www.bl.uk/cgi-bin/press.cgi?story=1446>

CASLIS Toronto Listserv

Members are encouraged to subscribe to the Toronto Chapter's unmoderated discussion group. The list provides a forum for discussion topics of interest to Canadian information professionals working in special libraries. The listserv is hosted by Yahoo! Groups.

TO SUBSCRIBE: Send a message to
caslistoronto-subscribe@yahogroups.com

After subscribing, you may receive a message saying that your e-mail address has been rejected. Do not fear! Yahoo Groups will only accept invited members to join their groups. Astrid Lange will review your e-mail and sign you up.

For more information, see the CASLIS website at : <http://www.caslistoronto.on.ca/Listserv5.html>

CASLIS Toronto Electronically

Stay on top of what's happening with CASLIS Toronto. Get advance notice of meetings and news of last minute changes. See our Web site, www.caslistoronto.on.ca.

Get an electronic copy of the newsletter either on the Web site or by sending an email to Michel-Adrien Sheppard (criticalmass@idirect.com)

TORONTO CASLIS EXECUTIVE 2004 - 2005

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