

CASLIS TORONTO NEWS

CASLIS

Canadian Association of Special Libraries & Information Services, A Division of CLA, Canadian Library Association

From Our President

Greetings CASLIS Members.

What a great start to the 2002-2003 programming year! Our September program was a roaring success. A risk for us since we usually have formal speakers at our programs; this one was a lot more interactive and focused on several discussion topics of interest to we of the Special Libraries. A little cheese, a little wine and we were off to the races. Some great ideas were generated and knowledge shared all around! We might just make this 'Roundtable' idea an annual event.

Now for October ... "Members of the Naked Society and Denizens of a Goldfish Bowl" : Privacy and You. By the way, that great quote comes from US Senator Edward V. Long speaking of the "modern" American experience in the 1960's. We might also credit Cole Porter who said "goldfish in the privacy of bowls do it" in his song "Let's do it".

Also in October, the Toronto Chapter's CASLIS strategic Plan Focus Group is being held this month on October 9th. We're looking for your participation in this important discussion about our future as an organization! Please contact Robyn Stockand, our Vice President if you're interested. Take a look at the work done so far at <http://www.cla.ca/divisions/caslis/strategicplan.htm>

We're delighted to say a warm welcome to the new Executive Director at CLA – Don Butcher (effective October 21). He brings to the position a wealth of knowledge about associations and communication. I heard it through the grapevine that Mr. Butcher lives here in Toronto so let's hope he joins us at our next program .. or two!

You may have also noticed a change in our executive information for the Toronto Chapter. Sandy Iverson has completed her duties as the 2001/2002 program director in the early part of this year by organizing the September program. "Guinevere's Turn at the Table" is moving on. We wish her the very best and expect that she'll probably be turning up at future programs anyway!

Finally, have you heard about the 'Letter of Understanding' between CASLIS and the Association of Records Managers and Administrators (ARMA-Canada)! You can read more about this 'new' relationship in the August issue of Special Issues (the CASLIS National newsletter @ <http://www.cla.ca/members/caslis/si.htm>). A great opportunity for us because CASLIS members get to attend ARMA conferences at member prices! We'll be seeking to expand this relationship, hopefully even at the chapter level. Watch for more news as this relationship is further defined.

Happy October everyone!

Jennifer McCreedy, President, CASLIS Toronto
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Fall Programs

“Members of the Naked Society and Denizens of a Goldfish Bowl”

Privacy and You

Date: Tuesday Oct. 15, 2002

Speaker: Mike Gurski, Senior Policy and Technology Advisor for the Information Privacy Commission of Ontario

Mike Gurski will be speaking on P3P, the new Internet privacy standard which works in the latest browsers to notify users about the level of information-gathering at sites.

There will be a draw at this event for the book Privacy Payoff by Ann Cavoukian and Tyler J. Hamilton.

Copyright : New Technology and the Evolution of Information Distribution

Date: Thursday, November 21, 2002

Speaker: Andrea Rush, partner in the Toronto office of Heenan Blaikie

A specialist in the area of intellectual property and technology law, Andrea Rush will talk about copyright and electronic information.

September Program Review

What Happened at Our Recent Meeting?

Guinevere's Turn at the Table: An Evening of Round Table Discussions

The evening involved lively discussions centred on the following topics:

- Manage your manager
- Knowledge management : still wondering what it's all about?
- Marketing

- Content dissemination in a mobile environment
- Scholarly publishing and special librarians
- How to get the most out of continuing education
- How to get the most out of a trade show

Below are summaries of the various discussions. For further information on the roundtable discussions, please consult the members' only section of the website.

Manage your manager

Facilitator: Gayle Kiss

Some points that were discussed:

1. It is difficult for your manager to be your friend because they are privy to information you are not. This should be respected. "Friendly but not friends".
2. Tell your manager what you want from them. Ask to be career managed.
3. Be solutions oriented. Don't discuss a problem without having some possible solution. A busy manager may appreciate the time and initiative. Complaining may be destructive as well as not solutions oriented.
4. Understand what is important to your manager and prioritize your work according to this.
5. If you have a bad manager, it may be best to leave the environment.
6. Try to learn something from each manager.

A lot of time was also spent analyzing real situations and coming up with possible solutions.

Knowledge Management : still wondering what it's all about?

Facilitator: Jennifer McCready

Topics discussed included:

1. Knowledge management vs. content management. It was decided that content management was a subset of knowledge management that dealt with knowledge objects.
2. Tacit knowledge was discussed as to how it could be done effectively and whether or not anyone is already doing it.
3. Taxonomy and thesauri were discussed with regard to the advantages of buying one vs. creating one.
4. The importance of staff and management buy-in to any initiative and the amount of fear that

is felt among employees when being asked to share their knowledge. Possible incentives to bypass these fears were also discussed.

5. The excellent presentation done for CASLIS last spring by Dave Pollard was also discussed. Notes from this discussion can be found on the CASLIS Toronto website.

Marketing

Facilitators: Erika Steffer and Helen Kula

Topics discussed included:

1. Definition of marketing
 - Involves developing brand awareness
 - Includes client education and communications
 - Is continuous and embedded in every point of contact with clients
2. Challenges encountered in marketing
 - Easier to market a product than a service
 - Making clients aware that your expert service frees up their time and money
 - Client inability to differentiate between free, web-based and library's proprietary products
 - Lack of appreciation of professional skills
 - Limited time and resources to spend on formal marketing
3. What has worked
 - Training is an opportunity for marketing and positioning yourself as an expert
 - Ongoing branding
 - Face to face contact with clients is important to increase visibility
4. Associations like CASLIS help with knowledge exchange, sharing ideas, best practices, what has and has not worked.

Content Dissemination in a Mobile Environment

Facilitator: Michel-Adrien Sheppard

People who attended this discussion expressed two sentiments:

1. Skepticism that there is a widespread demand for the availability of content on

mobile devices such as digital cell phones and PDAs.

2. A belief that mobile content dissemination will probably work only in very narrowly defined niches where the information is very specific such as logistics, hospitals, factory floors, materials planning, sales automation etc.

This was not a table of "believers". Our attitude about wireless/mobile content was more: "Oh yeah – prove it! The wild-eyed techno-gurus and hype-meisters have burned us before!"

Scholarly Publishing and Special Librarians

Facilitator: Amanda Wakaruk

The work of this roundtable was abbreviated by its merger with the Manage your Manager roundtable. However, this spirited group was still able to tackle some of the issues related to scholarly publishing and special librarians. Perceived barriers to publishing were noted, including a lack of time, interest, resources and supportive infrastructure for those wishing to develop in this area. It was also recognized that the typical employer (outside of academia) does not reward or recognize the scholarly publishing achievements of special librarians. It was suggested that a partnership between non-academic special librarians and academic librarians might prove more fruitful in publishing than either party working alone. In addition, some felt that special librarians could serve as a source of ideas for research topics rather than produce the research themselves.

.How to Get the Most out of Continuing Education

Facilitator: Marilyn MacKellar

The discussion was quite wide-ranging and covered many sorts of continuing education: long courses, short courses, one-on-one instruction, self-study (e.g. the Securities course), listserves, organizations' workshops and meetings, online and distance learning, etc.

Topics discussed included:

- Finding time
- Learning buddies for self-study
- CHLA and MLA courses for medical library certification
- Teaching others in order to learn something yourself
- Timing of study (brown-bag lunches for

lunchtime study)

- Learning styles and their effect on learning methods

How to Get the Most out of a Trade Show

Facilitator: Marilyn MacKellar

Stephen Abram was a participant and he added to our short discussion of this topic. He said that often people shy away from vendors who ask questions and they shouldn't. If you give information about what you need and why you do and ask "What can you do for me?", the result is likely to be changes and adjustments to what they already offer, or something new that they develop as a result. Also, ask what is new. You may find out about something the vendor has been developing and which is not yet publicized.

Susan's Film Picks

To: Film Fans Everywhere
From: Susan Murray, Consumer Health Information Service (CHIS), Toronto Reference Library

Despite having to attend a two-day meeting in Ottawa this year, Susan Murray viewed 51 films at the Toronto International Film Festival (September 5-14, 2002). Below are her recommendations.

8 Femmes / 8 Women (France, François Ozon, 2002)

Based on a sixties crime play, the action begins when the master of the household is found murdered and then progresses to a locked room, Agatha Christie style mystery. **8 Femmes** features eight luscious actresses, including Catherine Deneuve, Isabelle Huppert, Emmanuelle Béart, and Fanny Ardant who make non-stop revelations and spontaneously break into song.

11'09"01 (France, Ken Loach, Claude Lelouch, Danis Tanovic, Sean Penn, Amos Gitai, Shohei Imamura, Samira Makhmalbaf, Youssef Chahine, Idrissa Ouedraogo, Mira Nair, Alejandro González Iñárritu, 2002)

In homage to the events of September 11, 2001, short films of eleven minutes, nine seconds and one frame were commissioned from eleven filmmakers representing virtually every continent. The results are a variety of perspectives from diverse cultures: Danis Tanovic and Ken Loach's references to other memorable political events on the 11th (the massacre in Srebrenica on July 11, 1995 and the date that Salvador Allende was deposed - September 11, 1973), Samira Makhmalbaf's attempt to explain the attack to schoolchildren in Iran, Shohei

Imamura's Japanese memories of World War II, Claude Lelouch's deaf person's reactions to the events, and Idrissa Ouedraogo's comic story of young boys who spot a Osama Ben Laden look-alike in Burkina Faso and plot to collect the \$25 million reward.

Adolphe (France, Benoît Jacquot, 2002)

Based on the nineteenth-century novel by Benjamin Constant, **Adolphe** depicts the doomed affair between Ellénore, a vulnerable widow portrayed by the luminous Isabelle Adjani, and Adolphe, her younger, wealthy and fickle lover. Adolphe's obsessive, relentless pursuit of Ellénore and attempt to suddenly end their affair is counteracted by Ellénore's obsession to continue it (shades of Camille Claudel).

Aiki (Japan, Daisuke Tengan, 2002)

Inspired by true events, **Aiki** charts a young boxer's recovery after a motorcycle accident leaves him confined to a wheelchair. At first consumed by self-pity and despair, he finds hope when he meets a young woman who sees beyond his handicap. Through her efforts, he discovers Aikido, a Japanese martial art espousing the importance of achieving a calm, positive mind-set and victory through non-resistance, and slowly rebuilds his life.

Bowling for Columbine (USA, Michael Moore, 2002)

In this biting documentary, irrepressible satirist Michael Moore (**Roger & Me**) examines the American obsession with firearms and ponders why America's gun-related deaths outnumber that of any other country. Moore interviews a wide array of characters from Lockheed Martin Plant administrators and NRA advocate Charles Heston, to the victims from the Columbine High School rampage and public relations staff at K-Mart where the Columbine guns were purchased. There are some amusing Canadian episodes: Moore can't believe that Canadians feel so safe that they leave their front doors unlocked and goes to Toronto to test it.

City of God / Cidade de Deus (Brazil, Fernando Meirelles, 2002)

Based on author Paulo Lins's experiences and characters he encountered in the late sixties to early eighties while growing up in the slums of Rio, **City of God** chronicles the steady progression of children as young as 9 to a violent existence of gang warfare, murder, and involvement in the drug trade.

The Cuckoo/ Kukushka (Russia, Alexander Rogozhkin, 2002)

Set near the end of the Second World War, a tension-filled and ultimately comic examination of three characters - a Russian and Finn soldier and young Lapp peasant woman - who do not speak one another's languages yet manage to communicate.

La Dernière Lettre / The Last Letter (France, Frederick Wiseman, 2002)

Adapted from Soviet writer Vassili Grossman's novel "Life and Fate", **La Dernière Lettre** presents a reading of a Russian-Jewish doctor's last letter to her son as she awaits death from the invading German army in 1941. Comédie-Française actress Catherine Samie delivers a poignant and powerful performance and

conveys the doctor's keen observations on war and ethical choices.

Être et avoir /To Be and To Have (France, Nicolas Philibert, 2002)

A celebration of learning, this delightful documentary explores the joyful, well-rounded education of thirteen pupils (from kindergarten through the primary grades) in a one room school in Auvergne. The film is a tribute to good teachers everywhere and captures retiring teacher Georges Lopez's amazing ability to connect with his students

Evelyn (Ireland, Bruce Beresford, 2001)

Based on a true court battle in the fifties, Desmond Doyle, a poor, working-class Irishman fights to have his children returned after the State places them in an orphanage when his wife deserts him. Things look hopeless until Desmond finds a lawyer unafraid to tackle the government and the church. Featuring Pierce Brosnan, Aidan Quinn, Julianna Margulies, Stephen Rea, and Alan Bates.

Far From Heaven (USA, Todd Haynes, 2002)

Perfectly capturing idealized suburban life in fifties America, **Far From Heaven** uncovers the darker realities and racial intolerance of the times. Features Julianne Moore and Dennis Quaid as the perfect couple (he has a shocking revelation) and a sweeping score by Elmer Bernstein.

The Guys (USA, Jim Simpson, 2002)

Following the tragic events of September 11th, journalist Anne Nelson wanted to capture the profound grief and loss that New Yorkers were experiencing in a meaningful way - she could offer words and helped a fire captain write eulogies for his lost men. This resulted in a play first performed at Tribeca's Flea Theater - steps away from the former site of the World Trade Center - other productions by high profile actors in New York and Los Angeles, and this film adaptation starring Sigourney Weaver and Anthony LaPaglia.

The Man Without a Past /Mies vailla menneisyttä (Finland/Germany/France, Aki Kaurismäki, 2002)

The ever-inventive Kaurismäki (**Leningrad Cowboys Go America, The Match Factory Girl, I Hired a Contract Killer**) has constructed a modern day fable of loss and love. The film tells the story of a man who is brutally mugged and proclaimed dead, but awakes amnesiac and "resurrected" through the kindness of a poor family and Salvation Army worker portrayed by long-time Kaurismäki collaborator, Kati Outinen.

Marie-Jo et ses deux amours / Marie-Jo and Her Two Loves (France, Robert Guédiguian, 2002)

A mature film that recounts with surprising candour the infidelity of a middle-aged, happily married woman and the impact it has on her adoring husband, her lover and teenaged daughter. The film is set in Marseilles, as are all Guédiguian's films, and features two of his favourite actors - Ariane Ascaride (Marie-Jo) and Gérard Meylan (ship's pilot).

A Peck on the Cheek / Kannathil Muthamittal (India, Mani Ratnam, 2002)

Set against a backdrop of political strife, **A Peck on the Cheek** juxtaposes two stories and time periods: a recently-wed Sri Lankan couple who are torn from one another by the arrival of the military, and a happy, middle-class family and their intelligent, mischievous adopted daughter. The odyssey to find the daughter's birth mother in war-torn Sri Lanka is frightening and sad.

The Quiet American (Australia/USA, Phillip Noyce, 2002)

An adaptation of Graham Greene's classic tale of desire and deception set during the French war in Indochina in the early fifties, **The Quiet American** recounts the tug-of-war between Michael Caine (in a tour-de-force performance) as an indolent British news correspondent and Brendan Fraser as the mysterious, "quiet" American and their competition for a beautiful young Vietnamese woman.

Russian Ark / Russki Kovcheg (Russia/Germany, Alexandr Sokurov, 2002)

Russian Ark explores the epic, turbulent history of Russia through the observations of a witty, nineteenth-century French diplomat and present-day filmmaker (who remains out of sight) as they wander through the Hermitage and comment on the works of art. Incredibly, this 96-minute film was accomplished in a single take and features a cast of almost 900, with hundreds of extras.

Spider (Canada/United Kingdom/France, David Cronenberg, 2002)

Spider is David Cronenberg's dreamy, brilliant examination of a mumbling, schizophrenic, recently-discharged mental patient who believes that his father murdered his mother many years ago and is torn between the past and present. Features a stellar cast of Ralph Fiennes, Miranda Richardson (in Academy Award deserving performances), Gabriel Byrne, Lynn Redgrave, and John Neville.

Springtime in a Small Town / Xiao Cheng Zhi Chun (China, Tian Zhuangzhuang, 2001)

A remake of the celebrated Chinese 1948 drama **Spring in a Small Town**. **Springtime in a Small Town** is an exquisite exploration of a love triangle and centuries old China vs. the new, emerging China.

Talk to Her / Hable con ella (Spain, Pedro Almodóvar, 2002)

Pedro Almodóvar (**Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown, All About My Mother**) examines the friendship of a journalist and male nurse who are connected by misfortune - the woman they love is in a coma. **Talk to Her** explores the nature of love with its strange and unsettling emotions.

Waiting for Happiness / Heremakono (France/Mauritania, Abderrahmane Sissako, 2002)

A film of haunting beauty and slow changes, **Waiting for Happiness** follows the return of a young man to his desert home where time has stood still. Other non-actor characters include a young boy and his aged friend who are responsible for bringing electricity to the village, and a young girl who is learning the complicated harmonics of traditional Koranic songs.

.The Way Home (South Korea, Lee Jeong-hyang, 2002)

A powerful, touching tale of a spoiled, petulant seven-year-old city boy who spends the summer with his mute, loving and determined grandmother. The film captures the different customs and habits of urban and country life in South Korea.

I didn't see these films, but they were reported as great:

Whale Rider (New Zealand/Germany, Niki Caro, 2002)

Heaven (France/Germany/USA, Tom Tykwer, 2002) With Cate Blanchett.

Rabbit-Proof Fence (Australia, Phillip Noyce, 2002) With Kenneth Branagh.,

Frida (USA, Julie Taymor, 2002) With Salma Hayek (as Frida Kahlo), Alfred Molina and Geoffrey Rush

Dolls (Japan/France, Takeshi Kitano, 2002)

La Trilogie: Après la vie / The Trilogy: After Life (France/Belgium, Lucas Belvaux, 2002)

La Trilogie: Cavale / The Trilogy: On the Run (France/Belgium, Lucas Belvaux, 2002)

La Trilogie: Un Couple épatant / The Trilogy: An Amazing Couple (France/Belgium, Lucas Belvaux, 2002)

Miyazaki's Spirited Away / Sen To Chihiro No Kamikakushi (Japan/USA, Hayao Miyazaki, 2001)

Spellbound (USA, Jeff Blitz, 2002)**CASLIS-Toronto Listserv Temporarily On Hold**

The host of our Listserv has been for many years Faxon, and later Roewcom, and we have appreciated this service greatly. Now Rowecom has decided to discontinue their Listserv, so we are shopping for a new locale. **In the interim, the list will not operate.**

Watch the Web for further news.

New Web address for CASLIS National

CASLIS National's new URL is: www.cla.ca/caslis. Mia Yen writes: "Please update your...web sites to reflect this (where you have a link...to CASLIS National). We are currently planning to add more content to the web site.

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.

The CASLIS Toronto Listserv is temporarily unavailable. We are currently 'shopping' for a new location.

Get an electronic copy of the newsletter either on the Web site or by sending an email to Sandra_craig@ontla.ola.org

CASLIS - Toronto Chapter - Executive 2001 - 2002

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