

# UBC Library Friends

SPRING 2015



Image from a manuscript of the Lotus Sutra, 9<sup>th</sup> century, found at Dunhuang by Aurel Stein, British Library.

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## UBC Library Welcomes Dr. Frances Wood for Centenary Lecture

By Becky Potvin



Dr. Frances Wood will give a guest lecture at the UBC Vancouver campus in late May and also participate in several other campus events.

In celebration of its 100th anniversary, UBC Library welcomes author and former British Library curator of Chinese collections, Dr. Frances Wood. As part of UBC Library's Centennial Celebrations, a series of events will be held at the Vancouver campus during the last week of May, in conjunction with Vancouver Asian Heritage Month. Dr. Wood studied at Liverpool Art School and the University of Cambridge, spending a year in China at the Beijing Languages Institute and Peking University in 1975/76. Dr. Wood worked in the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) Library at the University of London before moving to the British Library as curator of the Chinese collections, retiring in 2013.

Dr. Wood is the author of several books on Chinese culture and history including her most recent work, *Picnics Prohibited: Diplomacy in a Chaotic China during the First World War* (2014). Her first public talk will discuss the importance of the Silk Roads in the movement of ideas and icons across Central Asia, from Buddhism to Nestorian Christianity, in addition to their role as trade routes.

Dr. Wood's visit is made possible through the generous support of Willem and Rosalie Stronck. Events have been developed with numerous partners, making this a truly collaborative and interdisciplinary visit.



a place of mind

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



Image: Martin Dee

## Message from the University Librarian

**Spring has arrived at UBC and with it a number of exciting events and programs at UBC Library.** The first quarter of 2015 included the launch of the Library's 100th anniversary, a campus celebration of the Lunar New Year and national media coverage on our recent acquisitions of rare medieval manuscripts.

In this issue of Friends, you will find more details about newly added digital collections, an upcoming lecture and events featuring former British Library curator and author Dr. Frances Wood (May 26 - 29), and how the Library is supporting graduate students through the Research Commons at Koerner Library.

If you are visiting UBC for Congregation (May 20 - 27), I encourage you to drop by the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre to view the Evelyn Nodwell photography exhibition, part of our commitment to celebrating Vancouver Asian Heritage Month, and to explore the 1245 Papal Bull exhibition in Rare Books and Special Collections. As September draws closer, the

Library will join in with the rest of the UBC campus for special Centennial celebrations.

Lastly, as our fiscal year end draws to a close, so too does the Library's 5-year strategic plan. An updated two-year plan is being developed in consultation with Library staff and our stakeholders that supports President Arvind Gupta's five-point vision of positioning UBC as a global leader in research, learning, engagement, innovation and international activities.

We will share our strategic outlook in upcoming issues of Friends and on the Library website at [www.library.ubc.ca](http://www.library.ubc.ca).

We look forward to celebrating our 100th anniversary with you this year.

Ingrid Parent  
UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN

### events Dr. Frances Wood visits UBC

#### **Public Lecture - From Buddhism to Nestorian Christianity: The importance of the Silk Roads in the movement of ideas and religions across Central Asia**

*Presented by the Asian Library and Department of Asian Studies*

Tuesday, May 26 at 3 p.m.  
Asian Centre Auditorium, UBC  
1871 West Mall, Vancouver

#### **In Conversation: Frances Wood and Tim Brook**

*Co-presented with the Institute for Asian Research, Centre for Chinese Research*

Friday, May 29 at 3 p.m.  
CK Choi Building, UBC  
1855 West Mall, Vancouver

Dr. Timothy Brook in an extended interview of Dr. Frances Wood on their shared experience as students in China during the Cultural Revolution.

#### **Musical Journey along the Silk Road, with an introduction by Dr. Frances Wood**

*Presented by the Canadian Society for Asian Arts*  
Friday, May 29 at 7 p.m.

Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden  
578 Carrall Street, Chinatown  
Multicultural musical performances will take you on a journey along the Silk Road, from the Middle East to the Far East. With an introduction by Dr. Frances Wood.

[canadiansocietyforasianarts.org](http://canadiansocietyforasianarts.org)  
[vancouverchinesegarden.com](http://vancouverchinesegarden.com)



Lion dance by the UBC Kung Fu Association. Lunar New Year celebration at the Asian Centre, February 13, 2015. Image: UBC Asian Centre

# UBC celebrates the Lunar New Year

By June Chow

February 19 marked the start of the **Year of the Sheep** for many families around the world including Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese and some Japanese.

UBC celebrated with faculty and staff, campus residents, alumni and students, one-third of whom have some direct connection to Chinese heritage. In fact, more alumni travel home to Vancouver for the occasion than any other time of the year to be reunited with family members.

Throughout February, events across campus and in the community were hosted by various student clubs, departments, and community groups, with the Asian Centre hosting its perennial favourite Open House of student performances and cultural displays.



President Arvind Gupta hosts and toasts members of the UBC community at the annual Lunar New Year luncheon, February 11, 2015. Image: Varun Saran



Bright Dustin, Jooyoung Lee, Kevin Lu and Amber Dukart emcee the Lunar New Year celebration at the Asian Centre, February 13, 2015, featuring performances by students of the Chinese Language Program. Image: UBC Asian Centre



Lunar New Year lanterns installed at the President's Office in Koerner Library, as gifted to UBC by parents of the University Transition Program. Image: June Chow



Gregory Mackie (Assistant Professor, Department of English), Katherine Kalsbeek (Acting Head, Rare Books and Special Collections), and Justin O’Hearn (PhD student, Victorian literature) were thrilled to view the Oscar Wilde acquisitions when they arrived at UBC Library in early January.

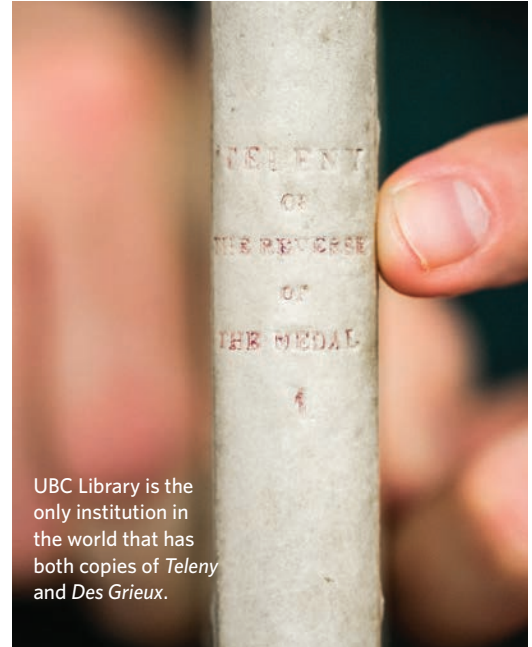
## Bringing history to life with rare and medieval documents

By Becky Potvin

From Oscar Wilde to the Pope, the Library has added historically notable documents to its rare and special collections. Last November, Justin O’Hearn, a PhD candidate in Victorian literature at UBC, launched a crowdfunding campaign to claim *Teleny* and *Des Grieux*, two rare texts connected to Oscar Wilde. *Teleny* was first published in 1893, with only five known sets of the two-volume publication remaining. There are only three known copies of *Des Grieux*, published in 1899. “UBC is the only collection in the world with both texts, and that is huge from a research perspective,” says O’Hearn. The additions complement UBC Library’s Colbeck Collection of 19th-century literature, which includes a number of rare Wilde texts.

Another exciting addition is the Papal bull, a medieval document written in 1245. A legal decree issued in Latin by Pope Innocent IV to the Italian convent of San Michele in Trento, it features the signatures of the Pope and 13 cardinals (including future pope Nicholas III). This rare medieval document is a teaching tool for students of classics, literature, law, theology and art history. “By bringing documents such as this to UBC Library, we help bring history to life,” says Katherine Kalsbeek, Acting Head of Rare Books and Special Collections.

A page from *Compendium Theologicae Veritatis*, one of the oldest books in UBC Library’s collections.



UBC Library is the only institution in the world that has both copies of *Teleny* and *Des Grieux*.

Images: Martin Dee

“By bringing documents such as this to UBC Library, we help bring history to life.”

- Katherine Kalsbeek





History professor Richard Pollard views the Papal Bull.  
Image: Don Erhardt

## Medieval Papal Bull comes to UBC Library

The 770 year old Papal Bull now housed in Rare Books and Special Collections was acquired last May from an antiquarian book seller in London, England. A papal bull is a letters patent or charter issued by the Pope and named for the seal (*bull*) attached to the bottom. The bull arrived at UBC Library in good condition but creased from being stored folded for centuries. UBC Library's conservator, Anne Lama, used a humidification chamber to ease out the creases, spending over 24 hours straight working with the fragile document.

UBC Library invites the public to view the Papal Bull and other works from the middle ages in an exhibition this month.

### Papal Parchments and Blackletter Books from 1245 AD to UBC:

How the Middle Ages Shape the Way We Read

The Middle Ages were not a time of illiteracy or ignorance, but a time when the written word was used extensively. The very shapes of the letters we know today, in fact, were created in the Middle Ages. Using some recent acquisitions by UBC Library, (including a 13<sup>th</sup>-century Papal Bull, and a 13<sup>th</sup>-century manuscript book), this exhibition will follow the development of Western writing, offering visitors a new appreciation of the words they read and write every day.

May 1 – 31

Irving K. Barber Learning Centre  
Rare Books and Special Collections  
1st Floor, 1961 East Mall, UBC Vancouver Campus

## Unique gift brings music making to UBC Library

By Tara Simonetta

Patrons of the Music, Art and Architecture Library will soon have the opportunity to try out the Library's large collection of sheet music on site. Vancouver-based Tom Lee Music has generously donated an electric piano to create an interactive experience for library users. Patrons are invited to try out the Library's collection of scores or compose their own music. Tom Lee Music is a long-time supporter of the UBC School of Music and UBC Opera, and students of these departments will benefit greatly from this donation.

The piano is a unique fixture for a traditionally quiet library, but users need not worry—headphones are provided. The piano will be available this summer. We encourage you to come by and try it out!





FIREtalk participants dance during the Community and Communication FIREtalk in March. Image: Library Research Commons

## Research Commons sparks Grad Student Success

By Tara Simonetta

**UBC Library is committed to increasing and expanding services for graduate students.** In 2012, Koerner Library received a grant from UBC's Teaching, Learning and Enhancement Fund (TLEF) to create the Research Commons, where students from all academic disciplines are given access to peer-to-peer research support.

The Research Commons offers workshops and one-to-one assistance with citation management tools; two data analysis tools, for both quantitative and qualitative data; and thesis formatting to help students meet UBC's thesis formatting requirements.

A unique program offered at the Research Commons is FIREtalks, Facilitated Interdisciplinary Research Exchanges. FIREtalks bring together graduate students of all disciplines to share their perspectives on a set theme. The sessions yield lively presentations and discussion on a wide range of topics, from neuroscience data to dance performance.

Though the Research Common's TLEF funding ends this year, its support has solidified the need for dedicated space for graduate students at UBC Library. UBC Library is currently developing a plan to expand its graduate programs and create a dedicated learning space for graduate students.

### Annual Basil Stuart-Stubbs Book Prize Reception

Tuesday, June 9, 2015 4-6 p.m.

Dodson Room, Irving K. Barber Learning Centre

Please RSVP to [tara.simonetta@ubc.ca](mailto:tara.simonetta@ubc.ca)

## The Annual Basil Stuart-Stubbs Book Prize 2015 Shortlist

By Becky Potvin

The 2015 Basil Stuart-Stubbs Prize for Outstanding Scholarly Book on British Columbia, sponsored by the UBC Library and the Pacific BookWorld News Society, recognizes the best scholarly book published by a Canadian author on a B.C. subject. The winning title will be announced in early June.

The three shortlisted titles are:

*French Canadians, Furs, and Indigenous Women in the Making of the Pacific Northwest* by Jean Barman (University of British Columbia Press).

*Ancient Pathways, Ancestral Knowledge: Ethnohistory and the Ecological Wisdom of Indigenous Peoples of Northwestern North America* by Nancy J. Turner (McGill-Queen's University Press).

*The Sea Among Us: the Amazing Strait of Georgia* by Richard Beamish and Gordon Macfarlane, editors (Harbour Publishing).

The award was established in memory of Basil Stuart-Stubbs, a bibliophile, scholar and librarian who passed away in 2012. To date, over \$48,000 has been raised to support the prize, and UBC Library is currently working to endow the award to ensure it continues in perpetuity. Fundraising is ongoing to increase both the value of the prize and its prominence as a prestigious Canadian book prize.

For more information about this award, please visit [www.about.library.ubc.ca/awards](http://www.about.library.ubc.ca/awards).





The Charles Woodward Memorial Room will be opened to students for contemplative study amongst artifacts of medical history.

## Woodward Library to honour medical history in new display cases

By Tara Simonetta

Through a generous grant from Mr. & Mrs. P.A. Woodward's Foundation, Woodward Library will create a permanent exhibit of its medical artifacts. More than 300 historic scientific and medical instruments, mostly donated over the years, will find new homes in high-quality display cases. The exhibit will honour the past while inspiring future medical students and their research. Rehousing of the artifacts will also allow for full access to the Charles Woodward Memorial Room by students and researchers, which was previously closed off to protect the rare items stored inside. The exhibit is expected to be ready in late 2015/early 2016.

## New Digital Collections

UBC Library's digital collections are accessed by scholars and students globally, and new content is added regularly. Here's a glimpse of some recent additions:

Images: UBC Digital Collections



Page from *Ji Yang Xi Guan Shi Chao*, Puban Collection

### PUBAN COLLECTION

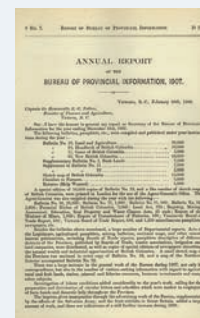
Consisting of 45,000 hand-stitched volumes spanning Chinese history, literature and thought from the 12th to 19th centuries, the Puban Collection was acquired with the help of UBC professor Ho Ping-ti in 1959.



Cover of the January 1984 issue of *Discorder* magazine

### DISORDER MAGAZINE

Devoted to in-depth coverage of Vancouver's independent music scene, *Discorder* magazine is published by UBC's student-run CiTR 101.9 FM radio station. All existing issues of the magazine are now available to view online, and new issues will be added as they are published.



Annual Report of the Bureau of Provincial Information, 1907 from BC Sessional Papers

### BC SESSIONAL PAPERS, Phase 2

BC's Sessional Papers document political, historical, economic and cultural history of British Columbia. New additions to this collection include committee reports, petitions, correspondence, maps, voter lists and more from 1887-1911.

To explore these and other digital collections, please visit <http://digitalcollections.library.ubc.ca/>. Be sure to watch for UBC Library's new Open Collections website, a new, user-friendly platform for the Library's digital collections. Launching summer 2015.



# events

## SPRING 2015

### **In the Season of New Rice** (April - May)

Photographer and anthropologist Evelyn Nodwell displays her photography exhibition depicting life in Guizhou Province, China at the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre on the Vancouver campus through the month of May

### **Dr. Frances Wood Public Lecture** (May 26 - 29)

See our cover story for events featuring visiting author and former British Library curator Dr. Frances Wood in Vancouver, BC

## SUMMER 2015

### **Aboriginal Unhistory Month** (June - July)

The Library, in partnership with the Musqueam Indian Band, the Centre for Teaching and Learning Technology and the Museum of Anthropology, will be celebrating Aboriginal scholarship, creativity, and intellectual traditions with its fourth annual Aboriginal Unhistory Month. Programming includes exhibits, book display, and other campus-wide activities

### **Canadian Health Libraries Association Annual Conference**

UBC Library is pleased to be a sponsor for the annual Canadian Health Libraries Association Conference, taking place June 19 - 22 in downtown Vancouver. For more information about the conference, visit <http://www.chla-absc.ca/conference/>

## FALL 2015

### **Launch of Library Preservation and Archives (Library PARC)**

UBC Library's new modular storage facility will officially open in the fall to accommodate the future growth of collections at the Library. Located at UBC Vancouver's South Campus in the Research Precinct. For more information on Library PARC, visit <http://about.library.ubc.ca/changes/libraryparc/>

### **Preview: Uno Langmann Family Collection of B.C. Photographs**

A preview of one of the Library's most prolific collections will take place in the fall as a lead-up to a spring exhibition scheduled for Spring 2016.

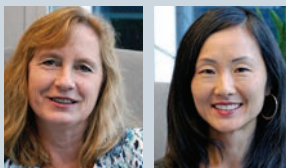
**For more information about the Library's anniversary events, please visit [www.library.ubc.ca](http://www.library.ubc.ca) or follow us on Twitter @ubclibrary.**

For information on how to support the Library, please contact our Library Development Team or visit [support.library.ubc.ca](http://support.library.ubc.ca).

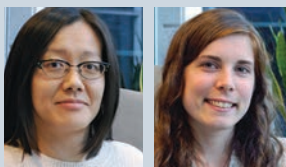
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