



## Andre Nitecki Dies

Former students and friends of Professor Andre Nitecki will be saddened to learn of his death on 1 September 1993 after a series of strokes. Professor Nitecki had retired from the School of Library and Information Studies on 31 December 1992. He was 68 years old.

Born in Poland, Professor Nitecki spent his early years in Europe. A period of internment in North Africa during World War II was the beginning for Professor Nitecki of lifelong interest in and involvement with the people, history, and culture of that continent.

Professor Nitecki later studied law at the Université de Lyon in France and at Oxford University in England and, following his immigration to the United States, he studied English and Art at Wayne State University in Detroit in the early 1950's. He obtained his graduate degree in librarianship at the University of Chicago in 1963.

Most of Professor Nitecki's career was spent in the areas of cataloguing and classification, and in library education. His cataloguing experience included work at the University of Chicago; the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago; the University

of Michigan, where he was Director of Technical Services; and the University of Lagos in Nigeria, where he was chief cataloguer.

Professor Nitecki's career in library education spanned several decades on two continents. In the late 1960's, and early 1970's he lectured at library schools at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria; at the University of Ghana; and at Syracuse University in New York, where he also held an appointment as Art Historian and Curator.

From 1975 to his retirement, Professor Nitecki taught in the (now) School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Alberta. Throughout his time at the University, with the exception of leaves to work in Africa, he taught the required beginning course in the organization of knowledge, sharing with his students his extensive background in this area. He also taught a variety of other courses, including those dealing with cataloguing and classification, indexing, collections in the humanities, and comparative librarianship, among others. In addition, he taught courses on African art and culture for both the Department of Anthropology and the Faculty of Extension.

Professor Nitecki's publications

were mainly in the fields of cataloguing and classification and African art. His catalogue of the Andre Nitecki Collection of African Art at the Glenbow Museum in Calgary, where he was an Associate Curator, is in press. One of his post-retirement projects was to draw on both his specialties to produce an index to illustrations of African art, and he had begun work on this index when his illness overtook him.

Professor Nitecki had two desires in his final years. One was to create an institute for African art and culture studies at the University of Alberta, and the other was to return to Africa. Both dreams have been realized. The Andre Nitecki African Art and Culture Reading and Resource Room has been established in the Department of Comparative Literature at the University, the initial collection comprising books from Professor Nitecki's large collections. And Professor Nitecki's remains have been buried in Ghana, as per his request.

A memorial service for Professor Andre Nitecki was held on 18 September at the International Centre in HUB on the University campus, and was attended by a large gathering of former students and friends from the library community, and friends from the Edmonton African comm-

unity with whom he had worked for many years.

Contributions may be made to the Andre Nitecki Memorial Fund, in care of the Development Office, Fourth Floor, Athabasca Hall, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2E8. Proceeds from the Fund will be used to maintain and develop the collections of the Andre Nitecki African Art and Culture Reading and Resource Room on campus.

## SCHOOL HISTORY

As part of the celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the founding of the (now) School of Library and Information Studies, a history of the School is being prepared by Dr. Robert E. Brundin.

Alumni of the School, from those in the first class of 1969 to those who convocated in 1993, are invited to send in their reminiscences. Any recollections could be useful, particularly those relating to courses and professors in the earlier years. How about those bus trips to Banff and Regina, and touring the public library in North Battleford? And that evening in the Cascade Inn? Or that memorable Christmas skit? Any contribution is welcome, whether related to work or play!

Please send contributions to Dr. Brundin in care of the School, 3-20 Rutherford South, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB T6G 2J4. Thank you so much!

## From the President's Desk...

This year's Executive have been busy! We have distributed a summer newsletter, and have planned and coordinated two receptions - the 2nd Annual Calgary Fall Reception and the 25th Anniversary Open House! I attended both receptions and was delighted with the number of alumni who participated!

The 1993-94 LISAA Scholarship was awarded to Jill Cerezke, who is also LISAA's "first-year" representative. Executive members look forward to working with Jill over the next two years. You can learn more about Jill, and other Executive members in "Meet Your Executive".

On September 16, 1993, the Executive passed a motion to establish the Distinguished Alumni Award to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the School of Library & Information Studies. This award will be presented to a graduate of the "School" for a significant contribution to the profession. If you know somebody who qualifies for this award, please take a minute to send me a nomination. (See attached "Distinguished Alumni Award, 1994 Nominations" information sheet.)

Thank you for taking advantage of our special 25th Anniversary LISAA Membership rate! Your support is needed to promote the School of Library & Information Studies, to help its alumni stay in touch, and to help keep our scholarship fund healthy!

If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact me c/o:

Yellowhead Regional Library  
Box 400, 433 King Street  
Spruce Grove, AB T7X 2Y1  
962-2003 (W); 451-2723 (H)

## Honourary Membership Nominations

The Executive is accepting nominations for honorary members in the LISAA. Candidates should be people who have made significant contributions to the field of librarianship, to the School of Library and Information Studies or to the Library & Information Studies Alumni Association. Nominations should be made in writing to Pilar Martinez c/o Yellowhead Regional Library (see address above).

The award, of lifetime membership in the LISAA, will be awarded at our AGM in the Spring.

## Meet Your LISAA Executive...

### **PRESIDENT - Pilar Martinez**

I graduated with my M.L.I.S. in 1990 and soon after began working as the Resource Librarian at the Lloydminster Public Library and the Northern Lights Library System. In July 1992, I joined the Yellowhead Regional Library team as Head of Reference & Interlibrary Loan and I really enjoy this challenging position. When I am not at Yellowhead or spending time on LISAA business, I "help" my husband, Tim, and our cocker spaniel, Missy, renovate our "new" old house. I also enjoy hiking and reading (what a surprise!) and I'm really looking forward to some downhill skiing, now that winter has arrived. I am proud to be serving as the 1993-94 President of LISAA.

### **VICE-PRESIDENT - Kerri Calvert**

My current position is Departmental Librarian for the Department of Sociology at the University of Alberta. Our library specializes in demography, criminology, sociology and research methods. I have been in this position for a number of years, and find it very enjoyable. My interests outside of work include cycling, cross country skiing and travel. I am pleased to be able to serve on the executive of the School of Library and Information Studies Alumni Association, and look forward to promoting the school and meeting people involved in the profession.

### **PAST PRESIDENT - Maureen Beristain**

Maureen is from the class of '85. She has been working in the Herbert T. Coumts (Education) Library at the University of Alberta off and on since 1980 in too many positions to recount. Currently she is a Reference/Collections librarian. Previously she has held executive positions in the Greater Edmonton Library Association, Library and Information Studies Alumni Association, and the Association of Professional Librarians at the University of Alberta; but confesses she never was the president of LISAA.

What there is of spare time is spent on household renovations, travel, sporadic work on a certificate in public administration, and looking forward to an "empty nest". Son Jorge is a trade and investment consultant representing an Edmonton based firm in Mexico City. Vicente should complete his B.A. this winter.

### **SECRETARY - Lisa-Jane Watson**

Lisa-Jane is the Western sales Representative for CanebSCO Subscription Services, a position she has held for the past 4 years. Lisa-Jane has worked in government, school, public and law libraries and is a graduate of the University of Alberta B.Ed. (1987) and M.L.I.S. (1989) programs. In the past, Lisa-Jane has been the treasurer of GELA (1990-93) and is currently the secretary-treasurer of SLA Western Canada Chapter (1993 - 1995). Lisa-Jane brings a wealth of experience to this position and with all this association work we are fairly sure she has no free time!

### **TREASURER - Elaine Jones**

I graduated with my M.L.I.S. in the spring of 1991 (it seems like yesterday!) and have been working as a Library Consultant at Yellowhead Regional Library in Spruce Grove since the fall of that same year. Current non-work passions include looking at the pictures in quilting and needlework books, reading YA literature, fantasizing about winning the 6-49, dreaming up renovation projects for my husband, and of course acting as your LISAA Treasurer and News Editor. Please contact me care of Yellowhead Regional Library Box 400, 433 King Street, Spruce Grove, AB T7X 2Y1 FAX 962-2770 if you have any news, rumours, gossip etc. to include in the next issue of News. We'll print (almost) anything!

### **CONTINUING STUDENTS REP. - Sue Colp**

Sue is happy to be serving for her second year on the LISAA executive. She spent an interesting and enjoyable summer working

on the Canadian Cooperative Preservation Project at the U of A Library, working under the direction of Dr. Merrill Distad. This opportunity enabled her to gain a better understanding of how many individual efforts are required to run a large library system like that at the Uof A, and a real appreciation for the lasting qualities of the dreaded medium of microfilm. In addition, this summer, Sue was given the CASLIS student award for Special Librarianship, (a free membership in CLA), and a Province of Alberta Graduate Scholarship. Sue is currently hard at work on her second year of the M.L.I.S. program, learning about cataloguing, online searching, collection management, and automated library systems. The stress hasn't killed her...YET!

#### ENTERING STUDENT REP. - Jill Cerezke

Jill is a first year Library and Information Studies student at the University of Alberta where she also completed her undergraduate degree in anthropology. She lives in Edmonton with her husband (also a student) and her dog.

#### FACULTY REP. - Dr. Sheila Bertram

## 25th Anniversary Open House a Great Success

Over 100 alumni attended the 25th Anniversary Open House held on October 2nd, 1993. Alumni came from as far away as Victoria, Grande Prairie, Lethbridge, Calgary and Red Deer to reminisce with fellow graduates. The afternoon included refreshments and provided an opportunity for alumni to visit and peruse the display tables of photos and memorabilia from each graduating class.

## The Summer of 1993

Three weeks of rain and the ghostly whispers of discontinued Internship programs did not

manage to dampen the spirit of this year's crop of continuing SLIS students. Out of the class of 59 (a figure which includes part-time students), close to a third were able to find summer employment in the field following a relatively brief period of nail-biting anxiety.

In Edmonton, the University of Alberta Library System hired students for five intern and three S.T.E.P. positions throughout its various branches. Among other local spots, students also found temporary employment with Edmonton Public Library, Edmonton's City Hall, Theatre Alberta (formerly Alberta Conference for Theatre), the School of Library and Information Studies, and the County of Strathcona Library.

Towards the southern part of the province, the University of Lethbridge Library hosted two internships this year, and hired two student interns from the SLIS program. Despite recent cutbacks, one student placed with Esso in Calgary, while two others managed to find library work with the city's oil-related industry.

The class reunited in September and shared their experiences and newfound knowledge (traded slanderous stories and other useful gossip). - Sue Colp

## LISAA's 2nd Annual Calgary Fall Reception

LISAA's 2nd Annual Calgary Fall Reception was held in the Nosehill Branch of the Calgary Public Library on September 25th, 1993. The reception was the result of the efforts of Allison Inglis and Helen Lee Robertson. The afternoon was very enjoyable as alumni caught up on the news and enjoyed some refreshments. Many thanks to Allison and Helen!

About 25 alumni attended the event. LISAA President, Pilar Martinez, came down from the North to address the group on behalf of LISAA. Pilar provided an update on LISAA's

activities and encouraged alumni to continue supporting their Association. Another Northerner making an appearance at the reception was ... Dr. Sheila Bertram, Director of the School of Library & Information Studies. Dr. Bertram gave an overview of the activities at the School and highlighted the celebrations being planned to commemorate the 25th Anniversary.

We hope this gave Calgary alumni an opportunity to catch-up on what was happening up North, and also to catch-up on what was happening in the lives of fellow classmates.

## News from the School ...

The School of Library and Information Studies is pleased to announce that it will be hosting a visit by scholar and author **Roma Harris**. Dr. Harris will be at the School February 7 - 9, 1994.

Dr. Harris is an Associate Professor at the School of Library and Information Science at the University of Western Ontario. She has a counselling psychology background. Her previous articles and areas of research interest have included information technology and the de-skilling of librarians, the information needs of battered women, the information needs of lesbians, sex differences in career development within librarianship, and the influence of gender on perceived competence in reference work. Dr. Harris has presented papers at the annual conferences of both the Canadian Library Association and the American Library Association. Her recently published book, *Librarianship: The Erosion of a Women's Profession*, has been reviewed as a feminist analysis which recommends a closer alliance among female professions in order to increase the value which society assigns to "women's work" (Library Journal 18(4), 116). It has been recommended both to librarians and to women's studies and sociology work programs as a well-written and deeply referenced work (Quill & Quire 59(6), 20).

During her February 1994 visit, Dr. Harris will be presenting a research seminar and lecture to students of the School. Additionally she will be presenting a lecture to members of the Association of Professional Librarians at the University of Alberta (APLUA) and a talk to the members of the Greater Edmonton Library Association (GELA).

For further information, contact Dr. Sheila Bertram, Director, at 492-3932.

## School of Library and Information Studies Research Seminars

Tuesday, January 11, 1994

HOPE OLSON

School of Library and Information Studies,  
University of Alberta

Assumptions of Naming in Information  
Storage and Retrieval: A Deconstruction

Tuesday, February 8, 1994

ROMA HARRIS

School of Library and Information Science,  
University of Western Ontario

Topic to be Announced

Tuesday, March 8, 1994

DAVID JENKINSON

Faculty of Education, University of  
Manitoba

Topic to be Announced

## Who's Doing What ...?

Madeleine Bailey ('78) became Madeleine Lefebvre last June 12, when she married Lawrence Lefebvre. They appeared at the Pleiades Theatre in Calgary from August 25 to September 26 in *Murder at the Vicarage*. Madeleine played Miss Marple, Lawrence Doctor Haydock.

NEWS is the official newsletter of the University of Alberta Library and Information Studies Alumni Association. The mandate for NEWS includes reporting activities of LISAA and highlighting the accomplishments of members and individuals of interest to LISAA. Submissions to NEWS can be forwarded to Elaine Jones, c/o Yellowhead Regional Library, Box 400, 433 King Street, Spruce Grove, AB T7X 2Y1 (FAX 962-2770).

