


THE CORNER SHELF



NOVEMBER 2011

News and Alerts

We have a winner! Alexandra Bennett has won the Canadian Library Month contest by correctly identifying 2 library staff Superpowers. Congratulations, Alexandra!

 The library will be closed for Remembrance Day on Nov. 10th and 11th. Regular hours resume on Nov. 12th.

November is...
- International Drum Month
- November

Nov. 5 is Guy Fawkes Day, commemorated in England since 1605. His effigy is often burned on a bonfire, commonly accompanied by fireworks.

Confucius' Birthday is Nov. 6 in Vietnam.

Nov. 16 is International Day for Tolerance - it was declared by UNESCO in 1995.

Nov. 23 is Kiro Kansha no Hi (Labour Thanksgiving Day) in Japan.

What's Inside

- Canada's Military
- Food in the Library - Yes or No?
- Staff Pick
- Library Hours
- Cool Web Stuff
- Featured E-Resource - Safari Books Online



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CANADA'S MILITARY

In November, when most of the flowers have faded away, bright red poppies bloom on coat lapels. When I see poppies, they bring to mind the famous poem *In Flanders Fields* by John McCrae and I think of soldiers who battled in World War I and World War II. Although I know that Canadians have served in many other conflicts, such as the Korean War and International Peacekeeping missions, I don't know nearly as much about these more current deployments. I wanted to learn more and since I work in a library, I didn't have to go far.

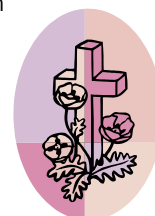
On Concordia's New Book Display, I found J.L. Granatstein's recently published book *Canada's Army: Waging War and Keeping the Peace*. The sections on Canada's involvement in Somalia and

Afghanistan were particularly interesting. The author was a Canadian soldier, a Professor of Canadian history, and the CEO of the Canadian War museum www.warmuseum.ca/home, another great resource with displays of military technology and even video-game-like interactive adventures. (I didn't do very well in my first few tries at "Armoured Warrior," I think I would need a lot more training before leading a tank battalion.)

On the library's DVD shelves I found the *Never Again* series, produced by the Canadian War Amps. It covers not only famous battles but lesser-known struggles such as those faced by Prisoners of War. The original newsreel footage and first person accounts capture the perspective of war through the eyes of individual soldiers. This series was produced as part of the War Amps Operation

Legacy, a program that seeks to preserve and communicate the realities of war in the hope of preventing future armed conflicts. *The Peacekeepers* conveys the experience of UN forces in the Congo as they deal with warlords, child soldiers, and try to resolve intense situations. *Shake Hands with the Devil* also documents the experience of UN peacekeeping efforts, this time in Rwanda during the genocide of 1994. All of these films are difficult to watch, dealing with the aspects of humanity that are hard to face. However, this research gave me a better understanding of just what it is I am "remembering" on Remembrance Day.

Jenna Innes
Information Services
Assistant



FOOD IN THE LIBRARY - YES OR NO?

As the Fall academic term moves forward and everyone on campus gets busier and busier, it can be tempting to try to get a lot done at once, including eating your hot lunch from the cafeteria while poring over textbooks and course notes inside the library. While all of us in the library understand your need to nourish yourself, we

also want to ensure that the smell and mess related to hot and stinky foods does not distract your library neighbours from their own work.

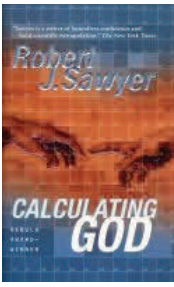
As such, we want to encourage you to please eat any hot, smelly, messy cafeteria foods in the cafeteria or Tegler building, and only bring dry snacks and drinks in covered containers into the library.

Your fellow human beings with nostrils and saliva glands thank you in advance!

Dan Mirau
Library Director



STAFF PICK



Calculating God by Robert J. Sawyer (FIC SAW)

In the middle of an ordinary day a spaceship lands gently in front of the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto. A large spider-like alien exits the ship and makes its way into the museum amidst gawking crowds who imagine this to be a publicity stunt of some sort. The alien approaches one of the museum security guards and asks politely to speak with a paleontologist.

The relationship between the alien and the paleontologist becomes a platform for the author to present both sides of the debate about intelligent design. The alien is a scientist whose race believes that the very

nature of the universe proves the existence of a creator while the scholar from earth is an atheist firmly rooted in his skeptical standpoint.

The discussions between the two characters are fascinating but although many of the points that the alien and the earthling make are true, both the debate and the story soon leave the realm of reality and shift into a full science fiction plot that includes more alien races, an imminent supernova, and a couple of yokels planning to destroy the famous Burgess Shale fossils.

This novel is both philosophical and fast-paced as the characters discuss life's big questions and cope with dangerous scenarios.

Jenna Innes
Information Services Assistant

Library Hours

Monday - Thursday	7:45 am - 9 pm
Friday	7:45 am - 5 pm
Saturday	10 am - 5 pm
Sunday	12 Noon - 7 pm

Closed Statutory Holidays

****Check the website for details****



Access Services
Coordinator

Karen
Hildebrandt



Weekly New Books List: <http://catalogue.library.ualberta.ca/newbooks/library/index.cfm?Libraryfilter=21>

Concordia Library on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Concordia-Library/155004017870032>

Concordia Library News and Events Blog: <http://cucalibrarynews.blogspot.com/>

Concordia Library on Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/concordialibrary/>

Concordia Library on Twitter <https://twitter.com/#!/libraryCUCA>



COOL WEB STUFF

👉 Shakespearean insults are truly inventive (“Thou impertinent sheep-biting pigeon-egg!”) and much better than cursing. I found that one at this **Shakespeare Insults Generator** www.william-shakespeare.org.uk/a2-shakespeare-insult-generator.htm. You can build your own insult here: www.ariel.com.au/jokes/Shakespearean_Insults.html. An iTunes app is available too. Get thee to it, thou gleeking clapper-clawed flap-dragon!

👉 How fast do you read? Would you like to read faster? First, check your speed at **Speed Reading Test Online** www.readingsoft.com. To improve your speed try **Spreeder** www.spreeder.com or **Shaks.ws** www.shaks.ws/index.html. Both sites are designed to help with speed and comprehension. **Readfa.st** <http://readfa.st> has added a social networking twist to reading faster. You can sign in with Facebook, make friends, create groups and earn badges. Get through all that required reading quicker and retain the information - go for it!

👉 Have you ever come across what seems to be an awesome, new website, then you share it with your friends and, whoops, it's actually really old and has been shared to death? Before you share that link, check it out at **Is it Old?** www.isitold.com It's free and you don't have to set up an account. Just paste the URL into the field, submit and instantly discover if a link is still fresh, OK, kinda OK, old, really old, ridiculously old or dead. Maybe you'll even get a 'You're the First!' Never look like you're behind the times again!

👉 Game time! **Flood-It** www.lemoda.net/javascript/flood-it/index.html is a simple game. It's a square box filled with smaller squares in 6 colours. From a legend of the 6 colours to click with your mouse, you try to flood fill the entire box with one colour in 25 or fewer flood fills. Simple, sure, but there is definite strategy & planning involved to win. Just get it in your head that you can leave orphan boxes and you'll be just fine!

Any feedback or suggestions would be *mutch* [sic] appreciated. Contact me at 479-9335 or jan.mutch@concordia.ab.ca.

FEATURED E-RESOURCE



Safari Books Online is an e-book resource containing over

5,000 books about technology. This resource is ideal for Master of Information Systems Security Management students as well as students taking a computing science class, with books on highly technical topics such as networking, server administration, Java, software development, digital forensics, and security policy development.

Yet Safari has something for everyone. No matter what discipline you might be in, technology and social media are a part of our world, and technological skills are an essential skillset for today's job market. For example, you might want to use books on using Excel or PowerPoint more effectively.

Are you wanting to start a blog, build your own website, or use new social media tools? Safari has resources ranging from beginner books on how to start your first blog or

website with WordPress and *Twitter for Dummies* right up to advanced books on how to effectively use digital media as a part of your organizations marketing strategy, and how to design mobile apps. So no matter what your level of comfort with technology is, Safari Books Online has something for you. Check it out!

<http://cufts2.lib.sfu.ca/CRDB/AEC/browse/facets/name/S>

Dana Ouellette
Information Services Librarian