

# friends Newsletter

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## William C Mearns Centre for Learning Progress Report

Marnie Swanson, University Librarian

I am pleased to report that on March 21st the UVic Board of Governors gave the Vice President Finance and Operations approval for the Mearns Centre construction to proceed. The Board also approved the construction of a fourth level to the new building. This additional level will remain unfinished for future development by the Libraries.

Meanwhile, Warner James Architects presented designs to library staff and user groups in February, which included exterior illustrations of the west and east sides. Pictured above is the west side main entrance of the building, which will feature an entrance canopy, and a cafe. The image below illustrates the expansion on the east side of the building, facing Ring Road.

## Editorial Note

Victor A. Neufeldt  
Ann Saddlemyer  
Jaqui Thompson

## Centre for Studies in Religion and Society Contributions to McPherson Library Harold Coward

As we were putting together copy for this issue, we became aware of an emphasis on the many

The Library Support Program of the Centre for Studies in Religion and Society buys books for the Main Library, using the annual interest from a variety of its endowments. Another component of the Program has been the gifting by a great range of supportive communities and individuals.

Notable in the early years were the collections given, in whole or in significant part, by five retired religious studies professors or their estates: Dr. Robert Florida (Brandon); Dr. Paul Newman (University of Saskatchewan); Dr. Robert Osborne (Carleton); Dr. Jordan Paper (York); and Dr. Joseph Richardson (UBC). These gifts provided valuable additions to the Christian, Hindu, Buddhist and Chinese religions collections of the Library.

More recently, Dr. Lionel Adey (UVic emeritus) donated many of the books collected by his late wife, Muriel, who was the first female Anglican priest to be ordained in British Columbia. Especially valuable are a number of reference books, while some others deal with women in religion.

The Sisters of St. Ann have been very strong supporters, having given over the years histories of their activities in the Pacific Northwest, some items complementing the Bishop Seghers Collection; valuable reference books, including the miniaturized two-volume complete edition of the Oxford English Dictionary; and many volumes of contemporary Canadian literature.

Two *Friends* of the Centre have donated anonymously valuable Pali Text Society volumes supporting our Buddhist resources.

Bishop Remi de Roo, a delegate to Vatican II, gave his complete set of Proceedings, much enhanced by working papers, memoranda, and contemporaneous commentary.

Some seventy books, including a dozen antiquarian items from the collection of the late Dr. Alcorn, a well-known Victoria doctor and bibliophile, came to us via the Unitarian Church of Victoria.

The Embassy of Saudi Arabia and the Dar Al-Madinah Islamic Society of Vancouver have donated several Korans, one being a parallel columns Arabic/English edition.

A Vancouver South Asian community provided a complete set of the *Writings and Speeches* of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, India's leading Untouchable scholar, first Minister of Justice and drafter of the Constitution.

Local faith groups, e.g. Christian Science and Bahai, have presented their texts to the Library.

Fellows who have authored or edited books often donate copies of their works. Dr. Erica Dodd donated her monumental *Medieval Paintings in the Lebanon* (Wiesbaden: Reichert, 2004).

In a number of cases *Friends*, Fellows, and staff have been able to fill in back volumes and issues of serials, notably the *Religious Studies Review*.

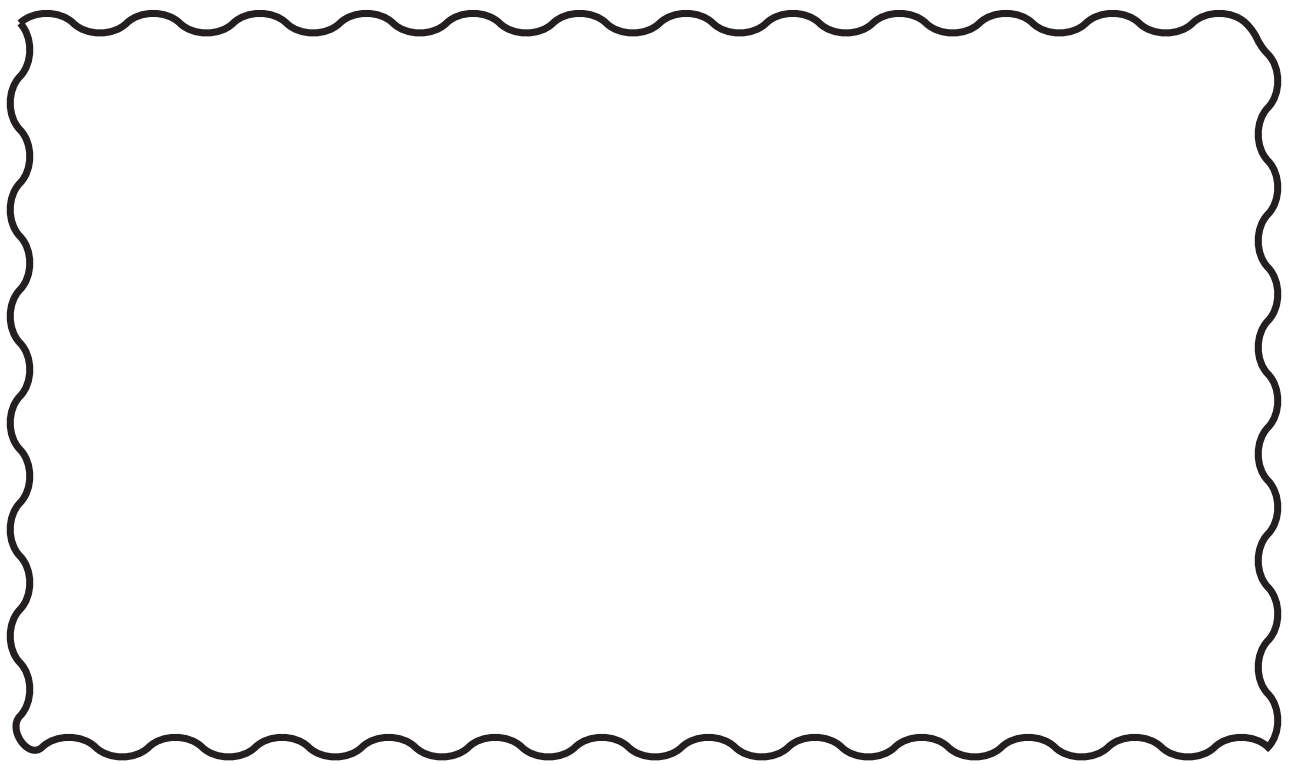
The above gifts and donations and many others made over the past decade have done much to build the Library's Religious Studies collection which now supports not only the research of Centre scholars, but also a rapidly growing Religious Studies teaching program for undergraduate students in the Humanities Faculty.







Physician, philanthropist, environmentalist, local history buff, world traveller, mountaineer, backpacker, tour leader, jazz enthusiast, keen bridge player – Dr Joyce Clearihue is difficult to pin down. I caught her



ical specialty rather than a surgical one was right for her, that she didn't want to get up at night, and was interested in solving problems. So, coolly sitting down with the journals, she decided to specialize as a dermatologist, a field which would be sufficiently people-oriented and challenging. Post-graduate training followed at the Montreal General Hospital, the University of Pennsylvania, the Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit and the University of Illinois. It was a decision she never regretted.

An only child and lover of the outdoors, she naturally returned to the west coast, setting up private practice in Victoria in 1959, where she remained happily engrossed in her work until she retired in 1986. Professional duties have included terms as President of the Pacific Northwest Dermatological Association, Chair of the BC division in Dermatology of the Canadian Medical Association, Board of Directors and Vice-President of the Pacific Dermatologic Association, and President of the Vancouver Island McGill Alumni.

Claiming she has always done everything she wanted to do in life, she wouldn't do anything differently, though with neither siblings nor cousins she does regret having no family. UVic has benefitted: when she realized that her parents had decreed in their wills that money should go to the University if Joyce died before them, she became interested in giving while still alive, claiming "it's a lot more fun". In addition to her continuing support of the UVic Archives, she donated funds to the Faculty of Music to purchase and restore an antique organ from Quebec. An avid jazz lover (she has two umbrellas and can be seen occasionally at Herman's Jazz Club), she helped establish the Faculty's jazz programme. The University of Victoria Foundation, the Victoria Foundation (of which she is an Honorary Governor), the Royal BC Museum (a Board Member), the "Y" (Past President and Board member) and numerous historical associations and outdoor clubs have also benefitted from her generosity. Numerous awards are interspersed

with artifacts on her walls, including a Union Club leadership her Tw a Unshe never

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# Samuel MacLure Architectural Plans Now Available on the Web

Chris Petter, Special Collections Librarian

The Libraries' Special Collections house the architectural plans of one of British Columbia's most notable architects, Samuel MacLure (1860-1929). Born in Sapperton, BC, near New Westminster, MacLure attended school in New Westminster and Victoria, developing an early interest in art. In 1884, he spent a year studying art at the Spring Garden Institute in Philadelphia, taking classes in architecture and mechanical drawing as well as art. In the late 1880s, MacLure set up his own architectural practice, first in partnership with Charles H. Clow and later with Richard P. Sharp. MacLure and Clow built the Royal Columbian Hospital in New Westminster in 1889. With Sharp, MacLure designed houses for the Hill family of New Westminster.

In 1892, MacLure and his family moved to Victoria. One of his first commissions in Victoria was the Temple Building. During this time, he maintained a second practice in the lower mainland and built "Gabriola" for BT Rogers in Vancouver in 1901. Samuel MacLure and Francis Rattenbury were appointed architects for the new Government House in 1901, completed in 1903. MacLure also received commissions from many prominent Victoria and BC businessmen and politicians. In addition, he kept up his interest in drawing and painting, producing many impressive drawings and water-colours of local West Coast landscapes. He and his friend Emily Carr both belonged to the Vancouver Island Arts and Crafts Society, one-quarter of whose members were MacLure clients. "Miraloma" in Sidney, the summer residence of Lieutenant-Governor William Nichol, was MacLure's final large commission and a culmination of his originality. Three years later, in 1929, he passed away after a short illness.

MacLure's plans, many of them for baronial mansions in Victoria and Vancouver, are rich in every kind of design detail. The influence of Frank Lloyd Wright has been noted in his Arts and Crafts design and line. MacLure also had a unique affinity for native materials and was well known for his use of site-quarried masonry in his designs. A major feature of many of the houses is a spacious staircase, fi

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