

Sharing Ideas Far and Wide: Cultivating Strategic International Partnerships for Librarian Professional Development Exchanges

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January 2016

OLA 2016 Superconference

Exchange in Innsbruck, Austria: Outline

- ▶ International Exchanges: Overview of Literature
- ▶ The Institutional Context: University of Guelph–Humber and the Management Centre of Innsbruck
- ▶ International Exchanges: Benefits
- ▶ Recommendations for Planning an Exchange

Overview of the Literature: Exchange Drivers

International exchanges:

- ▶ mirror opportunities of (visiting) faculty
- ▶ allow engagement in international scholarship
- ▶ expand professional networks for:
 - Program best practices
 - Research
 - International collaboration

Overview of Literature: Exchange Logistics

International exchanges involve complexities best clarified and codified before the exchange begins to reduce any confusion and unmet expectations.

- ▶ Cost sharing agreements, if any, for exchanges should be negotiated before planning begins
 - Residence provided?
 - Length of stay
 - Obligations to institution
 - Outcomes/Objectives

Overview of Literature: Exchange Logistics (cont'd.)

- ▶ Logistics of travelling and working in another country should also be examined:
 - visas and permits
 - transportation costs
 - expenses (room, board, etc.)
- ▶ Responsibilities of participants (role shadowing or role replacement) should be clearly outlined

Hanson, T. (1989). "The mechanics of international job exchanges: with some observations on one such." Library Association Record, 91, 216-217.

Comparison of Two Institutions

University of Guelph– Humber (Toronto, ON)

- ▶ Parent institutions: University of Guelph and Humber ITAL
- ▶ 4700 FTE enrollments
- ▶ 7 library staff + 9 student research support peers
- ▶ 1 location, 1 library
- ▶ Undergraduate teaching focus

Management Center of Innsbruck (Austria)

- ▶ Parent institution: Innsbruck University; many partner universities
- ▶ 3000 FTE enrollments
- ▶ 1 solo Librarian, 1 page
- ▶ 5 locations, 3 libraries
- ▶ Undergraduate, graduate, executive development programs

The Institutional Context: Programs

▶ University of Guelph–Humber

- 10 undergraduate programs across 7 subject areas:

- ▶ Business
- ▶ Early Childhood
- ▶ Family & Community Social Services
- ▶ Justice Studies
- ▶ Kinesiology
- ▶ Media Studies
- ▶ Psychology



▶ Management Center of Innsbruck, Austria

- Programs in Management, Entrepreneurship, Tourism, Environmental and Life Sciences, Engineering
- Programs in English, German, and blend of both
- semesters/modules/projects can be completed abroad



The Exchanges

MCI Visit to UofGH

- ▶ Duration: 1 week
- ▶ Solo Librarian–manager
- ▶ Arranged between MCI’s summer and fall semesters
- ▶ Role shadowing

UofGH Visit to MCI

- ▶ Duration: 2 weeks
- ▶ Manager; team to back up
- ▶ Arranged after service peak at beginning of fall term
- ▶ Role shadowing

My Goals for Exchange

- 1) Explore library services operations of MCI, a multi-site institution with dispersed service points;
- 2) Understand the nature of the relationships between MCI Library Services and the larger libraries affiliated with the parent institution
- 3) Gather insight into various parts of visited library operations with a focus on:
 1. Library relationships in organizational context
 2. Information literacy instructional models
 3. Cataloguing system and operations
 4. Circulation policies among partners

What are the benefits of
librarian/administrative
exchanges?

A photograph of a mountain range. The foreground is a snowy, rocky slope. In the middle ground, a large, light-colored mountain slope descends towards a valley. The background features several dark, jagged mountain peaks under a blue sky with some clouds.

See your profession from another
vantage point.

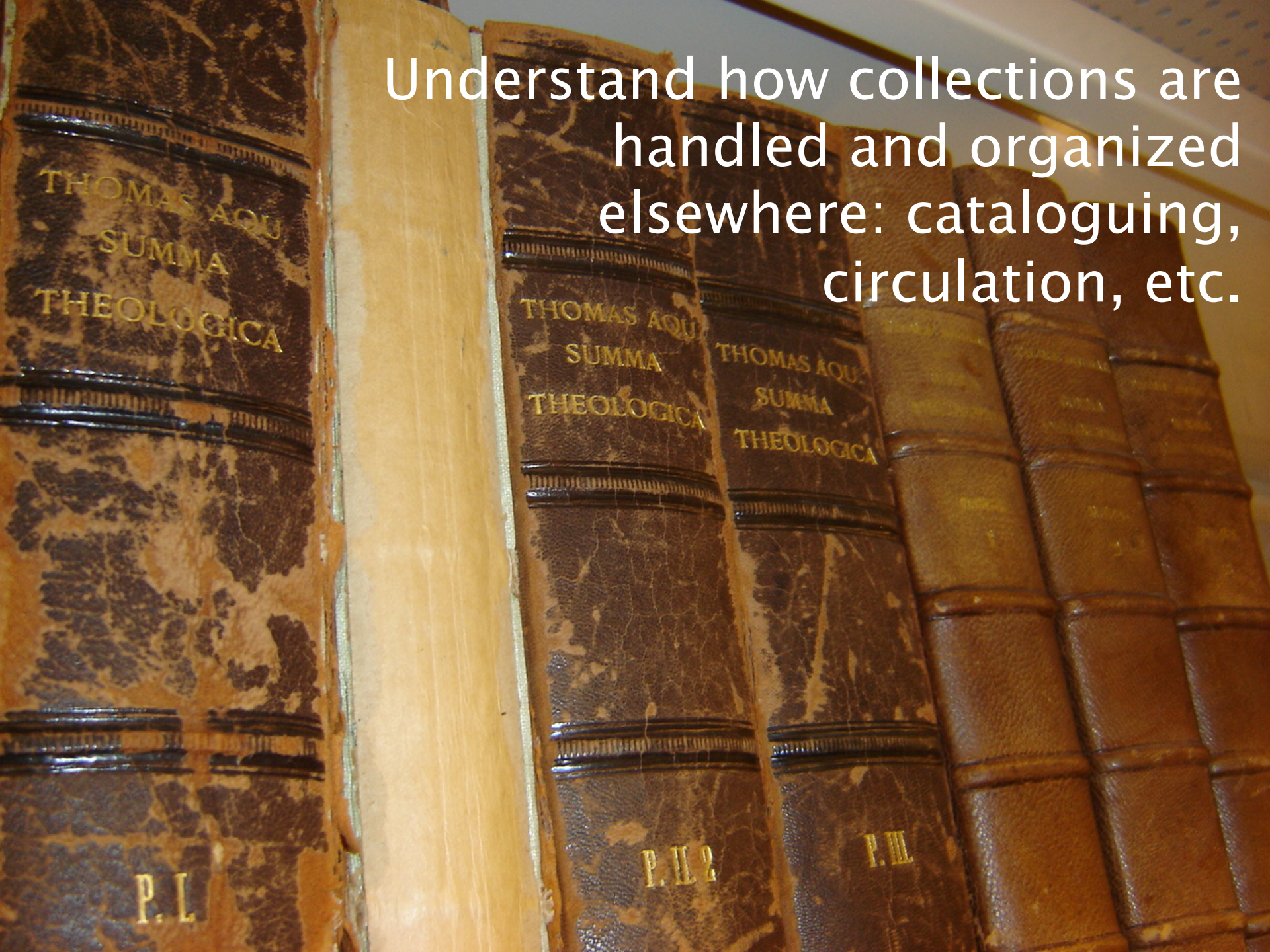
“Broadening one’s outlook and experiencing another society in depth were cited as frequent personal benefits.”

Kidd, T. & Roughton, K. (1994). International Staff Exchanges for Academic Libraries. *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 20(5–6), 297.



Appreciate different partnership models.

Understand how collections are handled and organized elsewhere: cataloguing, circulation, etc.





Learn about the history and culture of the place (and of course, compare treasures).



Appreciate the new facility designs


Recommendations for Successful Exchanges



Find an institution preferably with at least some commonalities to yours (enrollment, # of library staff, programs, etc.)

Create detailed itineraries and keep in contact during the often lengthy planning process.



A scenic landscape featuring a large, calm lake in the foreground, reflecting the sky. The lake is flanked by steep, forested mountains. In the distance, a small town or village is visible on the left side of the lake. The sky is a clear blue with scattered white clouds. The text "Build in time to meet, reflect and share best practices." is overlaid in the upper center of the image.

Build in time to
meet, reflect and
share best practices.



Chart your course by deciding on your areas of focus.

Keep a lookout for opportunities to build other relationships



From Austria.....

to Australia.....



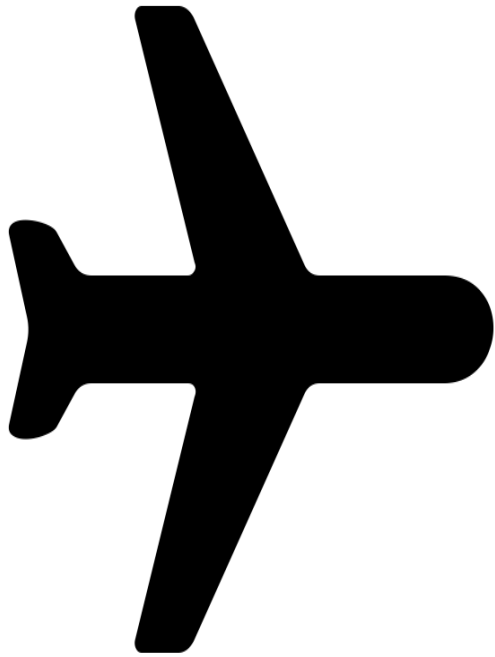
International library exchanges: the story of a one-year job swap between Brisbane and Toronto

Ontario Library Association
Friday, January 29, 2016

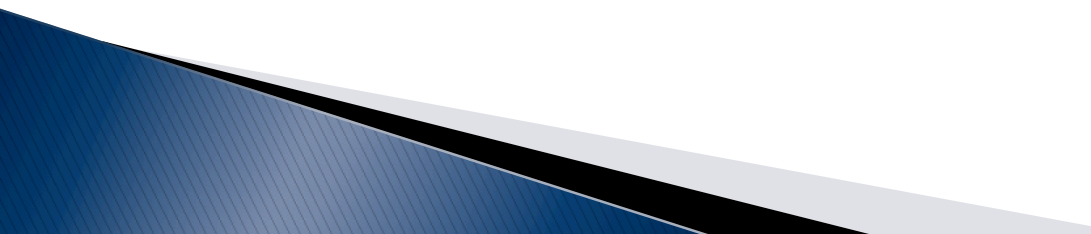
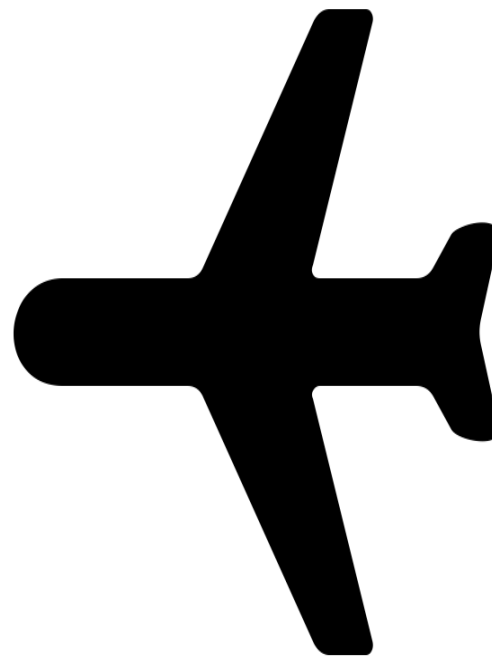
Naomi Eichenlaub
Ryerson University







Created by Cheesefork from the Noun Project



“Considerable initiative and perseverance are needed to arrange an exchange”

“Several exchanges occurred after only six months of negotiations, but many took over a year to materialize. Four years was the record reported in the survey.”

Kidd, T. and K. Roughton. 1994. “International Staff Exchanges for Academic Libraries”. *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*, 296.



The logo for Ryerson University, featuring the text "Ryerson University" in white on a dark blue rectangular background, with a yellow vertical bar to the right.

41,575 (total enrolments)

33,596 (FTE)

2,480 (FTE staff)

95 (Library FTE staff)

1 library

The logo for Queensland University of Technology (QUT), featuring the letters "QUT" in white on a dark blue square background.

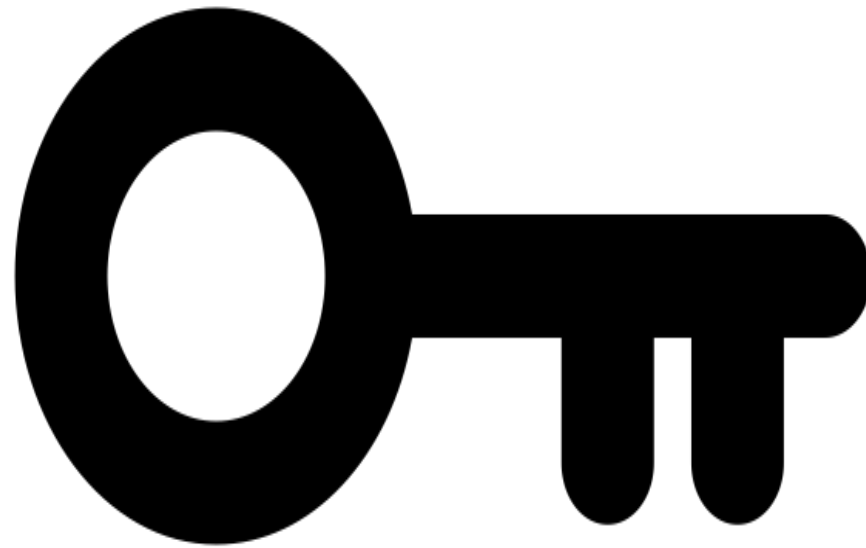
47,229 (total enrolments)

31,193 (FTE)

4,534 (FTE staff)

153 (Library FTE staff)

4 branch libraries



Created by Ema Dimitrova
from the Noun Project

“[I]nternational exchanges, if properly designed, with enthusiastic and well-motivated participants – and with committed support at director level – can be a very important component, not only in individual career development, but also in broadening the experience and enlarging the vision of other library staff.”

Hannon, M. 1997. “Staff exchanges – new directions for academic libraries?” *Library Career Development*, 124.





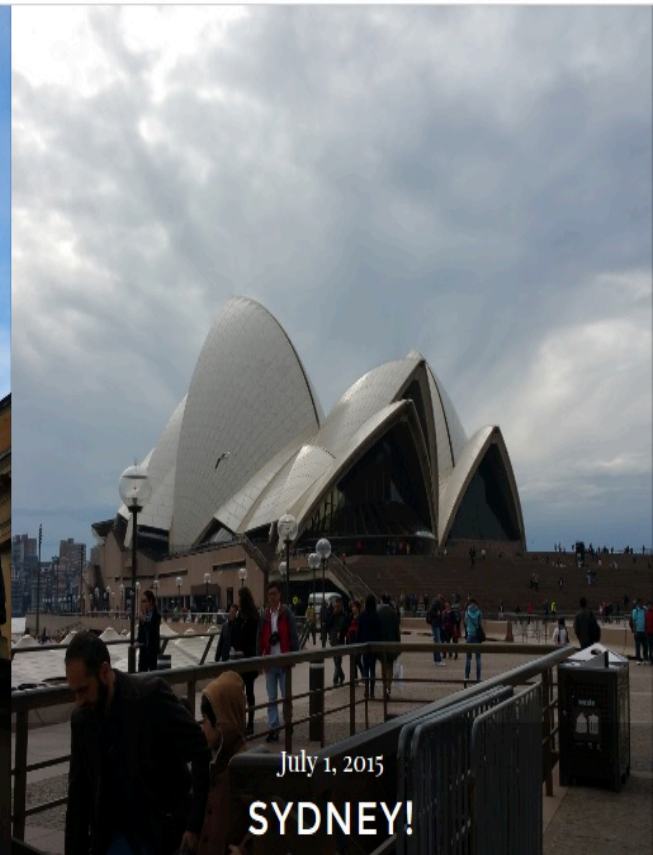
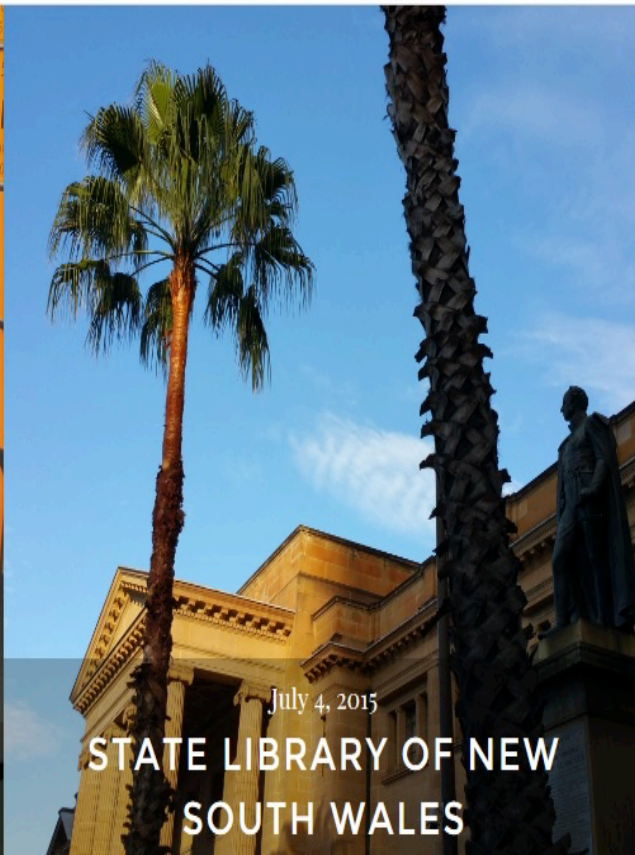
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<https://exploringasunburntcountry.wordpress.com/>

EXPLORING A SUNBURNT COUNTRY Six months in Brisbane, Australia



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