

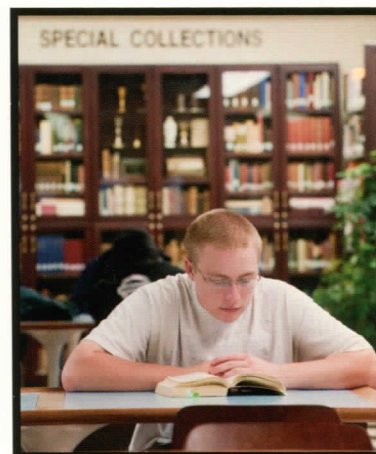
November, 2009

The Library As Place...



After decades of concentrating on technology in the “library without walls,” the Library is again recognized as an aesthetic centre for quiet study, reflection and retreat. The Shannon Library at STM is a warm and welcoming sanctuary, and has been referred to as *the place to be on campus*. This library has been graced with handsome oak and glass bookshelves, quiet, luxury flooring, energy efficient lighting, and comfortable leather seating. Tall windows flanking each side of the Reading Room leading to the vaulted ceiling allow light to enter the mind and invite the imagination to soar, or sway gently, and consider, perhaps resembling the majestic fir trees through the windows to the north. This transformed heritage room, with art deco tables and chairs, honours our past and is poised for our future. While using library collections, students may contemplate the integration of faith and reason, and explore that dynamic within the framework of the Catholic intellectual tradition. Here, generations of STM students, whether solitary or in small clusters, have long found home and companionship as they study, think, write and create in a community of scholars.

... *The Place to Be*



ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE

Shannon Library

For as Long as We Can Remember...



The white house library, pre 1956

The first few books for the Library were purchased by Fr. Basil Markle in 1927.

From 1956-1963, the STM Library was located in what is now the Chelsea Commons. In the left photo, one can see the balcony of books. The iron circular stair used to access these stacks was later moved from here to the Shannon Library stacks. Between being used for the Library and later the Chelsea Commons, this space was the dining room for the Basilians who lived in the College.



The Shannon Library Reading Room, 1964

The Shannon Library was named in honour of three Shannon brothers, Dennis, Joe and Frank, whose construction company built the white house addition in 1943 and the first stone STM building and chapel in 1956-57.

The tables in the room were designed by Father J. O'Donnell, csb, who had them built with a curved edge so that pencils could not roll off of the tables — a sound he found disruptive for the students.

... We Have Stood on the Shoulders of Giants

The Bodleian Library: Radcliff Camera, submitted by Dr. Ryan Topping

One of the clichés of modernist architecture was that “form follows function.” In the design of many of our churches, schools, and libraries it has sometimes been forgotten that one of the functions of great buildings is to inspire. During my university years my most satisfying hours spent in a library were, undoubtedly, those wrapped in the embrace of the Radcliffe Camera (1737-48) of the Bodleian Library. Designed by English Roman Catholic James Gibbs, the Camera is one of Oxford’s most distinctive landmarks, housing portions of the university’s theology and English literature collections. Its richly decorated Baroque exterior is matched by two floors of elegant design. The ground floor is surmounted by a shallow dome which acts as a central point for eight large bays. The upstairs is a magnificent circular reading room; articulated by a series of Ionic pilasters, light pours in through the dome which soars high above the bookcases. The library, along with the chapel, will always remain central to a college where liberal learning is honoured. Its purpose is more than to house books: it provides also a noble setting for the discovery of the beautiful and the true. The Radcliffe Camera stands as one fine example where form truly does follow function.



PLEASE READ THIS DECLARATION ALOUD WHEN ASKED

I hereby undertake not to remove from the Library, or to mark, deface, or injure in any way, any volume, document, or other object belonging to it or in its custody; not to bring into the Library or kindle therein any fire or flame, and not to smoke in the Library; and I promise to obey all rules of the Library ¶

BODLEIAN LIBRARY UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Declaration poster donated to STM by Dr. Michael Cichon

The Shannon Library Librarians:

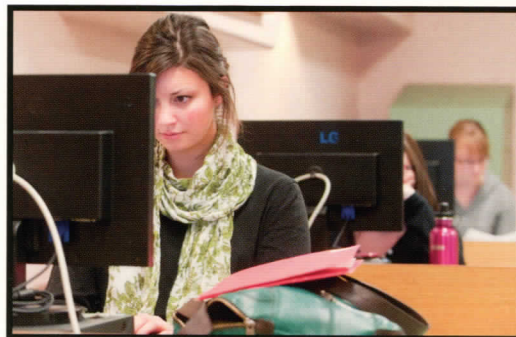
Fr. Leonard Kennedy, csb:1946-48
Fr. Robert Finn, csb:1948-1956
Fr. Robert Black, csb:1956-1959
Fr. Robin Neill, csb: 1960-1963
Mr. Jim Feeley:1963-1966
Mr. Raymond Deutsch:1966-1969
Miss Madeleine Bayet: 1969-1972
Dr. Margot King: 1972-1987
Ms. Jane Morris: 1987-2000
Dr. Donna Brockmeyer: 2000 -



Librarians attending the St. Louis Fair in 1904.

From the *American Library Association Digital Archives Collection*.

Photographer unknown.

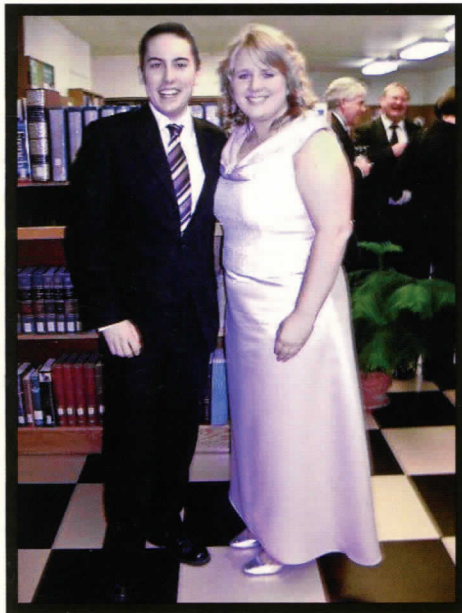
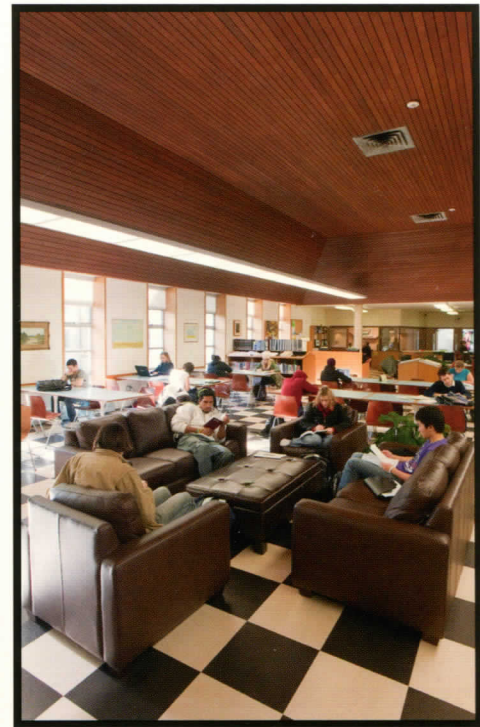


Library Mission:

The Mission of the Shannon Library at STM is based upon the Library Policy, approved by Faculty Council and the Board of Governors, September, 1974.

St. Thomas More College must maintain a strong library with clearly defined goals in accordance with its status as a Catholic liberal arts college federated with the University of Saskatchewan. The Shannon Library is one of the most important intellectual resources of the College.

The primary aim of the Library is to support the instructional program of the College in conjunction with the University Library and other associated libraries. Such support includes reference services and a basic core of reference works for faculty, staff and students.



The Library as Place — A Place for Students!!

Student Assistants:

Each year, 12 STM Students are hired to work in the Shannon Library. Left, two of those students, Reagan Seidler (Student Representative on the Library Committee) and Desiree Nelson (President of the STMSU) attend the *President's Gala*.

More Students Served:

In the last week of October, 2000, 1174 students were served. In the last week of October, 2009, 3723 students were served. This represents an increase of 2549 students, or a 217% increase.

Recent Timeline:

The Shannon Library was built in 1964 with the help of a Canada Council grant for libraries. Since then, in:

- *November, 2000: the Computer Lab was opened by Minister Glen Hegel*
- *July, 2001: Oak Display Bookshelves were built*
- *September, 2003: the Catalogue was merged with the U of S*
- *December, 2008: the Library flooring and security system were replaced*
- *April, 2009: Leather furniture was delivered*
- *July, 2009: New Blinds were installed*
- *August, 2009: New Lighting was hung*

*Special thanks to
Dorothy Abernethy,
Margaret Sanche (Heartwood) and
Angela Battiste, for historical assistance.
And Liam Richards, Photographer,
for the recent STM photos.*

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