New Director Appointed to Digital Library

Janis Galloway
The Alberta Library

Christina Wilson has been appointed Director of the Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library, effective November 17, 2008.

Ms. Wilson was The Alberta Library's Emerging Technologies Librarian, where she provided leadership and consulting services to the public library community.

Ms. Wilson gained considerable senior-level experience as the Manager of Technical Services and Support for the Cambridge Libraries and Galleries. As President of the Ontario Public Library Association, she played a key role in developing The One Place to Look, the province's strategic plan for library services.

Ms. Wilson completed her Masters of Library and Information Science at the University of Western Ontario, and holds an M.A. in Political Science and a B.A. in History and Politics. As Director of the Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library, Ms. Wilson will lead in the planning, implementation, evaluation and administration of the initiative.

The Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library provides Alberta-based digital content that supports the program needs of 35 post-secondary institutions. This includes licensing digital journals, books, reference materials and other specialized information.

"This high-tech resource gives students and faculty unlimited access to resources, regardless of their institution or location," says Ernie Ingles, University of Alberta Vice-Provost and Chief Librarian, and Chair of the Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library Committee. "Christina Wilson will play a lead role in ensuring that the initiative continues to be developed to its fullest potential."

Announced in 2005, the Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital Library is funded by Alberta Advanced Education and Technology and is an integral part of The Alberta Library (TAL) -- a province-wide consortium that serves over 290 member libraries.

"The Lois Hole Campus Alberta Digital library is a world-class resource that plays an important role in our mission of providing leadership in optimizing resources
and services among member libraries," says TAL CEO Lucy Pana. "We are confident that Christina's wealth of experience and commitment to cooperation and collaboration will be a great benefit to the initiative."

The digital library currently contains millions of licensed items, including academic journals, encyclopedias, magazine and newspaper articles and video clips -- and more is being added every day. The material supports subject areas such as science and technology, trades, medicine and health, business, fine arts, humanities and social sciences.

The initiative was recently presented with the 2008 Canadian Association of College and University Libraries' Innovation Achievement Award at the Canadian Library Association's National Conference in Vancouver.