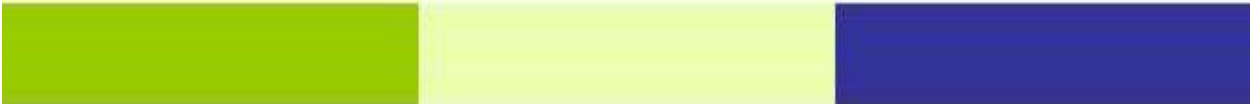


***PUTTING INFORMATION
IN THE HANDS OF THE WORLD***



**ANNUAL REPORT
2005 – 2006**



OUR PHILOSOPHY

Vision

LWB envisions a global society where all people have equal access to information resources.

Mission

Librarians Without Borders (LWB) is a non-profit organization that strives to improve access to information resources regardless of language, geography, or religion, by forming partnerships with community organizations in developing regions.



Photo courtesy of Development Workshop

Values

LWB holds a core set of values that form the basis of our existence and steer our activities:

- ❖ Libraries have a fundamental role as defenders of intellectual freedom and providers of equal access to information.
- ❖ Access to information is vital in supporting learning and literacy, reducing poverty, empowering citizens, and building healthy, strong communities.
- ❖ We do not draw cultural or linguistic boundaries – diversity is embraced; we will work with our partners in their own cultural context and in their own languages.
- ❖ Our efforts are enhanced by working collaboratively, internally as well as externally with the domestic and international community, to further our mutual goals.

CONTACTS

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OUR PEOPLE

Board of Directors

Dr. Sandra Smeltzer
Denise Glasbeek
Nick Bray
Melanie Sellar

Advisors

Peter McKinley	Research and Strategic Counsel for Non-Profit Organizations
Dr. Pam Mckenzie	Faculty of Information and Media Studies, University of Western Ontario
Dr. Margaret Ann Wilkinson	Faculty of Information and Media Studies, Faculty of Law, University of Western Ontario

Executive Officers

Melanie Sellar	Co-Executive Director
Nick Bray	Treasurer

Operations Officers

Catherine Baird	Operations Co-Chair and Communications Co-Lead
Rebecca Jansen	Operations Co-Chair and Communications Co-Lead
Daniella Liebrecht	Operations Co-Chair and Membership / Volunteer Coordinator

Past Volunteers

Meighan Wark	Executive Secretary	Oct 05 – Apr 06
Vicki Saucier	Co-Executive Director	Nov 05 – Apr 06
David Griffith	Operations Secretary	May – Aug 06
Darren Lampson	Webmaster	May – Aug 06
Melissa Fraser	Merchandise Coordinator	May – Aug 06
Paulina Rousseau	Merchandise Coordinator	May – Aug 06
Emily Richards	Events Coordinator	May 05 – Mar 06
Tom McDowell	Media Relations Coordinator	Sept – Apr 06
Heather Bennett	Fundraising Coordinator	Jan – Apr 06
Laura Banfield	Communications Coordinator	May – Dec 05
Heather McDonald	Research Coordinator	Sept – Dec 05
Chris Simmons	Research Coordinator	Sept – Dec 05
Vicki Saucier	Fundraising Coordinator	May – Oct 05

Original Steering Committee (pre-incorporation)

Laura Banfield, Guida da Silva, Denise Glasbeek, Chris Graves, Brian Harvey, Sandra Hodgson, Sarah Jones, Kathryn Klages, Sabina Iseli-Otto, Heather McDonald, Magali Nayet, Melanie Sellar, Ella Westhaver

MESSAGE FROM THE CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends of Librarians Without Borders,

Looking back over the last twelve months, I am amazed at all we have accomplished together and the challenges we have overcome. It was a momentous and exciting year for LWB! This annual report provides a snapshot of the tremendous groundwork we laid during 2005-2006.

We began as an ambitious collection of students from the University of Western Ontario (UWO) who were so inspired by the efforts of an Angolan colleague to build a library for his community that we decided to partner with him in achieving his dream and to found an organization that would benefit libraries around the world.

The year closes with LWB positioned as a federally incorporated non-profit organization in Canada, with more than 300 global members sharing and supporting our vision, and with the foundation of our inaugural international project in Angola established.

Our efforts were focused around three strategic directions agreed upon by our Executive team: launch our inaugural project in Angola; define and set up LWB for the future; and grow LWB's membership and support base. I'm happy to report that we made incredible gains over the course of the year on all of these organizational priorities.

On our Angola project, we secured a committed local partner in the Catholic Archdiocese of Huambo, began developing the priority collections, and created a fundraising campaign projected to launch in 2007. We also established infrastructure to ensure LWB's long-term sustainability and scalability, including incorporating as a non-profit organization and launching a very successful Board of Directors recruitment campaign. In order to maximize our fundraising success, we began work on our Canadian charitable status designation. And our membership base grew from 4 people to more than 300 people within one year!

The future of LWB is bright. As we look forward to our next fiscal year, LWB will continue to advance our strategic directions. We are excited about the experience that our incoming Board of Directors will bring to the organization and about the impact of an expanded membership and volunteer base. We will launch our Sponsor-a-Book campaign in support of Angola – a campaign in which all of our supporters can participate.

I would like to thank our partner on the Angola project, the Catholic Archdiocese of Huambo and its local liaison, Jorge Chimbinda. To our committed and dedicated volunteers, please accept my personal and sincere thanks for your hard work, faith, and encouragement – you have worked tirelessly and enthusiastically to advance our mission. And finally, I would like to extend appreciation to the Faculty of Information and Media Studies at UWO – the birthplace of LWB – for recognizing the potential of this student-born initiative and for nurturing our development wherever possible.

With the support of our partners, volunteers, advisors, and donors, LWB is committed to developing sustainable libraries in desperately underserved communities, including training and supporting their stewards and advocates – librarians. Together we are laying the necessary foundation for an organization that will serve as a focal point for the incredible enthusiasm of our members.

Warmest regards,

Melanie Sellar

Co-Executive Director

MESSAGE FROM THE OPERATIONS CO-CHAIRS



We are very pleased to report on our operations activities of the past year. Primarily, these activities have revolved around education, fundraising, communications and growth. Over the next year we will continue to develop in all of these areas.

Education

Over the past year Librarians Without Borders members have endeavored to educate ourselves, our members and the community about our organization and the broader issues of assisting economically developing regions.

In an effort to increase our own awareness some LWB members traveled to Guelph, Ontario to meet with Maribel Gonzales of Development Workshop to become more familiar with the social and economic circumstances in Angola and other regions in which Development Workshop maintains a presence. LWB also arranged for Yvonne Appiah, the Executive Director of CODE to speak to faculty, staff and students at the University of Western Ontario with regard to her experiences with CODE and the organization's efforts to provide culturally relevant reading materials for children, and professional development to those working in libraries, in economically developing regions such as Kenya.

A significant accomplishment for LWB was our presence at the 2006 Canadian Library Association conference in Ottawa in June. Members of LWB worked hard to raise awareness of the organization and were met with an overwhelming amount of encouragement from the library community. LWB presented a poster session and graciously accepted generous donations from supporters following the plenary speakers at the opening reception. To promote the organization within the community of the University of Western Ontario the Co-Chairs of Operations delivered two presentations to library and information students in July and October of 2006 about the challenges and accomplishments of Librarians Without Borders within its first year of existence and our plans to create a successful, sustainable organization.

Fundraising

This year's fundraising activities existed on two levels: first, the groundwork was laid for our inaugural Sponsor-A-Book campaign, which will be launched next year. To this end, we created a prototype of a campaign information package, designed to help our members run their own fundraising campaigns either in the workplace or community. A lot of thought and hard work was put into the design of this prototype as it will be the core communications element for next year's Sponsor-A-Book campaign. In addition, using online translators and booksellers' websites, volunteers created a list of Portuguese-language nursing and medical books to potentially be included in the collection in the benefactor library in Huambo, Angola. The end result, a 40 page document containing titles, authors, publication information and abstracts, was hand delivered to stakeholders in Angola by our project liaison, Jorge Chimbinda, in order to obtain critical feedback and ensure there were no major gaps in the proposed collection.

The second level of fundraising activities supported LWB's general operations. During the 2006 summer months, a raffle was held at the Faculty of Information Studies at the University of Western Ontario. LWB member and longtime supporter, Dr. Pam McKenzie, generously donated an autographed copy of Eric Carle's "The Hungry Caterpillar" for the raffle. A second fundraiser took place at London, Ontario's Mongolian Grill Martini Bar. "All You Can Eat, All You Can Sing" was a dinner and karaoke evening which brought together local LWB supporters and fun-seekers including students and staff from the Faculty of Information and Media Studies' library school and journalism program. Finally, the ever-popular and ever-stylish Librarians Without Borders merchandise which included t-shirts, hats and book bags



continued to be hot selling items throughout the year, including at the Canadian Library Association conference.

Communications

To maintain communication with our members, our website was given a fresh look and has been updated frequently as new information of interest became available. Our communications team also diligently produced three Compass newsletters in February, April and August. We are very proud to state that this publication has been assigned an ISSN number and is now officially deposited into the electronic collection of Library and Archives Canada. Between editions of the Compass, the Compass Connection, a smaller newsletter, was written and distributed twice to provide members with timely information throughout the year.

Growth

To support the growth of Librarians Without Borders, two student committees were formed at the University of Western Ontario and at McGill University. The mandate of these committees was education and fundraising. We hope to continue building these committees and potentially pilot others in the next year and we have written a set of committee guidelines in order to support this type of growth and development.

This year also brought with it Librarians Without Borders' first intern. Our intern was a student from the Media, Information, and Technoculture program at UWO and was charged with improving LWB's media presence. This very successful relationship helped LWB gain more media exposure in addition to providing a student with hands-on experience in a practical setting dealing with media relations.

Sincerely,

Daniella Liebrechts

Rebecca Jansen

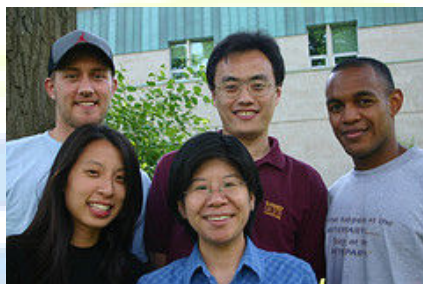
Catherine Baird

Operations Co-Chairs

YEAR IN REVIEW

Our efforts were focused around **three strategic directions** agreed upon by our student Executive team in late Fall 2005:

- 1) Launch our first international project in Angola
- 2) Define and set up LWB for the future
- 3) Grow LWB's membership and support base



Launching LWB-Angola

We met a number of **foundational milestones on our inaugural international project in Huambo, Angola**. In order to create a project plan, we first needed to better understand the community and its needs. From this needs analysis emerged our next priorities:

- ❖ secure an established, institutional partner in Huambo for the library
- ❖ design the priority nursing collection; *and*
- ❖ develop a program to raise funds for purchasing the nursing materials.

In order to maximize the success of this fundraising campaign, we also initiated the process for obtaining charitable status designation in Canada.

Understanding the Community and Its Needs

Library development projects will only be successful if we strive to understand our partner's environment and specific needs. Working with our local Angolan liaison, Jorge Chimbinda, and Development Workshop (DW), a prominent non-governmental organization operating in Huambo, we came to better understand the reality of the state of education and post civil war life in the community.

While Jorge indicated that the priority collection for the library was nursing, DW also suggested that future subject areas should include agronomy and pedagogy. These academic programs have the highest student enrollment in Huambo's post-secondary schools.

At this early stage in the project, our Angolan partners consisted of a collection of dedicated and determined individuals – Jorge Chimbinda and a number of professors from the community. But after consulting with DW, finding a local, established institutional partner who would be responsible for the long-term management and development of the library became a high priority.

Establishing a Partner Institution

In early 2006, **we secured a committed local partner for the library: the Catholic Archdiocese of Huambo**, headed by Archbishop José de Queirós Alves. This partnership was formalized when Jorge Chimbinda met with the Archbishop in Angola during the summer.

The Archbishop strongly believes in the importance of education for community empowerment. To that end, he is establishing the **Centro Cultural João Paulo II** – a cultural center in Huambo that will include facilities for Open University distance learning study and a library, **Biblioteca Tutangi**. The library will be open to everyone in the community, but its collections will initially target highschool and university students, instructors, and working professionals.

We established with our partner their **specific needs and the division of responsibilities**. The Archdiocese is providing space for the library in Centro Cultural João Paulo II, bookshelves, and library staff. LWB will provide information resources, staff training, and advice about securing both a renewable energy source for the library and a reliable Internet connection.

Everyone who starves for knowledge can be fed by a book, and its content is not diminished... A book teaches in silence, however, its effect is eloquent. A book liberates, a book plants the roots of development. Books are irreplaceable tools for improving the quality of education in Angola and elsewhere.

- Jorge Chimbinda



Centro Cultural João Paulo II



Centro Cultural João Paulo II



Jorge Chimbinda, LWB Angola Liaison

Designing the Priority Nursing Collection

During Winter/Spring 2006, we **developed a list of Portuguese nursing titles** using a number of on-line resources. In late May, Jorge Chimbinda took this list of titles to Angola to be evaluated by key people in the academic community. The titles were reviewed and ranked, and missing subject areas were flagged. This list will be further refined in early 2007 according to this feedback.

We also **confirmed the means for acquiring and shipping the materials**. The Catholic Mission in Lisbon, Portugal, will assist LWB by purchasing the final list of titles locally and arranging their shipment to Angola in a cargo container.



LWB is also considering collaborating with the **World Health Organization (WHO)** to make Portuguese **Blue Trunk Libraries (BTL)** available in Centro Cultural João Paulo II. Each ready-to-use BTL contains 150 practical and up-to-date manuals on relevant medical and health issues for health care providers in the target developing country. Topics include the diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases, nutritional problems, and sexually transmitted diseases. Provision of BTLs helps practitioners refresh their knowledge and simultaneously broaden their skills.

Creating the Sponsor-A-Book Fundraising Campaign

At the same time that we were designing the initial collection, we began developing a program to raise the necessary funds for purchasing these costly nursing resources. The result of our efforts is the **“Sponsor-A-Book” (SaB) fundraising campaign**.

Individuals and organizations will be invited to fundraise for a particular subject area and then lead and run local SaB campaigns suited to their personalities, workplaces, and communities. There may also be an option to allow **sponsorship of a WHO Blue Trunk Library** (at a cost of \$2,000 plus shipping). SaB is a means for our supporters and members to get directly involving with LWB and, moreover, to directly impact the lives of people who are starved for a library, a luxury never afforded them.



Sponsor-a-Book

In order to maximize the financial success of this fundraiser, LWB postponed the launch of SaB until our charitable status designation is secured (currently in progress).

In summary, our progress on the Angola project this past year is considerable in light of the challenges of communicating with our Angolan stakeholders – Internet connectivity is nearly non-existent, telephone land line connections are unreliable, and the mail system is slow and irregular.

Defining LWB for the Future

The concept of Librarians Without Borders began with the Angola project, but it has quickly grown into an organization of international membership and reach. Thus, ensuring LWB's long-term **sustainability and scalability** was a major strategic priority of 2005-2006.

Our first objective was to **implement infrastructure** that would ensure our continuance, build credibility, demonstrate our capability, and permit scalability of the organization and our work. To that end, we incorporated federally and developed governing bylaws, ran a very successful Board of Directors recruitment campaign, and began our charitable status application.

Scaling our projects and partnerships are also key future objectives. The interest in LWB is indisputable --over the last year we have received a significant increase in requests for assistance and advice from external organizations in both developed and developing regions. LWB's incoming Board of Directors will create a roadmap for our growth, including determining the nature of future projects and partnerships that we should pursue.

Finally, **scaling our membership base** was an important objective. More supporters means there are more people available with varied skills and expertise to assist with executing our work and growing the organization. To increase our membership base, we successfully promoted LWB at conferences, talks, and through print and online publications. We also modeled ourselves after Engineers Without Borders Canada by supporting a national office - local chapter organizational structure, which will familiarize more people with our work and engage more volunteers in the organization.

Growing LWB

Following our decision to support an organizational model comprised of a national office with local student/professional branches, another strategic priority was to **pilot local committees with a mandate of fundraising, outreach, and education.**

Establishing Local Committees

We envision these committees promoting international development issues in the context of libraries and informing students and professionals about these issues. Because it is difficult for most people outside of the librarian profession to make the connection between libraries, development, and economic growth, local committees should strive to promote that connection to the wider public.



Naturally, our first local committee was at UWO, the birthplace of LWB. Throughout 2005-2006, the UWO committee was very active. Many creative and successful fundraisers were held, which helped fund expenses such as our non-profit application fee. The committee also positively impacted the local community by running a holiday book drive for London Public Library's "A Book for Every Child" campaign. Over 170 books were collected for distribution to at-need children in the London area. Finally, the committee addressed its outreach and education mandate by hosting a talk by the Executive Director of CODE, an international education and literacy charity, and by

presenting a seminar in an introductory library science course called “Libraries in Developing Countries”.

We also reached out to other LIS schools to keep them informed of our activities and to begin to establish some relationships. For example, at the invitation of the Faculty of Information Studies, University of Toronto, LWB gave a talk to an enthusiastic crowd of students, faculty, and professionals about our origins, activities, and hopes for the future. We also hosted an LWB Student Social prior to the opening keynote speech at the Canadian Library Association conference in Ottawa.

In September 2005, LWB began piloting another student committee at McGill University’s School of Library and Information Studies. The McGill Committee is very enthusiastic and we look forward to supporting their work in 2007. We have also fielded queries from other LIS schools interested in getting involved with LWB work.

Growing our Membership Base

In **October 2005, LWB had four members**. Thanks to the efforts of our Operations and Executive committee volunteers and advisors, LWB was promoted in print and online publications and by our participation at the Ontario Library Association and Canadian Library Association conferences. Our growth is also greatly attributed to our members who helped raise awareness of LWB among their colleagues and friends not only by word of mouth, but via blogs, listservs, and newsletters. These activities greatly increased our membership base.

By September 2006, LWB grew to 311 members!

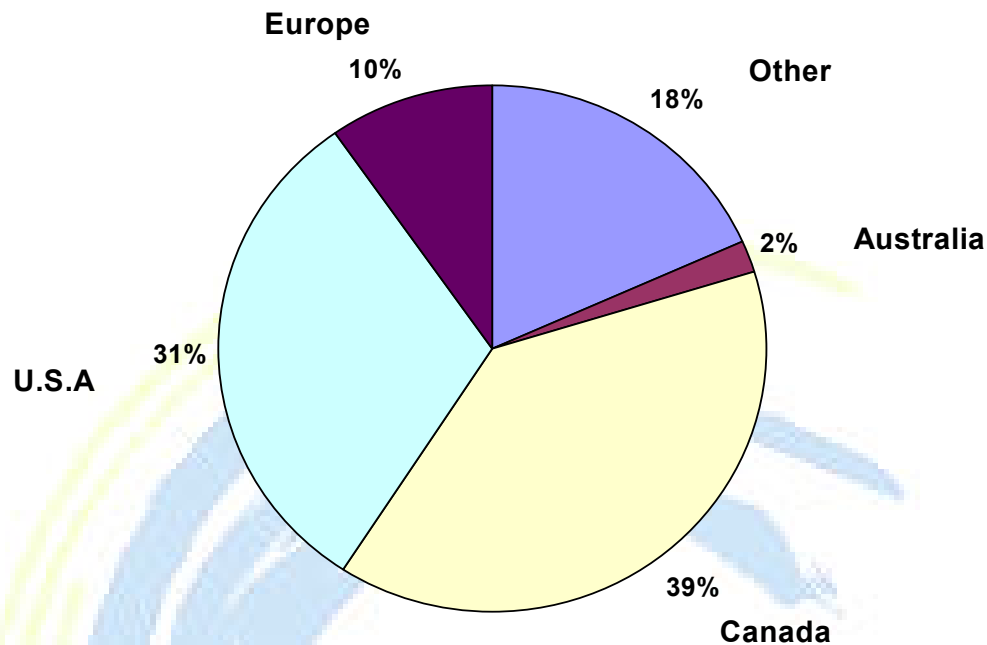
Our members come from a number of different countries and offer unique experiences and motivations for offering their support. We have gained support overseas, including in our first partner country of Angola. Our goal in 2007 is to continue to expand our membership base not only in numbers, but also in geographic representation. We feel that this diversity is important because it enables us to develop our knowledge of libraries in various regions and to learn about how libraries and librarians can impact and have impacted these communities.

We would also like to open communication lines between our members and to provide more opportunities for members to provide feedback to LWB. For example, we would like to provide means for our members to offer suggestions to LWB and to share information about projects, international libraries, and international development issues with other members. Greater communication between members may provide more opportunities to form partnerships not only with LWB, but with one other.

Some mechanisms for encouraging this type of communication exchange will be considered and ideally implemented in 2007.

*Angola
Antigua
Argentina
Australia
Bangladesh
Barbados
Botswana
Brazil
Cameroon
Canada
Columbia
Congo
Costa Rica
Denmark
Egypt
England
France
Germany
Hawaii
India
Indonesia
Ireland
Japan
Kenya
Malawi
Malaysia
Mali
Mauritius
Netherlands
New Zealand
Nigeria
Norway
Pakistan
Peru
Philippines
Poland
Scotland
Singapore
South Africa
Tanzania
Thailand
U.S.A
United Kingdom
Vietnam
Zimbabwe*

LWB Membership - Country Profile



"I agree wholeheartedly with the expressed mission and values of Librarians Without Borders. As a librarian, I believe very much in the importance of information access for all and the vital role that librarians and libraries play in supporting sustainable community development. As a volunteer serving in a developing country, I see firsthand the current inequality of information access and I am learning how forming partnerships and working with local cultural context can make development efforts so much more effective and empowering to the communities involved."

- Rachel Forman (Philippines)

"Professionals in many fields... have been organizing and working with people in many countries to provide means for local groups and communities to help them solve their problems and I believe that we librarians / information professionals could do the same by mobilizing, coordinating and channeling the resources and expertise needed to actively promote access to information worldwide..."

- Bathseba Belai (Canada)

"Libraries are community, libraries are information, libraries are friends, libraries are where one can realise potential, libraries are where one can dream. Everyone in the world should have access to a library."

- Nancy Fletcher (USA)

Who are LWB's Members?

LWB members are librarians, information science professionals, students, faculty, and many individuals from other professions.

Member job titles include:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| ❖ Medical Training Manager | ❖ Library Consultant |
| ❖ Teacher Librarian | ❖ Economist |
| ❖ Information Specialist | ❖ Cataloger |
| ❖ IT Specialist | ❖ Website Manager |
| ❖ News Librarian | ❖ Outreach Librarian |
| ❖ University Lecturer | ❖ Resettlement Consultant |
| ❖ Publisher | ❖ Education Program Assistant |
| ❖ Medical Librarian | ❖ Pharmacist |
| ❖ School Library Media Teacher | ❖ Retired Librarian |
| ❖ Scientific and Technical Officer | ❖ Library Technician |
| ❖ Information Analyst | ❖ Research Coordinator |
| ❖ Public Relations Specialist | ❖ Freelance Researcher |
| ❖ Archivist | ❖ Library Clerk |
| ❖ Children and Teen Services Librarian | ❖ Knowledge Manager |
| ❖ Interpreter, Deaf and Hard of Hearing | ❖ Information Management |
| ❖ Student (MLIS and other) | ❖ Rural Community Development |
| ❖ Medical Doctor | ❖ Manager, Coordination & Innovation |
| ❖ Information Literacy Librarian | ❖ Law librarian |

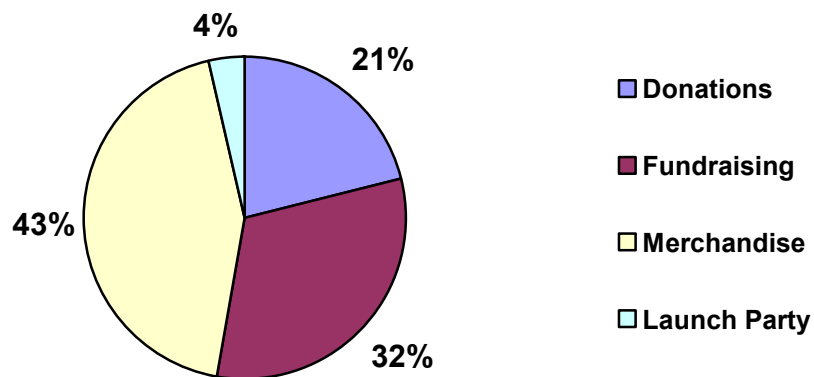


FINANCIAL SUMMARY

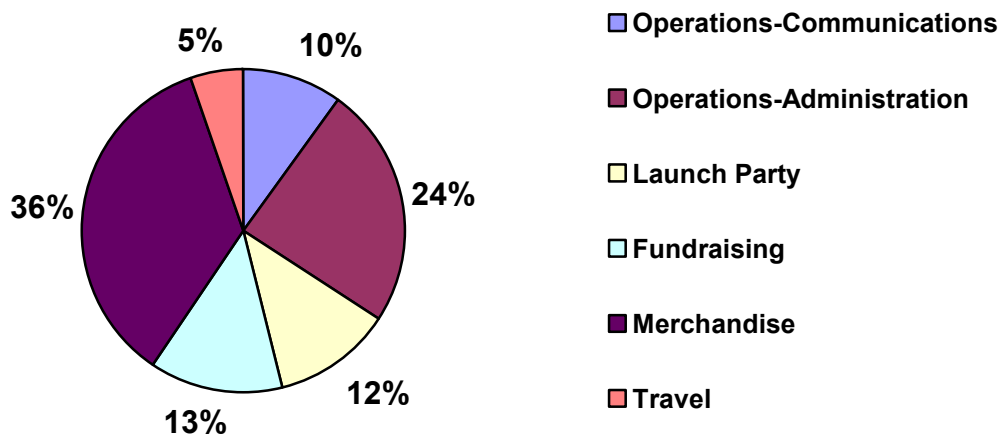
Revenues raised were a result of fundraisers held by our UWO student committee, generous personal donations, and LWB merchandise sales. LWB has not yet charged a membership fee. Our expenses to date have been modest and have been directed towards furthering our strategic directions, with a particular emphasis on promoting LWB throughout the library science community.

Below is a summary of our revenue sources and our areas of expenditures for our 2005 – 2006 fiscal period:

Revenue: \$5503.20



Expenditures: \$4385.85



Our \$4385.85 in expenditures includes ...

Communications	Flyers, business cards, CLA conference poster, poster fees
Administration	URL domain renewals, PO Box rental, Corporations Canada fees, shipping
Launch Party	Facilities rental, security, basic food and decorations
Fundraising	Initial costs laid out for fundraising events (costs recovered later)
Merchandise	Purchase of t-shirts and book bags for sale to supporters (costs recovered later)
Travel	Transportation costs such as gas



SPECIAL RECOGNITION

LWB gratefully acknowledges the following people and organizations for their generous contributions of time, resources, and expertise:

Peter McKinley

Research and Strategic Counsel for Non-Profit Organizations

Dr. Pam McKenzie,

Faculty of Information and Media Studies, University of Western Ontario

Dr. Margaret Ann Wilkinson

Faculty of Information and Media Studies, Faculty of Law, University of Western Ontario

Barbara Clubb

Past CLA President; City Librarian and CEO, Ottawa Public Library

Gwynneth Evans

CODE and IFLA

Dr. Lynne McKechnie

Faculty of Information and Media Studies, University of Western Ontario

Maribel Gonzales

Development Workshop Canada

Lovejeet Bajwa and Chad Matheson

Students, Faculty of Law, University of Western Ontario

Yvonne Appiah

Executive Director, CODE

Cabot Yu

Citizenship and Immigration Canada; Canadian Association of Special Libraries and Information Services

Faculty of Information and Media Studies (FIMS) at the University of Western Ontario

Including: Dr. Gloria Leckie, Susan Weekes, Martha Joyce, Nick Dyer-Witthof, and Bernd Frohmann

Frances Davidson-Arnott

President, Ex Libris Association

Douglas Ferguson

Director, Community Legal Services, University of Western Ontario

Ian Wilson, Ingrid Parent, and Sean Berrigan

Library and Archives Canada

Rory de Loë

Web and Email Hosting Services

Rob Maeder

LWB Website Re-design

