

at North Toronto. He was a man of mystery and surprises, whose old-school ways endeared us to him (girls by their first name, boys by their last!). He worked over my submissions to literary contests and later, after we had become friends and he was dying in hospital, insisted on reading and editing my latest school play written for my students at Western Technical-Commercial School. Arthur had also become a teacher-librarian of great rigour and flair. When he found out I had gone into school librarianship, he insisted that I do my practicum at his library, Monarch Park Collegiate Institute. On the day of my final evaluation he asked me to answer only one “culminating” question: “Tell me what you have taught ME these last two weeks.” Typical Arthur! A year after his death, I managed a fundraising project to honour him. Arthur now has a “living stone” in the forecourt of London’s Globe Theatre, next to Alan Bates and Sir Lawrence Olivier.

Timothy Gauntley
Program Co-ordinator,
Library & Learning Resources, TDSB, Toronto,

My mentor and role model as a teacher-librarian is Mr. Greg McPhee. Without his wisdom and sage advice, I would not be in this role today nor would I have ever considered taking this career path. Greg was an exemplary leader, teacher, and colleague to so many of us at Glenforest Secondary School. He taught us about the importance of resources, research, and readiness for the working world. Greg’s commitment to students, lifelong learning, and libraries will always resonate in these hallowed halls; indeed, his shoes are too big to fill.

Karen Marsh
Glenforest Secondary School,
Mississauga

Fay Blostein, former professor of librarianship at the University of Toronto, is by far the person who has influenced me most in my career as a teacher-librarian. She mesmerized me from the first day of my course in teacher librarianship at the Faculty of Education University of Toronto in 1970 as we sat in the science lab made over into a model library and listened to this passionate and intelligent woman talk about books and kids.

She both inspired and mentored me, as I took on my own new library in my second year teaching. Her vision is never far from my thoughts even today, 35 years later. I especially think of her when a student says to me, “this is the best book I have read” or, “I never read but this was pretty good.” Striving to achieve her vision in my libraries has given me a rich and rewarding career.

Judith Andersen
J. Clarke Richardson Collegiate, Ajax



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