ubc library bulletin

No. 198 November/December 1986

MICROCATALOGUE REDUCTIONS

The Public Catalogues Task Group (the former Microcatalogues Task Group) reluctantly accepted a reduction in microcatalogue frequency to twice a year, from the present three times a year.

This reduction was necessitated by cost (each production of a microcatalogue costs about $14000, in real and computer dollars), and the need to conserve staff resources. Although the microcatalogue is no longer duplicated here, considerable staff time is consumed in routine preparation of the catalogue files for each run.

The microcatalogue will be timed to serve the bulk of the user population, appearing in first term, about the end of September, and again around midterm break in the middle of February. Spring and summer session users will be slighted, but numerically they are many fewer than winter session registrants. The next microcatalogue will have a cutoff date of Jan. 2 for distribution mid-February.

This decision recognizes that our staff and financial resources are stretched too thinly. The increased size of the microcatalogue makes each production a more substantial task. Three issues a year meant beginning preparation for the next almost as soon as one was issued. The universal availability of the In Process List gives good access to newly catalogued material, and some planned format changes will make it more "public." The display will be cleaned up and additional access points, such as editor, added. The major loss is thus subject access to new materials. Increased memory in the library computer will give more public staff online subject access to new books, but this is of limited use to our users.

Moving into online access is what the Library, slowly and painfully, is doing; a process made more painful by the current economic climate. This half-step backwards allows for a regrouping of scarce staff resources, so that system development may continue.

Not all the news the Task Group had was bad. The microcatalogue will have two way cross-references for varying forms of name entry. Presently there is a cross-reference from the old form to the new one, but not back. The next microcatalogue should have references both ways.

Improvements will be made in the Serial List: holdings are to appear under all entry points, and some formatting changes should make it easier to use. Also, the nearly ubiquitous online access to in-process and serial files was acknowledged in the Task Group's decision to discontinue both the Serial and In-Process fiche supplements.

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

COPPSAC recently approved revised terms of reference for two committees. Both committees serve as vehicles for public and technical staff to discuss and resolve issues of mutual concern.

The PUBLIC CATALOGUES TASK GROUP (the Microcatalogues Task Group) now has overall responsibility for all public catalogues: card, microfiche, and the online files for general inquiry and public use. This includes responsibility for reviewing catalogue development, consulting staff, and analyzing staff and user needs. This is a large mandate for one committee, and subcommittees will be established to look at specific issues. The chair is Lee Ann Bryant (2076). Call her, or your rep, if there are issues you would like discussed. (The September Bulletin had a list of representatives.) The Task Group reports to COPPSAC, and has the authority to ratify minor decisions; larger issues are referred to the parent committee.

The SERIAL SYSTEM WORKING GROUP also had new terms of reference approved. This Group reports to the Library Administration, via Bob MacDonald, and is chaired by the Head of Serials, Nadine Baldwin (5038). Members are drawn from both public services and technical processing. The Group's mandate is to standardize procedures for the use of serial systems, coordinate and develop the use of serial systems, and review serial systems products.

## REPORT DOWNTIME

LDMS (the general online inquiry system) should be operating any time the library is open, and lots of time when it isn't open as well. Please report down time to the Systems Trouble Desk, LPC (6275), either when it happens or the very next day. That may be the only way Systems will know to investigate whether the problem was in the library computer system or the Computing Centre.

## MICROCOMPUTER USERS

COMPULINE, a listing of microcomputer users in B.C. information centres, is revising its records. This service, sponsored by BCLA and the UBC Library School, exists as an information exchange. If you have microcomputer experience in the library or information context that you are willing to share in informal or formal ways, COMPULINE would like to include you in its directory. Phone Peter Simmons (4259) in the Library School for a form.

## CANADIAN PERIODICAL INDEX

Canadian Periodical Index is the major means of subject access to Canadian periodicals. Established in 1938, it is produced by the Canadian Library Association.

Effective December 16, 1986, CPI has been sold to the Globe and Mail's Info Globe Division. Info Globe has plans to increase the coverage (currently about 135 titles) to include another 150 periodical titles, and also introduce an online edition. The Canadian Library Association will continue to be involved through representation on an Advisory Board.

Bibliographic access tools for Canadian materials have always been scanty. This commitment to CPI by a commercial information firm is a positive development. If Info Globe puts CPI online and increases coverage as planned, a major step forward in access to Canadian materials will have been taken.

## SERIAL BINDING SLIPS

Serials binding slip runs have been rescheduled because of the Christmas holidays. Division and branches should get their binding information into the bindery request file early. Binding slip runs will be made December 23 (instead of December 24) and December 30 (instead of December 31).

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS ELECTION

Library staff received ballot papers in November for the election of a full-time employee who is not a member of faculty to serve a 3 year term on the Board of Governors.

The Board of Governors is responsible for the management, administration and control of UBC property and revenue, and appoints faculty and senior officials. There are 15 members: 8 appointed by the provincial government, 5 from the university community (2 faculty, 2 students, 1 non-faculty). The representative on this powerful group for all library staff is the non-faculty member.

This year there are two library nominees for this position. Colin Banyard, Circulation, and John Cole, Woodward Library, have been nominated. Although the member's primary responsibility is to represent non-faculty members of the university community, having someone from the Library on the Board would be a plus for us. Don't throw those ballot papers away; fill them in.

## ONLINE USERS GROUP

Meets Thursday, January 8th, 11:30 - 1 in the Sedgewick Conference Room. Margaret Price will talk about Woodward's experiences in instructing end users to do their own bibliographic database searching. We might also have some general discussion about the implications for the library of more people doing their own searching of off-site databases. Do we want to know? Should we be involved? What are the implications for online access to library catalogues?

## THE COMPANY SHE KEEPS

An exhibition of terra cotta portraits and models by Sally Michener is in the Fine Arts Gallery, basement of the Main Library, until December 19. Sally Michener, who teaches at Emily Carr, specializes in handbuilt figurative sculpture. Portraits of family, friends, and associates form the nucleus of this exhibit.

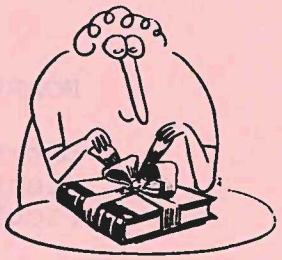
## PAPRICAN TOURS

Linda Everett, librarian at the Pulp and Paper Centre Library here on campus, is willing to give tours of her library to staff members. This branch library of PAPRICAN has a basic collection of pulp and paper literature, which is supplemented by the headquarters collection at Pointe Claire, Quebec. Phone Jocelyn or Julie (2076) if you're interested in a tour sometime in the New Year.

## LEARN ABOUT LIBRARIES

Library Techniques 218, Wednesday evenings, January - April, VCC, Langara Campus, is a course in library procedures and operations. Topics include manual and online searching, database management, circulation, planning, etc. Phone Langara for more information.

## PAPERBACKS WANTED



Clean up your paperback collection. Remember us when you're wondering what to do with that paperback guide to proper living that Aunt Mabel gave you for Christmas. The Library would like your slightly used paperbacks to replenish the Sedgewick paperback collection and for the BOOK SALE which the Library is sponsoring during Open House in March. Bring or send your donations to Graham Elliston, Gifts and Exchanges, Main Library (2607).

## NEED-A-REFERENCE?

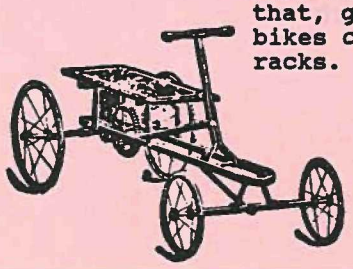
Gifts and Exchanges has a copy of the EUROPA YEARBOOK 1985, v. 1-2 (D2 E83) which they will transfer to any location which needs it. Please call them at 2607.

## FREE PUPPIES

Month old Siberian Husky - German Shepherd crosses. 432-7707.

## TOO MANY BIKES ARE BOTHERING TOO MANY PEOPLE

Especially when they are chained to handrails. Handrails are for hands; bike racks for bikes. The way to distinguish these two is to remember that, generally speaking, hands have 5 digits; bikes have 2 wheels. We see bikes chained to handrails much more than we see hands clinging to bike racks. Discourage occurrences of both events if you can.



## RADIO OUTREACH

Fancy yourself as another David Suzuki? CITR, the university radio station, is interested in broadcasting brief information or promo spots about the library. We need library staff with ideas for, experience or interest in preparing one or two minute items to be broadcast over CITR.

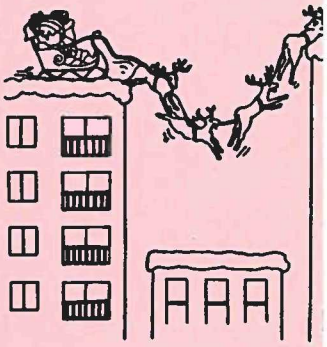
And speaking of David Suzuki, the University Community Relations Office has just finished a 26 part radio mini-documentary series, hosted by him, to be distributed to radio stations across Canada. Community Relations plans to prepare another series and needs ideas about campus activities that would make snappy interesting broadcast material.

If you have ideas either for the CITR library spots or for more general topics, phone or drop a note to Jocelyn or Julie, I & O (2076).

## RETIREMENT PARTY IS GREAT SUCCESS

A party to honour Miss Tung King Ng, on her retirement as Head of Asian Studies Library , was held at the end of November in the Sui Lan Kung Restaurant. Over 70 guests, faculty, students, library staff, friends, enjoyed a fine meal, tributes to Miss Ng, and Miss Ng's recollections about her career. She was presented with many gifts, including a Minolta camera, the souvenir book of UBC, and a $200 donation in her name to the Vancouver Sun Children's Fund. Miss Ng retires in December, after 25 years as Head of the Asian Studies Library.

## STAFF CHANGES



HELLOS
David Savory, LA1, Curric Lab
Deborah MacNiel, LA1, Woodward

PROMOTIONS
John Burgess, LA2, Serials
Andrea Heyrman, LA3, MacMillan

TRANSFERS
Nancy Gach, LA1, Woodward to Hamber

GOODBYES
Doug Loney, LA1, Special Collections

## LIBRARY PARTY

The staff library party in Cecil Green was a great success, and much credit is to due to all the organizers: Martha Whitehead, Stephanie Dykstra, Pat Dunn, Sharon Goddard, Gwynn Bartram, and Josie Lazar (to name only a few of the cast of thousands who helped.). Food was by Food Services, piano music by Tom Shorthouse and Liora Gelbart, dancing by anyone who was still upright, outrageous behaviour by several people who shall remain nameless, and prizes of great variety and delight by many generous donors. The prizes were distributed by trumpet-playing, nimble-footed Nick O'Santa Claus and his delightful helper. It did not pass without comment that 50% of the MacMillan staff won prizes. And so the stage was set for the branch and division round of parties and festivities. Happy holidays, everyone.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Editor: Jocelyn Foster (2076)