ubc library bulletin

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COLLECTIONS FUNDING

A special allocation of $702,000 in non-recurring funds will allow the Library to continue to buy new books in 1981-1982 and to catch up with serial bills from 1980-1981. Since the special funds must be spent this year, the outlook for 1982-1983 is unchanged: no increase in the collections budget can be expected next year and that, of course (given continuing inflation) means an actual reduction in what we can buy.

Rapid increases in the cost of periodicals over the last few years (23% last year), combined with discouraging prospects for future collections budgets, have made it necessary to reduce the Library's continuing commitments for serials. In June, about 600 serial titles, many of them unique, were cancelled for a total saving of $85,000. By September, it was necessary to cut a further $65,000 in expensive duplicate subscriptions (46 titles were involved). It remains to be determined which locations will be without copies of these titles in 1982.

Present plans for 1982-83 include the possibility of cancelling an additional $100,000 in serials. This amount will include most remaining duplicate periodicals (unless an extra copy can be justified by extremely heavy use), standing orders and government publications (two areas which have not yet been reviewed for potential cancellations).

We hope that no further cancellations of unique titles will be required for the time being. However, without substantial increases to future collections budgets, we will be obliged to continue reducing the size and scope of the collection.

READING ROOM STUDY BEGINS

Cancellation of duplicate subscriptions raises questions about the Library's ability to continue supporting reading room collections. The Senate Library Committee requested a report on the cost of reading rooms and on the implications of reducing or eliminating the Library's role in maintaining them. On October 20th, the Committee began to review documentation relating to reading rooms, including responses from faculty departments to a memo soliciting their views on the importance of reading rooms to their programs. The matter is obviously complex and sensitive. Benefits to departments must be considered in light of overall Library priorities, since it seems unlikely that we can afford both an extensive reading room system and strong central collections and services.

STAFFING IN FLUX

Some Library staff positions at all levels have been unfilled because of the University's grim financial situation. Division heads have been instructed to make sure that high priority tasks are handled first. Other less critical work will be backlogged or will simply go undone for the time being. Direct library services to users are being emphasized and no cuts in these services have been made.

WALTER LANNING, 1903-1981

Friends and colleagues of Walter Lanning were greatly saddened to hear of his death on June 2nd. A native of Ladner, a graduate of U.B.C. (B.A., 1925), Walter was a brother to Mabel and Roland Lanning, two librarians famous in U.B.C. history as the heads respectively of the Circulation and the Serials Divisions. After graduate work and teaching in the History Department at Cornell University, Walter returned to Vancouver to teach first at U.B.C. and then at the Vancouver Technical School. During five consecutive summer sessions at Columbia University, from 1933-1937, he earned his B.L.S. He was then appointed librarian at the Vancouver Technical School, becoming the first trained school librarian in the province. Since no training for school librarians was available in the province, Walter undertook the task, offering courses at the Summer School of Education in Victoria from 1939 to 1956 and at Vancouver Night School from 1940 to 1951. When the Faculty of Education was established at U.B.C. in 1957 he joined it as an Assistant Professor, setting up a programme for the education of school librarians. He can truthfully be called the father of school librarianship in British Columbia. He retired in 1969, and was appointed Associate Professor Emeritus. Although never a member of the staff of the Library, he had a close association with the developing library system during the fifties and sixties, as Director of the Curriculum Laboratory, then a responsibility of the Faculty of Education.

PHYSICAL FITNESS FOR BOOKS: Is there a doctor in the house?

You may recall that the Library has a plethora of committees and sub-committees churning out reading material for library staff. One of these, the Sub-Committee on Mending and Conservation, has produced a very interesting and provocative report. It points out:

> After spending millions of dollars purchasing materials and similar sums cataloguing them, we spend essentially nothing preserving them. Part of the problem is that books (book papers) are not what they used to be. Present day book paper has a life expectancy of 30 to 35 years. Books printed in the United States between 1900 and 1939 are predicted to last no more than 50 years (that's to 1989 at the outside). Columbia University Library found that 30% of its collection is in such an advanced stage of deterioration as to be unusable if handled more than twice again.
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> Some university libraries have begun comprehensive conservation programs. At UBC we have a decided lack of expertise in the area of book conservation. The field is a new one as a separate profession and requires technical knowledge of chemistry and physics of deterioration and preservation of materials. We must immediately earmark it as an area in which to develop or hire expertise.
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> No matter how much we ignore it, our collection is steadily and inevitably deteriorating. A time will come when the deterioration of materials will be the most serious and pressing problem the Library has to deal with. Just as we required automation experts in the 60's and 70's, we will need preservation experts in the 80's and 90's.

BOOKS ON THE MOVE IN MAIN

A book move is in progress in the main stacks. The space previously occupied by the Asian Studies Library has now been incorporated into the stacks with major shifts occuring on levels 2 & 3.

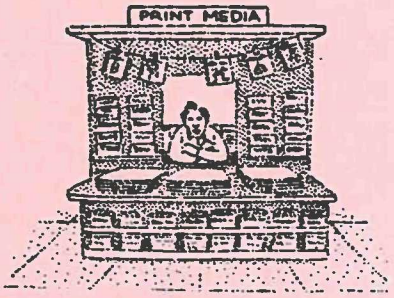
OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS

1. Check the top bookshelf by the door in Erik de Bruijn's office (previously Bill Bell's office). Right now you will find a folder on scholarships in various Commonwealth countries for 1982-83, information on a one year post MLS program at the University of Chicago leading to a certificate of advanced study in library management, and applications for the Academic Library Consultant Training Program sponsored by the Association of Research Libraries.
2. Consider the Career Development and Assessment Center for Librarians at the University of Washington. B.C. librarians are eligible for a 2 day assessment program there, expenses paid. Write for applications at the Center, School of Librarianship, FM-30, University of Washington, Seattle, WA 98195 or contact Ross Carter at the Vancouver Community College Library, or check the brochure on Erik's bookshelf.
3. Look at the staff bulletin boards in your library (in Main, just beyond the coffee room) for postings of job openings in Canada, for notices of courses such as the Douglas College Courses and Workshops for Library Personnel,and for conference brochures (note: the British Columbia Library Association Conference is November 5,6,7, in Richmond).
4. Look at the Upward Mobility folder in the Information & Orientation Division for job notices from the United States.
5. Call some of the joblines: BCLA jobline has all kinds of library jobs, 263-0014. The ARCL jobline has academic library jobs from all over North America, 312 944-6795. The PNLA jobline has jobs in the Pacific Northwest, both sides of the border, 206 543-2890. Phone anytime of day to hear a taperecorded message.

WANTED

The following items are needed to complete the Library's holdings:

American Libraries. v.11 n.2-3(1980)
ASLIB Proceedings. v.30 n.1(1978); v.31 n.3-4,11(1979)
American Society for Information Science, Journal. v.27 n.1(1976); v.30 n.4(1979); v.31 n.3,6(1980)
Drexel Library Quarterly. v.11 n.1,4(1975); v.15 n.4(1979)
Journal of Documentation. v.35 n.1,2,4(1979); v.36 n.1-4(1980
Journal of Information Science. v.1 n.1-6(1979/80); v.2 n.3/4(1980)
Journal of Library Automation. v.11 n.1-2(1978); v.12 n.1-2(1979)
Library Association Record. v.82 n.8(Aug. 1980)
Library Journal. v.105 n.7(Apr.1 1980)
Library Quarterly. v.50 n.1(1980)
Library Resources and Technical Services. v.24 n.1-4(1980)
Library Trends. v.27 n.4(1978/79); v.28 n.3(1979/80)
Special Libraries. v.71 n.3-12(1980)
Western Homes and Living. Aug-Sept(1950); Mar-Apr,June,Aug-Sept,Nov-Dec(1954); Jan(1955) Sept(1959); July(1960); Jan(1962); Jan(1965).
Wilson Library Bulletin. v.54 n.5,7(Jan, Mar 1980)



If you can supply any of these, please phone Graham Elliston, local 2304.

NEW FACES/NEW PLACES

Tania Gorn fills a new position in Interlibrary Loans Division. She worked this summer as a temporary librarian in Science Division. She worked from 1976 to 1980 as a reference and interlibrary loans librarian at McGill.

Jack McIntosh is working half-time in Science, half-time as Slavic Bibliographer. He worked in Science and Math previously.

Judy Atkinson is now half-time reference librarian in Sedgewick Library.

Doreen Ingram is working part-time in Law Library while Tom Shorthouse is on leave in China. She worked previously in Law Library.

Nick Omelusik is Acting Head of Law Library to August 1982 in addition to his job as head of Reading Rooms Division.

Susan Mathew is part-time temporary librarian in Government Publications.

WHO'S IN CHARGE? (OR: WHERE HAVE ALL THE ADMINISTRATORS GONE?)

Acting University Librarian: Doug McInnes
Assistant Librarians -
Bill Watson: public services, physical planning and development
Bob MacDonald: Technical services and systems, finance
Tony Jeffreys: Collections
Erik de Bruijn: Personnel services for all library staff

Bill Bell in this his final year before retirement is on leave to write on library management. Basil Stuart-Stubbs is now Director of the School of Librarianship.

A president's committee has been struck to select a new university librarian. UBC librarians Bill Watson and Ann Turner have been elected to this committee. See the May Bulletin for more details.

NEWCOMER TO LPC

The Knowledge Network (educational tv) is now located on the 4th floor of the Library Processing Building. Telephone is 224 6511.

NEW PHONE FOR BMB

Change your phone listings for the Biomedical Branch Library to 875 4505.

COMPUTER COURSE ON DATA LIBRARY

A course on the Data Library is offered Tuesday, October 27, 2:30 to 4:30 in room 305A Computer Sciences Building. Anyone wishing to attend please pre-register with the Computing Centre.

PHONE TAPE OF UBC EVENTS

Phone 228 3133 some evening after 5pm to hear a tape recorded announcement of all the cultural offerings on campus. Very nice; excellent fare for blah days.

FILM ABOUT THE LIBRARY

UBC student Alyson Drysdale made a film about us called "Term Paper Blues." Filmed on location in Sedgewick Library, the film is a 10 minute saga of a novice student who needs to use the library (if he can find it). The premiere showing was seen by about 500 students. It will be shown again; watch for it -- it may give you a new perspective on your job.

CALL NUMBER FICHE

There's a new subset of the microcatalogue arranged in call number order. Very handy, like a shelflist. Look for the yellow header.

DRS EXPANDS

DRS is a fiche set to help find pamphlets and other materials. It has both an authors & titles and a keyword section. It now includes materials in Science Division, Ecology, Special Collections, Sedgewick, Curriculum Lab, and Woodward. Try it -- you could find "Issue of marijuana, a headmaster's perspective"; "International conference on ion beam modification"; or "Behaviour of black sea anchovy near submerged light sources."

TALK ON THE BRITISH LIBRARY

Sir Frederick Dainton, Chairman of the Board of the British Library, will speak Monday, November 9th, 11:30 a.m. on the "Creation of the British Library," in room 835 in the library school.

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES

Mark Tuesday, November 3rd, 11:30 a.m. on your calendar. Dean Michael K. Buckland, School of Library and Information Studies, University of California, Berkeley, will speak "On the Goodness of Libraries." Come to Buchanan 104 (a change from the usual library school location) for thoughts on what makes libraries 'good'. (Good staff, of course; all the rest is commentary.)