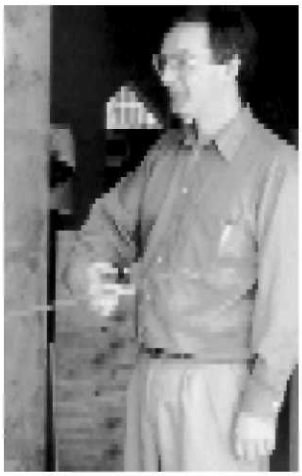
UBC LIBRARY

BULLETIN

No. 246 July-September 1996



David Winter cuts the ribbon at the unofficial opening of Sedgewick/Koerner Library.

A Moving Experience: Sedgewick/Koerner Opens

Only those who have gone through it can really appreciate what's involved when an entire university library has to be relocated within seven days. Thankfully, the Sedgewick Library's epic move into the Koerner tower late in June stayed on schedule — all this while offering user services at least 8 hours a day. Staff, patrons and visitors have spent the rest of the summer enjoying the rewards. Some of the most popular features of the new building are:

— windows that open!
— sinuous designer cherry-toned service desks
— sequoia benches in the elevator bay, made from the Main Library's late great tree
— a state-of-the-art computer lab with 20 workstations
— 150 carrels with individual lighting and wiring
— three levels of bookstacks flanked by floor to ceiling view windows
— the PS (American literature) collection from the Main Stacks
— and, of course, the fabled level 700, with roof access outside many of the administrative offices, lockers and shower facilities for Sedgewickians, and panoramic views from the two-level deck adjoining the staff lounge

Special thanks go to Suzanne and Earl Dodson for underwriting the expansion and finishing of the staff deck and helping fund Koerner's new south elevator. Thanks also to University Librarian Ruth Patrick and her husband, John Aubrey, for a thoughtful gift: enough outdoor tables and chairs to furnish all four level 700 patios.

Next Steps

Summer Session has been a settling-in period for the new, vertical version of Sedgewick. Much of this has been accompanied by the sound of jackhammers and tree removal crews, as the familiar mirrored glass towers and eight ailing Main Mall oaks make room for a complete rebuild of the 23-year old underground library. In just a few months, this space has to be ready to accept roughly 40% of the Main Library's humanities and social sciences collection, staff to go with it, and 750 added study carrels. Due to the May/June delay in the move to the Koerner tower, it remains to be seen whether the planned 1996 year-end moveout from Main can be held to the original schedule. At this point, it's simply too early to tell.

What's Going, What's Staying

What we do know is that almost half a million volumes of high-use monographs and serials are now targeted to move from the Main Stacks to Sedgewick/Koerner. Reference staff and collections in the humanities, social sciences, government publications and microforms will also integrate into the new building. Fine Arts, Maps, Special Collections, Archives, Science & Engineering, and some necessary user services will stay in Main, but will relieve physical strains on the building by greatly spreading out the floor loading. There are also hints that a much-awaited public study area could be part of the "new Old" Main Library, perhaps in the ground-floor Maps wing.

What's Not In Koerner (Yet)

Please remind patrons that Koerner is very much a work in progress this term. Beyond its 150-carrel capacity, students will still need to use Main for study space. Also, we need to remember that there is no longer a built-in food facility or — the "sleeper" popularity poll winner — places to stretch out and snooze.

What's Coming

We have money for longer library hours in 1996/97. A student survey is already under way to help determine where these will be, but certainly Sedgewick/Koerner and Main will be featured.

Master Space Plan Update

Even when the completed Walter C. Koerner Library (Phase I) opens, it will only reshuffle a physical collection that by 1996 has filled existing library space to capacity. Phase I will not be able to accept any more material than we move into it in 1996/97. Nor can the Main Libary be used as expanded storage for items transferred in from other parts of the system. Although it is rated as sturdy as 60% of Greater Vancouver buildings, each of its four sections has different structural properties, and none is built to the present code. This means that as we transfer high-use social sciences and humanities materials out of the Main Library to Koerner, we cannot use the vacant space to warehouse other UBC collections. Instead, we need to lighten the loading throughout the building and spread out its remaining holdings and services.

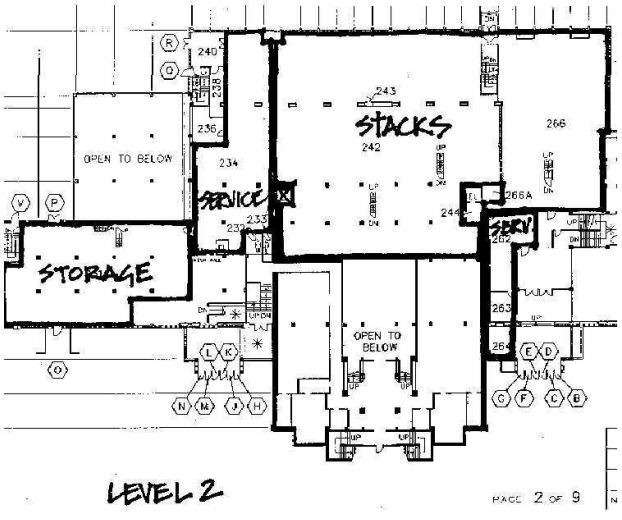
This makes it more urgent than ever to push forward with an overall space plan for the library system. Out of numerous consultations held over the spring and summer, a large draft document has emerged outlining issues and options. Three copies are being circulated among public service heads during August and September. Jim Sumi of Process Four Design has been acting as facilitator, and has summarized some of the key points:

The Situation

The University of British Columbia Library collection comprises over 9.2 million items, in more than 26 different formats, held in 22 active locations and 13 storage locations. In maintaining its present level of acquisitions, the Library collection will continue to grow at a rate of some 250,000 items per year.

Even the most optimistic scenarios regarding availability of electronic resources require significant additional storage capacity for the Library collection....Wholesale implementation of a "virtual library" across the entire system is not yet possible. Much of the material required is not available in electronic format, and the on- and off-campus infrastructure is not yet capable of supporting data transfer requirements.

[Besides collections space] the need for use, study and "social" space has a high priority in planning for Library facilities. Decisions about the extent, nature and location of such space are integral to other collections and operational choice-making.



The Planning Process

In an era of constant and radical change, the Library must be able to continually evaluate and adapt the way it serves its user communities. The purpose of the Master Planning process is to develop the tools and information to assist the University, its libraries, and the user communities to make informed, proactive planning decisions.

[Thus far] the emphasis has been upon developing options, given present uncertainties about operational and capital funding, as well as the direction and impacts of technological change. A series of overall facilities options will be outlined for the Library system....[These] can be reviewed, refined and implemented over the coming decade. Several initial decisions will need to be made in the near term. Each round of decision-making will affect the timing and nature of the next.

The *Bulletin* will cover developments in the planning process as they occur. The first set of choices will need to be made this fall, since they involve the nature and location of Main Library services after the final move to Koerner at year end.

1995/96 Statistics Released

Joyce Friesen has issued a large compilation of statistics covering the report year ending March 31, 1996. All branch and division heads should now have copies. Space permits only a few highlights, but these are impressive:

- For the first time, circulation has topped the 2 million mark. The number of printed items signed out rose from roughly 1,800,000 in 1994/95 to more than 2,200,000, a one-year increase of over 25%.
- Interestingly, there has been virtually no increase in the number of items lent and received on interlibrary loan. (This may change with the growing popularity of Pegasus and similar self-serve ordering systems.)
- Tours and instructional sessions to UBC users reached nearly 14,000 people, up 32% from last year. The Education Library accounted for over 5,700 of these — a heroic performance for a mid-sized branch.
- The growth in organized library instruction seems to be having an effect. Main Library reference questions dropped 11%, and reference traffic across the system was down 8% from 1994/95.
- The number of CD-ROM databases has nearly doubled in one year, rising from 161 to 316. Overall, users now have access to 478 CD-ROM and online databases, compared to 228 in 1994/95.
- Since 1992/93, the library system has cancelled over 5,000 serial titles, worth roughly $1.35 million.
- We now have over half a million volumes in some form of closed storage.
- Replacement value of the overall collection for insurance purposes: $722 million.

If anyone has been looking for an up-to-date list of our many committees and task groups, the report ends with an indexed summary of all of these, with names of current members.

Surveys Target Student Needs

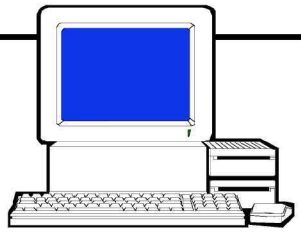
Every UBC student applying for a new or renewed library card will be asked to complete two brief surveys aimed at improving services. While these may seem like just that much more paperwork at a busy time, the inducements are considerable: free tuition packages, $100 gift certificates, theatre tickets, and similar goodies.

The first survey is a joint initiative of Vice Presidents Maria Klawe (Student and Academic Services) and Dan Birch (V.P. Academic and Provost). While much of it is aimed at gathering personal data about the current crop of UBC students, some questions should be of significant help in planning Library services. We should be able to get much more up-to-date information on the number of students who use computers other than the ones provided on campus, and how many have Web access. As responses will be broken down by faculty, school or department, Library liaison staff will also have a clearer picture of their own constituency.

The second survey is entirely focussed on Library needs, and can be answered by faculty and staff as well as students. It has only four questions. Respondents are asked to name the one library they use most often; to rank the top days and time periods when hours should be extended; to rank the services or resources most important to them during opening hours; and to identify their broad UBC status (undergraduate/graduate student, faculty or staff).

The *Bulletin* will carry the results of both polls as soon as they're available.

SYSTEMS UPDATE



DRA Pre-Installation Visit

Steve Falk and Lottie Meador, DRA installation and conversion specialists, spent August 14-15 at the UBC Library in meetings with our DRA Project Team. We reviewed all of the policy tables and other system configuration forms that need to be completed during the next months; discussed data conversion options and issues; and prepared a more detailed implementation schedule.

Another important topic discussed during the meetings was the status of the new version of the DRA system. Although it is still on schedule for release in spring 1997, there is insufficient conversion information available at this time. As we need to start working on conversion activity now in order to meet our May 1997 target, it was agreed that we have to focus on preparing our data and policy information for the current version of the DRA system. We still have the option of moving to the new client-based interfaces if they are released on schedule.

Steve Falk will be DRA's Project Manager for the UBC Library implementation of their system. Both he and Lottie have worked on numerous implementation projects at other large libraries. In addition to UBC, Steve is also Project Manager for ILSCO (Illinois Library Systems Consortium) and UCLA, both of which recently signed contracts with DRA. We will be working closely with them during the next eight to twelve months.

Web Page for DRA Implementation Project

The Public Service/Users Task Group for the DRA Implementation Project has established a Web page that will provide general information and progress updates during the next year. Check it out at:

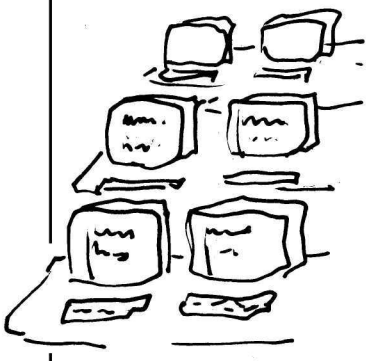
<http://unixg.ubc.ca:7001/0/interface/dra2.html>

New Workstations, Windows, Web, Word...

Now that more of the new Pentium workstations with Windows and Netscape Web browsers have been installed, many staff finally have the chance to familiarize themselves with this powerful software. This has generated interest in even more Windows-based programs, especially Word for Windows. Systems will be investigating more cost-effective options that will allow for wider distribution of such software.

While on the topic of new workstations and software, we can't miss another opportunity to remind (make that re-remind) staff about loading or modifying workstation software. In order to maintain a standard workstation environment that can have software updated via the network, it is vital that additional software is not indiscriminately loaded on local workstations. There are also some potential license and use issues that arise, depending on the source of such software. Please check with Systems first. Also, your customized orange, pink and magenta Windows environment with wickedly clever cryptic labels and icons just may not go down as well with staff who have to use the same workstation.

Main Library Computer Instructional Classroom



With instructional space at a premium while construction is still underway on Koerner, an interim computer classroom is going to be established in the Main Library. Systems expects to be installing between 8 and 12 workstations in the former copy and supply room adjoining the old Librarian's Office. The instructor's workstation and projector currently in the Main Library floor 3 Conference Room will also be relocated to this space.

Although this facility is unlikely to grace the cover of "Better Labs and Classrooms", it will provide more space for end-user instruction and staff DRA training until Koerner is finished. Systems hopes to have the room ready by early September.

SYSTEMS UPDATE

SilverNet Expands

The SilverNet system was rebuilt during the August long weekend. The latest versions of the ERL system and the Web interface were installed, and all databases reloaded. There are now 13 databases available, compared to the former 9:

NEW ***Bibliography of Native North Americans***
Econlit 1969-1996
GEOBASE 1980-1996
Georef 1785-1996 (5 files)
Heracles 1975-1994
LLBA 1993-1996
NEW ***Microcomputer Abstracts 1989-1996***
MLA Bibliography 1963-1996
PAIS 1972-1996 (2 files)
Sociofile 1974-1996
Sport Discus 1975-1996
Social Work Abstracts 1977-1996
NEW ***Transport pre-1988-1996*** *(2 files)*
NEW ***TreeCD 1939-1996***

The Collections Management Council will be developing procedures for identifying and implementing new databases for SilverNet, so that high-priority databases can be loaded and system growth managed.

UBC Library staff have also been meeting with staff from the SFU and University of Victoria libraries to discuss database and cost-sharing options based on our three SilverPlatter ERL systems. This has the potential to eliminate the loading of identical databases at each site while also increasing the total number of unique databases available for searching from each site. Cost quotations for shared database licenses are being obtained from SilverPlatter, and some network access testing has recently been completed.

Finally, there is now an online newsgroup for librarians, faculty and students who either use SilverNet or work with SilverPlatter products. To subscribe, send an e-mail message to <majordomo@unixg.ubc.ca> saying, “Subscribe silvernet-news”.

Goodbye, Recordings File

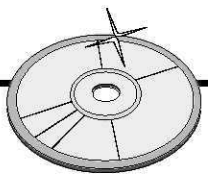
The Recordings online file on UBCLIB is now closed. This used to be the place to find records and CD’s in both the Wilson Recordings Collection and the Music Library. In July, existing data in the Recordings file was merged with the Catalogue file, and new recordings will be entered only in the Catalogue. This marks the end of an era — Recordings was one of our very first online files. It also marks the beginning of preparations for converting our data to the DRA system.

REC will still appear on UBCLIB’s menu of UBC Library files, and will remain there until we move to the DRA system next year. However, as noted, it’s best to do lookups in the Catalogue file from now on, since this has not only a full set of duplicate records but will be the only place newly received recordings are entered. Although the Catalogue does not have the composer/title index available in Recordings, combining tw= and nw= gives the same kind of access. A significant advantage of migrating recordings into the Catalogue is that scores and recordings for a given work are now searchable together in a single file. Give it a try, and remember that you can refine searches by using the “Limit” command and selecting “Format”.

Loaner Laptops

The Systems Division has refurbished several older 286 and 386 laptops which are now available for loan to staff needing them for work-related activities. They have basic word processing (both Word and WordPerfect) and communications software loaded on them, and also come equipped with a modem. For bookings or information, contact the Systems Help Desk at 2-6275.

OTHER E-NEWS



ISI Journal Impact Ratings

After a series of delays, the Library has finally acquired *Journal Citation Reports* on CD-ROM. This service gives the latest journal impact factors and related data, which we've been lacking since *Science Citation Index* and *Social Sciences Citation Index* discontined the printed version. The online products will be kept in the same locations as the print indexes: HSSD for the social sciences CD, and Woodward for the science version. Locations wondering whether or not to cancel a given title will find these useful as a guide to a journal's likely value to researchers.

English Short-Title Catalogue Up On UBCLIB

The REFerence offerings on the online catalogue have added a significant new bibliography: the famous *English Short-Title Catalogue* (1473-1800). This contains records for works printed in England or its dependencies, whatever the language, and for English-language works printed worldwide during the same time period. We predict the electronic *ESTC* will be a big hit with researchers in the field — especially those who want to work at home and dial in.

Lexis-Nexis Drops Southam Papers

Just as more library staff and users were discovering the *Lexis-Nexis* database, new to UBCLIB, one of its more appealing features has been discontinued. Until this summer, it was possible to access fulltext copy for articles in leading Southam newspapers across Canada, updated daily. However, a decision was recently made to remove this service from the version of the database made available to educational institutions. Reference staff who used it heavily may want to know that it's still available to those who are willing to pay for a dial-up search. Ron Simmer in the Patscan office has a password and should be able to assist.

New Web-Based Library Tutorials

By September 1, the Library's first try at putting user instruction on the Web should be ready to access. For a broad-based WWW tutorial, check our home page under "About UBC Library", then follow the links referring to online instruction. The David Lam Library has developed a similar tutorial for incoming MBA students. For those who wish to access these sites directly, the general library one is currently at <http://unixg.ubc.ca:7001/0/tutorial/stars/start.html> and the URL for the Lam program is <http://unixg.ubc.ca:7001/0/tutorial/mba/start.html>

Libraries wishing to create something similar for their own area won't have long to wait. Under Larry Campbell's direction, student Aalim Lakhani is testing a general Web-based tutorial authoring system in two sites. Check with Larry in Sedgewick/Koerner for a progress report.

CANSIM Contract Signed

The eleven members of the Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries have entered into an agreement that should make it easier and cheaper to access CANSIM data. This will now be done via the University of Toronto's EPAS system. Dalhousie University Library will also participate in the service.

STAFF NEWS

Hello

Felix Cheung (M&P), Users Service Consultant, Systems
Tom Nicol (M&P), Programmer Analyst D, Systems

Goodbye

Betty Lum, LA2, Periodicals, HSS
Gail Runnels, LA3, Government Publications
Stephanie Sheperd, LA2, Woodward

Promotion

Elaine Thorson, to LA4, Order Division

Appointments and Extensions

Lee Ann Bryant, Head, MacMillan Library, August 1, 1996 - July 31, 1998
Hilde Colenbrander, Distance Education Services Librarian (half-time), September 1, 1996 - August 31, 1998
Kathy Hornby, Reference Librarian, Woodward Library, July 1, 1996
Margaret Price, Head, Life Sciences Libraries, August 12, 1996

Map Library Changes

Tim Ross, on leave, September 1, 1996 - August 31, 1997.

Replacements: **Fran Woodward** (acting Map Librarian),
Marcel Fortin, **Peggy McBride**, **Pauline Willems** (part-time reference).

Been There, Done That: Authors' Corner

Suzanne Dodson, joint author, National Information Standards Organization, *Guides to Accompany Microform Sets* (ANSI/NISO Z39.74 - 1996) ... **Jack McIntosh**, "Rarely cited 'gems' in the *Doukhobor Bibliography*," *Canadian Ethnic Studies*, vol. XXVII, no. 3, 1995 [Special Issue: *The Doukhobors*]: 262-269.

Upcoming Conferences

ACCESS '96: Innovative Technology in Libraries, SFU Harbour Centre, September 30 - October 2.

What You Don't Know May Hurt You! Copyright Law and Licensing in Canadian Universities, Ottawa, October 3-4.

AROUND THE LIBRARIES

Alumni Campaign Breaks Records

The 1995/96 Alumni Giving campaign hit new highs, with 17,600 alumni contributing $6.8 million to various areas of the University. Most of this will go into general revenues. However, $1.1 million represents money donors wanted directed to particular programs or departments, and 5.6% of this was given in support of the Library.

Special mention goes to the School of Library, Archival and Information Studies, which had the highest participation rate of any alumni group. Forty percent of all SLAIS graduates made donations, with all funds going to the School.

Computer Collection Moves to Main

Over the summer the computer science books and journals formerly housed in the Mathematics Library were transferred to the Main Stacks. The move will free up space in the badly overcrowded Math branch, bring virtually all of the Library's computer science materials together in one location, and meet demands for longer hours of access. Most of the books and bound journals will be found on stack level 4, shelved in QA 75 - 76.9. The current journals are housed with the Sci/Eng unbound journal collection on stack level 5.

Brighter Future for Main Library

By September, every light bulb and fluorescent tube in the Main Library will have been replaced with a new one, and many of the dusty fixtures washed. This should ensure that Plant Operations staff are not constantly in and out dealing with individual burnt-out lights. (Does it also mean that when the new lighting does inevitably fail, everything will crash at once? Stay tuned.)

Extramural Cards for Outside Students

Last fall the Library started a low-profile project to sell extramural cards to community college students and SFU undergraduates. After nearly a year, only 41 students had taken advantage of this offer, and there seem to have been few problems with the trial program.

Now that card renewal time has arrived, it's been decided to extend the program for another year. As before, the total number of cards available will be limited to 300. Libraries interested in where the students are from and what they're borrowing should contact Leonora Crema in Main Circulation.

Be Good To Graphics: Stay Away

Early fall is a desperately busy time for the Graphics Division, and this year staff absences have made the situation just that much worse. PLEASE help: NO impromptu visits, NO on-the-spot requests for graphics work! Necessary requests should be sent by mail or e-mail. Things should be a bit quieter by mid-September, we hope!

editor: elsie de bruijn (2-3393)
design: merry meredith