UBC LIBRARY

BULLETIN

No. 242 March 1996

Perfect Score for Libraries in T & L Funding Competition

Campus libraries are celebrating the outcome of this year's Teaching and Learning funding process. Like many other faculties and departments, we responded to the University's request for 1996/97 project proposals. Ultimately, 108 submissions were received from a long list of UBC areas involved in student instruction. Of these, the libraries were responsible for 17: 13 generated entirely by libraries, and four others in partnership with faculties.

The decision-making committee, chaired by Dr. Bill Webber, Associate Vice President Academic, consisted of two students and five University Teaching Prize winners. On March 1 the result came through: all 17 library-related projects were approved for funding. Our total one-year financing for staff and equipment will come to over $283,000. This compares impressively with the $105,000 received in 1994/95 for seven projects.

Congratulations to everyone who prepared submissions and gathered faculty and student letters of support. The results have been well worth it, on several counts. First, our evolution from collections-focussed to access/instruction-focussed activities has been both recognized and financially supported by the University. Second, virtually all areas of the library system took part in this year's T & L project submissions, and all succeeded in making their cases against stiff competition. (Could we teach a course in proposal writing?) Further, most T & L projects involve using student trainees to help with both program development and teaching — a good return from everyone's point of view. Finally, the new equipment and experience gained in 1996/97 will give us the groundwork for even wider-reaching library initiatives next year.

For a summary of the winning proposals, see pp. 8-9.

Parents Give $50,000 Toward Collections: Alumni Mailing Next

Thanks to parents of students in first through third years at UBC, the Library Endowment for Collections is richer by over $50,000, and potentially double that amount.

The University's Parent Appeal telephone staffers report that introduction of library support has been a "winner" option, and that one out of four parent donors in the spring '96 campaign wanted their contributions to go to library collections. As such donations are usually eligible for matching funding, this may mean an added $100,000 to shore up the 1996/97 collections budget.

The annual Alumni End of Year Mailing will also be asking for a gift to the Library. Those letters went out to 5,640 graduates on March 1, accompanied by the now-famous "Main Library With Cows" scene in the form of a bookplate. Donors who respond to the $250 request can literally write their own ticket. Their bookplate will go into a newly purchased item, and will carry their choice of personal message.

We'll keep you posted on the results of these campaigns. Meanwhile, please show visiting parents, alumni and other supporters how much their help is appreciated.

Humanizing The Budget

Starting now, a new category will show up on branch/division budget requests. Providing they're under $200, "Staff Amenity" items such as group coffee makers, microwave ovens, and other enhancers of working life can be ordered on departmental funds along with office supplies. If staff want a shared stock of food and beverages to go with the equipment, it's suggested that they work out a schedule for contributions. Consult branch or division heads if you have creative ideas.

Woodcock Endowment Established

Dr. Woodcock, holding UBC medal

In memory of the late George Woodcock, an endowment fund has recently been set up. The money will cover library purchases of books and manuscripts in the areas most associated with Dr. Woodcock: Canadian literature and intellectual freedom.

Dr. Woodcock was the co-founder and longtime editor of *Canadian Literature*, and wrote or edited over 120 books on topics ranging from political science to poetry. The Koerner Library will feature a display cabinet designed by Arthur Erickson, housing items purchased in his name.

The Woodcock Canadian Literature and Intellectual Freedom Endowment is off to a good start, with $30,000 in initial donations which the University has agreed to match. The Library is also accepting contributions toward a lecture series covering the same general areas. University Librarian Ruth Patrick is our contact person for donations or enquiries.

Library Cancels Cancellations

In a surprise move, the Coordinator of Collections announced in mid-March that the Library would not be cancelling serial subscriptions in 1996/97.

Janice Kreider was pleased to call a halt, however temporary, to the UBC Library's 4-year march of serials cancellations, totaling over 5,000 titles thus far.

Why no cancellations this year? There are three main reasons:

1) Buying Power of the Canadian Dollar
Our currency was unexpectedly strong during fall 1995, when the Library was paying most of its international serials invoices. Result: our "market basket" of serials cost less than originally predicted. We will be underspending the fiscal 1995/96 collections budget as a result. We are allowed to carry the surplus over to fiscal 1996/97, helping to cover any increased collections costs in that year.

2) Higher Formula Increase
The University increases our collections budget according to a formula based on the previous year's inflation and foreign exchange rates. The increase for 1996/97 is projected to generate $200,000 more than it did last year. This is due both to a stepped-up inflation rate and to an increase in the base to which the inflation formula is applied. (We now include the $700,000 for Netinfo in the basic collections budget.)

3) Stabilization Fund
Serial prices continue to increase, and our decision not to undertake major cancellations for the 1997 subscription year means that by the end of the 1996/97 fiscal year we could find we've overspent our budget. If so, the Library administration has authorized drawing on the Stabilization Fund. This reserve account was established in the 1980's when the Canadian dollar was strong and the Library's collection budget was underspent. It currently has a balance of $465,000.

This does not mean that absolutely no titles will be cancelled this year. Most library units are still deciding whether they wish to order new titles for 1997. If they do, they will need to cancel some titles now to cover the value of the new ones.

Another activity going on around the library system is a thorough review of the serials collections. These reviews will provide data and rankings which will assist with the next cancellation round.

Although we've managed a one-year postponement, serials prices continue to rise, so collections cuts are very likely to restart next year.

External Review Report: Followup Actions

Late last year the External Review Committee on the UBC Library released its final report. As most staff will remember, this document made 71 recommendations for actions on the part of either the Library or the University.

In the wake of the report, a wide-ranging process of consultation began around the library system. Here are some highlights:

1) All branches and divisions should now have copies of the February 14 document titled *Draft #6: The Library's Response to the Recommendations of the Committee to Review the University of British Columbia Library*. As the *Bulletin* went to press, all staff were being asked to review this, then to return ballots listing the five recommendations which they felt should be the Library's top priorities. We'll report results in the April issue.

2) Numerous public meetings have been held with the Library administration and/or Maria Klawe, V-P for Student and Academic Services. Most focussed on staff responses to issues raised by the external review report, such as morale, communication, budgeting, restructuring, and decision-making.

3) One result of this process has been the creation of an online Library Admin. Decision Log. Accessible through a new UBCLIB bulletin board, ADMIN, it lists all decisions made at the weekly library administrative meetings.

4) Library committees have also been asked to publish advance agendas of meetings online, so that nonmembers have more opportunity for input.

5) An action plan has been drawn up in response to the Review Committee's recommendation "that a Master [Space] Plan for the Library be completed on a priority basis". Most library managers now have copies of the March 8 memorandum. It sets out terms of reference for a 13-member campus-wide committee co-chaired by Ruth Patrick and UBC's Manager of Space Administration and Development, Kathleen Beaumont. The group is asked to submit a preliminary report to the President's Advisory Committee on Space Allocation in April, and a final report no later than September. Both documents will address short-, mid- and long-range needs for space to house collections, staff and support services. The final report will include a strategic plan and schedule for phased reorganization of present and future space.

   Library members of the Committee are Suzanne Dodson (Facilities and Preservation), Chris Hives (Archives) and Heather Keate (Associate University Librarian for Public Services).

Pegasus Permanent

It's official, at last: after almost a year as a temporary test program, Project Pegasus is here to stay.

This popular online service allows faculty, graduate students and research staff to place their own ILL requests directly with CISTI, Canada's national science library. Documents can be picked up at any of six locations, usually within two to three working days. Other than surcharges for special types of requests, the service is free to users. As special training is required, patrons who qualify for Project Pegasus should contact their nearest UBC science or life science library.

Library Gets Its Own "Your UBC" Forum

As part of Dr. Klawe's series of open forums for students on topics of interest or concern, a two-hour lunchtime session was held in the SUB Auditorium February 27 on the Library, study space, and any related matters students wanted to raise.

In spite of heavy advertising and free pizza, the turnout was not what we had hoped. Or, perhaps the way to look at it is that out of over 20,000 daytime students who could have attended, well under 1% felt they had issues that needed airing.

Some general themes were:

- Social and eating space is valued in or near study areas. There was unhappiness that the popular Sedgewick "meeting and eating" area will be lost as part of the Koerner restructuring. Suggestions were made for similar space elsewhere.
- Soundproofed group study space and improved computing facilities would be welcomed in almost any campus library.
- The other two areas most needing improvement across the system are evening/weekend service hours and lighting/ventilation.
- Students are beginning to comment on the apparent lack of up-to-date monographs (although this may have more to do with what's left on the shelves after the rest have been signed out), and on the need to protect the collections from theft and mutilation.
- Most reference services — particularly in the Education Library — got a strongly positive response. Students wanted more "how to" workshops on library research resources, and the only complaint about reference staff was that they seemed overworked and spread too thin.

Space doesn't permit a complete rundown on the dozen or so questions that were raised and discussed, or the equal number of written comments received after the forum. However, you'll find all these on the back page of the Friday, March 15 *Ubyssey*. Copies of the full-page text are also available from Elsie de Bruijn in Woodward (2-3393).

Library and Alumni Association Sign Agreement

The Library has signed a two-year agreement with the UBC Alumni Association, with provision for review after the first six months. One of the major features is that alumni who present an Alumni Benefits Card (available from the Association) are entitled to an extramural library card at a discount of 20%. The Library retains the right to adjust the card fee and privileges from time to time as necessary.

In return, the Library receives free of charge the one-quarter page advertising space in the *Alumni Chronicle* which it formerly paid for, and will have access to editorial support and joint mailings on a case-by-case basis.

A copy of the one-page agreement is available from the Librarian's Office.

Countdown to Koerner: III

The first move into the new "tower" section of the Koerner Library is scheduled to take place during the week of May 13 - 18. During this week the people currently working in Sedgewick will move up to Level 300 of Koerner, while the Library Administration will move to Level 700. The Sedgewick stack collections will be transferred to Levels 400 - 600.We are currently working on a plan for the move. Although it's relatively small-scale compared to what we'll be tackling in December 1996 and January 1997, it will be quite complicated enough for a first round.

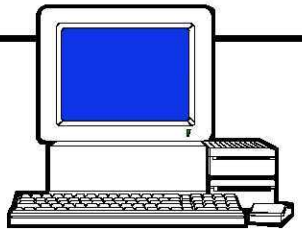
Some things may go back over to the Main Library — parts of the Wilson Recordings Collection, for example. A relatively minor collection switch from Main to Koerner will take place after the May move. And although most of the furniture in Koerner will be new, some will come from Sedgewick, while furniture now in Sedgewick will largely be cleared out. It will go either to offices elsewhere in the library system or to the Surplus Equipment Recycling Facility. The domino effect doesn't stop there, since presumably someone receiving furniture from Sedgewick will need to dispose of whatever it replaces.

Suzanne Dodson and Kerry Hutcheon have been working on the plan for the May move. Most staff who are involved will already have talked with Kerry as she checks and rechecks furniture to ensure that everything is accounted for. Before the move everyone will be supplied with cartons for contents of desks and bookcases. Packing and unpacking these personal items should be all the moving that library people will need to do. Everything else will be handled by professional movers. It is extremely important, however, to make sure that all furniture and equipment is marked with the location it's destined for, so everyone's cooperation is appreciated during these final weeks of preparation. Call Suzanne and Kerry at 2-3858 if you have questions or concerns.

Moving speedily out of Sedgewick in May is especially important, as any delay also stalls the start of the 7-month renovation phase coming up. The big move in December/January can be taken at a more leisurely pace, since the building will be finished and we aren't holding anyone else up. Nevertheless, we will be paying movers then too, and the longer everything takes the more it will cost. Conversely, the smaller our budget the faster we will need to go.

One reward for those moving to Koerner will be the chance to drink in the view from the rooftop staff room and deck. If you haven't taken a building tour yet, check out the colour photos Pete Edgar has thoughtfully added to the Library's Web home page. We're happy to say that the originals went to Judy Atkinson in Lion's Gate Hospital the same day.

SYSTEMS UPDATE



New System: Now it Can Be Told

We can now officially announce that UBC has signed a Letter of Intent with DRA, and expects to complete contract negotiations in the near future. These discussions are proceeding slowly because there is considerable detail needing to be reviewed. March is also an extremely busy time for one of the primary participants, the UBC Purchasing Department, due to the rush at the end of the fiscal year. Nonetheless, we have already had several very productive conference calls and other communications with DRA.

In the meantime, several other implementation activities are under way. The organizational structure for what will be called the DRA Implementation Project must be established. It will be necessary to create a number of special working groups and also identify links with existing committees and work units which will be involved in implementation. An overview of the project organization will be ready for distribution within a few weeks. The Systems Division has also started systems analysis and programming work to address major areas such as LDMS/MTSL migration, item and bibliographic record matching, and systems operations.

Goodies Galore! More New Equipment

Systems has just placed an order for an additional 80 PC workstations. Many of these will address Priority 1 and 2 equipment needs identified in the Budget Request Lists recently submitted by branches and divisions. A significant proportion of the new equipment is also reserved for installation in Koerner prior to the May 13 move.

These new workstations represent another upgrade in our basic workstation specification. Formerly we bought 486's; from now on standard workstations will have a Pentium CPU.

The first self-serve checkout unit installed in Sedgewick has passed its "pilot" phase with flying colours. In mid-February an order was placed for another five units which will be installed in Koerner, Main, Education and Woodward.

Ten new fax machines were also ordered in late February to provide better support for document request and delivery activities throughout the Library. This was one instance where our timing was 100% accurate. No sooner had the order been placed when the main fax machine in Woodward suffered a major breakdown. The vendor had the first of the new machines rushed in and installed before noon the next day.

Since then, new fax machines have also been installed in the three hospital branch libraries. Yet to come are new or upgraded machines for Main Circulation, ILL, Sedgewick/Koerner, Law, David Lam, Education, and Macmillan. These should be in within the next month.

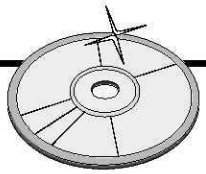
OVID Web Interface Beta Test

In response to a call for volunteers, the UBC Library is participating in the beta testing of OVID's just-released Web interface during March. OVID has provided the Library with the necessary software at no charge during the test period. Staff in Woodward and some other library areas are trying out search requests using the new interface. Early reports indicate that it's considerably more functional than some of the other Web-based interfaces that we are currently using.

Updated Versions of ELN Databases

The most recent versions of the three ELN holdings databases – the Outlook catalogue and the specialized Serials and Media databases – have just been loaded. They're now available for searching on UBCLIB.

MORE SYSTEMS UPDATE



Technology Tran$fer

$359,541 has been officially reallocated from the Library's salaries budget to technology infrastructure. The background document, *Potential Salary Savings/Funding Required for New System, etc.*, will be distributed to all staff.

StatsCan Data "Liberated"

The Data Library has joined a five-year Canadian pilot project known as the "Data Liberation Initiative": DLI for short. Instead of buying expensive online data files from Statistics Canada at an average price of over $1,000 per file, participating institutions will be able to acquire files for a set annual fee. The Data Library's membership will cost $12,000 a year.

During the first year of the pilot, members will be able to choose from files dated 1990 and later. Older files will gradually be added in coming years.

Netinfo Contract Extended

The Library and University Computing Services have reached an agreement on a new three-year contract under which the Library will continue to fund student Internet access via Netinfo.

Should future service changes be necessary for financial reasons, the contract sets out a mechanism for negotiating these.

Some areas of concern during the new 1996-1999 contract period will be ways of expanding Netinfo options (e.g. access to SLIP/PPP) and responding to some recommendations on Netinfo services made in the *Report of the Committee to Review the Library*.

Lexis/Nexis: Sorry, No Extramural Dial-In Access

The *Lexis/Nexis* system, giving access to over 5,600 databases, is proving to be an extremely popular addition to UBCLIB. Although the system can be a bit overwhelming, not to say intimidating, for the first-time user, it provides a rich and extensive information resource with a great deal of fulltext.

It is also the first UBCLIB-based service where, in addition to our standard access restrictions, extramural cardholders are blocked from dial-in use. Extramural card privileges and policies, especially for remote access to online services, have not kept up with the growth of network-based services and the use licences that often accompany them. This is an area that requires more review, and it is likely that similar blocks will be necessary on other services and databases.

Details on 1996/97 Teaching and Learning Projects

Nearly all of the 17 successful Library proposals covered on page 1 involved improving access to online resources of one type or another.

With apologies to Sheryl Adam and Howard Hurt, whose Disability Awareness and Spoken English projects don't quite fit in this category, here are some further notes on who will be getting funding and what they'll be doing with it.

1) **WWW access to Canadian social science data**
Mounts selected data files on the Web with easy-to-use interface developed by Data Library

Data: Hilde Colenbrander $8,000

2) **First Nations House of Learning: electronic research skills**
Provides training in both location of online information on First Nations topics and use of online resources for First Nations students at UBC.

FNHL: Gene Joseph $8,750+

3) **Disability awareness and library services: training student assistants**
Extends existing staff training to 200 student assistants.

Sedgewick: Sheryl Adam $9,450+

4) **Intellectual property skills and resources**
Assists science students to search patent literature and develop awareness of intellectual property as an aspect of research.

PATSCAN: Ron Simmer $10,650+

5) **Spoken English pilot project**
Addresses language needs of over 1,000 international students via print/audio resources and tutorials.

Education, Sedgewick: Howard Hurt, Sheryl Adam $13,280

6) **Libraries into the classrooms**
Brings "how-to" library skills training into lecture halls via laptop, CD-ROM and LCD monitor.

Woodward: Kathryn Hornby $16,700

7) **Historical photograph imaging project**
Mounts about 9,000 unique B.C. photographs on the WWW, opening up access and creative possibilities for students and scholars.

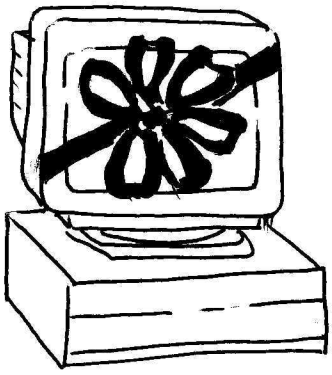
Special Collections: Chris Hives

8) **Self-directed information retrieval and literacy for chemical information**
Long-awaited access to *Chem. Abstracts* on CD-ROM, fully subsidized and with training.

Sci. & Eng.: Bonita Stableford $17,560

9) **Developing electronic text resources and skills for English**
Helps bridge the gap for faculty and students between print-oriented and e-text-oriented learning and research.

HSSD: Joe Jones $19,800



10) **Delivering library instruction via the WWW**
An interactive, self-paced approach aimed at undergraduates, and building on the paper-based Library Skills Lab.

Sedgewick: Larry Campbell $29,500+

11) **Skills development for electronic geographic information**
Mounts widely-needed but complex database giving instruction in retrieving and tailoring geographic sources for varied UBC clients.

Gov. Pubs., FAD, Sci & Eng.:
Mary Luebbe, Peggy McBride, Bonita Stableford $31,442

12) **New window on Library microforms**
Enhances student awareness of microform resources; improves retrieval/reproduction technology.

Gov. Pubs./Microforms:
Patrick Willoughby, Jocelyn Godolphin $31,460

13) **Research skills and information technology**
Provides more than 1,700 hours of academic assistant time to support the Library's system-wide program of tutorials, workshops and individual assistance in helping students learn information retrieval skills.

Sedgewick: Julie Stevens $34,000+

GRANTS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FACULTIES

1) **Graduate thesis advisory service: continuation**
Assists graduate students to identify, assess, retrieve and manage research-related data via electronic sources. Continues 1995/96 project.

Sci. & Eng., Fine Arts:
Bonita Stableford, Peggy McBride $7,800

2) **Two multimedia workstations**
Matches 1995/96 SLAIS/HSSD project. Each location gets new workstation, subject-oriented programming, and student hours.

Sci. & Eng., SLAIS: Bonita Stableford, Peter Simmons $10,000

3) **Instruction and assistance in computer-based research using *Lexis-Nexis***
Optimizes access to *L/N*'s 5,620 databases via 3 new dedicated workstations, tutorials, and subject-oriented instruction guides.

Lam, Law: Elizabeth Caskey, Allen Soroka $18,500

In addition, a three-year T & L project running from 1996 to 1999 has been approved for over $44,000 in funding. It will create a central online clearinghouse for multidisciplinary Asian texts, and will involve close cooperatiion between the Department of Asian Studies, related UBC departments, and the Asian Library.

Congratulations, everybody, on an outstandingly productive effort!

STAFF NEWS

Welcome

Anita Drewa, LA1, Education
Lisa Harries, Clerk2, Woodward

Extension of Appointment

Norman Amor, CIP/Preservation Microfilming, until May 31, 1996
Margaret Fukuyama, CIP, until May 31, 1996
Kathy Hornby, Woodward, until June 30, 1996
Kerry Hutcheon, Admin., until September 30, 1996
Sara Sleigh, Circulation, until May 31, 1996

Goodbye

Lara Byrne, LA1, Education
Marie Villanueva, Clerk2, Woodward

Kudos To: **Ruth Patrick** and **Chris Hives**, new members of the equally new University Records Disposition Committee ...
Margaret Friesen, the guest of honour at a combination Valentine's and "thank you" party in recognition of her 18 years of service as manager of NET and the Media Exchange Cooperative ...
and **Josie Lazar**, **Sara McGillivray**, **Merry Meredith** and **Gisela Mallue** for their help in putting the Feb. 14 event together.

A bloomin' good party

Upcoming Conferences

- **BCLA**, Whistler, April 25 - 27. Theme: "Ensuring Our Future: Libraries Working Together". Contact Margaret Friesen for a programme.
- **American Society for Information Science**, San Diego, May 18 - 22. Theme: "The Digital Revolution: Assessing the Impact on Business, Education and Social structures". Programme information available on the Web at <http://www.asis.org> (follow links to Meetings) or by e-mail at <asis@cni.org>.

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