

library newsletter

September

BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

1983

1983-84 is upon us

As we begin the new academic year there are a number of reasons to look upon the forthcoming year with optimism. Not the least of these reasons is that the materials budget will be substantially greater this year than last year, providing the Library with an opportunity to play "catch-up" albeit in a modest way. This issue of the Library Newsletter will report on the budget and other advances that should make 1983-84 an exciting year.

Changes in staff

During the summer the Library lost two key persons when Lois Bair of Circulation transferred to the School of Vocational-Technical Education and Koa Bostwick of the Monographs Department resigned to return to school. Lois' replacement is Kim Pierce, who came to the Library from the Business Office. Kim has lived in Boise since she was four years old. She graduated from Borah High School and attended BSU during 1979 and 1980. Kim worked for the Personnel Commission for two years before transferring to BSU.

Koa's replacement needs no introduction since Patti McDaid is well known to each and every one of us, especially on paydays. Patti's transfer opened up her position which was filled by Mary Besse. Mary hails from the mid-West where she attended Grace-land College and Ohio University. She and her husband recently returned to Boise from Missoula, where John attended the University of Montana. Mary worked for the Ada County Transcripts Department before moving to Montana and after returning to Boise.

There is a new librarian by the name of Terry Madden. A brief self-portrait follows:

I would like to introduce myself to the staff. My name is Terry Madden. Until I moved to Boise to become a member of the BSU Library staff I was a web-footed Oregonian and lived in Portland. My BA in History was awarded by the University of Portland in 1977. Three years of clerical work in the public library system in Portland gave me the financing to enter the University of Washington. I was in the second class to graduate from their new two year graduate program in librarianship. This will be my first position as a professional librarian.

My hobbies include walking, swimming, knitting, collecting books by my favorite authors, and attending Science Fiction conventions and symposia. I am looking forward to exploring Boise, getting to know my colleagues and practicing my profession.

Terry Madden

Terry's duties will include selecting materials for the pamphlet file; providing back-up computer searching; and naturally, providing reference service. We feel fortunate in having someone with a library background as versatile as Terry's and are looking forward to having her as one of the staff. She'll be working 3/4 time and the precise schedule is apt to vary from day to day -- we'll all try to keep track.

Andy Ribner has relinquished his half-time duties in Reference but will continue to work half-time in the Catalog Department.

As this Newsletter was in production, word was received of the resignation of Katherine Fennell of the Monographs Department. Kathy has been accepted in the BSU Nursing program and will be attending school full-time this year. Best of luck Kathy!

With little delay her position was filled by Mary Oneida, who recently moved to Boise from Pocatello. Mary worked in the ISU Library Acquisitions Department for five years and brings to her position a wealth of experience in all aspects of monograph acquisitions. Prior to going to ISU she worked as a library clerk in the Alameda Junior High School in Pocatello.

Yet another late notice is the filling of the new Library Assistant half-time position in the Monographs Department. Nancy Rosenheim, a half-time Library Assistant in CRC has accepted this post. She will continue to work half-time in CRC, thus becoming a full-time employee.

Congratulations & welcome to all!

Student employees budget

The office of Career and Financial Services increased the Library's allocation for work/study employees by \$5,000 for 1983-84. While the various departments requested increases in their budgets that could not be met, it is reassuring to have \$113,000 to allocate to hiring student workers. Think of how your department would function should we not have students available to perform routine but essential tasks.

1982-83, a mostly down year

Statistically speaking 1982-83 witnessed a decrease in the activities of both public services and technical services. While the sharply cut materials budget precluded a decline in the acquisition and cataloging activity the decreases in public services functions was an unexplainable surprise. Circulation in the broad sense, that is at all circulation points was down 2.6%. The Circulation Department experienced a 6% decline in regular circulations and a 3% decline in reserve use. The only areas where circulation is a major function that showed an increase was CRC (+ 1%) and Maps (+1%). Because of heavy faculty use of the CRC collections and the Map Collection, overall faculty circulation was up 8%.

Use of the Library as demonstrated by exit counts and in-house use reveal a somewhat different pattern. Reshelving of materials was down 1.76% but Circulations reshelving was up 10.4% and Reference reshelving was up 28%. Maps

and Documents also experienced double digit increases. CRC and Archives had double digit decreases but the real impact was in Periodicals where the decline was 11% and in Microforms, where the decline in use was 20%. One might easily speculate on the causes of the decline in the use of periodicals and microforms but one year does not a pattern make.

Exit counts at the Circulation Desk was up a modest .04% from 488,230 to 490,252. However, the exit count on the second floor was up 26%, from 66,319 to 90,161. The Summer School exit count at Circulation was down 10.5% confirming the impression that the decrease in summer offerings has effected traffic in the Library.

Interlibrary Loan continued its spectacular growth with an 11.8% increase in 1982-83 on top of a 7.3% increase the year before. Since requests generated by BSU students and faculty are down the statistical gain was generated by requests from other libraries for BSU materials. In 1982-83 BSU loaned 20% more items to borrowing institutions than in the previous year.

With the acquisition budget taking the burden of last years cut there is little wonder to the fact that order requests processed were down 20%; items ordered down 8%; and receipts of monographs down 28%. One spectacular gain was the 122% increase in items received as gifts of all kinds. This figure is tempered however, when noting that only 5% of gift monographs were selected for addition to the collection. Monographs added to the collection by the Catalog Department declined by 31%. That fact and the withdrawal of 5820 volumes accounts for the modest 1.6% net growth in the monographs collection this past year.

In addition to withdrawing large numbers of books, Monographs and Cataloging kept busy adding 12,960 Wylbur records to WLN. The BSU Library now has 86.5% of its holdings in WLN.

Another area hit hard by a shortage of funds was serials. Last year 15 new periodical titles were added and 159 were cancelled. Comparable figures for Standing Orders show 21 added and 137 withdrawn.

How about 1983-84? An increased materials budget will greatly reverse last year's downward trend in collection growth. Whether library users will return to pre-82-83 levels remains to be seen.

CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT

Thanks to the efforts of a number of library people the stacks are in better condition this fall than they have been in a number of years. Especially to be commended are student workers Shawn Burson, Paula Poulson, Tamie Schell and Penny Hardman who diligently worked at shelf-reading on the 3rd and 4th floors.

For those of you who missed the announcement about the PNLA Conference at Sun Valley you might be interested in learning that Janet Strong was responsible for setting up and managing a pre-conference session called "The One Hour Stand." This workshop dealt with bibliographic instruction and was presented by the three authors of Library Learning. Our spies report that it was a profitable session well received by attendees. Janet was successful in obtaining a grant to offset the expenses of the speakers.

Janet came away from Sun Valley as Chair of the Circulation Division. Congratulations to Janet on a successful convention.

PNLA Annual Conference

Sun Valley attracted a number of BSU librarians in addition to Janet. Perhaps Adrien, Tim, Ann or Dave Crane will share their experiences with us in the next newsletter.

Summer desk duty

In April 1982, after numerous experiences with deviant behavior in the Library by mostly non-students it was deemed desirable to have a librarian or staff member on duty during summer evening hours - 5:00-7:00 p.m. The idea was to provide a mature person to aid the two students who worked at the Circulation Desk. It was not intended that this person give reference service. The so-called information desk was placed in the hall in front of the Reference Room where visibility would give those intent on disruptive behavior pause for thought. Periodic tours of the building were designed to reinforce the desired security concept.

During the past two summers no security type problems were encountered by the night supervisors. However, since this person represented the only "authority" on duty there were a few problems in being asked to provide reference type service for which some non-reference staff were not trained. Student workers at the Circulation Desk also complained that at times they were pushed by phone-in users who insisted on being helped even though the students pointed out that they were untrained and unqualified to give reference type assistance. Obviously we need to rethink our summer evening services and especially how to cope with the infrequent user who needs help and cannot obtain it after 5:00 p.m. Thanks to the many who responded to the survey on your experiences during evening duty. We have sufficient information to guide us in improving our summer evening services in 1984.

1983 edition of the COM Catalog

The 1983-84 base COM CAT was run on August 21, and should be delivered and ready for use by the first part of September. The new COM CAT will have 170,920 entries on 156 fiche in the compact format. (The compact format means that you will be able to "see" 3 columns at a time and entries will be separated by only one blank line). Approximately 86.5% of our book collection is now in COM.

Members of the Technical Services staff have been working since February to verify the COM entries. This procedure involves checking each title in the COM against the shelflist for accuracy, and correcting errors. The project began with LC class A, and has progressed to the HJs. We have discovered an error rate of slightly less than 3% to date.

We still have approximately 26,000 titles for which we have not been able to find cataloging in the database. These "misses" are currently being evaluated by librarians and some of these titles are being weeded from the collection.

BUDGET

The Library has been allocated \$498,000 for monographs and serials for the 1983-84 fiscal year. The funds include a special increase of \$100,000 which may hopefully become whole or in part a part of the Library's base budget. There are already many demands on the funds. The library needs to acquire the many monograph titles that we were unable to purchase last year; we also plan a major binding effort and to buy micro backfiles for many of our journal titles. The Acquisitions Council will be reviewing all of the Standing Order requests that have been on hold for the last two years. The money will go fast.

PNLA

Bibliographic Standards Committee Meeting

The major topic of discussion was the Carrolton Press REMARC contract, and the problems encountered thus far. Although Carrolton expects to have all pre-MARC English language records input by the end of 1983, it was discovered that 40% have "format recognition" errors, and, therefore, will not generate matches against a library's recon file. Carrolton is working to eliminate the errors, but in the meantime, WLN is not allowing additional libraries to contract for REMARC.

On a brighter note, Vancouver (Canada) Public Library has become a WLN participant and will be adding a large number of records to the data base.

WLN Participants Meeting

WLN is in good shape financially and will add 14 more positions next year to the present staff of 35.

The network has purchased its own Amdahl V-6 mainframe computer, and all operations will be switched to the new system by October 1st.

The data base presently has 2,738,000 bibliographic records, and 3,500,000 authority records.

23 new participants were added last year to bring the total to 160.

I-MAIL, an interim version of the new inter-library loan subsystem, is now operational, and training will begin shortly.

The new IBM terminals to replace the Hazentynes will be available with the specialized WLN keyboard in January. The IBM's can be operated either as a normal WLN terminal, or as a stand alone microcomputer for local library operations. Dave Andresen, former Acquisitions Librarian at BSU, is now with WLN and will be the contact person for the IBM terminals and microcomputer services.

GPO FICHE

Since the U.S. Depository Library Council recommended that some selected items be sent in Microfiche, provided the depository chose that form, there has been a noticable increase in the number of classes of government documents sent in microform. The diazo film sent for FY 1981 consisted of 46% of all items distributed to depositories. For FY 1982 66% of the pieces distributed were on fiche. GPO states that about 1 million dollars saving was realized by using fiche.

The BSU Library Depository first counted fiche and paper separately in January 1982 when it received 693 paper pieces and 940 microfiche pieces. During July 1983, 709 paper pieces and 2672 fiche pieces were received.

Many items, if printed in short quantity, are distributed in microfiche to make up the shortage. Sometimes reference books are distributed in microfiche because of a shortage of paper copies. Some classes are available in microfiche only but many classes of documents are available in either paper or fiche.

It is expected that this trend will continue unless users pressure the Depository Library Council to create a list of documents which are exempt from microfiche distribution.

GOSSETT LIBRARY GIFT

Mrs. Elsie Gossett has presented Boise State University with approximately 2700 volumes from the library of her late husband, Judge James P. Gossett of Gooding, Idaho. The Gossett collection is an exceptional gift, both in terms of the depth and breadth of subject coverage and in the fact that nearly 40% of its titles are not duplicated in the BSU Library's current holdings.

The Gossett library is particularly rich in U.S. history and political science, world literature, South American Indians, China, Tibet and Russia. The history portion has strength in works on the Civil War, military history and the American West, including Indians and Indian wars.

Judge Gossett had wide ranging interests and supported these interests by acquiring materials on any subject in which he wanted to expand his knowledge. Thus the collection contains an array of books on many scientific subjects, archaeology, travel and exploration.

James P. Gossett was a native of South Carolina and came to Jerome, Idaho in 1945 to practice law. In 1949 he was appointed Probate Judge of Gooding County, an office he held until retirement. Judge Gossett attended Yale University and prior to World War II he worked in various textile mills in the Southeast. During the war he was an air gunnery instructor.

Judge Gossett was an active citizen. For twenty-three years he wrote a weekly newspaper column. He was very active in legal societies and took particular interest in juvenile offenders. He also served on many civic and fraternal groups and in the Republican Party. Judge Gossett died in 1974.

The BSU Library has as yet only given the Gossett collection a preliminary checking. Once an evaluation of the collection has been completed, staff will begin the lengthy process of adding several hundred new titles and select duplicates to the Library's holdings. BSU will offer any volumes not needed for its own collections to the College of Southern Idaho and other institutions.

Progress on transferring the linedex

Basic comparison of the linedex holdings and the kardex records has been completed through the "SN" portion of the alphabet. The work on title changes is largely complete through the "I" section. Janet Strong has been tracing problem titles which do not have records in WLN.

A rough draft of the print-out has been produced. A copy of the first page is appended for your examination. Liz Cardinale will be comparing the holdings recorded on this print-out with the physical volumes on the shelf noting discrepancies. Therefore, if you wish to see more of the print-out than one page you will have to contact Liz. Please remember that this is a "dirty" copy and we expect to continue making corrections and improvements as time allows.

Progress on transferring the linedex to the IBM has been brought to a temporary halt. Hampering continued progress was the processing of over 1000 items for binding, thanks to a substantial increase in the binding budget and personnel changes. A large number of microfilm orders have also delayed work on the project. WE HOPE TO BEGIN INPUT AGAIN SHORTLY.

Staff using the refrigerator in the Staff Lounge are reminded to close the door tightly after use.

In all things I have sought peace, and
nowhere have I found it except in a
corner with a book.

Thomas à Kempis

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A.A.A.S. SCIENCE BOOKS AND FILMS
BSU owns v.9-10

May 1973-Apr 1975

For fuller information see SCIENCE BOOKS AND FILMS

A.A.E.S.P.H. REVIEW
BSU owns

v.1#6-v.4

Aug 1976-Wtr 1979

For fuller information see JOURNAL OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE SEVERELY HANDICAPPED

A.A.P.G. BULLETIN
BSU owns

v.58-

1974-current

Formerly: BULLETIN OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PETROLEUM GEOLOGISTS

BSU owns

v.1-50

1917-1966

Continued by: AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PETROLEUM GEOLOGISTS BULLETIN

BSU owns

v.51-57

1967-1973

Continued by: A.A.P.G. BULLETIN

A.A.R.TIMES
BSU owns

#2-

Feb 1978-current

A.A.U.P. BULLETIN
BSU owns

v.42-64

Spr 1956-Dec 1978

Merged with ACADEME to form ACADEME

A.B.A. BANKING JOURNAL
BSU owns

v.71#4-

Apr 1979-current

Formerly: BANKING

BSU owns

v.55#8-v.71#3

Feb 1963-Mar 1979

Continued by: A.B.A. BANKING JOURNAL

A.B.C. POLITICAL SCIENCE
BSU owns

v.1#1-

1969-current

Ref. Dept.

v.1#1-

1969-current

A.B.C.A. BULLETIN
BSU owns

v.32-

1969-current

A.B.S. AMERICAN BEHAVIORAL SCIENTIST
BSU owns

v.10-

Sep 1966-current

Microfilm

v.10

Sep 1966-Jun 1967

Paper

v.11-

Sept 1967-current

Formerly: AMERICAN BEHAVIORAL SCIENTIST

BSU owns

v.1-9

Sept 1957-Jun 1966

Microfilm

v.1-9

Sept 1957-Jun 1966

A.C.M. COMPUTING SURVEYS
BSU owns

v.3#2-

Jun 1971-current