

1982/83 IN PROSPECT

The Library begins the academic year with a seriously hampered resource base. The Library's permanent staff retains its same numerical strength but there will be a second consecutive loss in the number of student assistants this year due to cutbacks in Federal funding. The operating expense budget is the same as last year; at first blush, one might conclude that we lost only the inflationary increase money. Would that such were the case! The Library is missing more than \$30,000 in contingency funds which were utilized last year for Washington Library Network expenses. Although system use, and therefore expenses will decrease because of cuts in materials funds, the operating expense budget is still in dreadful shape. During July the Library encumbered or expended 25% of the 1982/83 allocation, a \$7,000 bill for the microfiche catalog will come next month and higher prices will quickly deplete what little is left. It is imperative that all of us in the Library intensify attempts to make the most judicious **use of supplies, telephones and similar resources.** The equipment budget is again \$4200 but the Library has been instructed to spend only \$2100 through December.

The most dramatic loss has been in funds for books and serials. The materials budget has been reduced to \$347,200, reflecting a reduction of \$30,000 plus an additional loss of \$58,500 in inflation money. The net result is a drop of 22% in buying power. As part of the effort to cut costs the Library has cancelled 274 serial titles, eliminated the allocation for back set purchases and greatly reduced contingency funds. At this writing our projected serial expenses have been pared to \$223,000, nearly the identical fiscal commitment as last year, and the book budget has been cut by almost 40%--more with inflation taken into account.

A sobering fact of life for all of us is that we can not sit down and plan our year in terms of current budget amounts. We must speculate about what another mid-year reduction might be and prepare ourselves to cut back once again. Surely, this challenge is not of our choice; still it is the one we have.. Let us make the most of it and hope that in a year or so the nation, Idaho and BSU will get out of the mire we find ourselves in.

TAB

1514

Boredom is the keynote of poverty . . . for where there is no money there is no change of any kind, not of scene or of routine.

Moss Hart Act One (1959), pt. I

Certainly there are lots of things in life that money won't buy, but it's very funny-

Have you ever tried to buy them without money?

Ogden Nash.

Happy Days (1933). The Terrible People

BUDGET WOES - SERIALS

Stories about the University's budget crunch has focused on the loss of people and departments - and rightly so. Serious as these cuts are there is a parallel in the Library where the loss of the maintenance of current operation funds plus the holdback of \$50,000 severely impacted the Library's ability to meet the literature needs of the University community. The loss of funds was exacerbated by a staggering 22% increase in the serial invoice for 1982-83 received from our principal vendor, F. W. Faxon. There was no room to maneuver and a substantial cut in serials was undertaken. Time was of the essence since the Faxon invoice was due for payment by the end of August and in order to complete the necessary paperwork the recommended cuts had to be finalized by early August. With a great deal of effort by all concerned the unpleasant task was accomplished on time.

What this means to the University is the loss of 274 serial titles at a saving of almost \$20,000. Of the 274, 173 or 63% are periodicals. The remainder are standing orders, information services and microfilm copies of titles in lieu of binding. Since this is the second time in three years that the serial list has been pared these new cuts substantially impact the quality of the Library's collection. One final statistic and we will set aside this woeful tale. The cut of 274 serial titles represents 8.3% of current subscriptions. The 173 cut in periodicals represents 8.5% of the journals received by the Library. Should we compare current subscriptions with pre-1979 figures the decline is even grimmer. The prospects for a turnaround are bleak and prospects for holding on to what we still have are not good.

LIBRARY CALENDAR FALL SEMESTER

The following have been approved as additions/changes in the regular Library hours during the fall semester:

Regular hours in effect, Monday, August 30: 7:30 AM - 11 PM Monday - Thursday 7:30 AM - 5 PM Friday 9:00 AM - 5 PM Saturday 1:00 PM - 9 PM Sunday

Labor Day Weekend: Saturday Sept. 4, Open 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM (regular Saturday hours) Sunday & Monday Sept. 5 & 6 - CLOSED

Columbus Day Oct. 11 & Veteran's Day Nov. 11: Not University holidays; open regular hours

Thanksgiving Weekend:	Wednesday, November 24, 7:30 AM - 7:00 PM
	Thursday - Saturday, Nov. 25-27 - CLOSED
	Sunday, November 28 1:00 PM - 9:00 PM
	(regular Sunday hours)

Extended hours for end-of-semester study, 1st floor only OPEN: Fridays, Dec. 3 & 10 5:00 PM - 11:00 PM Sundays, Dec. 5 & 12 9:00 PM - 11:00 PM

LIBRARY CALENDAR FALL SEMESTER (Continued)

Last day of semester, Friday Dec. 17 close at 5:00 PM (usual Friday hours) Begin intersession schedule 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Closed weekends

Christmas & New Year's Weekends: CLOSED

Thursday - Friday, December 23-24 Thursday - Friday, December 30-31

HALP (glub, glub)

Library use did not abate during the first month of the new fiscal year, despite the cuts in summer hours. The Reference Department responded to 286 more questions in July '82 than in July '81, an increase of over 23%. At least part of the mid-summer bulge can be attributed to Basic Library Skills, which was offered during summer sessions for the first time this year; around 100 students signed up, necessitating the first class closure in the course's 9-year history. In addition, Boise Public Library extended its Monday closures to the summer months for the first time in '82, which also contributed to the increase in traffic at BSU.

Other areas reported similar increases. The demise of PNBC's interlibrary loan operations helped boost BSU's total ILL circulation a whopping 45% over that of last year. And on the second floor, the Curriculum Resource Center experienced an increase of 23% in total circulation after their hours were cut by 30%. Only general circulation figures seem to have lagged behind last year's.

All indications are that the BSU Library can expect record business in the coming year. With staffing strength well down over last year's, all library science classes except those taught by the Library cancelled, and all budgets taking record cuts (with more expected), this will be a challenging year for us all.

NEWS FROM THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Although the new members of the Committee were announced in the last issue of the Newsletter this information apparently did not reach all of the staff. Once more the Social Committee for 1982-83: Lois Bair, Betty Brown, Dave Crane, Kathy Fennell, Betty Metkin and Nancy Rosenheim.

In September the Committee will be collecting the \$3.00 contribution which provides it with the fiscal means to carry out its (our) programs. Be generous there is only \$12.01 in the kitty at present.

In recent months the Committee made special collections for the Clyde Martin Memorial Scholarship and to provide a gift for the Andy Ribner - Connie Schardt wedding.

NEWS FROM THE MONOGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

The Acquisitions In-Process Title List will now include call numbers for most of the items on order. These call numbers are imput at the time titles are ordered, so it will still be important for users to check the column at the far right to determine whether or not the requested title has been received by the Library. The In-Process Title List is currently received monthly and is available in Technical Services and in the Reference Department.

The monumental annual furniture and equipment inventory project is nearing completion. We would like to thank the staff members in the various departments who gave such able assistance.

Members of the Technical Services staff have spent the last month devoting every free minute to searching the data base in an attempt to get more of our holdings in WLN. As of August 12, 12,958 entries were searched with 2,975 "hits" (23% hit rate). The WYLBUR hits were run on August 18, and all will appear in our new base COM CAT which was produced August 26 -- available for public use in mid-September. The new base COM CAT will have approximately 158,000 entries.

An outgrowth of the Wylbur effort is an inventory project undertaken by the staff in Technical Services. The first classes to be inventoried are GV, L, N, Q, R, S, T. Some collection weeding will also be undertaken by Library Liaison personnel. Both these efforts will forestall adding materials to COM no longer in the collection (lost) or no longer required in the collection.

PARDON OUR DUST

If all goes according to plan remodeling on the first floor will be under-way as you read this Newsletter. The object of this remodeling effort is to provide more space for the Circulation Department, the Microform unit and the Reference Room. Here are most of the changes: Interlibrary Loan will move to a room to be constructed adjacent to the Visually Handicapped room. The VHR will become Beverly Miller's office. Reference will expand into the old ILL office. Janet Strong's office will be torn down and reconstructed in the workroom. The Circulation Desk will move out into the lobby and the Reserve Desk will be shifted to front on the hall. All this is designed to open up a woefully crowded work space and provide a larger desk area to help circulation/ reserve patrons. The wall between Microforms and Reserve will come down allowing for expansion of this area. Beverly Miller's old office will be combined with the cube presently designated as the Periodical/Microforms office and the fiche copier will be set up in this room. By and large work space and exit control for those departments effected should improve markedly. (The best laid plans.... Work will begin "soon").

RENEWALS

On August 23rd the Dean's Council approved a limitation of renewals on charged out books to two times. This means that the length of faculty loans can extend to three semesters while all other loans are limited to twelve weeks.

RIDDLE ME THIS

In the last issue we teased you with a medieval riddle. Now the answer. The description was of the manufacture of a manuscript book. The life ending was the death of a sheep or calf whose skin was formed into the writing surface (vellum). The bird's feather leaving black tracks was the pen and writing. Finally, the work was bound and adorned "with shining metal."

MARRIAGE, LIBRARY STYLE

From Malad City, Idaho comes a tale of love blossoming in the stacks: two Oneida County Library patrons who met in the library decided to get married there. It was a wedding of a school teacher (Lyn Goodenough) and a farmer (Edward Hofhine). The couple intends to remain frequent library users, and to bring along the bride's five children, reports Anna Green, administrator of the Gateway Regional Library System in Pocatello.

Library Journal/July 1982

Libraries will get you through times of no money better than money will get you through times of no libraries.

p. 331 Next Whole Earth Catalog.

Contributors to this issue: Tim Brown, Kathy Fennell, Ralph Hansen Beverly Miller, Gloria Ostrander