

# library newsletter

June

BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

1984

## "A LIBRARIAN'S LIFE"

A librarian's life is the life for me  
 For there's nothing at all to do, you see,  
 But to sit at a desk and read new books,  
 And admire yourself, and think of your looks.  
 To questioning souls one can tartly say:  
 "I can't be bothered with you to-day,  
 For I haven't finished this novel. See?"  
 A librarian's life is the life for me.

From William Fitch  
 Smyth, Little Lyrics  
For Librarians  
 Cleveland, The Bazoo  
 Publishing Co., 1910

After a long session at the Reference Desk, a battle weary Beverly Miller composed the following. Shall we say that this is another view of "A Librarian's Life?"

### INITIAL DEFINITIONS:

- University Librarian: One who keeps TABS on things.
- Head of Reference: man who's APT at answers.
- Monographs: Department where all systems are GO.
- Government Publications: Home of federal & state DHocuments.
- Sign on Reference Room door: Please Do Not Disturb --  
I AM Doing Computer Searches.
- Head of Cataloging: One who doesn't use Dewey DCimals.
- RH Negative: Something not done when the Associate Librarian is watching.
- Interlibrary Loan error: BAMboo-boo.
- Art Liaison Librarian: She's gonna getTM started selecting books.
- New computerized Statesman Index: already earning KUDos.
- Music scores: ARE receiving special handling.
- Both phones ringing in administrative offices: SBling rivals.
- Instant acquisitions: orders processed MOMentarily.
- Maps Department: Where heLP is always available.

BSU Library Government Document Department  
Energy Collection

A small collection of U.S. Government publications on energy was received as a gift in 1980. Subsequently, energy publications have been made available through the federal depository system. BSU Library has collected energy research during the past 4 years. Recently, more contract reports were made available through the federal depository system.

The basic collection emphasizes solar, wind and geothermal energy (paper). Two categories under which most documents are received are, Contractor Research and Development Reports (E 1.28) and Contractor Reports and Publications (E 1.99). Categories are the same for both series (ie): Coal and Coal Products (Mf), Petroleum (Mf), Natural Gas (Mf), Oil Shales and Tar Sands (Mf), Hydro Energy (Mf), Solar Energy (Mf), Geothermal Energy (Mf), Nuclear Power Plants (Mf), Nuclear Reactor Technology (Mf), Energy Storage (Mf), Energy Planning and Policy (Mf), Energy Conservation, Consumption, and Utilization (Mf), Health and Safety (Mf), and Geosciences (Mf).

The collection contains about 5000 paper and microfiche titles. A majority of the titles are microfiche.

Energy reports are organized in the Superintendent of Documents scheme by category (ie): E 1.28: or E 1.99: and the energy document report number. An example is E 1.28: SERI/SP-722-1127. The number after the colon is the report number - SERI is Solar Energy Research Institute or the corporate author. The remainder is a unique document number.

Access to energy information, especially DOE reports is obtained through Energy Research Abstracts, Government Reports Announcements and Index, and Energy Abstracts for Policy Analysis.

Energy Research Abstracts (BSU holds vol. 1-1976-E 1.17:) provides abstracting and indexing coverage of all scientific and technical reports including DOE laboratories, energy centers, and contractors.

ERA indexes by corporate author, personal author, subject, contract numbers, and report numbers. Subjects contain 42 major categories and many sub-categories. Abstracts are 150-200 words.

Energy Abstracts for Policy Analysis (BSU holds vol. 7- 1981-Documents Dept. E 1.11) EAPA embraces all phases of energy but is limited to non-technical articles and reports. Many of the DOE publications do not qualify to be abstracted and indexed in EAPA because of their technical research content.

Government Reports Announcements and Index (BSU library holds vol. 41- 1966-Documents Dept. C 51.9/3) is published by the National Technical Information Service which collects, organizes, and dispenses current U.S. and foreign research reports. Energy is one of twenty-two subject categories used to organize reports.

Energy Research Abstracts is the best index of the three to gain access to DOE publications.

The energy collection is open to use by all patrons. The energy division of the Department of Water Resources has been made aware of this collection as well as campus departments through Documents on Review.

## Frank Church Papers Come to Boise State

When the late Senator Frank Church decided to transfer his senatorial papers from Stanford University to Boise State University, a considerable number of wheels were placed in motion. First, informal contact was made with Stanford to determine their receptivity to the switch (they were). Then, and this was a major problem, space to house the Collection had to be found. Eventually, temporary housing was obtained in the Idaho State Library until a permanent home could be constructed in the BSU Library. Finally, transportation for over 1100 cartons had to be arranged. Fortunately, Boise Cascade, which had expressed a willingness to store the Church Papers in its records center, volunteered one of its semi-trailer trucks which make deliveries to the San Francisco Bay Area. The BC Transportation people surveyed the situation at Stanford and made recommendations for the number of people needed to load the truck. Then when both parties to the transfer were ready they supplied the truck.

While this was going on plans were drawn for the Frank Church Room on the third floor of the Library, the relocation of the two third floor study rooms, and an enlarged conference room to be reconstructed on the fourth floor. Construction began as the semester was concluding and except for painting is essentially completed. However, the exhibit room, which will contain specially fabricated exhibit cases, still has work to be completed before it will be ready for use. Shelving on which to store the papers should arrive by early to mid-July. When they are in place the final (?) move will begin.

A future issue of the Newsletter will describe the Church Collection in more detail.

## Reference Department Boost Summer School Enrollment

Liz Cardinale and Katherine Ultican are taking the class taught by Dr. Clair Bowman of the Data Center on how to use the University's mainframe IBM. They are learning word processing and simple programming. This will be most handy for the LS 102 and LS 103 classes as both textbooks are already in the computer. Text manipulation and revision should become a lot easier using this method. The lessons for LS 102 are also being put into the computer. This first experiment with computer produced lesson (task) sheets was this Spring semester when four of the tasks were so done. For this Summer those four and one more have been computer produced. The Reference Department staff is putting more tasks in as there is time. So far the tasks have been revised as this is done. We have 115 variables for each element of each question so no two students have the same question the same semester.

Beverly Miller is enrolled in the Women's History class this summer. Her presentation on "Sexism in Reference Works" was well received. Adrien Taylor is also trying to learn something. His class is called Human Resource Management.

## Here & There About the Library

Two new faces can be seen about the Library and while they are already familiar to all of us here is a little background information to get you better acquainted. Aubyn Jo Pierce is Patti McDaid's replacement in the Monographs Department. She is a graduate of Borah High School and previous to coming to Boise has lived in many localities in the United States and Europe, wherever her father was stationed with the military. Aubyn Jo worked for the Athletic Department prior to her employment by the Library and has also had experience with a number of State agencies.

Those of us who haven't met Billy Hurley yet haven't been paid for some time. Billy is Mary Besse's replacement in Serials. He is a 22 year veteran of the U.S. Air Force and previous to coming to the Library worked for the State Department of Transportation. Billy has also worked for Western World, a horse-trailer manufacturer and J. C. Penney.

Welcome to Aubyn Joe and Billy.

Patti McDaid transferred to Periodicals to take Liz Cardinale's place. Liz went to Reference in place of recently retired Lois Cummins. Mary Besse has left the employ of the Library and has tentative plans to return to her home state of Missouri...Congratulations to Leslie Pass who has been re-elected president of the Association of Classified Employees... As this issue was in preparation word was received from WLN that the Carrollton Press run resulted in over 10,000 matches. This leaves us somewhat over 11,000 titles for which to find copy and then add them to the data bases...The Canadian Government has once again provided the Library with periodical micro back files with a value of \$1352. Titles received were MacLean's 1976-1982, Saturday Night 1962-83, Canadian Historical Review 1966-1979 and 1981-1983, and Canadian Journal of Political Science 1968-1972...Every organization has its unsung hero's. As far as the Library is concerned the people of the Physical Plant Department have their share. A case in point. The Maps Department recently ordered a map case. When it was received at Central Receiving it triggered a response in Ken Wiscombe and Art Hotykay. They had seen similar cases in State Surplus and inquired concerning our interest in buying six cases for \$60 each. Since a new case cost over \$600, immediate steps were taken to examine those in State Surplus. The cases had apparently been surplussed from a California Federal facility and were in reasonably good shape. Purchase was immediately arranged. Then came a trip to the Paint Shop for a cosmetic treatment, and construction of bases by the Carpenter Shop and the Library had about \$4000 worth of map cases for \$360. Thanks to all concerned, the orderly housing of the Map Collection is assured for the near future at a substantial savings in equipment expenditures.

#### Library Use Declines

Statistical reports submitted by the Public Services Departments through April, five-sixth of the budget year, continue to give evidence of declining use of the Library's collections and facilities. Indications of the decline first appeared in 1982-83 but has become more pronounced this year. Consider the following:

Circulation is down 9% over last year after a modest 2.4% decline in the previous year.

Exit count is down 7.8% after an almost 10% increase the previous year.

Reserve use is down 8.8% and 3.6% in the previous year.

In-house use of materials plummeted 16.7% so far this year and 5% last year.

Reference, directional and reference questions, declined by 5.7% and 6.8%.

Interlibrary loan has, as in the past, continued to increase.

Last years increase was 8%, the same as the previous year.

Computer searching declined 7%.

Can one account for this trend? Much speculation but no hard evidence is available to support any theory. Certainly heavier teaching loads may influence the number of library type assignments, which have to be read and corrected,

that are made. Whatever the cause, there can be no doubt that the quality of education is the loser.

Technical Services statistics

Because of an improved budget, the level of activity in technical services increased in 1983-84 over last year (10 month comparison). In the Monographs Department:

- Requests processed increased 63%
- Items ordered increased 64%
- Receipts processed increased 62%

In the Cataloging & Serials Department:

- Volumes (Monographs) added increased 25%
- Current serial holdings increased 10%
- Standing Orders increased 7%
- Commercial binding increased 288%
- 810 binding increased 136%

Complete figures for all functions will be available sometime after the report year ends.

\*\*\*\*\*

BSU LIBRARY  
 SUMMER HOURS 1984  
 June 4 - August 10

Mon - Thurs.	7:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
2nd floor closed at 5:00 p.m.	
Friday	7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sat: June 9 - July 21	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Sunday	Closed
Closed Wednesday, July 4	
Closed Sat, July 28 & August 4	

\*\*\*\*\*

Contributors to this issue: Beverly Miller, Gloria Ostrander, Adrien Taylor, Darryl Huskey, Ralph Hansen. Typist - Sylvia Burr

INTERLIBRARY LOAN 1983-84

Month	81 Req. Sent	82 Items Rec'd	83 Req. Rec'd	84 Items Loaned	Total
01 Jul	83	97	402	338	435
02 Aug	145	102	332	309	411
03 Sep	155	185	386	350	535
04 Oct	168	154	431	397	551
05 Nov	142	99	452	404	503
06 Dec	118	90	257	234	324
07 Jan	257	142	443	383	525
08 Feb	270	248	415	361	609
09 Mar	224	195	436	379	574
10 Apr	290	174	480	399	573
11 May					
12 Jun					
Total:	1,852	1,486	4,034	3,554	5,040

INTERLIBRARY LOAN 1980-81 -- 1982-83

YEAR	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
1980-81	271	171	309	404	332	404	427	412	521	508	357	318	4,434
1981-82	291	276	291	503	400	343	476	502	626	563	313	334	4,918
1982-83	418	358	387	474	509	274	429	577	638	591	496	426	5,577

COMPUTER SEARCHES 1979-80 -- 1982-83

YEAR	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
1979-80	76	44	44	71	60	43	40	81	45	46	36	91	677
1980-81	74	39	121	116	67	49	37	90	71	40	23	92	819
1981-82	88	6	21	15	14	14	26	20	14	14	8	17	257
1982-83	7	3	11	17	20	11	20	26	22	20	10	17	184

COMPUTER SEARCHES 1983-84

Activity	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
Searches	12	21	23	17	9	5	13	10	20	16			146

DIRECTIONAL AND REFERENCE QUESTIONS 1983-84

Dept	Type	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
CRC	72 Dir.	134	186	292	293	273	143	182	205	220	240			2,168
	73 Ref.	119	145	312	349	376	148	193	354	366	506			2,868
	Total:	253	331	604	642	649	291	375	559	586	746			5,036
D&M	74 Dir.	24	37	69	99	49	26	37	57	22	54			474
	Total:	24	37	69	99	49	26	37	57	22	54	0	0	474
Docs	76 Ref.	199	182	285	438	500	279	263	348	295	455			3,244
	Total:	199	182	285	438	500	279	263	348	295	455	0	0	3,244
Maps	75 Ref.	71	846	158	231	193	88	96	152	93	171			2,099
	Total:	71	846	158	231	193	88	96	152	93	171	0	0	2,099
Ref	70 Dir.	520	694	2,033	1,821	1,963	974	1,677	2,145	1,367	1,726			14,920
	71 Ref.	713	772	1,898	1,999	2,613	1,100	1,772	2,715	2,325	1,244			17,151
	Total:	1,233	1,466	3,931	3,820	4,576	2,074	3,449	4,860	3,692	2,970	0	0	32,071
SpC/A	76 Ref	16	22	16	37	27	10	30	41	31	47			277
	Total:	16	22	16	37	27	10	30	41	31	47	0	0	277
Total:		1,796	2,884	5,063	5,267	5,994	2,768	4,250	6,017	4,719	4,443			43,201

DIRECTIONAL AND REFERENCE QUESTIONS 1981-82 & 1982-83

YEAR	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
1981-82	1,880	1,401	5,869	5,707	6,247	3,948	3,581	5,585	5,475	6,653	3,368	2,469	52,183
1982-83	2,211	1,841	5,641	5,795	6,381	3,882	3,864	4,603	4,826	6,757	2,888	2,243	50,932

IN-HOUSE USE OF MATERIALS 1983-84

Type	Jul-Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	TOTAL
50 Circ. Table Ct.	41,075	3,510	9,819	14,228	11,572			80,204
51 Ref Shelf Ct.	18,841	2,699	4,577	4,818	4,821			35,756
52 CRC Table Ct.	8,945	1,152	2,549	1,852	2,793			17,291
53 Maps Table Ct.	4,566	701	1,030	617	1,178			8,092
54 Archives Items	1,559	685	1,384	191	608			4,427
55 Per. Pickup	51,292	8,544	12,766	15,585	13,541			101,728
56 Microform reels	6,596	384	1,593	1,316	2,335			12,224
57 ERIC & Fiche	6,959	133	1,607	193	375			9,267
58 US Publications	2,235	156	526	565	617			4,099
59 Idaho Publications	530	8	10	41	132			721
60 Can. Publications	1	1						2
61 Rand Documents	3							3
62 C.I.S.	732	137	222	88	42			1,221
Total:	143,334	18,110	36,083	39,494	38,014			275,035

IN-HOUSE USE OF MATERIALS 1981-82 & 1982-83

YEAR	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
1981-82	21,396	12,454	34,013	39,475	44,374	32,805	27,933	39,624	40,673	54,915	21,775	16,556	385,993
1982-83	19,241	13,231	30,908	34,915	46,519	27,963	23,914	36,601	46,243	50,780	32,519	16,534	379,368

EXITS 1982-84

Type	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
45 Circ	12,502	13,915	52,875	56,433	54,934	31,547	32,860	50,007	43,146	52,168			400,387
46 CRC	3,226	3,813	9,046	11,334	11,824	8,045	7,781	11,904	10,141	11,520			88,634
Total:	15,728	17,728	61,921	67,767	66,758	39,592	40,641	61,911	53,287	63,688			489,021

EXITS 1981-82 & 1982-83

YEAR	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
1981-82	15,564	10,053	56,053	61,207	58,287	42,573	36,586	66,906	61,024	71,312	32,467	19,200	531,232
1982-83	16,990	15,318	68,492	70,294	71,148	46,715	42,335	63,206	61,520	71,371	37,378	19,356	584,123



## CIRCULATION 1983-84

Type	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
01 Book-St	2,848	2,164	6,799	9,771	12,334	5,160	5,574	8,638	10,131	13,106			76,525
02 Book-Fac	203	382	642	549	572	404	728	484	504	553			5,021
03 Per.-St	21	15	53	66	61	79	39	58	53	89			534
04 Per.-Fac	47	55	47	104	58	30	69	51	45	65			571
05 CRC-St	529	900	2,177	1,995	1,842	572	1,351	2,167	1,972	2,321			15,826
06 CRC-Fac	100	61	149	118	43	37	183	52	54	76			873
07 NonC-St	414	325	1,136	1,339	1,385	734	879	1,371	1,171	1,233			9,987
08 NonC-Fac	73	111	389	213	305	64	340	251	312	219			2,277
09 Ref-St	22	9	14	4	7	3	3	11	6	20			99
10 Ref-Fac	5	5	16	1	1	10	7	18	13	44			120
11 Maps-St	180	205	130	94	344	186	1,529	322	164	843			3,997
12 Maps-Fac	127	179	47	508	70	80	61	86	72	66			1,296
13 USPub-Stu	53	90	61	257	420	245	178	238	296	387			2,225
14 USPub-Fac	64	163	95	256	201	211	225	130	176	188			1,709
15 IdPub-St	11	12	2	33	83	37	25	19	20	52			294
16 IdPub-Fac	12	23	21	23	30	31	30	18	19	17			224
17 Rand-St		2			1						2		5
18 Rand-Fac		1	1	4	10	34	4	4	4	5			67
19 CanPub-Stu													
20 CanPub-Fac									4	6			10
<b>Total:</b>	<b>4,709</b>	<b>4,702</b>	<b>11,779</b>	<b>15,335</b>	<b>17,767</b>	<b>7,917</b>	<b>11,225</b>	<b>13,918</b>	<b>15,016</b>	<b>19,292</b>			<b>121,660</b>

## CIRCULATION 1981-82 &amp; 1982-83

YEAR	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
1981-82	6,303	5,117	14,749	18,090	19,923	10,924	9,067	15,950	16,720	19,790	6,096	5,730	148,459
1982-83	6,843	4,727	14,401	16,717	20,569	9,429	10,445	16,187	15,815	18,740	6,797	4,949	145,619

## RESERVE MATERIALS USE 1983-84

Type	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
41 Circ (except per)	277	139	1,866	1,806	1,328	892	1,359	2,307	1,689	1,699			13,362
42 CRC	179	24	561	664	1,164	612	398	861	351	523			5,337
<b>Total:</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>2,427</b>	<b>2,470</b>	<b>2,492</b>	<b>1,504</b>	<b>1,757</b>	<b>3,168</b>	<b>2,040</b>	<b>2,222</b>			<b>18,699</b>

## RESERVE MATERIALS USE 1981-82 &amp; 1982-83

YEAR	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	TOTAL
1981-82	673	159	2,594	3,093	3,253	2,185	1,210	3,488	1,999	2,608	798	882	22,942
1982-83	1,032	183	3,206	2,459	1,959	1,492	1,111	4,593	2,031	2,432	867	563	21,928