



Access

News from the *University Libraries*

Number 21

October 1984

THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

The Year in Review

The past year has been particularly active for the University Libraries. There have been a number of changes in key positions in the library faculty and staff. Use of most library services increased, including circulation, reserve, photocopy and in particular interlibrary loan; on the other hand, despite greater publicity for database service, usage here declined by nearly 50 percent. The collection grew through a record number of gifts large and small, a steady number of individual orders, several successful and growing approval/blanket order programs for American, German and Russian books and an increased number of serial subscriptions. Data on and discussion of particular accomplishments, difficulties and prospects for the future can be found in the full Annual Report of the Director and those reports of the individual departments and divisions, all available in the Office of the Director. My comments here will be limited to two areas, collections and automation.

The collections of the University Libraries are a key factor in our ability to anticipate and meet the information needs of our users. In the past few years considerable attention has been devoted to problems relating to the collections. A key development has been the appointment of three full-time bibliographers and an assistant director to coordinate activities of these individuals and other members of the library faculty with part-time collection development responsibilities. This has enabled us to give more systematic and regular attention to identifying needs, evaluating existing collections and selecting materials. A major activity has been the participation of the Notre Dame Libraries in the Association of Research Libraries' North American Collections Inventory Project, described in the February 1984 issue of *Access*. Approval/blanket orders have been successfully instituted for U.S. and German publications, and a special vendor arrangement established to secure current publications from the Soviet Union. The Libraries have also been able to meet most of the requests for new serial titles without significantly increasing the proportion of funds devoted to serials (at 44 percent for 1983-84). In addition, retrospective buying, particularly important for humanistic research, has been expanded and systematized.

However, if the momentum established in recent years is to continue, funding for this activity must be significantly increased. The Libraries have been unable to establish programs to acquire systematically English, French, Italian or Latin American publications. There is no provision for money to support new programs or the research of new faculty members, if these diverge from current collecting practices. Retrospective buying, while increased, is still far from adequate to reasonably support advanced research.

The Libraries automation program, designed to expedite and en-

PHOTO COPY CHANGES

As part of its search for ways to improve its services, the library this past spring and summer focused on the photocopying of full sized and microform materials being done.

The first result of the review and the discussions that followed was the upgrading of the reader/printer in the Memorial Library's Microtext Reading Room. You can now obtain a print from microfilm of noticeably better quality at a reduced price. The price was lowered from \$.20 per exposure to \$.10, in good part because the copies are made on bond paper instead of paper specially treated with chemicals.

The second element of the improvement program concentrated on the coin-operated photocopiers in the library system. During the last several years, the quality of copies being made decreased while the number of machine breakdowns increased. At the same time, we received numerous suggestions, some kind and some unkind, from the faculty and students on ways to upgrade the quality and the reliability of our equipment. After a careful study of our needs and the options available to us, it was decided to turn over this part of the service to an outside vendor. After several of them presented their programs to us, it was decided that Adams Remco Inc. of Elkhart could serve us best.

Adams Remco agreed to supply new copiers and to provide the personnel to service the equipment all hours that the the Libraries are open. In place of

hance the development of and access to the Libraries' information resources, has received considerable campus-wide attention in recent years. The immediate past year has been marked by both significant achievement and great frustration. Planning for the automated system widened to include the Law Library which is affiliating with INCOLSA/OCLC and will be initiating a complete retrospective conversion project.

Retrospective conversion of the University Libraries database went well, with the keying of records for the Carrollton Press/REMARC Project completed ahead of schedule and under budget. Planning and initial work on conversion of current serials proceeded apace, as did planning for monograph conversion not achieved by REMARC. Pre-load editing of existing machine-readable records (both OCLC and REMARC) was accomplished. As a result of these efforts, the University Libraries currently have approximately 500,000 records ready to load into the local system. In addition, a central hardware site has been selected and a 1,500 square foot, up-to-date machine room built.

The schedule originally established for the automation project was maintained reasonably well through the first half of 1983-84. The Request For Proposal was issued in July and the evaluation of responses (11 received) began in August. By December (two months behind schedule) the Automation Advisory Committee and the Director of Libraries recommended to the Provost the purchase of the BLIS system. Contract negotiations were begun in December involving the University Libraries, Purchasing, the Legal Office and the Assistant Provost for Computing and after several iterations a "final" contract was ready for signing in late January. Unfortunately since that time, little progress has been made. Several University-wide issues have arisen that have not yet been resolved to the satisfaction of all parties. As a result progress on the local system aspects of the project has stopped. It is hoped that the remaining issues can be dealt with expeditiously enough to permit a contract signing in the Fall. While earlier plans called for a pilot online catalog by the Fall of 1984, as a result of the delays encountered outside the Libraries it seems unlikely that any meaningful operations, even on a pilot basis, will be possible before the late Spring of 1985 at the earliest.

The delays in final system selection -- understandable and unavoidable as they may have been -- have had a serious, negative impact on morale. The momentum and enthusiasm built up during the first year and one-half of the planning process have been sharply deflated. The library faculty and staff had been ready to move forward on a number of fronts; instead, all has been on hold for more than six months. Despite this frustration, the great progress on the building of the local machine-readable database and the education of the staff on automated systems have placed the Libraries in an excellent position to move rapidly and effectively once a systems choice is made.

The accomplishments of any organization are the products of the contributions of many individuals. This was certainly the case in the University Libraries over the past year. Much credit belongs to the library faculty and staff who regularly demonstrated initiative and drive on several fronts, and patience and understanding on others. Elsewhere in the University, the Faculty Committee for University Libraries and numerous individuals were particularly helpful to the Libraries. The officers and members of the Friends of the Library at Notre Dame provided advice, support and service. In addition, many individuals contributed materials to our collections and funds to both gift and endowment funds. A list of these donors is

available in the Office of the Director. And finally, a special thanks to our users: they have offered advice, given support and demonstrated patience with our doors, elevators, copy machines and even occasionally our services that didn't work.

Robert C. Miller

PHOTO COPY CHANGES (continued)

seven of our old copiers, we now have eight new ones embodying some of the latest copying technology. Six of the machines are in the Memorial Library -- four are in the second floor lobby, one is in the Periodical Center, and one is in the Reference Department. The remaining two are in the Life Sciences Library and the Mathematics Library. The Architecture Library, the Chemistry/Physics Library and the Engineering Library had their copiers altered so that they have capabilities similar to all of the others in the system.

The new and the altered equipment have image enlarging and reduction capabilities that were never available to you before. You can now enlarge copy to 127% of its original size or reduce it to 91%, 74%, or 61% of its original size. All of the machines provide copy on 8½" by 11" bond paper, and several can supply 8½" by 14" prints. In addition, it is possible to copy materials larger than 10" by 14" on the equipment in the Architecture Library which will accommodate materials up to 11" by 17" in size.

The new copiers, with their attachments for accepting machine-readable payment cards, allow the Libraries to establish several pricing arrangements to keep the costs to you as low as possible. If you use the machine-readable cards, called Copychecks, the cost per copy will be slightly more than the old charge of five cents. With a card that sells for \$1.00, twelve copies can be

made at a cost of \$.083 per copy. With the card which sells for \$5.00, 70 copies can be made at a cost of \$.07 per copy. If you use coins, the cost will be \$.10 per copy.

It should be noted that the price increase which makes possible the new equipment and the better service is the first increase, and the only increase, in the 15-year history of copy service in the Libraries. The rate is the same as that charged at IUSB and lower than that levied at the public libraries in the area.

The Copychecks are being sold at the Circulation Counter in the Memorial Library and at each of the departmental libraries. The Law School Library is not part of the arrangement with Adams Remco.

If you should happen to have a problem with the copiers or need further information about them, you can obtain help by dropping a note describing your needs into a box which is located at the monitors' desk in the Memorial Library. Shortly thereafter, the Adams Remco representative will be in touch with you.

The Copy Center in the Memorial Library (located just beyond the elevators) will not be affected by these changes. It will continue to give faculty and students the same copy service as before, with a price per copy of ten cents. The Center will also handle all copying that is charged to academic department accounts.

We are sure that you will find that the changes in the photocopying services brought about decided improvements over what we had.

George E. Sereiko

BREAKUP OF AT&T WREAKS HAVOC ON LIBRARY BUDGETS

While the various aspects of the divestiture of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company

are confusing, one consequence is perfectly clear: with the current rate structure, libraries will suffer cost increases of 70 percent or more for exactly the same services they purchased last year.

One major "flaw" in the rate structure is responsible for much of the increase: the focus of Congress and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has been on alleviating the rate impact for individual and single-line businesses alone. They have not found it necessary, as of this writing, to make a distinction between commercial and not-for-profit multi-line organizations (the latter of course including universities and colleges). Nor have they made any modification in tariffs for leased lines -- the existing complex of lines by which libraries communicate to catalog books and share resources.

The Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) and the Research Libraries Group (RLG) provide sophisticated computer services to libraries by leasing private telephone lines. Through these nationwide systems, more than 3,000 libraries have created national bibliographic databases. [Notre Dame has used OCLC to catalog books since 1974.] The libraries are able to share cataloging efforts, and are better able to provide interlibrary lending and borrowing services to their users through these bibliographic public utilities.

The cost to a library for communications is approximately \$2,000 per computer terminal per year. A small academic library with one computer terminal would pay in addition, under the new rate structure, about \$2 per book cataloged, or another \$2,000 for a library which acquires 1,000 books annually. A 70 percent increase in communications costs for this small library will mean an overall increase of 35 percent for the service -- an intolerable increase for a small library's budget.

Large libraries are not ex-

empt from financial harm. Although possessing a larger overall budget, the large academic library may have 10 or 15 computer terminals (\$20,000 to \$30,000 per year), and faces a telecommunications increase of \$15,000 to \$25,000. [Notre Dame has five terminals in the Memorial Library.]

The existing legislation assumes that individuals and small businesses require protection against the new tariffs, but that large organizations can absorb added costs. Particularly in the case of not-for-profit institutions such as libraries, this may not be true. Libraries cannot pass unforeseen expenses on to their patrons. Universities and colleges may seek reductions in library services or the discontinuance of activities thereby degrading overall services to the academic community.

Several solutions are possible for the FCC and Congress:

- * The charges and tariffs should be delayed to allow a thorough assessment of long-range impacts; or
- * the increased costs should be phased in over a period of years to allow fixed budgets to absorb the costs; or
- * libraries and educational users should be exempted; or
- * the private-line tariffs should be rejected.

If none of the above measures is adopted, the library community can only hope that new communications technologies which will allow long-distance data transmission at a lower price will quickly emerge. In the meantime, libraries will soon learn what the additional burden is that their already strained library budgets must bear.

Susan K. Martin
Johns Hopkins University

FORUM II: NATIONAL AND REGIONAL ASPECTS OF COLLECTING AND PRESERVING LIBRARY MATERIALS

The current and future status of research library resources provided the focus for a gathering of 30 university administrators, foundation representatives, publishers, faculty, and librarians from American universities. Convened at Maryland's Wye Plantation in Fall 1983, participants were continuing the dialogue begun the previous year during a conference "Toward the Twenty-First Century: An Agenda for Research Libraries and Their Users."

Jointly sponsored by the Council on Library Resources (CLR), the Association of American Universities (AAU), and the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS), this continuing series of discussions reflects a recognition that the evolving economic and technological environment will dictate fundamental changes in the ways research libraries are organized, build their collections, and serve their users. The strategies needed to shift priorities and redirect traditional expectations for administrator, scholar, and librarian alike will require sustained communication and collegial give-and-take between the various stakeholders.

The earlier, stage-setting conference (Forum I) looked at four broad issues: bibliographic control of collections, collection development and shared resources, collection preservation, and technology. Forum II sharpened the focus by addressing the interrelated issues of collections and preservation, perhaps the keystones to the change in perspective which must take place. While futurists may predict that electronic publications and communications and storage technologies will minimize the problems of accessing and preserving scholarly information sources, the prolonged transition to the paperless society and the condi-

tion of existing collections pose very real problems for the foreseeable future.

A Broader Perspective, A National Plan

While there was a general recognition that all parties involved must change their orientation from one of self-sufficiency in collection development to one of interdependence, the recognition has by no means been internalized or institutionalized to the degree which will be necessary. Libraries and their users must begin to shift their focus from size of immediate collections to the availability of shared resource bases; book budgets may well become access budgets. Forum II acknowledged that competition and conflicting values between individuals, disciplines, and institutions may affect the rate at which this "sea change" can take place.

Participants identified several conditions which must exist for successful cooperation in building and preserving collections. Basic funding must be provided and assurances must be made for program continuity. A management structure must be developed to handle the competing interests and procedural details of such a national effort. And finally, the appropriate checks and balances must be established to ensure that cooperative programs remain responsive to institutional needs and sensitive to financial and operational constraints.

Elements already exist which can be incorporated into a coherent plan. Participants cited the need for comprehensive bibliographic databases which record the existence and location of individual titles and specialized collections. A project initiated by the Research Libraries Group and expanded by members of the Association for Research Libraries is currently compiling a computerized inventory of research collections, including assessments of collection strength. The a-

vailability of this information will provide a foundation for libraries in establishing local selection priorities and developing programs of cooperative collection building and resource sharing.

The desirability and feasibility of further efforts to distribute collection strengths provoked considerable discussion. For example, should specific institutions accept responsibility for maintaining distinctive collections? There was a basic concern that such collection "assignments" could heighten the already keen competition between academic departments and institutions. Since institutional priorities and funding are not static, this type of collaboration also raises questions for sustaining the quality of collections over time. There was general agreement that the Center for Research Libraries (CRL) continues to play a role with its specialized collections for certain categories or formats of material. Yet CRL's programs, too, must be assured of a constant level of support in order to influence collecting patterns of its member libraries.

Preservation

Many a university administrator has been heard to refer to the "bottomless pit" represented by preservation needs of our nation's research libraries. The combined effects of paper production techniques, repeated use, and the environmental conditions in library buildings have left their mark. A few libraries have mounted preservation programs, and some progress has been made toward a national bibliographic system for identifying and locating "preserved items." The magnitude of the problem, however, and the corresponding price tag require that duplication of effort be avoided and clear priorities be set. Critical issues revolve around the questions who decides what will be saved and how can we guarantee that our preservation dollars are spent wisely? Conferees expressed interest in the involvement of major scholarly

disciplines in guiding libraries in preservation decisions. Since funding will be a major obstacle to progress, channels must be sought to publicize to a wider audience the impending loss of our cultural record.

One method suggested for ensuring a cost-effective preservation plan is to create regional production centers for microfilming and other preservation techniques. The Council on Library Resources agreed to draft a plan which incorporates the financial and operational detail of such a national preservation program.

Future Steps

Conference attendees agreed that there are many unanswered questions concerning the present and future use of scholarly materials. A proposed Office of Scholarly Communication to be established within ACLS may be able to address the need for descriptive data about publishing, scholarship, and libraries. A recommendation was also made that a Committee on Compensation be established to tackle two specific issues of equity: (1) the "balance of trade" in cooperative collection development and resource sharing programs and (2) the conflicting interests of present and future scholars reflected in existing copyright laws. Mechanisms must be developed to assure the proper balance among institutional commitments. And the interests of copyright holders must be weighed against the ideals of access to recorded information.

While both conferences pointed to the need for further research (CLR will explore options for bringing together a research panel), clearly significant progress has been made. Forum I identified the broad topics needing attention and Forum II articulated a number of specific issues which will shape our collection and preservation decisions. The momentum must not be lost.

Wendy Lougee
University of Michigan

NEW LIBRARY FACULTY ASSIGNMENTS

Three positions on the faculty of the University Libraries have recently been filled. Our new Assistant Director for Reference and Instructional Services will be Joanne Bessler, who is now the Associate Director of Libraries for Public Services at the University of Wyoming. Ms. Bessler was educated at the University of Cincinnati and the University of Kentucky where she received her Master of Library Science. Prior to joining the library faculty at the University of Wyoming, she headed the Social Science Department in the General Library at Purdue University and later was Supervisor of Reference at that institution. Ms. Bessler went to the University of Wyoming in 1978 as Head of Reference and became Coordinator of Public Services before being appointed Associate Director there. She has wide ranging experience in all library public service functions and directed the University of Wyoming's internal operations for a year during the search for a Director of Libraries.

Ms. Bessler represented the University of Wyoming on the State Library Board, and served on a number of University bodies, including the Faculty Senate and the Academic Planning Committee. She will join us on October 15 to take responsibility for planning and managing reference and instructional services throughout the Libraries system.

* * *

Alan Krieger is the newly appointed Bibliographer for Theology and Philosophy, replacing James Deffenbaugh, who accepted a position as Collection Development and Acquisitions Coordinator at the College of William and Mary. Mr. Krieger received his B.A. in Religion from Columbia University, his M.A. in Religious Studies from the University of Chicago and has completed course work for the doctor-

ate in Church History from the University of Chicago Divinity School. He received his Master's in Library Science from the University of Arizona.

Prior to completing his library degree, Mr. Krieger worked in the Acquisition Departments of Regenstein Library at the University of Chicago and Houghton Library at Harvard University. He joined the library faculty at Notre Dame in September 1983 as Catalog Librarian, and has been Assistant Project Manager for Serials Retrospective Conversion. He has also served as Liaison Officer for non-American history, and will continue in that post.

Mr. Krieger's education and experience suits him well for the position of Bibliographer for Theology and Philosophy. He will work with the faculties of those Departments in evaluating and building the collections in those fields, as well as providing bibliographic instruction and advanced reference assistance.

* * *

Beth Picknally began her work as Catalog Librarian at Notre Dame on September 10th this year. Ms. Picknally is a graduate of Notre Dame, where she was an English major and a member of the University Bands. She also served as assistant in the Catalog and Database Maintenance Section of the Libraries during her student days here. Ms. Picknally recently received her Master of Science in Library Science from Catholic University. She gained further experience in her chosen field through her work in Catholic University's Engineering/Architecture Library and in the Cataloging Department of Georgetown University Library. While at Catholic University, she was chairperson of the student chapter of the American Society for Information Science.

Ms. Picknally will be cataloging monographs and serials in

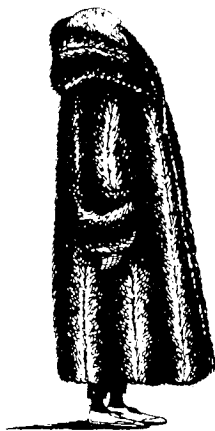
social sciences, art and music and will participate in planning for the online catalog and retrospective conversion of records.

Maureen L. Gleason

LIBRARIES ACQUIRE THE WORKS OF EDWARD GOREY

Through the generosity of Suzy Conway and her brother, Robert M. Conway, both of New York City, the University Libraries have acquired an almost complete collection of the works of Edward Gorey.

Author-illustrator Edward Gorey gained fame for his theatre set design for the American Theatre's Broadway production of Dracula in 1978 for which he won the Tony Award. He wrote and il-



lustrated a number of books and is well known for his neo-Victorian, black humor. His illustrations, mostly pen and ink drawings, are distinguished by a meticulous detail of line and a stark presentation of the figures. The subject matter borders on the macabre and the sense of morbid humor is heightened by his unique choice of titles; The Gashlycrumb Tinies, The Doubtful Guest, The Fatal Lozenge: an alphabet, The Hapless Child, The Loathsome Couple, and The Gilded Bat are but a few of these. Since 1953, Gorey has produced about forty such works, miniscule versions of the Gothic novel in which the horrific is tightly balanced against the hilarious, where parody shifts quickly to nightmare.

Edward St. John Gorey was born in Chicago in 1925. He attended the Francis W. Parker private school; as an artist he is primarily self-taught, the only formal training acquired at the Art Institute. He attended Harvard University, where he roomed with the poet Frank O'Hara and where he graduated in 1950. Moving to New York in 1953, Gorey published his first book, The Unstrung Harp, and since that time his audience has grown steadily, owing largely to the efforts of the Gotham Book Mart, the celebrated New York bookstore.

Gorey had many idiosyncrasies. While attending Harvard, he took to wearing white sneakers and afterwards wore nothing else.

He also was fond of fur coats, and owned 16 of them, one of them purple.

The collection presented to Notre Dame was assembled by Suzy Conway, a close friend of Gorey, and consists of 422 items, mostly books but also including articles, biographies, newspaper clippings, tapestries, and even some stuffed animals in the shape of Gorey characters. With the collection we received copies of Conway's research paper, Goreymania: an Annotated Bibliography of Suzy Conway's Edward Gorey Book Collection, a publication presented in partial fulfillment of the degree of Master of Arts at the University of Missouri. The collection is housed in the Rare Book Room.

David E. Sparks



University Libraries
University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, IN 46556

David E. Sparks, Editor