



Access

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COLLECTION ANALYSIS PROJECT UPDATE

Second Phase Now Underway

The Collection Analysis Project, (CAP) described in the April 1980 issue of *Access*, has now entered its second phase and the Interim Report has been produced by the CAP Study Team. This report explores the factors that have shaped our present collection and identifies the issues which are now being investigated by five Task Forces.

The historical overview of Notre Dame's collection which is part of the Interim Report reveals a steady but slow growth. Deficiencies in the collection were mentioned in library surveys made in 1920 and 1950, in Rev. Philip Moore's account of the Library in 1960, and in the report of the North Central Association accreditation team in 1974. These evaluations all made the point that, despite areas of strength, the collection as a whole did not match the ambitions of the University's expanding academic programs. Although the University generally responded to these critiques by some increase in funding, the Library's efforts to improve have been hampered by the economic environment, particularly during the past ten years. The Interim Report describes the characteristics of this environment.

During the 1970's the average cost of hard bound books rose 106% and that of serials 196%; this occurred while publishing output was increasing. The inflation rate was greater for science materials. The dilemma for the Notre Dame Library is reflected in a lowered rate of acquisitions even while expenditures rose. Moreover, the

physical condition of the collection could no longer be ignored. Not only age and the poorer quality of paper and binding, but also growth in the number of microforms and original paperbacks being published suggested the need for greater investments in binding, repair, equipment, special handling, etc. In the light of these pressing demands, the Study Team was keenly interested in University budget projections; fortunately the picture here is less gloomy. Endowment is increasing and the University's allotment for acquisitions has begun to match the inflation rate which is higher for library materials than for almost any other category in the Higher Education Price Index.

The collection expectations of faculty, students, library staff and University administration as revealed in surveys and interviews show an unsurprising consensus: the collection must primarily support University teaching and research needs. Building collections of national renown, serving state or regional needs, or supplying the recreational reading needs of our own community are definitely secondary. To achieve the desired goal, however, the Library must confront and propose solutions to many complex problems. It is with these issues that the Task Forces are now engaged.

Many of our users believe that the library requirements of the University's curriculum and its research programs are not now being met. To correct that we must have a better understanding of those

requirements and of the strengths and weaknesses of our present collection. It is the assignment of the first of our Task Forces, the Task Force on Assessment, to develop a program for evaluating the collection. Task Force members are familiarizing themselves with various assessment methods, such as bibliographic checking, citation analysis, user surveys and interviews with individual researchers and teachers. These methods are being applied in select subject areas and the results will guide recommendations for further evaluations to be carried out on a larger scale. The Task Force is also pre-testing an access study designed to uncover problems our users have in locating the materials they are seeking, even when that material is in the collection.

To improve the collection we must not only discover weak areas, but must also make sure that we are using our funds in the most effective way. A Task Force on Allocation is therefore examining such matters as allotments to subject areas, division of funds between serials and monographs, the use of endowment income and special funds and accounting and reporting methods. The results of both past and present practices are being analyzed. The Task Force will focus on the allocation process rather than determining specific amounts for the various units. The possible contribution of formulae to that process is part of its study. Final recommendations will evaluate the role of inflation rates, academic programs, ongoing research, enrollments, acquisitions policies, etc. in the division of the acquisitions budget. The Task Force recognizes that there is no perfect allocation method, but aims to achieve one which is rational, flexible, accountable and consistent with the collection goals.

One measure of the method of allocation is the extent to which it makes possible wise selection and prompt acquisition of appropriate materials. We learned that there was relatively little attention to systematic collection development on the part of the Library before the 1970's. Outstanding collection-building was done from time to time in specific fields by individual librarians or members of the teaching faculty, but the outcome was a collection which was good only in spots and to which we were slow in adding current publications. Neglect of some areas has been

hard to repair. The creation of a library-academic department liaison structure, of a collection development department and the institution of an approval plan, all in the 1970's, were efforts to remedy this lack of consistent selection. The Task Force on Operating Practices is looking closely at how well they have succeeded. It is also concerned with the speed and efficiency of getting materials which have been requested into the Library, since failures there have been a frequent source of frustration. The weighing of both library and teaching faculty opinion and the examination of present selection methods and ordering procedures are leading to an identification of problems hindering prompt acquisition of appropriate materials.

Most of the emphasis in collection development has been on the amount, quality and suitability of material added to the collection. The Study Team, however, could not ignore the implication of failing to preserve the materials we have already acquired. Failure to bind or repair volumes literally falling apart was called to our attention by the staff of Collection Management. The Acquisitions Department is receiving more paperbooks for which no provision for binding was made; the Microtext and Audio sections had an acute awareness of special problems in their areas which were not widely noticed by the Library as a whole. Attention to preservation of library collections has been growing nationally and the Task Force on Preservation is investigating the extent of the problem at Notre Dame. To this end, Task Force members are sampling the condition of various segments of the collection, collecting information on the particular problems of non-book formats and discovering what we are now doing to preserve the collection. What is required to preserve such valuable assets as rare books, art books, etc., is also being investigated. Method and costs of a preservation program will be recommended by this Task Force.

Study Team research during Phase I of the Collection Analysis Project taught us that the Notre Dame Library's problems are shared by many other libraries and we would be foolish to ignore what these other institutions are doing. Heightened interest in resource-sharing and cooperative problems is very much in evidence among university libraries. Even in the face of library users' undoubted desire to have materials in their own library, sharing

in its many forms grows because research libraries have no choice. That being the case, the Task Force on Resource Sharing is gathering information on all forms of interlibrary cooperation in which Notre Dame is presently involved. Chief among these is the interlibrary loan: its mode of operation, extent, difficulties and costs will all be analyzed, as will the results of our membership in the Center for Research Libraries and the state network referred to as ALSA. The Task Force is testing the Library's assumptions about the contributions of all of these schemes to fulfilling the needs of students and faculty and will make suggestions for improvement in their functioning. Other more informal arrangements are also being

evaluated. The possible participation of Notre Dame in potential resource-sharing arrangements and cooperative programs is another concern of the Task Force and its recommendations will help to chart future directions.

The Collection Analysis Project's final report, which will be made public before September 1981, will be based on the work of the Task Forces. The Study Team intends to present a number of practical recommendations designed to strengthen our collections. We are confident that such measures will win wide support from the whole University community.

Maureen L. Gleason

REORGANIZATION OF MEMORIAL LIBRARY COLLECTIONS

Summer Project Begins in May

The recent decision to disband the College Library collection on the second floor of Memorial Library and to establish a single unified general collection will result in a large-scale re-organization of materials this summer. Current plans are to carry out the necessary shifts during the 12-week period, May 25-August 17. When this project is completed, the floors of Memorial Library will be set up as follows (the letter codes are the Library of Congress class letters):

- 13th - Q (Science)
T (Technology)
- 12th - J (Political Science)
K (Law)
U-V (Military and Naval Science)
Z (Library Science and Bibliography)
- 11th - non-Library offices
- 10th - A (Periodicals and General)
BF, RC (Psychology)
G (Geography, Anthropology, Sports)
HM-HX (Sociology)
L (Education)
- 9th - C, D, E, F (History)
- 8th - B-BJ (Philosophy)
BL-BX (Theology)
- 7th - Mediaeval Institute
- 6th - R (Medicine)
S (Agriculture)

- 5th - non-Library offices
- 4th - P (Language and Literature)
- 3rd - building equipment
- 2nd - M (Music)
N (Art)
H-HC (Economics)
HD-HJ (Business)
- 1st - Reference
Periodical Center
Document Center

Some shifts have already been undertaken. Books in the M (Music) classification have been moved to the 2nd floor to allow for construction on the 6th floor, and books in the B-BJ (Philosophy) classifications were transferred over semester break from the 7th to the 8th floor.

Over the summer there will be periods of disruption as the books are moved, and the patience and cooperation of patrons will be appreciated. It is felt that this re-organization presents a number of distinct advantages over the current placement of material in Memorial Library. Most importantly, it will promote improved access to the collections and help resolve certain space problems, while maintaining balanced traffic and study patterns in the building.

James G. Neal

EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES COLLECTION

Documents Form Important Library Resource

The European Communities came into existence in 1958 with six founding members: Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. The organization was formed to foster economic cooperation in order that industrial and agricultural goods could circulate freely and has since expanded its membership with the addition of Denmark, Ireland, and the United Kingdom in 1973, and Greece in 1981.

The European Communities consist of three separate bodies: the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) which joined the coal and steel industries in a single "common market"; the European Economic Community (EEC) which began to remove trade and economic barriers between its member countries and unify their economic policies; and the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom) which promotes peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

In 1965, after negotiating with the European Community, Notre Dame became a depository library for their documents. During the initial years, Notre Dame received publications in all official languages. With the entrance of the United Kingdom into the Communities, English became an official language. As a result, the library has elected to receive the publications in English when and if they are available. If, however, there is no English edition, one edition in another language is retained permanently.

Beginning in the summer of 1980, all European Communities publications owned by the library have been handled under the administration of the Document Center located within the Reference Department on the first floor of Memorial Library. All EC documents have been or will be cataloged with the location symbol "Doc Ctr" indicated above the call number. To insure easy use of the collection, the documents have received the most accurate and complete cataloging possible.

The breadth and scope of the collection is vast. The publications vary from official Communities organs such as The Official Journal of the European Communities: Legislation (340.094.036), Information and Notice (JN 15

.036), and Special Edition (341 .242 .036) to business and economic publications such as European Economy: Supplement-Series B: Economic Prospects-Business Survey Results (Doc Ctr HC 241.2 .E8882) and Balance of Payments: Geographical Breakdown (Doc Ctr HG 3883 .E83 B34). Finally, the Communities produce a wealth of statistical material: Basic Statistics of the Community: Comparison with some European Countries, Canada, the U.S.A., Japan and the Soviet Union (Doc Ctr HA 1107 .S92), Quarterly Iron and Steel Bulletin (Doc Ctr HD 9525 .A2 S725a), and Regional Statistics: Population, Employment, Living Standards (Doc Ctr HA 1107.5 .A26b).

Locating information contained within European Communities documents is difficult. There are currently only four bibliographies available to help researchers: 1) Catalogue des Publications, 1952-1971 (Doc Ctr HC 241.2 .C59) omits Euratom and ECSC publications, but includes treaties establishing the Communities, official publications of the combined Communities, and publications of institutions of the Communities, such as the European Parliament, the Council, the Commission, the Court of Justice, the Economic and Social Committee, and the European Investment Bank. The publications within this bibliography are listed in the French form only. There is an English language Supplement (Doc Ctr HC 241.2 .C623 1972) which lists only titles originally published in English. There is no index to this bibliography. 2) Catalog of the Publications of the European Community Institutions, 1972-1973 (Doc Ctr HC 241.2 .C63) continues the Catalogue mentioned above, but instead lists each language separately. Again, there is no index. 3) Publications of the European Communities (Doc Ctr HC 244 .A2 E9 E3) is published monthly with an annual cumulation, and lists both official and unofficial publications which were published by the various institutions of the Communities. A title index is included in the annual cumulation. 4) The Bulletin of Documentation: Selected Publications and Articles is a weekly listing of documents analyzed by the Central Archives and Documentation Service. In Part I it contains Communities documents and instruments and Part II contains Communities publications and

studies. Four supplements are also issued: Supplement A (Doc Ctr Z 7165 .E8 C65a) lists periodicals and articles on economic activities and national policies relevant to the European economy. Supplement B (Doc Ctr Z165 .E8 C65b) contains a bibliography on various topics. Supplement C (Doc Ctr Z 7165 .E8 C65c) is a subject cumulation of Supplement A. Supplement D describes other documentary information. There is no index to the Bulletin.

Finally, with the complex nature of the

European Communities and their documentation, a central European Communities Service was established in Washington D. C. The Information Service is most willing and able to help any researcher or patron with their information needs.

For information concerning the European Communities or their publications you may contact Steve Hayes in the Document Center (ph. 2991) or any reference librarian.

Stephen M. Hayes

ABRAMS COLLECTION INAUGURATED

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum Delivers Lecture

"Barūkḥ atāh Adonai Eluhainū, Melekh ha-Olām." The words of the ancient Hebrew prayer, "Blessed be Thou, O Lord, our God, King of the Universe," resounded through the concourse of the Memorial Library and mingled with the dying echos of the Christian prayer just concluded. Thus did Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum and Father Theodore Hesburgh together bless the bronze plaque symbolizing the Alfred R. and Lee Abrams Collection in Hebrew and Judaica Studies.

The ritual of blessing was part of a program of celebration, held November 21, 1980, inaugurating the University Libraries' first endowed collection in Hebraica and Judaica. Made possible by generous gifts from Edward Abrams (Engineering '50), from the Abrams Foundation, and from other members of the Abrams family, the endowment will enable the University Libraries to strengthen and enrich its collections, providing research materials and scholarly studies for those seeking to improve Christian understanding of Jews and Judaism.

The blessing of the plaque was preceded by an inaugural lecture in the Memorial Library auditorium in which Rabbi Tanenbaum called the placing of Jewish and Hebrew books and research materials in a Catholic university extraordinarily symbolic and substantive.

"In this act, there is something profoundly restorative, an act of recovery of tradition in American life that shaped American origins and foundation," he said.

He went on to refer directly to the early Puritan colonists as men and women whose acts were deeply rooted in the Mosaic dispensation. "The sense of the Hebraic character in early Christianity in America shaped American democracy. It was a decisive factor in shaping the life of the nation and the cultural atmosphere."

Following the lecture, Rabbi Tanenbaum and Father Hesburgh led the Abrams family and members of the audience to the concourse, where the blessing of the plaque took place, and then to the Trustee's Room on the 14th floor of the Memorial Library where a memorial Mass was said for the parents of Mr. Abrams, Alfred R. and Lee Abrams, in whose name the endowment was given. For many of the University's Jewish friends who attended the inauguration, this was the first time they had witnessed a Christian liturgical celebration.

In the evening, the inaugural program was continued with a reception in the Center for Continuing Education, followed by an inaugural dinner. Present at the inaugural celebration were Edward Abrams and his wife, Ann; his brother, General Bernard Abrams (West Point, '47) and his wife Susan; Ann's mother, Mrs. Ralph Uhry, and her aunt, Mrs. C. B. Liebman, both of Atlanta, Ga.; and Mr. Abrams' cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Abrams and their children, of South Bend.

The evening was concluded by remarks from Father Hesburgh and from Mr. Edmund A. Stephan, Chairman of the Board of the University.

David G. E. Sparks