PRODUCTION NOTE

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Library
Surveying the Biology Library: Collections and Services

One of the largest departmental libraries in the UI Library system is the Biology Library. Located in Burrill Hall, the library is heavily used by a diversity of patrons—undergraduate and graduate students, research scientists, faculty, and the general public.

Biology Librarian Elisabeth Davis explains that collections are the number one priority in the library, and that many user services have evolved to assist patrons in utilizing the resources available. As Mrs. Davis points out, "We get every request here from a person wanting a picture of a seagull to someone who needs the exact molecular structure of DNA." The collections answering these needs include 115,000 volumes housed in the library; about 90% of these are serial publications. Currently, more than 1,500 journal titles are being received.

This impressive collection traces its origins to the efforts of Stephen A. Forbes, Illinois state entomologist, first director of the Illinois State Laboratory of Natural History, as well as UI's head of its zoology department. Under his direction, the collection grew to over 40,000 volumes when the state legislature transferred control of the collection to the University Library in 1928. These holdings have grown steadily, dividing over the years into the Natural History Survey Library, Biology Library, Geology Library, and in 1974, the Health Sciences Library.

The Library is particularly fortunate in having long runs of journals in entomology, botany, and zoology. During funding crises of World War II, the UI Library made a special effort to maintain these subscriptions. Historical continuity is one of the finest features of the biology collections. The library is proud to have the very first series of Index Medicus, as well as its forerunner, Bibliographica Medica.

The budget has restricted collection growth in the Biology Library today. Mrs. Davis points out that science journals, "the lifeblood of the collections," have risen dramatically in cost over the past several years. Money is now desperately needed just to keep up with the journals the library has subscribed to for decades. Many new journals appear each year that the library has been unable to acquire. Mrs. Davis is very concerned about this: "We will not be doing future scholarship and student research any service with the cutbacks forced by these circumstances."

To complement the strong collections that are available, the Biology Library staff offer a wide range of user services. User instruction is essential in her Library, explains Mrs. Davis, because the biology collections are classified by the Dewey system, while those at the Health Sciences Library are classified by the National Library of Medicine system. NLM awarded Mrs. Davis a grant to explain differences in the two systems for patrons, and this has resulted in printed handouts; taped self-tours; point-of-use instruction on indexes, abstracts, etc.; and computer-assisted instruction on the library's own PLATO terminal. The staff offer regular sessions in undergraduate and graduate-level courses in the School of Life Sciences on library use.

A listening station is one of the Biology Library's newest facilities. Students are able to listen to taped lectures in the library, where they have immediate access to relevant reference materials. Computer literature retrieval searches are frequently performed for students and researchers by the staff. Facilities besides the PLATO terminal mentioned earlier include microfilm readers and copiers.

The services and collections of the Biology Library combine to offer one of the foremost learning laboratories in the nation.

Students rely on the Biology Library's bookstacks study areas for quiet and access to reference materials.

Biology Librarian Elisabeth Davis posts the list of journal issues that have arrived that day; the list is consulted by many students when they enter the library.
Library's "Moby Dick":
Professor Finds a Very Special Kind of Whale

Two blocks from his office, George Hendrick, professor of English at UI, found a book-hunter's dream.

It was a first American edition, in two volumes, of Herman Melville's novel *Moby Dick* with a title page displaying the book's English title, The Whale.

A clipping in one of the volumes indicated they had come from the library of the author. The signature of Melville's brother also appeared in the book.

A search for letters written by Henry S. Salt, 19th-century English social critic and biographer of Henry David Thoreau, led Hendrick to the lucky discovery of the rare first edition. In 1977 Hendrick was working on a book about Salt. When he learned at a dinner party that a Salt letter had been found in a house near his office, he telephoned the owner and asked permission to see the letter.

Hendrick was amazed to learn that it belonged to a widow who was the daughter-in-law of Dr. Samuel Arthur Jones, a prominent Ann Arbor, Michigan, physician, scholar and book collector who had carried on a lengthy correspondence with Salt. Jones's son, the late Paul Van Brunt Jones, a professor of history at Illinois from 1914 until his retirement in 1950 and death in 1969, inherited some of his father's letters and books and had kept them in his Urbana home.

In trunks and boxes Hendrick found 100 letters from Salt and letters from Longfellow, Thoreau and other well-known writers. He also discovered the rare first edition of *Moby Dick*, other books once owned by Melville and his family, and a valuable sketch of the Scottish writer Thomas Carlyle.

Later that year Mrs. Jones died and the letters and books were purchased for the UI Library.

An exhaustive study by noted Melville scholar Thomas Tanselle published in the Fall 1982 issue of *Book Collector* confirmed Hendrick's belief that he had discovered a unique copy of the novel.

"In 1851 the American publisher, Harper & Brothers, printed a trial title page using the English title," Hendrick said. "After the publisher or the author decided on *Moby Dick* as the title for the American edition, the rejected title page was inserted in one of the volumes of the two-volume set and passed into the hands of the Melville family, where it remained until after Melville's death."

According to Tanselle's article, in 1896 the New York bookseller Anna Clark listed in a catalog several titles by Melville with the notation, "All the books of Melville that I offer came from the library of the author." Dr. Samuel Arthur Jones bought the seven items, advertised for $17.50, paying $3.50 for *Moby Dick*, Tanselle said.

"This unique copy of *Moby Dick* was unknown to scholars for decades," Hendrick said. "The current value of the book is unknown, but in 1977 a different copy, signed by Melville before he gave it to one of his old shipmates, sold at auction for $53,000," he said.

The book Hendrick found is now on display in the Library's Rare Book Room.

Executive Committee Notes

Volunteer activities have been many and varied this semester. They have contributed substantially to the success of the Library.

Since January Frances Phipps has spent six hours a week "reading" the shelves in circulation for correct book arrangement. Annette Schoenberg serves as a volunteer in the Rare Book Room. Other volunteers are cleaning books there; 5,000 books have been done, but more help is needed.

Ten volunteers act as "tour people." As more schools and groups request tours of the Library, more people are needed to guide them.

In the reference department, Sarada Kotamraju and Judy Besai have been assisting with reference questions that can't be filled at other libraries. They are also organizing a collection of spoken records in the Music Library.

Lorena Neumann edits the "Volunteer News," which contains information of interest to local Friends volunteers. Mary Rhodes and Elizabeth Campbell have been volunteering time to help with Library exhibits.

Lois Johannsen and Lore Raether have been expediting transfer of rare geology books to the Rare Book Room.

The Friends Volunteer Services Committee wants people to know that volunteer opportunities exist and that volunteers are needed. Anyone interested in contributing time and effort should contact the Friends Office, 333-7480.

—Beth L. Armsey & Donna Follmer
Volunteer Services Committee

friendscript
Appears quarterly in April, July, Oct., and Jan. Editor: Linda Hoffman. Office of Publication: Library Friends, 415 Library, Univ. of Illinois, 1408 W. Gregory, Urbana, IL 61801. (POSTMASTER: Send Form 3579 to this address.) Second-class postage paid at Urbana, Ill.
From the Librarian's View

Reference Books in New Media

Not only are the scholarly societies and publishers such as Chemical Abstracts and the National Technological Information Service publishing their standard abstracts and bibliographies in a machine readable form, but there are arising new reference services which provide researchers and students access to information that was never before available. Typically, this was because the sheer bulk of the data precluded publishing it. Most of these new services are now appearing in the fields of survey research and voting behavior, census and other demographic data, and engineering information.

These services are typically provided to libraries through wholesalers (rather than directly by the producers of the index) and the libraries provide the ability for a student or faculty member to formulate a search, have it performed on a terminal in the library, and receive the results directly.

The costs of these searches are quite high and libraries throughout the country are splitting the cost between the patron and the library itself. In our case, we fund some 10 percent of the cost of such searches and the patron pays 90 percent. We have been able to find the most reasonable vendor for most patrons, and a typical search on ERIC and NTIS or Chemical Abstracts comes to about ten dollars. This is a bargain if one even thinks about the actual costs of doing a search in the printed indexes.

—Hugh C. Atkinson, University Librarian

Individual Gifts

Augment Collections

In the past few months, the Library has received notable gifts for its collections.

Dr. Alan Brightman of Champaign donated his copy of the October 3, 1797, edition of The Salem Gazette. The Library had no copy of this early newspaper, and will retain it in the Rare Book Room.

Two more important newspapers were added to the Newspaper Library's holdings through the generosity of Mr. Fred Pfeiffer of Savanna, Ill. The December 11, 1852, Illustrated London News (Wellington Supplement) will join the Portfolio Newspaper Collection. The July 10, 1857, edition of Prairie Farmer is a welcome addition; the Library's set did not include this issue, although it has a partially illegible microfilm copy.

UI History Professor Evan M. Melhado has given seven volumes from his personal library to the Library's Frank H. Stodola Collection in the History of Chemistry.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Falletti of Clarendon Hills, Ill., made a gift of the illustrated sale catalogs of art published by Sotheby Parke Bernet, Inc. The catalogs will augment the Library's resources on art; they are particularly valuable in tracing the provenance of an art object, since pieces are essentially lost to the public once they are purchased by a private collector.

UI Geology Professor Donald Henderson, a long-time member of Friends, donated his copy of the first edition of J.F. Dana's Outlines of the Mineralogy and Geology of Boston (Boston, 1818) and its companion map. The gift, strengthening the Library's outstanding history of science holdings, will be housed in the Rare Book Room.

Mrs. Edmund Purves of Washington, D.C., has donated an interesting set of letters from her husband written during World War I. The correspondence will be cataloged for addition to the Edmund Randolph Purves Collection in the Rare Book Room.

In September, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Barber, Champaign, presented an interestingly framed oil painting of Abraham Lincoln for display in the Library's recently dedicated Lincoln Room. The painting, signed "George, 1938," appears to be midwestern in origin.

The Friends are grateful for these and other individual contributions for the nation's third largest university library. This generosity helps the Friends in their goal of maintaining the excellent resources of the UI Library.

We Need Your Help

You can ensure the UI Library's continued excellence by:

- telling others about the Library Friends and encouraging them to join
- sending us lists of potential members and contributors
- helping the Library solicit grants from foundations
- obtaining your company's or organization's participation in a matching gift program
- passing the information about Library Friends membership on in your newsletter or publications.

The Benefits of Membership

As a Friend of the University of Illinois Library, you receive:

- Special circulation and stack privileges for Library materials
- Friendscript, the quarterly newsletter
- Non Solus, the annual bulletin
- Invitations to exhibits, lectures and receptions
- A 30% discount on University of Illinois Press publications

The Friends welcome everyone interested in the continued excellence of the University of Illinois Library. There are now over 1000 members of Library Friends.

YES, I/We wish to become members of the UI LIBRARY FRIENDS

☐ University Librarian's Council at UIUC: $5000
☐ Life: $1500
☐ Benefactor: $1000
☐ Patron: $500
☐ Sponsor: $100
☐ Subscriber: $50
☐ Student: $5

Please make your check payable to University of Illinois Foundation/Library Friends, 224 Illini Union, 1401 W. Green St., Urbana, Illinois 61801. All contributions are tax-deductible.

Name
Address
City
State & Zip
A reminder from the American Library Association to all who enjoy the privilege of access to our great libraries: National Library Week will be celebrated this year from April 17 through April 23. This is a good time to show your support by joining with the UI Library Friends in sustaining the superior collections and services of the nation's fourth largest research library.
Quotables

(Editor's note: On June 8, 1897, Melvil Dewey gave the dedication address for the University's new library building, Altgeld Hall. As he "spoke without manuscript or notes" in those days before tape recorders, no actual transcript of his address survives. The following is adapted from "a synopsis of the leading points" published in The Illini the following day.)

"The Library as a store-house is almost as old as written records. It has gone through this original conception as the mere reservoir for the safe keeping of precious documents. The library was first used for reference by a favored few; second, by all who could pay the established fee; third, free use by all who came to the building, after which came the new idea of lending books, contrary to the whole spirit of the original library which chained its volumes to the shelves; fourth, lending books to a special class; fifth, lending books to all who paid the fee; sixth, lending free to all completed the development of the new modern lending library until the new ideas of recent years. Now we have: seventh, branches; eighth, deliveries; ninth, books sent by messengers. And even this principle of making books as convenient as the merchantman makes his wares is being further extended; tenth, traveling libraries; eleventh, home libraries; and twelfth, books lent by mail to all parts of the country.

The first age of the library corresponded to the cistern, when the main thing was getting into and keeping, though there was some dipping out. About 1850 began the second or fountain period, when the function of giving out became prominent....It took nearly half a century to realize the pressing need of the third stage which we are just fully entering, that of filling: it is quality more than quantity that receives most attention....

The three great duties of the library are to select, supply, and interest....

This new building (Altgeld Hall) is satisfactory from the librarian's standpoint, as it is to every lover of the beautiful in architecture....The Library has become in late years the laboratory of each department of the University, and the natural center for the most important work for faculty, students, and the public....I predict a brilliant literary future...for the training school of the whole west,...Illinois.

Melvil Dewey

The Library is Looking...

For the 1980 edition of The Times Atlas of the World, available from the publisher, Times Books, for $140. The Geology Library would greatly appreciate a donation for the acquisition of this atlas, which is needed for that Library's Map Room. The book would be a valuable aid to students and staff in the cataloging and consultation of geology map sheets. For more information, please contact Dederick Ward, Geology Librarian, 217/333-1266.

For a microfiche reader for the Biology Library. Many of the serials the Library receives are now issued only on microfiche. The Library has a microfilm reader, but could offer better access to its collections with its own fiche reader. The equipment costs about $250. For more information, please contact Elisabeth Davis, Biology Librarian, 217/333-3654.

For large plants to warm the Veterinary Medicine Library's quarters in the brand new Health Sciences Building. If you have plants in your home that have responded so well to your green thumb that you are now tripping over them, please consider their adoption by the Veterinary Medicine Library. The library badly needs some interior landscaping, and the plants are assured good light and appreciative TLC. For more information, please contact David Self, Veterinarian Medicine Librarian, 217/333-2193.

For funds to purchase a special autograph (signed) letter from Sarah Bernhardt, recently placed on the book market, for the Modern Languages and Linguistics Library's resources. A "tres jolie et tendre lettre," the document would complement research materials held at the library, including editions of the actress/writer's works and much criticism on her. The letter may be obtained for $119; for more information, please contact Mrs. Sara Lo, Modern Languages & Linguistics Librarian, 217/333-0076.

If you can help the Library with a donation or gift, please call the number above, or contact Sandra Batzli at the Friends Office, 217/333-7480.

Altgeld Hall as it looked at its dedication in 1897.
Calendar

Exhibits
February 28—March 25
"Current Publications from Taiwan, ROC."
Main Corridor, UI Library.
March 1-31
"The Bank Holiday of 1933." University Archives.
March 6-28
"Looking at Women in History: Strength for the Future from our Roots in the Past."
Vertical case, Main Corridor, UI Library.
March 15—
"Samuel Johnson and his Circle." Rare Book Room. To continue indefinitely.
April 1-14
"Commemoration of the Jewish Holocaust."
Vertical case, Main corridor, UI Library.
April 1-30
"NASULGC & AUA: Cooperation in Higher Education." University Archives
April 4-29
"Common Differences (Third World Women and Feminist Perspectives)." Main Corridor, UI Library.

Events
March 16
Meeting, Genealogical Research Study Group. Tour of Reference Room, UI Library, 10 a.m.—11 a.m.
April 15
Dedication, Veterinary Medicine Library, Veterinary Medicine Basic Sciences Building.
April 17-23
NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK
April 20
Transport from Paradise, a film about the Jewish Holocaust by Czech filmmaker Arnost Lustie. 7:30 p.m., 66 Library. Reception immediately following, Rare Book Room. Public welcome.
April 20-21
"1980 Census Workshop." 9 a.m.—3 p.m., Illini Union. Morning session for novices; afternoon session for experienced researchers. Program repeated on April 21. Free. Advance registration required; space is limited. For information and registration, contact Richard Bopp, 200d Library, 1408 W. Gregory, Urbana, IL 61801 (217/333-1056).
April 23
"Bring Mom to the Library." UI Library, 1:30—3:30 p.m. Free. Registration 9 a.m.—1:30 p.m., East Foyer, UI Library. (See article above for details.)
April 28
Library Friends volunteers recognition coffee. 10 a.m. Mrs. Sarah Balbach, hostess. Mrs. Lorena Neumann, speaker.

Good Numbers
The Map & Geography Library recently announced an increase in annual circulation of its diverse materials by 32% over the previous year. The most impressive category, said Map & Geography Librarian David Cobb, is interlibrary loan—that circulation grew 173% and topped the 4,000-item mark. Total circulation surpassed 25,000 items. Since one of the most objective measures of any collection's usefulness is the demand on it by patrons, these statistics bring a smile of satisfaction for a job being well done.

Tours of Library Treasures Planned for Moms
On Saturday, April 23, the UI Library will display treasures from the wealth of its collections, especially for mothers visiting the university on Mom's Day Weekend.
Items featured will include:
- exquisite Oriental books in the Asian Library,
- original letters of Abraham Lincoln plus a life mask of Stephen A. Douglas housed in the History & Philosophy Library's Lincoln Room,
- well-known English illustrated books of the 18th century in the Rare Book Room,
- a slide show of landscape gardening throughout history in the City Planning and Landscape Architecture Library,
- a display of books on cooking and textiles, and Scottish hors d'oeuvres, in the Home Economics Library,
- a display of the works of illustrators of children's literature, including Crane and Sendak, in the Education and Social Sciences Library,
- our very rare pieces, such as the Gutenberg Bible and Shakespeare's First Folio, in the Rare Book Room,
- the Undergraduate Library's Research Instruction Room facilities,
- an update about women and education by the Women's Studies Librarian,
- original manuscripts and interesting documents written by Thomas Jefferson, George Rogers Clark, and others in early Illinois history in the Illinois Historical Survey,
- special resources in architecture and art at the Ricker Library of Architecture and Art,
- the only Veterinary Medicine Resource Library in the state of Illinois.
Sign up in person for tours between 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., Saturday, April 23, inside the east entrance of the Main Library. Tours will be given at 1:30 and 2:30. Advance registrations may be made by calling or writing the Friends Office, 415 Library, 1408 W. Gregory, Urbana, IL 61801 (217/333-7460). Space is limited in some instances; and reservations will be honored in order of receipt. Most libraries will offer the same presentation twice during the afternoon.

Friends of University of Illinois Library