PRODUCTION NOTE

University of Illinois at
Urbana-Champaign Library
University Librarian Hugh C. Atkinson Leaves Rich 10-Year Legacy

"I think Hugh Atkinson was the best university librarian in the country. Certainly he was the best I knew of," said Thomas E. Everhart, chancellor of the Urbana-Champaign campus of the University of Illinois.

Hugh C. Atkinson, who died October 24 at age 52, after ten years as the University Librarian, is certain to have earned a major place in the history of the UIUC Library. During his tenure Mr. Atkinson led an already outstanding library to new levels of excellence.

The Library Computer System (LCS), which links the University with 26 academic libraries and 18 regional public library systems throughout Illinois; the sixth stack addition to the Library, the acquisition of the sixth and seventh million volumes, and the development of private funding for the Library (especially through the Library Friends) will stand as monuments to Mr. Atkinson's guidance from 1976 until his death.

When he arrived, University Librarian Atkinson realized that the UIUC Library's manual systems (such as the card catalog) were not capable of dealing with the volume of materials being acquired in the 1970s and the levels of service which he wished to achieve. Accordingly, he initiated and developed one of the most advanced and comprehensive library automation programs in the United States. He obtained special funding from the Illinois Board of Higher Education and with it he created the Library Computer System. The system is entirely available to the public, whereas in some libraries the computer terminals are available only to the staff.

The Online Catalog, inaugurated in 1984, gives the full bibliographic record of all the books the Library has acquired since 1975. Because of his belief that a university's materials should be available to the public, and that library assets should be shared, Mr. Atkinson encouraged users of his library to borrow materials from other libraries in the state. The idea became practical to the fullest with the establishment of the interlibrary loan program which includes virtually all university and community libraries throughout Illinois.

In keeping with the Library's founding plan for an ever-expanding collection, Mr. Atkinson led in planning the Library's sixth stack addition, which was dedicated in October of 1984. The seven-level facility cost $6.7 million and its 55 miles of high-density mobile book shelving provides the space for storing two million volumes. It was the first building ever designed solely for multi-story compact mobile book storage.

In the pre-Atkinson period the Library was adding approximately one million volumes every ten years. Since he came to the University of Illinois campus, the Library has added two million volumes in the 10-year period. The seven millionth was commemorated October 8, 1986.

However, Hugh Atkinson was a planner and an innovator in another way. He saw the need to expand the Library's basis for support and, in 1981, he created the Library's Office of Development and Public Affairs. It was charged with enlisting the support of private citizens to help finance the Library's mission to serve the public.

"Hugh really was interested in expanding private support for the Library. He was ahead of his time," said Joan Hood, director of the Office of Development and Public Affairs since its inception. In the last three years the office has attracted more the $4 million in private gifts. Equally important, the Development Office has helped to heighten the Library's visibility in the state and nation and to increase its use by private citizens.

Mr. Atkinson encouraged and supported acquisition of a number of special collections, many of which were purchased with private funds. Existing collections were enhanced, and new ones acquired so that the Library would be of even greater service to researchers and scholars.

His accessibility to faculty, staff and private citizens, and his interaction with (Please turn to page 2)

Select Acting Librarian

Michael Gorman, a member of the UIUC Library faculty since 1977, has been appointed Acting University Librarian to serve until a permanent successor to the late Hugh C. Atkinson is appointed.


His numerous publications are chiefly in the field of cataloging, automation, bibliography, and library management.

Professor Gorman is a Fellow of the (British) Library Association and a recipient of the Margaret Mann Citation, 1979.
Hugh Atkinson...

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them, endeared him to those who knew him.

Born in Chicago, Hugh Atkinson was a graduate of St. Benedict's College where he studied accounting. He worked in that field for a time while he was studying English at the University of Chicago. In 1959 he earned a master's degree from the University of Chicago Graduate Library School.

His work as a career librarian took him to Pennsylvania Military College and to the State University of New York at Buffalo. In 1967 he joined the Ohio State University Library, where he was director of libraries from 1971 until he came to Illinois in 1976.

Mr. Atkinson is survived by his wife, Mary, of Urbana; two daughters, Mary Atkinson Tierney and Anne Atkinson Pierce, both of Urbana; a son, George Craig Atkinson, Aurora; his father, Craig Atkinson; a brother, two sisters; and three grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the UI Foundation's Hugh C. Atkinson Memorial Fund for the Library, the American Cancer Society or the American Lung Association.

Quotables

The following are representative of the tributes paid to the late University Librarian, Hugh C. Atkinson, by colleagues in the "library world":

"...He contributed a great deal to the development of multitype governance and services at Lincoln Trail. His participation in the Illinois State Library Advisory Committee, he has been a major figure in library development statewide. His presence on the Board of OCLC is just one indicator of his nationwide influence. Mr. Atkinson's professional sensibilities will be much missed by the library world, and especially by those of us who were privileged to have known him."—Lincoln Trail Libraries System Conferences.

"...Hugh was a remarkably fine person, and his goodness reflected on the University of Illinois Library as much as the many, many contributions he made to our profession. He has friends who will miss him all over the country. We are very saddened here."—Harold W. Billings, Director of General Libraries, The University of Texas at Austin.

"...Although you will feel the loss in a very real sense, the library community nationwide also suffers a loss. Without a doubt, Hugh brought more insight to the issues of cooperation and resource sharing than any of his contemporaries. As a public librarian, I always saw Hugh as a champion of small libraries, continually working towards development of systems that would 'allow' all of us to participate."—Liz Bishoff, Principal Librarian for Support Services, City of Pasadena, California.

"...Hugh was a professional colleague whom I held in the highest esteem, but more than that he was a personal friend. He was an individual who impacted my life on a very positive basis. Without his help I can honestly say that I would not be where I am today. Hugh will be sorely missed by many, but not one, his passing away more than I."—William Aguilar, Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, Connecticut.

"On behalf of the Board of Directors and the entire staff of Chicago Public Library, I am conveying to you our deepest sympathy at the untimely passing of Hugh Atkinson, your University Librarian. As part of the Illinois library community, we also benefited from his dedication to excellence, but we had too few opportunities to enjoy his warm and vibrant personality. We are stunned by this tragic loss, and we express to you our sorrow."—James B. Duff, Commissioner, Chicago Public Library.

"Hugh Atkinson was, quite simply, one of the most extraordinary people I have ever met. He was, at once, a man of enormous complexity and of disarming simplicity. He was a genius in librarianship who never flaunted his great intelligence, and an intellectual who, for the most part, hid his intellectualism. Hugh was a wise and witty man and a natural democrat who never condescended to anyone and who treated all kinds and conditions of people with equal kindness and consideration. He had a passionate commitment to librarianship and believed in the overriding mission of libraries as agents of culture and civilization and in the importance of library service in carrying out that mission..."—Michael Gorman, UIUC Library Director of General Services and currently Acting Librarian, writing in American Libraries, a publication of the American Library Association.

UIUC Senate Resolution for Hugh C. Atkinson

For the last 10 years University Librarian Hugh C. Atkinson directed the University of Illinois Library at Urbana-Champaign, the fourth largest research library in the United States and the nation's largest public university library. Under his guidance the Library achieved a number of milestones including the computerization of the Library's card catalog and circulation system, the construction of the $6.7 million sixth stack addition and, most recently, the acquisition of the Library's seven millionth volume. The size of the collection grew at an unparalleled rate during his tenure.

Mr. Atkinson was dedicated to providing the best possible Library service to the University of Illinois, the State and the nation. He was instrumental in the development of the Library Computer System (LCS) which links the University Library with academic libraries and regional public library systems throughout Illinois. The circulation of the Library's materials was especially important to Mr. Atkinson. Through the development of LCS, the University Library at Urbana-Champaign became the second heaviest lender and the heaviest borrower of materials among the 117 members of the Association of Research Libraries in the United States and Canada.

A man particularly sensitive to other people, he challenged and encouraged his colleagues to perform at the highest level of their abilities. As a librarian, his advice and counsel were sought constantly by groups and individuals throughout the country. Mr. Atkinson was a member of the Board of Directors of both the Association of Research Libraries and OCLC; a member of the editorial board for the Journal of Library Administration; an active member of the American Library Association; and a number of other professional library organizations.

Among his recent publications were "Automation in Austerity"; "The Impact of New Technology on Library Organization"; "Centralized Library Collections: A Brief for the Other Side," and a series of articles in The Library Journal's series on technology, change and people.

His vision of the nature of librarianship and resource sharing, in particular, placed him in the forefront of his profession. The results of his leadership will be in evidence throughout the country for many years to come.
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.

Gordon N. Ray Dies
Gordon N. Ray, 71, who delivered the address to the Library Friends' founding meeting November 17, 1972, died in mid-December in New York City.
Mr. Ray, a member of the University of Illinois faculty from 1946 until 1960, returned to the University upon the occasion of the Library Friends' founding when he was president and a trustee of the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation in New York. The title of his address was "Books as a Way of Life."
He was Professor of English at the UI from 1946 to 1960, and headed the English Department from 1950 to 1957. Mr. Ray was Vice President and Provost, 1957 to 1960, after which he joined the Guggenheim Fellowship, moving in three years to its presidency. He was president and trustee from 1963 until his recent retirement.
Mr. Ray was instrumental in the UIUC Library's acquisition of the H.G. Wells Collection. His many books and articles throughout his professional career were about the English literary greats of the Victorian Era.

Calendar
EXHIBITS
January
"Avian Ecology." University Archives, 19 Library.
"The Year in Print: A Political Cartoon and Headline Review of 1986." Main Corridor, University Library.
"The Best of Rose: Featuring the Humor of Daily Illini Cartoonist Earl Rose." Newspaper Library, 1 Library.
"Private Presses." Rare Book and Special Collection Library, 346 Library.
February
"Illini Basketball." University Archives, Lincoln Room Exhibit: "Lincoln's Attitude Toward Blacks"(coincides with Black History Month). Main Corridor.
March
"Arts Education Materials: CEMREL." University Archives.
"U.S. Constitution, Legacy of 1787." Main Corridor.
"America's Other Bicentennial." Rare Book and Special Collections Library.
April
"40th Anniversary of ILIR." Main Corridor.

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 nearly 2,000 members of Library Friends.

YES, I/We wish to become members of the U of I LIBRARY FRIENDS
☐ University Librarian’s Council at UIUC: $3000
☐ Sponsor: $100
☐ Life: $3000
☐ Subscriber: $50
☐ Benefactor: $1000
☐ Contributor: $25
☐ Patron: $500
☐ Student: $10
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
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bratkiv (center) of Inverness, Illinois, recently contributed funds to the UIUC Library, which has been visited for years by scholars from many countries. Here, Acting Librarian Michael Gorman (left) and Chancellor Thomas E. Everhart. The Bratkivs' donation of $30,000 will fund "The Walter Bratkiv Family Collection of Ukrainian Materials."

Walter and Raisa Bratkiv have come a long way since they were taken from their homes by the Germans and forced to perform forced labor during World War II.

Walter was born March 17, 1941, in Kharkiv, Ukraine. In 1943 the Germans overran their homeland and the family—Walter, his parents, an older brother and two sisters—was taken to forced labor camps in Germany. At war's end they spent three years in a displaced persons (DP) camp, and in 1948 the Bratkivs emigrated to Brazil. In 1960 they came to the United States, settling in Chicago.

Walter completed his studies in 1962 at the Chicago Institute of Technology, earning his degree in civil engineering. He was employed by several companies in Chicago until 1974 when Mr. Bratkiv formed his own construction company, Rem Builders, Inc., in Downers Grove.

Raisa Shpakovsky was born February 19, 1941, in Glyboke Brod (near Minsk), in Byelorussia. In 1943 her family was sent to Germany for forced labor. From 1945 until 1950 they lived in a displaced persons camp, then came to the United States to live in Chicago. Raisa earned her bachelor degree at Northwestern University in 1963.

The Bratkivs have three children: Mark, Elizabeth and Melanie. They are members of the parish of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Chicago. Their home is in Inverness. The family is active in various Ukrainian religious and cultural societies in Chicago and Palatine, especially in the Ukrainian Youth Association of America (Palatine branch) and the Ukrainian National Home in Palatine, which they generously support.

The Bratkiv's generous gift to the University of Illinois Library at Urbana-Champaign is symbolic of their interest in fostering Ukrainian heritage.
The Library is Looking…

The Map and Geography Library's aerial photography collection now exceeds 150,000 images, the largest in the state, and is used extensively by students in geography, geology, urban and regional planning, as well as the Illinois State Geological Survey, the Illinois Natural History Survey, and by engineers. Use has increased sharply during the past two years, and users have strongly urged the acquisition of a quality stereoscope to aid in the interpretation of aerial photographs.

Third-dimensional characteristics of aerial photography, even in "flat" Illinois, is one of the major uses of the collection, and yet the library lacks the equipment to determine important data.

In addition, the Map and Geography Library is now receiving microfiche copies of images from the new LANDSAT thematic mapper satellite. The current reader isn't satisfactory for viewing satellite remote sensing. If the Library is going to collect this data, it must also provide the appropriate equipment to interpret the data.

The Map and Geography Library therefore needs a new stereoscope and stereometer bar (which inter-act) at a total cost of $750.75.

If there is a Library Friend who wishes to provide for this purchase, please contact Library Friends Coordinator Lucie Clark, Office of Development and Public Affairs, 1408 W. Gregory Ave., Urbana, IL 61801, phone 217/333-5683.

Getting two copies?

If you are a faculty or staff member and are getting two copies of Friendsript, but need only one, please let us know. Simply call 333-5682, or send a note to Library Friends at 227 Library, and give your name and social security number, and we'll see that one copy is dropped from the mailing.

UI Dads Association Establishes Library Awards

The Dads Association of the University of Illinois has established an awards program which recognizes the UIUC Library's role in the education of their Illini children. Library Awards each year will honor the academic achievement among students who have completed their sophomore year.

Under the plan, a book will be purchased for the Undergraduate Library in the name of each of the top three sophomore students in each college. A bookplate listing the student's name and achievement will be placed in the book. Approximately fifty students will thus receive recognition for academic excellence each year.

Young and old alike were looking for book bargains during the annual two-day Library Book Sale in the Fall.
Avners Are Longtime, Active Library Friends

A husband and wife team, Elaine and Allen Avner, both involved with the University's PLATO computer system, have been Library Friends since the organization was founded in 1972. Prior to that they were "friends" of various libraries, and extensive users of library materials and services, but the Friends organization has enabled them to make significant contributions to the University of Illinois Library at Urbana-Champaign.

The Avners' gifts through Library Friends to the UIUC Library over 15 years have included memorials to their parents and specific donations to the Rare Book and Special Collections Library, the Judaica collection, the Map and Geography Library, and the Illinois Historical Survey.

Both have, over the years, become members of the University Librarian's Council and Life Member categories of giving.

The Avners attended different schools—Mr. Avner is a Georgia Tech graduate, with a major in electrical engineering and a specialty in applied psychology; Mrs. Avner graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with an astronomy major—and they met on the University of Illinois campus where they were studying for their masters degrees. Mrs. Avner went on to earn her Ph.D. at Illinois.

They were subsequently married and both gravitated toward PLATO and are new employed in the Computer-based Education Research Laboratory (CERL). Mrs. Avner taught astronomy and used PLATO as a tool in teaching celestial mechanics. She now writes documentation for various programs using PLATO in education, and works on programming problems. Mr. Avner is director of evaluation for the CERL program, and is responsible for service and research projects. He was instrumental in the movement to connect PLATO with the University's Library Computer System (LCS). It is intended to be available in mid-1987.

"One particular advantage in programming LCS with PLATO is the fact that there are some 500 computer terminals on the UIUC campus," Allen said. "In addition, LCS would be available to the more than 1,500 PLATO terminals in the nation's universities, junior colleges, industries, and other locations, and to other PLATO terminals around the world."

PLATO, now 26 years old, was the first to tap the enormous potential of the computer in teaching. CERL is a low-cost, computer-based system through which students can interact with their teachers and with the material they are learning. Today there are tens of thousands of PLATO users worldwide, and the instruction levels of students range from preschoolers upward, virtually without limit.

The first accredited college course in the CERL program taught entirely by PLATO was in library science, in 1965. Mrs. Avner agrees with Allen's statement that "three things have kept us in Urbana-Champaign:" PLATO, the University Library, and WILL, the University-owned radio and television station.

Both have enjoyed books (and museums) through their married years. They have appreciated the wealth of materials available to them in the University Library system, and their contributions have enhanced the collections.
Professor of English Laurence J. Lieberman reads his latest poetry works in an event sponsored by Library Friends and held in the Rare Book and Special Collections Library. Professor Lieberman, recipient of the American Poetry Review award for the best poems of 1986, and holder of a full NEA grant for 1986-87, dedicated his reading to the memory of the late Hugh C. Atkinson, University Librarian. His most recent titles include Mural of Wakeful Sleep, God’s Measurements, and Eros at the World Kite Pageant.

The annual reception was held for new faculty members in the Fall in the Rare Book and Special Collections Library. Sponsored by Library Friends, the event was an orientation for those new to the UIUC faculty.

Many Companies Match Contributions

If you are employed by one of approximately one thousand American businesses and industries, there is a possibility that your contribution to Library Friends could be doubled or even tripled.

Many businesses and industries routinely match employees' gifts to selected educational funds. The Library Friends office has a list of the companies which have a matching gift program, and we will be glad to supply one to anyone who is interested.

Such programs do, in effect, multiply the individual contributor's gift amount and make that much more money available for worthwhile projects.

For information, please write to the Library Friends Coordinator, Lucie W. Clark, at 227 Library, 1408 W. Gregory Drive, Urbana, IL 61801, or telephone 217/333-5683.

Library Friends Respond to Recent ‘Looking’ Requests

Individual Library Friends have responded generously to UIUC Library appeals published in the last two issues of Friendscript.

Major Lee F. Aubuchon, of Reno, Nevada, donated funds with which to purchase Cyprien Tanguay’s Dictionnaire Genealogique des Familles Canadiennes for the Illinois Historical Survey.

Professor Harriet Wallace, Urbana, funded René Jette’s Dictionnaire genealogique des familles du Québec des origines a 1739 for the Illinois Historical Survey.

Professor James B. Sinclair, of the UI Plant Pathology Department, donated a projection screen to University Archives.

Mrs. Joseph A. Zalar, Jr., Champaign, contributed a cassette tape recorder/player to University Archives. Carl T. Scheve, of Woodinville, Washington, contributed funds toward the purchase of a projector for Archives.

Another Library Friend provided the funds to purchase Descriptions of Plant Viruses for the Agriculture Library.

It’s Official:
1987 Designated the ‘Year of the Reader’

Following its passage in both houses of the Congress, Public Law 99-494 has been signed into law by President Reagan, designating 1987 officially as “Year of the Reader.” The special designation celebrates the tenth anniversary of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, established in 1977 to stimulate public interest in books, reading, and the printed word.

1987 is also the bicentennial of the United States Constitution, and sponsors of the 1987 theme drive feel it appropriate to highlight the importance of reading in a democracy.

The President has issued a proclamation encouraging efforts throughout the nation “aimed at restoring the act of reading to a place of preeminence in our personal lives and in the life of our Nation.”

“1987—The Year of the Reader” will be used as a project theme during the year by more than a dozen national organizations, including the American Library Association, the International Reading Association, the Association of American Publishers, Friends of Libraries U.S.A., and the American Booksellers Association.
Some things never change. The UIUC Library Reference Room was always a quiet place to study, and it still is a serene location for organizing thoughts and reference materials.