PRODUCTION NOTE

University of Illinois at
Urbana-Champaign Library

Volume 21 consists of only one
issue
Library Friends Charter Member Establishes $1 Million Endowment

One of the Library's best Friends, charter member John E. "Bud" Velde, Jr., has donated $1 million to establish the new John E. Velde Library Endowment Fund for the support of the Library's collections, programs, and services.

"This is a very significant gift to the Library, and it's especially important coming as it does from such a long-term supporter of the Library," says University Librarian Robert Wedgeworth. "While we continue to enjoy good support from the state, we will increasingly need to rely on private gifts and grants. It's gifts like this that enable the Library to remain the great research institution that it is."

Long-time Library Friends will remember Velde as the donor of funds to purchase the Library's 7-millionth volume in 1986 (Peregrinatio in Terram Sanctam, 1486), and the Library's 8-millionth volume in 1992 (The House Beautiful, 1896-97). In 1981, Velde also donated a one-of-a-kind set of Charles Dickens, featuring illustrations by "Kyd." No wonder that in 1992, Velde's wife, Gretchen Swanson Velde, decided to honor her husband on his 75th birthday by establishing a Library endowment in his name.

John E. and Gretchen Swanson Velde

"Libraries have been part of a lot of my life," says Velde about his latest gift. "It's amazing what can happen in a person's mind when they learn what happened in the past and see what can happen in the future. When you can read, for instance, Jefferson's ideas, or you go back to the old philosophers, it can really inspire the young people of today."

Velde is a 1938 graduate of the U of I and a member of the Presidents Council. He is president of Paisano Productions in Los Angeles, which owns the copyright to the black-and-white episodes of the Perry Mason television show and all the works of Erle Stanley Gardner.

His lifelong love of libraries, he says, started when he was a student at the U of I. He served for 21 years as a trustee, and as board president, of the of the Pekin Public Library. He has been on many national commissions concerning libraries, including the Advisory Board of the White House Conference on Libraries, the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science, and the National Book Committee. He is also a member of the Madison Council, a fund-raising organization for the Library of Congress. He now lives in Omaha, where he served for many years on the board of the foundation of the Omaha Public Library.

Says Velde about his long association with libraries, "No matter what comes along scientifically or on your computer, there is still something wonderful about a book. The book world is just a wonderful world."
Economic and Political Turbulence of the '30s, '40s, and '50s Captured in New Archives Collection

When the United States plunged into the Great Depression, economists were faced with the two-pronged task of explaining what had caused the depression and finding a way out of the problem.

No sooner had they done that than the country was plunged into a world war, leaving economists with the task of figuring out how to convert industry to a war-time footing without major economic disruptions.

With the end of the war, those same economists who had created New Deal policies and wartime planning found themselves the targets of the post-war, anti-Communist witch hunt.

These decades of economic and political turbulence are captured in a new Archives collection of personal papers from a man who had a prominent role in all these issues—the late U of I economics professor V Lewis Bassie.

"This collection provides a first-hand account of several of the most important issues of the twentieth century," says University Archivist William Maher. "It shows in a fairly compact way the evolution of how someone who was essentially a New Deal planner could end up being a target of loyalty suspicions."

Bassie, who died in 1997, spent his early career as an assistant to noted Keynesian economist Lauchlin Currie at the Federal Reserve, then as director of major statistical divisions of the Defense Advisory Commission and War Production Board from 1940 to 1944. In 1948, after serving as an advisor to the Foreign Economic Administration, he came to the University of Illinois to head the College of Commerce's Bureau of Economic and Business Research.

For researchers interested in the history of economic policy from the mid-30s through the end of World War II, particularly as related to the use of statistical indexes of production and consumption, Bassie's papers will be invaluable. Late in life, Bassie wrote an unpublished memoir, contained in this collection, that describes in detail the country's lack of accurate statistics in the early '30s and his role in creating the mathematical models needed to provide those statistics. These were crucial to correcting the country's economic crisis.

As early as 1934, for instance, while working a summer job at the Department of Commerce, Bassie discovered that many of the government's statistics for industrial output were erroneous due to faulty methods of adjusting index numbers. Bassie corrected the problem by inventing a mathematical model that could be used by statistical clerks, even if they had little mathematical training.

"My method was widely adopted and was still being used more than a half century later in adjusting such series as components of the national income and product statistics," his memoir states. "A division head there once told me my name had become a verb, as clerks were assigned to 'Bassie these figures.'"

The memoir also describes in detail how in 1938, at the behest of Lauchlin Currie, Bassie created the first model for understanding changes in production, consumption, and inventories of consumer goods. Bassie's statistical model became the basis for what became Currie's famous analysis of the recession of 1938.

With war looming in 1940, Bassie became director of the Defense Advisory commission's Civilian Requirements Division and, later, chief production analyst for the War Production Board. In these capacities, he had a direct effect on when, how much, and what sectors of civilian industrial output needed to be converted to wartime use.

For this period, the Bassie papers are particularly valuable for he saved not only his correspondence about meetings, decisions, and political issues, but also much of the information he collected about the state of heavy industry both before and during the war.

Included in this documentation are his typed notes about site visits to various automobile manufacturers; discussions of how to classify commodities for wartime purposes ("...fertilizers and tanning materials have been given the same rating as perfumes," he complained in a 1941 memo); information about an attempt to expand gasoline rationing as a way to force small competitors out of the consumer market ("This is a typical monopoly move, requested by the industry and designed to eliminate competition..." he commented in another 1941 memo); and documentation, some marked 'secret,' about production of munitions and other war materiel.

Bassie, unfortunately, found himself working in a highly political environment. Shortly before the Normandy invasion in 1944, his division's statistics showed that, except for some needed vehicles, there were enough munitions and other armaments either in place or in the production pipeline to carry on the war for several years without any more manufacturing.

Since it was clear at this point that the war was turning in favor of the Allies, his monthly report suggested it was time to start converting some smaller industries to civilian use. Gradual reconversion, he argued, would minimize the future cost of disposing of surplus munitions and smooth the country's return to civilian life.

The report caused a firestorm of protest from the Army, which worried that the release of the report would give the country the wrong impression. Just as bad was the anger of big business, which worried that smaller companies would corner the new civilian market before the industry giants were freed from wartime production. The report was pulled, and Bassie's division was informed that further monthly reports would be censored before release.

Bassie and his deputy, Irving Kaplan, immediately resigned in protest; the rest of his division resigned in response. The controversy sparked a slew of newspaper reports (including one from gossip columnist Drew Pearson) and congressional inquiries. These columns, as well as voluminous correspondence about the fight, can be found in the Bassie collection.

That report, combined with his association with Lauchlin Currie, came back to haunt Bassie shortly after the war as the nation became gripped with anti-Communist hysteria.

Why? It was no secret in the 1930s that many Republicans, and most of the business community, viewed President Roosevelt's New Deal policies as socialist at best, Communist-inspired at worst. The idea of government deficit spending on public-works projects ran against the traditional economic laissez-faire theory of letting the market take care of problems.

Roosevelt, however, seems to have been swayed by the new economic theories of John Maynard Keynes, who advocated a government-sponsored policy of full

(cont'd on p.3)
employment as the remedy for economic recession, even if that meant deficit spending. Foremost among Roosevelt's early economic consultants was Keynesian economist Lauchlin Currie, who in 1934 and 1935 was a chief advisor on monetary and fiscal policies for recovery and full employment.

With the death of Roosevelt, the end of World War II, and the expansionist actions of Stalin, the Republicans went after New Deal policies and policy-makers with a vengeance. Loyalty-oath boards were introduced, and previously tepid congressional committees devoted during the war to "un-American" activities suddenly became dogged in attempts to show that Communists had infiltrated the government during the '30s and '40s.

It was in this atmosphere that a government worker, Elizabeth Bentley, named Lauchlin Currie as one of the two top Soviet spies in Washington. Currie, she claimed, had recruited others to spy for the Soviet Union, including Bassie's former deputy at the War Production Board, Irving Kaplan, and several others who had worked for Bassie. Suddenly, beginning in 1948, Bassie began receiving letters from former associates who were now under investigation by various loyalty-oath boards asking for affidavits as to their patriotism.

In 1950, Bassie himself finally received a subpoena from the Council of Economic Advisors' loyalty board. The reason? His association with Currie in the '30s and his steadfast defense of that monthly report of 1944 suggesting a slow reconversion to civilian production. His correspondence with friends and lawyers, testimonial letters, and his response to his own subpoena are all in the collection.

But controversy for Bassie did not end there. In the late '40s, many universities viewed any Keynesian economist as a possible Communist sympathizer. This was especially so at the U of I's College of Commerce, where not one professor taught Keynes' theories.

So, when the U of I's new president, George Stoddard, hired prominent Keynesian economist Howard Bowen to take over the College of Commerce, and Bowen hired another Keynesian economist to head the economics department, the college's old guard was horrified. Among the new hires—V. Lewis Bassie, a Keynesian.

In less than two years, Bowen's hiring of non-traditionalists and his demolition of some of the older professors led to a public, state-wide crusade to rid the college of "reds, pinkers, and socialists," as Urbana's state representative, Ora Dillavou, put it in a local newspaper. The result was that Bowen was fired after two years; seven of the professors he hired, including a future Nobel Prize winner, left with him. Not long after, President Stoddard himself was fired, partially because of the Bowen affair.

Bassie, however, stayed. "Bassie was a liberal economist," remembers Robert Resek, professor of economics and emeritus university vice president, "and he was incensed at the treatment these people received. So he used his position as head of the Bureau of Economic Research to provide cover for the so-called leftists, as a counterbalance to the rest of the faculty."

Bassie, says Resek, never showed the anger that many of his colleagues showed during the Bowen controversy, but a satirical typescript in the collection, "Rules for Young Faculty Members Who Want To Get Ahead in the College of Commerce," provides an interesting commentary ("Never argue with any member of the elite," states rule #3. "Of necessity, this group will always maintain its unanimity, and one black ball may ruin your chances"). Bassie's letter of protest to President Stoddard, as well as a thick newspaper clipping file, also document the affair.

"Bassie really understood what made the economy work," says Resek. "He provided information that was not available anywhere else. Under him, the bureau was a really good organization. He achieved a great deal."

Lyn E. Jones Appointed New Director of Library Development

The University Library has appointed a new director of library development and public affairs. She is Lyn E. Jones, former vice chancellor and director of development for student affairs at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

"Lyn Jones will be a major asset to the University Library," says University Librarian Robert Wedgeworth. "She brings with her well-established contacts across campus as well as experience in another non-degree-granting campus unit. In addition, she is a very engaging person who is genuinely interested in the Library's activities."

Says Jones, "The Library has a certain aura about it on campus, which makes coming to this position feel like such a prize. I am proud that I will not only be representing the university, but also trying to raise funds for such an outstanding part of this campus."

Jones, a 1976 graduate of Illinois who also received her master's degree here in 1980, has spent the last six years heading development efforts at the Office of Student Affairs. There she helped to create and implement a comprehensive scholarship program funded by private gifts and designed to create linkages between donors and the students they sponsored.

Prior to that, she was the Alumni Association's associate director of programs and services (1988-1992) and the first director of development and alumni affairs at the College of Education (1985-1989).

At all her jobs, she says, her background as an Illinois alumna has shaped her work.

"I have always felt that coming to the University of Illinois was a life-changing experience for me," she explains. "You view the world in a whole different way after being educated here. So, when I worked for Student Affairs, raising money for scholarships, in many ways it seemed like an opportunity to pay back the university for what it had given me, and it made me feel great."

"When this position as development director became available at the Library, however, I thought, 'Wouldn't it be great to represent the Library to donors?' When I was an undergraduate here, I spent a lot of time at the Library, and the Library has such an outstanding reputation. From my perspective, the potential is just unlimited!"

The fact that the University Library, unlike other colleges on campus, has no alumni of its own has sometimes made it difficult for the Library to attract major gifts. That's nothing new to Jones, since the Office of Student Affairs has the same problem.

Says Jones, "When you're at a non-degree-granting unit like the Library, you must look at creative ways to connect with the students while they're here. I am very interested in finding ways to do that at the Library because they are our future alums. From a selfish perspective, it also means that I get to meet and work with people from a wide range of disciplines, not just teachers or engineers or accountants."

In addition to working with individuals, Jones hopes to create links with foundations and corporations. "When I hear people in the Library talk about how technology will change how the Library operates, it seems logical that there might be opportunities for corporate support that we might not have had before," she notes.

"Across the board, however, is a feeling that can be found all over campus, now that Campaign Illinois has ended, that all development officers should devote time and effort to providing proper stewardship for the gifts we have received. That should keep me busy for three or four years at least!"
Nations Need Strong Ethical Foundation, Says Ninth Mortenson Lecturer

Every country seeks national strength through security, stability, and order, but without a strong religious, spiritual, or ethical basis for nationhood, no country can achieve national strength.

That was the main message of Edwin Thumboo, director of the Centre for Arts at the National University of Singapore, who delivered the ninth annual Mortenson Distinguished Lecture on October 29. The talk was entitled *Arcs of the Rainbow: The Heritage of Knowledge and Contemporary Life*.

"Like properly ambitious individuals, nations want to succeed, want to be counted," Thumboo told the audience of approximately 80. "Without the four virtues of national strength, security, stability, and order, there is little hope of planned development of the wealth of nations, and what for me is more important, the health of nations..."

According to Thumboo, there are more nations drawing their major institutions from the values of Christianity than from any other religion, primarily due to the colonialization carried out by European countries between the 16th and 19th centuries. "This was a period of institution-making on a global scale," he noted, "one so successful that the present international system grew out of it and is maintained by some of its residual philosophies."

The religious and moral aspects of these institutions, however, have changed to the point that it is the secular—the financial bottom line—that has become most important, leading to an increasing separation of values and morality from action. This has led to "rampant, open-ended materialism," which he sees as the primary cause of moral and ethical decay.

The emphasis on the secular has also led to a decentralization of authority in nearly all levels of national life, which he considers harmful.

"The effect of decentralization is one of the main lessons of the 20th century," Thumboo stated. "It reduces the capacity to act, to maintain a common understanding, to maintain a single public discourse, to maintain commonly accepted boundary markers, and so forth. Decentralization all too often turns into fragmentation, creating room for special interests that over-assert themselves and lose proportion."

This causes a problem for third-world countries that formerly were colonies. Because their national boundaries were often imposed without regard to historical ethnic or religious divisions, these new nations have been faced not only with the usual tasks of governing, but also with the task of forging some kind of national identity where none had existed before.

The result for many ex-colonies, he said, has been declining production, escalating production costs, shrinking gross national product, and declining direct and indirect revenues as a result of poor planning and populist democracy.

"In order to make something positive out of the tremendous negative potential of all this," he told the audience, "there is a need for centralization, for efficiency. Now let me make it clear that that does not justify dictatorship, that doesn't justify strong-handed methods... You want to keep your culture, the structure, service, and identity as part of that centralization. The premise is that the stronger, the more distinctive the identity is, the better you can modernize and with less risk of becoming two persons in one."

For these reasons, he said, third-world countries have eagerly accepted the knowledge and influences of the first world in the hard sciences and technology because these are the means to raising a country's standard of living. They have been much less receptive to influences from the humanities and social sciences because those deal with culture, traditions, and national identity. Any changes to these, he said, must come only from within.

Cautioned Thumboo, "Unless we have our space defined by our traditions, and that tradition keeps whatever comes from the outside in reasonable balance, we are going to be unsuited to live in our own societies... We must convert knowledge into understanding, into insight, into gradually enlarging and deepening capacities that include the ability to choose between alternatives, to handle the gray areas, to separate right from wrong."

The Mortenson lecture series is part of the Library's C. Walter and Gerda B. Mortenson distinguished Professorship for International Library Programs. Thumboo's visit to campus was also sponsored by the George A. Miller Endowment.

The Library is Looking for...

$795 to purchase the *Cor/tech Directory of Technology Companies (National)*, 2000 edition, for the Commerce Library. Updated annually, this four-volume set is the standard reference work on America's high-tech business community.

Two videos, *Quand les Etoiles Rencontrent La Mer* and *White City, Black Lives* for the Africana Bibliographic Unit. The films, from Madagascar and South Africa, deal with cultural clashes and issues of poverty as seen by African filmmakers. Cost is $555 for both films.

$590 to purchase the Russian National Library Catalog of regional and local government newspapers issued in the Russian Empire between 1838 and 1917 for the Slavic and East European Library. This 10-volume set contains over 2,000 biographies of entrepreneurs, inventors, performing artists, political and military leaders, scientists, and more.

$319 to purchase *The Grolier Library of North American Biographies* for the University Laboratory High School Library. This 10-volume set contains over 2,000 biographies of entrepreneurs, inventors, performing artists, political and military leaders, scientists, and more.

$560 to purchase city, ecological, railway, and geologic maps of Ukraine, Lithuania, Estonia, and Latvia for the Map and Geography Library. Many of these maps have never been available before and are desperately needed to update the collection.

$980 to purchase *Gran Enciclopedia de Venezuela* for the Latin American Reading Room. This 10-volume work covers 500 years of Venezuelan history, making it an essential reference tool.

To donate any of the items mentioned above, please contact Sharon Kitzmiller, associate director of development, at (217)333-5683.

Library to Present Lincoln Exhibit

Lincoln letters, Lincoln photographs, a Lincoln life mask, the famous Lincoln overcoat, and much more will be on display at the University Library from September 23 through December 31 in a new exhibit entitled "Learning about Lincoln at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign."

The exhibit will also display items documenting Lincoln's influence on the university since its founding in 1867. Included will be photographs of the 10 terra cotta reliefs of Lincoln's life found high up on Lincoln Hall; personal papers of two of the nation's most famous scholars of Lincoln and his times; a scrapbook from a couple who spent their summers retracing Lincoln's travels; personal papers from the Library's Carl Sandburg Collection related to Lincoln, and much more.

A companion booklet to the exhibit will be available in late September. Contact Sharon Kitzmiller, associate director of development, at (217)333-5683 if you are interested.
Library Becomes Home to Important International Development Collection

The University Library is the new home for a unique and important collection dealing with women and their role in international development programs.

It’s the library of Irene Tinker, a retired professor from the University of California, Berkeley, and a pioneer in the field of women in international development. Tinker is also the founder of two major non-governmental organizations, the Equity Policy Center and the International Center for Research on Women, both devoted to studying these issues.

Among the collection’s contents are irreplaceable papers authored by researchers from around the world for conferences, organizations, and universities; training materials from non-governmental and governmental organizations on how to include women in aid projects; materials prepared for and presented at U.N. world conferences from 1974 to 1995, and much more.

Professor Tinker has also created an endowment to help support the new collection.

“Tinker is an exceedingly important collection because it really traces the history of this field,” says Gale Summerfield, director of the university’s Office of Women in Development and current director of the Equity Policy Center. “There is so much here that is not available elsewhere because it is so ephemeral.”

Among the most exciting items to be found in the collection, according to Summerfield, are the materials, including questionnaires, used for a ground-breaking study of women as food street-vendors in the late 1980s and early 1990s; and material leading up to a recently completed study by the National Economic University of Hanoi related to micro-enterprise and home-based work.

Other items include important studies from the late 1970s and early 1980s on rural households headed by women in various African and Asian countries, the feminization of farming and its effects on hunger in the Caribbean, self-reliance projects among the poor in Nepal, and home-based work in rural India.

“Tinker is a library for a lot of people that gender is a major factor when looking at any topic,” says Beth Stafford, head of the Women’s Studies/Women in International Development Unit. “It’s women who traditionally make a living manufacturing certain things in home enterprises, like baking bread and selling the bread to villagers.

When industrialized countries come in and pour resources into an area, however, it often puts these women out of business. It’s the women who raise the food and sustain the children. If they are put out of business and have no right to own land, and if they can’t get credit to start a business, how do they sustain their families?”

Although the collection is now physically at the University Library, it may be one to two years before researchers will be able to access the material. “We only have Irene Tinker’s list of categories from her bookshelf, but no real listing or inventory yet,” says Stafford. “Ideally, we’d like to make a complete list of all the materials, even create a web site, but this will take hours and hours.”

Former Library Friends Board President and Wife Create New Library Endowment

E. Phillips Knox and his wife, Pamela Rahn Ofer Knox, have established a new, six-figure endowment through a deferred bequest to create a graduate assistantship at the Library’s Law Library.

“Many people do not realize that one of the strengths of the Library is the pre-professional training we give to so many individuals,” who then go on to substantial careers in library and information science,” says University Librarian Robert Wedgeworth.

“Phil Knox, however, has been a valued member of Library Friends, having served as president, so he understands the needs of the Library in ways many Friends do not. Therefore, it is especially significant that he and Pam would choose to endow a graduate assistantship for the Law Library.”

Knox earned his law degree from the University of California, Berkeley, and a pioneer in the field of women in international development and current director of the Equity Policy Center. “There is so much here that is not available elsewhere because it is so ephemeral.”

Not surprisingly, Knox’s own law firm, Tummelson, Bryan, and Knox, located in Urbana, frequently calls upon the Law Library’s holdings. “We use the Law Library regularly to find things we can’t get otherwise, such as law review articles and statutes from other states,” he notes. “There are resources there that just aren’t available anywhere else.”

The Knoxes have also established several other gifts at the University of Illinois including a fellowship in the College of Education, in memory of Knox’s father, Carl Knox, and an endowment to support the salaries of academic tutors in the Athletic Association in honor of Mrs. Knox’s mother, Josie Rahn.

The Knoxes are members of the University Librarian’s Council and also are currently serving on the Marquee Council of the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts.

Three Join University Librarian’s Council

Three Library Friends have joined the University Librarian’s Council. They are Charles Cherry, Joyce Cherry, and Mary Smith Fay. Friends become members of the University Librarian’s Council by donating $5,000 or more within a five-year period.
Calendar

EXHIBITS

September
"Independence of Mexico and the Creation of the New Nation." Latin American Library
"Johann Wolfgang von Goethe 1749-1999: A Genius for His Time—and Ours." Main Corridor
"Still 'Crazy' After All These Years: The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders." Main Foyer Exhibit Case
"Learning About Lincoln at the University of Illinois." Rare Book and Special Collections Library (opens Sept. 23)
"Charles H. Sandage Collection: Getting the Message Across.” University Archives

October
"Learning About Lincoln at the University of Illinois." Rare Book and Special Collections Library
"Leonard Slade, Poet.” Rare Book and Special Collections Library
"Cuban Antiquities." Latin American Library

November
"James 'Scotty’ Reston.” Main Corridor and Main Foyer exhibit case.
"Exiled Spaniards in Latin America during Franco’s Years.” Latin American Library

The Benefits of Membership

As a Friend of the University Library, you receive:
- Special circulation and stack privileges for Library materials
- Friendscript, the quarterly newsletter
- Annual Report
- 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. Today, approximately 3,000 Library Friends are dedicated to the support of the Library’s collections and services.

Library Friends Board

Michael Murphy, President

YES, I/ we wish to become members of the Library Friends

☐ University Librarian’s Council, $5000
☐ Sustaining, $250
☐ Sponsor, $100
☐ Benefactor, $1000
☐ Subscriber, $60
☐ Patron, $500
☐ Contributor, $35

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