

NEWS goes national

Ooops. Nabbed by the National Library Police.

Because **News** failed to register with Marianne Scott and Co., the editor has been summoned to forward two copies of each issue past and future to meet legal deposit requirements.

It is the humble defense of the Editor that desktop publishing has yet to compete favorably with the likes of the publishing business proper. (OK, OK so a national bibliography *is* just a listing of titles!) And although the look of the publication, and the content of course, exceeds that of a school newspaper, it's still a one-woman operation. Look for me in Metuchen, NJ next year. (See the editorial, and move over Horrocks!)

Upcoming issues will feature such welcome additions as volume statements, issue numbers, dates and yes, pagination.

These enhancements will undoubtedly enable us to compete in CLA's Alumni Newsletter of the Year Award Contest.

It was the Wright time and the Wright place

By Melody Burton

Strains of Mozart (not Cole Porter) could be heard on November 12, 1987 in the U of A Faculty Club when about 125 alumni, colleagues, friends and relatives gathered to wish John and Shirley Wright a happy retirement.

University of Alberta President Myer Horowitz delivered a gift no one else could - assurance that the Faculty would remain intact. The announcement had been made earlier in the week to faculty members, but was welcome news to the alumni assembled in the audience. The President's remarks were met with applause and cheers. John and Shirley were visibly delighted with the decision.

Presented to the retiring couple was a book of memories which contained letters, photographs, poems, telegrams and an assortment of mementos packaged by Marion Saffran from the many submissions received from alumni across the country. If you were unable to attend the soiree, take comfort in the knowledge that you helped to create a splendid evening complete with a souvenir representative of years of service, dedication, hard work and fun.

Presented to John and Shirley Wright was a contribution to the University of Alberta Library Science Alumni Association Scholarship Fund. Although donations at the time totalled about \$1,000, contributions continued to pour in during the following weeks. To date \$1,810.00 has been donated in John and Shirley's name to the fund. The contributions are

eligible for matching by the province on a 2 to 1 scale.

John and Shirley Wright were strong advocates of the establishment of a scholarship since the formation of the alumni association.

John and Shirley took the opportunity to share some of their favorite memories of library school. Recapping the highlights of two educators in a short stint at the podium was a difficult task, but each vignette was a tribute to their distinguished careers.

The live music may have jazzed up the festivities, but there was no shortage of cause for celebration. Generous helpings of smiles, good food and good wishes were served to everyone, friends, colleagues and, of course, the guests of honor - John and Shirley Wright.



Mark it down!

Our Annual General Meeting will be held at LAA in Jasper on Friday, April 29 at 4 pm.

A reception will follow. Details will be announced at LAA and the AGM.

Jeannine extends a special invitation to all alumni to meet classmates, the executive and fellow alumni past and present.

See you there!

Editorial: shelf defenses

I'm very self-conscious about my bookshelf. When a colleague scrutinized it, I panicked. I felt exposed. Is this insecurity peculiar to me? Would you be nervous if Bill Katz arrived unannounced to evaluate your reference collection? Do you see the mistakes on your shelves before you see anything else? Your collection, your bookcase, your titles speak volumes about you.

What if the colleague couldn't discern *my* literature from *his*? Who would guess *I* owned the Darwin and the *scientist* bought the Dylan Thomas? With the two tastes jammed together on one shelf wouldn't it be logical to conclude that the mind who had consumed this literature was a mess? *None of it fit together. And how could it? The marriage didn't work either!*

If a woman is what she reads, then her bookcase should reflect her character. Each year as she develops, her bookcase grows. *This is evolution.* The act of reading is still a linear, solitary pursuit no matter how much you consider yourself a multi-tracker. One word follows another. The pages are numbered consecutively for a reason!

As editor of *News* I agonize over what librarians read (apart from bookshelves). *Librarians read titles.* Any of you who peruse the electronic library know that a title says it all. That's probably how you found it. Students know it - they want the article entitled "Your essay topic here" with yesterday's imprint. Bookstore owners know the right title will sell anything. And as librarians we buy titles, not books, unless, of course, you live in Metuchen, NJ.

What if one of you submitted a bibliography for publication? I'd hand Jeannine my resignation. *But isn't a bibliography just a listing of titles?* (Score 50 points for a NO, and don't tell any FLS profs if you said YES.) Until the Ghermezians build an attraction around the reference genre, I refuse to consider bibliographies entertainment.

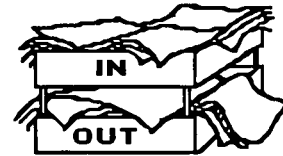
There's nothing inherently frightening about titles! Is there? *I still hide the occasional book from Mom!* Maybe this paranoia is just a defense, a means of putting some distance between the author and the reader, on the off chance that an embarrassingly (un)representative title was selected.

Unconvinced? Ever consider that accession may have been abandoned for subject classification to protect professional integrity? (Read: bury the mistakes of dubious eras or, at least, let's not put them all together for everyone to see.)

Consider deselection. It's survival of the fittest. For us and for them. It's shelf versus self preservation.

Melody Burton

From the President's desk



A collective sigh of relief echoed throughout Rutherford South in early November when the University announced there would be no change in the administrative status of the Faculty of Library Science. You will recall from the March '87 issue of *News* that an ad hoc committee had been established to review alternative proposals. After much research, lobbying and support from the professional community, it was decided by the administration to leave the existing structure intact.

Many thanks to all those who put their support in writing. Your letters really did raise professional consciousness.

The Faculty Council has recently approved and forwarded to the Vice-President Academic's Office a proposal to change the name of the Faculty and the degree offered.

If the proposal is successful, the Faculty will be known as the Faculty of Library and Information Studies, while the degree will be Master of Library and Information Studies (M.L.I.S.) ... away with Multiple Listing Service confusion! The changes reflect extensive alterations in the curriculum over the last few years as well as the changed scope of the program and the profession at large.

The change does not imply that traditional library interests and values have been abandoned. Rather, that the interests and focus of the faculty have been broadened.

Jeannine Green



News is the official newsletter of the University of Alberta Library Science Alumni Association under the authority of the Publications Committee, chaired by the LSAA Secretary and is published at least twice yearly.

The mandate for *News* includes reporting activities of the LSAA and highlighting the accomplishments of members and individuals of interest to LSAA.

Submissions to *News* can be forwarded directly to the Editor, Melody Burton at 11123 - 75 Ave., Edmonton, AB T6G 0H1 or telephone 437-2278 (home), 432-5972 (work).

Scholarship fund grows

Since the LSAA was founded, the Executive has exhibited a strong commitment toward offering financial support to students enrolled in U of A's MLS program, future alumni.

Last year the Executive deposited \$500 in a newly established scholarship fund. The graduating class of '87 added \$350 to bring the total to \$850. And when John and Shirley Wright retired, \$1810 was donated to the fund in their name in lieu of gifts. Miscellaneous contributions received through the membership drive totalled \$255. Funds raised from alumni to date amount to \$2915.

This sum is eligible for a 2 to 1 matching grant from the provincial government. After the grant is received, the potential capital available amounts to \$8745.

An additional \$5,000 was given to the LSAA fund by the University of Alberta Alumni Association (the big one of which we are one constituent) to help establish the scholarship. The university has recognized that the Faculty of Library Science was underfunded and lacking scholarship monies.

The Awards Office at U of A administers the funds and advises that 10% be awarded annually to the scholarship recipient. This means that as early as the Fall of '88, a cheque in excess of \$1,200 could be awarded to a student entering his or her first year of library science.

Criteria for the selection of the successful candidate have been ratified by the LSAA Executive and forwarded for approval by the Awards Office that coordinates for the university as a whole.

The scholarship will be awarded annually to a first year student who best exhibits academic and professional promise.

As the fund grows, look for further accounting in *News*. The latest information regarding the scholarship will be available at the AGM in Jasper on April 29, 1988, 4 pm.

Faculty Notes

Computing facility uncorked

On January 27, FLS invited students, staff and alumni to celebrate the Grand Opening of the newly renovated Library/Laboratory.

Formal presentation of the **Alexander Consulting Group** endowment was made as officials from University Hall were on hand to receive the gift presented by corporate executives **Brian Kennedy** and **Perry Dorgan**. The endowment, after matching, is valued at \$60,000 and is earmarked for technological support for the laboratory.

The facelift, completed in two stages over the past two years, cost in excess of \$110,000 including the installation of computer lines for several of the 14 terminals housed in the lab section.

Champagne and food flowed for the more than 75 well wishers attending the celebration.

Say hello to MOLLI

No she isn't a new student, but MOLLI is putting a new face on the faculty's laboratory.

MOLLI is a state-of-the-art, totally integrated online catalogue and circulation system designed for IBM and compatible computers.

MOLLI is easy to use, implements clear and concise menus and has adopted a "fill in the blanks" approach to searching.

To date about 200 picture books and juvenile fiction books have been entered into the system.

The system has proved mutually beneficially to staff and students. **Professor Andre**

Nitecki secured a Small Faculties Research Grant for a collection analysis of the historical children's collection housed in the closed stacks on the main floor of Rutherford South. He will be utilizing the system during the course of his investigation.

Donna MacKintosh, a PEP student, has been assigned to the project and is responsible for coding and data input.

Support for the effort was also secured from **Nichols Advanced Technologies Inc.**, Edmonton.

Wilsonstation working hard

Since its arrival in FLS, the Wilsonline workstation has enjoyed several enhancements.

FLS acquired a subscription to **Wilson's Library Literature** database which currently indexes about 200 North American and international library periodicals and selected monographs, conference proceedings and audio-visual materials.

The **Library Literature** database available on CD-ROM is updated and cumulated quarterly. Current coverage is retrospective to December, 1984.

Other CD-ROM databases available at the faculty include a Wilson demonstration disc of 16 Wilson databases, **Grolier's Electronic Encyclopedia** (a 20 volume, 9 million word encyclopedia on a single compact disc which is full-text searchable) and a **BIBLIOFILE** demo disc. The University of Guelph Library catalogue is also coming to the workstation. The CD-ROM catalogue was a gift to all Canadian library schools.

Demonstrations of the Wilson workstation are available in Room 1-15.

Alumni active in CLA Edmonton

Suzan Hebditch ('83) is co-coordinator with **Margo Young** for CASLIS activities for the '89 CLA conference set for Edmonton. Both invite you to forward your suggestions for programs, workshops, seminars, tours and social events.

Contact the U of A for more info - **Suzan** at Weir Memorial Library (432-3371) and **Margo** at Science and Technology Library (432-2728).



Who's doing what where

Sylvia (Godfrey) Ransom ('69) is presently at the Dixson Library, University of New England, New South Wales, Australia.

PROMOTED: Raymond Lusty ('73) to the position of Regional Librarian with Saskatchewan's Parkland Regional Library. Ray left Father Mercredi Community High School as a teacher-librarian to take the post with Parkland. Ray and wife Marilyn have three children, Joanne and Jason in school and Kevin attending university.

B.J. Nielsen ('73) is currently Coordinator of Reference Services, University of Wisconsin-Parkside. She says "HELLO" to everyone in the Class of 5.

Heather Graham ('73) is Head of the Bookmobile and Extension Division of Winnipeg Public Library.

Valorie Orr ('73) is presently pursuing a masters degree in educational psychology in counseling at the University of Calgary. She's married to Roger Cote and has two stepchildren, Allan, 13, Allison, 11 and is also mother to Robert, 17 months and Justin, 2 months.

Jeanne (Shrea) Shaw ('74) is Senior Records Administrator with Texaco Canada Resources in Calgary.

CONGRATULATIONS to Wynona Wright ('76) and Euan McPhee on the birth of Catriona Heather. Wynona has worked up from Assistant Librarian to Tutor Librarian in charge of a branch library of Richmond College, London, England.

And CONGRATULATIONS to Paula (Lefavre) L'Hirondelle ('78) on the birth of Patrice Nicole. Paula was promoted to Director, Red Deer Public Library after serving for 8 years as Adult Services Librarian. Paula is on leave until September 1988.

Barbara Nicholson ('78) is with Calgary Public Library's Humanities Department.

And CONGRATULATIONS to Sylvia Martin ('81) and Doug Carlyle on the birth of their first child, Cecily Ruth.

Darlene (Yausie) Taylor ('81) was Manager, Southern Materials Resource Centre in Calgary between '82 and '86. Darlene now resides in Pinawa, Manitoba where she's raising Eric, born in January, 1987.

Linda (Schafer) Clark ('81) is at Lord Beaverbrook High School in Calgary.

Wendy Craig ('81) is Manager of Library Services with the Ontario government's Ministry of Revenue.

CONGRATULATIONS: Maeve (Hauck) Grant ('83) on the birth of Erin. Maeve is currently on an 18 month leave of absence from Esso Resources in Calgary. She's living in Houston, Texas in the interim and volunteering at a local public library.

Mary-Lou Veeken ('83) was recently appointed to the position of Biomedical Information Specialist in the Health Sciences Resource Centre. There her duties include providing user education and support for the US National Library's MEDLARS.

Jill Crawley (Vickery) ('86) is at the University of Saskatchewan on a term position in the Reference Library.

Heather Murray ('86) is a librarian in the Social Sciences Department of the Calgary Public Library.

CONGRATULATIONS to MaryLynn Gagne ('87) and Gordon Olson on the birth of Dylan Leo Joseph, a brother for Jesse.

Pat Jobb ('87) was recently appointed Public Services Consultant with the Peace Regional Library System.