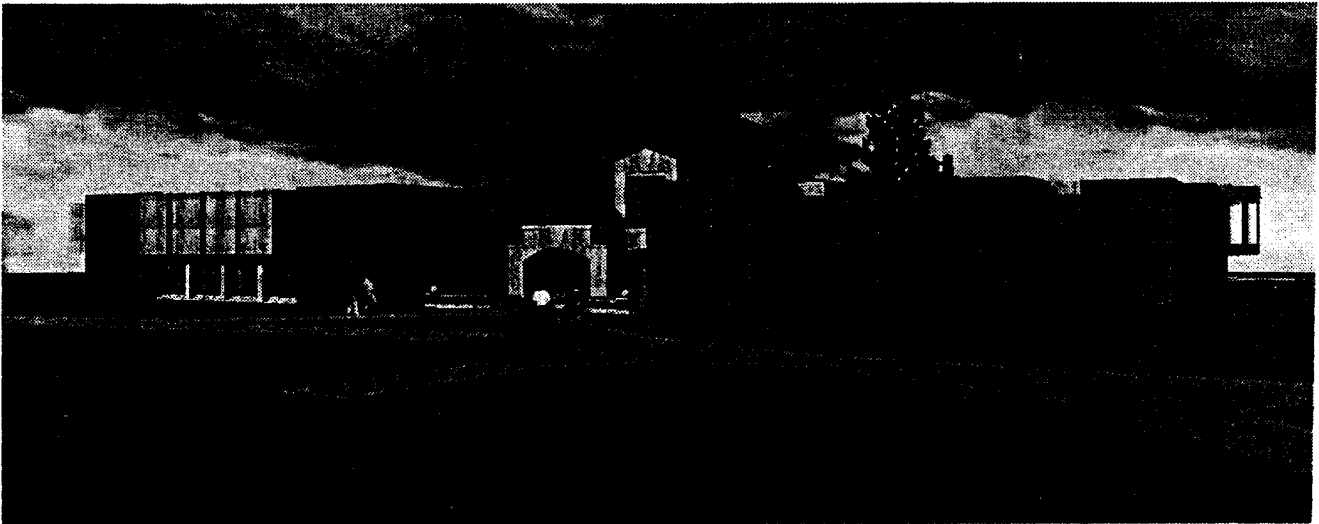


THE FINE PRINT

MURPHY LIBRARY UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-LA CROSSE FALL 1991 NO.8

Library Building Project Begins



Since the first program statement was submitted in 1978, the Library Resource Center (LRC) project has continued to be the number one building priority for the campus. The \$7.6 million project was finally approved by the legislature and governor last spring.

Schute-Larson Architects of La Crosse was hired to design the building based on the program statement. An additional 40,000 assignable square feet will be added to the current building.

The preliminary development stages of the project have resulted in basic drawings of the new and current building. The picture above is a computer graphic of the projected exterior.

Actual construction is scheduled to begin in 1993-94.

Dale Montgomery
Director of Library and Media Services

Strategic Planning for Libraries: A UW System Report

As part of a continuing program, the UW System administration has an ongoing planning process to access program needs. In 1989, the Vice President for Academic Affairs appointed a strategic planning committee for libraries. Their report was sent to each campus last spring for review and response.

The recommendations recognize the need to integrate libraries and computing resources and technologies on campus and throughout the state. Access to information via new technologies was emphasized throughout the planning document.

The major recommendations are as follows:

1. The University of Wisconsin develop an integrated information network, including communications and computer facilities, equipment, and protocols, which follows appropriate standards and connects all UW System campuses and libraries to each other and to national and international information resources.

2. The University of Wisconsin System Vice President for Academic Affairs, in consultation with UW System institutions, the Council of University of Wisconsin Libraries (CUWL), and other appropriate groups:

2a. evaluate and select a new computing pathway that will be a transition from the current Network Library System (NLS) and the LS/2000 Systems to an integrated system; and

2b. develop policies and guidelines for the implementation of an integrated University of Wisconsin library system that will allow easy access for all UW System students, faculty and staff to available resources, by: [1] coordinating the acquisition and use of electronic and other information media; [2] promoting cooperative collection management; and [3]

establishing comprehensive systemwide resource sharing.

3. UW System library, telecommunications, and the computing personnel collaborate at the campus and system level to develop coordinating mechanisms for local and statewide information delivery.

4. Each UW System library refine its collection development policy to reflect the changing nature of scholarly writing, communication and publishing, with special emphasis on systemwide resource sharing and minimizing duplication in order to contain costs.

5. Continuing education programs be made available to all library staff for updating knowledge and skills to enable them to respond effectively to changing information technology and user needs.

6. Ongoing library user education programs be expanded and regularly upgraded to enable users to develop information literacy, assessment, and critical thinking skills.

7. The availability of UW System information resources be extended beyond the primary users by the development of uniform systemwide policies of access and use.

As libraries and institutions plan for the future, resource allocations present difficult choices. The planning report does not address the costs of implementing the recommendations nor sources for funding the suggested programs. Copies of the full report, Strategic Planning for Libraries: A Report of the Steering Committee on Strategic Planning, are on reserve in the library.

Dale Montgomery
Director of Library and Media Services

Index and Abstract Cancellations

The often reported spiraling serials costs continue to erode the library's purchasing power in relation to indexes and abstracts as well as journal and magazine subscriptions. The inflationary problem was somewhat alleviated over the last biennium with special legislative funding which increased the library's acquisitions base budget by \$50,000 each year. With no increase slated for the 1991-92 fiscal year, an ad hoc library committee was formed in the fall of 1990 to prepare a list of abstracts and index titles to be cut in the coming year. It was estimated that \$5,000 would be needed to compensate for the expected inflation rate for indexes and abstracts. Without additional funding, the process may have to be repeated before the next fiscal year. Especially expensive titles may be targeted--the subscription to Science Citation Index for a year is over \$6,000.

Dropping abstract and index subscriptions is a particularly painful process because, at a minimum, libraries should provide students and faculty with access to materials, even if materials are not owned locally. Certainly abstracts and indexes are key access tools. The current list of indexes and abstracts was reviewed and ranked by librarians and then evaluated further by the ad hoc committee taking into account a number of factors: perceived use; curriculum emphasis; other indexes covering the subject area; percentage of journal titles indexed owned by the library; cost; and electronic availability. Many titles were obvious "keepers;" very few titles could be identified for cancellation without any substantial dissent. Where cancellation was more questionable, department chairs were contacted for input into the decision process. The final cancellation list includes the following titles:

Abstracts of English Studies
Accounting Articles
Bibliographic Index
Child Development Abstracts
Energy Review
Federal Tax Articles
Film Literature Index
Historical Abstracts
International Political Science Abstracts
Meteorological and Geostrophysical Abstracts
Music Article Index
Personnel Management Abstracts
RILM (Repertoire International de Litterature Musicale)
U.S. Political Science Documents

Although the current volumes of these indexes will no longer be available in paper, some indexes and abstracts can be accessed via an online service on a cost recovery basis, including; Bibliographic Index, CINAHL, Historical Abstracts, Meteorological and Geostrophysical Abstracts, RILM, and U.S. Political Science Documents. Viterbo College Library has acquired CINAHL on CD-ROM, and this station can be used by UW-L faculty and students.

The library will continue to provide the UW-L community with essential materials, including a solid, basic collection of indexes and abstracts. If the acquisition budget continues to remain at a fixed level, however, cuts taken in the abstracts and indexes collection as well as other areas will be increasingly closer to the bone.

Anita Evans
Coordinator Online Services/Public
Services

Faculty Surveyed on Library Instruction Usage

In December of 1990 a survey, sponsored by the Faculty Library Committee-Subcommittee on Education, was distributed to teaching faculty and staff. The primary purpose was to solicit faculty perceptions, opinions, and factual data on their students' ability to use the library and the library's success, or lack, in providing instructional services. There were 194 responses for a response rate of 43%. The findings have proven to be informative and are being utilized in establishing future goals for the Bibliographic Instruction Unit.

Bibliographic Instruction is a user education program whose purpose is to enhance the ability of library patrons to effectively utilize library resources. Last year, librarians at Murphy Library, in 200 plus instructional sessions, presented to some 3,500 patrons. The majority of these sessions were course-integrated instruction and were structured to promote information literacy in the discipline being studied. There has been rapid growth in the number of patrons served over the past several years, and this and other factors may be resulting in a more sophisticated library user. But there continue to be daily reminders that many of our patrons are extremely unprepared to effectively utilize a university library.

The survey pointed out that faculty also see their students as less than proficient in library skills. Seventy percent see students as being less than skilled in their ability to use a library. Despite this perception only 37% of the faculty require their students to

use library resources monthly or more frequently.

There continues to be a need to promote the library instructional program. A strong majority of the respondents (82%) indicated that they were aware of instructional service but only 51% had used these services in the past three years. A few individuals indicated that they were aware of our general instructional sessions but were not aware of the course-integrated instruction.

Those who have used this service have found it to be helpful. Sixty-two percent found it to be "very helpful", while thirty-four percent indicated that it was "helpful." Four percent found it to be "somewhat helpful" and no one evaluated the service as being "of little or no help."

The use of bibliographic instruction and satisfaction levels vary significantly from department to department and, to a lesser degree, from college to college. We perceive a need to promote bibliographic instruction to various campus populations. We are working toward this goal with the continued growth of the program. However, library budget cuts and staff shortages are impacting our plans in this area.

Anyone interested in the results of this survey may obtain a copy by contacting Randy Hoelzen at Murphy Library (8637).

Randy Hoelzen
Bibliographic Instruction
Librarian

22 Best Government Documents of 1990

The last two years I have served on the Notable Documents Panel of the American Library Association's Government Documents Round Table. This ten-person panel receives nominations from librarians nationwide and selects the best documents based on overall value to library patrons, quality of writing and production. The list of best federal, state and international documents is published in Library Journal, the official journal of the American Library Association. The following is a very few selected titles.

Environmental Trends.

Documents Reference Shelf.

PrEx 14.2: T72

This reference book contains statistics and projections on all aspects of the American environment. Many tables cover fifty to 100 years.

Facing America's Trash: What Next for Municipal Solid Waste?

Documents stacks.

Y3.T22/2: 2Am3

One hundred sixty million tons of solid municipal waste are produced annually in the United States. This report discusses waste prevention, recycling, incineration, landfills and even the disposable diaper controversy.

Inaugural Addresses of the Presidents of the United States from George Washington, 1789 to George Bush, 1989.

Documents stacks.

Y 1.1/3: 101-10

This collection of inaugural addresses also contains presidential portraits and notes on the events of the inauguration day.

Scientific Assessment of Stratospheric Ozone, 1989.

Documents stacks.

NAS 1.2: Oz7/2/v.1

This report presents recent research on the ozone layer and global warming and includes predictions.

3 Decades of Television: A Catalog of Television Programs Acquired by the Library of Congress, 1949-1979.

Documents stacks.

LC 40.2: T23

This valuable resource on TV programs includes dates, a summary, format and cast information for each show indexed.

Wetland Creation and Restoration: The Status of the Science. Vol. 1: Regional Reviews. Vol.2: Perspectives.

Documents stacks.

EP 1.23: 600/3/89/038a-b/v.1-2

This report on wetland creation and restoration concludes that wetland projects must be undertaken very carefully with well-developed goals and a long-term commitment.

The Women's Army Corps, 1945-1978.

Documents stacks.

D 114.19: W84

This history reflects the changing role of women in the United States, showing the accomplishments of the Corps as a separate part of the Army and how changing social conditions led to its dissolution and the total integration of women into the Army.

All these documents, except Environmental Trends, may be checked out of Murphy Library.

Sandy Sechrest
Documents Librarian

Copy Prices Increase Card System Planned

Murphy Library increased the per copy cost of photocopiers to 10¢ effective August 26, 1991, thereby breaking a twenty five year history of charging 5¢ per photocopy. A venda card system will be installed in Murphy Library and Cartwright Center in January. Copies will be 7¢ each using this system. Microform reader printer copies will remain at 10¢ per copy.

Copy machine users will purchase a card which will encode the monetary value of the purchase. The card can then be inserted into the card reader unit which will display the value on the card. As copies are made, the value will decrease by 7¢ increments on the photocopiers and 10¢ increments on the reader printers. Dollar values can be added to the card by using a dollar bill deposit machine.

Departments wishing to copy materials in the library will complete a chargeback authorization form and receive a card with the dollar value encoded on it. When the money value on the card has been used, additional funds may be transferred to the card by completing another authorization form and sending it and the card to Murphy 109. The library will need several days lead time for re-encoding cards.

Until the venda card system is in place, Murphy Library will continue to use the auditron system for photocopiers and the key system in microforms for department chargebacks. Copies made in September will be charged back to departments at 10¢ per copy.

Budget Overview

As the decade of the nineties begins, the issues confronting the library are similar to the problems of the eighties. In the last decade, the library acquisition budgets were severely hit with high inflation rates.

On an annual basis, book prices increased six to eight percent a year. Journal subscription prices increased fifteen to twenty percent a year. Most publishers increased rates every two to three years. Unfortunately the more expensive journal rates increased yearly. That problem is still an important budget factor for the library.

Journal expenditures in 1991-92 will represent about 60% of the acquisition budget. Monograph expenditures will equal 35% of the budget and expenses related to electronic information and other library materials will represent 5% of the budget.

Each year the library will be required to cancel some subscriptions in order to maintain a core collection in each discipline. Departments will be asked to participate in this process.

The \$66,000 reduction in the 1990-91 budget was restored to the 1991-92 budget. The \$593,000 acquisition budget represents a status quo budget with inflation factors reducing the purchasing ability of the library.

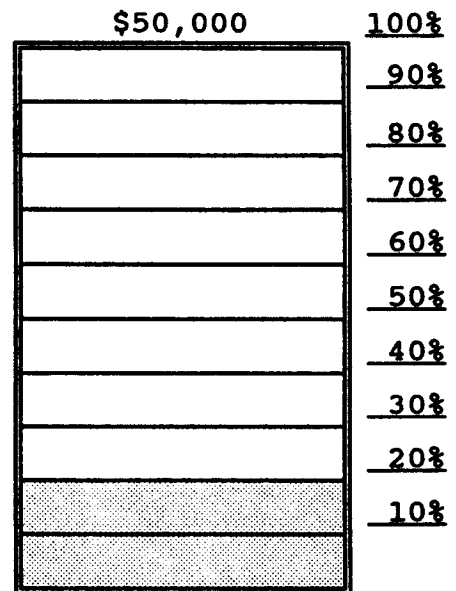
While we seek to maintain a stable collection, the world of electronic journal publishing is beginning to expand. Budgeting and accessing titles in an electronic format will provide new challenges to balancing the available budget resources in the 1990's.

Staff Changes at Murphy

Pat Brunet, the Head of Reference since 1985, left Murphy Library to become the Library Director at Western Wisconsin Technical College July 1. It is difficult to see colleagues depart, so we are glad that Pat's new position did not take him too far down the road. Temporarily filling the Reference vacancy 3/4 time this fall is **Laurel Laffrey**. Laurel first came to Murphy Library in the fall of 1990 in the half-time Serials/Reference Librarian position. Before her UW-L appointment, Laurel worked as a librarian at Lutheran Hospital Library.

Sue Burkhart joined the library this term in the Serials/Reference position. Sue recently moved to Tomah from the Los Angeles area where she had worked several years as a librarian at the University of Southern California Law Library. Sue also was a librarian at the Walter F. George School of Law Library, Mercer University in Macon, Georgia.

Chris Nerby-Saukel recently joined the Circulation staff in a part-time position after Marie May resigned this summer. Although a Coulee Region native, Chris spent 12 years working at the Frankfort International School library in Germany.



Murphy Endowment Fund Passes \$11,000

In September of this year the Murphy Library Endowment Fund reached the \$11,000 mark through the contributions of university and community friends. The Library is well on the way to attaining its goal of \$50,000. When this goal is reached, the library will be able to use the earnings from this fund to support and enhance the special needs of the library. It is not intended to replace regular university budget support. A brochure is available with more information about the Fund. To obtain a copy please contact:

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Reference Desk 785-8508

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