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Public Services Department : Annual Report : 1984 - 1985

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1984/85 could be called The Year of Steadiness. Amidst numerous personnel changes, in and out of the Library, programmatic, collection and staff development efforts of the Library proceeded smoothly and at a steady pace. It was the year during which we lost a Dean and were involved in the arduous task of searching for another; Wayne Johnston, our Media Librarian, departed and another, Mr. Jerry Notaro, arrived; Collection Development Librarian, Kathy Arsenault, joined her husband on a Fulbright in France; Carol Marot left for greener pastures and we were rewarded with Barbara Reynolds; Anna Strikis left the Circulation position and Mary Chedid arrived to provide the much-needed improvement.

1984/85 saw the Library receiving an IBM PC Computer which had access to the IBM 5520. This alleviated our needs in word processing and computation. The system, as it stands now, has the potential to provide for electronic mail, to access the mainframe and, with minor modification, to be used in a dial access mode with any other data base.

In the area of interlibrary cooperation, the Library's involvement within the Tampa Bay Library Consortium began to yield some concrete results. This group received \$93,000 from the State of Florida to study the feasibility of local online library networking. It is conceivable that as a result of this project, subsequent grants may have portions of their funding earmarked for Poynter Library to develop further area resources-sharing plans.

However, of all the developments and improvements that happened in 1984/85, none was more significant and more far reaching in its impact than the official organization of the Society for Advancement of Poynter Library. This society evolved from the old Friends of the Library. It has a board membership of 21 and has demonstrated its support of the campus in general and the library in particular. As an initial result of the formation of this society, the Library expects to have friends who are willing to raise funds and provide other types of support.

Already, the Society has co-sponsored the following exhibits:

1984

Aug. 26 - Sept. 7 Arline Greenblatt Art Exhibit

1985

Jan. 26 - Feb. 28 Rosenquist & Hall Art Exhibit

Mar. 31 - Apr. 17 To Celebrate Women's Week (Art Exhibit)

Apr. 27 - May 10 An Artistic Discovery (Art Competition for High School Students)

It also has funded the printing of a brochure and the development of a mailing list. (See attached).

There have been more people in the library this year than ever before. More people have asked more questions, had more computer searches and checked out more reserve material. More people have made many more copies on the self-serve machines, and have requested us to make many more copies of microforms. Demand for Interlibrary loans has also increased, and for the second consecutive year, we received more requests from other libraries than we initiated. We know we have been busy this year, and the statistics in Appendix A will show how much business has been transacted. Only three statistical numbers are smaller this year - Circulation, Intralibrary loans requested from other USF libraries, and Intralibrary loan requests received from other USF libraries. The decreased activity in these categories is very slight.

A Telex Display Terminal has been installed at the circulation desk, allowing quick access to information about the status of students, but the computerized circulation system is still in the future. Mary Chedid has the circulation station running smoothly and efficiently.

Improvements have been made in the OCLC Interlibrary Loan system, providing more information about serial holdings and library policies. Reprints from University Microfilms International may now be ordered and billed through OCLC. The Interlibrary Loan personnel attended a Florida Interlibrary Loan conference at Florida Atlantic University in August; this conference provided much information about ILL within the state of Florida.

One goal attained this year is the Society for Advancement of Poynter Library, which is now a functioning organization. A number of local people have donated their time, talents, and money to make this possible. The Society has not been in operation long enough to measure its impact on the library.

Our group of volunteers has continued to help us this year. Dr. Raymond Gerberich, a retired educator, prepares new subject bibliographies and updates older ones. Mrs. Gertrud Gust and Mrs. Maryke Nol have given us a great deal of help in both the public service and technical service areas.

Only one of our 1984-1985 goals has been achieved in the Society for Advancement of Poynter Library. The others remain as goals yet to be reached, and the primary goal is the installation of FOCUS and training of personnel and patrons in its use.

Goals for 1985-86:

1. On-line card catalog for public access (FOCUS).
2. A university-wide on-line circulation system.
3. More affordable on-line bibliographic searching for students.

Goals 1985/86

Here are some of the general broad goals and objectives that the library has for the coming year. Each individual department within the library shall in the following pages describe their accomplishments and goals for the next year. However, the following are general objectives the Library has for the year 1985/86:

1. Strengthen efforts to expand membership expansion of the Society for Advancement of Poynter Library.
2. Develop a special collection for materials in local history in the form of photographs, negatives of photographs, posters, etc.
3. Provide an alternative, online card catalog for the library patrons.
4. Develop a more effective and diversified method to provide media support for instruction.

I. PUBLIC SERVICES

2. BIBLIOGRAPHIC INSTRUCTION

The staff of the Poynter Library offers bibliographic instruction on the formal level through the two-credit course, LIS 2001. The science librarian taught this both in the fall and spring semesters 1985/86. Although the number of students enrolled was limited, those taking the course greatly appreciated it, judging by their comments on the evaluations.

Also, librarians continue to speak to classes when requested by professors. Courses in nearly every college active on Bayboro Campus have been addressed. These include graduate or undergraduate courses in education, economics, sociology, criminal justice, accounting, library science and mass communications.

Instruction occurs on an informal level through the reference desk, library tours and displays. These tours are also a means of interacting with the community and interesting future students in the Bayboro Campus. For example, this year the library hosted thirty students from Pinellas Park High School. The staff uses various displays to highlight special services and resources. These displays are frequently in association with campus-wide activities sponsored by the Student Activities Office and help demonstrate the integral position of the library in campus life. In this manner, the library participated in Campus Showcase, the Brown Bag Lecture Series, and the weeklong country study of Egypt.

Altogether, the library met with _____ classes and presented bibliographic instruction to _____ students.

Goals for 1986-87

1. Increase enrollment in LIS 2001 by making students and faculty advisors more aware of this course.
2. Intensified efforts in the formal and informal setting to publicize the online catalog, LUIS, and instruct patrons in its use.
3. Continued activity to demonstrate the integral role of the library in the campus and community through tours, lectures, and displays.
4. Production of in-house instructional aids, including slide-tape presentations and possibly CAI using the library's microcomputer.

I. PUBLIC SERVICES

3. ON-LINE BIBLIOGRAPHIC SEARCHING

The number of on-line bibliographic searches through the DIALOG System has increased enormously over the last several years, from 113 in 1983/84 to 181 in 1984/85 and 242 in 1985/86. See chart below. Various reasons may be cited for this rise. The library staff highlights this service in class lectures. For one course in education, a manual search and computer search of ERIC are a class assignment. The service, naturally, is well received by those writing term papers. The librarians performed approximately 45% of all searches for students. Many patrons request more than one search annually.

Over 20% of all searches are requested by the faculty for their research or class preparation. Thanks to the generosity of the Campus Dean, the library can offer DIALOG service free to the faculty. Nearly 20% of all searches were requested by members of the Department of Marine Science or the Medical School. With increasing regularity, the library staff as well has come to rely on DIALOG to facilitate other services -- such as verifying interlibrary loans, ordering U.S. Government documents, and answering reference questions.

Finally, a small percentage of searches are performed for members of the St. Petersburg community for a fee. This unique service represents one of the ways that Poynter Library benefits the neighboring area.

Goals for 1986-87

1. Interface with other on-line systems such as WILSONLINE and those offered by the State of Florida.
2. Coordination of the library's new IBM-PC with DIALOG to facilitate retrieval and storage of records.
3. More participation in DIALOG and database producer training sessions.
4. Continued solicitation of users for this service, particularly those from outside the USF community through presentation and demonstrations.

I. PUBLIC SERVICES

4. SCIENCE SERVICES

The Department of Marine Sciences continues to expand. Two new professors have been hired and will join the faculty later in 1986. The first Ph.D. degree conferred at the St. Petersburg Commencement was presented to a marine science student this year. Grants to the department have sent its members to such distant areas as the Antarctic and North Pacific Ocean, while considerable research continues in local waters.

The library serves the Department of Marine Science in a variety of ways. A profile of the department is included in the library's approval plan with Blackwell North America. This provides an important means of adding marine science books to the collection. Furthermore, the science librarian submits a list of additional titles for purchase to collection development. This year, nearly 20% of all DIALOG computer searching was done for marine science. Over 40% of ILL requests were made for this department. The science librarian usually makes weekly visits to the MSL Building housing the department to update the displays of newly-arrived journals and books. FYI notices are sent to individual departmental members as new books arrive. This brief sketch should make obvious the close working relationship between the library and the Department of Marine Science.

This year, also, the College of Medicine has recently become established in St. Petersburg. The research group, headed by Dr. Good, is centered close by at All Children's Hospital. Medical students now may complete portions of their internships at several St. Petersburg hospitals. Although the Poynter Library does not form a primary source of research information for them, members of the medical school have on numerous occasions made use of the library's DIALOG searching and media services.

Goals for 1986-87

1. Continued activity to make Department of Marine Sciences members aware of library services and how to use them.
2. Utilization of gifts and exchanges of marine science resources to enhance the marine science collection.
3. Expanded efforts to serve the informational needs of the Medical School personnel in St. Petersburg.