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# UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN FOR 1972

UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND  
COMMERCE SEMINAR LIBRARY



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(From June 1965)

Deputy University Librarian

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(From June 1966)

Principal Librarian i/c Cataloguing

Mary R. McCarthy, B.A., Dip.Phty., A.L.A., A.L.A.A.  
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Principal Librarian i/c Systems and Data Processing

Mrs. J.C. Owen, B.A. *Lond.*, M.L.S. *Pitt.*, M.A., Ph.D., A.L.A.A.  
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# UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND LIBRARY

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN FOR 1972

The Library has been hedged about with apparently insuperable problems for so many years that it is a pleasure to report that 1972 was a year full of promise. Not only was substantial evidence of future improvement obvious to all as the new Central Library approached completion, but portents for the future were contained in the AUC Report for 1973-75 which recommended a substantial grant for converting the Duhig Building into an Undergraduate Library, capital funds for the construction of a Biological Sciences Library, and funds for an Architecture/Music/Planning building which will also contain a joint-library. The Report also recommended Equipment Grants which include funds to "be used by libraries to fill gaps in their holdings which limit scholarly activity".

While these lights were flickering at the end of the tunnel, a tolerable level of service was maintained in existing circumstances, although pressures on library staff and bookstock were obvious and there is no doubt that the needs of many students were met only partially or not at all.

### **BUILDINGS**

#### *Central facilities*

It would be difficult to overstate the amount of time involved in designing a major library building, planning the conversion of another, and deciding new policies and routines for each. In addition a programme had to be devised for transferring the entire contents of the old Main Library including bookstock, catalogue, working records and equipment, to the new Central Library to permit renovations of the old building to commence on January 2nd 1973.

*Central Library.* Although the new building became available a week late, December 13, and the delivery of the shelving was punctuated by a succession of broken promises, the combined Main and Undergraduate Library bookstocks (435,000 volumes) were transferred to the new building within ten working days. To achieve this forbidding task the enthusiastic approach of library staff and a temporarily employed squad of students and high school pupils was organised by the careful and flexible planning of the Senior Librarian i/c Administration Miss J. Wilson. In addition each section of the Main Library was responsible for the removal of its own equipment and records. The move was completed and the

Central Library opened for business on 8.1.73. Return of books and of inter-library loans was kept operating throughout the removal period.

*Undergraduate Library Building.* It became apparent early in the year that it would be impossible to complete the whole building conversion during the Long Vacation. It was also obvious that the hope of installing a computer-based circulation system in 1973 would not be fulfilled. Consequently it was decided to spread the conversion of the building in two stages over two Long Vacations. The first stage would include removal of most of the shelving, renovation of lighting of all floors, carpeting of former shelving areas and conversion of the Lower Ground floor for the Thatcher Library. The opportunity was also taken to break through the upper floors to make way for the additional staircase which is the major work in Stage 2 of the alterations. Under these plans by the beginning of First Term 1973 there would be an Undergraduate Library with 1500 reader places and capacity for some 100,000 volumes, and satisfactory accommodation for the Thatcher Library. (In the event these objects were achieved, though not entirely by First Term.)

### *Branch Library Buildings*

*St. Lucia Branch Libraries.* Plans for the Architecture/Planning/Music Library were well advanced by the end of the year. Space available will be less than was requested but for the first time in the university's planning the essential criteria for including a library in a teaching building will be met: the building has been planned with the needs of the library as a major factor in design; access to the library is completely independent of the rest of the building; and the library can be expanded without encroaching on or adversely affecting teaching facilities.

Relief for the badly overcrowded Bancroft, Biological Sciences and Veterinary Science Libraries came into sight with the AUC recommendation of capital funds for the Joint Biological Sciences Library in 1973/75. This will be an independent building. There will be Union refreshment facilities underneath the Library, and this combination should create a major community facility in the Western Precinct. In the meantime the final section of makeshift mezzanine has been installed in the present Biological Sciences Library to tide it over until it can move to the new building, hopefully in late 1974 or early 1975.

No improvements were possible in the Law Library in 1972. The proposed removal of the adjacent Thatcher Library in 1973 will very substantially increase the shelving available for the rapidly expanding Law collection and provide an additional 20 seats for readers.

Agreement was reached with the Departments of Education and Physical Education to incorporate the Education Methods Library and Physical Education Collection into the Central and Undergraduate Libraries. This operation was completed during the Long Vacation.

No alterations took place in 1972 in the Engineering, Chemistry, Physics, Geology and Mathematics Libraries. The inadequacy of space to accommodate further growth of the bookstock in the latter three libraries remains a matter of considerable concern.

*Medical Branch Libraries.* It is regrettable that the AUC did not accept the University's proposal to construct additional floors of the Clinical Sciences Building in 1973/75. This would have allowed relocation of the Clinical Sciences Library in more adequate premises. Proposed additions to the Princess Alexandra Hospital Library also failed to attract capital funds. These decisions will produce a situation in which acute positions in all medical libraries will coincide to compete for funds in the 1976/78 triennium, and inevitably not all will be simultaneously remedied.

Very temporary relief occurred in the Central Medical Library with the removal of Microbiology to St. Lucia. This released space for at most two year's growth of bookstock. The disappearance of Microbiology students who were known to be heavy library users has made astonishingly little difference to the occupation of reader places. Protracted negotiations about the allocation of Microbiology's former teaching area produced disappointingly little useful storage space for older medical material. With restricted space in the medical libraries themselves, increasing quantities of moderately used material must be placed in store in the Medical School and it is desirable that the store area should be convenient to the Central Medical Library.

Every passing year emphasises the irrationality of maintaining separate Clinical Sciences and Central Medical Libraries. Fusion of both facilities in a satisfactory building on a convenient site is the only sensible solution.

## **ORGANISATION**

### *Staff*

The first senior resignation since 1965 occurred when the Deputy University Librarian, Mr. S.B. Page, accepted appointment as foundation University Librarian at Griffith University. In the six years for which he served the University

of Queensland Mr. Page brought credit to this library and to himself by the quality of his work here and with the Library Committee of the Advisory Commission on Advanced Education. He contributed whole-heartedly to the development of this library and his gift for staff management helped to mould a large library staff into a cooperating team. His successor, Mr. John Cummings, will take up duty on 1 July, 1973.

Dr. J.C. Owen returned from two very successful years of overseas study leave to take up the new position of Principal Librarian i/c Systems and Data Processing. Miss M. O'Sullivan, Senior Librarian i/c Biological Sciences Library, returned from a year of useful experience at Monash University's Bio-medical Library.

In 1972 resignations were received from 7 (one sixth) of graduate professional staff, 4 (one fifth) of graduate non-professional staff, 26 (of 73) Library Assistants, 4 (of 16) Library Attendants and 4 (of 16) typing and clerical staff. In addition there was a high turn-over of temporary and casual staff. It is fortunate that most vacancies occur at the more junior unskilled levels; the attraction of study opportunities gives the university a special advantage in attracting staff at these levels. At the professional level replacements are mainly the library's own staff who have qualified "on the job". There is little movement from other states except at the most senior levels. Other libraries in Brisbane have considerable difficulty in attracting professional staff; a competitive position is developing within Brisbane which might create some difficulties for our own library in filling future professional vacancies.

There were welcome improvements in the conditions of service of Library Assistants and Library Attendants during 1972. A new classification of Professional Library Assistant was introduced for non-graduate professionals, correcting a long-standing anomaly under which their professional qualification was not recognised. Equal pay was introduced for Library Assistants, making it an economic proposition to employ males in this capacity. Improved wage rates were introduced for Library Attendants, and their working week was reduced to the 36¼ hours which applies to other staff members.

At the beginning of 1972 \$10,000 was made available for new positions. This amount was used to convert two temporary part-time Librarian positions to permanent ones, and to establish an additional position of Library Attendant. There are now a number of part-time positions which are attractive to married women whose family responsibilities are incompatible with full-time work. By this means it is possible to retain staff with special experience and qualifications.

Maternity leave for both full-time and part-time staff has become an accepted feature of staff administration. Availability of paid maternity leave in the Commonwealth Public Service further emphasises the present inequitable position in which non-academic staff are granted only unpaid maternity leave.

One of the most difficult tasks in 1972 was the prediction of staff needs for the completely new situation to be created in 1973 with the establishment of Central and Undergraduate Libraries. Dr. Owen carried out a study of existing and predicted work-loads. Her conclusions were reasonably close to those of the University Librarian's experienced intuition. Both amounted to unprecedentedly large claims on the University's total funds available for additional non-academic staff. These claims were, in fact, substantially accepted by the university administration and permission was granted to appoint five of the additional staff in time for the move to the new building.

Keeping a staff of 170 informed of developments and with a feeling of involvement in the Library presents problems, particularly when staff are scattered over 20 locations, some of them several miles from the main campus. A staff newsletter is produced when time permits, which is insufficiently often. A Senior Staff meeting meets each month to discuss developments and problems and formal minutes are distributed to branch libraries. A very successful two-day staff seminar was held in February 1972.

### *Technical Services*

Following the rather gloomy conclusions drawn from declining accessions in the last Report there was a remarkable recovery in 1972. Comparative figures are:

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>
New titles by purchase	11378	17032
New titles by gift	1022	2171
Total volumes added (Monographs)	26207	42801

This increase can only be partly attributed to the additional expenditure for books and periodicals of \$70,000 for a total in 1972 of \$527,823, since nearly \$40,000 of the increase was accounted for by rises in periodical subscription rates. While there is always some variability in statistics which are based on books catalogued which does not necessarily correspond with money spent in the same period, much of the increase in total volumes undoubtedly represents purchase of

multiple copies, often in paper-back form, for the Undergraduate Library stock.

The AUC Report's analysis of library cost rises at 9.5% per annum closely parallels advice given by this Library in recent years. It is a welcome portent for the future that an allowance for this factor has now been formally incorporated into university budgetting.

The inclusion of library materials among possible purchases from the new Special Equipment Grant means that development of the research collection can now at last be planned systematically instead of depending almost entirely on occasional windfalls and the specialised interests covered by particular Departmental Research grants.

Another annual problem was solved when the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Fabric and Finance) agreed to fix each year a maximum amount which the Library would pay for labour in the Bindery. In former years the unpredictable costs of binding had made financial management of Library funds extremely difficult.

### *Acquisitions and serials*

While expenditure on books and periodicals continued to rise additional staff could not be made available to the purchasing sections of the library. The uneven flow of purchase recommendations causes peak loading in the second half of the year; there is a heavy influx of recommendations in August to beat the requirement that 85% of allocations to Departments must be committed by September 1st. There is another peak late in the year when remaining Research Funds are committed by Departments. This peak coincides with the period when every effort is being made to process invoices against the current year's funds and puts a heavy strain on library staff resources. It also coincides with staff absences due to examinations.

One arrangement which would avoid peak ordering from library funds falling late in the year would be to divorce the allocation year from the financial year. The allocation year might terminate in August and a proportion of the following year's allocation might be made available for requirements from September to December. The date by which 85% of allocated funds should be committed would be brought forward three months from September 1st to June 1st. The bulk of library ordering would then occur between January and June and a much greater proportion of orders would be received during the current financial year. A survey conducted in 1972 demonstrated that 85.5% of items



ordered by 31 July had arrived by 31 December. The average time between posting of the order and receipt of the item was:

United States	—	125 days
United Kingdom	—	100 days
Other overseas countries	—	106 days
Australia	—	71 days

This analysis emphasises again that the library needs to be given notice of books required for courses at least five months before students need to consult them.

Subscriptions were placed for 438 new serial titles and 106 duplicate serial titles; 127 were discontinued or ceased publication. In recent years financial stringency has led to a review of exchange arrangements by libraries in Australia and overseas; the total number of serial titles received by gift or exchange fell in 1972 by 96 in spite of the receipt of 287 new titles. Our Library has little to offer on an exchange basis in science or applied science fields.

Some idea of the work-load in the Serials section may be gained from the following figures for the half-year July – December 1972:

Claims for missing issues of subscription titles	—	2021
Claims for missing issues of gift/exchange titles	—	1467
Reorders for parts lost since accession	—	281
Formal letters concerning serials	—	3126

Serials section also spent many man-hours correcting records for the publication of the *Union List of Serials held in the University Libraries*, the first volume of which appeared before the end of the year. This is the Library's first Union List since 1959 and is intended, while being a useful publication in its own right, to be a means of gathering basic information about user needs for a possible computer-based file. The file would form the basis of updated cumulations and supplements.

### *Cataloguing*

While other sections of the library are more immediately in contact with users, the work of the Cataloguing Department is basic to the meaningful consultation of the library's large collection. Figures for accessions are themselves

impressive but the work of reclassification also continues without additional staff and without the cumulation of arrears. In all 602,000 catalogue cards were produced, sorted and filed or distributed to branch libraries. Items prepared for the shelves or renumbered totalled 100,000 volumes.

The Bancroft Library was reclassified to Library of Congress Classification as was the Microbiology collection which was relocated there in Second Vacation. Large sections of the Main Library were also reclassified.

This very large work-load was carried in spite of many changes of staff and the use of casual and temporary employees to compensate for the temporary transfer of cataloguing staff to meet other emergencies. A great deal of staff training and active supervision is required. The continuing efficiency of the Department is attributable in large measure to the dedication of the staff concerned.

### *Data Processing*

With the return of Dr. Owen from overseas in mid-year the Data Processing section began to gather momentum. The consultant's report on the *Feasibility Study for an automated circulation system* was received and preliminary estimates were made of the likely costs in equipment and programming of implementing an automated system. It became apparent during the year that employment of an experienced Systems Analyst in the Library would be essential to develop tender documents, assess tenders and coordinate development. Provision was made for such an appointment in 1973.

The Data Processing Section was deeply involved in the work leading to the production of the Union List of Serials. It conducted analyses to assess probable staff requirements for the new Central and Undergraduate Libraries and on several other aspects of library activity. Preliminary investigation of the possibility of reprogramming the production of the Thatcher Printed Catalogue (Thatcat) was commenced.

The proposed addition of a Systems Analyst and a part-time Programmer in 1973 will extend the activities of the Data Processing Section.

With the opening of the Undergraduate Library the computer-based Reserve Collection catalogue ceases to be appropriate. This has operated since 1970 and greatly assisted use of the Reserve Collection by students as well as facilitating library procedures.

## *Reader Services*

In spite of discouraging physical facilities in some of our libraries, patronage as demonstrated by reader occupation and borrowing continued to increase. Attempts continued to educate readers to a more sophisticated level of use. Inevitably this will lead to greater demand for service – more loans, more books to be shelved, more reference assistance – but the cost of these is marginal to the University's accumulated investment in its Library, and sophisticated access to information is an essential part of university education.

In addition to the on-going service described below, considerable thought was given to the organisation of reader services in the new Central and Undergraduate Libraries, and the design of appropriate facilities. The consequences will be a major feature of my next annual report.

Campus life was much quieter than in 1971. The only real threat of disruption to service was the petrol strike. Fortunately this was not long enough to create the serious problems to which a heavily service-oriented activity is vulnerable.

In recent years the Main Library has closed at midnight in Third Term and at 10 p.m. during the rest of the academic year. Following a very large student petition Senate agreed to extend midnight opening which now operates on week-nights throughout the academic year. While attendance varied the extra period was used by about 200 readers on the average. Hours in the Law Library were extended on a similar basis.

## *Reference*

The general library guide *Making the most of the University Library* was again produced in an updated version. Plans were made for a completely new suite of publications in 1973. A new booklet *An introduction to reference works in the humanities and social sciences* was prepared and made freely available.

A variety of useful publications of this nature could be written if sufficient time and experienced staff were available.

For orientation purposes a new technique was adopted in the preparation of a slide and tape programme giving basic information about the lay-out of the library, use of the catalogue and borrowing procedures. The equipment was set up near the public catalogue and the programme was shown at intervals for about

a month. It excited a lot of interest among all students; previous methods were much less successful with evening students. Another tape-slide programme was planned for 1973.

Voluntary lectures in library use were again offered, attracting some 240 students. Large classes of first year students were reached through lectures in formal class time; these were thought more successful than previously as a result of being held later than the beginning of First Term. Smaller first year groups were spoken to in Speech Therapy, Architecture and Engineering. Lectures were also given to a number of advanced classes including several history classes, Microeconomics, Sociology of Education, and to several Honours groups.

Another innovation which appeared to be successful was the conduct of half-day seminars for new tutors in English, History, Economics and Anthropology and Sociology. These dealt with collection building, cooperation between librarians and teaching staff, levels of literature searching reasonable for new students and patterns of literature-searching for research work.

There is no doubt that all of these programmes contribute to more effective use of the library. Much more could be done if a larger number of senior reference staff was available. With the development of computer-based S.D.I. (Selective dissemination of information) and information retrieval services demands on the library will become heavier and more complex. A strong reference staff will be essential if these demands are to be met.

In my last report I discussed the major part which this library plays in supplying the bulk of inter-library loan material at an advanced level to Queensland libraries. Loans to other libraries increased in 1972 by a further 1800 to 13,395, and this trend will undoubtedly continue with the establishment of Griffith University. It is proper that as the largest library in Queensland the University Library should shoulder the burden of inter-library loans. Cooperation is an accepted condition of library life and staff and research students at this University borrowed 6300 items from other libraries through the inter-library loan system in 1972 alone. What the University cannot undertake is to remedy the deficiencies of other tertiary institutions in Brisbane in providing library service to their undergraduate students. There is evidence that Teachers' College students in particular are using the university library as if they were enrolled students, using materials and taking up the time of library staff both of which are insufficient to meet all of the needs of university students. It is hoped that other tertiary institutions in Brisbane will develop the level of services and the hours of opening for their students which the University has considered essential to meet the study

requirements of university students. There will be more encouragement for them to do so if the University Library cannot be used as a surrogate.

A much smaller but still important problem is the occasional demand from a private individual that he be allowed to borrow from the University Library to compensate for the fact that the State Library does not lend and the City Council Libraries do not meet his needs. While the University Library has traditionally accepted some obligation in professional fields or where there are genuine research needs which cannot otherwise be met, it cannot be expected to act as a general facility for the Brisbane community.

### *Special Collections*

In recent years the collection has been enriched by the acquisition of older books, manuscripts and other records primarily of Queensland or Australian interest. A great boost came from the Hayes Collection in 1968, but collecting has continued actively since that time. Since 1971 the Library has been assisted by the enthusiastic activities of the Library Assistance Committee of the Alumni Association; the President, Mr. L.C. Fisher and Mrs. Fisher have been particularly active. Two members of the Alumni, Mr. Len Watson and Mr. John Murphy assisted voluntarily in the Fryer Library itself. Among major manuscript acquisitions were notebooks of Australian artist Donald Friend for his recent books about Indonesia and notebooks and papers of Roy Parkinson, an artist prominent in Brisbane in the 1920's and 1930's.

A number of bibliographies of Australian writers were compiled or revised. Among the subjects were Christina Stead, Xavier Herbert, Randolph Stow, Henry Handel Richardson and Martin Boyd. Bibliographies were also provided for the *Poets on Record* series of the University of Queensland Press; the excellent relations and cooperation between the Press and the Library are so taken for granted that this fruitful alliance has not previously been mentioned in my annual reports. The Annual Bibliography of Studies in Australian Literature published in *Australian Literary Studies* was again compiled by Miss M. Ehrhardt and Mr. S.J. Routh.

The Fryer Library lost a supporter of long standing with the death of Miss Eunice Hanger. The Hanger Collection of Australian Plays in Manuscript is to be continued by the joint efforts of the Department of English and the University Library as a lasting memorial to Miss Hanger's contribution to the University of Queensland.

Altogether donations of 340 books and 64 manuscript items, mainly of Australiana, were received and \$2400 to strengthen the collection, much of this from a Rockefeller Foundation Grant made available through the good offices of the Vice-Chancellor.

### *Lending Services (Main Library)*

A further increase of 5% in lending suggests only part of the work-load carried by this Department. The cramped quarters in which it operated were a continuing irritant and restraint on its efficiency.

Efforts were made to implement the policy mentioned in my 1971 Report of controlling more stringently loans to teaching staff. The great majority of teaching staff are extremely cooperative but there is a small number who fail to respond to recall notices, overdue notices and telephone calls. A more active policy of sending accounts for replacement costs has produced welcome results.

Book stealing continued to be a problem. Labour resources are not available to carry out regular thorough checks of stock. Only the Reserve Collection is checked annually, and this revealed a loss of 270 items for the year out of some 12000. However the frequency of complaints that books cannot be found suggests that temporary losses are much higher, and mutilation continues.

Theft over a long period came to light when some books purchased from a second-hand bookseller proved to be our own stolen copies. Further investigations led to records of some 300 stolen books for which the replacement value was estimated at approximately \$8,500. With the help of the bookseller who was an innocent intermediary, and of the police most of the books were finally recovered along with financial restitution.

In spite of this particular instance, most losses whether temporary or permanent are for study convenience and not monetary gain. Consideration is being given to electronic control systems of which several are operating overseas and at least one in Australia. However the capital cost for each installation is \$14,600 and there is a preparation cost of about 20 cents per book. Since the problem is apparent in a number of branch libraries the cumulative costs would be very large.

Pilfering from bags left outside the Main Library was dramatically reduced by the installation of closed circuit television. The design of the new Central Library permits readers to bring bags into reading rooms but the closed circuit

television will be continued in the Undergraduate Library.

## **BRANCH LIBRARIES**

The University of Queensland Library has a greater proportion of its stock in branch libraries than any other Australian university library. To the extent that it encourages use this arrangement is justified on a large campus, and is inevitable for off-campus sections of the university. I have already mentioned the new buildings which will permit considerable consolidation and rationalisation. In general activities and problems in branch libraries are similar to those of the Main Library.

### *Architecture Library*

This library works closely with teaching staff and students as well as assisting individual practising architects and architectural firms. It contains a considerable quantity of specialised material, and a particular effort was made in 1972 to improve the trade literature section. A stock check revealed that a disappointingly large number of post-1970 issues of journals were missing, and that 360 books (out of 6000) were missing since the last stock check four years previously.

### *Bancroft Library*

This Library was reclassified to Library of Congress during the year, as was the Microbiology Collection which came from Herston in August. From Second Vacation an extra Library Assistant was added making a total staff of two. Addition of service to Microbiology added to the overcrowding but this problem should be resolved in the Joint Biological Sciences Library.

### *Biological Sciences Library*

The final section of mezzanine was installed in 1972 in the hope that with this addition the library will survive until the new building becomes available. To overcome problems of journal consultation a new policy was introduced by agreement with the teaching Departments under which issues later than January of the previous year are not lent. By agreement also there is no longer access for staff and post-graduate students after hours; opening hours have been extended. The library was obviously understaffed in 1972, a situation which will be rectified in 1973.

### *Chemistry Library*

The most notable event affecting the Chemistry Library was the breakdown in relations with the Chemical Society of London which produces several major journals. This was an object lesson in the problems of two large organisations attempting to communicate across 12,000 miles. The saga of postal strikes, unreceived letters and telex messages finally ended in restored communication but for many months the University's Chemists lacked access to recent issues of important journals.

### *Engineering Library*

With the growth of stock and reader-use space is becoming a problem. It would be unfortunate if having provided facilities and services which have stimulated library use it now became necessary to reduce seating to accommodate books. This will be inevitable unless the area at present occupied by the Darnell Art Gallery store can be recovered. This was made available several years ago on a "temporary" basis, understood to be at most two years, to meet a crisis in picture storage. As it happened plans to provide a store in the new Michie Building, opened early in 1972, fell through and the Gallery Store remains an unwilling and unwanted tenant in the Engineering Library.

### *Geology Library*

At the suggestion of the Geology Librarian supported by the Department, Geology Library became the only branch library to have new additions classified by Library of Congress before the older stock is changed from Dewey.

The map collection, which had been sorted and catalogued in the previous year by Mrs. M. Brenan from Main Library, was rehoused in a manner making more satisfactory use of space. It is now necessary to review policy in relation to the map collection which has grown haphazardly, and to provide improved facilities for consultation. Unfortunately the library is once again outgrowing the space available and can expand only by encroaching on teaching or laboratory space.

Professor Dorothy Hill, who has been an outstanding supporter and benefactor of both the Geology Library and the University Library generally, retired in December 1972. Fortunately Professor-Emeritus Hill will continue to take an active interest in the Library to which she has contributed so much over so many years.



### *Law Library*

Law staff and students have been vocal for a number of years about the Law Library's bibliographical and physical inadequacies. In recent years special annual grants have been made to build up the book-stock, which in 1972 exceeded the shelving available. Usage, always high, has responded to the improved book-stock causing seating problems in a library in which most material is for reference only.

The shelving problem will be temporarily solved and seating slightly improved when Law extends into the Thatcher Library space in 1973. With its very long opening hours and the heavy load of reshelving staff is inadequate for satisfactory supervision and losses appear high. More staff for more stringent exit control is not the answer as long as books can easily be dropped from windows.

### *Mathematics Library*

Stock in this library is increasing by some 900 volumes per year, and further shelf space can only be found by removing seats or extending into an adjacent area. The library was converted to Library of Congress classification during the year and journal volumes were equipped with book-pockets for simpler recording of loans.

### *Music Library*

Although it serves a comparatively small group this library has special features since it contains music scores, performing parts and recordings as well as books and journals. In the past thefts have been alarmingly frequent and in 1972 control was improved by the appointment of a second full-time staff member. This permitted a considerable extension of the "frozen" collection resulting in greater security.

Teaching staff and students take a notable interest in improving the library which now has more than 7000 music scores, nearly 3000 books and nearly 200 current serials.

### *Physics Library*

This library is used by staff and students from a number of Departments besides Physics, particularly Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Geology, Mathe-

matics and Chemistry. Unfortunately the comparatively spacious lay-out of 1966 has gradually been crowded by the need for additional shelving. While it may be possible to move some older material to the new Central Library, this will not balance the incoming material and the space problem will become increasingly acute.

Losses were few in number though replacements would be expensive since the majority of losses are of advanced material.

### *Thatcher Memorial Library*

This is another very busy library which was handicapped by inadequate physical facilities in 1972. The situation will be much improved when Thatcher Library moves to the Undergraduate Library building in 1973. A great deal of assistance with support services is given by the Department of External Studies; Department and Library work very closely together.

In an attempt to speed up service more use is to be made of air-mail, when there is a reliable fast air-service. There are never sufficient copies of particular books and too much dead time is spent in the mail.

A final cumulated catalogue for 1965-1972 was printed from the punched cards through the computer. With the proposed phasing out of the GE 225 computer in 1975 the computer-printed catalogue (Thatcat) project is being thoroughly reviewed.

### *Veterinary Science Library*

This is another component of the proposed Joint Biological Sciences Library and the present overcrowding demonstrates the need for new facilities. Automatic circulation of journals was discontinued during the year by agreement with the Faculty Library Committee.

### *Medical Libraries*

The four medical libraries are extremely well used by University and Hospital staff, students and the medical profession in Brisbane. There is a great deal of inter-library loan activity with the Queensland Institute of Medical Research and the A.M.A. (Brisbane Branch) libraries as well as with biologically oriented branch libraries at St. Lucia. Some of this activity is promoted by the Medlars information retrieval service located at Canberra for which the Principal Librarian

i/c Medical Libraries Dr. R.J. Boscott acts as a local intermediary.

Administration of the hospital libraries has evolved to some extent to meet problems as they have arisen. Clarification of procedures to be followed in meeting salary increases at the Clinical Sciences and Princess Alexandra Hospital Libraries has simplified budgetting for these libraries.

The Dentistry Library remains a problem. While installation of air-conditioning units and new reading carrels has improved the general atmosphere, what may once have been a pleasant small library now presents a drab and uninviting appearance. It is to be hoped that new attractive quarters will be found for it before too long.

## CONCLUSION

Perhaps it is the euphoria of writing an Annual Report in a new building which makes this conclusion more optimistic than its predecessor. Occupation of new and renovated buildings and prospects for further improvement, recognition by the AUC of the effects of inflation on library budgets and application of AUC recommendations by the University, larger scale retrospective purchasing in the new Triennium, all point to a better library service.

Much remains to be done. There are still many unsatisfied student requests, and it is thought that many students, particularly part-time students, seldom use the libraries. Efficiency of use could be greatly improved if an adequate number of professional librarians was available for reader education and reference duties. The developing national information network will stimulate more sophisticated demands, throwing a greater load on both reader service and technical services staff, once readers begin to ask for references whose existence present systems hide.

The conclusion cannot be avoided that costs of servicing the University Library must rise not only to meet the demands of readers but to develop the quality of service. Some labour costs may be saved by the introduction of automated routines, but this saving is more likely to be on future growth rather than present costs. The purchase or hiring of hardware and software, and the cost of servicing new procedures will not be small. Failure to meet this cost would not only use a major asset inefficiently; it would also deny to study and research a commodity, information, which is basic to each.

In conclusion I must again express my debt to the many who assist in keep-

ing this very large operation running, the Library Committee, a sympathetic Senate, university administrators, a great many teaching staff and a dedicated library staff.

July, 1973

F.D.O. Fielding,  
University Librarian

## UNIVERSITY LIBRARY STATISTICS 1970-1972

1. <b>Potential users</b>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>
Full-time teaching staff, Lecturer and above	687	699	642
Other eligible full-time staff	495	577	758
External Undergraduates	3125	3425	3281
Part-time Undergraduates	4462	4578	4504
Full-time Undergraduates	7402	7441	6926
Post-graduate students	1849	1791	1662
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>18020</u>	<u>18511</u>	<u>17773</u>
2. <b>Library staff</b>			
Graduate Professional staff	41¼	35¾	33½
Non-Graduates with professional qualifications	2	2	4
Graduates without professional qualifications	20½	21	25½
Library Assistants	71	70½	64½
Typing and clerical	16½	16¾	16¾
Library Attendants	16	13	12
Casual equivalent	2	2	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>169¼</u>	<u>161</u>	<u>156¼</u>

*Distribution of Library Staff*

Administration	7¼	7¼	5¾
Technical services	60	61¾	63¾
Reader services (Main Library)	50	46½	40¾
Reader services (Branch Libraries)	50	43½	46½

3. <b>Services</b>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>
Lending outside building: Main Library	215,852	205,969	173,354
Lending outside building: Branch Libraries	191,805	207,885	201,831
Items lent to libraries outside University	13,395	11,560	10,232
Items borrowed from libraries outside University	6,306	7,198	6,645
Hours of opening per week (Main Library) during academic year	93½ (88½ 1st term)	93½ (3rd term) (88½ 1st & 2nd terms)	93½ 88½

#### 4. **Acquisitions**

Books:			
New titles by purchase	17,032	11,378	16,652
New titles by gift	2,171	1,022	2,077
Total volumes added (Books)	42,801	26,207	35,136
Serials:			
Total number of serials received	18,803	18,462	17,964
Number of non-duplicate serial titles received	15,466	15,251	14,907
Total bound volumes added (serials)	15,367	13,928	12,521
Total bound volumes in university library	745,965	687,944	647,809
Microfilm added (reels)			
Monographs	139	201	149
Serials	573	119	6,572
Total microfilm reels held	14,241	13,844	13,524

5. Expenditure	<u>1972</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1970</u>
Books from Library vote	\$201,231	\$182,263	\$186,400
Books and Serials from other funds (Research, Donations, etc.)	87,000	80,789	99,008
Serials from Library vote	238,242	192,813	176,423
Binding	66,671	64,798	52,123
Maintenance and Equipment	<u>76,609</u>	<u>90,056</u>	<u>63,735</u>
Total expenditure, except salaries, from all sources	670,553	610,719	577,689
Salaries, Payroll tax etc.	<u>806,066</u>	<u>636,562</u>	<u>554,961</u>
TOTAL expenditure on University Library	\$1,476,619	\$1,247,281	\$1,132,650
Expenditure from Library Vote as % of recurrent University			
Expenditure from recurrent grant.	6.32%	5.96%	6.2%
Expenditure from all funds as a % of total University Expenditure	5.58%	5.29%	5.7%

## STATISTICS OF INDIVIDUAL LIBRARIES

	<u>Approximate size in bound volumes</u>		<u>Serials currently received</u>		<u>Loans within University</u>		<u>Loans to Libraries out- side University</u>	
	1972	(1971)	(1972)	(1971)	1972	(1971)	1972	(1971)
Main Library	435,646	(384,854)	9,096	(8,791)	215,852	(205,969)	7,683	(5,794)
Architecture	7,472	(7,021)	283	(282)	10,701	(8,153)	272	(118)
Bancroft	12,700	(10,209)	408	(245)	7,527	(7,012)	521	(763)
Biology	33,086	(31,608)	1,352	(1,338)	22,375	(23,132)	998	(1,155)
Central Medical	16,938	(16,288)	848	(739)	13,125	(14,221)	804	(564)
Chemistry	11,508	(10,985)	296	(288)	3,739	(5,880)	27	(215)
Clinical Sciences	7,700	(6,969)	317	(293)	18,384	(15,661)	563	(587)
Dentistry	6,727	(6,489)	215	(211)	4,590	(2,890)	-	-
Engineering (incl. Electrical Engin.)	35,435	(33,088)	1,575	(1,492)	23,775	(23,345)	813	(923)
Geology	17,194	(16,107)	1,005	(1,000)	3,822	(3,777)	507	(458)
Law	26,253	(24,201)	445	(429)	2,668	(2,905)	31	(9)
Mater	2,935	(2,378)	167	(161)	4,580	(3,277)	80	(42)
Mathematics	12,259	(11,357)	303	(289)	7,323	(6,405)	83	(151)
Music	10,644	(9,728)	195	(184)	4,271	(5,412)	6	(5)
Physics	11,493	(10,274)	501	(514)	4,769	(10,492)	88	(96)
Princess Alex. Hospital	4,233	(3,949)	180	(176)	11,634	(5,678)	119	(17)
T.M.L.	62,214	(56,980)	334	(325)	29,977	(33,919)	-	-
Veterinary Science	14,201	(13,120)	884	(830)	11,651	(20,246)	711	(629)



## DONATIONS

The list below includes only a sample of the many donations to the University Library. It does not list cash donations. Many Australian Commonwealth and State governments and other public institutions are generous in supplying copies of their own publications, and these also have not been listed.

- Mrs. Max Afford. -- A large number of Australian radio scripts.
- Mr. E.B. Brier. -- Musical scores, including many Australian compositions; manuscripts of his father, Eric Brier, which contain much valuable social and cultural history.
- Mr. R.W. Cable. -- Hymn books, psalters, and books of carols and sacred songs.
- Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft. -- *Die Aktion*, 1911-18; *Freie Bühne für modernes Leben*, 1890-1903; *Schriften der Goethe Gesellschaft*, 1885-1941.
- Mrs. E.S. Gilmour. -- Australian historical material.
- G.R.M. Grant. -- *Studio*, 1902-28.
- H. Hartnell. -- *Great books of the western world*.
- G. Harvey. -- Books on agriculture from the library of the late Professor R.J. McIlroy
- Xavier Herbert. -- Manuscripts of *Soldiers' women* and *Of man, the moon and destiny*.
- Bertram Hume. -- Albums and diaries relating to his grandfather, Walter C. Hume, Queensland Land Commissioner.
- Mrs. C.R. Knight. -- Publications on land taxation controversies from the library of Charles Henry Chomley.
- Mrs. Margaret Laurie. -- Audiotapes of Torres Strait myths and legends.
- H.W.A. Lohe. -- Books on music and on German culture.
- The late Professor F.J. Olsen. -- Books principally on education.
- St. John's College. -- 1637 Bible; *The spectator*; *Swift's Works*, 1760-62.
- Estate of the late E.M. Stitt. -- Papers of the Stitt and McLeod families, including the log of the Pacific Island recruiting vessel, the "Bob-Tail Nag".

- Walter Stone and the Wentworth Press. — Russian language books published in Australia, and other Australian books and pamphlets.
- J.D. Story. — Books and periodicals, most of them published by University of Queensland or related to universities, from his father's library.
- Professor M.D. Sutherland. — Periodicals in chemistry.
- A.K. Thomson. — A large number of English literary works.
- H. Thorburn. — Australian periodicals, and a general collection of books in the humanities.
- Mrs. H. Tuxworth. — Papers, publications and maps relating to the history of Tennant Creek and the Northern Territory generally.
- United Graziers' Association of Queensland. — Books, pamphlets, and periodicals on pastoral economics and policy.
- U.S. Information Service. — Books on the American economy.
- Dr. V.G. Venturini. — Italian, legal and general publications.
- John Villaume. — *Musical times*, 1933-56.
- Dr. J.G. and Dr. D.I. Wagner. — Australian and general books.
- Mrs. J. Wickham. — Engineering and geological periodicals from the library of the late Dr. W.H.R. Nimmo.