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May 1994: Statewide Library Network Urged; WPA and Libraries in S.C.; Library Directors' Forum

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Focus

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Statewide library network urged by libraries, CHE

S.C.'s university library resources would be a keystroke away if the proposed network becomes a reality

Consultants' reports are often received and filed, their recommendations ignored and soon forgotten. A different fate seems to have come to the report of a blue-ribbon team hired by the S.C. Commission on Higher Education to study the state's academic libraries. The suggestions have been taken seriously and the results hold the promise of improved library services for the state's students and faculty.

A proposal for a statewide computer network connecting the libraries of all state-supported higher education institutions is now before the General Assembly. An outgrowth of the consultants' study, the S.C. Higher Education Library Network (HELN) would enable the user of an online catalog at any state college to use the catalog of any other state college. And through the magic of "Z39.50" software, other catalogs will have the same appearance and commands as the familiar home catalog. A Win-

throp student, used to using DOC, will be able to use the catalog at U.S.C. or Clemson without having to learn a new and sometimes arcane computer system.

As if finding out about books owned by nearby institutions weren't enough, HELN will also include indexes to most of the major journals used by students in their research. The indexes will be similar to those presently available on CD-ROM in Dacus, but would be available at any DOC terminal. The familiar, friendly DOC interface would also be used to search the indexes.

HELN will take advantage of two existing telecommunications networks—Technet, which connects the state's tech schools, and a high speed network owned by SCE&G connecting Charleston, Columbia, and Anderson. Use of existing lines brings the cost of HELN to a reasonable level.

The HELN request before the General Assembly would buy

every campus with an online catalog the software and hardware necessary to become part of the network. Winthrop, which is connected to Technet, is already ahead of most in preparing for HELN.

A project like HELN, with its benefits to all S.C. college students and faculty and potential for cost-savings through resource sharing, should be a cinch to pass the legislature. But, believe it or not, the House Ways and Means Committee deleted it from the appropriations bill. Alternative means of funding are being considered by CHE and the Library Directors' Forum if funds are not restored by the Senate.

Laurance R. Mitlin
Associate Dean of Library Services

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WPA had great impact on public libraries in South Carolina

Bob Gorman, head of Public Services, is currently on sabbatical and is researching the Works Progress Administration and South Carolina Libraries.

On May 6, 1935, Franklin Roosevelt signed executive order #7034, an action destined to be one of the most significant of his presidency. It was this executive order that created the Works Progress Administration, more popularly known as the WPA, the largest work relief program in the history of the United States.

The main purpose of the WPA was to move the unemployed from the welfare rolls to temporary work relief. The bulk of WPA funding went toward salaries for workers engaged in projects that were to be useful and practical in nature. It was hoped that these WPA workers would eventually find employment in the private sector as the economy improved.

WPA activities went beyond building

Almost everyone is familiar with the WPA's construction and building activities. In the eight years that the agency existed, WPA workers built or improved over 600,000 miles of roads, renovated 125,000 buildings, and constructed thousands of miles of water mains and

sewer lines. Fewer are aware that the WPA also engaged in thousands of service projects designed to employ professional and white collar workers. Adult education and nursery school programs, recreation activities, school lunch programs, sewing and gardening projects, public health services, and projects in music, theater, and art were initiated by the WPA.

Libraries were affected by many WPA projects

The nation's libraries were directly impacted by a number of WPA projects. In addition to constructing or renovating more than 1000 library buildings, the WPA sponsored the Historical Records Survey, a project responsible for locating, arranging, and preserving records of special historical value found in the churches, archives, and libraries throughout the nation.

Of even more direct benefit to libraries were the nationwide library demonstration projects supported by the WPA. The nature of these projects varied from state to state, but most were concerned with extending library service to rural and other underserved areas and with providing library workers for clerical, cataloging, indexing, circulation and bookmobile activities.

Although the library demonstration projects were

small in comparison to overall WPA activities (accounting for about 1 percent of all WPA expenditures), they tended to have an impact far greater than the amount expended. In no case was this truer than in South Carolina.

Public library conditions in South Carolina were deplorable prior to 1935. Only three of the state's 46 counties had county-wide library service. Ten counties had no libraries at all and the rest had town or subscription libraries serving a very restricted population.

S.C. state library support was nonexistent

There was no state support for public libraries and only a limited amount of local tax money. Only a third of the state's nearly two million residents had access to any type of public library. Public library service to black South Carolinians was almost nonexistent. Only four public libraries offered service (of a limited nature) to African-American citizens.

The WPA greatly improved the status of libraries in South Carolina. Free public libraries were started or expanded in every county, including three regional multi-county library systems. Bookmobile service was initiated to bring library resources to rural residents.

Library service to blacks was improved (although still not at the level of that provided whites). Workers were trained to provide circulation, cataloging, indexing, and clerical services and to repair and bind thousands of books and magazines. The WPA even provided a small collection of about 25,000 books that circulated throughout the state. The library demonstration project was so successful in South Carolina that a film about it was made and distributed to other states.

Opponents of the WPA (and similar federal programs) usually criticized the agency as a make-work, do-nothing organization which wasted millions of taxpayer dollars on useless activities. The image of the ditch digger leaning on his shovel is a very common one promoted by critics. And, undoubtedly, there were public funds spent on unsuccessful, poorly conceived projects. Overall, however, the WPA provided work for millions of unemployed Americans who would otherwise have remained on the public relief rolls. And many WPA projects had value far beyond the life of the agency. The library demonstration projects are an especially good example of the impact the WPA had on the future.

Focus

Library Directors' Forum enables statewide information initiatives

In 1993, the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education created the Library Directors' Forum, a statewide task force of the thirty-three public academic institutions in South Carolina. Since its creation, Winthrop's librarians have played a key role in its planning sessions and programs. Currently Paul DuBois (Dean) serves on its executive board as a representative of the four-year comprehensive institutions in the state. Larry Mitlin (Associate Dean) served on the Forum committee that put together the proposal for the Higher Education Library Network (see lead article in this issue of *Dacus Focus*). Gale Teaster-Woods (Head of Serials) serves on a committee seeking library support for new academic programs and extended education.

In commenting on the work of the Forum, Dr. DuBois noted that its centerpiece program, the creation of the Higher Education Library Network, will be, if funded, "the single most important advance for academic libraries in South Carolina since the creation of the national OCLC computer network." This project will enable the state's academic libraries to link each other's online catalogs and will eventually provide access to online periodical indexes and locally loaded and remote information sources.

On April 11 and 12 Forum members met at Camp Saint Christopher on Seabrook Island. Speakers included Jack Sites, former Associate Director of SACS and Dr. Lynn Kelley, Coordinator of Academic Programs for CHE. A

course of action for the year ahead was set with emphasis on the three keys to academic library development in South Carolina: increased resources, the appropriate application of technology to information needs, and enhanced cooperation among all academic libraries. In commenting on the meeting, Dr. DuBois noted, "I am especially looking forward to my work with the funding guidelines and incentives committee which will seek, through a variety of measures, to encourage the state's academic libraries to meet all the standards of the Association of College and Research Libraries. This is the road to excellence for academic library programs throughout the state, and all of us welcome those who are seeking to put teeth into the standards."

ACTIVE

PEOPLE

GALE TEASTER-WOODS,

Head, Serials Acquisitions and Cataloging,

became co-director of the Critical Issues Symposium program in 1994 as well as cochairing the committee which reviewed the program in 1993/94 and served as chair of the Faculty Assembly for Dacus Library. She is presenting a workshop at the annual convention of the North American Serials Interest Group, which will be held in Vancouver in June. Ms. Teaster did a presentation on censorship as part of the Honors Lyceum in March. Also, she did a similar presentation for a mass communications class and the campus organization Women in Communications Organization.

VIRGINIA VESPER,

Head of Monographs Acquisitions,

presented a paper at the 1993 Popular Culture Association meeting in New Orleans on the "Body in the Library," and another paper at the 1994 Chicago conference entitled "The Image of the Librarian in Murder Mysteries."

JEAN WELLS-YOUNG,

Government Documents Librarian,

attended the Depository Library Conference conducted by the U.S. Government Printing Office in Washington in April 1993. In May 1993, she attended the SCLA Workshop on 1990 Census Data in Columbia. Last October Ms. Wells attended a conference entitled "Government Information on the Internet."

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Zachary Maddox and Jeff Rosen, Editors**

Archives attracts researchers from far and near

The Winthrop Archives has experienced one of the busiest and most productive periods in its history. This has happened during the time the Archives moved its central location from room 14 to room 2 on the basement floor of the Dacus Library. The move will make the Archives more efficient and productive as it enters its third decade of operation.

Research, collection building, university outreach, community outreach, exhibitions, grant making, and publishing have all been a part of the Archives' agenda. Here are some of the highlights:

Research in the Archives Collection

The Archives has attracted researchers from the Winthrop community, the local region, the state, the nation, and beyond. Winthrop students have used the Archives to research such topics as the architecture of Winthrop buildings, the history of the speech department, a biographical sketch of President DiGiorgio, the history of sororities and fraternities at Winthrop, the founding and early history of the university. Three theses are currently being researched in the Archives.

Scholars researching books, dissertations, theses, and articles have come to Winthrop to use the Archives or have had questions answered via the mail. They include researchers from the University of Wisconsin, from New York University, from the University of Missouri, from the University of California at Berkeley, from James Madison University, from Rutgers University, from the Massachusetts Historical Society, from Clemson University, from UNC Charlotte, from the University of South Carolina, among others. In addition, family and local historians have come or sent inquiries from Virginia, South Carolina, Texas, Tennessee, Oregon, California.

Collection Development

The Archives acquired some important collections that will make additional resources available to Winthrop students and faculty and other researchers. The files of Mr. Dan Byrd, a prominent local attorney, who was the lawyer for the Tri-County Landowner's Association, include more than 40,000 documents that will shed light on the Catawba Indian land claim issue.

The Archives also received additional papers of the late Dr. Nolan Pliny Jacobson, professor of philosophy at Winthrop University. A noted scholar, Dr. Jacobson's papers include correspondence with such noted promi-

nent figures as Henry Weiman, Dr. Charles Hartschorne, and Daniel Berrigan.

Other important collections acquired or added to collections include the South Carolina Association of School Librarians, Dr. Ross A. Webb papers, the James Latta Plantation records, and the South Carolina Association of Future Homemakers of America records.

University Outreach

The Archives has become an integral part of the cultural events program at Winthrop. During the past year, the Archives has sponsored more than 25 cultural events, using archival and other Winthrop resources, on such topics as John F. Kennedy: The Assassination, National Library Week: A Celebration, Women's History Month: A Celebration, Winthrop Film Festival, How to Get Published, Gender in Higher Education: The Case of Winthrop and Clemson, A Celebration of Children's Book Week, Children in Crisis: Power to the Young People, and many more. During the past year, more than 3,000 Winthrop students attended Archives' approved cultural events.

Community Outreach

The Archives' outreach program, "Archives in the Schools," is completing its second successful year. In the past year, it has reached more than 2,000 students in York, Lancaster, and Chester counties. As part of the program, topics presented include The Environmental Crisis, Tales From the Making of South Carolina, Glimpses of Chester County, How to Research Your Family History, Word Power: Writing to Communicate, and East African Wildlife and Travel.

In addition, the Archives launched "The Winthrop Archives in the Community Series" with the objective of making the Archives' resources better known to the wider community. Programs have focused on Winthrop history, family history, and the forthcoming "Tillman Hall: One Hundred Years of History and Tradition."

Grant Making

The Archives received four grants that will help to promote the department's resources and programs. Another grant from the Winthrop Research Council helped the department purchase records that will be

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ZACHARY B. MADDOX

joined the Dacus Library staff on January 3, 1994, as Reference Librarian and Coordinator of Document Retrieval. He worked previously at Dacus Library as a part-time reference librarian and completed an internship in reference at the Sandor Teszler Library, Wofford College. Zachary received a B.A. in English from Wofford College and a M.L.I.S. from the University of South Carolina. He now takes classes in the M.A. in English graduate program here at Winthrop University.

LU REEVES

joined the circulation staff as a library technical assistant on March 28, 1994, after previously being at home with her son, Daniel, and her husband, John Reeves of the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies at Winthrop. Her past library experience was as a library technical assistant at Hebrew Union College and at the University of Cincinnati (both in Cincinnati). She has worked in both public and technical services. Her educational background includes a B.F.A. in drawing/painting from the College of Mt. St. Joseph in Cincinnati and graduate work in art history at the University of Cincinnati.

JEFF ROSEN

joined the library faculty on February 16, 1994 as Reference Librarian and Coordinator of Electronic Services. Jeff comes to Winthrop from Austin Community College where he managed one of their branch Learning Resource Centers and conducted Internet training for faculty members. He was also on the Board of Directors of the recently created Austin Freenet. Jeff completed both his B.A. in Government and his Masters of Library and Information Science at the University of Texas at Austin.

RESIGNATIONS

Anne Fliotsos, Online Search Librarian
Linda Keltner, Interlibrary Loan Librarian
Benjamin McCollum, LTA IV, Circulation

UPGRADES

Charlene Blackwelder, Vonda Coleman, Charlene Drummond, and Jannifer Tucker, all from LTA III to LTA IV

AWARDED TENURE

Patricia I. Ballard, Head, Monographs Cataloging
Virginia A. Vesper, Head, Monographs Acquisitions

Archives...

Continued from page 4

used for students and scholars to research local architectural history.

In collaboration with the Winthrop Women's Studies Committee, the Archives received a \$5,000 grant from the South Carolina Humanities Council to support a series of public service programs and an exhibit in recognition and honor of Women's History Month. The month-long program began with a visit from Betty Jo Rhea, the mayor of Rock Hill, to the Dacus Library last March to officially proclaim the month of March Women's History Month.

Exhibits

The grant from the South Carolina Humanities Council also supported the assembling of an exhibit

with the help of Dr. Tom Stanley's art class. Titled "Palmetto Women: Images from The Winthrop University Archives", the exhibit will be on display through May, 1994, and then become part of the traveling exhibition program of the South Carolina State Museum.

The Archives has displayed more than 15 other exhibits on such themes as the Civilian Pilot Training Program at Winthrop: 50-year Anniversary; Patricia Cormier, Winthrop's New Vice President; Selected Winthrop Faculty Publications, Mary E. Frayser, A Champion of Women's Rights, the African-American Experience in the Winthrop Archives.

ACTIVE

PEOPLE

PAT BALLARD,

Head, Monographs Cataloging,

published the article, "Bound-Withs Versus an Online Catalog: A Practical Solution," in the December, 1992, issue of *Information Technology and Libraries*. She was also active in several committees: Committee on Undergraduate Petitions, Academic Affairs Advisory Council, and Music Library Advisory Committee.

RON CHEPESIUK,

Head, Archives and Special Collections,

has his fifth book, *Sixties Radicals, Then and Now: Candid Conversations with Those Who Moved an Era*, scheduled for publication in early 1995. He had several articles published in *American Libraries*, *Wilson Library Bulletin*, *Library Journal*, and *International Notes*.

NANCY DAVIDSON,

Reference Librarian and Coordinator of Bibliographic Instruction,

served on several university committees including the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee, the Judicial Council, and the Graduate Council. She was also a member of the Learning Research Project Team.

PAUL DUBOIS

Dean of Library Services,

is serving as a leader in several key groups in the state. He is on the executive board of the Metrolina Council of Librarians. At a recent meeting of the Library Directors' Forum, he was reelected to a three year term on the executive board and will serve this year as Vice-chair of this group charged with statewide planning and development for all public academic libraries in South Carolina.

BOB GORMAN

Head of Public Services,

is on sabbatical from January 1 to June 30, 1994. He is researching the Works Progress Administration (WPA) and its involvement in public library development in South Carolina from 1935 to 1943. He will be visiting libraries throughout the state as well as the National

Archives in Washington, D.C. during the sabbatical period.

GLORIA KELLEY,

Head of Technical Services,

coauthored with Ron Chepesiuk the lead story in the February, 1994, issue of *American Libraries* on the Martin Luther King Library. She attended workshops on U.S. MARC format integration, Troubleshooting PC's, and Online processing of government documents. She also attended meetings of the Innovative Interfaces Users' Group in Berkeley, CA, and Columbus, OH.

DEANNA LEWIS,

Access Control Librarian,

has been appointed to a three year term on the South Carolina Library Association planning board. Ms. Lewis also spoke to social science classes at Rock Hill High School in February.

ZACHARY MADDOX,

Reference Librarian and Coordinator of Document Retrieval

attended the workshop, "To Copy or Not to Copy," the "Computers in Libraries, 1994" conference and the seminar on "Writing in the Disciplines."

LARRY MITLIN,

Associate Dean of Library Services,

served on a committee to develop a S.C. Higher Education Library Network in the fall. He is serving his last year on the board of directors of the Southeastern Library Network (SOLINET), Atlanta, where he is chairman of the Bylaws Committee and serves on the Financial Advisory Committee.

HANAN NICHOLS,

Administrative Specialist,

remains the Advisor for the Association of Ebonites on Winthrop's campus. She is liaison for the faculty in the United Way campaign for 1994-95 and is on the Budget and Allocation Board of the Greater United Way of Rock Hill. On April 15, 1994, she was initiated into Delta Sigma Theta, a service organization.

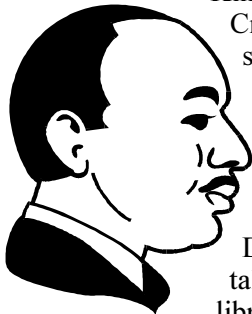
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Focus

M. L. King Library focus of article by two Dacus librarians

Ronald Chepesiuk and Gloria Kelley wrote the cover story for the February, 1994, issue of *American Libraries*, the official publication of the American Library Association. The article, "The Martin Luther

King Library and Archives at the Crossroads" was significant for several reasons. First, the month of February was celebrated as Black History Month. Secondly, the authors were able to have an exclusive interview with Mrs. Coretta Scott King, Dr. King's widow in which she talked about Dr. King's views on libraries and their importance to



the world. And third, the article was timely in the aftermath of the controversial court decision to allow Boston University to retain approximately 83,000 pages of Dr. King's papers.

The article's main focus was to bring readers and researchers up-to-date on the current status of the King Library and Archives and its future direction. The "intrinsic scholarly value" of the institution's holdings makes the King Library and Archives one of the country's outstanding research collections. The library can proudly lay claim to housing the country's largest and most important collection of primary materials on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and the African American Civil Rights Movement's most dynamic era, 1954 to 1968.

The King Library staff was cordial but candid about the problems and issues it must deal with to move forward. Mrs. King was open in sharing her thoughts about the role of libraries in the life and times of Dr. King, the civil rights movement, and what role the King Library and Archives must play in the future.

What was most interesting about the interview with Mrs. King was her adamant response to the question, "How do you see your role in the development of the King Library and Archives?"

"I feel that I have a profound responsibility to history. The King Library and Archives is the primary institution for the preservation and documentation of the pivotal period of the U.S. history we call the modern Civil Rights Movement. This is a lifelong commitment for me. For the rest of my days, I intend to be involved in improving this facility so that future generations of scholars and students will be able to come to the King Library and Archives and access the primary materials that tell the true story of this movement that so fundamentally altered the course of American history and is even today transforming our world."

Her response indicated her devotion and commitment to the world in providing uncensored access to these important materials. The library community welcomes that view point of providing access. Libraries are one of the most powerful tools for empowerment ever created. People can only be empowered by having free access to materials.

Active People

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JEFF ROSEN,
Reference Librarian and Coordinator of
Electronic Services,

was recently appointed to the Committee for Innovation in Instruction and Research Through Technology, for which he presented a workshop entitled "Internet Resources for Faculty." He is also working with another group on campus that is designing a Gopher—a software tool that will allow Winthrop students and faculty to more easily navigate the Internet.

SUSAN SILVERMAN,
Head of Reference,

participated in the Information Access Conference held last spring in Columbia, South Carolina. Navigating the Internet, locally mounted databases and online systems were all topics of discussion at last year's conference. She will also be attending the 1994 Conference to gain further insight into reference use of the Internet.

More Active People on Page 3

Dacus

Focus

Dacus receiving more government information in electronic format

Perhaps the most fascinating thing about Federal government documents is the diversity of subject matter covered. This is especially true of the Federal documents published in electronic format. Recently, the news media has covered extensively the “information infrastructure” and the expanding use of Internet for dissemination of government information. However, little attention has been paid to another electronic format which is available in the Dacus Library Government Documents Department—CD-ROM databases.

The Commerce Department is especially fond of CD-ROM. They use the format for distribution of the 1990 Census Data, for export and import information, for statistics and even for maps. Other Federal Departments are also jumping on the CD-ROM bandwagon. The Environmental Protection Agency publishes the *Toxic Release Inventory*, while the Department of Defense produces the *Hazardous Materials Information System*. The State Department publishes a CD-ROM entitled *U.S. Foreign Affairs* and the Treasury Department has issued a

database containing the 1993 Federal Tax forms.

This is a partial list of the government-produced electronic databases available in the Dacus Library:

National Trade Data Bank
National Economic Social and Environmental Database
Statistical Abstracts
County Business Patterns
American Housing Survey
Current Population Survey
Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy Database
Survey of Income
Census of Agriculture
U.S. Exports
U.S. Imports
Tigerline 92
1990 Population of Census and Housing
Regional Economic Information System
Department of Defense Hazardous Materials Information Systems
Defense Logistics Agency Publishing System Regulations
Education Department Schools and Staffing Survey
National Post Secondary Student Aid Study
High School and Beyond
EPADoc
EPA Toxic Release Inventory
GSA Federal Information Resources Management Regulations
National Health Interview Survey
National Hospital Discharge Survey

Health United States
Chronic Disease Prevention File
Longitudinal Study of Aging
HCFA Laws Regulations Manual
National Geochemical Database
Geology of Nevada
Geologic Map of the Sea
Seismic Data for the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska
Stratigraphic Nomenclature Databases for the U.S.
Digitized Strong Motion Accelerograms of North and Central American Earthquakes
Photographs from the USGS Photographic Library
National Geophysical Data Grids
Modern Average Global Sea Surface Temperature
Atlas of Deep Water Parts of the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone
Survey of Fishing, Hunting, & Wildlife Associated Recreation
Occupational Outlook Handbook
Office of Employment and Unemployment Statistics
Pre-1903 Homestead and Cash Entry Patents - Arkansas
OSHA Regulations
U.S. Foreign Affairs
Transportation Data Sampler

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