January 1996: FirstSearch; Early Days at Winthrop; Library Challenges Report

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Focus

Millions of sources accessible through FirstSearch

Winthrop students and faculty now have access to over 50 online databases through FirstSearch, a self-service online search service. FirstSearch, currently available through terminals at the Reference Desk, will soon also be available as a menu option on DOC (Dacus Online Catalog). FirstSearch is a product of OCLC, Inc. (Online Computer Library Center).

Users can conduct in-depth subject searching, compile comprehensive bibliographies, locate hard-to-find materials, and order materials online. The ordering can be done as a menu option, selecting either ILL (Interlibrary Loan) or a commercial document supplier. The ILL requests are transmitted electronically to the ILL staff at Dacus Library. The requests to a remote commercial document supplier, although producing faster results, are more expensive and require the requestor to pay by credit card.

The largest FirstSearch database is WorldCat (the OCLC database). WorldCat contains over 30 million records for items such as books, sound recordings, videocassettes, musical scores, archives, manuscripts, computer files, maps, and audiovisuals from some 18,000 libraries worldwide. In addition to providing citations, WorldCat and many of the other databases will indicate which libraries have the item requested.

R.R. Bowker’s Books in Print is also available online on FirstSearch. Updated weekly, this database contains almost 2 million records of in-print, out-of-print and forthcoming books from over 44,000 North American publishers.

The following popular databases and many more—new ones are added often—will be accessible on FirstSearch:

- ABI/INFORM—business and management.
- AGRICOLA—material acquired by the National Agricultural Library and cooperating institutions.
- Art Index—international arts publications.

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Early days of Winthrop brought many rules along with a college education

On October 15, 1895, young women from all over the state of South Carolina traveled to Rock Hill to embark on a journey into higher education. This date 100 years ago marked the opening of the Winthrop Normal and Industrial College in Rock Hill. This fall the Archives celebrated the centennial of the move of the College from Columbia.

What was Winthrop like in 1895? It consisted of only one building, although the dormitory (later known as North and later still as

Margaret Nance) was in the process of being built. The College grounds consisted of the 32 wooded acres of the main campus and a farm of 144 acres that was used to supply the school with fresh vegetables, milk, beef, fruit and other agricultural products. Oakland Avenue was a wide unpaved thoroughfare with very few houses around Winthrop and virtually nothing but farm land beyond the school.

The main objectives of Winthrop were “(1) to give to young women such education as shall fit them for teaching; (2) to give instruction to young women in stenography, typewriting, telegraphy, book-keeping, drawing (free-hand, mechanical, architectural, etc.), designing, engraving, sewing, dressmaking, millinery, art, needlework, cooking, housekeeping, and such other industrial arts as may be suitable to their sex and conducive to their support and usefulness.”

The College admitted students who were 15 years of age and older and were “of good moral character and sound physical health.” To gain regular admission to the school each student had to pass an entrance examination. If they were deficient in any area they were allowed to enter as sub-collegiates until they became proficient in that subject.

Each student in the dormitory was required to bring with her “a pair of pillow cases, two pairs of sheets, one pair of blankets, one counterpane, six towels, toilet soap, six table napkins, two clothes bags, and a spoon, knife and glass for individual use in her room ... a gossamer [raincoat], umbrella and overshoes.”

All students “without exception” were required to wear a uniform as “this promotes economy and does away with all distinctions that would otherwise exist from different conditions.” The average cost of the uniforms was $22.92 and included three full uniform suits, one double-breasted jacket, six percale shirt waists, three white lawn waists, two long white aprons, one white lawn cap, one physical culture [gym] suit, one pair gymnasium shoes, one student’s hat, and one pair of gloves. If they already owned a cloak, they could use it; if not, they were to secure one.

The rules and regulations were strict, even by the standards of the day. The number one rule was that “pupils will not be allowed to receive visits from men, whether cousins or not, or to spend the night out of the College. This rule will not be departed from.” Parents and guardians could only withdraw, obtain a leave of absence or request a visit to their daughters by permission of President Johnson. He reserved the right to refuse any and all such requests. A student must also have punctual attendance to classes; wear the uniform at all times; on campus and off; not remain in Rock Hill (if they lived elsewhere) after withdrawal or in the summer; not have any sort of party or entertainment without permission of the President; not borrow textbooks, clothing, or jewelry from another student; spend part of every Saturday mending her wardrobe; and attend church every Sunday. Once a student had chosen a course of study, she was required to adhere to it. She could not drop or change a course except in very rare cases, and only then with permission of the faculty.

When the student arrived at Winthrop, she stayed here until June. There were but four one-day holidays every year: Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, Washington’s Birthday and Robert C. Winthrop’s birthday. President Johnson believed that a longer Christmas holiday not only disrupted the school year, but also put undue financial burden on the parents to provide transportation home. Some parents were quite willing to pay for their daughters’ transportation, and many wrote compelling letters to President Johnson begging him to let their daughters come home. However, he never relented. It took a bill passed by the General Assembly in 1907, providing for a 10-day Christmas holiday for all state-supported schools, to make him give a vacation, but he still did not like it.

Despite all the rules and regulations, Winthrop students, for the most part, enjoyed their time at the College. They had fun. There were parties (with the permission of the President, of course); club meetings; entertainment in the form of

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Focus

Faculty Library Committee reports on problems, challenges faced by Winthrop

“Attention must be paid to all of those areas of the library that no longer meet accreditation standards based on the latest ACRL [Association of College and Research Libraries] Standards for College Libraries. These include the growth of the book and journal collection; professional and support staff; minimum budget support; and physical facilities.”

This is the first of seven recommendations made by the Library Committee of the Winthrop University Faculty Conference in its recent report, *Scholarly Communication and Dacus Library: With or Without Walls*. The report was widely distributed this fall to the campus community, as well as to the Board of Trustees, and will be one of the key matters addressed by this year’s committee.

The report, based on a year-long study, begins with a review of the extensive literature on the impact that electronic resources are having on library collections and services. It then addresses the specific problems faced by academic libraries in general and Winthrop’s library in particular. Six pages are devoted to describing the current status of Dacus Library and the serious toll that has been taken on it by a no-growth budget, cuts in the periodicals subscriptions, a continuing decline in book additions and, perhaps most serious of all, a lack of money to address the most pressing technological needs. The report concludes with recommendations and a bibliography of sources cited.

In commenting on the report, Dr. Paul DuBois, Dean of Library Services, noted that the report paints an accurate and objective picture of the serious problems posed for research and teaching at Winthrop because of declining library resources. Dr. DuBois added, “This is clearly a matter that every student, faculty member, and administrator should be deeply concerned about. It is a crisis that should be immediately addressed by the university’s budget advisory group when that group is formed.”

Faculty members of the committee who prepared the report were Dr. Nell Braswell (Education), Chair; Dr. Laura Dufresne (Art and Design); Dr. Barbara Heinemann (Modern Languages); Dr. Samuel Koh (Business); and Dr. Lynn Willoughby (History). For those who have not seen it, copies of the report are available in the Dean’s office in Dacus Library.

De Lamater elected chair of Faculty Library Committee

The Library Committee of the Winthrop University Faculty Conference elected Dr. Peg De Lamater of the Art and Design Department as its chair for the 1995-96 year. Other members, all new to the committee this year, are Dr. Han Vo (Business), Dr. Patricia Kostell (Education), Dr. Thomas Polaski (Mathematics), Dr. John Reeves (Religion), and student members John Carter and Chris Howle. Dr. Paul DuBois (Dean of Library Services) continues as an *ex officio* member.

At its first two meetings of the academic year, the committee discussed a wide variety of matters including budget issues, allocation procedures, development ideas, library hours, and new procedures that would insure the presence in the future of carry-over members on the committee.

Paul DuBois,
Dean of Library Services
LINDA P. ALBRIGHT,
Head of Monographs Acquisitions, attended a workshop on Supporting Business Users of the Internet at the College of Library and Information Science, University of Rochester, on Jan. 20, 1995. She served as a member of the Winthrop University Student Success Team during Spring Semester 1995. Linda was recently elected First Vice President/President-Elect of Florence Crittenton Services/Residential Programs in Charlotte, N.C.

PAT BALLARD,
Head of Monographs Cataloging, attended an institute on Demystifying Subject Cataloging, Oct. 24-25, in Rochester, N.Y. The institute was sponsored by ALCTS (Association for Library Collections and Technical Services), a division of the American Library Association.

VONDA COLEMAN,
Library Technical Assistant in Monographs Cataloging, attended the Phase I Format Integration Workshop on Feb. 27, 1995, at Thomas Cooper Library, University of South Carolina. The workshop was sponsored by SOLINET (Southeastern Library Network).

PAUL DUBOIS,
Dean of Library Services, continues to serve on the executive board of the Library Directors’ Forum in South Carolina. He recently presided over the 18th annual meeting of the Episcopal Faculty Conference in Marriotsville, Md.

GLORIA KELLEY,

BRENDA KNOX,
Library Technical Assistant in Circulation, has just completed the Beginners Sign Language course at York Technical College.

CAROL MAPP,
Library Technical Assistant in Monographs Cataloging, also attended the Phase I Format Integration Workshop in February at Thomas Cooper Library, USC.

LEE MILLER,
Administrative Assistant in the Dean’s Office, has been appointed to serve on the Staff Advisory Committee to the President of Winthrop University.

LAURANCE R. MITLIN,
Associate Dean of Library Services attended the Innovative Users Group Annual Meeting in Oakland, Calif., in April. Customers of the Innovative Interfaces, Inc., library system meet to exchange information and learn about new features being added to the system. Innovative Interfaces supplies the software that runs the Dacus Online Catalog (DOC).

ELLEN OWENS,
Library Technical Assistant in Serials, also attended the Phase I Format Integration Workshop in February at USC.

TESFA SEBHATU,
Library Technical Assistant in Monographs Cataloging, not to be outdone, also took in the Phase I Format Integration Workshop in Columbia.
**Welcome**

**Fern Hieb**

joined Dacus Library in February of 1995 as Reference Librarian and Coordinator of Document Delivery. Fern came to Dacus from Harvard University, where she was Project Manager for the Retrospective Conversion of Musical Scores. Her credentials include a BA from Bethel College in North Newton, Kan., a Master’s degree in music from Washington University, St. Louis, and an MLSIS from Simmons College, Boston.

**Lois Walker,**

Documents Librarian, returns to Dacus in a full-time role, after “retiring” to raise a family. A graduate of Indiana University, Lois served as Interlibrary Loan Librarian in her previous tenure at Winthrop.

**Nancy White,**

Library Technical Assistant in Documents, joined Dacus Library from the Plainfield Public Library in Plainfield, Ind., where she was assistant cataloger.

**Farewell**

**Jeff Rosen,**

Reference Librarian and Coordinator of Electronic Services, has left Winthrop to accept a position with the University of Arizona Library as a social sciences reference librarian.

**Colleen Stevens,**

Library Technical Assistant in the Serials Department, resigned to accept a position with the Africa Evangelical Fellowship in Fort Mill.

**Ginny Vesper,**

Reference Librarian and Coordinator of Bibliographic Instruction, has joined the Middle Tennessee State University Library as collection development officer.

**Where are they now?**

**Gina Dempsey,**

former Library Technical Assistant in Government Documents, is now an LTA in the Serials Department.

**Ellen Owens,**

Library Technical Assistant in the Serials Department, has changed positions and responsibilities within the Serials Department.

**Jean Wells,**

formerly Documents Librarian, is now Reference Librarian and Coordinator of Electronic Services.

**College life was enjoyable in 1890’s**

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singers, plays, bands, etc., brought in by the school; hikes; trips to the State Fair and other events; and just all-around good times with friends, other students, and faculty.

Hopefully, this short narrative has provided a glimpse into college life at Winthrop in 1895. For a more comprehensive look into the past of Winthrop, Rock Hill, or the Catawba region, visit the Winthrop University Archives. We can be your guide on a journey into the past that you won’t soon forget.

Gina Price White,
Assistant Archivist
Focus
Retired dean makes major library gift

A generous gift from a retired dean of arts and sciences and academic vice president is supporting the continuing purchase of a wide variety of scholarly periodicals in the Humanities.

The gift of $10,000 from Dr. Albert M. Lyles, dean emeritus of the College of Arts and Sciences, was made in a series of installments from 1986 to 1995. The fund was initially established anonymously and interest from it has provided support to the Departments of English, History, Modern Languages, Art and Design, and Philosophy/Religious Studies.

Commenting upon the gift, Paul Z. Du Bois, Dean of Library Services, noted that the gift will play an important role in supplementing collection development funds at the University. "Over the years Dr. Lyles has shown himself to be a true friend of the Winthrop Library and we welcome this latest gift which brings endowment support up to the $10,000 level."

Du Bois went on to note that funds for periodical support are at a critical juncture and that the gift will lessen the impact of cuts that Winthrop, in common with other academic libraries, has had to make in its journal holdings in recent years.

Dr. Lyles remains an active researcher in 18th century English literature and is a frequent user of the library's collections.

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FirstSearch
Newest Service
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A&H Search (Arts & Humanities Search)—arts, humanities, and related social science and science information.

BasicBiosis—information on recent developments in 96 subject areas of the biological and biomedical sciences.

BookRevDigest (Book Review Digest)—cites and excerpts reviews of current English-language fiction and non-fiction books.

Diss (Dissertation Abstracts Online)—covers dissertations accepted at accredited U.S. institutions since 1861.

EconLit—citations and abstracts for articles in more than 400 journals, books, and the Cambridge University Press Abstracts of Working Papers in Economics (AWPE).

EducationIndex (Education Index)—covers every age and sector of the educational community from preschool through college.

INSPEC—covers scientific and technical journals and conference proceedings.

LibraryLit (Library Literature)—more than 220 key library and information science periodicals published internationally.

MEDLINE—all areas of medicine.

PAIS Decade—more than 400,000 records representing articles, books, conference proceedings, government documents, book chapters, and statistical directories.

SocAbstracts (Sociological Abstracts)—citations (and abstracts since 1974) for articles in more than 1,900 journals.

A combination of user-friendly language, access to large numbers of bibliographic records, frequency of updating and the ability to order directly from document suppliers make FirstSearch a major advance in the information services available at Dacus Library. The ability to support remote access to FirstSearch is under consideration. Further information will continue to be available at the library.

Fern Hieb, Reference Librarian and Coordinator of Document Delivery

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