

Faculty Status Questionnaires:

Alan Taylor, InULA president, reports that response to the sixteen points on the faculty status questionnaire reveals a widespread measure of support on the part of those who responded. The divergencies within the responses, however, were so small that a finer analysis is needed to determine the statistical significance of responses to each point presented. Such an analysis is being attempted.

Staff Advisory Committee

In reply to Dr. Byrd's request for InULA's suggestions with regard to the proposed Staff Advisory Committee, Alan Taylor reported by letter on November 12, 1970 that (1) a proposed committee structure was debated and amended at a general meeting on October 5 and (2) the amended draft was circulated to all staff members for their consideration and comments. Mr. Taylor also stated that "a clear majority of the returns indicate an approval of the structure as outlined." The remainder of the report is quoted below:

The majority of the respondents who indicated approval with changes focused on two areas, namely InULA representation, and the keeping and dissemination of minutes, although there was wide divergence in the points of view expressed.

It is the unanimous opinion of the InULA Executive Board that the President and Past President of InULA should not be included, ex officio, on such an advisory committee, and it is our feeling that in the future, the University Library staff and administration should utilize the channels provided by such an advisory committee and its potential sub-committees to deal with those matters which are primarily "official" in nature, leaving InULA to concentrate its endeavors on other areas which are of a broader professional or social nature.

On the question of minutes (and their possibly constraining effect on open discussion) most of us on the Executive Board feel that such an advisory committee should be able to go into "executive session" on a motion, from the Chairman or one of its members, properly seconded and carried by vote.

A major portion of Dr. Byrd's reply of November 16, 1970 follows:

We are grateful for your prompt response to the request for a staff advisory committee. We concur with the expressed desire of the Executive Board of InULA to exclude the President and Past President from ex officio representation on the Committee.

It is noted that a non-voting member from the Regional Campus Libraries is to be on the Committee. I feel that if RCL is represented then IUPUI should also be granted this privilege. Since neither RCL nor the libraries at IUPUI are the administrative responsibility of the Bloomington library administration, it would appear logical to exclude both from representation.

Monthly Staff Meeting Reports

October Meeting.

Elfrieda Lang (Lilly Library) reported on her trip to South America where she presented a paper on the I.U. collection of Latin American manuscripts at a conference in Lima and studied manuscript collections in the various cities she visited.

Emma Simonson discussed a microfilm project to film manuscript records on 16th-19th century Indians for I.U. She also set up exchanges with the Center for Documentation of the Institute on Brazilian Studies, Sao Paulo.

Mary Jane Laatz reported on the Midwest Regional Medical Library at the John Crerar Library, Chicago. The main area of operation is in interlibrary loan with the purpose of taking pressure off the National Library of Medicine. I.U. interlibrary loan can send requests directly to MRML.

Carol Tullis gave an account of the Sensormatic system in UGL. She said that the original sensors have proved to be unreliable. They began replacing them with new sensors last April but have discovered that a majority of the new sensors do not activate the alarm. If and when good sensors are received, all sensors will have to be replaced. Even if all the sensors are reliable there are other faults in the system:

1. student can tear out book pocket and sensor
2. student can easily remove shield from charged book to use in removing uncharged books from collection
3. if a book is held in a certain position, the body will act as a shield and alarm will not be activated.

4. heavy bindings and/or thick volumes require several sensors to activate alarm
5. having unshelved books in the area (10 feet away from field though not within direct range) can trigger alarm when someone walks through the field.

Preliminary figures from current inventory show that this year's losses are much heavier than previously. The system is unreliable and has been since installed. Miss Tullis recommended getting rid of the system or at least halting payments until the company has the system working as efficiently as possible. (Since this report the system has been discontinued.)

Helen Lightfoot suggested inter-departmental briefings especially for public service staff. Reference and UGL are already engaged in such briefing sessions. Contact Miss Lightfoot to arrange for staff orientation to the Government Publications Department.

November Meeting.

Dr. Byrd commented on some of the basic conclusions drawn at the recent Conference on Collaborating Systems Design. Columbia, Stanford and the University of Chicago, recognized as leading experimenters in library applications of the computer, were represented at the conference. Dr. Byrd pointed out that the three experimental projects have been very costly, and, for the most part, the computer has been applied to in-house operations and technical processes with little or no direct by-products for the library user. One of the realizations verbalized at the conference makes hopes for future cooperation among institutions doubtful as it is apparent that each system's unique qualities make the exchange of information, programming, etc. impractical. The proceedings of the conference are to be published within a few weeks and should be available soon.

In light of the fact that chances for larger budgets and additional personnel are apparently nonexistent for the near future, Nevin Raber recommended that priorities be set and only necessary functions be continued excluding marginal areas of service. With the assistance of the Business Department, Mr. Raber hopes to draw upon mathematical formulas available in business management and apply them to library activities in an attempt to formulate guidelines for better utilization of staff.

Carol Tullis reported on the activities of the Ad Hoc Committee on Instruction in the Utilization of Library Resources. A program of library instruction is being organized to assist undergraduates in the University honors program. Perhaps the on-going program will establish a foundation from which an expanded instructional program could be developed for other students. Kenneth Myers of the Audio-Visual Department has printed a collection of current periodical articles for the committee entitled "How Goes It With Library Instruction".

Odette Shepherd and JoAnn Michalak outlined current procedures pertaining to the claiming and replacement of serials.

Lois Heiser reported on a new experiment in weeding the Order Department process file according to the date the book is cataloged instead of the date the book was received.

Barbara Pratt talked about the support the Halls of Residence Libraries give to the 25 seminars held at the dormitories on topics of current interest to students.

Mary Baker, April Legler, and Elizabeth Egan concluded the meeting with their comments on a recent trip they made to the Purdue University Libraries, focusing especially on the science branches.

InULA Committee Reports

National Library Week Committee. As part of the celebration of National Library Week, April 18-24, 1971, the Committee will again sponsor a book sale. Because of the huge success of the sale last year, InULA was able to give about \$140 to undergraduate scholarships. So please save your books to donate to this worthy cause. Give them to any of the full-time staff members of the Undergraduate Library. Further details about the book sale and other events for National Library Week will be announced later.

Publicity Committee. The Committee discussed what should be included in the Scoop Sheet and how to coordinate the information gathered. Each member became responsible for covering a particular area and getting the information to the editor.

Miscellaneous Information

ALA Midwinter Meeting, Los Angeles. January 18-23

For anyone who becomes ill at work, there is a cot on the First Aid Rm, Ground Floor.