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Cataloging of Microforms
by
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Librarians today realize that microforms are a very important part of their library holdings. It wasn't always so. Inadequate or non-existent cataloging seems to have been very common for many early microform acquisitions of the Indiana University Library. Perhaps librarians, in those early days of microforms, decided that patrons just would not be interested in reading with a machine and that cataloging of microforms was, therefore, not very important.

With many new microform projects today, however, thorough cataloging is a necessity. Cooperative cat-

aloging projects have become real time and money savers in handling series that have run into thousands of titles. Five major projects will serve to illustrate these points.

The "Manuscripta" series is a major undertaking under the direction of Saint Louis University Library. Begun in the late 1950's, this series includes microfilms of rare and out-of-print books in such libraries as the Biblioteca Vaticana and Les Fontaines, Chantilly, France. Most items, if cataloged thoroughly, would require a great deal of time and money. Through 1967 Saint Louis' Pius XII Memorial Library provided cataloging for all items in this series at a very modest \$1.00 per title. Since rising costs and the necessity to hire added catalogers to handle an increase in titles to be cataloged would have resulted in a substantial increase in cost, Saint Louis ceased providing full cataloging in 1968. The library does provide copy for its own temporary cards. These cards, although not ideal, do provide adequate information to identify the works cataloged without having to look at each reel of film. The cost of this service is very reasonable. The most recent set received by Indiana includes 82 titles for which the cost of Saint Louis' temporary cataloging was \$4.10.

Two more very important microfilm projects are "Early English Books, 1475-1640," selected from Pollard and Redgrave's Short-Title Catalogue, and "Early English Books, 1641-1700," selected from Donald Wing's Short-Title Catalogue. About three years ago I discovered that there had been no cataloging at all done for these series. The Pollard and Redgrave series is in its 39th year and the Wing in its 16th. The University of Michigan Library provides very inexpensive cataloging for these series; in 1974 the cost per card set was raised from 75 cents to \$1.00.

Of special importance to those interested in the history of science is the "Landmarks of Science" microprint project. There are an estimated 6,000 titles in this series, with possible plans for expansion of the project. Readex Microprint Corporation provides very inadequate and very poor quality cataloging for this project. At a cost of only \$250.00 for the cataloging, however, I decided to order the full set of one card per title. Our library will certainly get more than its money's worth of use from these cards even if they are far from ideal cataloging.

Another extensive project is "Three Centuries of Drama," a microprint edition of English drama, 1500-1800, and of American drama, 1714-1830, covering more than 5,000 titles. The library of the University of California at Riverside is engaged in a microforms cataloging project and offers a real bargain for very good and complete cataloging; a set of cards recently received included cataloging for 406 titles at \$37.50; that is less than 10 cents per title.

If catalogers at Indiana had to process each title, there would be neither time nor staff to do it. Clearly it makes sense to take advantage of the work of others. Even if that work is inadequate, we can use student help to check and verify entries and so forth; we at least have something with which to work without having to look at every microform individually.

One interesting problem is developing because of access to data bases. The University of Michigan Library states that it has been receiving queries about inputting its cataloging from Pollard and Redgrave and from Wing into OCLC. Since Short-Title Catalogue cards are provided by a self-supporting project that is sustained from the income from the sale of cards, Michigan maintains that it would be forced to terminate the project if sale of cards cease or significantly decline as a result of access to cards through OCLC. We could not afford to do thorough cataloging; yet we will be obligated to input all our cataloging into OCLC. Sounds like catch-22.

The status of the cataloging of each of these series varies. "Manuscripta" cataloging is current. Pollard and Redgrave cataloging is only about one-fifth complete, and Wing cataloging has not yet begun. "Landmarks of Science" is complete only through entries beginning with the letter G, and "Three Centuries of Drama" is not yet under way.

Cataloging of microforms is necessary if we want to offer thorough access to our holdings. The Microforms Department has noted that there has been significant increase in the use of materials for which cataloging has been completed. Most people, certainly, would prefer a book to a microform; but if the choice is between a microform and nothing at all, people will

use what is available. Microforms are definitely here to stay.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

The InULA Communications and Publicity Committee is responsible for the dissemination of information about InULA activities and for the mailing of publications to members. It has not been necessary to meet yet as a group because the amount of communication and publication has been light enough to be handled by the chairperson.

Members:

Marilyn Balam
Ellen Rudolph
Rita Lichtenberg, liason
Kathy Purnell, chairperson

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

Members:

Betty Jo Irvine, liason
Joan Brewer, chairperson

CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The InULA Committee for Continuing Education will be presenting a workshop May 21/22, Friday and Saturday, in Bloomington. The participants will consider the state of the art and techniques in the processes of publication and application for external funding. They will represent the library publishing industry, governmental and private funding agencies and academic and public librarianship. Small group working sessions are planned in addition to general sessions. Co-sponsorship of the workshop with the Monroe County Public Library and/or the Graduate Library School is being investigated.

Members:

Jean Gosebrink
Jim Greaves
Virginia Humnicky
Lou Malcolmb
Carolyn Snyder
Nancy Vossmeier

Ann Beltran, liason
Laurel Jizba, chairperson

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Membership Committee, together with the Program and Social Committee sponsored an Open House in October to provide an opportunity for old members and prospective members to get to know each other. The current membership in InULA is 126.

Members:

Nina Ost
Susan Thompson
Lois Lehman, liason
Barbara Halporn, chairperson

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK COMMITTEE

National Library Week is planned for April 4-10. It is expected that the traditional events--book sale, art sale, art exhibit, and musical performances-- will be included. The committee will discuss and finalize the program. If you have suggestions, please make your ideas known to the committee or any of its members.

Members:

Eileen Fry, Slide Library
Gail Grise, Catalog Dept.
Fenton Martin, Pol. Science Research Center
Maudine Williams, Herron School of Art, IUPUI
Marty Joachim, liason
Jim Greaves, chairperson

It would be appreciated if 1-3 more interested individuals volunteered to serve. Contact Jim Greaves at 337-8028. Throughout the next months, your interest, enthusiasm and support will be greatly appreciated.

PROGRAM AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE

The Program and Social Committee sponsored--in cooperation with the Membership Committee-- an open house on October 9, with approximately 70 librarians from IU and the Monroe County Public Library attending. At the fall business meeting on November 13, Herbert White of the Graduate Library

School Research Center spoke on "Trends in Librarianship." We are hoping to have a joint meeting with the Monroe County Public Library during the spring, and would be happy to receive suggestions for program topics.

Members:

Ann Armstrong
Jill Caldwell
Herb Miller
Jim Mullins
Mary Scherger
Fawzi Tadros
Judi Singleton, liason
Barbara Underwood, chairperson

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Publications Committee has spent recent weeks working to complete this issue of the Quarterly. We welcome suggestions and feature articles from InULA members and others for coming issues.

Members:

Herb Miller
Mary Scherger
Andrea Singer
Betty Jo Irvine, liason
Mary Popp, chairperson

INULA CONSTITUTION BYLAWS

The Constitution Committee circulated to the membership proposed amendments to the InULA Constitution By-Laws. These amendments were read and discussed at the November 13 meeting. A final version is in process of preparation and will be submitted as a mail ballot in January. Proposed amendments include an addition to Article I. Section 1. (free membership period for newly-appointed librarians); an added Subsection to Article III, Section 5. (addition of a Continuing Education Committee); Deletion of Subsection B. Article III. Section 5. (Professional Advancement and Status Committee); Deletion of Subsection E. Article III. Section 5. (Grievance Committee). Any member who missed the November 13 meeting and wishes more information or wants to comment on the proposals should call or write Joan Brewer, Morrison #16 (7-7686).

BUSINESS MEETING
November 13, 1975

After some discussion of the proposed amendments to the constitution, Professor Herb White of the I.U. Graduate Library School Research Center spoke on "Trends in Librarianship." His predictions of the future for academic libraries included diminution of resources and increasing cooperative efforts to counter this. While many others would consider this a prophecy of gloom, Professor White thought that the professional librarian would weather the storm through the almost universal applicability of his training in the business and government sectors and continuing education to update his skills. The operations of the library, too, would change with less emphasis on technical services. Professor White's address had both personal and professional implications for InULA members, and his listeners were quite attentive.

Herb Miller

HONOR NOT HONORARIUM

Following the workshop sponsored by the Continuing Education Committee last May, chairperson Lois Lehman received the following letter from one of the participants in the program:

Dear Lois,

I was pleased to receive your nice letter. You and your committee should be gratified for having planned such a fine workshop. The program was timely and very pertinent to today's scene. Too, the informal contacts made during coffee breaks and meals were also enlightening.

I must say that I never expected an honorarium. After all, the staff of the State Library is grateful for an opportunity to participate. Therefore, I would like to donate this ... to the I.U. Librarians Association to help defray the expenses for next year's workshop...

Best wishes to your Association in the coming year.

sincerely,
(Miss) Lila Brady
Assistant Director
Indiana State Library

InJLA very much appreciated Miss Brady's contribution to the program and her participation in the conference. The amount has been replaced in the InJLA account for use by the current committee.

REGIONAL CAMPUS LIBRARIANS

Feel left out? Let other members know what you are doing. If you have news for the Quarterly or a great idea for a feature article, contact our liason for regional campus libraries: Mary Scherger, Reference Librarian
Kokomo Regional Campus Library
664-237

YOU THE READER

The Publications Committee does not know what interests the readers of the Quarterly have unless the readers make their preferences known. Should we drop the minutes of the Executive Board? add a letters to the editor column? cease publication of the Quarterly? Make your preferences known. Contact me or any member of the committee.

Mary Popp
Graduate Library School
Library 337-5968