

Indiana University

inula notes

Librarians Association

Volume 9, Number 3 November 1992

Rediscovering Community— Revitalizing InULA

by Maggie Harter

Your InULA membership brochure this fall asked: Why InULA? Historically, InULA had the very clear goal of achieving faculty status for I.U. librarians. It also served as the librarians' voice in communicating with the administration. But why InULA today? President Charlotte Hess appointed an Ad Hoc Revitalization Committee to look afresh at InULA's purpose and structure, using as its starting point the ideas generated at the InULA Open Forum March 3, 1992 (see *InULA Notes*, April 1992). One of the comments from the forum that struck a chord with the committee was that InULA focus more on the "librarians" part of its title and less on the

"Indiana University." Many of our daily interactions are institutional, based on departmental roles, job and tenure concerns, and committee assignments. We are separated physically by type of library—main, branch, or special—and by our locations on different campuses. (Not to mention our busy schedules!) InULA should be the group that brings us together for renewal and growth. Hence, this year's theme highlighted in the fall membership brochure: The Rediscovery of Community. If you talk with longtime members of InULA, they will tell you how much fun InULA was in its early days. To provide an opportunity for informal interaction and relax-

ation, the InULA fall membership meeting was held as a potluck picnic on the grounds of Oliver Winery, 7 miles north of Bloomington. About thirty librarians and their guests enjoyed perfect weather and came away, if not totally revitalized, at least extremely well fed.

The committee is exploring new ways for I.U. librarians at all stages of their careers to come together in enjoyable, purposive activities. One suggestion is that InULA participate in local events such as the VITAL Bowl fundraiser for literacy training in Bloomington and similar events in other campuses' communities. Another suggestion is that InULA take

please turn to page 8

Why InULA?

As a new InULA Representative-At-Large, I was invited to sit in on a meeting of the Ad Hoc Revitalization Committee. The discussion was an interesting one, focusing on the question: Why InULA? Many of the issues InULA raised and addressed in the past have been taken up by the IU Libraries' IULFC, BLFC and other "official" IUL bodies—so what's InULA supposed to be doing for us?

And who has time for all this? We're busy, how do we fit everything in and how much time should we spend on something that might not carry the professional clout that serving on, say, an ALA committee does? Should we select our activities based only on what looks good on our annual reviews, dossiers, vitas and resumes? Does participating in InULA count?

I've thought about these questions. The answer varies, depending on where in my career I am, how many committees I'm on, what sorts of projects I'm involved with, how short staffed my unit is—these sorts of things all have an impact on how much time I want to devote to InULA. But,

it never occurred to me to question InULA's worth. No matter how overwhelmed I felt, I was happy to pay my membership dues, to attend an occasional meeting, to know that other librarians were involved when I couldn't be, and to participate whenever I could.

Through InULA we can get involved in things none of us could justify within the narrow confines of our everyday jobs. The fact that members set the agenda is exciting. If we're tired of talking about IO, we can stop. If we want to give grants to members to encourage research, we can. If we want to include people who don't fit into the official definition of "IU Librarian," we can. We can take risks that an official organ of IUL cannot. Where's the adventure of professional growth if we only do what looks good on an annual review?

I value the opportunities membership in this organization gives me. As a new librarian, I was asked to chair a committee; this happened long before I would have been considered for such a post in a BLFC or IULFC committee. I got some valuable experience in coordinating and organizing a project, and learned what it meant to provide leadership. I dislike driving long distances (to me "long distance" is anything that takes more than half an hour) and am therefore pretty much stuck in Bloomington, but I'm able to meet people from other campuses at InULA programs both in and out of Bloomington (there's always another Bloomington InULA member willing to drive).

Sometimes these gatherings are formal programs—workshops or seminars. Other times they are

continued on next page

From the Editor

InULA now has its own listserver, conveniently called InULA-L. At the May business meeting, it was decided that the list would be a moderated list. I am currently the moderator, as Chair of the Publications Committee. For those of you familiar with Listservers, we hope you'll subscribe and begin making use of this one right

away. For those of us needing more instruction, keep your eyes on your e-mail (we'll be sending you detailed instructions through that medium). You may want to get a head start on us, by checking the keyword LISTSERVICES in AIF. Let us know what you think!

Janet Meek (e-mail JMEEK)

seminars. Other times they are quite informal—auctions and picnics. All of this broadens my professional and personal horizons. I meet and work with people from across the system, at all levels of experience and appointment. What I learned as editor of the now superseded InULA *Innuendo* was invaluable. I gained enough experience and confidence to say yes when asked to chair ALA's Library Instruction Round Table's (LIRT) newsletter committee and then ended up serving as the production editor of the LIRT News. Now I'm vice-president, president-elect of

LIRT: "National Office!" Surely THAT will look good on my annual review...and I know it was that original InULA experience that set this particular wheel in motion. I think InULA counts a great deal!

My sense of who I am as an individual who happens to be a librarian at IU, and my appreciation for my colleagues' talents and interests beyond the boundaries of IUL, has been fostered by my participation in InULA. In the early days, InULA gave its members a way to develop a sense of who they were as librarians—to create a sense of community. The discussion

during the Revitalization Committee meeting bolstered my belief that this sense of community is valuable and that InULA can continue to meet this need.

I, and the other InULA Representatives at Large: Michael Gago and Roger Beckman, encourage you to join InULA. If you have not received a copy of the membership form, there's an abridged form you can use in this issue of *InULA Notes*. As InULA moves through the 1990's, evaluating and redefining itself, we can all actively Rediscover our community.

Emily Okada

InULA: On Redefining Purpose

The oral history I've heard about InULA in the early days has solidified into a story about one issue: faculty status for librarians. The programs of InULA Present focus on providing support to librarians in the way of life we have chosen, as library faculty. What do we want to make of InULA Future?

As a professional group, do we want to consider sensitive issues like staffing? Do InULA members wonder and worry over budget-driven staffing decisions, which don't seem to be backed up by (written) staffing plans? How do

archivists and PAs fit into the InULA future? (Were any other Bloomington librarians surprised to receive this year's documentation on extra-merit nominations in a joint memo to Librarians and Professional Staff?) Do we really think an MLS (and accompanying "librarian enculturation" in a School of Library and Information Science) is essential? Is it time for a reconsideration of a ten month appointment option for librarians?

I'll bet each of us could easily add five discussion points to the brief list above, and, we probably should, in light of the

"CHANGE OR DIE" rhetoric which puts us in the center at professional meetings. Background for these musings was supplied by listening to recent talks, including those by Blaise Cronin of IU SLIS at the ILF Conference in Indianapolis, and S.W. Massill of the University of London at ACRI in Salt Lake City. Both spoke in sessions devoted to international librarianship. Massill's talk focused on the decline of the research librarians, and Cronin's presented a futures scenario. I think InULA might play a larger role in converting "Change or Die" rhetoric to "Change and Live" action.

Andrea Singer

A beautiful day, a glass of wine, and persimmon pudding

It was a glorious, warm, sunny Fall day for this year's October Membership Meeting. It was held outside on the grounds of the Oliver Winery, which is located about five miles north of Bloomington.

Twenty-three InULA members (seven from Indianapolis, sixteen from Bloomington) came together to share the weather, good conversation and some great food: teriyaki chicken wings, peanut dip & vegetables, green bean casserole, Korean noodles, persimmon puddings and cake, interesting cheeses, brownies, the "twin peaks" cherry pie, almond tort, hummous & pita, shrimp dip (thanks to Bill Orme's wife), and much more. The informal afternoon event gave us the

opportunity to meet new colleagues and to get to know old ones better. Conversations ranged from individual library projects to topics having nothing to do with our common profession — favorite snake stories, food, of course, or the impact of paper vs. plastic bags in landfills.

Many of us participated in the free wine-tasting provided by the Winery. I don't know if there was any kind of consensus on the wines. I did agree with those I overheard who said that the Merlot was a favorite, along with the Gewurtztraminer, while the peach and strawberry wines were too sweet. The Winery, by the way, generously gave us paper cups, which we had forgotten, for the

cider and soft drinks which InULA provided.

The tour of the Winery was surprisingly delightful. It was led by a part-time employee of the Winery and a graduate student in American Studies named Mary Wiggins. With refreshing enthusiasm and good humor, Wiggins led us through the wine-making process, while relating her own hands-on experiences at the Winery. As Emily Okada pointed out, her accounts of her various jobs at the Winery gave her greater credibility and made the whole thing more interesting for all of us visitors. Her "tour methodology" certainly calls for reflection from those of us who have routinely given tours ourselves over the years.

Many Bloomington members offered overnight accommodations to our out-of-town colleagues. No one took us up
continued on next page

Research Incentive Fund

The InULA Research Incentive Fund is intended to encourage and support research by providing funding for research projects of any size or scope. Because it is often difficult for beginning researchers to obtain research grants, project proposals submitted by untenured librarians will receive top priority. However, all requests will be considered.

This award is to be used for support in the following categories: (1) Seed support of research and research-related activities used to develop a larger research proposal. (2) Funds for research equipment or materials. (3) Travel to support the research project. (4) Publication subsidies. (5) Other needs not defined above, including copying, secre-

tarial services, preparation of graphics for publications, computing services, ILL costs, postage, telephone, etc.

Any regular member of InULA is eligible to apply by filling out the InULA Research Incentive Fund application form available from the President of InULA. Awards are available each quarter, and the deadlines for application for each quarter are August 31, November 30, February 28, and May 31.

on it this time, but we still like the idea and plan to keep invitations open for future events.

Now, for more icing on the cake: When I arrived at the Winery, I foolishly boasted to Roger Beckman that the persimmon pudding I had brought was the BEST in the world. (I feel quite objective about this, since it's not MY recipe, but rather one I got from a senior local Hoosier who died a few years ago while chopping wood). Roger insisted (even AFTER he had tried mine) that his, too, was a "BEST" recipe. So I am respectfully submitting these two recipes and suggest, at the same time, that all of you out there with your own BEST persimmon pudding recipes send them in to be included in the next issue of *InULA Notes* or in the upcoming InULA electronic forum. Maybe we should have a scientific bake-off and judging contest (held in Indianapolis?) at a future date.

Charlotte Hess

Deadline for Funding

The next deadline for submission of applications for the InULA Research Incentive Funds is **November 30, 1992**. Application forms are available from:

Charlotte Hess
InULA President
Workshop in Political Theory
513 N. Park
(e-mail: HESS)

Roger Beckman's Persimmon Pudding

(A recipe from a Connecticut woman that used to be his neighbor).

2 cups pulp	3 eggs
1 3/4 cups milk	2 cups sifted flour
1/2 tsp. soda	1 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. cinnamon	1/2 tsp. nutmeg
1/2 cups sugar	3 Tbsp. melted butter

Mix pulp, beaten eggs and milk. Sift dry ingredients together and pour liquid mixture into them. Stir in the melted butter and pour into a shallow greased pan to the depth of about 2 inches. Bake for about 1 hour in a very moderate oven (300 to 325 degrees). When cold, cut into squares and serve plain or with whipped cream. *P.S. Sometimes I add the meat of a few hickory nuts that I have gathered from the woods.*

Charlotte Hess's Persimmon Pudding

Preheat oven to 325 degrees

Mix together

2 cups persimmon pulp
3 eggs
1/4 cups sugar (or less)
1/2 cup melted butter
2 1/2 cups whole milk
2 tbs. brandy

Sift together,

then add to liquid mixture

2 tsp. cinnamon
1 tsp. ginger
1/2 tsp grated nutmeg
1/2 cups whole wheat flour
1 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. baking powder
1/2 tsp. salt

Pour in to 9x9 well-greased pan, bake at 325 for 1-1 1/2 hours.

(In my oven, it usually takes a good 1 1/2 hours). Serve with fresh whipped cream.

InULA Calendar 1992-93

Sept 15	Start of Membership Year	May	Business Meeting InULA Auction
Oct 3	Membership Meeting		Election of Officers
Nov 30	Research Incentive Grant Application Deadline	May 31	Research Incentive Grant Application Deadline
Feb 28	Research Incentive Grant Application Deadline	Aug 1	New Board Assumes Office
Mar 1	SLIS Scholarship Application Deadline	Aug 31	Research Incentive Grant Application Deadline
April	SLIS Scholarship Awarded Financial Meeting Annual Booksale		*Additions and Changes will be announced in <i>InULA Notes</i> , on the InULA Listserve, and by special mailings.

The Winning Essay: Michelle Ann Ort

InULA SLIS Scholarship Recipient Michelle Ann Ort

It's 11:00 on a Tuesday night. I've just finished one of my four-hour shifts as a Reference Associate at the Xavier University Library. This is only my fourth week in this new position but I've noticed my philosophy of librarianship growing already. Before I took my new position, I worked at Xavier University's library for two and a half years, first as a Circulation Student Assistant, and later as a Reserves Assistant. My first days as a Circulation Student Assistant were filled with questions and uncertainty. I don't think I'd ever be able to grasp all the information and transactions that pass through a circulation desk at an academic library. Slowly but surely, however, I did catch on and grew proud of being an important link in a world of information and education.

When I began my position as Reserves Assistant last summer, I discovered another way to be an important link in this world that was through technical processing. It was in this position that I thought I finally developed my own philosophy of librarianship. Being located in a central part of the building, I observed many different parts

of the library working together. I discovered the importance of I.L., Collection Development, the Periodicals Office, the Circulation Desk, the Technical Processing Department, and Library Management. I began to love my job as I watched several different types of people working together, adding their own important input and knowledge, and putting all their hearts into one great task of communicating information. I began to see how valuable information is and how much librarians are relied upon in order to make it accessible to others. And I began to realize how dedicated librarians had to be in order to accomplish this. I fell in love with this field because it meant enthusiastic people who wanted to learn and keep on learning, always finding a way to say what they learned to others. Librarians are such an important part in keeping society on its toes.

Now that I have begun to experience the library through the eyes of several reference librarians who I assist, my philosophy of librarianship has not changed, but it has grown. I still see librarianship as a field where dedicated information specialists work together at obtaining information and find-

ing the best ways to enlighten others with it, but now I also believe in so much more than that. When I talk about librarianship, it's not just about what someone does for a career, but it's about who someone is as a person. Each reference librarian whom I have observed and worked with has their own special qualities and their own ways of assisting patrons. I am told that I will develop my own "style" some day also. But there are some basic beliefs that all of the librarians hold, such as "you should treat the patron's problem like your own and you should never be satisfied with simply telling the patron, 'I can't help you.'" Good librarians see themselves as important assets in the education of others and they don't take this lightly. Since I've recently been able to closely observe some librarians, I've realized how much they thrive on informing their patrons and how much they're willing to learn more, themselves, every day. Librarianship is not just a job for them but it is a way of life. And that's what I want it to be for me.

I am told over and over again that the world of information is constantly growing and

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changing and this is how I intend to treat my career in librarianship. I see this field as a field where you never stop learning and your information tools never stop changing and improving. It could be frightening to feel like you'll never ever perfect absolutely everything in your field, but on the other hand, this could be an exciting challenge in which one will never feel stagnant. I prefer to take the latter view as I've never been so motivated about anything in my life. I see the field of librarianship

as an opportunity to continuously better myself, develop, and progress and I see it as a field of never-ending excitement. I also see it as a field where dedication and enthusiasm is pertinent in order to face everyday challenges. Although I'm fascinated with the position of Reference Librarian, my philosophy pertains to every other kind of librarianship as well and I intend to find many areas of librarianship that will intrigue and challenge me at Indiana University. I feel very positive about my chosen

career because it fits in so well with my philosophy of life in which I feel it is important to enhance your talents, make yourself valuable, and feel positive about who you are and what you do. I realize that my philosophy of librarianship won't stop here. I look forward to watching it grow as I get closer and closer to becoming my own unique librarian, an information specialist in an exciting world of information.

InULA Minutes

Indiana University Librarians Association Meeting, May 14, 1992

The spring business meeting of the Indiana University Librarians Association held in the Main Library Staff Lounge in Bloomington on May 14, 1992. President Lois Heiser called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and made the following announcements:

Lou Malcomb brought a bibliographic instruction video to be shown after the meeting

InULA is presenting Dean Neal with a check for \$400 for the Dean's Fund • Three Research Incentive Grants were awarded this quarter. • The InULA SLIS student scholarship for \$1,000 has been awarded to Michelle Ort from Xavier University • Lois also read the candidate slate and asked for nominations from the floor. There were none and the slate was accepted as presented.

Vice-President Charlotte Hess

took over the meeting and asked for committee reports, which were as follows:

Publications (Janet Meek):

Discussion of whether InULA should have a separate electronic bulletin board or take over one already established by David Lasocki for the Research Support Committee, and whether it should be moderated. Consensus was to start our own and have it moderated.

Social/Program (Sandy Dyer):

Events sponsored by the committee this year include the Open Forum and the Silent Auction, which netted about \$950.

Continuing Education (Mahnaz Moshfegh):

The CE Committee presented two programs on empowerment in the workplace. The next chair will be Jeff Coon from Kokomo.

National Library Week (Charlotte Hess for Emily Okada):

A successful program was presented.

Ad Hoc Revitalization Committee (Maggie Harter):

The com-

mittee will be meeting over the summer.

Constitution Committee (Tim Larson): Proposed changes in the constitution were discussed, especially the question of whether "staff members" should be removed from Section II. There was also discussion of changes in committee structures and names. Julie Nilson moved that the revisions be withdrawn and reconsidered. Julie Fore seconded, and the motion was passed.

Elections Committee (Mark Day): Candidate statements should be submitted to Mark by May 28.

Treasurer's Report (Marianne Mason): Present balance is \$9,183. Expenditures this year total \$4,509.08, income \$2,767.00. Income is lower than usual because there was no book sale this year.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Julia Tyler, Secretary

Rediscovering Community

continued from page 1

an active role in "socializing" future academic librarians as to the expectations of faculty status.

In addition, the committee will be reviewing InULA's traditional activities, including fundraising, research, and SLIS scholarship support, the newsletter, and continuing education. In one area there already has been a change for the better. The annual InULA auction, which funds the InULA Research Incentive Grants, was held last spring during Librarians' Day, allowing more people to actively participate.

Other questions before the committee concern how to use InULA NOTES and the proposed InULA listserv to better communicate among ourselves and bridge our several campuses. With many university, state, and regional

groups providing continuing education programs, what should InULA's role be? How can InULA maintain a strong year-to-year funding base?

Of course, our committee alone can't revitalize InULA. We can only serve as a catalyst for new ideas and directions. There is no better time for retirees, active librarians, SLIS students, and other InULA associates and friends to become more involved in InULA. Contact members of the committee (Jeff Coon [jcoon], Maggie Harter [harterm], Mahnaz Moshfegh [moshfegh], Julie Nilson [nilson], Sylvia Turchyn [turchyn], and Nonie Watt [wattn]). Let us know how InULA can best serve you. InULA members are welcome at meetings. Get in touch with Maggie Harter for dates and times.

*Maggie Harter, Chair, InULA
Revitalization Committee*

InULA Book Sale

Book donations requested

The InULA book sale committee is collecting items for the annual book sale to be held April 18 and 19, 1993.

To donate materials, please contact any of the following InULA book sale committee members:

Frank Quinn, 5-8028,
QUINNJF

Kris Brancolini, 5-3710,
BRANCOLI

Jackie Byrd, 5-7511,
BYRD

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