

inula notes

Indiana University Librarians Association

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Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities

Ann Minde

Imagine that you are visually impaired. Maybe you've had eye surgery and need to wear an eye-patch for awhile, or maybe you have a degenerative eye disease, or maybe you simply have trouble distinguishing grey tones from one another. Being visually impaired, much less blind, is a difficult thing for many people to, if you'll pardon the expression, envision. But take the thought one step further... What if you are visually impaired, and you have to use the library?

In 1973, the IU-Bloomington Resource Center for the Blind was established in the Main Library with the gift of an electric braille typewriter from the Bloomington Lions Club. Placed on the third floor of the

Undergraduate Library, the typewriter was housed next to tape cassette players borrowed from the Media Center. After a period of time, several braille Spanish books, a braille Bible, a braille dictionary, and other types of sound equipment were added to the collection.

The Resource Center for the Blind was eventually moved to the first floor of the Undergraduate Library and, with the move, the name was changed to the Resource Center for Persons with Visual Impairments. During the 1990-1991 school year, the center was officially titled the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities. The new name signified a growing appreciation that not only visually impaired patrons require special

assistance in a library—but also those patrons with learning disabilities, mobility disabilities, and, to a certain extent, hearing disabilities.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was passed in 1992, requiring among other things that all public facilities and their contents be made handicapped accessible. However, IU-Bloomington was well ahead of the game. In 1991, University Computing Services, the Disabled Students Office, and the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities (RCPD) had worked together to acquire a computer workstation specifically equipped with adaptive technology and software for the disabled.

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The station is comprised of an IBM compatible/large-screen monitor which is equipped with the SoftVert voice synthesizer, VISTA text enlarger, and an optical character scanner. VISTA enables visually impaired patrons to change the size and dimensions of the text they are reading, change the background color, or highlight blocked text, while the scanner enables books, articles, or other printed material to be converted into WordPerfect and then either enlarged or printed. An embosser is attached to the IBM which allows text files to be printed in braille. A point-and-shoot menu was created for the IBM, granting the patrons immediate access to the AIE network and thus email, IO, and Carl Uncovers, as well as to the braille embosser and the optical scanner.

A 1992 grant from University Computing has helped to swell the size of the RCPD; recently, a second IBM compatible terminal was added to the center. Although not a large-screen monitor, the terminal is equipped with Magic Deluxe, a text enlarging program slightly different from VISTA. In addition, a CD-ROM drive was attached, and ABI Inform, a business periodicals index, was loaded onto the menu.

In addition to the second terminal, the RCPD acquired three laptop computers with various

software capabilities and, a long-wished for item, the Kurzweil Reading Edge. The Kurzweil is a portable optical scanner which can not only read material to the patron in a variety of voices, but can also store and edit material. The Kurzweil may be connected to a compatible computer if so desired.

Use of the Resource Center has varied over the semesters—generally 12-15 patrons use the

facility on a regular basis. It is sincerely hoped that, with the addition of new adaptive equipment, interest in and use of the center will expand.

For further information, please contact: Ann Minde, Coordinator, Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities, IU-B Undergrad. Library W121, Bloomington, IN 47405, (812) 855-9857, (Internet: asatterw@indiana.edu).

Building(s) for the future

Perry Willett

The InULA Continuing Education Committee sponsored its annual workshop on October 8th at the new IUPUI University Library. The focus was on the planning and design of new library buildings and what impact new libraries have on staff, collections and services. About 60 people gathered at the new IUPUI library. In addition to those attending from 3 IU campuses, there were people from other university and college libraries (from as far away as Michigan and Kentucky), high schools, hospitals and museums.

Barbara Fischler, Director of Libraries at IUPUI, began the day by describing the planning process for the new library. Donna Burrow, the Systems/Automation Officer at IUPUI,

gave a demonstration of the information system that has been designed for the workstations.

Also, Pat Steele and Gwen Pershing presented the planning process behind the new Education Library, and Gwen spoke about the experiences during the first year in the new building. Later in the afternoon, David Kaser, Emeritus Distinguished Professor in Library and Information Science at IU, spoke about his perception of the trends in library design from his experience as a consultant in many construction projects.

The presentations and tours were exciting and educational. For those who missed the workshop, there will be a chance to tour the University Library during the formal dedication in April, 1994.

Regional Campus Highlights:

Notes from IU South Bend

Rosanne Cordell

IUSB Schurz Library's popular SOS (Schurz Online Services) program will be returning SOON. When IUSB's Computer Services retired the aging Prime computer this summer, campus faculty and staff temporarily lost access to the online service which allowed them to send reference questions and interlibrary loan requests through e-mail. The service also allowed easy internet access to several

often-used databases, including catalogs for the University of Chicago, University of Michigan, University of Notre Dame, and Library of Congress; and CARL. The developer of the original program, Larry Holbert, is working on a new version of SOS which will be Windows compatible. An additional feature in this version will allow instructors to request bibliographic instruction sessions for their classes through e-mail, and in-

ternet access to Project Gutenberg is being considered. Larry has worked closely with library staff, and we are confident users will be impressed with the new SOS.

Members welcome!

InULA welcomes new members anytime throughout the year. If you're interested in joining contact Michael Gago, Serials Dept., Main Library E-048, IUB (email MGAGO.UCS.INDIANA.EDU).

1994 SLIS Scholarship Announcement

The purpose of the InULA scholarship awarded annually to a SLIS student is to encourage and reward the potential for excellence in the library and information science profession. The recipient of the \$1,000 scholarship is selected from a field of applicants based on the candidate's personal statement of philosophy of librarianship and career goals. Content, style and ingenuity are factors for evaluation. The student's SLIS GPA and letters of recommendation are also considered.

Any continuing full-time or part-time student in the M.I.S

degree program of I.U. School of Library and Information Science is eligible to apply. The recipient must be continuing in the SLIS M.I.S program at least through the Spring Semester of the award year. Applications may be obtained from Mary Krutulis, the Director of Admissions and Placement in SLIS. Application materials must be submitted by March 1, 1994 to the President of InULA, Marianne Mason at the I.U. Law Library. The award will be announced by April 1st.

InULA's Research Incentive Fund

The InULA Research Incentive Fund encourages and supports research by funding research projects of any size or scope. Project proposals submitted by untenured librarians will receive top priority because it is often difficult for beginning researchers to obtain research grants. However, all requests will be considered on their individual merit and value to the field of librarianship.

The next deadline for applications is February 28. Contact Marianne Mason, InULA President, for details.

InULA Listserv One-Year Anniversary

Janet Meek

December marks the one year anniversary of InULA's Listserv, InULA-L. This is a good time to look at how we've made use of this new service, and think about how we might use it in the future.

There are currently around 120 people subscribed to InULA-L. This year, members who weren't previously subscribed were "automatically" put on the list. Postings to InULA-L have included a list created by the IULFC Research Committee of refereed journals in Library Science; a response to this was that several people reading the list added journals they knew of that had been overlooked. Guidelines for, and recipients of, the Research Incentive Grants were

posted, as were announcements and minutes for various meetings and programs sponsored by InULA. Andrea Singer's list of citations on the topic of ACRL Standards for Faculty Status was among the more stimulating topics posted over the past year. InULA-L would have been a great forum for dialogue about the topic, but unfortunately, there was little response.

There has been some interest in getting to the archives, so I'm going to try to give you necessary, but not too technical, directions for getting a copy of something you saw go by on InULA-L, but neglected to save. Begin by sending a mail message to the Listserv:

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PO%"LISTSERV@IUBVM.  
UCS.INDIANA.EDU".  
Leave the subject line blank and send the message
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GET INULA-L FILELIST  
You'll get a series of responses telling you that your mail was delivered to the listserv, that the file has been sent to you (in VMS dump format...), and that
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you Received a network file called INULA-L FILELIST. The files are sent as bitnet files, so you have to RECEIVE them as bitnet files. This can be done through a series of menus from the top AIE menu, but a better way is to go the \$ prompt and type RECEIVE *. This gets all your bitnet files, puts them into your VMS directory which you can edit, send as mail files, or ftp to your word processor.

The FILELIST is a notebook of messages that have been sent to the Listserv, InULA-L, since it began. The messages are all stored as numbered LOG files, with dates and times included.

If there are more things you'd like to know about InULA-L, let us know. We'll try to run a regular piece in *InULA Notes* with various "technology tips." Of course, we could also post useful tips on the listserv! Send us a message or comment; now that most of you are subscribed, just mail to:

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po%"inula-l@iubvm.ucs.indiana.edu".
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Letters and comments should be addressed to Karen Nissen, IUPUI-Columbus Library,
email KNISSEN@INDYVAX IUPUI.EDU.