

Access

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY
LIBRARIES OF NOTRE DAME

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Good News for Users of Serials

by Maureen Gleason

During 1995-96 the University Libraries spent over \$2.2 million, more than half of our total acquisitions expenditures, to acquire the journals, periodicals, newspapers, annuals and other continuing publications collectively known as serials. Obviously that sizeable investment is a reflection of the critical role of serials in the support of education and research and the demand from faculty and students for ready access to serials. That demand has not lessened with the advent of new modes of access to serials; satisfying it has only become more complex and expensive. Escalating serials costs, the subject of previous *Access* articles, remain an overwhelming problem for the Libraries, but paying for these publications is only a part of the challenge of making serials a reliable information resource for the University community. Any of you who has sought in vain for an expected issue on the Libraries' shelves; who has had trouble in matching a citation to the Libraries' bibliographic records; who has spent time in tracking down the location of a particular volume that might be in a branch, in Hesburgh, on microfilm or even online, knows that placing an order for a journal is only the beginning. Few complaints about the Libraries surface as frequently as those dealing with serials. Two years ago a task force began an examination of the entire range of issues suggested by those complaints. That examination has resulted in the creation of a serials department as an essential first step in a systematic effort to improve our performance in making serials readily available.

The task force identified several problems underlying the difficulties perceived by both staff and users. Some of these stem from the nature of serials: in contrast to one-time orders for single items, serials are received in pieces for an indefinite period, during which time they change titles, publishers, frequencies, formats, etc. Other impediments to reliable access are due to library practices, and the task force did recommend several remedies, most of which have been implemented. Its central recommendation, however, was the establishment of a serials department. Serials functions previously took place in several library units located in at least three departments in two divisions, with consequent communications gaps, divergent goals and frequent inefficiencies. Furthermore, the expertise necessary to deal with complex serials questions was fragmented, as was responsibility for

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Vetville Revisited

by George Rugg and Melodie Eiteljorge

This fall will mark the 50th anniversary of the construction of Vetville, Notre Dame's first housing community for married students. From 1946 to 1962 Vetville was home to hundreds of families, some of whom were welcomed back to Notre Dame this past spring for a reunion of former residents during the University's annual Alumni Reunion. This anniversary may have provoked questions in the minds of those who never witnessed Vetville; some alumni, prior to noting the event in their reunion schedules, were doubtless unaware of its existence. Just how and why was it developed and named? Who were its residents? How did they live as a community? These questions were addressed in a University Libraries-sponsored exhibit in conjunction with the reunion. Through the exhibit visitors were invited to take a brief look back at one of Notre Dame's memorable institutions.

It began as World War II drew to a close and the United States government was forced to consider the social and economic consequences of the return of 4.5 million veterans to civilian life. Many Americans feared unprecedented unemployment and even civil unrest; a federal survey indicated that half the nation's soldiers anticipated another depression. In an attempt to curb economic chaos in postwar America, a remarkable piece of legislation was drafted and subsequently signed into law by President Roosevelt. It was titled the "Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944," but to veterans it quickly became known

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solutions. Most important of all, our former organization separated the technical processes, which are essential to acquiring and making serials identifiable and available, from the public services, which directly supply the needs of the user. An organizational unit with a single identity seemed the most promising way to effect improvements, and thus a serials department with responsibility for acquisition, receipt and cataloging of serials, and for providing public access through the Periodical/Microtext Center has been created. The department is also in a position to work much more effectively with the branch libraries, for whom serials are so vital.

After a national search Notre Dame librarian Laura Sill was appointed head of the new department. Of the several good candidates, Sill's qualifications were determined best suited to the considerable task not only of organizing the new department, but of planning the future of serial resources in the University Libraries. The latter task will require mastery of the complexities of the publishing, economic and technological issues which make the current serials environment a very volatile one. Sill is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she also received her master of arts in library and information studies. She came to Notre Dame in 1989 as assistant head of the Acquisitions Department and since 1993 has served as NOTIS product manager with the Libraries' Systems Department. She has served on numerous groups planning and carrying out the automation of various library functions. Specifically related to serials, Sill served as a member of the Ad Hoc Committee on NOTIS Serials Check-In and chaired the Serials Implementation Planning Task Force. Since 1990 she has been the library liaison to the French section of the Romance Languages and Literatures Department, collaborating with faculty in the development of the Libraries' French literature collection. She is also active in the American Library Association, particularly in its New Members Round Table (NMRT). Having served eight years and held three elected positions on NMRT, in addition to chairing two committees, Sill is currently president of the 1,000 member group.



Laura Sill

Notre Dame Photographic

Sill is enthusiastic about the challenges of her new task: "The Libraries have the opportunity through this new Serials Department to comprehensively collect and analyze information about our local serials operations. From this we hope to continually improve all aspects of serials management from acquisitions through providing patron access."

Although few changes will be immediately visible, she expects that the accomplishments of the new department will eventually become apparent to Notre Dame faculty and students: "One of our main long term goals is to establish closer contact with our patrons, vendors and library colleagues. We will be exploring various outreach methods, from patron surveys and performance standards to regular meetings and focus groups. It is our belief that such networking will help us to identify current difficulties in using the collection, define user expectations for access to serials related information and aid in the development of useful descriptions and clear arrangements for the serials collection. In the short term, we will be establishing a department homepage, an important first step to introducing who we are and the services we provide to the University community and beyond."

Johns Hopkins Press Journals Now Online

by Maureen Gleason

Locating the text of a cited article or searching for newly published material on a research topic or scanning tables of contents for articles of immediate interest: all of these can now be done without leaving your office. Moreover, in addition to reading the texts of the articles on the screen, you can download or print them. We are at last beginning to experience the fruits of the technological revolution in scholarly communication, and although the number of journals available online is very limited, Notre Dame students and faculty can now test these new modes of access to at least a few significant scholarly publications. Not only that, but the responses of scholars, students and librarians to the use of journals online will influence the manner in which resources will be available in the future.

Since last May the University Libraries have been subscribing to *Project Muse* which will, within two or three years, make the full text of 40 of the journals published by Johns Hopkins University Press available over the Internet. A high percentage of these are in humanities fields, although the social sciences, history of science and mathematics are also represented. At the present time, 17 titles, including *American Journal of Mathematics*, *American Quarterly*, *Callaloo*, *English Literary History*, *Human Rights Quarterly*, *Reviews in*

American History and *Theatre Journal* are available. The URL, or address on the Internet for *Project Muse*'s website is <http://muse.jhu.edu>. URLs for individual titles can be found in the UNLOC record for the version of the journal designated "datafile" or they can be reached through the Project's website. All that is needed to reach the website and the journals from your personal computer is a World Wide Web browser such as Netscape. Of course, they are also accessible from the public access computers in the Libraries. The journal site provides tables of contents of issues starting as early as 1993 for some journals and as late as 1996 for others, and clicking on the title of the article will take you to its text.

Project Muse journals have a number of advantages over their print counterparts. They are available earlier than the print version; they can be searched, either individually or in a group, by author/title/keywords in the table of contents or in the full text; there are hypertext links in tables of contents, endnotes, author biographies and illustrations. They can also be downloaded or printed immediately, with unlimited copies for personal or classroom use permitted.

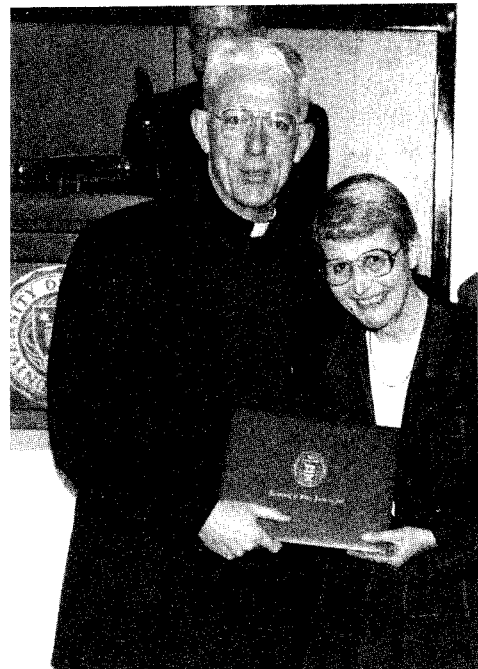
Project Muse is an experiment funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. In fact, nearly all of the current arrangements for making journals available online might be termed experimental, since so many questions exist about how they will be used and how they can be supported financially. Johns Hopkins is quite explicit in asking for the reactions of libraries and scholars to the approach they are testing, and responses are made easy through the *Muse* website. The University Libraries also want to hear from those of you who have used the journals through *Project Muse*. Do you prefer this mode of access? Would you continue to use the paper journal and if so, why? Have you encountered problems in using these online journals? The Libraries have print subscriptions to the great majority of the journals published by the Johns Hopkins Press and for now, will retain them. However, the current cost of *Project Muse* is probably artificially low because of its grant support, and its continued affordability may require a choice between print and online, or a title-by-title selection. Any decisions the Libraries make will be influenced by the experience of a broad range of users, and so we are asking you to forward your comments to Laura Sill, head, Serials Department, Hesburgh Library (e-mail: jenny.1@nd.edu).

Project Muse titles are not the only online full-text journals to which the University Libraries subscribe -- publications of the American Chemical Society, the American Mathematical Society, the Institute of Physics, are available among others. Most of these have records in UNLOC as well as through the homepages of branch libraries. We encourage you to use relevant journals online and convey your reactions to your branch librarian. However, *Project Muse* covers disciplines in which electronic resources are less well represented; it uses a somewhat different approach; and its beneficiaries are not predominantly members of a single disciplinary association. Therefore we are using *Access* to call the attention of faculty to *Project Muse* at this time. The numbers of such experiments will grow, and the Libraries intend to introduce you to as many of them as possible.

Ames Honored with Foik Award

This year's Rev. Paul J. Foik, C.S.C., Award was presented to Charlotte A. Ames, subject librarian for both American Catholic and Irish studies, at the Presidential Dinner on May 21, 1996. The award is given annually in recognition of significant contributions by a library faculty member to library service, to the Notre Dame community or to the library profession through personal scholarship or involvement in professional associations. The citation reads:

Selfless and dedicated, this librarian has been both eloquent and tenacious in seeking resources for her areas of responsibility. Unwilling to accept mere adequacy, she has successfully pursued grants and endowments to enrich Notre Dame's resources in American Catholic Studies and to ensure their accessibility through printed finding aids and UNLOC, the Libraries' online catalog. She applies this same enthusiasm to Irish Studies, another of her areas. She was also an early advocate for the use of the Internet to enhance library resources and services. A wide-ranging student throughout her career, she has recently added scholar and author to her roster of accomplishments. Her quiet, serious demeanor conceals the passionate heart of a true scholar-librarian and winner of the 1996 Rev. Paul J. Foik, C.S.C., Award.



Father Malloy with Charlotte Ames



Notre Dame Photographic

Patrick Hall

Patrick Hall obtained his B.A. and M.A.R. from Canisius College in 1974 and 1976, respectively, and his master's degree in library science from the University of Washington in 1983. In recent years he has attended numerous workshops and conferences on the Internet, HTML and electronic library systems. His publications include: "Peanuts: A Note on Intercultural Communication" (*Journal of Academic Librarianship*, September 1992, pp. 211-213); "The Role of Affectivity in Instructing People of Color: Some Implications for Bibliographic Instruction" (*Library Trends*, Winter 1991, pp. 316-326); and, "Against Our Best Interests: An Ambivalent View of Affirmative Action" (*American Libraries*, October 1991, pp. 898-902).

Among his most satisfying accomplishments, Hall lists the establishment of a school library at St. Labre Indian School on the Crow reservation in Ashland, Montana, the acquisition of a Pennsylvania State Higher Education Grant to instruct university faculty and staff on the use of the Internet, and the receipt of an Annenberg Foundation grant to teach computer literacy to re-entry students in a community education class.

The University Libraries are delighted to welcome Patrick Hall to our faculty. He has the knowledge, energy and humor needed to teach budding researchers how to be both successful and sane in an age of infinite info-options.

Libraries Welcome Patrick Hall

by Joanne Bessler

On July 1, 1996, Patrick Hall joined the faculty of the University Libraries. Serving as instructional services coordinator, he will plan, coordinate and evaluate a broad range of instructional activities and will provide direct user assistance at the Hesburgh reference desk. An experienced librarian and educator, Hall will lead the Libraries in teaching patrons to identify, analyze and use traditional and innovative information resources. He will collaborate with teaching and research faculty, librarian subject specialists and professionals from the Office of Information Technologies in strengthening the Libraries' support of classroom instruction.

Patrick Hall comes to Notre Dame from Indiana University of Pennsylvania where he served for the last four years as education librarian. He helped develop and teach an experimental class, "Information Resources for the 1990s," a three-credit course covering access to and the use of electronic information resources, such as the Internet, CD-ROM products and specialized online databases. Before his appointment at IUP, Hall enjoyed an array of work experiences. He has been actively involved in all aspects of public service, including reference, collection development, online services, grant writing, interlibrary loan, program planning and liaison work. From 1976 to 1983 he worked as a high school teacher, first teaching Eskimo children in St. Mary's, Alaska and later serving as a librarian/teacher in Seattle.

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as the "GI Bill of Rights." The original GI Bill provided six types of benefits, including incentives for higher education; the Bill thus sought to provide temporary relief from veterans' unemployment by offering education as an alternative to a job. And it succeeded. Veterans flocked to America's campuses, swelling enrollments and creating acute housing shortages. This campus housing problem was compounded by the fact that 1.3 million returning veterans had married in 1945 alone. The answer, at many schools, was the establishment of communities of married veterans, usually in some sort of prefabricated housing. Thus in the year immediately following the war there appeared Veteran's Village at Michigan, Illiniville at Illinois, Vetsburg at Wisconsin -- and at Notre Dame, Vetville.

Prior to the war students at Notre Dame were not permitted to be married. This policy was first altered to accommodate servicemen living off campus during the war and was further modified with the influx of veterans on the GI Bill at war's end. By the spring of 1946, 74 percent of Notre Dame's students were veterans, many of them married or planning to marry. To remedy the campus housing shortage, the Federal Public Housing Authority subsidized a \$400,000 project to dismantle and rebuild 39 prisoner-of-war barracks from a camp in Weingarten, Missouri, to be located on a 13-acre site on the east side of Juniper Road at Bulla, just north of where the Hesburgh Library now stands. The University spent \$36,000 to clear the site of farm buildings, build roads and

install water mains and sewers. The 39 barracks were divided into 117 units, each with a kitchen, bath, living room and two bedrooms. Rent was \$27 per month -- or \$33 with furniture. The first units were occupied in November of 1946, and by the following March 117 families lived in what was now called Vetville.

Much of Vetville's history was preserved because the residents were faithful in producing a newsletter, although editors as well as names changed frequently. Originally called *The Vetville News*, the paper was later named *Vet Gazette*, *The Vetville Herald*, *The Villager* and, finally, *Ye Olde Vetville Herald*. Begun as a male directed endeavor, the reins were soon turned over to Vetville women. The papers' contributors recorded most every event, leaving behind an accurate depiction of Vetville's administration as well as its lifestyle.

From the outset, Vetville's residents sought to transform themselves into a coherent, structured community. To this end Vetville was divided into six political wards, each of which elected one representative to a governing council. The first mayor of Vetville was Patrick Hagerty, a law student from Toledo, Ohio. Much of the legislative debate focused on petitioning the city or University for such civic improvements as traffic signs, road repairs, street lights and police protection. The safety of Vetville's children was a continuously debated issue; another was the proliferation of pets. Because many or most of the residents were financially strapped, community funds were short; Vetville's biggest annual moneymaker was a pie sale at Mardi Gras.

Life in Vetville was often trying. The units were small and the conditions crowded -- a circumstance certainly not alleviated by the community's remarkable birthrate. During the 1946-47 school year 106 children were born to Vetville residents, and this birthrate climbed over the next decade. Despite the number of children it was not uncommon for both husbands and wives to work, making for exceedingly demanding schedules. The roads of the community were unpaved; hence the residents' frequent references to "Mudville" or "Dustville." Yet despite the difficult circumstances -- or perhaps in part because of them -- Vetville enjoyed a very strong sense of community, especially in the early years. Nor did this disappear as the social makeup of Vetville changed with the passing of the '50s from a community primarily of veterans to one of married students seeking the least expensive housing in the environs of campus.

For spiritual guidance, residents could turn to a Catholic chaplain. The first of these (1946-48) was Father Theodore M. Hesburgh, in the days prior to his 35-year tenure as Notre Dame's President; the last was Father Roman Ladewski (1960-62), who continued as chaplain at University Village through 1966 after Vetville was dismantled. Recently Fathers Hesburgh and Ladewski joined forces to serve as co-chairs for the spring Vetville/Veteran's Club Reunion.

In 1958, as President, Father Hesburgh announced a ten-year plan to raise funds for a major building program -- a program which was to include a new library, to be located where Vetville then stood. A new married student housing center, the above-mentioned University Village, was planned for an area northwest of campus near U.S. Highway 31. The

move provoked a good deal of unrest among Vetville's residents, primarily because of the increased rent for the new apartments. In spite of the residents' reluctance to move on, the time had come. Progress was inevitable. In the summer of 1962 Vetville was bulldozed and burned. A plaque was erected with funds remaining in the Vetville treasury. It was blessed by Father Hesburgh at the first Vetville Alumni Reunion, July 4, 1962. It stands north of the Hesburgh Library and reads:

This area was the site of "Vetville" Married Student Housing 1945-1962. Many were the trials. Thanks to the Holy Family for the many blessings needed to persevere.

Music Library Association to Celebrate at Notre Dame

by Richard Jones

At the end of October, the University of Notre Dame will be the host for the "Midwest Homecoming" celebration of the Midwest Chapter of the Music Library Association. MLA is one of the oldest of the national library specialist associations; the Midwest Chapter was officially established in 1941. The Midwest Chapter includes music libraries and librarians from nine states: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, North Dakota, Ohio and Wisconsin. As one of the biggest and most active of the MLA chapters, the Midwest Chapter has a long history of projects, library support and educational development. The 1996 annual meeting of the Chapter is the first in a five-year celebration of "a half-century of progress and a new century of challenge," and, it is hoped, will "welcome home" many former Midwest music librarians who have moved to other areas of the country. The meeting is being sponsored jointly by the University Libraries of Notre Dame and the Department of Music.

The programs will include a detailed discussion of music preservation issues (presented by the Libraries' Preservation Department), an examination of the past through the Chapter's oral history project and interviews with music librarians who remember the "early days" and a session concerning bibliographic instruction in music. Entertainment will include folk dancing (with instruction) presented by Spätter Das, a performance by the Midwest Chapter Woodwind Quintet, the premiere performance of the "Midwest Chapter Marching Song" (title uncertain at this time), a visit with the "100-Year-Old Music Librarian" and other performances. The main purpose of the meeting, however, is to initiate an examination of the development of music libraries during the past half century and to begin planning for the next 50 years.

Sessions are open to the public and visitors are welcome. For more information and details on registration, please contact Richard Jones, music librarian (219-631-9038).

An Anniversary!

The start of the new academic year is an appropriate time to celebrate the first anniversary of the University Libraries' homepage [<http://www.nd.edu/~ndlibs>]. This important initiative is designed to bring the Libraries closer to our users. In case you have not visited it recently, you should. Much has happened over the past 12 months, with the addition of new information about the Libraries, their organization and people, and many new resources and services. Because this is a dynamic environment, we invite you to visit often and explore in depth. You should find much of interest and value.

Many people in the Libraries are continuing to work hard on its further development. To help them do even better, we encourage your comments and suggestions: tell us what you like and what you don't like, what problems you encounter and things you'd like to see added. We want this to be your homepage for library and information resources and services.

Robert C. Miller

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