

Reference Copy 2

THE GREEN BEAN

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY LIBRARIES' NEWSLETTER

1/6/78

NO. 209

CALENDAR

13 January - Library Faculty Meeting - Whitehall Classroom Building, Room 208, 8:30 AM

Current Exhibits: Foyer, King Library North - A Tribute to Vladimir Nabokov. Also display of Recent Acquisitions. Gallery - Department of Special Collections - Albert B. Chandler Exhibit.

Contributors to this number: Pat Boyle, Faith Harders, Claire McCann (Editor), Mary Ransbottom, Charles Timberlake, Bob Turner, and Paul Willis.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT THE MARGARET I. KING LIBRARY, UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON, KY. 40506

ABOUT THE LIBRARIES

Circulation Loan Policy for Faculty

The following comments have been received in response to the mailing concerning the possible change in King loan periods for faculty:

"I wish to suggest that you consider extending the loan period for University research staff from the present two-week period to a period comparable to that afforded University faculty. The availability of books for a longer period would facilitate our work."

"No problem. However, the 60% rate is a disgrace. Faculty not responding should be fined as they are for parking violations."

"I certainly approve of your suggested new policy, but I wonder whether a system might be devised so that faculty members wishing to retain books might return the loan slips or submit some written note instead of lugging some 10-15 books back to the library. I realize that the physical effort of returning them acts as a deterrent to checking them out again (and carrying them home), but I should think that almost the same objective could be accomplished by having the faculty member appear in person."

"...May I say that a reduced period, while it would not be a hardship, would indeed be something of an inconvenience. Literary scholarship cannot be done very effectively on a semester basis. However, if the library staff feels that such a policy would really improve availability of books, especially for students, I would be quite willing to put up with a little inconvenience."

"I would support one loan period of 2 weeks for all borrowers (undergraduate, graduate and faculty) including the same fines for overdue materials. Faculty members requiring book or books for one semester or one year should make a personal purchase for their professional library."

"Even this is too long! For the most part faculty and graduates can get by with about one-half of a semester. It is not fair to tie books up for that long. Some faculty I know have library books on their shelves that have been there several years."

"You need some coercive force for reprobates like me. I have books that I have not renewed for years and you have no control over that (I do bring them back when asked, giving me a thin streak of virtue not shared by some colleagues). I'm not sure you could make a fining system work. Perhaps a prohibition against additional loans would do it..."

"No problem to me or any that I can see to others."

"I feel a shortened loan period will result in a hardship for me."

"I would support the shortened loan privilege for faculty. Seems entirely reasonable to me."

"I concur heartily with your plan to reduce the borrowing period for faculty members. Too many of us abuse the privilege and retain books for longer than they are actually needed."

"I think the loan period for faculty should be much shorter, e.g., one month. These books should be available for general circulation to students."

"I have little sympathy for those faculty who will object to your proposed changes in the loan period for faculty. When I was a graduate student, I had a little 'understanding' for the 'faculty's need' to have a book for an entire year and 'privilege' to ignore recall notices. That 'understanding' was totally evaporated after just a few months of faculty experience. Many faculty members are simply arrogant and overbearing in their demands on library service. Your proposed revisions are modest in attempting to curb these abuses and I fully support your efforts."

"I think the shortened loan period is reasonable and would be best for all persons involved."

"This is just a note to offer some praise for the fine job which you are obviously doing in running the University of Kentucky Libraries. I have been impressed by each library here that I have visited and I especially think that the librarians at M. I. King Library have done a good job dealing with the rotten architecture of that particular library. The reference desk is just fantastic and almost everyone in the building manages to offer very pleasant service. Congratulations on a fine organization."

"With reference to your statement of November 22 on 'Circulation Loan Policy for Faculty,' the only objection I have, and which I have been raising consistently ever since I came to UK in 1969, is that at the end of each loan period in order to renew any books I have to lug them over to the library, make out new charge slips and lug the books back to my office or study."

I admired the system used at Yale University Library already a generation ago, where at the end of the year-long loan period, xerox copies of the charge slips were sent out by mail (cut up individually) and one could renew the needed books for further work by writing 'renew' on the appropriate slips and mailing them back to the library. The unrenewed books were of course returned promptly. All loaned books were subject to recall after a two

week period, and such recalls were, to my knowledge, conscientiously responded to by the faculty.

This system worked beautifully at Yale and, frankly, I do not see why there has been a reluctance to institute it here. I wouldn't mind a shorter loan period if there would indeed be a compensatory provision for more 'convenient renewal privileges'."

"I have just received your November 22nd Memorandum concerning 'Circulation Loan Policy for Faculty.' Caught between the demands of closing the current semester and preparing courses for the next one, I simply do not have the time to offer the detailed response that I would like. However, I am compelled to indicate that I strongly disfavor the proposed policy of one semester loans for faculty.

I was flabbergasted to learn that your current success rate in recalling faculty books is 'less than 60 per cent.' Even allowing for problems of mail service, the library's computer recall procedure, and so on, the pattern of irresponsibility is appalling. However, I doubt that a one semester loan period is the answer. In fact, I suspect that it might compound the problem. Just off hand, it seems to me that a final stage recall procedure involving the cooperation of Department Chairpersons might be worth a try.

I oppose the suggested policy of a one semester loan period because it definitely would inflict a hardship on those of us whose research requires extended use of library materials. The library's slow rate of acquiring new journals and books imposes enough problems. I could provide you with four or five examples from the past six months. I am aware of the staffing problems you have, so it seems pointless to rehearse or recapitulate familiar difficulties. Nevertheless, while it is only an impressionistic observation, I venture to say that during my almost ten years here I have experienced a deterioration of library service. The proposed policy would, I think, become an obstacle to faculty research. I do hope that student opinion (including library staff) is not a major 'pressure' factor in this direction. Occasional remarks I have heard fail to manifest any understanding of one of the university's vital activities.

I know that your job is an exasperating one. The Kernel articles on thefts have pointed up a most aggravating problem. Just the other day I came across a bound journal volume from which someone had extracted one or more articles. I suppose that detection is the big problem but I would favor stronger penalties once detections are made.

In closing, let me repeat that I am sure that a shortened loan period would result in a hardship in my case. I am disappointed that the Senate Library Committee apparently did not provide an alternative approach."

Library Staff Organization Minutes

A potluck Christmas luncheon was held in the old Rare Book Room, Thursday, December 22 from 11:30 to 1:30. After the delicious meal new staff members were introduced, notes regarding the 1977 LSO activities were given, Mr. Willis presented service pins to several staff members, and the 1978 LSO officers were announced: Wanda Dole, President; Charles Timberlake, Vice-president; Jessie Adams, Secretary; Joyce Turner, Treasurer; and Sally Johnson, Ombudsman.

We would like to thank Asha Bhagat, John Cleveland, Adelle Dailey and Ed O'Hara for providing the entertainment.

Library Tours, January 23-27

The Reference Department will be offering orientation tours of King Library public service areas January 23-27. The tours will be given on an informal, drop-in basis to interested UK students. We would welcome volunteers from throughout the library to help us lead the tours. Staff members who have led tours in the past have found them to be a pleasant change of pace from their normal duties. Also, students find it interesting to meet staff who are not usually at public service desks. We will provide as much training and support as you feel you need before giving tours. If you can spare 30 minutes or more during that week, please contact Patricia Renfro at 7-1631 or Charles Timberlake at 3-2759 as soon as possible.

Lecture and Reception for Community College Librarians

You are invited to a lecture and reception for the Community College Librarians, January 10th at 7:30 PM in the Gallery of King Library-North. John Bryant will discuss "Developing Networks and Databases and their Impact on a Major University Library System."

Please call Patricia Renfro or Linda Newman in the Reference Department at 7-1631 or 7-1632 by Monday morning if you plan to attend.

PERSONNEL

LT I Acquisitions. If interested, please see Faith Harders.

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Head, Catalog Department, University of California, Santa Barbara. \$21,276. minimum salary. Application Deadline: March 1, 1978.

Collection Development Librarian/Interpretive Services Section, Medical College of Georgia, Augusta. Available immediately. Salary: Open.

Processing Services Librarian, Medical College of Georgia, Augusta. Available immediately. Salary: \$12,000.

Graduate Teaching Fellowships, University of Oregon Library, Eugene.

UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL OFFERS SPRING TRAINING PROGRAMS

University Personnel will be offering the following training programs during the semester. For further information, see Faith Harders.

1. Business Procedures
 - a. Purchasing
 - b. Accounting
 - c. Travel
 - d. Payroll and Personnel
 - e. Campus Services
2. Speed Reading
3. Supervisory Skills
 - a. Basic Principles of Supervisory Management
 - b. Interviewing and Selecting Employees
 - c. How to Train Employees
4. Medical Terminology
5. Typing Practice
6. First Aid.