

ANNUAL REPORT, 1975-1976

Dale C. Gresseth

ANNUAL REPORT, 1975-1976

AREA RESEARCH CENTER

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Edwin L. Hill

MURPHY LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - LA CROSSE

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PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Earl Belisle	Documents & Reference
Dale Gresseth	Serials
Edwin Hill	Special Collections & Reference
Eugene Millich	On income continuance
John Robson	Cataloging
Herbert Searcy	Head of Technical Services
Orvin Shiflett	On leave without pay
Orin Thompson	Microforms & Reference
Roy Van Note	Director
Gerry Wright	Acting Acquisitions Librarian

CLASSIFIED STAFF

Margaret Annett	Special Collections & Interlibrary Loan
Katherine Arenz	Director's Office
Pamela Evans	Circulation
Luora Fawcett	Cataloging
James Holtz	Circulation
Yvonne Hyde	Technical Services
Mary Johnson	Technical Services
Irene Kleist	Technical Services
Helen Leide	Circulation
Cynthia (Niedfeldt) Murphy	Technical Services
Viola Oertel	Documents

Elizabeth Ristow	Technical Services
Mary Kay Rowe	Technical Services
Linda Sondreal	Circulation
Ada Stowe	Technical Services
Kathryn Teschner	Serials
Hanna Traastad	Technical Services & Interlibrary Loan
Frances Young	Technical Services

COMPARATIVE STATISTICAL SUMMARY

	1974/75	1975/76
Total volumes in library	328,241	355,745
Bound volumes	261,709	281,134
Government Documents	64,468	72,471
Serials (college catalogs and telephone directories)	2,064	2,140
Total volumes added (incl. bd., docs., serials)	27,892	29,268
Total microforms in library	282,249	311,078
Microcards	12,104	12,120
Microfiche	212,416	237,673
Microprint	38,762	40,676
Microfilm	18,967	20,609
Bound volumes added	22,786	21,123
Bound volumes withdrawn	912	1,698
Periodical titles	2,674	2,711
Newspaper subscriptions	57	56

Titles in library - bound volumes cataloged titles (est. using HEW plan for measuring shelf list. Our aver- age - 87 titles per inch)		200,100
Periodical titles (actual count)		2,182
Titles on microform		
Book titles		4,601
Periodical titles		1,279
Total collection converted to "volumes" per ACRL formula (not incl. photographs and unprocessed materials). Mf is figured 1/1, other microforms 5/1.		438,547
Interlibrary loan	1,745	2,778
Circulation (main and reserve)	122,489	128,046
Turnstile tally	433,401	474,602
Days library open	321	315
Hours per week (academic year)	87	100

TITLE IIA GRANT

The grant for the 1975/76 year was \$3,930.

ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS

Earl Belisle attended the Instructional workshop of the Wisconsin Association of Academic Librarians at Madison, on October 17, 1975.

Dale Gresseth attended the Wisconsin Library Association Convention at Madison, on October 16-17, 1975; attended Education Conference at Oshkosh on May 23-24, 1976; was delegate to TAUWF Spring Assembly

at Eau Claire on April 23-24, 1976; attended meeting regarding participation in OCLC at Memorial Library, U.W. - Madison, on June 22, 1976.

Edwin Hill attended the conference of ARC curators and State Historical Society personnel at Library, U.W. - River Falls on May 6-7, 1976.

Roy Van Note attended the Annual Conference on the American Library Association at San Francisco on June 30 - July 3, 1975; served as library building consultant at Mt. Senario College, Ladysmith, on September 11, 1975; attended Annual Conference of the Wisconsin Library Association at Madison on October 16-17, 1975; attended ALA Midwinter Conference at Chicago on January 21-23, 1976; was official guide to Guggenheim, Metropolitan, Whitney and Museum of Modern Art for students and townspeople on University New York tour on March 16-19, 1976.

John Robson visited college library at Mt. Senario College, Ladysmith, on September 11, 1975; attended educational meeting at Oshkosh on May 24, 1976; attended meeting on OCLC at Memorial Library, U.W. - Madison on June 22, 1976.

Herbert Searcy attended Annual Conference of the American Library Association at San Francisco on June 30 - July 3, 1975; attended Annual Conference of the Wisconsin Library Association at Madison on October 16-17, 1975; attended American Library Association Midwinter Conference at Chicago on January 21-23, 1976; was official guide to Guggenheim, Metropolitan, Whitney and Museum of Modern Art for students and townspeople on University New York tour on March 16-19, 1976.

Orvin Shiflett attended conference on OCLC at Memorial Library, U.W. - Madison on June 22, 1976.

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Gerry Wright attended Annual Wisconsin Library Association Conference at Madison on October 16-17, 1975.

BUILDING AND EQUIPMENT CHANGES

Carpeting on the main stairs was installed in September 1975. The job was very unsatisfactory and had to be redone. The second installation was an improvement, but still less than satisfactory.

An area adjacent to Room 220 was enclosed to provide another room for Special Collections. Partitions that had been taken down when the Library Science Department moved out were used for this project.

The Information Desk area was enlarged and rearranged, bringing the librarian on duty closer to the front door and the incoming public.

Coin typewriters were moved from the student study-lounge in the basement to Room 21A. A number of students had complained that the noise from the typewriters interfered with their studying.

Extension telephones were added at the Circulation Desk, in Rooms 103 and 22, and in the staff lounge, Room 3.

New equipment acquired during the fiscal year included:

- 1 - 3M copier (to replace worn-out copier) in Technical Services
- 1 - Index table for periodical indexes, in the Reference Area
- 1 - TWX machine, purchased from Teleprinter Leasing Corporation, from whom the machine had previously been leased.
- 4 - Microfilm cabinets

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CLASSIFIED AND SPECIAL STAFF
INFORMATION AND CHANGES

Beverly Gunderson, assigned to the library on the WIN program, concluded her training October 10, 1975. Ms. Gunderson worked 20 hours a week, dividing her time between the Circulation Department and the Serials Department.

Elizabeth Ristow was reclassified from Library Assistant to Library Technician, effective October 26, 1975.

Linda Sondreal, who had been working on LTE to cover extended hours on weekends, received a permanent half-time ten-month appointment as Library Assistant, effective November 23, 1975.

Luora Fawcett, Library Associate, retired December 31, after 28 years on the classified staff of the library.

Beatrice Temp, a former Library Technician, substituted at the Circulation Desk for Linda Sondreal during Linda's absence for maternity, from April 8 - May 16, 1976.

Margaret Annett completed 25 years on the classified staff this spring. The event was celebrated at a party in the staff lounge on May 20. Co-chairpersons of the party were Kathi Teschner and Pamela Evans. A campus-wide invitation was issued and all staff members, professional and classified, contributed to the gift and refreshments.

Marlys Langan, assigned to Special Collections on the Coulee Region Action Program (known as CAP), finisher her year of on-the-job training May 27.

Frances Young and Yvonne Hyde were given Exceptional Performance Awards of \$100 each. These awards were made upon the recommendation of the Library Personnel Committee and at the discretion of the University administration.

Cynthia Murphy, Library Assistant on the CETA program, was given a year's leave of absence to continue her education. The leave was effective June 13, 1976.

CLASSIFIED STAFF MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS

Katherine Arenz attended a session on Collective Bargaining as it affects Classified Supervisors in state service, which was held at the U.W. - Eau Claire on November 12, 1975. She served on the U.W. - La Crosse Clerical Bargaining Resource Committee which met March 9-10, 1976.

Ms. Arenz also attended the U.W. System Conference on "Developing Resources for Women's Studies." The conference was held in Madison, April 29 - May 1, and had as one of its objectives the compilation of a core bibliography of women's studies materials.

Helen Leide served as a library representative on the University Lounge Committee. The committee met April 5, 1976.

Directions: Career Building Skills for University Women, a two-day workshop sponsored by the OCW (Organization of Campus Women) was held at Cartwright Center on March 4-5. Library women attended many of the sessions.

The classified staff met with the Library Chairperson, Dale Gresseth,

on April 26, 1976, the first day of the library's operation as a department, and again on June 24, to discuss problems of concern to the staff and to the Chairperson.

MISCELLANY

A concerted drive was made to keep food and pop in the student lounge areas. The movement was spearheaded by the custodial staff.

Orvin Lee Shiflett completed all course work for the Ph. D., and successfully defended the prospectus for his dissertation. He returned to duty at the library on June 14, 1976.

LIBRARY DEPARTMENT

Murphy Library, formerly an administrative unit with an appointed director, became, on April 26, 1976, a department of the university. Dale Gresseth was elected department chairperson for a three year term. Dr. Roy Van Note was placed in charge of Interlibrary Loans, and Dr. Herbert Searcy began a new assignment as cataloger.

Extensive reorganization followed the change. The department initiated collegial participation into the library operation. The following committees were established: budget, collection development, personnel, and promotion and merit pay evaluation. By-laws were written to give the organization a legal base.

LIBRARY TOURS

Date	Instructor	Course	Participants	Guide
September 8	M. Hocker	Adv. Reference	11	Belisle
8	A. Winter	Intro. to Research	34	Belisle

9	F. Starr	Econ. Development	8	Belisle
10	M. Hebbard	English 110	24	Belisle
11	J. Green	English 110	25	Belisle
18	R. Batchelder	P.E. 765	15	Belisle
22	S. Schrag	English 110	25	Belisle
24	M. Hocker	Educ. Media 206	15	Belisle
October				
14	L. E. Pratt	Philosophy of Health	90	Belisle
28	F. Leshar	English 303	15	Belisle
30	M. Hocker	Comp. for non majors		Thompson
November				
10	D. Needles	Onalaska college-bound 40 students		Belisle
11	Mrs. Lawson	Hylandale Academy college-bound English students	9	Belisle
January				
10	R. Treu	English 110	20	Belisle
13	S. Schrag	English 110	22	Belisle
13	S. Schrag	English 110	22	Belisle
22	R. Treu	English 110	21	Belisle
28	J. Green	English 110	22	Belisle
28	J. Green	English 110	21	Belisle
February				
18	M. Hocker	Ed. Media 206	11	Belisle
March				
2	F. Leshar	English 303	16	Belisle
14	L. Maik	English 110	20	Belisle
29	M. Hocker		5	Thompson
May				
	J. Yeatman	English 110	20	Belisle

GIFTS TO THE LIBRARY 1975-1976

American Cancer Society	Mr. John Judson
Mr. Arthur A. Andersen	Ms. June Kjome
Dr. J.G. Anderson	Mr. Walter G. Konrad
Ms. Katherine Arenz	Ms. Janet Hoffman Krohn
Auburn University Agricultural Experimental Station	Dr. Louis E. Kulcinski
The Honorable John H. Bailey, Consul for Canada	Chancellor Kenneth Lindner
Dr. Albert B. Blumenthal	Ms. Jean Penn Loerke
Dr. Hugh Boyle	Mr. John Madgett
Mr. James Buchholz	Mr. Eugene E. Molitor
Mr. Jack Burke	Mr. Warren P. Munsell
Shirley Bushell--Wisconsin Recreation and Park Association	Mrs. Eugene W. Murphy
Mrs. Alfred J. Capellen	Mr. Arri Nichols
Mr. Bruce L. Cartter	Mrs. Viola Oertel
Dr. Harold A. Classen	Mr. Ralph L. Phillips
Mrs. Raymond Fawcett	Dr. A.W. Pollman
Georgetown University--Dental School	Ms. Maria A. Reiland
Dr. Ronald G. Greenwood	Ms. Elizabeth Ristow
Mr. William Gresens	Ms. Helen Scholz
Ms. Carol Gundersen	Dr. Herbert Searcy
Mr. Wendell Haag	Dr. George A. Seib
Mrs. Willard W. Hanson	Dr. Herbert B. Smith
Ms. Mary H. Heberd	Mr. Terry Sobotta
Dr. Robert Joyce	Mr. Michael Sorgius
	Mr. Bruce Strasser

Ms. Eileen Temte

Mr. Jack W. Thacker Jr.

Mrs. Evelyn Turner

Dr. Roy N. Van Note

Mr. Harold Vagtborg

Mr. E. William Vickroy

Ms. Helen Wahoski

Dr. James Warner

Mr. L.G. Wilson

Mr. Robert Wingate

Dr. David R. Witmer

The Writer's Circle

Dr. Emerson G. Wulling

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - LA CROSSE

AREA RESEARCH CENTER

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Interest in the nation's Bicentennial year seems to have had some influence on use of the Center. Local history received substantial attention from a broad cross-section of visitors. This resulted in a greater number of registrations in virtually all history-related categories.

There were forty registrants for ARC material, with a total of 128 daily registrations. Total registrations for non-SHSW materials, including university archives, local and regional history books, photographs, oral history, and vertical files, were 1201, nearly double last year's figure of 670.

Several researchers continued work on projects begun last year; these include projects in railroad history, university history, brewery history, and the steamboat photo collection. A number of university, private, church, and civic organizations did research on unit histories.

The largest single project was one undertaken by the daily newspaper, the La Crosse Tribune. Late in 1975, plans were made to publish a special commemorative edition on July 4, 1976. Tribune staff members would do most of the research and writing. The ARC

curator had already commissioned a number of local people to write articles on particular topics. These articles, in condensed form, would also become a part of the commemorative edition.

From the beginning, the Tribune's editorial staff worked with the ARC curator in the research aspects of the project. The Center's holdings provided the basic source of primary materials, and these were supplemented by research and interviews done by individual writers.

The result of this effort is an important contribution to this area's appreciation and understanding of itself. The special edition of 104 pages contains a wide range of material on many aspects of local history.

The Tribune project tapped virtually every portion of the Center's holdings, and received substantial assistance from the ARC staff through almost daily attention. The ARC staff is pleased to have contributed to this project. The resulting publication is itself a significant addition to the literature of local history.

There has been a noticeable increase in the number of requests and research in genealogical records. Mail requests for such information have been difficult to handle because of the time required to locate such information. As usual, these requests have been serviced as time was available.

Problems of storage will be temporarily alleviated by the addition of space at the east end of the circulating stacks area. Temporary walls

have been used to enclose a small area here, adjacent to the present ARC seminar room. When shelving is obtained, this space will be used for storage of lesser-used materials.

The steamboat photo project continues as one of our major efforts. Ralph DuPae, the primary researcher, added substantial numbers of photographs this year. A filing system for individual boat data has been developed. The system will lend itself to eventual computer retrieval applications. Although much remains to be done, this photo collection is already being described by other collectors and libraries as one of the finest in the country.

A number of graduate research papers were supported entirely or in part by ARC or borrowed SHSW holdings. Such projects are usually the result of encouragement and advice by individual instructors, and reflect the instructors' appreciation and support of the ARC. The phasing out of the graduate history degree has naturally resulted in a decline in such papers.

There were numerous projects throughout the year dealing with particular aspects of Bicentennial activities. Along with the unit histories and visual presentations, a film history of La Crosse, funded by the Wisconsin American Revolution Bicentennial Commission, was undertaken this year. The film is researched and written by the ARC curator, and produced and filmed by Glenn Wolfe of the AV Department. Completion is scheduled for October of 1976. Most of the still photographs used in the film are from the ARC collection.

A series of one-minute television spots, featuring local history and utilizing visual material from the Center, was broadcast during the year by La Crosse station WKBT-TV.

The major problem now facing the Center is that it is being increasingly used as it should be. Material is coming in, the room is being used by a wider variety of researchers, and the projects undertaken by the Center staff itself are increasing. There is more of everything than we can properly handle, and the area of field service is almost entirely neglected. It is the curator's opinion that at some point, the responsibilities for the ARC and associated local history collections will need to be separated from the overall and present category of Special Collections. The introduction of a more detailed university archives program into this overall category further complicates the matter. Some eventual division of all these areas seems advisable.

The supplementary collections show the following growth: vertical files - 115 folders added for a total of 992; oral history - 47 interviews added for a total of 340 reels; photographs - 2,189 added for a total of 7,838.

As in previous years, the La Crosse Tribune publishes a photograph from our files each week. The newspaper has provided useful support in other areas as well, and frequently routes persons or collections to us. Without waxing lyrical about it, this weekly photograph is the best public relations device we've discovered. Its benefits have been substantial and constant.

The Center retained its schedule at 56 hours per week. The student staff has been very useful this year as the curator attempted to delegate more everyday work. Marlys Langan, hired in June of 1975, completed her employment term this spring. Miss Langan provided considerable assistance in the steamboat project and in indexing work.

Aside from occasional calls within or near the city, field services by the ARC have been largely non-existent. Responsibilities within the library's special collections room and in reference service preclude such trips. Materials that cannot be brought here by the donor or a third party tend to remain in private hands. In most cases, such leads do not justify special trips by SHSW personnel.

Storage space and staffing begin to emerge as problems, especially as university archives become a likely area of growth.

The Center is indebted to many groups and individuals for the success of its efforts. Murphy Library's staff and services are invaluable to this effort. The archives division of the Society in Madison provides continuing essential advice and support. Our many donors and friends in the La Crosse area are increasingly important to our daily effort. This network of unofficial "agents" is one of our most significant traditions. It has been an active and rewarding year.

Edwin L. Hill

 Edwin L. Hill, Curator

MURPHY LIBRARY
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
ANNUAL REPORT 1975-1976

Virtually every category of use saw an increase this year. In several categories, the increase was substantial. The trend toward better cooperation and use, especially by the general public, continued.

The comparative registrations are as follows:

	This Year	Last Year
State Hist. Soc. Registrations	40	30
State Hist. Soc. Daily Registrations	128	122
Wisconsiniana	509	330
Rare Books	287	292
University Archives	317	201
Photographs	211	139
Oral History	36	8
Tours	38	65
Newspaper (Tribune)	222	163

Excluding routine use of the daily newspaper, there were 1488 registrations for the year. Last year's count was 1153.

Additions to the collection, with resulting totals, are as follows:

	Added	Total
Theses, seminar papers	134	
University Archives (catalogued)	80	
Rare Books	529	7,633
Wisconsiniana	108	2,274

Damske, Greg Kruckenburg, Carolyn Nelson, Vicki Dassow, and, during the summer, Donna Rumppe, Judy Schaefer, and Rita Thompson.

All portions of the collection were increased through routine acquisitions. Larger-than-usual deposits were made in the areas of oral history and university archives. Long-term projects in railroad, steamboat, and university history were continued. Special articles and research on particular aspects of local history were commissioned by the librarian for use in both the Tribune special edition and for future publication.

Preliminary checklists are under preparation by the staff, in the areas of city physicians and medically-related fields, in city architects, and ethnic societies. Although such checklists will have other applications, they are being prepared primarily to facilitate routine work by the staff.

The long-term steamboat photograph collection, under the direction of private researcher Ralph DuPae, made substantial gains during the year. The growth of this collection into several thousand photographs has resulted in a much more systematic approach to this effort. The steamboat collection is already recognized by collectors and libraries in this field as one of the best in the country.

The sixth volume of midwestern poetry in our series, Voyages To the Inland Sea, was published this spring. The works of poets Ted Kooser and Harley Elliott are featured in this edition. Jansky Printing

of La Crosse was responsible for printing and sub-contracted work. The Voyages series is operating now without subsidy, and teeters most of the time toward deficit spending. It is likely that the price of the book will be increased next year to cover increased costs.

During the year, temporary walls were erected at the east end of the second floor stacks, adjoining the Special Collections seminar room, for enclosure of additional space for this department. When shelving is installed, this space will be used for portions of ARC and archives storage.

Hours of service remained as in previous years, at 56 hours per week during regular session.

The librarian attended the annual Area Research Center conference, which was held this spring at UW - River Falls.

The characteristics of use of this collection point toward increased activity in the area of local history, with relatively stable use of rare books. Approximately ninety percent of both staff and patron time in the department is devoted to some aspect of local or regional history. Some aspects, notably field services and processing of incoming material are badly neglected because of insufficient staff and frequently conflicting responsibilities.

It is therefore recommended to the Library Department that consideration be given to eventual separation of ARC related history materials, and archives from the present categories of special collections, and that additional staffing be provided to assist with reference and processing duties.

Finally, it is inevitable that Special Collections depends heavily upon the support of very many persons, and that we take such support for granted. Much of what we have is a culmination of unheralded effort. We therefore take this similarly unheralded opportunity to recognize the unfailing support of all our friends, especially the staff of Murphy Library. This community of purpose is gratefully acknowledged.

Edwin L. Hill

Edwin L. Hill
Special Collections Librarian