

Reductions in the Collection Budget

Amount Targeted

For its part of the current University budget cuts, University Libraries is planning a cut to the collection budget of \$175,000 this spring and a potential additional cut of up to \$320,000. This past March we contacted all Department Chairs, Departmental Library Representatives, and Liaison Librarians with the reduction amounts for their departmental library funds. Cuts were calculated on a simple proportional basis; that is, if a fund comprised 1 % of the total budget, that fund would suffer 1% of the total cuts. The cuts can be taken from the book funds, the serials funds, or a combination of both.

The Process

In order to help us plan these cuts and protect the most useful resources from cancellation, we solicited feedback from faculty regarding which journals they consider most important for teaching and research. We enhanced our Active Library Serials system to receive this feedback. We opened the system to all KSU faculty and **research assistants** for the month of March and encouraged full departmental participation in ranking titles. By March 30, a total of 3,063 titles had been ranked by 226 individuals, and a total of 10,251 votes were counted. In addition to the ranking data, we also gathered information such as subscription costs, print usage and OhioLINK EJC duplication. Some departments also compiled impact factors and citations statistics for their journals. In sum, we have collectively performed a fairly comprehensive review of our current periodical subscriptions.

Decision-Making

During the month of April, Liaison Librarians, Departmental Library Representatives and Technical Services Librarians will meet to analyze the data, review the departmental funds, and agree on recommended cuts. In late May, before we take action on the proposed journal cancellations, we will send out the list of titles that are slated for cancellation. This action will give faculty yet another chance to notify us if there are any resources on the list that need further consideration.

This labor-intensive process will help us make informed and fair cancellation decisions. We have been very pleased with the hard work, cooperation, and positive feedback that we have received from departmental faculty and liaison librarians as we work through this process.

EXCELLENCE in Action

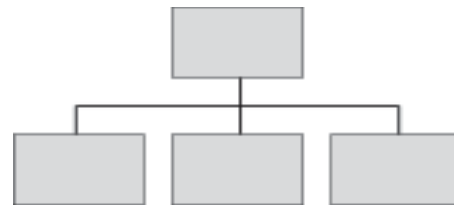
Likely OhioLINK Cuts

OhioLINK is developing plans for 5% (\$1.7m) and 10% (\$3.4m) cuts to its collections. Either cut would have a dramatic impact on research databases and EJC content. OhioLINK is working with publishers to encourage flat renewal pricing and to allow the cancellation of the least-used portions of their content. We will be in contact with you for input as needed.

We encourage you to spend every local library budget dollar with caution, as we may need that dollar to start up a local subscription to a key research database or electronic journal that has been cancelled at OhioLINK.

Contact Information

For questions or more information about the library collection budget cuts, please contact Kay Downey, Collection Development Librarian (mdowney1@kent.edu) or Tom Klingler, Assistant Dean, Technical Services (tk@kent.edu).



Changes at the Libraries

Significant changes in the past months include:

- In October 2008, Teleproductions officially moved and became part of the College of Communication and Information.
- In January 2009, the University Press began reporting to the Libraries.
- At its March meeting, the Educational Policies Council (EPC) approved a name change from Libraries and Media Services (LMS) to University Libraries (UL). This change will be phased in over the next months.

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Fall Checklist

As you prepare for your fall classes, here's a possible checklist:

✓ The **Libraries' instruction program** can provide customized information literacy instruction to support your research assignments. We can work with you in your classroom or online. For example, if your course is on Vista, we can provide links to library resources and modules that support your discipline and course objectives. Contact your liaison librarian to discuss instructional services and options for online support. The liaison librarian listing is at: <http://www.library.kent.edu/subjectliaisons>.

✓ Help is available for students who need to do **research** for a paper. This includes: in-person at the Reference Desk, by email, by phone, through instant messaging, or by appointment. Options are outlined at <http://www.library.kent.edu/askus>.

✓ Do your students need help with their **writing** and revising? Plan to direct them to the Writing Commons on the 4th floor of the Main Library. Students can schedule an appointment, drop-in for assistance, or send work-in-progress via email. Online writing help is available at writing@kent.edu. Contact the service at 330-672-1787.

✓ Assigning a multimodal project to your students? Contact the **Student Multimedia Studio** first for help in selecting the best, easiest to use technologies and software, for tutorials specific to your class, for scheduling a class demonstration, or hands-on workshop. For more information, contact Gary Mote (gmote@kent.edu).

✓ Faculty are encouraged to submit **Reserves** requests as early as possible. Requests can be submitted via the Web at <http://www.library.kent.edu/personal/requests/>. All materials are processed for compliance with U.S. copyright law (Title 17, USC). For more information, contact Reserves at 330-672-7906 or reserves@kent.edu.

✓ Do any of your students fit the Libraries' definition of **distance learner**: live more than 30 miles from any KSU campus and do not come to any KSU campus for a class? If so, direct them to information about library services designed to support them: <http://www.library.kent.edu/offcampusdelivery>.

✓ Will your students be making a **presentation** in class? Many students can benefit from practicing in a comparable setting. Direct them to the Presentation Practice Room which is complete with computer, software, projector, and screen. More information is at <http://www.library.kent.edu/presentations>.

Resource News



eHRAF World Cultures

The Libraries now subscribe to eHRAF World Cultures--a cross-cultural database that contains information on all aspects of cultural and social life including beliefs and superstitions, political structure, architecture, kinship units, settlement patterns.

Information is organized by cultures and ethnic groups. Materials include complete textbooks and articles.

eHRAF is produced by the Human Relations Area Files at Yale University. It is accessible through the Research Databases listing and is available to the Kent campus only.

Journal Citation Reports (JCR) Now Available Online

The *JCR* allows the evaluation and comparison of journals using citation data drawn from over 7,500 scholarly and technical journals from more than 3,300 publishers in over 60 countries. All areas of science, technology, and social sciences are covered.

The *JCR* can show you the most frequently cited journals in a field, the highest impact journals in a field, and the largest journals in a field allow for journal evaluation and comparison. NOTE: Citation data are not meant to replace informed peer review. Careful attention should be paid to circumstances that can influence citation rates such as language, journal history and format, publication schedule, and subject specialty.

The current *JCR* edition is the 2007 edition. The publisher gathers the data from 2008 publications, for example, before generating the 2008 edition. Typically, the new edition will be made available in June at which time we will receive access to the 2008 information.

JCR is accessible through the Research Databases listing and because of cost, is available to the Kent campus only.

U.S. Public Access Policy Made Permanent

The 2009 Consolidated Appropriations Act signed into law in March includes a provision making the National Institutes' of Health (NIH) Public Access Policy permanent. The NIH Revised Policy on Enhancing Public Access requires eligible NIH-funded researchers to deposit electronic copies of their peer-reviewed manuscripts into the National Library of Medicine's online archive, PubMed Central (PMC). Full text of the articles are made publicly available and searchable in PMC no later than 12 months after publication.

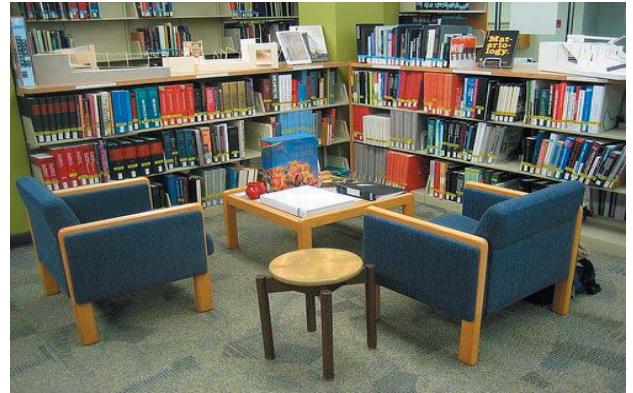
At present over 3,000 new manuscripts are deposited each month. The PubMed Central database is accessed by more than 2 million users each day.

Library Spaces



Celebrating the Renovation of the Architecture Library

National Library Week this year included a celebration of the renovation of the Architecture Library in Taylor Hall. The project provided a long-overdue facelift and significantly improved user spaces. Additional space gained from a former classroom made it possible to install several computer workstations plus scanning and printing stations.



Writing Commons Grand Opening

After helping a record number of writers this year, the Writing Commons recently celebrated its new location on the 4th floor of the Main Library with an "Everybody has Literacy - Celebrate Yours!" event. The Writing Commons offers 45-minute help sessions for any Kent State student--any class, any major, any level of the writing/revising process. The Writing Commons is a service of the Department of English.



Collaborative Learning Spaces

Want to offer a collaborative learning experience for your students? The Main Library offers spaces that provide an opportunity for students with a research assignment to work together with the guidance of their instructor. The area can be reserved. For more information, go to <http://www.library.kent.edu/tower>.

...and yet more

Statistical and Qualitative Software Support Services Needs Assessment Update, Spring 2009

Background

The Statistical and Qualitative Software Support Service moved from University Information Services (IS) to Libraries and Media Services (LMS) in 2006. LMS saw this as an important extension of its goal of supporting the access to and use of information—in this case the information being data. The move included one staff position, then occupied by Jan Winchell, that provided consulting services and modest budget support for software (\$47,000). Jan has since retired, and the position was filled in May 2008 by Tina Ughrin.

The issues facing this service are:

- What mix of services would support the greatest number of campus users to serve both teaching and research needs?
- What set of software packages would have the greatest impact on needs?
- What combination of funding approaches might be used to address needs?
- What other efforts might be taken to promote the availability of software and support services to key user groups?

These prompted LMS to undertake a campus-wide needs assessment in fall 2008. The stakeholders were identified as: KSU students (graduate and undergraduate), faculty, and administrators/staff. The full report highlights the findings and presents recommendations coming from the study. Input for the study came from a variety of sources: focus groups including all stakeholder groups, campus-wide online survey, survey of services at other institutions, literature search of software use reported in the journal literature of several disciplines, various internal sources.

Recommendations

1. Establish an Advisory Panel for the Service.
2. Seek stable centralized financial support.
3. Further explore and implement other possible funding models.
4. Determine optimum model for software support services.
5. Advocate for ethical use of software packages.
6. Promote available software and support services to key user groups.

Copies of the full Needs Assessment Report and the Executive Summary as well as Meeting Minutes from the Advisory Panel may be found at: <http://www.library.kent.edu/AdvisoryPanel>.

A Note from the Dean, Continued from page 5

Spina, newly disguised as a priest, proclaims the importance of the church. After his “accompaniment” with the poor, Spina, the revolutionary, now believes in the primacy of justice over the party; and Spina, disguised as a priest, embraces service to G-d over the church. Spina now sees the party as being subordinate to justice and the church as being subordinate to G-d. Perhaps, what Ignazio Silone is trying to say is that, through “companionship” with the peasants and workers of a remote district in Italy, we can see the coming together of the secular quest for justice and the religious service to G-d. Thus, “bread and wine” constitute the diet of these peasants. However, bread and wine are also religious symbols. Thus, Spina, assays that each must be in harmony with the other as one begins to walk with the peasants on their struggle.

This is true of course. In the late 1960’s at the University of Wisconsin, a parlor Trotskyist scoffed at efforts of students to work in the countryside with small farmers who were struggling to harvest their crops. “It’s just social work,” the drawing room radical sneered, “It has no political significance.” Perhaps, but the personal impact of working next to a farmer struggling to harvest his crops, next to a worker struggling to meet escalating health care costs, or teaching immigrants to be citizens transforms both the helper and the helped. It is this reaching outside of ourselves and toward others is that which makes us human. An important lesson for our students...don’t you think?

I walked across the street to our neighbor Ann Shreiner one evening. She invited me in and served me some lemonade while she listened to my story about the 1939 encyclopedia. Three months later, a brand-new set of encyclopedias arrived at the public library. When Nubs died in late April of 1968, the Schreiner Memorial Library received a donation of three novels by Ignazio Silone, The Abruzzi Trilogy: *Fontamara*, *Bread and Wine*, and *Seed Beneath the Snow*. Dedications were made to Nubs and to one Pietro Spina.

Bibliographical Note. Staughton Lynd makes reference to “accompaniment” in his book, *Living Inside Our Hope* (ILR Press Books, 1977). In their memoir, *Stepping Stones: Memoirs of a Life Together* (Lexington Books, 2009), Alice and Staughton Lynd describe their decision to become lawyers so that they could have a skill they could offer to those beside whom they struggled. Ignazio Silone (1900-1978) wrote three novels which are generally considered to be a “trilogy.” *Bread and Wine* is often seen as the central core of the three novels with its vivid character Pietro Spina. Silone wrote the novel in 1935 as Italy was invading Ethiopia and shortly after he was expelled from the Communist Party.

A relatively recent study of Silone is *Ignazio Silone: Beyond the Tragic Vision* by Maria Nicolai Paynter (University of Toronto Press, 2000). Please consult “The Novels of Exile,” pages 73-123. At about the same time that this book appeared in book shops, an article, “The Secret Life of Ignazio Silone,” appeared in *New Left Review* (Volume 3, May-June, 2000). In this article, John Foot charges that Silone was a secret agent for Mussolini’s secret police.



A Note from the Dean

Mark Weber, Dean of Libraries and Media Services

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Bread and Wine

“Do not walk in front of me. I may not follow. Do not walk behind me. I may not lead. Just walk beside me and be my friend.” ---Albert Camus

Sometimes in the evenings in the late 1950s, I would wander over to the Schreiner Memorial Library in Lancaster, Wisconsin. It was a chance to get away from the supervision of my parents and it was the only place I could go that didn't cost any money. One evening, while browsing the stacks in the library under the watchful eye of the librarian, Mrs. Halferty, I noticed that the most recent edition of the *Britannica Encyclopedia* was 1939! I pointed out to Mrs. Halferty that the public library had no encyclopedia that covered either World War II or the Korean War. She sighed and said the library's book budget was very small. I thought about this some and then a couple of nights later I decided what to do. Living “catty-corner” from us in Lancaster was the formidable widow Ann Schreiner. Mrs. Schreiner gave the money, in memory of her son David, that resulted in the construction of a new and much larger public library. She was “high church” Congregationalist and her retiring husband, Bert, was Jewish and a good friend of Nubs. David Nathan Schreiner (1921-1945) was their only son. He played on the University of Wisconsin football team and was an All-American in 1941 and 1942. He joined the Marines in 1943 and was killed by a sniper in Okinawa on June 21, 1945, six weeks before the end of the war.

One summer evening in 1962 or 1963, I came out of the air-conditioned library into the steamy heat of August. Sitting on a park bench near the memorial plaque for Dave Schreiner was Nubs. Nubs liked to visit the library for books, but he didn't like to stay in the library for two reasons: First, Nubs hated air conditioning. He claimed it “wasn't healthy.” The second reason was...you guessed it...Nubs loved his Camel Unfiltered. With a cigarette dangling from his mouth and with his little portable ashtray nearby, Nubs was engrossed in an old book with a worn cover. When I sat down on the bench, Nubs commenced with a series of deep, hacking coughs. Before he finished, he handed me the book and gasped that I shouldn't lose his place. Then following coughing, curses, epithets, and some truly original references to the town mayor, Blackie Gandolph, Nubs began to tell me about the book.

The writer was the Italian socialist Ignazio Silone (1900-1978). The novel was *Bread and Wine*, written in 1936 and then revised in 1955. Set in Italy during the 1930s, the book tells the story of a revolutionary, Pietro Spina, who disguises himself as a country priest in order to escape from Mussolini's police who are looking for him. During his stint as a priest, Pietro the revolutionary has a new experience: instead of bringing to the poor peasants some doctrine of liberation from the outside, he begins, in his priestly role, to talk with the poor farmers about their lives, their fears, and their beliefs. He assumes the role, not of leader who points the way for the poor and uneducated, but rather of companion who walks with the poor rural workers and farmers as they try to discover how to build a new world. Years later, I would learn by reading Staughton Lynd's *Living Inside Our Hope* that this approach was called “accompaniment.” What does this mean for us today? Perhaps it strikes at the heart of the age-old question: are there ethical principles that are true through every period of human history? The Marxists and the post modernists among

us would answer “no,” believing that each society throws up its own belief system and therefore, all values are relative. For example, writing about the Berkeley Free Speech Movement of 1964, librarian Hal Draper, a sympathetic observer, commented that in ten years those who sat in at Sproul Hall would be living in the suburbs, raising two or three babies, voting Democratic, and wondering “what in the hell they were doing in Sproul Hall.” Nubs told me shortly before he died in 1968 that *Bread and Wine* is often viewed simply through the lens of politics: antifascists versus Mussolini. However, he said it was primarily a moral and religious novel about the frequently-asked but never satisfactorily answered question: how shall I live in order to be true to what I believe? I suppose this is a question that has faced many student activists since the 1960s. If the social activism of one's college years is to be viewed as something more than youthful eccentricity, what does one do in the years after graduation when there are no more demonstrations to attend?

Alice and Staughton Lynd faced this critical question a bit later in their lives. After the 1960s with its Civil Rights and anti-war activities, how did this activist couple seek to lead a life that would allow them, with some degree of integrity, to continue a relationship with working people, minorities, the poor or other “constituencies?” In their recent book, *Stepping Stones: Memoir of a Life Together*, the Lynds write about their decision to become lawyers so they would have a skill or expertise that they could offer to working people. Their second decision was to move from Chicago to the Youngstown-Niles area where there were workers and unions and a fight to prevent the shutdown of the steel mills. On this basis, they worked with small unions, rank-and-file dissident groups, unemployed workers, and prisoners. Their relationship with “the people” was “horizontal” rather than “vertical.” They “accompanied” ordinary working people in their struggles with employers, the courts, insurance companies, banks, or entrenched union officials. Not everyone can do what the Lynds have done. However, everyone concerned about issues of justice and empowerment can at least ask themselves the question: how can I live and work and yet remain true to what I believe? Living becomes less concerned with image, status, and power and more with building a sense of community with those we seek to help. It becomes less concerned with the acquisition of adult toys and more concerned with adult relationships. It becomes less concerned with bringing “profound” liberationist ideologies to the people and more concerned with working along side the people as they work to change their lives in concrete terms.

Let us return for a moment or two to the novel *Bread and Wine*. In our story, we have revolutionary Pietro Spina who is disguised as a simple country priest working with the poor peasants in a remote region of northern Italy during the 1930s. Here we see a stark contrast: Spina, the revolutionary, proclaims the importance of the revolutionary party.

Continued on page 4

FRIENDS'

CORNER

Special Collections Featured in Kent State University Museum Exhibition



Cleveland did not have an art museum in 1911 when a group of young commercial artists and lithographers banded together to form the Kokoon Arts Club. Seeking to explore the “New Art” in a setting that encouraged individual creativity rather than conformity to traditional art school traditions of critique, Club members quickly organized classes, lectures, sketching excursions, auctions, and exhibitions. Funds for these activities and for a clubhouse were raised through dues and, beginning in 1913, through an annual bal masque, a bohemian revel that by the 1920s attracted thousands of free-spirited Clevelanders.

“The Kokoon Arts Club: Cleveland Revels!” showcases the Kokoon Arts Club and Philip Kaplan papers housed in Special Collections and Archives. Annual bal masque themes reflecting Modernists’ focus on the new, the abstract, and the primitive, were conveyed on poster invitations, envelopes, and tickets. Decorations, music, guest performances and, of course, the revelers’ costumes together were to create “a living picture.”

The exhibition also features materials about the Club’s participation in Cleveland Artists’ Curb Markets from 1932 to 1934. Borrowing the idea from Parisian artists

who sold their paintings and prints in the streets of Montparnasse, the Kokooners and their colleagues sought to raise money for their clubs but also to aid members hit hard by the Great Depression.

The exhibition’s guest curator is Shirley Teresa Wajda, Department of History, and Head of Special Collections Cara Gilgenbach served as archival consultant to this project. The exhibition opened on March 19, 2009 and will be on display through February 28, 2010 in the Stager and Blum Galleries, Kent State University Museum. The Kent State University Museum is open Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.; Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8:45 p.m.; and Sunday from noon to 4:45 p.m. It is closed on Monday and Tuesday. The Museum is located in Rockwell Hall on the corner of East Main and South Lincoln Streets on the Kent State University campus.



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