

MISSOURI ALUMNUS

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1971

LIBRARY SCIENCE

Library Alumni Elect Officers

The Library Science Alumni Association voted at a meeting May 22 to join with the Alumni Association of the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Officers elected at the meeting were Trenton Boyd, president; Lila Bush, president elect; LaDonna Justice, secretary-treasurer; Sue McCollum, program committee chairman; Judy and Mark Meadows, nominating committee chairmen; Sylvia Oliver, publicity committee chairman; and Janina Silberman, editor of the newsletter.

The executive board will set the date for the annual meetings.

President Tells Group's History

"It became apparent after the ALA meeting in Detroit (1970) that there were enough graduates from the School to form an alumni organization," Trenton Boyd, president Library Science Alumni

Association, says.

"Dr. Ralph Parker suggested to the Library and Informational Science Graduate Student Association that they investigate the possibilities of organizing such a group.

"John Mertens, then president of the student association worked gathering information from other library alumni associations and from other University alumni associations.

"In October 1970, he met with Nancy Doyle, Sue McCollum and Richard Parker. They wrote a tentative set of bylaws and nominated a slate of officers.

"At this point the nominated officers took over and planned the combined organizational meeting and first annual meeting of the association," Boyd says.

As the bylaws indicate, the purposes of the association are:

1. To maintain contact, both professional and social, with fellow alumni.
2. To promote and encourage optimum standards in library science education.
3. To aid in recruitment of prospective librarians to fill the need.

Graduates Serve As MLA Leaders

Of the approximately 54 University of Missouri Library Science graduates still working in Missouri, twenty belong to the Missouri Library Association.

Positions of leadership in MLA are held by 11 graduates. Ladonna Justice, Daniel Boone Regional Library; Virginia Hollon, Boonslick Regional Library; and Sylvia Oliver, Little Dixie Regional Library, are all active on the MLA's public relations council. Mrs. Oliver is the secretary-treasurer. Mrs. Justice is also a member of the constitution and by-laws committee. Gary Parks, East Central Junior College and Lila Bush, Missouri Municipal League, are both members of MLA's legislative committee. Jolene Daugherty, Missouri State Library, is chairman of the adult education special committee. Eunice Mace, Waynesville Junior High, is president of the Missouri Association of School Librarians and Mary Louise Turner, Boonville

Training School for Boys, is chairman of the MASL publicity committee. Richard Parker, Boonslick Regional Library, is treasurer of MLA and both the previous executive secretary, Helen Kreight, now at Daniel Boone Regional Library, and Nancy Doyle, present executive secretary, are graduates.

Library Responds To Student Needs

The University library is making changes in response to a student sub-committee report regarding student attitudes toward the library.

Dr. Edward C. Carroll, director of libraries, said the library has placed typing areas throughout the library where students can bring their typewriters.

Carroll hopes student groups will donate typewriters for these areas which the library will keep in repair.

Outside the library, bicycle racks will be installed.

Changes were decided on after presentation of the student report at the April meeting of the University library committee.

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER?

1. Would you like more news, less news, or about the same amount of news about:

	More	Less	Same
Students	_____	_____	_____
Faculty, administration	_____	_____	_____
Research	_____	_____	_____
Placement	_____	_____	_____
Alumni activities	_____	_____	_____
Curriculum, teaching	_____	_____	_____
Continuing education, conferences, workshops	_____	_____	_____

2. Would you like the newsletter to contain (check one only)

More short, newsy items _____
or
More longer features _____

3. This newsletter contains news only about Library Science. Would you also like to know some of the news highlights from the other schools and colleges on campus?

Yes _____ No _____

4. Comments

School Tightens Admissions Policy

by Dean Ralph Parker

Any school is eventually judged by the quality of its graduates. The two most important ingredients are the quality of the students accepted and what happens to them in school. Good students poorly taught are no better than poor students. The quality of the instruction involves both the curriculum content and the teaching.

As the School of Library and Informational Science matures, it is seeking to obtain valid judgment of its program and to strengthen it in every way.

With the disappearance of the manpower shortage in libraries in the country (although there are still local pockets of shortage), the pressure to increase the number of active librarians has been largely removed. A decision was made to concentrate on improvement of the educational qualifications of those already in library positions and in the quality of new applicants. As the existence of the UMC school has become more widely known, the number of applicants has increased. Since enrollments must be held stable, procedures for selection of students had to be refined.

Performance in library school as related to undergraduate records and aptitude tests was studied. There is a significant correlation. Grade point average and aptitude test scores predict success.

A formula was developed by which each applicant was given a composite score. Those above a certain threshold were accepted immediately; those below a lower threshold were rejected immediately. The remainder, falling between the two, were held until approximately two months before the opening of the term. Selections were made until the vacancies were filled. Late applicants were accepted only to replace those who dropped out after acceptance.

The Graduate School has changed its criteria for admission. Previously any graduate of an accredited college could be admitted, but would have to meet the requirements of the specific department to become a candidate for a degree. The new policy states that a student must have a B average to be admitted to the Graduate School, but individual departments may accept applicants with lower averages.

The School of Library and Informational Science now requires the applicant to have a B average (3.0 on a 4 point scale) and make an acceptable score on the Miller Analogies Test. Those with less than the 3.0 average may be considered provided they have made outstanding scores on the Miller Analogies Test so long as there are vacancies. Judging on the basis of current applications, the prospects of acceptance of an applicant with less than 2.75 are quite small.

The University has been stressing the improvement of teaching quality and has encouraged student participation in the process. Last spring the Library

Science Graduate Students conducted a course evaluation project. The results of that evaluation are being studied.

Because the value of a course may not be immediately apparent to the student, the School has been sending a questionnaire to each graduate two years after graduation asking a number of questions about the program, inviting comments on specific courses as well as evaluations of his total preparation for librarianship.

Also, a questionnaire has been sent at approximately the same time to employers asking about the adequacy of the preparation and the growth of the staff member. The results of this evaluation are being studied in relation to the academic record of the individual in library science.

Alumnus to Print Library Newsletter

This is the first newsletter of the Library and Informational Science Alumni since affiliation with the University of Missouri Alumni Association.

Library news will be published by The Alumnus.

At present, the policy is to publish a newsletter twice a year for alumni associations having fewer than 100 members. News from alumni about jobs, family growth, promotions, and publications will appear in the Class Notes section of The Alumnus. Information may be sent to Janina Silberman, 1012 Hickory Hill Drive, Columbia or to The Alumnus, Class Notes, 305 Jesse Hall, Columbia, Mo., 65201.

Honorary Initiates 24 Charter Members

On May 31, 1971, twenty-four students and graduates of the School of Library and Informational Science were initiated as charter members of the Psi Chapter of Beta Phi Mu, international library science scholastic honorary. Mr. Dale Bentz, associate director of libraries, University of Iowa, installed the chapter and initiated the new members.

Nomination to Beta Phi Mu is based on a 3.5 scholastic average with over fifty percent of course work completed, or the same scholastic average for the entire program.

Those who were initiated were Reba Anderson, Ruth Vette Bell, Nancy Marie Doyle, Joan Brooks Goddard, Mildred B. Grant, Larry Harrelson, Lynn B. Haseman, Elizabeth Ireland, Kathryn B. Jennings, Shirley Kidwell, John Kopper, Mary Margaret Luse, Marguerite Mitchel, Christy B. McCrary, Robert Nador, Julia Ramsel, Nanette R. Sargent, Janina Silberman, Anne Tompkins, Philip Tompkins, Katharine Wall, Deborah Young, Marna Jo Young, and Susan Zappen.

Another group was initiated July 31 at a dinner at the Ramada Inn in Columbia.

Dr. Charles W. Sargent, associate professor, is the chapter sponsor.

Beta Phi Mu was founded in 1948 at the University of Illinois. Over 6,000 library graduates have been initiated in the United States, Canada, and the British Isles.

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