UNIVERSITY LIBRARY COMMITTEE
ANNUAL REPORT, 1994-95

Committee members: Norman Lasca, Chair; Alexandra Dimitroff, Karen Jackson (Alumni Representative), Janet Jesmok (Academic Staff), Edith Moravcsik, N. Papastamatiou, David Schultz, Winston Van Horne

Ex-officio: George Keulks, John Schroeder, Peter Watson-Boone

Student: Marcia Deignan

The University Library Committee met three times in 1994-95. The Committee:

1. Discussed a letter from the Chair of the History Department to the Chair of the Library Evaluation Committee proposing establishment of a Library Representative Committee and concluded that the University Library Committee and the Departmental liaisons are the appropriate channels for communication between the library and UWM's academic departments.

2. Reviewed and critiqued the library's Budget Planning Document for 1995-96 and emphasized the need for funding for acquisitions, especially serials, thus reaffirming their memorandum to the Chancellor and Provost/Vice Chancellor on May 25 and December 21, 1993 on increasing the library acquisitions budget.

3. Discussed the Audit and Review Committee Report (Five-Year Program Review) for the Golda Meir Library. (See below.)

4. Continued a review of interlibrary loan procedures and costs. (See below.)

5. Discussed the status of serials subscriptions and the improved balance of expenditures between serials and monographs.

6. Discussed the status of assignments of library space to non-library users, the library's plan for expanded media services, and the library's overall space needs in anticipation of collection growth and program requirements. (See below.)

7. Discussed possible solutions to problems created when library copy machines break down. (The library Business Office subsequently negotiated major service improvements.)

8. Discussed a proposal in the Governor's budget plan to remove over $400,000 from the UW budget in each year of the next biennium and allocate the funds to the State Historical Society; agreed to monitor the situation.

9. Reaffirmed the current policy that the library should have a Special Collections containing rare materials that do not circulate.

The Committee took the following actions:

1. Wrote to the Chancellor and Provost/Vice Chancellor on 21 December 1994 expressing concern with the encroachment upon library space by non-library users and strongly endorsing the library's plan for expanded Media Services.

2. Recommended that the Middle East map collection be named the Nebenzahl Collection, contingent on Nebenzahl's proposed gift of $25,000 over a 5-year period.
3. Agreed by consensus that the Chair and the Library Director should write the faculty suggesting a "working guideline" of 50 ILL transactions per semester per user and use of local services whenever possible in order to reduce the high costs of ILL. Faculty will be asked to to inform graduate students of these guidelines.

4. Moved that the Chair write to the Chancellor and UW System officials endorsing the Five-Year Review recommendations, specifically urging prompt consideration and funding for Recommendation 2 ($600,000 plus appropriate inflationary offset to be added to the Library's base budget for collection development, predominantly serials) and Recommendation 7 (initiation of planning for future needs of the collection and Stage IV of the building's expansion).

5. Reviewed and approved a revision of the library's Mission Statement and Long-term Goals by the library's Strategic Planning Committee. (Attached)

The Committee received reports from the Director on the following:

1. A base budget increase in acquisitions of $125,000, effected in large part through efforts of the University Library Committee.

2. A 2-day joint meeting of the Council of University of Wisconsin Librarians (CUWL) and other inter-System groups, organized by the Golda Meir Library and held in September 1994.

3. A year-long trial of direct reciprocal borrowing between all UW-System campuses.

4. A UW System grant for $21,000 to fund electronic document delivery and partially offset the effects of serials cancellations.


6. Effects of the Fall, 1994 hiring freeze on vacant positions.


10. A visit by the North Central Association accreditation team on 17 April 1995.

11. Ongoing discussions with the UW System and UWM concerning support of start-up costs of a new automated system.

Attachment
Mission Statement

The mission of the Golda Meir Library is to provide an organized and accessible collection of relevant research and instructional materials, access to remote sources of information and data, and the physical and human resources required to satisfy the information needs of the university and urban communities, in support of the mission of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, as a Research II institution.

Long-term Goals

Fulfilling this mission requires the pursuit of the following goals:

I. Information resources: The Library will maintain, enlarge and make accessible its informational and research resources. The Library will assume the leadership role of providing access and guidance to, and instruction in, the increasingly complex world of networked and electronic information resources.

II. Human resources: The Library will recruit and retain a competent and skilled work force of librarians and support staff members to maintain, to develop, to provide expertise, and to access and interpret the Library's collections and other information resources available through the Library.

III. Client-centered service: The Library will support the teaching, research and service mission of the University through services primarily to undergraduate and graduate students, faculty and staff, and secondarily to the community at large; access to, and support for using, any appropriate materials regardless of format or physical location; instruction in the use of library and information resources; and extended assistance to UWM’s user community through a variety of cooperative activities and resource-sharing programs.

IV. Environment: The Library will make every reasonable effort to provide the appropriate physical environment and technical facilities to maximize access to and use of informational sources and research tools, local and remote, in existing and emerging formats.

Annual goals are submitted as part of the budget planning process.

Approved by the University Library Committee, May 1995.