ANNUAL REPORT OF THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE

The Library Committee, by Faculty action, has been given a broad mandate "to represent the interest and authority of the Faculty in library affairs." In the first full year of its activities the Committee sought to define the faculty viewpoint on library policies for the Librarian and his staff, and to express to the University administration in Milwaukee and Madison the needs of the library.

In the first area, the Committee advised the Librarian on the use of the Kenwood and Downtown libraries (including the allocation of books between them), loans of periodicals to the Faculty, the consolidation and expansion of the periodical collections, reference needs, interlibrary loans and participation in the Midwest Inter-Library Center, a policy for gifts, provisions of special facilities for faculty research, and priorities in book buying. The Committee and the Librarian cooperated in estimating the building and book needs of the UW-M library during the next decade. Finally, the Committee initiated discussions with the Librarian of the city of Milwaukee regarding extension of the use of the important collections of the Milwaukee Public Library to the UW-M.

A special book fund of $15,000 for filling the gaps in the library collection was obtained from the President of the University after representations initiated by the Committee and supported by the UW-M administration and the University Librarian and Library Committee. Academic departments were encouraged to prepare lists of books to fill most urgently needed undergraduate teaching requirements, and on their advice purchases are now being made from these funds. This precedent of special appropriation, we believe, should be followed annually by the University as long as it can be demonstrated that the UW-M book needs are not being met adequately by the library's current capital budget. This practice will enable the library to fill in gaps gradually. In addition, the annual operating capital budget must be substantially increased. For the capital budget for the next biennium, the Committee has recommended a minimum annual expenditure of $100,000.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE:

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