

**COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY****SPECIAL REPORT ON THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN****To Academic Senate, Santa Cruz Division:**

Our Senate colleague Allan Dyson retires at the end of July, after 24 years working as University Librarian. Lan led the planning, design and implementation of a world class Science & Engineering Library, and a major expansion of the McHenry Library is just about to start. He also initiated Cruzcat and led the expansion of the Library endowment. His commitment to hiring, and retaining, the best Librarians and other staff, and his dedication to improving the services provided by the library, have made the smallest campus library in the UC system arguably the most effective one.

**Before coming to UCSC**

Lan served as Head Librarian at the Moffitt Undergraduate Library, University of California, Berkeley, from September 1971 through July 1979. While there, he gained experience in planning and organizing library operations, including expanding library instruction services for undergraduates, as well as involving a diverse group of staff in policy making. Lan Dyson fostered a management climate that made Moffitt Library well known for its high staff morale and productivity. Lan was appointed University Librarian at the UC Santa Cruz in August 1979.

**Lan's Philosophy of Service**

Lan's approach has been to emphasize service, availability, and access – “it may be less, but at least you'd know what we do have, it will be particularly relevant to this campus's instruction and research, it will be quickly available or retrievable, we'll teach you how to get at it and when we don't have it, we'll get it from someplace else faster and cheaper (for the user) than most other campuses will.”

**Accomplishments**

The current Science and Engineering Library was completed in May 1991 and has received almost universal praise from users and architects. Lan played a much more hands-on role in its planning and construction than is usual for a chief librarian, both chairing the Building Committee and attending practically every construction meeting. The library was designed with a good deal of faculty, library staff and student input. Lan believed that you could have a building that serves user needs and still win architectural awards. So with that and the agreement of the Architect, Charles Davis, the library was built from the inside out. The library has won awards from the American Institute of Architects, the American Library Association and other groups just to name a few. Years later, there is still relatively little that would be done to change in the building's design.

**Resources**

In the early 90's, fund raising became an important priority as it became apparent that State funding for library collections would never be sufficient to meet a growing campus's information needs. This required Lan to reinvent his job and he took the initiative to partner with University

Relations to develop and implement a significantly expanded fundraising effort with the full endorsement of the University Relations.

The initial priority for library fundraising has been to establish a permanent collection endowment to complement state funds and provide a buffer against declining state support. To date the Library Development Staff has secured over 60 individual "library subject endowments" with a total value of over \$2 million generating approximately \$100,000 in annual income for library materials.

### **The McHenry Addition and Renovation**

After reaching Academic Senate and administration agreement on the critical need for the addition, the campus appointed Lan as Chair of the programming committee for the addition and renovation of the McHenry Library. With the assistance of consultants and an architectural firm, a "Detailed Project Program" was produced in 1995. However, about the same time, the recession caused a near stoppage in system wide budgeting for new buildings. Lan had to change direction in order to recapture the initiative and not waste the valuable energy put into the planning of the McHenry addition. He reconceptualized the project, with the TEAM Center, the McHenry Library Technology, Electronic Access and Media Center for information in the social sciences, humanities and arts as the core of the addition. This rethinking got the plan back into the system-wide five-year capital plan.

### **Automation**

In 1991, the library began a complex process of automating all internal processes. It was decided that the library needed one unified system, to handle everything from the order for a book, through receipt, payment, cataloging, labeling and circulation, and that could also serve as the public "face". So in 1993 the INNOPAC system, locally called CRUZCAT was chosen and by 1995 the complete system was in place. An article in the NY Times singled out the UCSC Library Web page and catalog for special praise.

### **In sum**

Allan Dyson has given 24 years of highly productive and effective service as University Librarian at UCSC. The Committee on the Library proposes that the Senate take notice of this service and give its thanks to Lan Dyson.

Respectfully Submitted;

COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY

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