

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

S.79-121

MEMORANDUM

To SENATE

From SENATE LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Subject ANNUAL REPORT - FOR INFORMATION

Date NOVEMBER 20, 1979

MEMORANDUM

To..... H.M. Evans
Secretary of Senate
Registrar's Office.....
Subject..... ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENATE
LIBRARY COMMITTEE-1978/79

From..... Philip Stigger
Chairman
Senate Library Committee.....
Date..... October 23, 1979.....

Attached please find the 1978/79 Annual Report of the Senate Library Committee for presentation to Senate.

PS/cmfd
att.

cc: Members, Senate Library
Committee

Handwritten signatures and initials, including "P. Stigger" and "199w".

RECEIVED

OCT 25 1979

REGISTRAR'S OFFICE
MAIL DESK

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
SENATE LIBRARY COMMITTEE
1978/79

The Senate Library Committee met on December 7, 1978 and July 5, 1979 - no meeting took place in the Spring Semester, 1979, because pressure of work, on Librarians during the industrial dispute and on Faculty immediately after the dispute terminated, made it impossible to assemble a viable quorum.

A number of matters, carried over from last year, continued to exercise the Committee. These included revisions to the Loans' policy, to facilitate maximum access to and use of the collections; the mounting of a trial serials' survey, to ensure both that serials essential to the work of the University community are obtained and that limited funds are not expended on items which are otherwise available for limited use and an attempt to identify a viable means of ensuring that Library materials are available to support new ventures by the University or by specific departments through an effective collections' evaluation procedure.

Less recurrent items included the circulation of negative bibliographies to indicate more clearly the impact of restricted budgets on Library purchases; the 'savings' to

.....continued/2

be anticipated by changing from one monograph vendor to another in respect of the approvals plan; the implementation, and implications for Simon Fraser University, of the British Columbia Union Catalogue; changes in the organization of the Library; and the disposal of undesignated gift funds.

The unifying factor between the recurrent and irregular topics discussed may be identified as "the adequacy of the Library budget". The funds available to the Library - or rather, the lack of funds - has limited the options available in all matters discussed, from Loans' policy to serials, negative bibliographies and approvals' plan changes.

The concerns, which conditioned the discussions over the above items, emerged clearly when the 1979/80 Library Budget was examined at the meeting on July 5, 1979. It became clear that the funds then authorized would allow current serials' subscriptions and the approvals' plan for current monograph purchases to be maintained only by further support staff reductions and the virtual elimination of purchases of retrospective monographs. It was thus soon apparent that there was to be no amelioration of the restrictions imposed on new serials' subscriptions three years ago; that new monographs beyond the somewhat basic purchases arranged through the approvals' plan could not be made; and that no monographs published before 1979 could be purchased.

In these circumstances, the Senate Library Committee felt it was necessary to advise the Chairmen of Senate, of the Senate Committees on Academic Planning and the University Budget, and the Deans of its opinion that the budget was inadequate.

The problem may be stated simply.

The Senate Library Committee has attempted to ensure that the funds available to the Library over the years have been expended in a manner which will enable the University to achieve its perceived goals. In the three financial years prior to 1979-80, the Committee has tried to maintain momentum despite serious financial constraints. The Committee now concludes either that adequate funds must be made available to the Library to enable the University to stand some chance of achieving the University's goals or that those goals must be radically revised and curtailed.

In essence, academic excellence involves much larger expenditure on Library materials and a higher staff ratio than is currently possible.

The decline in staff positions since 1970/71 is indicated on graph 1 attached. The expenditure over the same period on salaries (despite the reductions), on overall acquisitions, serials and monographs is demonstrated on graph 2, while the changing relationship between these key elements is demonstrated on graph 3.

It should be borne in mind that total student FTE enrolment rose from 6,281 in 1974 to 8,394 in 1979, while Faculty increased from 356 to 457 over the same period.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Stigger". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

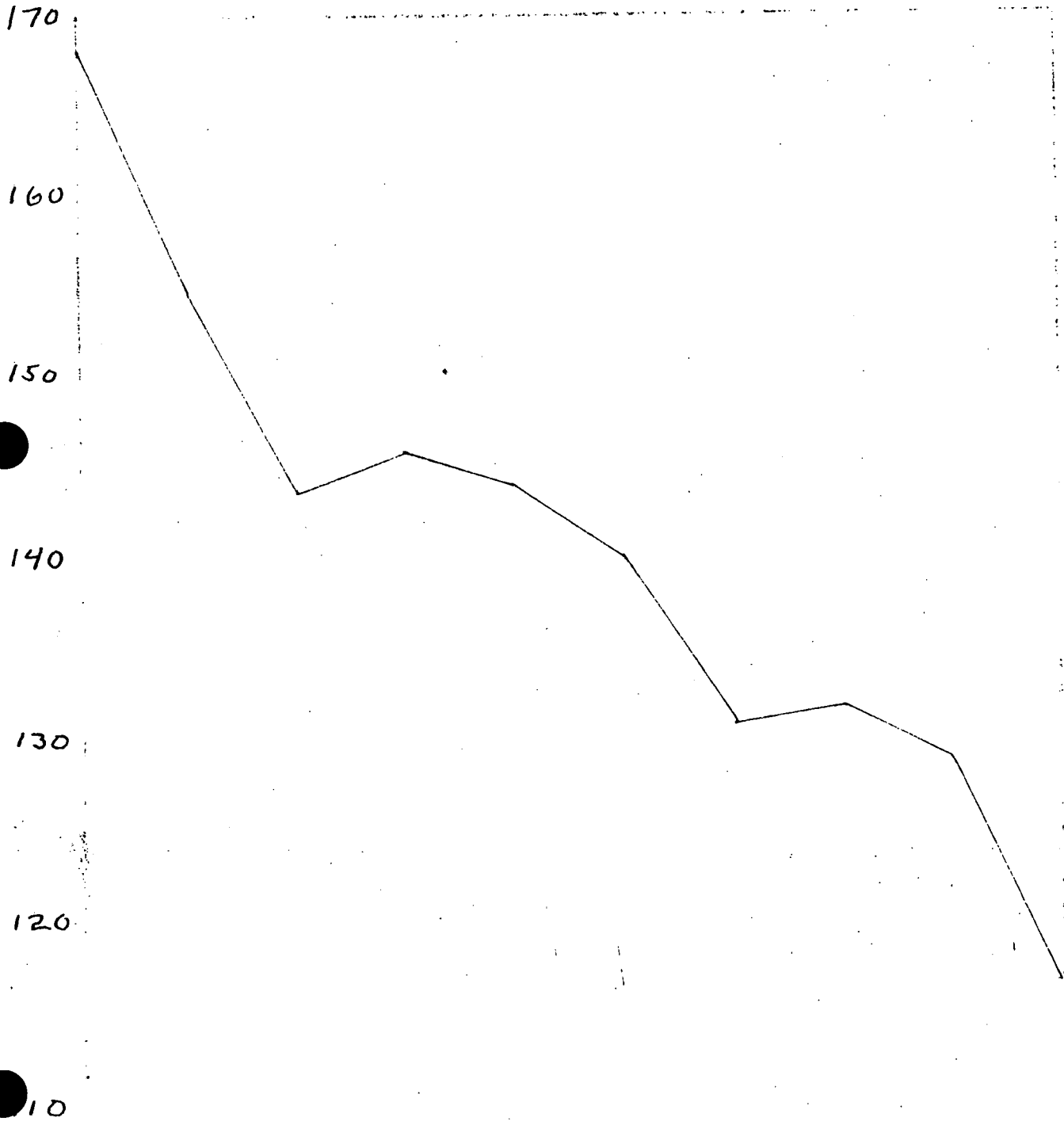
P. Stigger
Chairman
Senate Library Committee

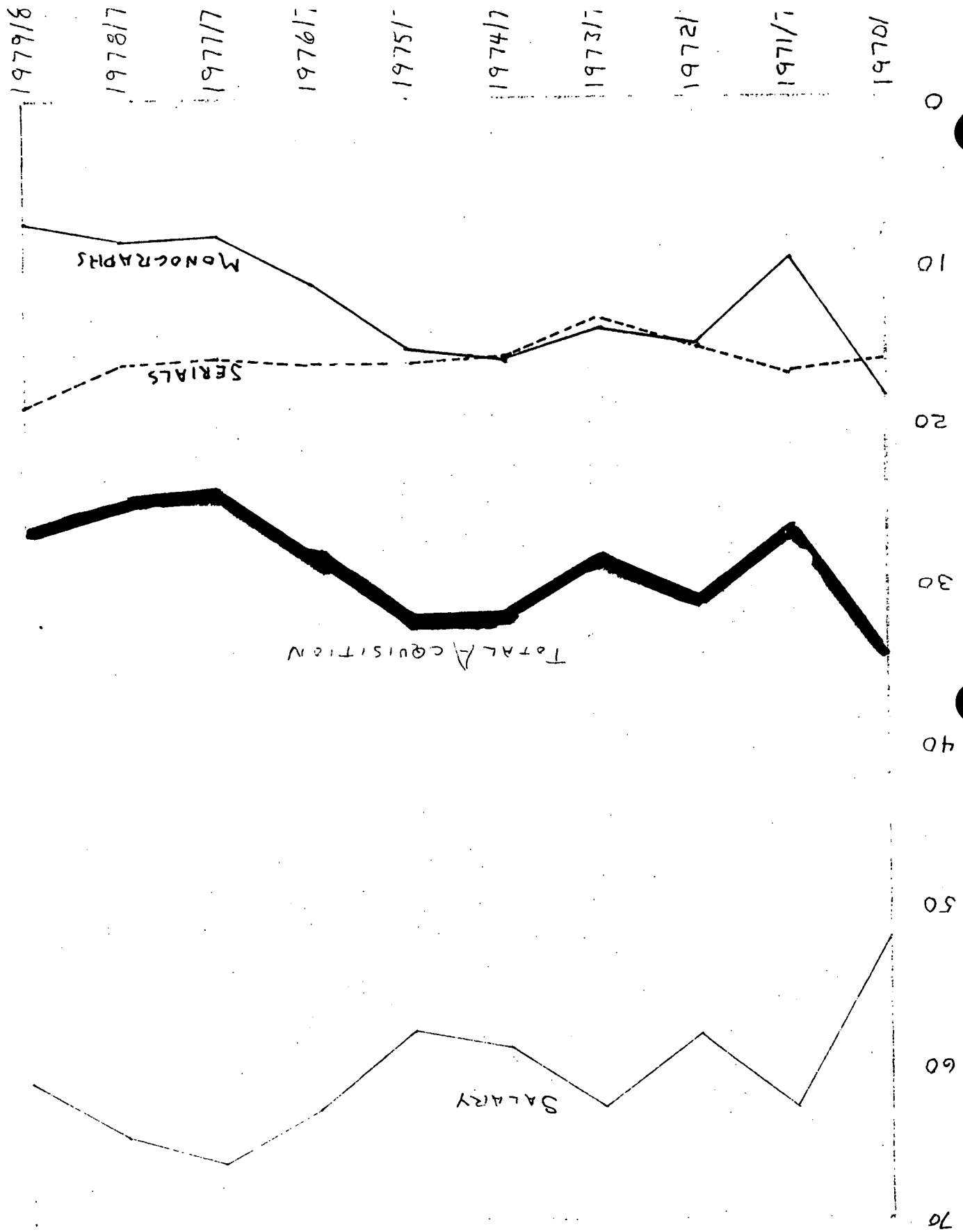
PS/cmfd

October 17, 1979

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NUMBER OF LIBRARY STAFF - 1970-71 TO 1979/80





1/2
% OF TOTAL BUDGET
TO LIBRARY

131
 ANNUAL PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN KEY FACTORS
 INDEX Nos. (1970=100)

