SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

FOR INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM

S.80-133

To: H.D. Nagel ✓
Director
Secretariat & Office Services

From: P. Stigger
Chairman
Senate Library Committee

Subject: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENATE LIBRARY COMMITTEE-1979/80

Date: September 30, 1980

Attached please find the 1979/80 Annual Report of the Senate Library Committee for presentation to Senate.

per P. Stigger

PS/cmfd
att.

cc: Members, Senate Library Committee

Registrar's Note: - The Senate Committee on Agenda and Rules, in its role as Committee on Committees will review specific recommendations on restructuring and on the membership interrelationships in the Library Committees, and then submit its recommendations to Senate for action. It is intended that this topic be on the December Agenda

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENATE LIBRARY COMMITTEE 1979/80

The Committee met on three occasions during the year, when it considered, among other matters, revisions to the Loans Policy, evaluation of the collections, low-use storage, the B.C. Union Catalogue, undesignated gift funds and Library hours over public holidays.

Four issues attracted particular attention:

The first was the composition of the Library Penalties' Appeal Committee. This Committee at present consists of some members elected by and from the Senate Library Committee and others nominated by and from the Student Society. Since the terms of office vary, and since S.L.C. and student members also tend to leave Vancouver for extended periods, extreme difficulty has been experienced in gathering a representative group to hear appeals. Also, although the Ombudsperson has been invited to attend over the last five years, and the occupant of that office has consistently assisted the Committee, the Ombudsperson is currently present only by invitation. In the view of the Senate Library Committee, appeals might be heard more expeditiously if the members elected to the Senate Library Committee from Senate and from the four Faculties were all automatically

.....continued/2

members of the Library Penalties' Appeal Committee, and it would be advantageous to the latter committee if the Ombudsperson was a non-voting ex-officio member.

The S.L.C. therefore strongly supports the views of the L.P.A.C.

The second was the Serials Survey. As Library budgets have contracted, attempts have been made to ensure that the Serials' collections reflect University needs. This involved consultations with faculty over serials' cancellations initially, and then the introduction of a quid pro quo system requiring cancellations to the value of new orders. Both approaches were not entirely satisfactory, so the decision was made to survey the collections by disciplines in association with the faculty involved. Although this latter system appeared likely to be fruitful in the first stages of a pilot project, it has become apparent that no worthwhile results can be achieved, partly because not all faculty are prepared to participate and partly because the results do not justify the costs involved.

These surveys are therefore being discontinued.

The third was 'out-of'house', or informal, Library collections not under the control of the University Librarian. As a result of enquiries made over the last year, it has become apparent, in the view of the Committee, that funds are being diverted to the detriment of the University collections and the maintenance of the quality of those collections and to the

.....continued/3

detriment, also, of those entitled to use the University Library. This matter has been referred to the Vice President (Academic).

This is related to the fourth and vital issue, namely: the adequacy of the funding available to the University Library. This was the subject of a special meeting of the Committee on December 13, 1979, which is reflected in Senate Paper S80-12B. This and other discussions led to additional funds being made available to the Library which could not be spent in 1979/80. Funds have therefore been carried over into 1980/81 so that the monographs' purchases in the current year should achieve the minimum level necessary to maintain the quality of those collections for the first time in several years. However, unless the budget is maintained in 1981/82 and thereafter, quality overall can be expected to deteriorate rapidly, especially in view of the attrition in the 1970s.

P. Stigger, Chairman
Senate Library Committee

PS/cmfd
September 30,1980

LIBRARY PENALTIES' APPEALS COMMITTEE: REPORT 1979 - 1980.

The Committee met on December 7, 1979, February 11, 1980 and July 24, 1980. Its business consisted of hearing patrons who wished to appeal Library Fines and deciding whether to allow or reject their appeals.

	Heard	Allowed	Rejected	Postponed
December 7, 1979	17	0	16	1
February 11, 1980	10	3	7	0
July 24, 1980	20	8	11	1

Fifteen cases are now pending.

Cases are not being heard as expeditiously as they ought to be because it has proved difficult to assemble a representative group to hear appeals, partly because terms of office of those elected and those nominated do not coincide and partly because members all tend to leave Vancouver for extended periods.

The Committee considered this matter on July 24, 1980 and concluded that the position would be eased if all elected members of the Senate Library Committee were automatically members of this Committee. This would mean that it would not be necessary for the Senate Library Committee to meet and elect some of its members to the Library Penalties' Appeal Committee before appellants could be notified of the date upon which any appeal would be heard.

Student members agreed that they would refer the question of expediting the nomination of members to the Student Society for its consideration.

All members present also agreed that, whether or not it was possible to adjust the membership of the Committee, it was desirable

that the Ombudsperson, whose comments over the last five years have been extremely useful to the Committee, should be an ex-officio non-voting member of the Committee.

The questions of the elected voting membership of the Committee and of non-voting membership by the Ombudsperson are accordingly respectfully referred to Senate.

P. Stigger,
Member
Library Penalties Appeal Committee
30 September, 1980