Acquisitions

Jean Dickman ordered, tracked, received and paid for over $530,000 worth of library materials during this fiscal year: nearly $120,000 was spent on monographs, DVDs, CDs and other single items. Over $193,301 was spent on serials and over $218,000 on electronic resources. This included nearly $3,000 spent on items that originated as interlibrary loan requests, many of which were ordered by Kathy Buzza after consultation with Jean. In addition to ordering materials for the library collection Jean also ordered supplies, managed payments and charges for the library copy machines and kept a careful eye on the library budget.

Cataloging

The quantity of new titles and volumes cataloged and added to our collection was similar to that of recent years. We added 3391 titles & 4744 volumes and we withdrew 1063 titles & 1814 volumes. After a few years of large withdrawal projects this year's smaller number resulted in a slight increase in our overall volumes. On May 31, 2008 we had 329,949 total volumes, up from 327,019 on May 31, 2007. Rene Donlan continued to provide highly accurate and timely cataloging of both new acquisitions and older items in need of more complete cataloging. We purchased a catalog enrichment product from Syndetics that supplies table-of-contents, jacket images and selected reviews for many of the books in our collection which relieved some pressure to manually add some of this information. We added nearly 10,000 MARC records to our catalog, purchased from Serials Solutions, to increase access to our online journal holdings. We also continued to experiment with adding links to online full-text versions of some of our books that are available through the Google Book Search catalog.

Serials/Periodicals

Martha Davis continued to order, track, check-in and claim missing issues of over 800 titles and she was instrumental in assisting Germano Streeese in the final stage of his reference collection review project, which included many serial titles. Martha also very capably managed our leisure reading selection process.
Interlibrary Loan

Kathy Buzza and her excellent student employees processed 5,978 ILL transactions during the year. This was a drop of 7.3% compared to the previous year. Even though we saw increases in books borrowed (+6%) and books lent (+3.5%), we experienced a 25% drop in the number of articles requested and a 17% drop in the number of articles provided. We also saw 32% fewer media rentals. Our document delivery activity was stable.

Specifically, we loaned 1656 books and sent 721 articles and we borrowed 2096 books and received 1505 copies of articles during the year. We rented 30 media items and chose to purchase 58 items that came to our attention as ILL requests. We also paid copyright fees to purchase 21 items at an average cost of $23.98.

Our service continued to be excellent by any measure. Our average turnaround time to fill an ILL request from another library was .79 days and our time to "unfill" a request was .59 days. Our turnaround time to receive an ILL request generated by one of our patrons was 5.48 days.

We failed to make progress in implementing the Odyssey component of the ILLiad software during the year and this may have been a factor in our trend of fewer article requests. It may also be that more and more libraries are purchasing access to many of the same article databases that we have been using for years and thus have less need to borrow articles from other libraries. We also took the step of having the Innovative Interfaces ILL module removed from our system, a significant savings in maintenance costs.

Circulation

Overall circulation of library materials showed a small increase over the previous year rising from 50,071 to 51,867. This included a significant increase in DVD use, up to 7,553 from the previous 6,422. Renewals also showed a large increase, from 12,006 to 14,911 and the building gate count was up by 5,000 visits to 51,867.

Use of print reserves continued to decline, down to 7,048 from 8,388 in the previous year. This is good evidence of the success of our emphasis on electronic reserves and the use of Katie as the prime delivery source for this kind of material. Leisure reading use increased somewhat, hopefully in response to our increase in the number of items and our more careful attention to college campus best seller lists.

The circulation desk also continued handling a wide range of equipment including the very popular laptop computers, digital video cameras, external hard drives and a decreasing number of hubs for dorm use. Eddy Atwell also was responsible for the library's annual book sale in
April. He handled publicity, worked with out of town dealers, set up the sale and tracked the proceeds (over $2700).

At the end of every summer's shelf-reading project a list of lost books is compiled. In September 2007 that list contained 81 titles, down from 112 the previous year.

**Collection Development**

All of the librarians, as usual, actively participated in developing the collection. We each managed the departmental collection development allocations for our liaison departments and we each contributed our expertise in recommending purchases in more general areas. We made good use of the additional $10,000 that was generously allocated to us from the Paideia endowment. At year’s end we once again improved our DVD collection by asking for recommendations from the entire LIS staff.

**MUSTY**

All of the librarians continued work on reviewing portions of the collection in their liaison areas and withdrawing select items. Many of the 1374 monographic volumes withdrawn this year were a result of this activity.

**Electronic Resources**

[See Andi's report for this information.]

**Reference Reduction Project**

Germano Streese managed a review of one half of our print reference collection, call numbers J-Z. All the librarians participated in reviewing these titles at a rate of 70 titles per week.

844 titles were reviewed. 355 were withdrawn and 296 continued to be shelved in the reference collection. 151 titles were moved into the main stacks and 19 were moved to the depot. 13 new editions were purchased. This resulted in a savings of 160 linear feet of shelf space or 53.5 shelves.
This project will continue in the coming year with a review of call numbers A-H.

**Innovative Interfaces catalog and research enhancements**

We went a long way towards improving our online catalog and positioning it to better support our research mission.

We purchased the Syndetics catalog enrichment product and we added MARC records for our online journals from Serials Solutions. We upgraded our standard III webpac to "webpac pro" status and we purchased the web opac refresher service from III to bring our aging webpac a new look with many new features. All of these improvements were a prelude to the installation of Encore, III's new discovery platform, that went live for us on March 20.

In the coming year we will integrate the Research Pro metasearch product into Magnus and Encore and go public with these new capabilities.

**Department name change**

After many months of negotiations and review by various campus bodies the faculty was informed at the May 20 faculty meeting that the Library Department will now be known as the Library and Information Studies Department.