



University Library Development in Indiana, 1910 to 1966

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THE WORD IN INDIANA IS "COMPLEMENTARY." This is the one word best describing the operational relationships of the two older state universities. The complementary concept dates in practice from the beginning of the century and, although there have been periods of tension, these are safely historical today except in the single area of sports. It is, however, not a static idea. A time of change may be in prospect with the current development of the former teachers' colleges, Ball State and Indiana State at Muncie and Terre Haute, into full-fledged universities.

It has been traditional to think of Indiana University as devoted to the liberal arts and to professional studies in medicine and law. Purdue has emphasized engineering, agriculture and the applied sciences. But this picture is too sharply black and white, since the real situation is considerably more blurred. Indiana University has, for example, the responsibility of the State Geologist's Office, and has a strong chemistry department, with eminently suitable library resources to serve them. Purdue has outstanding Schools of Pharmacy and Pharmacal Sciences, of Veterinary Science and Medicine, and a Department of Nursing; abetted by the Biological Sciences Department, these have led to the development of a collection of more than 25,000 volumes classified under the specific and narrow rubric of medicine alone (i.e., the 610's in the Dewey classification).

Nevertheless, University administrations, state officials and legislators all agree, for the most part, on basic complementary educational operations, countenancing no undue competition or duplication. In

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some areas, such as Education, seeming duplication has been permitted, but actually this has meant supplementation. Indiana University has long had a strong Division of Education, while Ball State and Indiana State have until recently been "teachers' colleges." Until the 'fifties, Purdue stressed only secondary education, notably for vocational agriculture, home economics, and science teachers. But in recent years the need for teachers to staff Indiana schools has been so great that for some time Purdue has been developing curricula for all the major areas of education, and has been encouraged to do so.

Although from the beginning of the century Indiana University and Purdue have informally observed academic areas and programs pre-empted by each, it was in 1949 that the General Assembly, facing the increased costs of the World War II veterans' enrollments, first mandated the four state schools (Indiana, Purdue, Ball State and Indiana State) to make a joint biennial budget presentation and request for higher education. The intent, of course, was to eliminate elements of rivalry, separate lobbies, and other pressures on the legislators. Accordingly since the 'fifties, the techniques of preparing budgets have required each of the four schools to recognize the programs and proposals of the others. Joint studies of student costs, space utilization, and expanding programs have been undertaken.

Officialdom in Indiana state government expects joint operation within the schools. The most extensive current joint endeavor of Purdue and Indiana Universities has been the preparation and submission of the report designed to win for the state the \$300,000,000 Atomic Energy Commission research facility to be constructed in 1968 or shortly thereafter. The governor requested this assistance almost as a matter of course; the request and the subsequent report exemplified the cooperation and good will that exist among and between Indiana's state agencies, administrative and academic. Another example of inter-university cooperation and of state-wide citizens' confidence in their universities is the program of regional campuses now maturing throughout Indiana. With no intent to hinder any local community colleges if these can serve the purpose, the two state universities have established nine regional campuses or centers giving two-year and in some cases four-year collegiate work. These are located all over the state, Indiana University having five and Purdue three, with a campus at Fort Wayne administered jointly.

The administrations of both Indiana University and Purdue have expected their library officers to understand the state climate de-

scribed above, and to handle their varied library activities in accord with it. There have been, however, no directives or formal memoranda to either of the library directors on such matters. It has been up to them to clear with each other and to co-ordinate collecting as appropriate. Over the years each director and the respective staffs have observed in general the progress of both libraries and have been guided accordingly.

The principal concern at both universities has been the development of needed research collections. An account of the individual ways in which this common purpose has been achieved comprises the body of this text.

To summarize the climate in this state for higher education and its effect on the state universities, it is fair to say that the citizens of Indiana have adequately supported their public educational institutions and expect high-quality educational facilities for their sons and daughters. To achieve this they have given general direction but also considerable latitude to the institutions charged with these responsibilities. This has resulted in stable academic administrations which have been enabled accordingly to rise to expressed or implicit educational needs of the state with considerable individuality and fruitful freedom in the determination of organization, methods and pace.

Indiana University

A review of research collections at Indiana University reveals that their development was a combination of the three B's—basic plan, backing, and bonanza. The basic plan consisted of a series of decisions on scope and the acceptance of initiative and responsibility by the library staff for building the collections. Backing was found in the consistent financial and moral support of Herman B Wells, President of the University from 1937 to 1962, and Chancellor since 1962. The bonanzas were unexpected gifts which confirmed the basic plan while adding broader dimensions to it.

The basic plan emerged from a series of decisions made jointly by library directors, the library committee and academic departments. In 1942 the science departments and professional schools emphasized their need for current working libraries rather than for retrospective collections in depth. The decision to concentrate on the improvement of the working collections recognized indirectly the areas of specialization which might be developed in depth by Purdue. During the past

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twenty-five years, the general collections and working libraries at Indiana have been enlarged and improved, but the measures and procedures whereby improvement was secured will not be reported in this account. In 1942, the humanities and social sciences requested the aid of the Library in the creation of research collections (retrospective and in depth) to serve their graduate and research programs. How these special collections were sought and secured, and how they are being completed will be reported briefly in this paper.

The base upon which working or special collections rest in any research library is the general or reference collection. During the 1940's, Indiana, with the cooperation of neighboring libraries, undertook to share its responsibility for certain basic materials, and physically relocated parts of its collection. The coverage of Indiana newspapers was reviewed with the Indiana State Library, and the University Library selected a few for permanent preservation, the State Library continuing to acquire the larger part. With the establishment of the Midwest Interlibrary Center, Indiana reviewed its need for state documents, selected a limited number of states for complete acquisition, and relied upon MILC to acquire all other states. Decisions on foreign and domestic newspaper coverage were governed by the availability of titles in the national pools. Foreign dissertations were sent to MILC and eliminated from the exchange and purchase programs. A number of series in microfilm were purchased on shares with other libraries and housed in MILC. Federal documents in agriculture were not acquired because Purdue secured them.

The responsibility for initiating these decisions, and for following through on acquisition programs, was assumed by the library staff in 1942 when R. A. Miller and C. K. Byrd came to Indiana. With two exceptions in the intervening years and up to the present, the research collections at Indiana have been built up by the library staff. This has meant that, over the years, a great deal of the time of library administrators, including D. A. Randall, rare book librarian, has been invested in seeking, examining and deciding on special collections and materials. Money has been spent in travel, talk, and entertainment. Responsibility for acquisition has been shared by many members of the library staff, especially by the subject librarians who have filled in lacunae and strengthened the collections in bibliographical and reference materials.

A final decision in 1942 confirmed two areas of collecting for future

attention, namely the history of the Ohio Valley as it related to the settlement and development of the old Northwest, and England from 1689 to 1730, a period suggested by W. T. Morgan's *Bibliography of British History (1700-1715)*.¹ Special collections in these two areas had been started in the 1930's. They were now to be enlarged and fortified by development of research collections in related areas.

The Ohio Valley has been consistently searched and scouted by C. K. Byrd since 1942. His success in locating imprints led to his *Bibliography of Indiana Imprints* (with Howard Peckham),² published in 1955. More recently Dr. Byrd's *Bibliography of Illinois Imprints*³ was published by the University of Chicago Press in 1966.

An important gift in 1942 was the J. B. Oakleaf collection on Abraham Lincoln. It substantially confirmed Indiana's intention for the Ohio Valley. More specifically, it obliged the University Library to establish a department of Special Collections, with separate personnel and building space. With the gift of the Lincoln collection, the Library also acquired a number of distinguished book friends, fellow collectors and dealers, whose continuing interest and good will in the following years resulted in more bonanzas.

In 1942, the Library had a handful of rarities on the War of 1812. The Library sought the help of dealers in enlarging its War of 1812 collection and, largely through the help of R. E. Banta, F. G. Sweet and J. L. Hook, was able to increase its holdings to 1,112 separate books and 10,674 manuscripts by 1954.

With the War of 1812 collection under way, the Library attempted to fill in with the printed preliminaries to the War, for the Constitutional period from 1789-1811. To date, these attempts have only been partially successful. Major purchases from the American Antiquarian Society's stock of duplicates have brought in thousands of early almanacs and imprints. Extending the period further back, the Library bought a large collection of printed pamphlets relating to the Revolution. The gift of a set of the signers of the Declaration of Independence crowned the effort to extend coverage from the War of 1812 back to its antecedents.

Concentrating on the Midwest history and literature, the Library employed T. P. Martin, who from 1950 through 1952 travelled the state searching for manuscript materials. As a result of his work and of further searches by C. K. Byrd and D. A. Randall, approximately 1,500,000 pieces of manuscript were secured, entirely by gift. Among

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the significant collections of manuscripts acquired are the files of the United World Federalists (Willkie), the Paul McNutt papers, the S. S. McClure papers, and the Bobbs-Merrill archives.

Peripheral to Indiana, but with roots in the state in its overland narratives and the Joseph Lane papers, was the splendid gift in 1946 by Mrs. Vida Ellison of her husband's distinguished collection of Western Americana, now comprising 5,000 books and 6,250 manuscripts.

From its original collection on England from 1689-1730 the Library extended its interest deeper into the eighteenth century. Consistent attention to offerings has increased these holdings to approximately 7,000 separate items, with extensive microform supplements. An impressive gathering on Daniel Defoe highlights the collection.

The purchase with gift money in 1944 of a Wordsworth collection (1,780 items, 144 manuscripts) first focused attention on the nineteenth century in English literature, and the later Lilly gift committed the Library to it. W. R. Cagle, since 1962 specialist for English literature, has devoted much of his effort to the expansion of the Library's collection of original editions of the major literary figures of the century.

The presentation of the collection of Mr. J. K. Lilly in 1956 was the most significant event in the development of Indiana's collecting. His superlative holdings in English and American literature capped the Library's activity. His rare materials on the discovery and exploration of the Americas led directly to the Library's acquisition of Bernardo Mendel's great collection on Latin American history. Mr. Mendel, who now serves the Library as consultant, has added extensively to his materials, which now number nearly 40,000 volumes and over 20,000 manuscripts.

The gift from Mr. Lilly had other benefits. The University built a separate rare book library building, secured Mr. Randall as rare book librarian and increased its professional staff for special collections. With a widened appreciation of the University's stability as a center for research collections came many gifts. H. B. Collamore gave his Housman and Sterne collections, Fred Bates Johnson his Conrad library, Frederick J. Melcher his Vachel Lindsay library, and F. G. Darlington an Andrew Lang collection. Gift money made possible the purchase of Louis Untermeyer's poetry collection, and the Max Eastman and Upton Sinclair archives. Other gifts included Chesterfield's

letters to his godson and the Haldeman-Julius files. The incunabula and early sections of the Lilly collection were buttressed when Randall purchased, on gift funds, the calligraphy and manuscripts assembled by C. L. Ricketts and the George Poole library on the history of printing.

This résumé of the acquisition of collections is incomplete without a further statement on the individual searches and purchases initiated by various members of the library staff. Administrative staff spend a portion of each day on acquisition, and the Library has the full-time services of ten subject specialists, not counting the branch librarians. These subject specialists devote a minor portion of their time to reference service to graduate students and faculty members, and the major portion to the selection and purchase of current and retrospective materials. The subject librarians are responsible for all book selection in the following fields: Anthropology-Folklore-Sociology, Economics-Government, English and American Literature, History, Modern Foreign Languages and Literature, African Studies, Near Eastern Studies, Far Eastern Studies, Latin American Studies, and Russian and East European Studies. They have special training and background in their assigned areas. They keep up to date on current publications by reading scholarly journals, national and subject bibliographies, publishers' announcements, etc. Retrospective purchases are made as they review the collections and discover gaps, as a result of requests made by students and faculty, and from reading antiquarian catalogs and direct letter exchange with a wide range of dealers. They publish bibliographic guides for graduate students at the University, and last year four of these librarians were teaching in their academic fields.

Certainly the most successful venture in the piece by piece assembling of a special collection has been in the field of Slavic studies. A number of individuals have had a part in the work and fortunately, for the Library, it has also had the devotion of the leading dealer, Israel Perlstein, now officially a consultant to the Library. Through his industry, the Library has acquired over 100,000 volumes relating to the Slavic world. Mr. Perlstein has given generously of his own Slavic rarities to the Lilly Library.

In summary, the three B's—basic plan, backing and bonanza, describe Indiana's development. The Plan attempted a focus for the collecting activities of the Library and placed the responsibility

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squarely upon the library staff. The backing of the President of the University has been passed over lightly in the running account, but his support, imagination and personal participation were of paramount importance in the Library's development. Moreover, he made the money available when it was needed. The bonanzas came as a result of a climate created by the President, not as a result of solicitations. Yet all three B's were essential, for if one had been lacking there would have been no significant progress. All three have operated together, shaping and directing the improvement of the Library's collections.

Purdue University

As post-World War II planning began among Purdue faculty in 1945, it was evident that the University's traditional emphasis on science—especially the applied sciences, and on engineering and agriculture—would be continued. Faculty liaison officers assigned to the Library Committee soon made clear, explicitly or implicitly, that in general and often almost exclusively their interests were in current periodical subscriptions, in retrospective files of certain periodicals, and in current monographs, in that order of priority. The Libraries' existing deficiencies were clearly recognized and special funds, in addition to steadily rising current materials budgets, were repeatedly granted.

The mounting sums spent annually on periodical subscriptions from 1945 to date clearly show the bias of the faculty. In 1945-46 the expenditure was approximately \$11,700. In 1950-51 it reached \$25,000. In 1955-56 it was \$42,600. In 1960-61 this figure rose to \$140,000 and in 1965-66 to \$240,000. The increasing sums spent and the accompanying growth of the subscription list from 2,500 titles to some 15,000 during the same twenty-year period indicate the rising faculty concern with research, largely but not exclusively in the sciences, engineering and agriculture, those areas in which Purdue's mandate from the state is clear.

This is not to say, of course, that other areas of library collecting have been neglected. Including periodical volumes added by binding, annual acquisition rates have mounted from 6,000 in 1945-46 to 52,000 in 1964-65, with over 60,000 in prospect for 1965-66. It should be clear, however, that Purdue's libraries have been and still are developing along the lines that also characterize the "special libraries"

maintained by large industrial and scientific research institutes. There are more and longer historical files of key journals at Purdue (some 65,000 volumes in pre-1940 files, costing half a million dollars) than would be found at most such special libraries, but there is the same emphasis on the current and the latest material.

The general administrative attitude which backs this emphasis is strong support of departmentalized libraries. Collections of materials are maintained near the users. The users' needs are respected when these cross subject areas. The material in our Physics Library is not just those books which fall by classification in Dewey's 530's, but all the material which is useful to physicists regardless of its library classification. This has meant considerable but justified duplication of sets. A service like *Nuclear Science Abstracts* is held in nine locations around the campus, *Chemical Abstracts* is held in thirteen, *Nature* and *Nucleonics* in eight libraries, and *Science* in eleven. With a graduate student body of over 6,000 students and a faculty of 2,000, such duplication is required for adequate research service.

Quite recently Purdue has initiated a doctoral program in English and sociology and master's degree work in history. Considerable crash buying has been authorized for these programs and miniaturization has been used to acquire early American imprint source materials listed in Evans' *American Bibliography*,⁴ titles on film in Pollard and Redgrave⁵ and in Wing,⁶ and the full run of the *London Times* in similar form, and the British and American drama collected and available on microcards, etc. The emphasis, however, is still overwhelmingly in support of the traditional library strengths in those fields of scientific and technical knowledge where Purdue has long served the state.

In these descriptions of specializations at Purdue and Indiana, the principle and practice of complementary development is implicit. By formal and informal agreements and action, Purdue has built the scientific and technical library of the state and Indiana has built the complementing humanistic and social science library. The specializations undertaken by each University have permitted more intensive development across a wider band of disciplines than is usually achieved by a single state university. Freed from the competition, bias and pressures that exist within a single campus, the separate academic disciplines at Purdue and Indiana have received strong and appropriate library support. While this support means most to the faculty and students of the two institutions, it has also provided

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the citizen in professional life with a tremendous resource for his own research. Both libraries are "state libraries" available to all key groups among the citizens and well-known and used as such by them.

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