

Biology Library "in limbo"

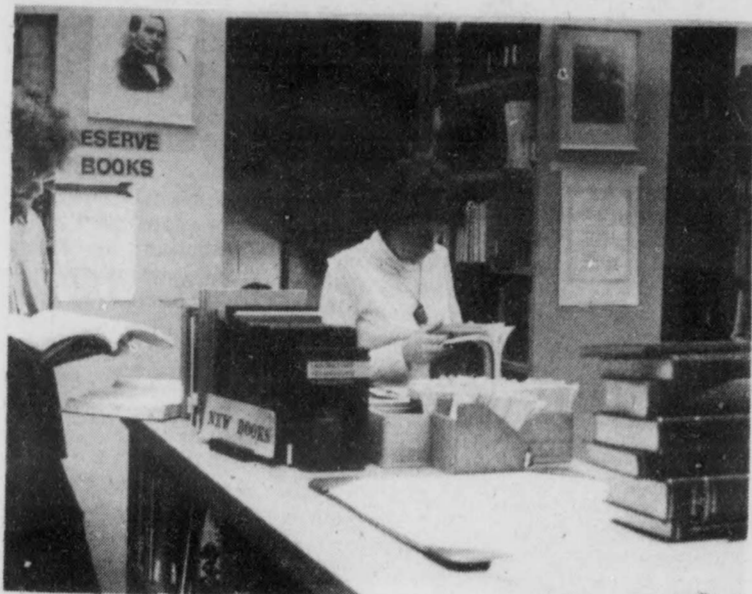


Photo by Jean-Louis Tremblay

Several weeks ago, a letter to the Editor appeared in this paper concerning the Biology Library.

The Integrated Science Complex was intended to be linked to the Biology, Chemistry and Forestry buildings by tunnels. One of the features of the new complex was the existence of a large library with the collections of the Forestry, Chemistry and Biology libraries combined.

Due to cost increases and a shortage of capital funds, the tunnel to the Biology building was deferred. Professor Eric Garland, who is in charge of the project noted that "It was supposed to be there, but the original design of the walkway was very expensive."

Garland said that he is "investigating many ways to construct the walkway," but that he has no idea when the money will become available. "The matter is under very active consideration" said Garland.

Dr. M. Holder-Franklin, who is a member of the Biology Department Library Committee said that she had no idea when the library might move adding that the move date was "very much in limbo". Dr. Holder-Franklin also said that "I feel that students should express their opinions on the matter."

Dr. M. Burt, the Chairperson of the Biology Department said that "The Department as a whole has set a policy that the move will not take place until the link is constructed." Dr. Burt felt that although room for books was rapidly running out, availability of study space was not yet a problem. Dr. Burt noted that "a study was done during a non-peak period (i.e. not around exams) and it showed that there was ample space for studying "in the

Biology Library." He went on to say that "at peak periods the labs around the library were made available for students wishing study space."

Dr. Burt pointed out that "in fact moving the Biology Library out of Loring Bailey Hall would reduce study space for students since the Science Complex Library is open to all students as well as the existing biology library.

The Biology has the largest number of Graduate students of any department, and according to Dr. Burt it is essential that they have immediate access to the library. This would not be possible were the library to move to the science complex.

Dr. Burt felt that in the long run, as space became a problem in Loring Bailey, the Library would have to be moved regardless of the existence of a walkway. In the mean time, Dr. Burt said that a close watch would be kept on the situation and that the needs of the students would be closely watched.

New Bill C-25 not adequate

OTTAWA--The proposed new federal human rights legislation does not go far enough in protecting individuals and groups against discrimination, according to Canada's national labor body.

The 2.2 million member Canadian Labor Congress (CLC) calls for protection from discrimination for sexual orientation, political opinion, citizenship of landed immigrants--areas not covered under the proposed Bill C-25 which comes up for third and final reading in Parliament soon.

Currently the Bill prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, national or ethnic origin,

color, religion, age, sex, marital status, conviction for which a pardon has been granted and for employment, physical handicap.

CLC vice-president Julian Major cited the case. The CLC, along with the Canadian Bar Association (CBA) has also called for greater access to personal information the government keeps on individuals in its employ.

Major cited the case of a plant technical for Canadian National who was fired from his job for security reasons. The employee has never been able to find out the exact reasons for his dismissal nor has he been able to see his file

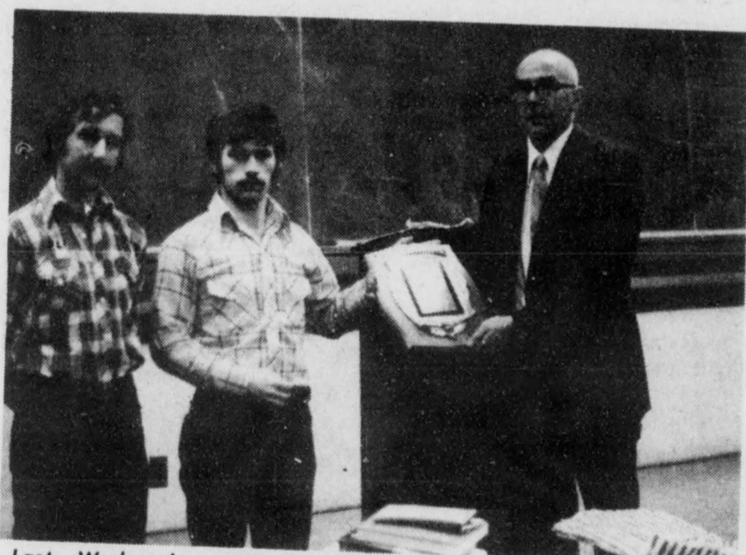
to correct any mistakes, said Major.

As things stand, a person can conceivably be branded a security risk for the rest of his life on the strength of incorrect information, said Donald Nicholson, president of the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Transport and General Workers, the union representing CN employees.

Bill C-25 will allow individuals access to personal information kept in government published "information banks" and the right to correct that information, but this access can be limited on a minister's prerogative for reasons of national security, federal-provincial relations or Cabinet secrecy.

The Bar Association says the bill's provisions on privacy would allow the individuals access to large stores of information, but those on blacklists such as the recently-reported blacklist on civil servants, would not be covered and would have no way of knowing if they were on such a list. Although the bill provides for a "privacy commissioner," the commission has no powers to call for necessary information the CBA says.

The federal government should give the public access to all types of government information, the CBA contends.



Last Wednesday the Forestry students donated a plaque in honour of the two students killed on the T.C. before Christmas.

Accommodation no problem

The theory that the decrease in enrollment in the year 1976-77 was due to the inavailability of accommodation in Fredericton, has been proven by a University questionnaire to be incorrect.

The questionnaire, mailed in November to 608 students who did not return, has come up with several reasons for the decline in enrollment by full-time students.

Of the 325 students who replied, 115 did not return because they went to another university, 68 were unable to return because of lack of money, 112 were staying out of university temporarily and expected to return in a year or two. Forty-three of the students polled had obtained permanent employment,

and 37 were no longer interested in completing a degree.


The other students polled had minor reasons. However, the most surprising statistic was that only 11 of the people polled, did not return because they were unable to secure accommodation to attend university.

This survey contained a number of questions, and many people indicated more than one reason for not returning. For example, some of the 68 people who were unable to return because of lack of money, also indicated that they expected to return.

University Registrar, Brian Ingram feels that these reasons are justifiable, especially seeing that several of them go together.

malcolm muggeridge

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