Gary Dannelly, Collection Development Officer, Ohio State University Libraries
Profiles Encouraged:

Gay N. Dannelly

Born when and where: I was an Army brat, born in Victoria, Texas on October 10, 1943, eventually growing up in northern and southern California.

Education: Graduated with a BA in Anthropology from the University of Denver, an MALS from the University of Wisconsin—Madison with an interim sjour in Washington, DC. You can take the brat out of the Army, but apparently you can’t curb the wanderlust.

Current residence: Columbus, OH, about 4 miles from OCLC. I’ve been here 20 years, so maybe the wanderlust cures itself.

Family: One husband, on the faculty of the University of Kentucky, and two very demanding cats.

Proudest accomplishments: Making a commuting marriage work (with a very supportive and adaptable husband), and developing the Library Materials Budget Index which has continued to increase the OSU Libraries materials budget for the last six years (thanks to the generosity of our university administration!).

Most recent goal: Balance OSU, OhioLINK and CIC needs, commitments and demands, and retain my sanity.

Favorite pastime/hobbies: Mysteries, cookbooks, cats, Medieval and Renaissance music — listening to, not playing.

Literary tastes: I will read anything that is in front of me, but I prefer mysteries, English novels from between the World Wars, and cookbooks.

Pet peeve: People who think being a librarian is “such a quiet job,” and “Don’t you have lots of time to read?”

Single most irritating piece of advice concerns computer software: “Oh it’s easy to learn . . .” Well, NOT . . .

Biggest surprise: OCLC was just a gleam in Fred Kilgore’s eye when I went to library school and now I live at a computer terminal!

People would be surprised to know: I love to drive fast. My husband calls me “Leadfoot.”

Behind my back people say: Well, I don’t really know, but I’d like to find out.

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major American music scores within the state. With the cooperation of a single vendor, each library has established a profile that recognizes the local needs and also contributes to the acquisition of a larger body of scores than any single institution could afford. Each library has taken on responsibility for a particular area of music scores in addition to those materials that serve their local users.

Other projects are in the very early stages of development as listservs are established for approximately 29 subject areas to ease the communication process and the consideration of initiatives relevant to specific subject responsibilities. As OhioLINK has evolved, the central staff, who have made the project happen, have also provided advice, technical expertise, and excellent reality checks. Providing responsive leadership through their efforts with committees, negotiation of favorable licenses, and investigation of many kinds of support mechanisms, the staff has enabled the membership to provide a greatly increased variety of services and resources to our patrons.

Committee on Institutional Cooperation

A very different consortium, the Committee on Institutional Cooperation or CIC, has acted as a voluntary, regional institution of cooperative activity in many areas of academic programs since 1958. Composed initially of the Big Ten institutions (Universities of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan State University, Ohio State University, Northwestern University and Purdue University) and the University of Chicago, CIC has expanded to include the University of Illinois, Chicago, and Pennsylvania State University, upon the latter’s entrance into the Big Ten athletic conference. Directed by the presidents of each member institution, programs include cooperative programs, joint course offerings, and long-term library cooperation at the directors’ level. The latter led to initial agreements for broad resource-sharing and on-site loan of materials to visiting graduate student and faculty. The library directors continue to provide leadership in program development assisted by a number of other groups with specific responsibilities.

In 1983, the Collection Development Officers began meeting to try to establish cooperative collection development programs. Part of the impetus was provided by increasing costs and the loss of purchasing power in library acquisitions budgets; part was based on a recognition that it would be most advantageous for all the members of CIC if we could find ways of more effectively using our financial and collection resources.

Until 1994, the Director of the CIC, and his small number of staff, provided the only administrative support for the various grant and project activities of the libraries. However, in 1994, the library directors agreed to establish a position of Director, Office of Library Initiatives. The convergence of several other initiatives and the establishment of this position have led to significant progress since August 1994, including shared database acquisition, a conference on the potentials for shared electronic fulltext resources, an additional grant proposal, and the furtheance of several subject projects. Funding for all these activities, outside those funded by grants, must be provided by the librarians themselves.

In 1993, the library directors requested that the Collection Development Officers establish a plan that would bring about a series of specific subject cooperative efforts. In addition to earlier cooperative preservation grant programs, the CIC libraries also applied for a grant to establish a virtual electronic library to provide many of the same patron capabilities available through OhioLINK. This project was seen as a way to provide ready searching of the catalogs of each member through a Z39.50 search engine. A subsequent phase would include the consideration of patron initiated borrowing with delivery via a shared system, thus moving much of the current ILL traffic into a circulation function and changing the labor involved in providing resources across the consortia. The actual implementation of the Virtual Electronic Library, at present in a beta test stage, will be a major step in providing this information.

In 1993 the Library Directors also appointed a Task Force on the CIC Electronic Collection to “explore the management and use of shared electronic resources and to consider relevant issues for the CIC libraries.” Although reporting to the Directors, this group has also been instrumental in assisting the cooperative collection development efforts of several subject groups as well as initiating, with the approval of the Collection Development Officers, specific subject selectors, and technical support of CICNet, a variety of projects. Among the best known is the CIC Libraries Electronic Journal Collection. Initiated by CICNet at the request of the Collection Development Officers, this archive was subsequently reviewed by the Task Force and a number of organizational issues clarified and policies established. At present CIC Libraries have agreed to fund the planned expansion of the more organized Collection (as opposed to the Archive) to serve as a major test of consortial cooperative efforts in selection, processing, and cataloging, and the applications of technology.

The provision of a variety of databases through mounting at member institutions and cooperative costing, price negotiations, and similar methods have also assisted the