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## FYI

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*Against the Grain*

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*So often, we don't follow up on what is happening to each other. This is why we are so excited to hear from Marion Reid who spoke about her plans at the 1990 Charleston Conference. Here is our own personal update, two plus years later. Thanks, Marion! — KS*

## California State University San Marcos Has Core Collection

by **Marion T. Reid**, Director of Library Services and Acting Director, Computing and Telecommunications

Effective June 30th, 1993, the library at California State University San Marcos completed its initial buying project with **Academic Book Center** in Portland, Oregon. Through this effort, the library acquired the primary collection for its core collection. CSU San Marcos is the 20th campus of California State University. Founded 1 July 1989, it is the first comprehensive university to be initiated in

the United States in 20 years.

The 40,000 volumes acquired from Academic Book Center between January 1991 and June 1993 were selected based on a profile established by ABC Director of Sales **Bob Schatz** and CSU San Marcos Director of Library Services **Marion T. Reid** in consultation with CSU San Marcos faculty. ABC staff member **Ellen Gernant** matched the profile against information from the ABC database, beginning with the current imprint year and working backwards year by year through 1986. She then matched the profile against the *Books for College Libraries* tapes which ABC obtained from the Association of College and Research Libraries. CSU San Marcos Collections Librarian **Terry L. Allison** is now going to out-of-print book dealers for items identified as OP during the project and deemed valuable for the curriculum.

Academic Book Center assisted the small CSU San Marcos processing staff by supplying each volume fully processed, complete with spine label, prop-



erty stamps, date due slip, security strip, barcode, and an electronic bibliographic record. ABC also supplied processing packets for titles which CSU San Marcos acquired by other means. In addition, ABC supplied an interim automated acquisitions system which staff used until the acquisitions component of the library's system was up and running. The interim database was accessed and updated by both library and ABC staff. As CSUSM acquisitions staff brought up the acquisitions phase of the library's Innovative Interfaces integrated automated system, open acquisitions orders were uploaded into the new library system and completed orders were deleted.

CSU San Marcos staff and ABC staff and personnel agree that the key to the success of this project was being willing to maintain a high degree of flexibility. In spite of careful planning, additional faculty, additional library staff and developing curricula resulted in significant profile changes.

Three articles reflect the initial development and processing of the collection. Terry Allison and Marion Reid plan to analyze the existing core collection to see how it compares to the projected targets outlined in Marion Reid's presentation at the Charleston Conference in 1990. Here are the citations for the other articles — First — "How the West was Won: The California State University, San Marcos Experience," by Marion T. Reid in *Library Acquisitions: Practice & Theory*, 1991, volume 15, pages 9-13. Second — "A General Overview of Collection Building" by Marion Reid, *Library Acquisitions: Practice & Theory*, 1991, volume 15, pages 295-299. Third — "Bibliographic Records — An Experiment in Buying DLC Copy," by Catherine S. Herlihy in *Technicalities*, August 1992, volume 12, number 8, pages 11-15. ☞

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