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1895 - 1995

THE UNIVERSITY OF
STELLENBOSCH LIBRARY SERVICE

1895-1995

PROF. BUN BOOYENS

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*J.S. GERICKE LIBRARY
UNIVERSITY OF STELLENBOSCH
1995*

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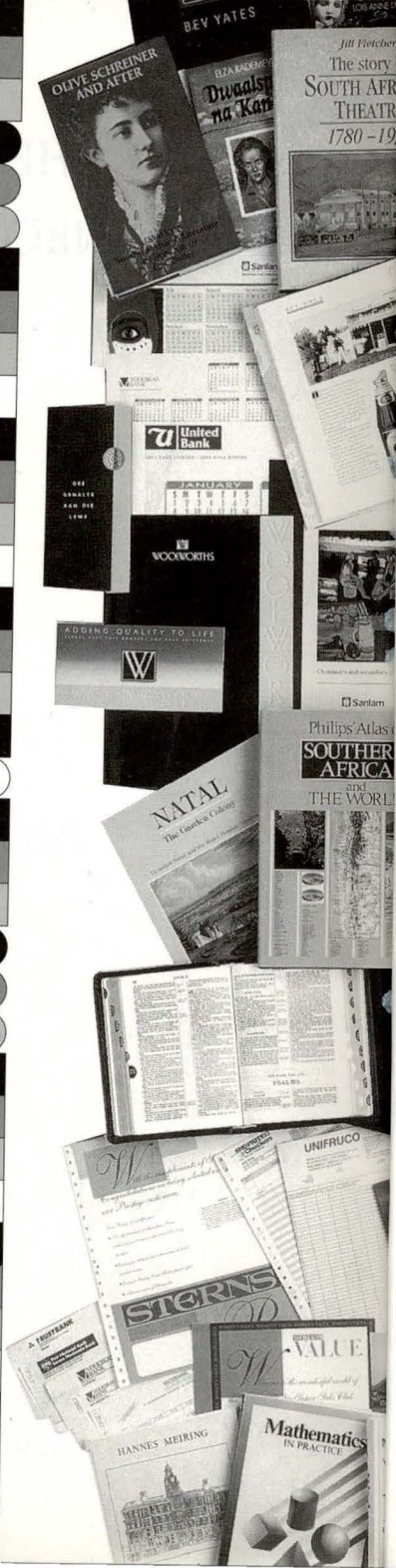
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MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR AND VICE-CHANCELLOR



As a past (and hopefully future) frequent user of our library, I should like to offer my heartiest congratulations to all my colleagues in the University of Stellenbosch's Library Service on the hundredth anniversary of this service.

From small beginnings in a room in the old Main Building, the library has grown, together with the University, into the giant it is today.

But the US Library Service is a giant not only in a physical sense, it is an organisation that plays a key role in the exercise of the University's academic duties and responsibilities. Its position as supporter of academic and research functions is enormous, and without it the University would not be able to exist.

In the past 100 years, the concept of library services and information provision has undergone drastic changes. The information explosion especially of the past few decades has fundamentally influenced the acquisition, storage and provision of information. A hundred years ago just one room of books was enough to provide for the needs of the body of students and lecturers of the then Victoria College.

Today (happily) we still use books, but technology plays an increasing role in the arrangement, storage and tracing of information. Who could have predicted a century ago that information - even whole encyclopedias - could be obtained on microfiche, microfilm and CD, and that catalogues and indexes could be accessed by means of computers. These developments have been really astounding and, as technology expands further, this area will undergo many adaptations and changes in the future.

But, however well equipped a library may be, the quality of its service is dependent on dedicated and well-informed staff. Our University can be very proud of the people who ensure that outstanding service is offered to our academic and research community.

Many thanks to all who contribute to the successful running of the US Library Service, and best wishes for the future.

A.H. VAN WYK
RECTOR AND VICE-CHANCELLOR

THE UNIVERSITY OF STELLENBOSCH LIBRARY SERVICE 1895-1995

1. MODEST BEGINNINGS

The following notice appeared in the *Calendar of the Victoria College* for 1895: "The College has a Reading and Reference Library for the use of students... During the past year an additional room has been set apart as a Reading-Room..."

This reading-room was in the old Main Building, although its exact situation is unknown. The material which was available here during 1894-1895 originated from the collections of the Stellenbosch Gymnasium (1874-1880), the Arts Department of the Gymnasium (1874-1880) and the Stellenbosch College (1880-1887), which received the name of Victoria College in the Jubilee year of Queen Victoria's reign in 1887.

During the first few years of its existence the Victoria College possessed a meagre collection of books; a member of the Senate was in charge of this, and students could make use of them. However, the collection was inadequate and unworthy of an academic institution: Prof. William Thomson declared in no uncertain terms in 1893: "It would require a very practical imagination to be able to call the small bookcase in the Senate Hall a library. It is not an inspiring thing to see the students ... waiting for the next instalment of the professional feeding bottle instead of cultivating habits of independent study and research in a well-appointed library."

It was probably this frustration among the students which caused two of them, J.B.M. Hertzog and W. Neethling, to meet the Senate in 1888 to request the provision of suitable housing for the collection. The students undertook to collect money for periodical subscriptions by organizing "entertainments." It is notable that before 1894, students readily expressed interest in providing reference materials and organizing and supervising a library. The part played by the Junior Debating Society, the Victoria College Volunteer Corps and the Cadets deserves special mention in this connection. However, no provision was made for suitable reading and study facilities up to 1894-1895; only then did space for more than a mere "small bookcase" become available, as it appears from the notice in the 1895 Calendar mentioned earlier.

2. THE C.L. MARAIS LIBRARY BUILDING

The "reading and reference library" of the Victoria College survived until the turn of the century. In 1898 it was stated in the *Calendar of the Victoria College* that "a College Library and Museum must be erected on one of the vacant spaces of the College Square. A Reference Library has become an absolute necessity..."

Thanks to a generous donation from a benefactor of Stellenbosch, Mr. C.L. Marais (the brother of "Oom Jannie"), contributions from the "Stellenbosch Distriksbank" and from the Colonial Government, the erection of a library building on the northern side of College Square could be started in 1900. "The new Library Building is now completed," it was announced in 1901. Support as well as donations toward the establishment of this first library was received from all sides. It is perhaps not generally known that Mr. J.H. Hofmeyr ("Onze Jan") made available the entire sum he received as remuneration during the period that he was M.P. for Stellenbosch (16 years) toward the institution of a library; a generous gesture indeed from this famous Capetonian and leader of the Afrikanerbond.

It was fitting that the graceful new building should be named after Mr. C.L. Marais. On its completion College Square, with the Main Building as its focal point, received its final form and identity. The steel fencing around the "Square" was also erected at this time.

The C.L. Marais Library was the first building in the history of the University which was built for that specific purpose. It should however be mentioned that the building also housed the administrative offices of the Victoria College for about 20 years (until 1920), in a room to the left of the vestibule. Rooms in this building were also used as Council Chamber and Senate committee rooms.

Between 1902 and 1907 Mr. J.H. Rose occupied two posts: that of librarian and caretaker of the college grounds. In 1904 the library possessed 1 000 books. An important event was the transfer of the management of the library from the Council to the Senate in 1904. Thenceforth the Senate would appoint a standing library committee - a practice maintained - after 90 years - to this day.

With the establishment of a University in 1918, the C.L. Marais Library continued to fulfil its important task. Around 1920 the administrative offices of the University moved to other premises. In 1919 the library had only one official, Miss M. Chapman, at its disposal. In 1925 Mr. G.V. Marais joined the library staff. The following year saw his appointment as Librarian, and a few years later Miss R.E. Baginski was appointed as

Deputy Librarian and Mr. A. de Vries as Library Assistant. Mr. George Marais was Chief Librarian until 1967 - a period of 42 years. Having obtained a M.A. degree in Latin, Mr. Marais later acquired a degree in Librarianship at the University of Columbia in New York, being the first South African to do so. Until shortly before his death in August 1994 the familiar erect figure of Mr. Marais could be seen taking a walk down Plein Street practically every day.

In spite of limited staff the C.L. Marais Library provided an excellent library service. The 1928 University Commission reported that "the library can be regarded as a model for and inspiration to other institutions." The Council and Senate were justly proud of their library and gave it as much financial support as possible. Book stock and periodical subscriptions increased and the library set itself the task of keeping pace with academic development, with the needs of the students and with new courses of study.

In 1926 the C.L. Marais Library had to be extended; by 1938 it had become clear that an entirely new line of thought was necessary.

3. THE CARNEGIE BUILDING AND LIBRARY

In 1919, when the Scots-American millionaire Andrew Carnegie died, the Carnegie Corporation of New York continued with the philanthropic program of its founder, especially with regard to the building and equipment of libraries. As long ago as 1912 Mr. Carnegie had donated £6 000 toward the extension and maintenance of the library of the Victoria College. An additional donation of £1 500 from the Carnegie Corporation to the University of Stellenbosch in 1938, as well as contributions from alumni enabled the University to build a new library. The C.L. Marais building would thenceforth be used to accommodate academic departments and house collections of anthropological and archaeological materials.

In 1938 the Carnegie building was erected on the site of the Pavilion rugby grounds, adjacent to and north of the present Administration Building (Block B). This building would be the home of the University library for the next five decades. During the 1950's considerable alterations, extensions and additions were made to the building, the most important of which was the provision of accommodation for the library of the Faculty of Law, as well as the installation of a spacious Africana room.

The collection of materials in the C.L. Marais Library was transferred to the Carnegie building, as were the librarian, Mr. Marais, and his few staff members. After the move,

additional staff members Mr. D.L. Ehlers, Miss E.H. Smuts, Miss J. Brincker and a typist were appointed. In 1945 there were 95 167 volumes in the library. At the retirement of Mr. Marais, in 1967, the staff numbered 45, and the library service was thoroughly established.

In 1945 Mr. François (Flooi) du Plessis was appointed Assistant Librarian; he served the University Library for 38 years, for the last fifteen as University Librarian. Due to his professional and academic abilities, his love of books and his knowledge of the book trade, Mr. Du Plessis was able to develop the University Library as an indispensable information source. Having been actively concerned in the planning of a new library for a considerable number of years, he was privileged, prior to his retirement in December 1983, to guide the library into the "promised land" of its new premises.

The expansion and enhancement of the library's Africana collection was of special interest to him. It was fitting for the Africana room in the J.S. Gericke Library to be named after Mr. Du Plessis in 1992.

4. THE AFRICANA COLLECTION

During the latter part of the 1950's Africana material was gradually separated from the main book collection. A well-appointed and suitable room was set aside for Africana in the new wing which had been added to the Carnegie building. In the beginning of the next decade the library could justly claim that it possessed an excellent, representative collection of standard Africana. The journals of old travellers and works by other important visitors who wrote accounts of the Cape and the rest of the country were practically all present in the collection. Donations of material such as those of Dr. W.J. Leyds and Dr. Gustav Preller, Dr. H. Vedder and Mr. G.J. Joubert supplemented the original collection to about 5 500 items by 1960. It was through the good offices of Prof. H.B. Thom that the Africana collection was enriched in that decade by the valuable Hugh Solomon Library. Hugh Ross Solomon (1876-1956) was a Johannesburg lawyer who for many years had added to the Africana collection which he had inherited from his father, sir Edward Philip Solomon. This unique collection, consisting of some 1 300 items, including about 100 maps and rare paintings, occupies a special, separate section in the Africana room. Prof. Thom was supported in his interest in augmenting the Africana collection by Profs. Bun Booyens and P.J. van der Merwe. The library is still regularly acquiring material to augment the valuable collection of Africana, for instance that dealing with the Anglo-Boer War.

Through the years the library has received donations of books from academic staff past and present, and from other benefactors; the library has also been fortunate in that valuable books have been presented by overseas countries through their embassies in South Africa.

The University of Stellenbosch and the staff of the library have always been justly proud of the Africana room in the Carnegie building. The Africana book collection, initiated and fostered by Flooi du Plessis, has found an equally fine home in the J.S. Gericke Library. Authorities in this field regard this collection as one of the finest known. Pursuing one's studies and research in the tranquil atmosphere of the Africana room under the supervision and guidance of Mrs. Daleen van der Riet is an enriching experience.

5. SPECIAL DIVISIONS

During the period of its occupancy of the Carnegie building, the University Library became increasingly established as a focal point of the academic activities of the University. Several new sections came into being during this period.

- Messrs. Marais and Du Plessis showed considerable foresight in planning and initiating a special restoration laboratory. Mr. Henri Wirth, a professional restorer, was appointed to his post in the University Library in 1964, and has since been responsible for the restoration of books, old maps, graphic materials, documents, manuscripts and paintings. Some major projects completed by Mr. Wirth were the repair and framing of works by the artists Maggie Laubser, Solomon Caesar Malan and D.C. Boonzaier, and the art collection of Prof. J. du P. Scholtz. Mr. Wirth is an acknowledged expert in his field, and is locally and internationally recognized as such. Mr. Arthur Wadman is responsible for the repair and rebinding of fine and valuable books from the Africana and Rare Book collections.

- In 1967 the University received the valuable D.F. Malan bequest. Prof. Bun Booyens was responsible for the incorporation of the collection and the organization of the D.F. Malan Museum, which became part of the library. This museum has since been transferred to the Sasol Museum. To accommodate the considerable collection of documents and other manuscript materials in the possession of the library, it was decided to plan and equip a

Document Centre. Mrs. Doreen du Plessis pioneered this enterprise, sorting and listing the documents, at first working in an attic above the Malan Museum in the Carnegie Library; eventually, however, a room in the library was allocated for this purpose. In 1984 when the library moved to the new building, a special room was made available for this department, and Mrs. Hanna Botha succeeded Mrs. Du Plessis as head of the Document Centre. The appointment of Mrs. Joan Walters and Mrs. Marianne van der Merwe, and generous sponsorship from Naspers to enable the library to engage ad hoc staff, has resulted in the development of this section into an effective research centre containing a strong collection of material relating to Afrikaans literature.

- The Rare Books section was established in the late 1960's to provide for the safe keeping of valuable art books and other rare materials. When the University acquired the extensive library of the late Cdre. Michael Scott, Mrs. Lorinda de Klerk was given the task of planning the ordering and eventual arrangement of the great variety of books. Mr. Du Plessis saw to it that the Rare Books collection was further enriched, for instance by the acquisition of facsimile editions, among which that of Leonardo da Vinci's *Codice Atlantico* deserves special mention.

6. THE J.S. GERICKE LIBRARY

The J.S. Gericke Library was named after the Rev. Kosie Gericke who served as Vice-chancellor of the University from 1952-1981; it was completed after years of planning and research, and occupies the unique position of being underneath the centrally situated Jan Marais square. The terracotta colour of the paving of the square gave rise to a student witticism: the library is said to be the KGB on Red Square behind the Kremlin (the Administration building).

The "great trek" from the Carnegie building to the new library was a difficult and demanding operation. The new building has however proved to be attractive and exciting to students, academic staff, library staff and visitors. It is a hive of activity; with hundreds of users coming in and out through its portals, it can indeed be regarded as being the nerve centre of the entire academic community. Its success is due to its central situation on the campus, its attractive, well-appointed and modern interior, but above all to the excellent service rendered by the staff.

The Library Service makes optimal use of modern technological resources to aid its users. All processing of materials, from ordering to cataloguing, as well as the loan system, has been computerised under the guidance of Mrs. Magda Liebenberg.

The greater part of the collection has already been entered in the computerised data base; enquiries and research can be conducted through the use of computers conveniently situated throughout the main library and branch libraries; teaching and research staff have direct access to the data base through computers in their offices; others have world-wide access via the Internet.

A considerable number of indexes are available on laser discs (CD-ROM) which are also accessible through computers in all the various libraries and departments, via the Campus network. The Library Service is also linked to overseas systems which offer access to data bases providing information on a wide variety of subjects. Developments such as electronic mail, electronic document delivery and access to the Internet have given an entirely new dimension to the library's principal function, namely that of providing information.

As well as having the above sophisticated information services at their disposal, users have access to facilities for photo-copying, while material which is not available in the library can be obtained from other libraries through inter-library loan. The annual figure for lending and service transactions amounts to about 450 000.

During the past few years economic considerations have obliged the library to keep its expenditure within strict limits; the increase in subscription to serial publications and the decline in the purchasing power of the rand have had an adverse effect on the supply of periodicals. It is nevertheless notable that about 600 000 books, 6 500 current periodicals and 280 000 bound volumes of periodicals are at present available in the library service.

7. BRANCH LIBRARIES

THE THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY 1859-1995

When the Theological Seminary was incorporated in the University of Stellenbosch in 1963, the University Library acquired, as a result of this union, a valuable collection of theological literature. Since its establishment in 1859, the Theological Seminary was fortunate in having received valuable book donations from eminent theologians and members of the public such as Guillaume Groen van Prinsterer, J.J. van

Oosterzee, Herman Bavinck and Sir George Grey. The latter, governor of the Cape Colony and noted book collector, presented a copy of the *Delft Bible* to the Theological Seminary. (A Bible, printed in Delft in 1477, was the first book to be printed in the Netherlands.) Taking into consideration that the *Gutenberg Bible* had been printed only 21 years before this, and that the beginnings of the Reformation date from 40 years later, the *Delft Bible* is certainly the most valuable book in the library.

The Church gave the Theological Seminary its support from the start. Even before the Seminary had been instituted, the Synod had resolved to collect money for establishing a library. The Seminary also received donations and book collections from ministers of the church from time to time.

At first, theological students acted as librarians. John Kestell (during the 1870's) and Bennie Keet (during the first decade of the 20th century) were two of the students who regularly gave their services to the Theological Library.

Since the incorporation of the Theological Seminary in the University of Stellenbosch as the Faculty of Theology in 1963, the book collection of the Theological Library has been set in order and has developed along with the University Library and shared its progress in information technology. The wide range of the collection built up in the course of 136 years now includes a diversity of materials from incunabula to CD-ROM indexes, and the library is able to provide an excellent service to students, lecturers, researchers and congregations.

During the last two decades the senior librarians of the Theological Library have been Mrs. Gerda van Niekerk, Miss Esther Basson, Miss Ilse de Lange and Mrs. Nettie van der Walt.

THE MUSIC LIBRARY, 1934-1995

The teaching of music in Stellenbosch made great strides, especially after 1883, and in 1900 it was felt that a central school of music should be founded. This led to the establishment of the "South African Conservatorium of Music" in 1905. This institution, the first of its kind in South Africa, was situated in Van Riebeeck Street, with Prof. F.J. Jannasch as head.

The initial small collection of books only became a library when the Conservatorium was incorporated in the University of Stellenbosch and became a department of the Faculty

of Arts in 1934. In the beginning the library merely occupied a few shelves in the office of the then head of the Conservatorium, Prof. Maria Fismer. Later a separate room was made available to house the growing collection consisting of a number of 78-speed records, a book catalogue and about 200 books donated to the University by the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

Up to the 1950's there was no control over the lending of material to users, and little was done to preserve the collection. In 1959/1960 Reino Ottermann (now professor and present director of the Conservatorium), was appointed as student assistant to supervise the reading room.

In 1961 Miss Maxie Bezuidenhout (later Mrs. van der Spuy) was appointed as the first full-time librarian, and it was her task to create order in the existing collection as well as the numerous bequests, among which was the important and comprehensive Albert Coates collection. In this work she was assisted by a succession of helpers, including some music students, but it was soon evident that the appointment of a full-time assistant was imperative. In 1964 Mrs. Suzanne le Roux was appointed, and commenced to compile a card catalogue for the 3 000 78-speed records, as well as for the long-playing records which had by then been purchased. In 1976 Miss Elda Nolte succeeded Mrs. van der Spuy; at that stage the move to the new Conservatorium Building in Neethling Street was being planned.

The move to the new premises took place in 1978; in the same year the entire library collection of the Department of School Music was transferred to the new Music Library. The continuing growth of the collection through the years resulted in the staff being increased to 8 members.

The Music Library's comprehensive collection of books, dissertations, sheet music, sound recordings and other audio-visual material has been considerably extended over the years by numerous donations, among which those of Albert Coates, Ivy Angove, Anny Lambrechts, Anton Hartman, W.G. Burger, E. Groenewald, Louis Steyn and Fritz Stegmann deserve special mention. An unique acquisition in 1979 was the valuable music collection from the library of the late Cdre. Michael Scott, which the University had bought in 1976. This immeasurably rich collection contained among other priceless materials, numerous items of early printed music, among which the oldest, *The Whole Booke of Psalmes* dates from 1598. Apart from about 4 000 long-playing records, the collection includes a wide variety of books dealing with many aspects of music.

The Music Library is one of the three largest academic music libraries in South Africa and offers its users a representative collection of materials as well as modern equipment and facilities, accommodated in a comfortable and functional building.

THE TYGERBERG CAMPUS LIBRARY, 1957-1995

In November 1957 when its first (and at that time its only) staff member, Miss Ora Visser was appointed, the Medical Library in Bellville came into existence.

It was a humble beginning, with about 3 000 volumes of books and bound periodicals, and 200 current periodicals located in a few small back rooms of the Karl Bremer Hospital.

By 1987 there were about 42 000 books and bound periodicals, 757 current periodicals and 4 200 audio-visual items; there was a full-time staff of 13, and 2 355 users, accommodated in the present library.

In the course of 16 years, four plans for premises had been designed, and the library had had to move three times. Pioneer work was done in connection with circulation methods, for the cataloguing and utilization of audiovisual materials, and with the apparatus required for the publication of scientific work locally and overseas.

In 1987 Mr. Matthew Syphus succeeded Miss Visser. Under his management the library once more underwent a transformation. Re-planning of the available space resulted in maximum utilization of users' and office areas; information services to teaching staff and students were considerably extended. In 1990 with the installation of the MEDLINE CD-ROM work station, and with access to the library's computer catalogue, the Tygerberg Campus Library (its new name since 1992) entered the exciting era of electronic information.

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS LIBRARY, 1964-1995

Since its very beginning, a library was seen as a priority for the Graduate School of Business. As early as 1964 a number of books were bought with money from donations, e.g. from Mobil. The books were housed in a room on the second floor of the Extra-mural Division in Bellville.

In 1970 the Business School moved to an old house in Stellenbosch, 70 Merriman Avenue; at that time administrative duties fell to the secretary of Prof. Helgard Muller, the head of the Business School.

Rapidly growing student numbers necessitated a move to Skuilhoek, near Victoria Street, in 1972. The first actual library was established there, and a student from the Drama Department, Miss Loubser, was the librarian. The Business School paid the library's running costs, as well as the librarian's salary.

In 1972 it was decided to move to Bellville. Some old pre-fabricated buildings, which had been vacated by the Medical Faculty and which were situated behind the Karl Bremer Hospital, became the new home of the Business School.

In 1975 Mrs. Isabel Cilliers was appointed librarian in a part-time capacity. In June of that year the library of the Graduate School of Business officially became a satellite library of the Carnegie Library, and a considerable number of books on business management was transferred to Bellville. By 1985 the library possessed about 3 200 books. During a visit to Texas, USA, Prof. Muller received a donation from an eminent bibliophile, Prof. Justin Neff, through which the book collection was considerably extended.

In 1986 the Business School moved to its present building, where the library was installed in a spacious room on the third floor. In 1988 the Institute for Future Research also moved into this building, and their collection of books became part of the library. Mrs. Henriëtte Swart was appointed librarian in 1988. At that time the library also gained access through computers to the data base of the main library.

The library of the Graduate School of Business became a full branch library of the University of Stellenbosch Library in April 1992.

In 1993 students from the School of Public Administration were also accommodated as users; also in that year staff amenities were extended. During 1994 several library systems were computerised, a necessary step as the collection by now consists of almost 9 000 books and 150 current periodicals.

THE ENGINEERING LIBRARY, 1976-1995

The history of the Engineering Library is closely connected with that of the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Stellenbosch.

The notion of an Afrikaans Faculty of Engineering was first propagated by the South African Academy for Science and Art in the 1930's. When the Faculty of Engineering

was established at Stellenbosch in 1944, with Prof. H.L. Reitz as dean, it was the first of its kind at an Afrikaans University.

The Engineering Faculty initially occupied the building which had previously belonged to the Stellenbosch Boys' High School. However, in order to provide sufficient space for ever-increasing student numbers, a modern block of buildings was planned and erected on the former golf course in Banhoek Road.

Although the block was planned and building commenced in the 1960's, the last of the buildings was only completed and occupied in 1979. It appears that the ultimate cost of the buildings was so high that the intended Engineering Library could not be built.

There was, however, an urgent need of library facilities for the Faculty of Engineering, as the buildings were a considerable distance away from the main library, and also because the information requirements of engineers differ considerably from those of most other student users. It was therefore decided in 1976 to provide a library service for the exclusive use of engineering lecturers and students on the third floor of the Computer Centre.

The initial holdings of the library consisted of 68 books, 1 microfiche, 5 bound volumes of periodicals, and 3 current periodicals.

Since 1980 the library has grown apace. It became clear that the library also provided for the needs of other users besides engineers, and access was therefore granted to all users.

In 1981 the library ran out of space, and room was provided in the Civil Engineering building. At the same time the Faculty requested that the library extend its hours of service; since 1982 the library is also open in the evenings and on Saturday mornings.

In 1987 the staff was increased to 3 full-time members. The materials in the library showed constant growth and it soon became apparent that the library would have to be extended. The conversion of a lecture hall and a number of offices was planned and completed under the guidance of Mrs. Marie van Nierop.

In 1993 the catalogue of the library's holdings was transferred to a computer catalogue, and a computerised lending service was put into use. At that stage there were 22 630 books in the library, and 547 current periodicals were received.

8. SATELLITE LIBRARIES

THE FORESTRY LIBRARY, 1950-1995

In 1950, Prof. C.L. Wicht, then head of the Institute of Forestry and Timber Technology, made a request to the University authorities that the collection of books dealing with forestry in the University Library be transferred to the Institute. In the same year a sum of money was voted to be used toward the acquisition of a number of valuable books from the library of the late Prof. E.J. Neethling (head of the Institute from 1932-1949). 322 books and 1 500 pamphlets were bought for the sum of R350. The library was named after Prof. Neethling.

1960 saw the founding of the Faculty of Forestry.

The library's pamphlet collection of about 60 000 items (the largest in Africa, and probably in the southern hemisphere) is constantly being expanded through exchange schemes and is of immeasurable importance to students, researchers and teaching staff. In 1989 a well-known timber firm, Hunt, Leuchars and Hepburn, voted a considerable sum of money toward buying computer equipment and for the appointment of an additional staff member whose task it would be to enter the pamphlet collection in a data base. This project is now nearing completion and access to this important source of information has been greatly facilitated.

In October 1992 the Forestry Library became a satellite library of the J.S. Gericke Library, and Mrs. Corinna Truter became the first staff member of the Forestry Library to be a full member of the Library Service staff.

THE LIBRARY OF THE EXTRA-MURAL DIVISION, 1958-1995

The first lecture given under the aegis of the Extra-mural Division of the University of Stellenbosch was read at the Bellville High School in 1958. When the Extra-mural Division moved into the block which is now known as the Main Building, one of the lecture rooms on the second floor was set aside for library purposes.

Very soon this accommodation proved to be inadequate, and in 1982 the facilities were transferred to the premises at Sea View, a charming historic house, dating from 1897, situated behind the Main building. At that time the farm Sea View was the

property of the Duminy family. The prospect from Sea View is described in J.P. Duminy's *Twilight over the Tygerberg*: "This site commanded a view of the Peninsula and the Cape Flats in a grand circular sweep anti-clockwise from the Blaauwberg on the north-east, across Table Bay to Table Mountain with its train of attendants southwards to False Bay. Thence it included Hangklip to the south-east and proceeded northwards along the Hottentot's Holland mountains, embracing Sir Lowry's Pass and Helderberg to the Stellenbosch peaks and on to Bain's Kloof, Sneeuwkop and Wemmershoek." The full description of the magnificent Cape panorama seen from Sea View makes interesting reading.

Mmes. Yolande Visser and Constantia Basson were two of the early librarians at the Extra-mural Division. Since 1980 Mrs. Ria de Villiers has been in charge of the library. The materials in the library include about 5 000 books and 13 current periodicals. Because lectures take place in the evenings, the facilities of the library as well as the hours of service have been adapted to suit the needs of the students.

9. ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

In 1981 Prof. J.H. Viljoen was appointed Deputy University Librarian, and in January 1984 he succeeded Mr. F. du Plessis. The name of the post was then changed to Director: Library Services. Prof. Viljoen obtained his graduate degrees and M.B.A. at the Potchefstroom University for Christian Higher Education, and the D.Bibl. degree at the University of the Orange Free State.

He held several posts in the Potchefstroom University Library prior to his appointment as Senior Lecturer in Library and Information Science at the University of the Orange Free State in 1974, a post that he held until 1981.

Some of the important developments that have taken place since Prof. Viljoen became Director are the following:

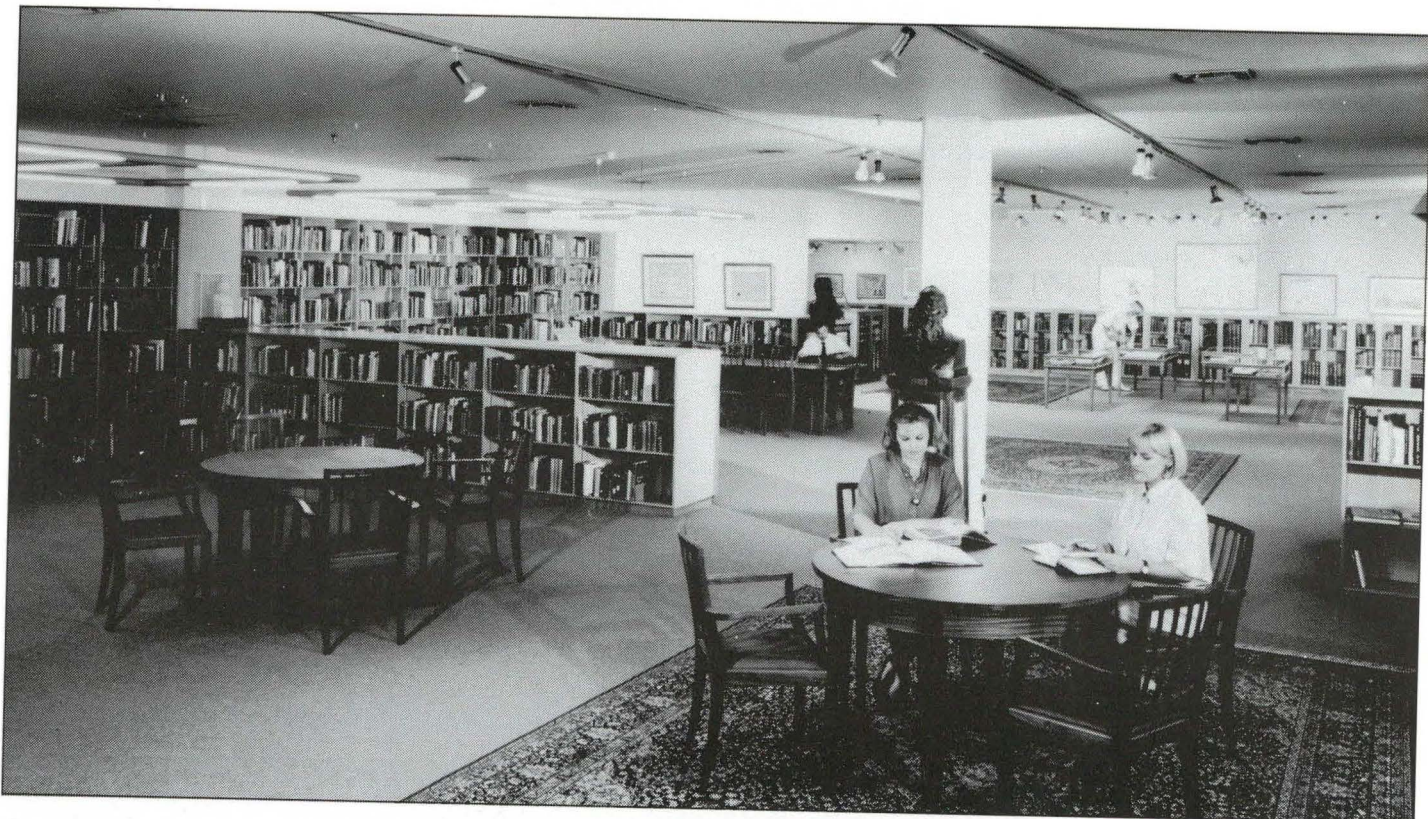
- The inauguration of the J.S. Gericke building in 1984 and the establishment of new services, such as the subject librarian system.
- The acceptance by the Senate in 1985 of a report which was the result of a comprehensive survey of library services on the University of Stellenbosch campus, and in which important recommendations were made.

- The acquisition of a computer system, and the computerisation of all the processes of the Library Service in 1986. New facilities were introduced, such as External Computerised Information Services (ERI) and modern technological products such as CD-ROM.
- An investigation into collection development policy and a fund allocation formula, which resulted in a report which was accepted by the Senate in 1990.
- The institution of Infobank, a commercial information service, in 1991.

During Prof. Viljoen's term of office the library has started to put into effect the policy of giving more publicity to the Library Service on the campus. This implies regular visits to deans of faculties, and liaison with the S.R.C. and the various faculties. There is closer contact with the Library Committee, which is now actively involved in decision making, especially with regard to policies which affect the broad campus community.

The Senior Director, as the head of the Library service is currently known, is supported in his task by the Deputy Director Mr. Johan Engelbrecht and three Assistant Directors, Mrs. Elsa Taylor, Mr. Max von Dürckheim and Mr. Matthew Syphus and a staff of 125 subject specialists.

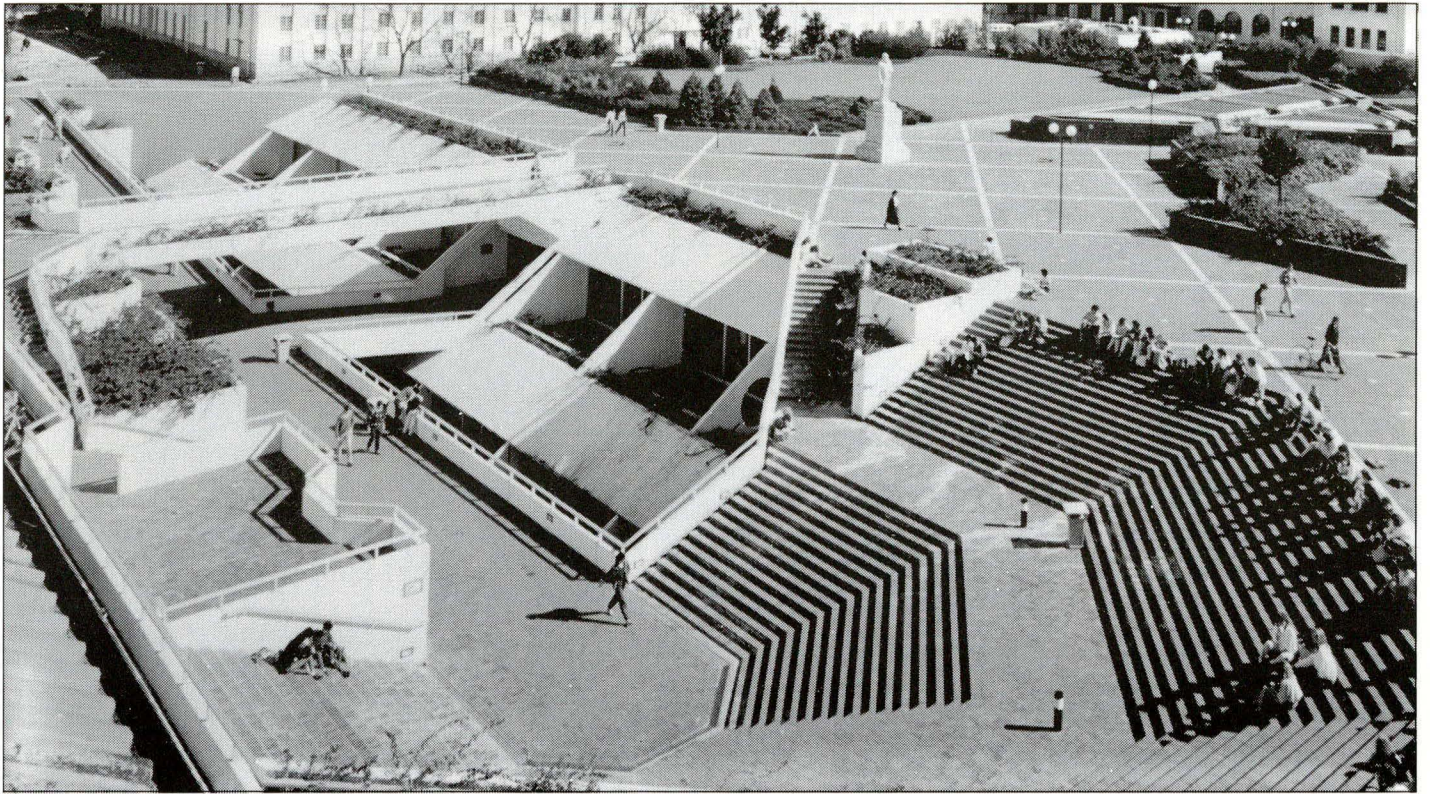
Through the years staff turnover in the library has been very limited, a tradition to which the heads of the library have often referred with pride. It is impossible to single out every past and present staff member who has made his or her contribution toward the prestige and success of the Library Service. All of them are workers in the best and most complete sense of the word: the Aarons and Hurs of the academic community.



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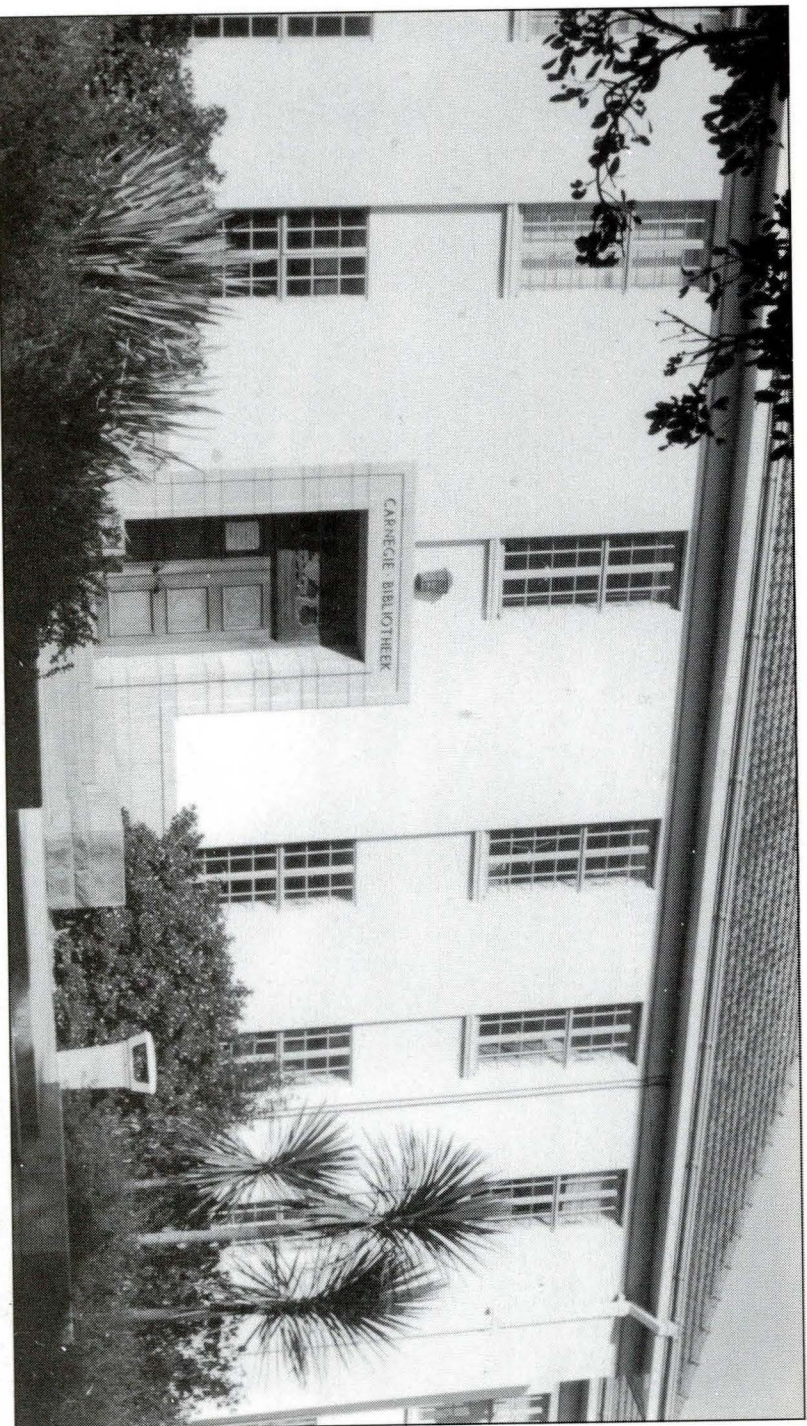
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