

*“Advancing Knowledge
Through Information”*

2003-2004
Annual Report

Youngstown State University
Miaag Library

From the Executive Director



Paul Kobulnicky
Executive Director

University life is a life of cycles. Each Fall sees a new group of students cycle in to begin their march to a degree and each Spring sees an experienced group of students complete their cycle by marching to the podium to pick up their diploma. Each year a few new faculty replace retiring faculty. The cycles go on. Some things change but much continues, the realities of today intersecting with tradition. Change comes slowly in our world.

July 1, 2003 was the beginning of two cycles in Maag Library. The first, of course, was the start of another academic year, the period of coverage for this annual report. The second was the start of a new round of leadership for Maag Library, my leadership. Since librarians have a reputation for, among other qualities, being consumed by matters of organization, we laughingly say that we required these cycles to start on the same day just to make things like this report work out neater.

I've been a librarian for nearly 35 years, and I have never enjoyed myself as much as I have during the past year. I have the pleasure of working with wonderful colleagues who are committed to Maag Library and to serving the faculty, the staff and, especially, the students of Youngstown State University...colleagues, by the way, who approach each and every day with humility, humanity and humor. It is also a wonderful time to be at YSU when the University's reputation is rising both in the region and in the state. As the University continually improves, our

library goal is to outpace the University, and we are off to a good start. You will see in the rest of this report that we have accomplished a great deal to move Maag Library forward during the past year. Not everything was easy and much more remains to be done, but as the dust settles the feeling of accomplishment makes it all worthwhile.

If I have been having fun, I have to admit that it could not have happened without the good work that preceded me. I won't go back into ancient history but I would like to acknowledge the fine work of David Genaway and Tom Atwood, my most recent predecessors. They directed this library through the most significant period of change in the long history of our profession, and they recruited and hired most of the current staff. I also want to recognize the incredible work of Jan Schnall during her year as Interim Director. Not many people know first hand how very difficult it is to be thrust into a position of temporary leadership. Jan did the right things, did things the right way and, did all of the hard things. We all owe Jan a debt of gratitude for her sensitivity to others and her dedication to both the Library and the University during the past year. I am pleased to say that my first significant act was to secure the position of Associate Director for Jan Schnall.

This Annual Report is dedicated to all of the fine staff and student employees of Maag Library who were responsible for our many, significant accomplishments.

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Paul Kobulnicky". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Paul Kobulnicky
Executive Director
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“With a little help from our

friends”

Maag Library receives its core funding from the University, but we rely on financial contributions and the donation of collections to truly enhance our programs. We are indebted to the following individuals for their substantial contributions during the past year:

Materials Donated to the Collection:

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Dr. Sharon G. Webber
Dr. & Mrs. Ralph Yings

Budget Reduction

In order to meet projected budget shortfalls, the University was forced to enact selective budget reductions going into the 2003-04 fiscal year. As a part of this reduction, the Library's acquisitions budget was reduced approximately 22%. This very significant reduction was exacerbated by the need to ensure that contributions to OhioLink were held at 100% of expected costs. The result was that allocations to the various schools were reduced by 42%. Such significant reductions meant that nearly 50% of the Maag Library journal subscriptions had to be cancelled. Thanks to great cooperation from the academic departments, by the end of the year we were able to successfully restructure library acquisitions budgets and associated costs. A motion supporting a restoration of the Library's acquisition budget in coming fiscal years was passed by the YSU Academic Senate.

Development of the YSU Archives Program

The close of the 2003-04 academic year finds the University Archives in newly renovated facilities on the fifth floor of Maag and an enhanced level of staffing. University Archivist S. Victor Fleischer redirected his efforts to be 60% archives and 40% Melnick Museum. Two Maag staff, Brian Brennan and Mary Ann Johnson, moved to part-time archives support. With funding from the library, the Provost and the President, professional workspace, staff offices and high-quality archival storage space was created and the adjacent Special Collections room was renovated into a reading room for the combined Archives and Special Collections unit. Furnishing the reading room and renovation to the surrounding space is expected to continue in the coming year. Collections are being acquired and processed. Hardware and software were acquired to digitize archival collections. The YSU Archives and Special Collections program is now well underway and defining a state-of-the-art archival and special collections program.

Maag Library



Silvio dos Santos (left), a faculty member in the Dana School of Music confers with Thomas Bell, Multimedia Librarian and representative to the Dana School.

Library Outreach

A major effort was undertaken by Maag Library to renew effective working relationships with YSU faculty. During the year seventy-five percent of all full-time faculty members were visited by professional librarians. These visits were designed to strengthen personal and professional relationships between individual librarians and faculty members associated with disciplines assigned to each librarian. The visits yielded very positive responses from the faculty and provided a basis for significantly improved on-going relationships. In addition, all new faculty were given a personal orientation to YSU library services during their first two weeks on campus. More work will be done in the coming year to expand upon this initiative.

Strategic Planning

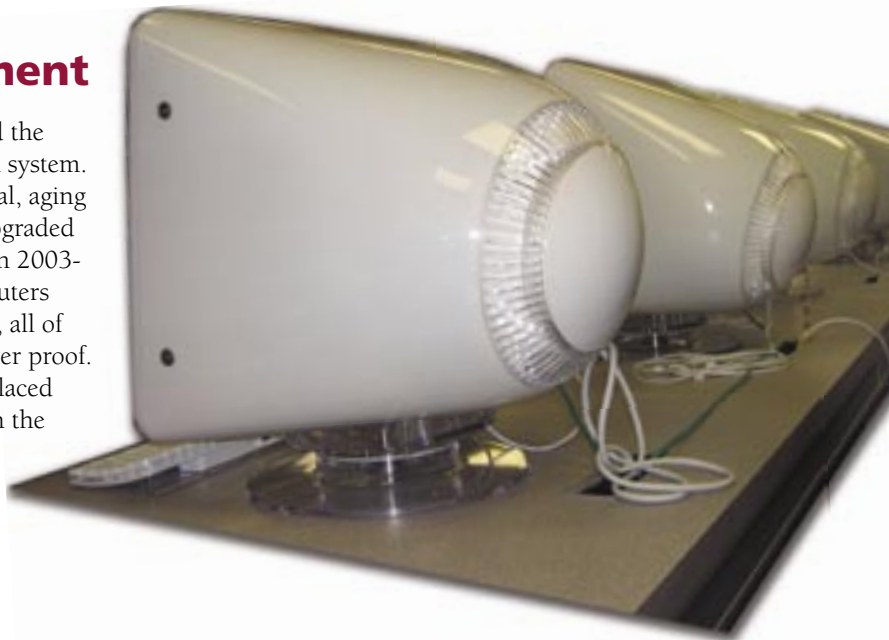
One of the major accomplishments of Maag was the creation of a strategic plan for the academic years 2004-2007. The plan was completed by the end of March, see: <http://www.maag.ysu.edu>. It was approved by the Provost and the Senate Library Committee. The library's annual work plan for those three years will be structured to accomplish the goals listed in the Strategic Plan.

Staff Movement

During the past year, two staff members, Brian Brennan and Mary Ann Johnson agreed to split their assignments and take up responsibilities in the new Archives program. In addition two other staff members, Jan Rice and Brenda Scarborough, agreed to split their assignment to provide staff management of the computing lab. The willingness of these staff to move where need demanded staffing is greatly appreciated.

Upgrade to Computer Equipment

A new server was acquired and installed to run MaagNet and the library's Innovative Interfaces Integrated library management system. Problems caused by a lack of computing power in the original, aging server, immediately disappeared. With all staff computers upgraded during the 2002-2003 academic year, Maag Library moved in 2003-2004 to upgrade all general-purpose computers. Most computers in the Reference Room were replaced by new Apple e-MACs, all of which boot directly from an OS X server, making them tamper proof. All of the computers in the Maag Instruction Room were replaced with new machines running Win X/P. All of the computers in the computing lab were modified with increased memory, Win X/P and configured to reboot to clean systems. The lab machines, which had been experiencing a constant 20-25% downtime in the Fall term are now running with no appreciable downtime.



Sleek new e-Macs are deployed in the Maag Reference Room.

Major Accomplishments 2003-2004



YSU students can utilize Maag's wireless laptops anywhere in the building.

Wireless Laptop Computing

A special upgrade to computing was initiated when wireless networking was turned on throughout Maag Library and 20 new laptop computers, with wireless capability, were acquired to be lent out to students, faculty and staff for mobile use within Maag Library. This successful project was a partnership between Maag Library and YSU Computing and Information Services, Division of Network Services.

Maag Instruction Room Upgrade

Significant improvements were made to the Maag Instruction Room. In addition to the new computers mentioned above, the room was rewired so that ceiling lights were able to be switched on and off (where once they were tied to the entire Maag fourth floor switch), new dimmable, sconce lighting was installed to allow computers to be used with low-level ambient lighting and, dimmable spotlights were installed to better light speakers and/or instructors in the front of the room. New shades were installed on the windows to control glare and new cabinets were installed to improve storage. Functionality of the room was improved dramatically.

Streamlining the Physical Collection

Given the dramatic availability of on-line access, Maag's physical federal documents collection was reduced by 50%. Hard copies of major indexes and abstracts as well as bound journals that are available in digital formats or repeatedly duplicated in the five-university, Rootstown depository were sent to paper recycling. With some exceptions, other bound journals prior to 1990 and many cataloged books in areas of the stacks with little space for new growth were sent to Rootstown.

Electronic Services

Despite budget reductions Maag Library was able to accomplish two strategic goals. YSU's commitment to OhioLink remains strong and all costs for OhioLink participation were met. We expect that this commitment will continue to be strong in the coming year. In addition, enough one time savings were realized in the 2003-04 budget that Maag was able to acquire access to the two primary Arts and Sciences files of JSTOR. Ongoing costs for JSTOR will be met by reduced binding costs.

Staff Transitions

Paul Kobulnicky (Maag Executive Director). Began July 1, 2003. Paul had previously served as Vice Chancellor for Information Services and University Librarian at the University of Connecticut.

Publication: "Pork Bellies and Silk Purses." An essay in the E-CONTENT column of *Educause Review*, Vol. 39#3, May/June 2004 pp10-11.

Presentation: "Looking into the Future", OhioLink Inter-Campus Services Committee Strategic Planning Meeting, Dublin, OH.

Attended: Educause Annual Conference (Anaheim); ALA Annual Conference (Orlando); AASCU Chief Academic Affairs Officers Meeting/American Democracy Project (Tampa); Bi-monthly meetings of the Library Advisory Council of OhioLink (Columbus).

Service: Chairperson, YSU Civic Engagement Education Task Force; Senate Library Committee (YSU); YSU Centennial Planning Committee.



Jan Schnall took up the newly created position of Associate Director for Administration and Operations after serving for a year as Maag Library's Interim Director. Previously Jan had served as Head of Government Documents at YSU.

Attended: ALA Midwinter meeting

(San Diego); "Living the Future IV" ARL/ACRL/U. of Arizona (Tucson); Electronic Theses and Dissertations (OhioLink Workshop).

Service: Within Grade Salary Adjustment Committee (YSU).

Angela Mudrak (Technical Services Librarian) announced her retirement effective July 1, 2004 after 30 years of service in Maag Library.

Attended: monthly Collections and Information Resources Management meetings of OhioLink (Columbus).



Martina Nicholas (Technology Librarian) resigned August, 2003 after 9 years with Maag Library to take up a professional position at Slippery Rock State University.



Cheri Goldner, a graduate student in the Master of Library Science program at Kent State, completed an internship in the YSU administration working on issues of marketing and communications.

Robert Ault (Serials/Microforms Librarian)

Attended: ALAO Annual Conference, Columbus, OH.

Service: Canfield Fair YSU Tent Volunteer.

Thomas Bell (Assistant Reference and MultiMedia Center Librarian)

Attended: Sound Savings: Preserving Audio Collections. A Symposium co-sponsored by The Library of Congress, The National Recording Preservation Board, et al. Austin, TX; OhioLink Music Librarians Annual Meeting, Columbus, OH.

Service: Grants Committee member, International Dana New Music Festival, Youngstown, OH; Tenor soloist, Dana Early Music Ensemble, Youngstown, OH.

Debra Beronja (Public Services Librarian)

Attended: OhioLINK Inter-Campus Services committee meetings; Represented ICS committee at regional briefing (Muskingum College).

Service: Participated in YSU's SOAR and Welcome Week resource fair; Worked YSU's Summer Festival of the Arts; Friends of Maag Library, treasurer; Judge for the Northeast Ohio Robotics Competition at YSU.

Brian Brennan (LMTA2, Public Services/Archives)

Attended: Overview of D-Space projects at OSU.

S. Victor Fleischer (University Archivist)

Publications: "The Youngstown State University Archives: A New Resource for the Campus and the Community" in the Ohio Library Council Subject & Special Collections Newsletter.

Attended: Ohio Network of Medical History Collections Annual Meeting, Loudenville, Building Connections Conference on History, Preservation, and Revitalization, Columbus, OH; Ohio Museums Association Conference, Cleveland, OH; Meeting with Ohio State University Cataloging/Systems and Archives Staff, Columbus, OH; School for Scanning: Building Good Digital Collections, Chicago, IL.

Service: YSU Chemical Hygiene Committee; Sacred Landmarks Committee; Mahoning Cultural Collaborative Public Relations Committee; Tod Hall Historic Photograph Exhibit Committee.

and Accomplishments

George Heller (reclassified to: Associate Reference Librarian)

Attended: Technology for the Rest of Us (Columbus, OH).

Service: YSU/APAS 2003-2006 Contract Negotiating Team; Chair, YSU/APAS Emergency Sick Leave bank.

Amy Kyte (LMTA2, Interlibrary Loan)

Attended: OhioLink P-circ USC meeting, P-circ regional briefing, Northeastern Ohio Education Association Megaconference.

Service: YSU-ACE grievance chair; YSU ACE–Federally mediated labor-management sessions.

Rebecca Moore (Assistant Reference Librarian)

Attended: Best Practices in Information Literacy webcast series—March 2-16, 2004; CEAO Conference (Columbus); Technology for the Rest of Us (Columbus); BookExpo 2004 (Chicago).

Service: YSU English Festival; Faculty Book Club; YSU Dom Leone Writing Competition (judge); YSU Academic Challenge (judge).

Paul Rohrbaugh (Curriculum Resource Center Librarian)

Publications: “War Gaming Academics,” in *Against the Odds* (issue #6), Winter 2004; “A Dark and Bloody Ground: the War for the Ohio Frontier, 1790-1795” [wargame and article], in *Against the Odds* (issue #7), Spring 2004; “Are We Having Fun Yet? Classroom Applications and Resources for the Use of Simulation Games,” in *Panzerschreck* (issue #12), May, 2004; “Uncle Joe: the Library Philanthropy of Joseph G. Butler in the Mahoning Valley.” In the Ohio Library Council’s SSCD Newsletter, May, 2004; “Story Telling Resources and Classroom Applications.” In the Ohio Library Council’s SSCD Newsletter, May, 2004.

Presentations: *Gurus and Brokers: Librarians in the Digital Age*. Ohio Library Council Annual Conference; *Are We Having Fun Yet? Classroom Applications and Resources for the Use of Simulation Games*, Hexacon International Wargaming Convention, Braunfels, Germany.

Service: Board member and Board Secretary for the Northeastern Ohio Regional Library System of Ohio (NOLA); Institute for Library and Information Literacy Education (ILILE); Reviewer for the LSTA mini-grants.

Awards: *Celebrate Literacy Award*. From the Ohio Council of the International Reading Association.

Jean Romeo (Reference Librarian)

Attended: ARL/ACRL Living the Future 5 Conference, Tucson, AZ including “Emotional Intelligence” Pre-conference Workshop.

Service: OhioLINK User Services Committee (monthly); OhioLINK User Services Training Subcommittee, Chair (12/02-present); Friends of the Liberty Branch Public Library, Historian.

Brenda Scarborough (LMTA2, Government Documents)

Attended: Congressional District 17, US Federal Documents Support Services Staff Meeting.

Service: YSU-ACE Executive Board, 2nd V.P. & Membership Chair; American Cancer Society Youngstown Relay For Life, 2004, Planning Committee Member (2 yrs), Relay Team Recruitment Committee, Chair; Black Faculty & Staff Association at YSU, Treasurer, List Serve (Manager, 4 yrs); Summer Festival of the Arts Volunteer (5 yrs); Multicultural Student Services Mentoring Program (4 yrs); Canfield Fair YSU Tent Volunteer (5 yrs).

Jeffrey Trimble (Systems/Catalog Librarian)

Presentations: “How to Arm Yourself with Church Music Committees with Assistance from a Librarian”, National Association of Pastoral Musicians, Eastern Chapter, January 2004.

Attended: Innovative Interfaces, Inc. Load Profile training; School for Scanning: Building Good Digital Collections, Chicago, IL; OhioLINK Lead Implementers meetings, Columbus, OH; OhioLINK DMSC meetings, Columbus, OH; NOTSL (Northern Ohio Technical Services Librarians) Fall and Spring meetings, Cleveland, OH.

Service: University Technology Master Plan Committee; University Website Advisory Committee; NOTSL, Immediate Past Chair, Scholarship Committee; Dean, American Guild of Organists, Youngstown Chapter.

Kevin Whitfield (Assistant Cataloging Librarian)

Attended: American Library Association conference, Orlando, Fla., June, 2004; OhioNet sound recordings cataloging workshop, March, 2004; OhioLink meetings on submission of electronic theses and dissertations, February, 2004.

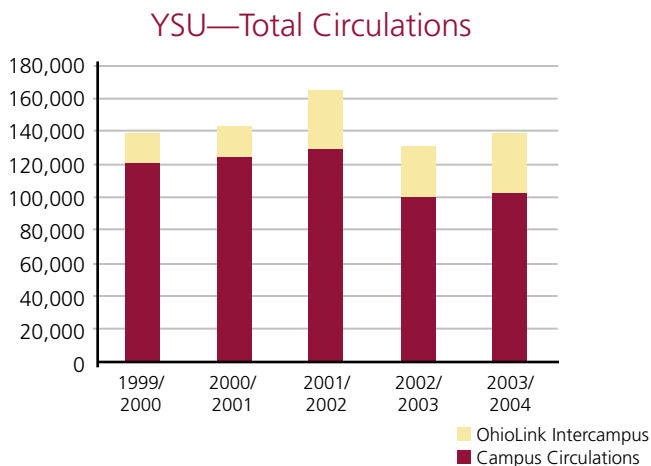
Service: Art Installation, knitted fabric, Youngstown Area Artists Exhibit, Butler Museum of American Art, Winter 2004; Art Installation, Maag Library, knitted fabrics, Fall 2003; Art Installation, Maag Library fabric art, Spring 2004.

knitted fabric

“What counts gets counted and what gets counted, counts.”
Maag Library, Selected Statistics

Each year we highlight several statistics on library use or support that help others understand forces affecting our mission.

Circulation: Access improves use. Maag Library, like most other university libraries, has seen the circulation of local collections drop over the past five years. It is important to note, however, that total circulations remain unchanged from five years ago when one includes circulations of materials obtained from OhioLink member libraries.



Acquisitions: Meeting our obligations? The budget allocated for acquisitions has fallen from over \$1.4 million to just over \$1 million in the past five years, a significant decline. At the same time, the portion of that budget given to OhioLink expenditures has risen from \$151,000 to \$436,000. While this weakens YSU’s ability to make unique, independent purchases, according to OhioLink estimates, funds expended on OhioLink do leverage YSU’s expenditures by approximately 300%.

