



MIT LIBRARIES' NEWS

Introducing CD Barton!

The introduction of CD-Barton has improved access to the materials in the MIT Libraries in a variety of ways. The new version of the catalogue makes possible very sophisticated retrieval of bibliographic data and takes a major burden off our aging mini-computer hardware. In the divisional libraries, the catalogue resides on local area networks that are updated daily with current circulation status and bi-weekly with the records of recently ordered and catalogued materials.

The new software enables a user to create bibliographies by searching multiple index fields simultaneously. It is possible, for example, to obtain a list of all the periodicals in French in the MIT Libraries, or to put into one list all the theses supervised by one individual. Because there is a key word index not only of titles, authors, and subjects but of all three combined, it is possible to find materials on new science and engineering areas before the *Library of Congress Subject Headings* catches up with those rapidly changing or emerging fields. You can also limit the search to library location, format, and date; this means that you can ascertain how many and which videos are available in Humanities or how many books about William Faulkner, published since 1985, are in the database.

It is now possible to find individual pieces of music or

short stories or plays contained in a larger work as the content notes, found in many catalogue records, can now be searched.

You can download your personalized bibliography to a floppy disk (3.5 or 5.25) or print it in the library. You can also control the format of your list from brief title and call number to full bibliographic record.



President Vest experiments with CD-Barton as Director of Libraries, Jay Lucker looks on. Photo by L. Barry Hetherington.

Although the compact disk version of Barton is available only in the libraries, it represents a major improvement in services for the present and the future. As we plan the future networking of our online catalogue, the CD version of Barton raises the standard by

which we will judge all future versions of the catalogue, i.e., any future changes will have to match or surpass the access provided by CD-Barton. Reducing the load on our original system by providing catalogue information through a CD-ROM, we are free to experiment with additional systems. We are beginning to test the acquisitions component of our original system which we expect will give us greater control over book expenditures and better information with which to manage the collections.

The new Barton—as well as the original, available by dial-up or on Athena—contains all machine-readable records from the card catalogues, including all books catalogued in the MIT Libraries from 1964 to the present. In an effort to make Barton more accurately reflect our entire collection, we have begun to convert to machine-readable form the records of earlier works (pre 1964) classified under the Dewey Decimal system and stored in the RetroSpective Collection. This project has begun with the history collection (the 900's). Already there are more than 585,000 records in Barton.

We hope that faculty will ask their librarians to give demonstrations or provide onsite help with CD-Barton so that the full power of our newest tool will be used. We especially hope that you will help ensure that your students make full use of this resource.

*Theresa Tobin,
Humanities Librarian*

Selected Services Offered by the MIT Libraries

Reference and Information

Need the name of a journal's editor? Need the telephone number of the Chemistry Department at Stanford? Looking for biographical information about an applicant for a faculty position? Trying to find out about potential funding sources for your research grant? Need help in tracking down an obscure paper reference? Trying to determine if your latest idea has been written about by someone else? Forgotten the chemical properties of a particular compound? What was the consumer price index in January of 1971?

Each of the MIT Libraries has trained staff to provide quick and in-depth reference service to help you in your research and instructional activities. The librarian staff, often with advanced degrees in your disciplines, are the experts on the literature, both manual and electronic.

Library Instruction

These same trained librarians are prepared to work one-on-one or in classroom settings to teach your students how to make effective use of the resources available to them through the MIT Libraries. Assigning a research paper requiring use of library materials? Think about contacting your "subject specialist" librarian to work with your students to both make the best use of their time and to improve the quality of their papers.

Electronic Information

More and more information is available in machine-readable formats and a growing segment available only in electronic form. Each of the MIT Libraries has CD-ROM products specific to the subject collections of that library. An earlier issue of this newsletter contained a complete list of the various products available. In addition, each reference desk provides information from hundreds of databases mounted remotely and accessible by dial-up protocols. These databases contain both bibliographic and non-bibliographic information. Most of the reference questions posed in the first section of this article can



*Librarian Michael Leininger performs an online literature search in Rotch Library.
Photo by Ginny Such.*

be answered by one or more of these electronic databases. The service provided at the individual reference desks is generally "quick reference," involving retrieval of specific information from one or two databases. More extensive searching is provided by the Computerized Literature Search Service (14S-M48, 3-7746). This fee-for-service office specializes in in-depth subject searches across many databases to gather information.

The service philosophy here is to put as much of this capability into your hands, rather than in the hands of librarians only. Initiatives to mount databases on MIT machines and provide network access to data are moving ahead rapidly.

Who to Contact

The Reference Coordinators in the divisional libraries will refer you to the appropriate subject librarian for your discipline.

Dewey Library:

Kathy Green, 3-7051

Engineering & Science Libraries:

Ruth Seidman, 3-7741

Humanities Library:

Nina Davis-Millis, 3-9354

Rotch Library:

Randy Bairnsfather, 8-5596

The next issue of this newsletter will contain information about access to collections beyond the walls of MIT.

David Ferrero,

Associate Director for Public Services

Electronic Reference Service Available On Athena

You're at home, making a few last changes to the manuscript for your book, due at the publisher's tomorrow. You note one last incomplete citation in the bibliography—but it's after six o'clock and the reference desk is closed. You've got a meeting first thing tomorrow morning and won't have time even to phone the library. You might ask the department secretary... or you could ask OWL. You dial into your Athena account, and type OWL at the prompt. You choose "sci" as a topic, and type in the incomplete citation and your request for additional information.

It's Kevin's turn to check the OWL queue for the Science Library, and he sees your question shortly after he gets into the office the next morning. He checks an index to verify and complete the citation. It's nine a.m. when he e-mails the information and let's you know that he's marked the question "done."

Sound like the Libraries' version of the On-Line Consultant? It is. OWL (Online With Libraries) is one of the Libraries' newest services and it's available now. Modeled directly on Athena's On-Line Consultant, OWL lets you ask a library-related question that you might otherwise have to save for

"regular" hours. Or perhaps it's the middle of the afternoon, but the reference line is busy; OWL can help then too.

To access OWL, you'll need an Athena account. To start up OWL, just login and type: *add library*. At the next Athena prompt, type: *owl*.

You can use the system from either a regular Athena workstation or from a dial-up machine. Communication with the Libraries may be "live" if the information specialist for your topic is logged in at the same time you are, but questions may be asked at any time and will be answered via e-mail if you have already logged out. On a workstation, running the X windows system, notification to and from OWL will normally be via zephyr messages. If you are using OWL through dial-up, messages will simply appear on your screen, or in your e-mail queue.

Turn around time will be within twenty-four hours excluding weekends and holidays. Occasionally a complete answer may take longer, but you will always get a status report on your question within a day's time.

Planned as one choice in a menu of library services to be available through Athena, OWL won't take the place of face-to-face consultation with a librarian; the library staff would still like to see you. But if a visit to the Libraries isn't on your schedule, you can always ask OWL.

*Kathleen Green,
Associate Dewey Librarian*



Information Services Study

The Libraries have embarked upon a research project to learn more about the information seeking behavior of three specific areas of the MIT Community: Brain and Cognitive Sciences, Management, and Materials Science and Engineering. The departments were selected because of their interdisciplinary natures and their mix of both established and emerging fields.

The purposes of this study are:

*To examine the information needs of the disciplines;

*To learn how information is sought, obtained, used, and transmitted in instructional and research activities;

*To describe changes in these methods over the past 5-10 years, especially the impact of technology;

*To describe the current role of the MIT Libraries in these activities and to make recommendations to strengthen services.

The study, funded by the Office of the Provost, is being conducted by Chris Sherratt, Assistant Science Librarian, under the direction of David S. Ferriero, Associate Director of Libraries for Public Services. Study teams of librarians have been formed around each discipline and will be gathering data during April 1992 using a several methodologies, including a survey instrument and focus group discussions. Michael Rappa, Assistant Professor of Management at the Sloan School is serving as the methodology "advisor" for the study. Information will be gathered from faculty, research staff, and students. The study teams will also be reviewing the data gathered with the departments to ensure accuracy and/or universality of the information. A final report will be submitted to the Libraries in June. This report will document the current information seeking behavior, describe the Libraries' current role, and make recommendations for

improved service. Upcoming issues of this newsletter will report progress and results of the Information Services Study.

*David Ferriero,
Associate Director for Public Services*

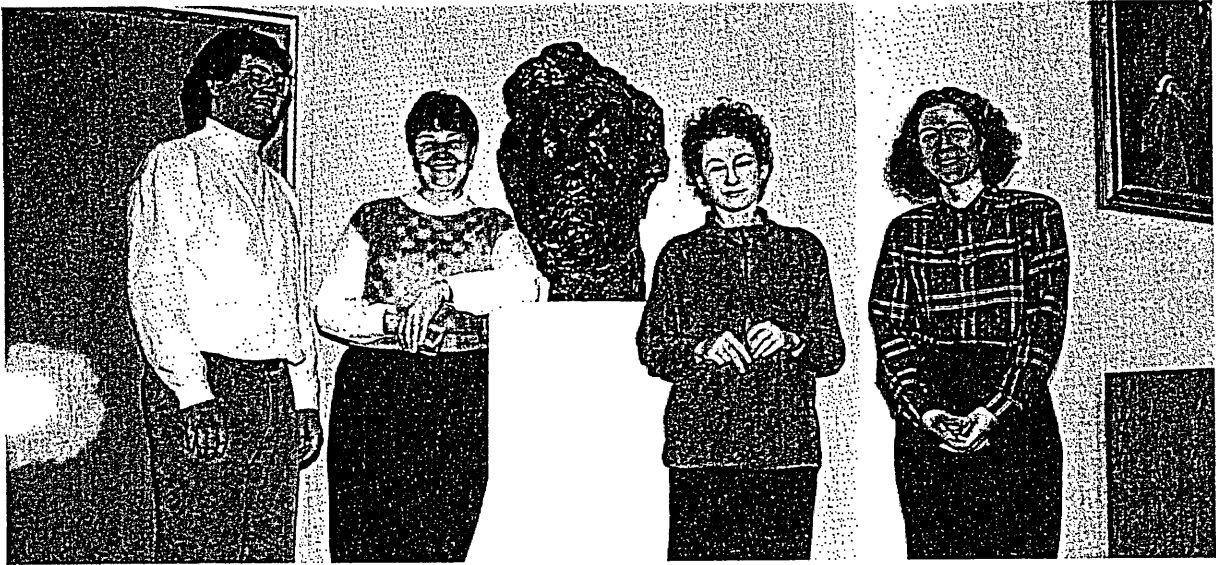
Experimental Library Program Operating in N51/52

The Rotch Library of Architecture and Planning and the Rotch Visual Collections (RVC) have begun a one-year experimental program to assess and understand the information needs of the architectural and visual arts studio communities located in N51/52. This program, named *Rotch at the Edge*, is providing an on-site library presence during the 1992 spring term.

Rotch at the Edge is supported by the Department of Architecture and the MIT Libraries. It is designed and staffed by a team of librarians from Rotch Library and RVC. They are Katherine Poole, RVC Librarian and Program Coordinator; Michael Leininger, Architecture Librarian; Mary Clare Altenhofen, Art and Art History Librarian; and Omar Khalidi, Aga Khan Librarian. They are being assisted by Assistant Professor Renee Chow acting as Faculty Liaison and Jane Lee, a third year M.Arch student who serves as the program RA. The program office, N51-349, is open 11:00-1:00 Monday through Thursday.

The primary goal of *Rotch at the Edge* is to obtain an accurate, up-to-date picture of the instructional and research needs of the studio culture. The information and experience required to formulate this picture will be gathered through formal evaluation tools and the provision of services at N51/52. These will include computerized literature searching, thesis preparation, consultations, and demonstrations of online databases. *Rotch at the Edge* is also participating as a component in the MIT Libraries' Information Services Study.

*Mary Clare Altenhofen,
Assistant Rotch Librarian*



New Librarian staff (from left to right) Eric Celeste, Elizabeth Winiarz, Nina Davis-Millis, and Marylene Altieri. Photo by Neal Johnson.

New Professional Staff

Elizabeth Winiarz, the Libraries' new half-time Information Specialist in the Computerized Literature Search Service, is no stranger to the Institute. Three summers ago she took a sabbatical leave from her position as Reference/Selection Librarian for Biology and Exercise Science at Concordia University and worked in the MIT Engineering and Science Libraries. She has resumed some of her reference and selection responsibilities from that time on a temporary basis in the Science Library.

Elizabeth also has prior experience as head of the Patent and Legal Library of DuPont Canada, Inc. in Montreal. She holds a B.Sc. in Biology and an M.L.S. from McGill University.

Our new Associate Humanities Librarian is familiar to all who have frequented the Music Library. **Nina Davis-Millis**, former Music Librarian, was promoted to her new position in November. Her responsibilities include serving as the Public Services Coordinator for the Humanities Library, managing its reference collection, and selecting materials in Anthropology and Archeology. Until the position of Music Librarian is filled, Nina will continue to select materials for the Music Library and answer any extended reference questions related to Music.

Nina's prior experience includes serving as Director of the Manhattan School of Music Library, as Music Librarian at SUNY Purchase, and as an Assistant Librarian at the Julliard School.

Nina has a Master's Degree from Columbia University, School of Library Science. She is very active in local and national music library associations.

Almost a year after he began working at the MIT Libraries as a serials copy cataloguer, **Eric Celeste** began his new duties as Head, Serials Copy Cataloguing and Record Maintenance. We expect to benefit not only from Eric's cataloguing and interpersonal skills, but also from his computer expertise. He has previously been a Campus Consultant for NEXT Computers, Inc. at Ohio State University and Kent State University; President of Appropriate Technology, a Macintosh software development consulting and graphic design business; and Director of Information Systems for the Governor's Campaign in Ohio. Eric has a B.A. in U.S. History from Yale and an M.L.S. from Kent State University.

Marylene Altieri is our new Assistant Acquisitions Librarian for Gifts and MIT Publications. Marylene has held a number of positions at the Fine Arts Library of the Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University, in the areas of cataloguing, acquisitions, and collection management. Prior to her

tenure at the Fine Arts Library, she worked at the Tozzer Library of the Peabody Museum, Harvard University.

In addition to an M.L.S. from Simmons College, Marylene holds an M.A. in History from Harvard University and a B.A. in History from the University of York, York, England.

Carol Zoppel,
Assistant to the Director of Libraries

Class of 1982 Gives Gift to Music Library

We are happy to announce that the Class of 1982 has chosen the Music Library as the beneficiary of its ten year reunion gift. Music plays an important role in the educational and social life of the Institute and the Music Library contributes significantly by providing books, scores, and recordings as well as being a place for relaxation and listening.

We are planning to use the Class of 1982 Music Library Fund to support the renovation of one of the Library's listening rooms. These spaces are heavily used by individuals and by small groups and need both physical improvement and new equipment. Further details of these plans will be reported on in a future issue of the newsletter.

MIT Celebrates a New Library

The newest library facility on the MIT campus is the library for art, architecture, and urban planning. Completely renovated over an 18-month period in 1989-1991, the new Rotch Library now occupies redesigned space in Building 7 and a new adjacent six-level stack building.

A celebration of the new library was held on December 5, 1991. About 200 people attended, including guests and members of the MIT administration, faculty, and library staff, the designers (Schwartz/Silver Architects) and the general contractor (George B. H. Macomber Company). A welcome was extended by President Charles M. Vest.



A view from the new addition. Photo by Ginny Such.

Paul E. Gray, Chairman of the Corporation, rejoiced that he no longer had to explain to successive Visiting Committees of the School and the Libraries why the architecture and planning library was situated in overcrowded quarters. He presented three commemorative books honoring those closest to the project: John de Monchaux, Jay K. Lucker, and John Deutch, Provost of MIT from 1985 to 1990.

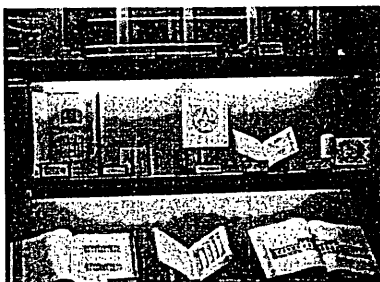
John de Monchaux, Dean of the School of Architecture and Planning, described the library as "a premiere collection of contemporary practice and host of lasting scholarship."

Jay K. Lucker, Director of Libraries, thanked the neighbors of Building 7 for enduring with grace the noise and disruption of months of construction. He praised the library staff members, who kept the library operating during the building process.



Natalie Nicholson, former Director of the MIT Libraries, with current Director, Jay Lucker. Photo by Neal Johnson.

The keynote speaker was Henry A. Millon, Dean of the Center for Advanced Study of the Visual Arts of the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C., and an MIT Visiting Professor. Using historical files and old acquisitions ledgers, he traced the development of MIT's architecture collection from its beginning in 1866. Comparing the holdings of a few of the early architecture and architects' libraries, he showed how reconstituted book collections could reveal the architectural taste and culture of a period.



Behind the speakers' podium, a large, lighted exhibit case featured several examples of the magnificent books and folios identified by Professor Millon as part of the original library. The books were readied for the exhibit by M. P. Bogan, the Libraries' book preservation specialist. Photo by Ginny Such.

Responding to Professor Millon's talk were invited presenters: Roger Conover, Architecture and Design Arts Editor, MIT Press; Angela Giral, Avery Librarian, Columbia University; and William Rawn, architect, of William Rawn Associates. Roger Conover described poetically the nature of the book, the library and the readers. Angela Giral spoke of the warm relationship among architectural libraries and gave to the library a copy of *Contemporary Architectural Drawings, Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library*. William Rawn, a graduate of the MIT Architectural program, recalled the value of the library to him, first as student, later as practitioner.

Refreshments and tours of the library were offered at the conclusion of the program.

Margaret de Popolo, Rotch Librarian



Rotch Librarian, Margaret de Popolo accepts presentation book from Angela Giral, Avery Librarian, Columbia University. Photo by Neal Johnson.

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Planning for the Distributed Library Initiative

Fifty members of the MIT community gathered to discuss the Distributed Library Initiative in an all-day meeting held January 6. The meeting, sponsored jointly by the Academic Computing Council, Information Services, and the Libraries to discuss and plan for electronic library services at the Institute, had the following three goals:

- *to identify projects currently underway and those involved with them;

- *to gather ideas for projects;

- *to determine if an umbrella program would be viable and useful.

Presentations were made on the topic *Using Electronic Library*

Services in the Best of All Possible Worlds, followed by reviews of the current situation at MIT and plans for the future. The afternoon session consisted of small group discussions on six topics:

- *System architecture for electronic library services;

- *Collecting and managing electronic information;

- *Navigating distributed electronic libraries;

- *Delivery of multi-media materials;

- *Tools for personal manipulation of electronic materials;

- *MIT as a producer and distributor of electronic information.

By the end of the day it was agreed that a loosely structured umbrella program to encourage information sharing was needed. A small group, was established to develop a program statement. The group consists of Professor Steven

Lerman, Director of IESL and CECEI; James Bruce, Vice-President for Information Systems; Marilyn McMillan, Director of Information Systems Planning; Jay Lucker, Director of Libraries; and Greg Anderson, Associate Director for Systems and Planning in the Libraries.

The Libraries look forward to working as a partner in this new Institute coalition to provide better access to the burgeoning world of electronic information. It follows in the tradition of earlier collaborative efforts such as Project Intrex and the Technical Information Project (T.I.P.) of the 1960's. Progress on the D.L.I. will be reported in future issues of this newsletter. If you would like more information on the project, please contact:

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