

## Library Collection Reflects Growth

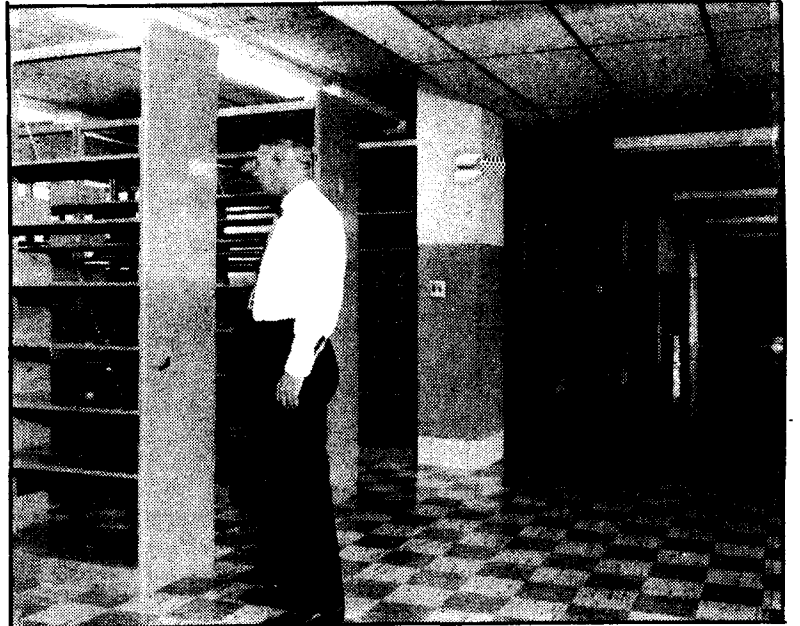
Growth has continually been the key word in describing the Penn State University at Harrisburg library.

After one year of operation, in 1967, the total collection already numbered 10,300 books and 566 periodicals. By if the growing collection was the good news, the space it occupied was the bad news.

By 1972, with the collection at 60,000 volumes and 13,000 periodicals, the space allocation was critical. Areas used as work/study areas for students and library staff alike were fading. In an effort to alleviate the problem, in 1973 the library expanded to use space in the adjoining Academic Affairs Office. Head Librarian Dr. Emerson Jacob commented at the time that this would be helpful for another two years.

His concerns were not addressed again until 1978. With 130,000 books, and the library bulging at the seams, the board of trustees approved \$280,000 to add 5,000 square feet of space. The addition, a pre-engineered metal building was to be located northeast of the present library.

Jacobs said in an interview with the student newspaper in April 1978 that he was pleased with the addition that he has been fighting for since 1972, but that the real problem was that a new library was needed. He cited the layout of the library as inefficient. "The present library area was never intended to be a



Empty library shelves awaiting arrival of books in August 1966.

library, it's just makeshift," he said.

Upon completion of the addition in Spring 1978, additional restoration on the newly renamed Heindel Library was done, expanding it to adjoining areas in an attempt to adapt the structure to user's needs. Several walls which were previously for classroom use were removed and the floors carpeted.

The most recent example of the library's growth was the addition of the Library Information Access System (LIAS), in 1985, making it the first library in the

area to offer users direct access to an on-line computer to search the records of the entire university system. Not only does this save the user a lot of time, but is far more efficient. Dr. Charles Townley, head of the library division, commented at the time that people without well developed library skills would probably not even come across many subtly related topics in a card catalog search.

Today, the Heindel library houses 175,000 books, 1,450 periodical subscriptions, 800,000 units of microfilm, records, and photocopier equipment.



Protest female student demonstration on first floor, Olmsted Building to protest their reassignment to a different dormitory in May 1968.

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