

Interoffice Communication

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
of Science and Technology

DATE February 24, 1965

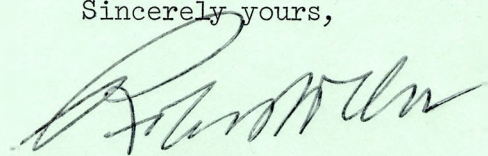
TO President James H. Hilton
117 Beardshear Hall

FROM Robert W. Orr
103 Library

Enclosed is a memorandum containing reasons why the Library has urgent needs for more space and facilities. This may be suitable for your use at the next budget hearing. If you would like it enlarged, condensed, or altered in any way, please let me know, and I shall be happy to change it.

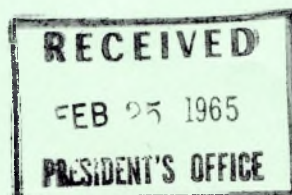
With kindest personal regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,



Robert W. Orr
Director

RWO/mmng
Enc.



BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE LIBRARY'S URGENT NEED
FOR ADDITIONAL SPACE AND FACILITIES

Seating At the present time the Library is capable of seating 1,213 persons. On the basis of the Winter Quarter enrollment of 12,256, the Library can seat, therefore, 9.9 per cent of the student body at any given time. The Library should have a capacity for at least 15 per cent of the student body at one time. In addition, more capacity is needed to accommodate members of the faculty. During busy hours there is more demand for seating than the Library is able to meet. In 1972 when the enrollment is predicted to be 18,000 students, the seating capacity then should be not less than 2,700. On the basis of the present seating capacity, of the 18,000 only 6.8 per cent could be seated.

Book stacks The three main book stack areas at present are (1) the Multitier Book Stack in the Original Building, (2) the stacks in the First Addition completed in 1961, and (3) the stacks in the Library Storage Building. The number of accessioned volumes in the Library's collections as of now is 558,166. Of this number, 166,838 are in storage. This is a disproportionate number inasmuch as in some instances the volumes of periodicals shelved in the central Library go back no further than three years and in a very few cases no further back than ten years. This is a disservice to students and especially to members of the faculty who rely on these journals in connection with their instruction and research programs. Many of these volumes should be returned from the Library Storage Building to the main Library. This can only be done when an addition to the book stack capacity is made available. The rate of growth of the accessioned volumes in the Library per year is approximately 15,000. By 1972 the total volumes in the book collections will have grown to 678,000. Long before 1972 bound volumes of journals as well as of books will have to be stored as so much cordwood in the aisles of the book stacks in all three facilities named above. Subscriptions to journals and other serials cannot be terminated because at a later date it will be next to impossible to obtain these volumes.

Library instruction quarters In the year 1965/66 no less than 3,900 freshman, sophomore, and transfer students will report for instruction in the use of the Library. A fifth full-time instructor is being added this fall; as the enrollment grows, additional instructors will be needed. This means that additional classroom, laboratory, and office space will be needed if the Library is to continue this program.

Other facilities In view of the increasing numbers of faculty members and the enlarged enrollment of the student body, greatly expanded facilities such as group study rooms, faculty studies, and thesis editing quarters will be desperately needed.