

Learning Begins Again

BY ROBERT M. BAILEY

"Labour, vigorously continued, has not often failed of its reward."

Dr. Johnson, 1750

In the library this year, student diffidence is out; learning is in. The librarians feel that far too often in the past students and teachers have been hesitant to fully use the library's facilities. This year they are setting about decreasing student and faculty timidity in the library and bolstering student morale. The goal? To make the library one of the best places to study and read; to make the library an effective learning center.

The new library staff will undoubtedly make the everyday tasks of searching for facts and retrieving materials easier. But they are employed to fill another, fascinating role. They are available to answer questions and push the student into new facets of the library. It's hard to imagine Marlene Hansen's excitement about the library not rubbing off on a student. "The library is a place for piecing puzzles . . . to find, 'wow, (I) really got an answer'."

This year searching can be done in relative quiet, unlike past years. The former locations of the circulation desk and reference desk made chatter unbearable. There was no one place where talking could go unnoticed. The formula to correct this problem was really quite simple. The reference materials and personnel were moved to the main reading room — which is acoustically more quiet. The

idea was followed by the circulation desk staff and it too was moved to the front room. Any noise or hubbub has now been well centralized in the front section of the Carnegie Reading Room. The arrangement of the card catalogues and reference book shelves gives easy access to incoming library users and helps contain noise. The philosophy of the move, said one library official, was to promote "easy access and active operations."

In addition, the staff will be campaigning for some other ideas. Among these: guided instruction tours, a library course, the student tutorial service, the inter-library loan service, and (for the professional staff) "The Current Awareness Service" — not a clandestine religious organization — a monthly listing of course related published materials to keep the academic staff up to date in their respective fields.

But these efforts are no where near the aspirations which the staff has developed. The additions to the reference and circulation staff and the moving of furniture are cosmetic changes. Concerning the renovations Damon Hickey said, "Our efforts will make the job easier but they won't make us innovative leaders in the library world (smiles knowingly) . . . only help us to be what we're trying to be." There will be a student and faculty evaluation of the library sometime during the semester. In the meantime, study and shelf space continue to run out and student demands increase for updated book collections.

Marlene Hansen refuted "imagination" as the key to success in the library — "it sounds like fantasy." Preferring to imagine the library as a kaleidoscope she explained, "Everything is there. The job is a matter of turning the mechanism to create a shape."

The staffs goals are aimed at making the library a comfortable and efficient place to learn. The future goals may include leather chairs and corner sofas in the reading room, as well as increased popular book purchasing funds (which now average around the \$2,500 range per year). A ten year advance planning committee may discuss the possibility of an addition to the library — to be either a multi-purpose section or an area for more shelves and carrels.

It is a rare comfort for a student to see a library staff that is committed to a vision of the library as a learning center. The search for effectiveness in the library has only begun. That the staff is eager to approach its high aspirations is something to appreciate. But appreciation is a two-sided affair. Damon Hickey and the library staff spent most of this past summer relocating books and shelves and furniture. After working so hard, he anxiously awaited first reactions to the restructured library and he was pleased by what he heard. "Ah," one student said to a friend — with a mixture of favor and discomfort — "now this is really a library." Smiling, Hickey sat down to read, in silence.

Guilford's New Faculty

Guilford College has five new, full-time faculty members for Guilford's 141st year.

They are Dr. Bob M. Keeny, assistant professor of accounting; Dr. Lynn J. Moseley, assistant professor of biology; Dr. Tendai Mutunhu, assistant professor of non-Western studies and history; Dr. E. Eugene Oliver, associate professor of accounting; and Ph.D. degree candidate Richardson K. Prouty, Jr., director of theater facilities and instructor in drama.

Dr. Keeny earned his B.S. degree in accounting at the University of Missouri at Columbia, his M.B.A. degree at the University of Missouri at Kansas City, and his Ph.D. degree in economics at the University of Kansas. He also is a certified public accountant.

Dr. Keeny comes to Guilford from the University of Missouri at Kansas City, where he taught accounting, finance and economics for the past 13 years.

During that time he also served for two years as chairman of business administration at the College of the Virgin Islands in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Dr. Moseley earned her B.S. degree in biology at the College of William and Mary and her Ph.D. degree in zoology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

She comes to Guilford from Elon College where she taught for two years. Dr. Moseley is a full member of Sigma Xi and is a field ornithologist — "bird-woman."

Dr. Mutunhu received his B.S. degree in political science and African history

from Columbia University and his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in pre-colonial African history from St. John's University.

Dr. Mutunhu taught for five years at Cornell University, and previous to that for two years at N.C. A&T State University. From 1973 to 1975 he was secretary of the Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) Committee of the Encyclopedia Africana.

The encyclopedia is being compiled at the University of Ghana, West Africa, to cover all social, cultural, political, historical, traditional, religious, economic and military aspects of every African country.

Dr. Oliver earned his A.B. degree in accounting and M.B.A. in management from George Washington University, and his Ed.D. in educational administration from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

For the past three years, Dr. Oliver was lecturer in accounting at UNC-G. He brings to the classroom 13 years of practical experience in accounting from the business world.

Dr. Prouty received his A.B. degree in theater, speech and education with departmental honors from Drury College, and his M.A. degree in theater arts from the University of Arkansas. His graduate study toward the Ph.D. is at the University of Missouri at Columbia.

Most recently, Prouty was self-employed as a consultant for creative teaching, but his teaching, scenic designing and technical directing experiences are from Washburn University, University of Missouri, Drury College and the University of Arkansas.

1977 Alumni Award

Daryl Kent '36, Professor of Philosophy, has been awarded the 1977 Alumni Award.

In his years at Guilford College, uninterrupted since 1939 except for three years as a Navy chaplain during World War II, Daryl Kent has been a teacher of philosophy, religion and non-Western studies, dean of men, dean of students, dean of the college, academic dean, enthusiastic stage performer and (on the side) hypnotist.

Many an excellent teacher has been praised for charming and "hypnotising" students into learning, and by his

students' own word, Craven Professor Kent has been one of those teachers.

But he has been more — an actual hypnotist, who gave demonstrations of his craft to members of Ernetine Milners Abnormal Psychology class. There at least one skeptical student became convinced when, protesting that hypnotism hadn't worked on him, he was unable to let go a pencil clutched in his hand.

Charmer of students, Dr. Kent has also charmed audiences through his life-long interest in the stage. For

several years his annual Christmas reading of Dickens' *Christmas Carol* was an eagerly anticipated event. He has directed and performed in a variety of college plays, from Thornton Wilder's *Our Town* to a delightful '50s parody of life of Guilford College (which by all accounts deserves a comeback), where with Emeritus Philosophy Professor Frederick Crownfield he romped through a ditty entitled, "Things Are Seldom What They Seem." Apt motto for a gentle Quaker of many talents, a most distinguished alumnus.

