January 7, 2000

Brenda Myles  
Associate Professor  
Co-Chair of University Senate Research Committee  
Department of Special Education  
University of Kansas Medical Center  
3901 Rainbow Blvd.  
Kansas City, KS  66160-7335

Dear Professor Myles:

Thank you for this opportunity to report to the University Senate Research Committee on the three-year summary information on the impact of the General Research Fund (GRF) on the University Libraries. We are pleased to be able to show a substantial increase in research activity in the University Libraries during the FY97-99 period.

Goals Statement from the February 1997 Report

The Libraries have sought in the past few years to increase the amount of scholarly activity done by its professional staff and, as was put forth in a document requested by Vice Chancellor Bearse in 1994, “to advance the University Libraries in national or international recognition” which would result in “observable innovation in bibliographic or subject-related operations.” The GRF has been one of the avenues which has aided the Libraries in its efforts to achieve these goals. Librarians have also taken advantage of New Faculty and Faculty Development funds, as well as sabbatical leave and grants from outside the University. Librarians have always been evaluated primarily on the basis of professional performance but service and research have in the recent past been stressed more heavily.

GRF Entity Summary Form

See attached table and highlights of the University Libraries FY 97-99 GRF awards.

Research Achievements for FY97-99

The Library Faculty Assembly (LFA) and the University Libraries administration have committed greatly increased resources to promoting research for library faculty and thus enhancing the University’s research mission during FY97-99.

- Since the last three-year research review, LFA has established a standing committee, the Committee for Research and Scholarly Activities (CRSA) to support and encourage faculty research, including oversight of the GRF process.
The University Libraries GRF allocation of $2800 per year has been completely expended during the last three years.

The Libraries FY97-99 GRF grants supported seven library faculty and two student assistants.

Two peer-reviewed articles have been published by FY97-99 GRF recipients.

Four travel grants totaling $4,079 have been received by FY97-99 GRF recipients.

Two regional and two national oral presentations have been given by FY97-99 GRF recipients.

Fifty-two days of released time has been committed by the University Libraries to support the FY97-99 GRF recipients. (Keep in mind that library faculty are on twelve month appointments.)

In addition, one presentation, two articles and two books resulting from the FY97-99 GRF awards are nearing completion.

Three years ago the Library administration established a Libraries Research Fund of $2500 per year (last year approximately $3000 was funded) to be administered by CRSA. This fund supports research needs, both small and large, and is particularly available to support unexpected research opportunities that come up throughout the year. These funds are available to GRF applicants and other library faculty and unclassified staff.

The Library administration also has funded a half-time Research/Grants Coordinator who works with CRSA and library faculty to support research efforts of library faculty. The coordinator works with all new library faculty to encourage them to apply to the New Faculty General Research Program. In the last three years all new library faculty have received these grants.

One library faculty member also received a three-year $100,000 plus Research Development Grant to fund an expensive specialized computer and scanning equipment which will prepare us to apply to the National Science Foundation for grants to support storage of GIS maps.

University Libraries faculty from the Kansas Collection, in cooperation with the Kansas State Historical Society, recently received a two-year $224,076 grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services to digitize materials from both institutions related to the Bleeding Kansas territorial period prior to the Civil War. These historical materials and related educational resources will enable students
and teachers to conduct research and write papers based on original documents from their schools and colleges.

Request for Increase in University Libraries GRF Funding

As our new faculty use their New Faculty General Research Program grants and our established faculty continue to expand their research activities we need substantially more funding from the GRF than we have had. We now receive $2800 per year, which has funded two to three requests per year. We strongly feel that a larger University Libraries GRF Fund would generate more requests and thus produce more research to underscore the University research mission. **We request an increase to $10,000 per year for the GRF for the University Libraries during the next three-year period.** We believe that this increase will substantial enhance the Libraries research output by attracting more library faculty to apply for GRF funds.

If the Committee has any questions about this report, please contact me at 785-864-4274 or swilliam@ukans.edu.

Sincerely,

Sherry Williams  
Library Faculty Assembly Chair

Copies to:  
Keith Russell, Dean of Libraries  
Gordon Anderson, Library Faculty Assembly Committee on Research and Scholarly Activities, Chair  
Kathleen Neeley, Library Grants/Research Coordinator
## GRF Entity Summary Form for the KU University Libraries

### For Faculty Receiving GRF Awards

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<th>FY98</th>
<th>FY99</th>
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<td>Books (in press)</td>
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<td>Grants and Contracts (number)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants and Contracts (dollars)</td>
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<td>Other Outputs (institutes, artworks, etc.)</td>
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<td>Awards Resulting in Other Outcomes</td>
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Highlights of the Libraries FY 97-99 GRF Awards

FY97

Gordon Anderson


Travel grant from the International Research and Exchange Board (IREX) for $1400.

Release time of 15 days.

Rick Clement


Release time of 5 days.

Brad Schaffner

“Bibliography of Russian Language Dictionaries,” a book-length manuscript still in preparation due to be finished in the next year or so.

Travel grant from the Kennan Institute for Advanced Russian Studies of the Woodrow Wilson Center for $1120.

Travel grant from the University of Kansas Hall Center for the Humanities for $1000.

Travel grant from the University of Kansas Libraries Research Fund for $529.10.

Release time of 22 days.
FY98

Brian Baird


Release time of 6 days.

George Gibbs

This project, Authority Control in Client/Server Systems in Large Academic Libraries, was delayed a year due to slowness in vendor development, but data gathering is in the final stages, and an article is in early draft form.

Release time of 4 days.
FY99

Vickie Doll

This project, An Annotated Chronology of Twentieth Century China in English and Chinese, a book-length manuscript is still in progress. Completion is expected during 2000 and publication in paper and/or on the KU Center for East Asian Studies web site is being considered.

Supported one student.

Cindy Pierard


Supported one student.

Will present an updated version of this project at the annual meeting of the Voyager (KU’s Online Catalog vendor) User Group this spring in Chicago.

Completion of an article is planned for later in 2000.