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INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMUNICATION

TO: Dr. Jane G. Flener

FROM: Dominique-René de Lerma

TELEPHONE.

DEPT.

DEPT.

SUBJ.

DATE: November 15, 1967

Our space problems involve three areas equally: patron service, storage of collection and room for staff operations. I do not object to make-shift arrangements under the present circumstances as long as some improvement is at least temporarily available.

A move to Laurel Hall, or an exchange of that space for room in Arbutus, cannot satisfy all three urgent needs.

Rooms 120, 121, 118, 192, 123, 125 and 127 contain slightly fewer than 700 square feet (more than 3,000 feet short of Dr. Byrd's request). Because of several factors, we cannot expect our patrons to move to Laurel Hall. Any change, therefore, in our present space assignment should also benefit our readers.

Dr. Byrd has indicated to me that he would not consider a move of the staff away from the collection to be proper. Were he to approve, the best we could do would be to transfer three full-time persons, all of whom are now working in my office. We would also move our hourly processing staff, which is using space in the Music Library Annex at this time. The result of a staff move would be that my office would be less congested and the Annex would have room to expand its holdings of orchestral and choral performing editions. By returning my office to its original size (determined by placement of partitioning), it might be that we could care for five more readers. This is not a very major improvement and it is certainly one whose benefits would vanish well within a year, but at a cost of \$420 (Work Order Estimate no. 1578), plus additional equipment. The most serious disadvantage, not to mention Dr. Byrd's reservations per se, would be that of distance between cataloging and processing, and the order file, PC and the collection.

The only other change possible would be to move part of our collection to another location (Laurel or Arbutus) for dead storage. Using Dr. Miller's ratio of ten books per square foot, the new room would provide storage for about 7,000 volumes (22,000 fewer than Dr. Byrd's option would have stored). If we were to remove these from our collection there would be no evidence of any improvement in any respect; the additional shelf space would be immediately absorbed and there would be no change for the patrons or staff.

I suspect that not one of these possibilities would be suitable. Even so, I will cooperate completely with your decision. I hope the School of Music administration will be cautioned that any kind of move to Trees Center will cripple the music library operations and that our service will deteriorate at once and remain substandard until some time after the library again becomes a unit.

I also think I should not be the one to make any final statement for the library system to Dean Bain.



INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMUNICATION

TO: Dr. J. G. Flener

FROM: D. de Lerma

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Tom Souter (who has been quite helpful) suggests it might be well to know the immediate future of the Music Library, until such a time a designed quarters are available to us. If we will eventually be operating a type of reading room within the School of Music, he suggests this might be the time to plan for staff and storage in the new library building on 10th street. He has also shown me a room in his present area which I might use if my position is to become more that of a liaison librarian for music. Substantial changes such as these would naturally be decisions for the administration. But if it were known what the nature of the Music Library would be in two, five, or ten years, it would help all of us with decisions we might need to make at this time.

I think Dr. Byrd's request for 10,000 square feet is justified, even though the university may not be able to provide it. Anything short of this will appear to be to the discredit of the Music Library and will, I honestly think, not be fair to my patrons or my staff.