

# Director: Junior staff subject to more cuts

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million, which is by far the largest chunk of the overall library budget.

The amount covers approximately 140 librarians and classified staff throughout the six libraries on the Pullman campus. Branch campus libraries have their own budgets.

Since Baker joined the WSU library team in 1991, 20 percent of her staff of librarians and classified personnel has been laid off. The cuts have not included temporary student positions.

At the same time, the university's Pullman libraries have not decreased in work load or services.

"We are sort of at a coping strategy," Baker said, "and if we have to go beyond that it will be virtually impossible to offer the same kinds of hours and services we offer now."

Losing staff members impacts the entire university, from students to faculty to librarian staff morale, said Cynthia Kaag, head of Brain Education Library.

Library staff cuts result in material not getting returned to shelves as quickly, the unavailability of employees to answer questions people might have and possibly decreasing hours of availability.

Kaag also said this time of the biennium makes library staff members edgy.

"There is a sense of uncertainty," she said.

Library staffing cuts also lead

**"There is a sense of uncertainty."**

CYNTHIA KAAG  
Brain Library head

to a process of bumping, said Vicki Croft, head librarian for the Veterinary Medical/Pharmacy Library.

One result is staff members with the lowest seniority are laid off, and other staff members with more time at the university are shuffled to new positions.

Another result is staff members at higher levels are bumped to a lower-level position, Croft said.

Until the kinks of adjusting to new positions by bumped staff members are worked out, Croft said, a library's quality of service is impacted.

Part of Walter Dryfoos' job is to get private donations to help, in part, with continuing budget problems to support librarians and other people working in the libraries.

Dryfoos serves as the director of library development, a part-time position he has held for two years.

Dryfoos said he asks donors to focus on excellence in the libraries.

Dryfoos also asks donors to focus on collection, development and preservation, library information systems technology, and unrestricted support for the library director to use at her discretion.

# Wedding: Opposers asked to take another look

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The principle behind this event is that people have equal rights regardless of gender, status or sexuality based on the Constitution.

The organizations believe people are not fully aware or are ignorant of this issue and need to realize that it is a reality.

"We are not trying to push homosexuality onto people, but to recognize their civil rights," Kreidler said.

In addition to raising awareness, NOW has set up tables in the CUB throughout the week where students are asked to sign Valentine's Day-cards in support of same-sex marriages.

So far, they have been receiving positive feedback and were able to get about 70 cards filled out which will be sent to the Legislature, said Kreidler.

Gov. Gary Locke is in favor of vetoing this bill and the organizations are asking people to support them by also contacting the Legislature themselves.

The only concerns the organizations have is the safety of the participants because they will be very exposed.

Tim McCarty, CUB director, doesn't have any real concerns

**"See what it is like to live in a system where society believes it is wrong."**

JUDY MEUTH  
NOW adviser

regarding the event and believes "they are expressing their political opinions and have the right to express those opinions."

Because there is a very real anti-gay sentiment, Meuth said, the organizations expect opposition.

Martin said they welcome people's views on the issue.

Those who do oppose homosexuality are being asked "to take another look," Meuth said. "Think about the individual involved and see what it is like to live in a system where society believes it is wrong."

Sophomore Hope Cristobal said, "I think it'll be a real eye-opener to those of us who don't understand."

The three organizations decided Valentine's Day would be a good time for this because all branches of NOW is advocating support on a day when people are thinking about love.

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