
A Tribute To Dr. Susan A. Schultz

by Frank Bateman Stanger

This issue of *The Asbury Seminarian* is dedicated to Dr. Susan A. Schultz, Professor of Bibliography and Research, and Director of Library Services at Asbury Theological Seminary, who is retiring in July after 29 years of devoted service to our institution.

Dr. Schultz is a native of Minnesota. In 1940 she received her B.A. degree from John Fletcher College and remained there for five years serving as Dean of Women. In 1946 she received her Bachelor of Science in Library Science degree from the University of Illinois, and three years later she received the Master of Library Science degree from the same institution.

In 1949 Dr. Schultz joined the faculty of Asbury Theological Seminary in the capacity of Librarian. Later during her tenure her position became Director of Library Services. At first an Associate Professor of Bibliography and Research, she was elected to the rank of Professor in 1972 upon unanimous recommendation of her professional colleagues. She became the first Chairperson of the newly-organized academic Division of Bibliography and Research.

During her years at the Seminary she has fulfilled numerous committee assignments. In addition to her professional expertise in relating the Library to the academic program, she has been especially effective in her leadership of social activities for faculty and administration.

Dr. Schultz has traveled extensively throughout the world and is a member of the Wesleyan Theological Society.

Dr. Schultz is a dedicated Christian and a devoted member of the Christian and Missionary Alliance. She has been designated as an "Official Worker" by her denomination. She is active in the Cardinal Valley Alliance Church, Lexington, Kentucky, where she

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serves as a member of the Executive Committee and as a Sunday school teacher. She has been elected on occasions to represent her local church at the General Council of the denomination. She has sponsored Christian and Missionary Alliance fellowship groups on the Asbury campuses. She also serves as a Director and the Treasurer of Evangelism Resources, Inc., which is active in Christian ministries in Africa.

Dr. Schultz's activities in library work have gained national recognition. She is a member of the American Theological Library Association and has served as Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Periodical Exchange, Chairperson of the Membership Committee, Executive Secretary and Director. She is a member of the Kentucky Library Association, and she served at one time as its Second Vice-President and as Chairperson of the College and Reference Section. She also holds membership in the Christian Librarians Fellowship and in the Church and Synagogue Library Association. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Withers-Jessamine County Public Library.

As the Director of Library Services at Asbury Theological Seminary, Dr. Schultz is active in the library consortium of the Theological Education Association of Mid-America (TEAM-A).

During a sabbatical leave in 1961, Dr. Schultz spent six months in Yeotmal, India where she supervised the organization of the library at Union Biblical Seminary. Shortly after her retirement this year, Dr. Schultz plans to go to Zamboango City, the Philippines, to develop a library at the Alliance Graduate School.

Many professional honors have come to Dr. Schultz. In 1967 she was named the outstanding Special Librarian of the Year by the Kentucky Trustees Association. In 1974 she received a Distinguished Service Award on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of Asbury Theological Seminary, and the Emily Russell Award from the Christian Librarians Association. The same year Houghton College conferred upon her the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters.

She is a member of Beta Phi Mu (library honorary society); Pi Lambda Theta (education honorary society); and Theta Phi (religion honor society).

We at Asbury Theological Seminary pay tribute to Dr. Susan A. Schultz for her magnificent professional and spiritual contributions to our institution during almost three decades. The depth of her spiritual dedication and the radiant outreach of her love have made

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an indelible impression upon us all. Her spirit of cooperation in all the activities of the Seminary and her willingness to perform any task asked of her have done much to create the kind of community that we enjoy on campus.

In a very real sense Dr. Schultz is the “builder” of the Library at Asbury Theological Seminary. When she came, she found little in theological library resources, and what she found existed in a rather disorganized state. The housing of the Library was shifted from place to place, each of them inadequate, including a small room in the basement of the Administration Building and later the basement of the Chapel Building.

But Dr. Schultz had a dream that she held onto. Now her dream is being fulfilled. Under her leadership the Library collection presently totals more than 111,000 volumes, including microtexts, a list of 635 regularly received periodicals, and more than 3,300 non-book media. To handle the demanding tasks involved in such an extensive collection, she has organized a staff of fully competent professionals and nonprofessionals.

The Library is now housed in the beautiful B. L. Fisher Building erected in 1967. It is a library edifice second to none in the entire theological world. A plaque bearing similar words to the one at St. Paul’s Cathedral, London, giving tribute to Sir Cristopher Wren the architect, could be placed appropriately inside the B. L. Fisher Library:

“If you would see her monument, look around you.” ■