



association of university and college employees

July 13, 1983

UBC Board of Governors
c/o Nina Robinson
Clerk to the Board

Dear Mrs. Robinson,

We would like to formally protest the discontinuation of the UBC Library Recon Project, and the subsequent laying off of ten Library Assistants and one Librarian. We feel that, in a time of such high unemployment, the shutting down of a useful project which employs eleven people at very little cost above the cost of labour is short-sighted and unnecessary.

It is our understanding that the University's failure to acquire the funds necessary to continue this project is a direct result of the heavy funding received for the BCLN Project. To our minds it appears that the choice to implement BCLN, a project which requires no additional staffing, was made at the expense of eleven library positions. We have been informed that a certain amount of money was even directly transferred from the Recon budget to the BCLN budget.

If the Recon Project was important enough to increase the staff to over twenty people only a couple of years ago, why is it now so unimportant as to be discontinued altogether? This project could provide several more years employment at its present staffing level, and at very little cost. We would like to see the University make further efforts to acquire the funds necessary to continue this project. We wonder if all sources of grant funding have been considered, federal and provincial. Our main concern is the continued employment of our members. We know that the completion of the Recon Project, which would ensure that employment, is considered to be very desirable, if not necessary, by the management of the Library.

Yours sincerely,

Patricia House
Secretary Treasurer
AUCE Local 1
for the AUCE Executive

cc George Pederson
Douglas N. McInnes