

In memory of Helen Ganser

Respected pioneer of library science at MU passes away at 98

Since 1968 the Ganser Library has been a campus landmark, sturdily planted near the center of campus, one of the largest buildings here at Millersville University.

Likewise Helen Ganser, whose name was given to the new library 22 years ago, was a living symbol of the splendid library education program she pioneered at MU. She was instrumental in implementing the first teachers' college classes in library science.

It is difficult for most students to appreciate what a substantial contribution Helen Ganser made to Millersville's college library. To most she is simply the woman who gave her name to the library.

In actuality, she served as Millersville's head librarian for 41 years, and was president of the Pennsylvania Library Association from 1944 to 1945.

One wonders what sort of library system

Millersville University might have today if it weren't for her selfless devotion to the establishment of the library system we all-too-often take for granted now.

Ganser retired in 1952, due to failing health and poor eyesight, after devoting a lifetime of service to the University. She died just last week, at the age of 98.

Faced with the recent news of the impending demise of the library science program that Helen Ganser worked so hard to establish here over three-quarters of a century ago, we can only hope that this program, now in the twilight of its existence, will produce another graduate as tirelessly devoted to library science as Ganser was.

Her influence as a diligent and highly respected founding member of the MU community we know today will be sorely missed.