News Release: American Library Association

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From: Peggy Barber, Director
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Carolyn Whitenack, Chairperson, Media Sciences, Department of Education, Purdue University, was presented the Beta Phi Mu Award by the Library Education Division of the American library Association, for her creative leadership and distinguished national and international contributions in the field of education for librarianship, educational media and school librarianship. The award, consisting of $500 and a citation, was presented to Ms. Whitenack at the program meeting of the Library Education Division on Wednesday, July 21, during the Centennial Conference of the ALA in Chicago.

Ms. Whitenack received a Bachelor's degree from the University of Kentucky and her Masters degree in Library Science from the University of Illinois. Prior to her professorship at Purdue University; she was director, Division of School Libraries and Teacher Materials at indiana Department of Public Instruction; head, Cataloging Department and School Library Services at Louisville Public Schools; and instructor and librarian at the University of Kentucky. She began her career as an elementary teacher in Mercer County and Versailles, Kentucky Public Schools.

Among her many honors are inclusion in Who's Who of American Women, Who's Who in America; election to Kappa Delta Pi, Beta Phi Mu; national delegate to International Federation of Libraries in Berne, Switzerland; Moscow, and Washington. She has also been delegate to UNESCO Conference, and World Confederation

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of Organizations of the Teaching Professions in Stockholm, Vancouver, Dublin, and Singapore. She was the first school librarian to be nominated for presidency of ALA and she served as president of the American Association of School Librarians in 1968.

The citation to Ms. Whitenack reads in part: ". . . Her unique approach to library/media education can be amply illustrated by the media science curriculum at Purdue University in its effective assimilation of media into library service education . . . . Her professional commitment to total media service was instrumental in the development of MEDIA PROGRAMS: DISTRICT AND SCHOOL, 1975; as well as STANDARDS FOR SCHOOL MEDIA PROGRAMS, 1967 . . . . This award acknowledges Carolyn I. Whitenack; crusading spirit and innovative vision of education for librarianship. . . ."

Ms. Whitenack has been a prolific contributor to professional literature. Her most recent publications include MEDIA PROGRAMS: DISTRICT AND SCHOOL (1975); STANDARDS FOR SCHOOL MEDIA PROGRAMS (1969); "The Reading Program and the Media Specialist: Three Steps for Involvement", Catholic Library World (March 1976); "An Historical View: Cataloging Non-Print Materials" Audiovisual Communications Review (Spring 1974); STANDARDS FOR CATALOGING, CODING AND SCHEDULING EDUCATIONAL MEDIA (1968), Co-author; "New Standards" Catholic Library World (Dec.1969); and "And the Beat Goes On," School Libraries (Spring 1968).

The Beta Ph Mu Award is presented annually for distinguished service to education for librarianship.