

News Release: American Library Association

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From: Peggy Barber, Director
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Kenneth Raymond Shaffer, who served as director and professor of the School of Library Science at Simmons College, Boston, for almost three decades, is the winner of the 1975 Beta Phi Mu Award for distinguished service to education for librarianship. The award, consisting of \$500 and a citation, was presented to Kenneth R. Shaffer on June 30, 1975, at the program meeting of the Library Education Division at the San Franciscan Hilton, during the Annual Conference of the American Library Association June 29 - July 5th.

During World War II, Kenneth Shaffer, organized and served as Director of the American Book Center, Inc., a project sponsored by the United States Department of State to provide research materials to 46 foreign countries. Professor Shaffer was Assistant Director of Libraries at Indiana University, and a member of the faculty of the University of Illinois, and Trumbull Lecturer at Yale University. He has lectured widely in other universities in this country and in Europe. He has been consultant to the Department of State on a variety of occasions and recently served as their American Specialist in Europe and surveyed the U.S. Information Program in several foreign countries.

Among his many publications are The Experience of Management: Case Studies in Public and Academic Library Administration, 1973; Decision Making: A Seminar in Public Library Management, 1971; Library Administration and Supervision, 1963; The Book Collection, 1961. Professor Shaffer is listed on the ALA's Suggested Consultants for College and University Library Buildings and also on their Suggested Consultants for Public Library Buildings. He is also recommended by library agencies of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, Connecticut, and other states; and also served as consultant in library architecture to the governments of Denmark, The Netherlands, West Germany, and Yugoslavia.

The citation presented to Professor Shaffer reads, in part: ". . . for almost three decades Kenneth R. Shaffer pioneered in the application of the case method to library education. In this one area alone, his driving force and example have had enormous, positive effects on the education of librarians. . . . Perhaps the most distinguishing feature of Professor Shaffer's career is his dedication to the development of the careers of other individuals. He has given assistance in an unselfish way to all who have asked. His interest in librarians and libraries is sincere and continuing."