

New Horticultural Librarians

Valerie Easton and Laura Lipton are job-sharing the new position of Horticultural Librarian at the Miller Library. They were selected from more than 40 candidates who applied from around the country. Both librarians have a Master's degree from the University of Washington Graduate School of Library and Information Science.

Ms. Easton comes to the Center for Urban Horticulture with a public services background and a strong interest in plants. For the last seven years she worked as a reference librarian at Bellevue Public Library. Prior to that she set up a library and provided reference and research services for NBBJ, a firm of architects and planners. She took the Washington State University Master Gardener training last winter and has been in the process of landscaping her own yard for the past two years.

Ms. Lipton, also an avid gardener, has a second Master's degree in Education. She set up and managed the library at the Pacific Science Center where she served as Librarian and Grants Coordinator from 1978 to 1982. In addition, she has seven years experience in public and university libraries and two years of experience with a computerized information firm. Ms. Lipton enjoys spinning, weaving and natural dyeing, and volunteers for many arts organizations.

Their dream is to make the Miller Library

one of the best horticultural libraries in the country. Although it is a small library, they plan to develop it as an excellent resource center for the faculty and students of the Center as well as for the gardening public and related professional groups in this region.

The Library collection currently has about 2,000 books and 2,000 journals, (some of which are in exchange for the *Arboretum Bulletin*), is expected to eventually triple in size. About 500 rare books, all donated in previous years, have been moved from storage in Suzzallo library to the Center's climate-controlled Rare Book Room, so that they will be accessible once again.

The Library is currently open to the public for browsing Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Evening and weekend hours will be announced soon. Once cataloging and processing are completed, some books will be available for checking out.

Both librarians expect to do public speaking and displays for garden clubs and Center classes, as well as short book reviews for the *Arboretum Bulletin*. Volunteers are needed to work with rare books, seed catalogs and the library's computer.

Many of the books in the Library were donations or bought with donated funds. A gift/donation policy statement and a "wish list" of much-needed books is available at the library.