

My Remembrance of Jane Lindley

Anımsadığım Jane Lindley

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Abstract

This is a memoir I wrote about Jane, who impressed me with her vast professional and life knowledge, while I was at the Koç University Library in February 1990 as part of the librarian exchange program.

Keywords: *Jane Ann Lindley; personnel exchange; Koç University Library.*

Öz

Kütüphaneci değişim programı kapsamında Şubat 1990'da Koç Üniversitesi Kütüphanesi'nde bulunduğum sırada engen iş ve hayat bilgisiyle beni çok etkileyen Jane hakkında kaleme aldığım anı mektubudur.

Anahtar Sözcükler: *Jane Ann Lindley; personel değişimi; Koç Üniversitesi Kütüphanesi.*

I was very fortunate to spend February 10-20, 1999 at Koç University in Istanbul as part of an exchange of faculty and librarians between Duke University and Koç. I was there to consult on the collection development program and the Suna Kıraç Library's support for the Certificate in American Studies. It was in all ways a wonderfully broadening experience for me (and my 10-year-old son Logan, who accompanied me on the adventure) and taught me that the challenges to libraries are similar regardless of their size or location. I will always be grateful to the remarkable Jane Lindley, who was the director of the Library and organized my visit.

Jane lived a fascinating and active life of travel and work in at least a dozen countries. She was an independent spirit who thrived on challenges. I could tell from the moment I met her that Jane was fully committed to the Library, focused on building excellent library collections and services in support of the intellectual work of the Koç community. But even clearer was Jane's affection for and dedication to her staff, a talented, diverse and enthusiastic group of experts. She wisely knew that her ambitions for the Library depended on having a strong and collaborative staff.

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On my first day at Koç, as I learned about their job responsibilities, their educational backgrounds, and their ambitions, I wondered how I could, in a relatively short time, get to know the staff more personally. On my last day, when they threw a goodbye party for me and for us, I felt that I was leaving a very good group of friends. I was moved by their gifts, their warmth, and their collegiality. Jane was very proud of her staff and took a deep interest in each person. She was mentor and coach, a “boss” but also a friend. She gave them professional development and travel opportunities, followed their careers, and stayed in close touch with each one after her retirement. Jane was a strong role model and set a high standard as a library leader, as well as for personal and professional generosity.

The time at Koç remains among my best memories, and Logan’s as well. I will cherish the days spent with Jane Lindley and her wonderful staff, and I will remember her spirit of adventure, her great kindness, and her commitment to her profession.

Thank you, Jane. May you rest in peace.