This survey updates a 1970 study by Paul S. Reigel and Robert L. Bender. Two hundred fifty members of the Association for the Study of Higher Education listed ten titles they considered to be basic or current reading within their designated area of specialization and five journals and periodicals they felt were the most useful and informative about postsecondary education. Categories developed by Riegel and Bender are used. They are: Administration, adult education, teaching, postsecondary education, comparative higher education, curriculum, educational economics, educational finance, governance, change agents, educational history, planning, research, evaluation, and student personnel work. Results are reported in terms of rank order listing of the top most frequently recommended books in each category. (KE)
Paul S. Riegel and Robert L. Bender authored a higher education bibliography. During the summer of 1970, they undertook a survey of 650 persons whose names appeared on the American Association of Higher Education List of Faculty Members Teaching Courses in Higher Education. Their questionnaire asked respondents to list up to ten "classic" or current books which they considered to be basic reading for a student of Higher Education, whatever his or her area of specialization might be. The author's report included the top 25 recommended books and analytical comments (Riegel and Bender, 1972) which proved to be most valuable for students of higher education.

In the autumn of 1971, Riegel and Bender conducted a second survey, enlarging upon their previous work. It focused upon the basic books in the various areas of specialization within the field of Higher Education. On the second form the authors asked the respondents to report their major area of specialization and to list up to ten books considered to be basic reading for students in that particular area of specialization (Bender and Riegel, 1973). From the returns, they developed fourteen categories with a corresponding listing of the most frequently mentioned books in each specialization.

The bibliographies compiled through Riegel and Bender's surveys provoked much interest and proved to be an extremely valuable tool for professors and students alike. Since that time, the literature of higher education has grown immensely through publications from many sources including the Carnegie Commission and Jossey-Bass. In discussions with Bender and Riegel, it was felt that much could be gained from a similar, current survey. An
updated bibliography would greatly assist students and practitioners in keeping abreast of the major works (old and new) in the rapidly burgeoning field of Higher Education.

With this in mind, the authors conducted a survey in the spring of 1976. The 250 members of the Association for the Study of Higher Education constituted the sample (N=221). The questionnaire asked the respondents to report the ten titles which they considered to be basic or current reading (what was called "most beneficial and relevant") within their designated area of specialization. In addition, it was also requested that they indicate the five journals and periodicals which they felt were the most useful and informative about post-secondary education. This section was a direct outgrowth of Bender and Riegel's study for many respondents felt that periodicals were oftentimes as valuable as books.

In most instances the original categories developed by Riegel and Bender were utilized. In two cases other categories were developed which seemed appropriate from feedback of the previous surveys and current developments within the field.

The results are reported in terms of rank order listing of the top five most frequently recommended books in each category. The top five most frequently recommended journals are also indicated. *signifies that the book appeared on previous bibliographies.
ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION


ADULT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION


COLLEGE TEACHING


COMMUNITY COLLEGE


COMPARATIVE HIGHER EDUCATION


CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION


ECONOMICS AND FINANCE


GOVERNANCE


HIGHER EDUCATION: SOCIOLOGY AND CHANGE


HIGHER EDUCATION: SOCIOLOGY AND CHANGE CONT'D


HISTORY OF HIGHER EDUCATION


IMPACT OF COLLEGE ON STUDENTS


Havinghurst, Robert J. Human Development and Education. New York: Long-men's, Green, 1953.


PLANNING FOR HIGHER EDUCATION


PLANNING FOR HIGHER EDUCATION


RESEARCH AND EVALUATION


STUDENT PERSONNEL WORK - PROCEDURES AND ORGANIZATION


Brown, Robert D. Student Development in Tomorrows Higher Education and Return to the Academy. ACPA Student Personal Monograph #16.
The current study found that several of the books which achieved high rankings in the previous surveys continue to be highly regarded.

Jossey-Bass and Carnegie Commission publications ranked highly in the following categories: Community College, Comparative Higher Education, Impact of College on Students and Higher Education: Sociology and Change. Since there was some overlap in terms of the same book being mentioned in several categories, it was decided to present only the five most frequently mentioned books per category. This list reflects the thoughts of the respondents and may not necessarily be the "best" books available, never the less it gives a good indication of current thought about the literature of higher education.

Twenty-four of the books on this list were also included in 1971. This shows that while there has been a large amount of publication, few books seems to be of such significance to warrant inclusion. Also, in some categories there was a relatively small sampling.

The periodicals and journals ranked as follows:
1. The Chronicle of Higher Education
2. The Journal of Higher Education
3. Change
4. Research in Higher Education
5. Educational Record

Fifty-six other magazines, newspapers, and newsletters were also submitted ranging from Administrative Science Quarterly to The London Times Higher Education Weekly Supplement.

In as much as the categories reflect the nature and diversity of the reading material available for the study of Higher Education, it appears
that the "classics" have remained, although the literature is changing over time. One such sign of the times may be that the most appropriate title for the "other" category may have been Education and the Law, which may grow to be an even larger area of specialization in the near future.
References

Riegel, Paul S, and Robert L. Bender. "Basic Reading in Higher Education," 

About the Author

Ms. Christine G. Howe is an Assistant Dean in the Office of Campus Programs and Services and a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of Leisure Studies at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Mr. Jan B. Kubik assisted in the gathering of data and compilation of results.