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Aerospace Section

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AEROSPACE SECTION OF THE ENGINEERING DIVISION

The Aerospace Section of the Engineering Division encourages communication and cooperation among information professionals concerned with aerospace, aeronautical and related technologies. In addition, it fosters dialog with entities such as NASA, the AIAA and other important sources of technical data and bibliographical services.

FROM THE CHAIR

SUSAN LAMANNA

Come One, Come All to San Antonio for This Year's Conference!

Being part of the planning committee for this year's conference has been a marvelous experience for me. I have met so many wonderful people who have great ideas and are truly interested in bringing fulfilling programs to you. By now you have received your program in the mail and had a chance to go to the SLA Web site to view the programs.



I look forward to meeting you Monday at the business meeting continental breakfast, which this year is free due to the generous sponsorship of the American Institute of Astronautics and Aeronautics (AIAA) and British Aerospace Systems (BAE). I hope you will also attend the Monday luncheon, where Susan Buckingham will guide us through the Web site of the FAA regulatory library. AIAA and BAE are subsidizing the cost of the luncheon as well.

Mark your program for "Batgirl Was a Librarian and So Was Casanova" on Tuesday afternoon. This program is being sponsored by OPENTEXT—Basis Division.

We are also co-sponsoring the following programs with other divisions: "Library Education: Knowledge for the Twenty-first Century," "Secrets of the Refer-

ence Interview," and the standards roundtable.

Now I would like to introduce you to the Gulfstream Corporate Library



While attending the Winter SLA conference, I had the unique opportunity to visit the Gulfstream Corporate Library. Mary Pitt, acquisitions and cataloging librarian, graciously arranged for not only a tour of the library but also the facilities. I would like to briefly highlight my visit.

The corporate library started out in what one would term a closet (how many of you can relate to that?). Over time, library manager Sandra Hayden-Henry expanded and moved it to what used to be the flight simulator area. With the already reinforced floor, there was no problem with floor loading.

Customer service is a high priority with the library's staff (two librarians and two administrative assistants). I was told they love searching out old documents for their clients and providing online information resources—a kind of one-stop shopping presence on their intranet.

The library uses SIRSI Corporation's WebCat, which is their online corporate employees' catalog. The corporate library is not a lending library, but provides a limited photocopy service via interlibrary loans. The Web presence on their intranet, which is used constantly, provides links to various contracted information services as well as the library catalog and imaged documents.

They circulate mainly company reports and enter

company correspondence into their database. Just so you can appreciate the size of their collection, they have 36 journals, 3,700 books, 53,000 corporate documents, and more than 10,000 technical reports and papers.

As a last note for those of you who enjoy a bit of trivia: Gulfstream was the first manufacturer to sell an aircraft over the Internet—the largest e-commerce sale in history.

Overall it was an enjoyable visit. Thanks to Mary Pitt and Gary Freeman, a Gulfstream pilot, who toured me around the facilities.

As my term draws to a close, I would like to express my thanks to all who mentored me throughout the year and to Marilyn Redmond, who was a delight to work with and a great Engineering Division chair.

On a personal note, it has been a pleasure being chair this year. Thank you for the opportunity.

Susan Lamanna

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