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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 bibliographic services.

FROM THE CHAIR



We are well into the first year as the Aerospace Section of the Engineering Division...and it just seems as if we started talking about the transition. It has been slow for me

sometimes trying to understand where we fit and how, but in general it is working out fine.

Regarding Indianapolis in 1998, planning is coming along. We will have our usual morning breakfast and annual business meeting. I have invited Bob Marrah, the vice president and general manager of Honeywell Defense Avionics in Albuquerque, NM, to speak at the meeting. He has experience in commercial and military aerospace divisions, both at Honeywell. I asked him primarily in response to a request from a section member who wanted to know about future developments in the aerospace industry. We have updates, too, from a few of the many vendors upon whom we've come to depend. Let me add that the Engineering Division is working on exciting programs which will be posted on their new World Wide Web site. The Aerospace Section has its

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own presence at the division site, so we can list programs special to us, too. The address of that site is: <http://www.sla.org/division/deng/engdiv.html>.

I'll be posting information about additional programs to that when I can. I'll be letting you know about programs over the section listserv, too. I can tell you now that I am working on a program that will be led by the Aerospace Section ... but which will be of interest to many--namely, competitive intelligence. I hope to have a panel discussing CI in general and then some specifics on CI in the aerospace industry ... as well as competitive intelligence versus technical searching. I'll keep you posted.

If you haven't heard, the SLA Board of Directors has approved the conference committee's recommendation to invite Dr. Stan Davis, the author, educator, and business consultant, to be the keynote speaker for the conference in Indianapolis. Among some of the distinguished contributions he has made to national and international ideas are the books *Future Perfect*, *2020 Vision*, and *The Monster Under the Bed*.

I hope you have received the 1997 Aerospace Section membership directory, which I think has a lovely new cover. Thanks to Carroll Publishing, of Washington, DC, for supporting and sponsoring the directory again, and to

Margaret (Peggy) Carr for compiling the names and making sure the t's were crossed, etc. Peggy also took the directories to Lockheed Martin, which accepted the challenge, and cost, of mailing the directories to us. If you haven't received a directory, or you are new to the section, please send a request for one to me at (505) 828-5378 or mmcmurtr@p05.dasd.honeywell.com.

Remember the T-shirts we had made just before the 1994 conference in Atlanta? Well, if you don't happen to have one, let me tell you that each featured an Aerospace Division logo and a saying by Goethe emblazoned discreetly on them. I ask this because T-shirts came to mind again recently when I realized we could use a logo for the Aerospace Section entry on the Engineering Division web site. The T-shirts were the most prominent venue ever graced by the logo, don't you think? Anyway, I got to wondering if we still had the original of the logo stored anywhere electronically. Well, it appears we don't. It would be nice, wouldn't it? Anybody got any suggestions?

Finally, in closing, let me mention again that we once associated ourselves with Goethe. I'd like to do that again by asking you to remember and ruminate on the quote which graced division T-shirts. That would be "Whatever you can do, or dream you can do, begin it. Boldness has genius, power, and magic in it."

LOOKY, LOOKY

A couple of changes or three have been made to the Aerospace Section's contribution to *Sci-Tech News*.

The header over what used to be classified as a column has been changed to differentiate the material under it from the material preceding it. Succinctly! The header will reflect that the material is a part of what the Engineering Division is reporting to its members. The header and placement are being changed in the hopes of resolving any confusion over the status of the section and its association with the Engineering Division.

HAVE FUNDS...TO TRAVEL

Nominations and applications for the George Mandel Memorial Award are being accepted now through the end of December. The award of \$500 honors both a current member of the section for his or her professional activities and George Mandel, a member of the aerospace industry library community for 30 years. At the time of his death in 1989 he was the chief of the Technical Information Services Division at the NASA Lewis Research Center. He also was chairman of the Aerospace Division in 1977-78, and, as project chair, was also the driving force behind the compilation and publishing of the *NASA Criss-Cross Directory of NASA N Numbers to DoD AD Numbers*. The sales of this have provided the section with its major source of revenue for years.

The award was established by the section and sponsored, in part, by the Faxon Company, to provide recognition and financial support to a section member willing to attend and/or participate in an annual SLA conference or winter meeting. This was to acknowledge the award's namesake who believed in the benefits and value of

those in libraries getting involved professionally with other librarians.

Applications for this award is open to all section members who have been members for three consecutive years and who are members in good standing as of January 1 of the year the award is given.

Applications or nominations can be made for oneself, or another section member, based on the criteria which follow.

To be considered for the award, the applicant must do one of the following:

- 1.) During the previous or present year have published an article in library literature
- 2.) Have been a speaker or panel member (but not a moderator) or presented a paper at the SLA annual conference
- 3.) Participated actively in and/or significantly contributed to Aerospace Section activities
- 4.) Have made significant contributions to the profession through place of employment or publication
- 5.) Have received an award for outstanding service from their employer in the aerospace industry

The George Mandel Memorial Award will be administered by the Awards Committee, which consists of the section's Chair-elect, Secretary, Past Chair, and two volunteers.

Applications or nomination should be made by contacting the Awards Committee by **January 1, 1998**. These should be submitted this year to Don Welch. He is at:

Engineering Library, MS 1302
Bell Helicopter Textron

P.O. BOX 482

Fort Worth, TX 76101-0482

He can be reached by telephone, too, at (817) 280-3608, by fax at (817) 280-8688, or by email at dwelch@dtic.mil or dwelch@bellhelicopter.textron.com.

All nominees and applicants will receive notification of award status by February 1998.

CONCURRENT TREASURING

The last of the funds accumulated formerly by the Aerospace Division were transferred to the Engineering Division early in September. The funds were from an account dedicated to fund the George Mandel Memorial Award.

A check for \$5,212.30 was sent to Gad Engler, the treasurer of the Engineering Division, and Gad confirmed late in September that the check had been received and deposited. Some of what he was sent were actually funds belonging to the Engineering Division.

SLA sent a check for \$1,711.40 to the Aerospace Division in April. The money was an allotment for members belonging to "the division", which ceased to exist January 1. SLA asked that the section proceed with depositing the check and then sending Engineering Division the allotment. That was accomplished with the closing of the account.

NEITHER RAIN NOR SLEET NOR CRASHES

The Engineering Division recently opened a page on the web. Take

at look at it at [http:// www.sla.org/division/deng/ engdiv.html](http://www.sla.org/division/deng/engdiv.html).

It currently has selections for Board Members (1), '98 Conference Program (2), Aerospace Section (3), Division Highlights (4), and Vendor Support (5). Since it is new, however, there's only one of the selections that's working. It's the first - the one which lists board members and their contact information. Included in the listing is Mary Ellen McMurtrie, as Aerospace Section chair.

Really impressive is the logo of the Engineering Division.

The Engineering Division also has a listserv at sla-eng@iee.org.uk. The Aerospace Section listserv is at sla-aero@sti.nasa.gov. The section has 171 people or entities registered on the listserv. Six months ago the number of registrants was 163. The Engineering Division has 63 people registered.

MEMORIES, REMINDERS AND HISTORY

Not long ago, in June 1996, in Montreal, the Aerospace Division celebrated its 30th anniversary as a division. Prior to that, Scott Brackett, at Smiths Industries, wrote articles on the history of the division. As archivist for the division, Scott was asked to research the articles completely. Asked recently if he had been receiving materials relating to the section, both as a division and as an emerging section, Scott said that he had not. Considering the events of 1996-97, and the importance of preserving memories of the section as a division, members should review the records and files they have on the division and forward items of significance

to Scott. This will ensure that the history of the division, and the merger, is complete. Mail materials for the archives to:

Scott Brackett
Smiths Industries
4141 Eastern Ave., SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49518-8727

RUNNING...ON EMPTY

Time's coming when we are going to need a nominee or nominees for Chair-Elect. Does anyone know someone who can take a run at it?

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