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Metals/Materials Division

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METALS/MATERIALS DIVISION

Members of the Metals/Materials Division share information concerning all phases of metals and materials procurement, production, properties, applications and handling by means of educational activities, cooperative programs, publications and Division-sponsored events at annual conferences.

FROM THE CHAIR

PATRICIA CROMI



Hello! I am Patricia Cromi, the new Chair of the Metals/ Materials Division. Some of you may know me, but for those who do not, I will tell you a bit about myself. I work at The Timken Company, a world leader in the manufacture of bearings and steel. In June I celebrated my 10th Anniversary there. The Library is a two-person Library—JoAnne Wheeland and myself. I have an MLS from Kent State University and an MA in History. I planned to go into University Libraries, but as you all know, sometimes our careers take wild and wonderful turns!

I would like to welcome some new and returning members to the Metals/ Materials Board. Suzanne Weiner of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, our membership chair, is the Chair Elect. Bette Finn of Georgia Tech University will be taking over as Membership Chair. Martha Rhine will take over as Treasurer. Thanks to Delores Phegan, who ably filled the Treasurer position for four years! Linda Evans returns as Secretary. Robert Ward, of Dofasco, agreed to become the Bulletin Reporter. Thanks very much to Jean Whelan, who was the Metals/Materials Division's previous Bulletin Reporter.

Two new committee chairs were proposed: Conference Planning and Fundraising. Since we are such a small division, we need to get help in planning the Conference meetings and raising the funds to pay for those meetings. Linda Senkus of Torrington agreed to act as Chair of Conference Planning and will assist Suzanne for the Indianapolis Conference. No one has volunteered for the Fundraising Chair; if anyone is interested in this position, please contact me.

Boston was a great conference! Special thanks to Tanya Barber for all her hard work! I hope I can do as well for the Seattle Conference. The Metals/ Materials Division sponsored four programs:

- The World According to GATT
- Standards Roundtable
- Revolutionary Roles
- Negotiating Global Vendor Contracts.

The Division also helped sponsor the Linda Hall Reception at the Computer Museum and a Boston High Tea. I attended the Standards Roundtable. The room was packed to capacity limits. The attendees of this program were split between Librarians and Vendors. A "webliography" of Standards websites

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available on the Internet was distributed. I would be happy to send anyone a copy of the list—just send me an email message (cromip@timken.com) or phone me (330-471-2049). Please include either your address or fax number. The Standards vendors in the room talked about the new items they had available. Most of the news centered on catalogs available on the Internet. With the advent of QS-9000, many of us will be struggling to keep our standards current.

I also attended the Boston High Tea on Wednesday. It was also packed to capacity limits, and the hotel staff were busy setting up more tables to accommodate the crowd! It was a very nice setting, part of the Ballroom at the Marriott. The chocolate cake was very good! As an avid chocoholic, I should know good chocolate cake! I was sorry I had to leave after only a half hour, as I had a planning meeting for Seattle.

It's June when I write this, but before I know it the Seattle Conference will be upon us. If you have any suggestions for the Conference, please feel free to contact me. Finally I must thank Tanya Barber again for all her hard work in the planning of the Boston Conference. I know I found the programs to be interesting and topical and the events very enjoyable. A sincere thanks to Tanya for all her efforts in making the Boston Conference a fun and interesting time.

CONFERENCE REVIEW
Revolutionary Roles: Information Professionals on Corporate Project Teams
By Martha C. Walunis

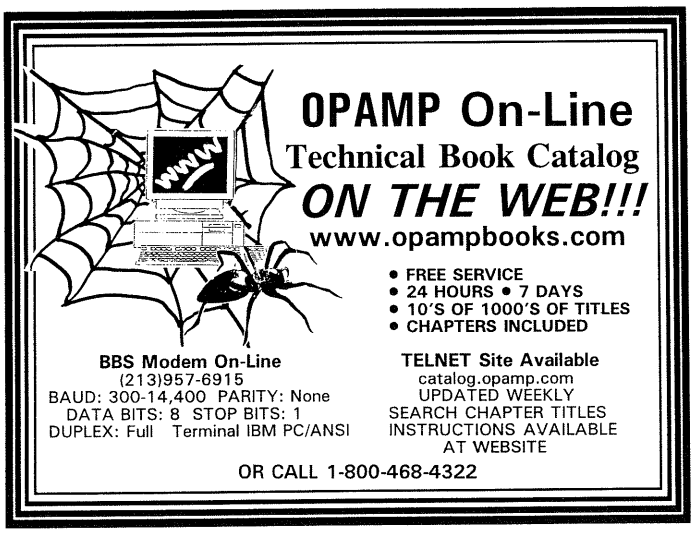
The information professional's participation on corporate project teams offers a great opportunity to further our connections within our parent organizations and to demonstrate our value-added contributions in some new and exciting ways. This session at the Boston Conference provided examples of information professionals' roles on corporate project teams and identified how the information professionals came to be involved on these teams.

Jane Katayama (MIT-Lincoln Laboratory Library) spoke about their involvement with the corporate teams. Their facility has a Library and Information Services Committee which is appointed by the Director, and this committee reports to the Director. This committee has representatives from each technical division, is chaired by a technical researcher, ex-officio members are the Assistant Director and Manager of Library, and they meet once or more per year. By having this committee the library can get additional funding as the committee will go over the goals, listen to suggestions, etc. By serving on corporate projects and teams they feel you would get the following benefits: be able to improve communication with other personnel; get attention for your library; be invited to serve corporate committees such as EOC; be invited to attend staff meetings or information round tables, etc. Their librarians attend seminars directly associated with their committees. It is important to get "everyone" involved: to learn needs of the organization and proactively initiate ideas; to prepare presentations or demonstrations; to have a winning attitude, and to plan for success. The library needs to inform sponsors of technologies transferred, consolidate resources, facilitate access to data, keep

members abreast of latest information, allow patrons to focus on their work, and save dollars and time by providing timely information. ANTICIPATE THE NEEDS OF THE ORGANIZATION AND MAKE THINGS HAPPEN!

Rebekah Anderson (3M Company) talked about the teams her library staff are a part of. Examples are: the 3M Diversity Team, the CIMS Team (potential hazardous incidents—retrieve information as needed, wear beepers, on 24 hours call duty); 3M Research Review Team (review proposals for regulatory and corporate requirements); Internet Special Interest Group (librarians took the initiative to form and arranged meetings with speakers); Optimized Operations Team (optimize the patenting process); Business & Technologies Intelligence Team (gather competitor intelligence information and hold seminars). She stressed the key success factors: CHOOSE PARTNERSHIPS WISELY - ONES THAT MAKE THE MOST IMPACT; BE A "REAL" TEAM MEMBER-SPEAK THE LANGUAGE AND LEARN; DON'T OVEREXTEND YOURSELF and EVALUATE YOUR POSITION ON THE TEAM. The benefits are that you become more focused on corporate missions by developing new skills, perspectives and contact.

Katherine Hornbach (Digital Equipment Corp.) is not a librarian but speaks from the other side of the spectrum. She is a project manager and talked about how she utilized the library staff on a team for a special project. She stressed the critical attributes of the library in the new role as a team member: LOCATE AND FILTER (know the needs and know the universe of information); ACCESSIBILITY (make it simple to get the information, anytime, anywhere); and STRUCTURE (be the expert on how to structure and organize information). This session was the most interesting one I attended at the conference. Gave me a lot of "food for thought." It must have been interesting to a lot of people for many of us sat on the floor for the entire session, and I never saw anyone leave.



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