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Aerospace Division

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AEROSPACE DIVISION

The objectives of the Aerospace Division are to encourage the free exchange of ideas and information between libraries and librarians who are directly concerned with aerospace technology and related sciences, and to maintain a dialog with NASA and other governmental agencies upon whom we rely as sources of technical data and bibliographic sources.

FROM THE CHAIR

SUSAN CLIFFORD



CHALLENGES FOR 1993

Amazing!
It's 1993!
Happy New
Year and
congratulations
on surviving
1992—a rocky
year at best for
us in the aero-
space industry.

We certainly live in interesting times!

In November I was fortunate to attend the State of the Art Institute on information implications of the European single market. This was one of the best workshops I've attended... ever. The caliber of presenters was outstanding, and I bid adieu far better armed to pursue the increasing array of information demands I'm receiving about commerce in Europe than I was before I went.

In these days of restructuring, downsizing and consolidation, I truly believe it is imperative that we all do as much as we can to provide proactive, value-added information services to those in our organizations who are striving to work better, smarter and more competitively. It is the creative, entrepreneurial information professional who will survive!

Therefore, it is more important than ever before that we keep our knowledge and skills as sharply honed as possible and that we advertise those skills widely in our organizations. That's the only way to survive in an environment like ours of staff and materials reductions. We must demand from our professional organizations and our information vendors that they provide us with affordable and convenient opportunities to work smarter and keep our knowledge edge. (Those on-line vendors willing to visit worksites and offer local training free of charge will find their time rewarded, I'm sure.)

Elsewhere, plans for Cincinnati are progressing well. The division is involved in a number of programs which will provide attendees with exposure to the worlds of intelligent vehicles and highways, geographic imaging systems, and executive information systems, to name a few. Teaming with at least four divisions (Engineering, Transportation, Metals and Materials, and Maps), we will be providing an interesting mix of very well credentialed speakers who will focus heavily on technology transfer and opportunities for commercialization of technology. One program for which we still need input, however, is the Brown Bag Information Exchange. If you have questions or topics you'd like to have

addressed at this luncheon session, please forward them to me at (310) 334-1700 or fax them to (310) 334-1101.

CHARLIE DOES WINDOs

U.S. Rep. Charles Rose (D-NC) recently introduced the Wide Information Network for Data Online (WINDO) bill to the House of Representatives, and U.S. Senator Albert Gore introduced a version to the Senate entitled GPO Gateway to Government Act of 1992. Both bills called for the GPO to establish a means of facilitating electronic public access to federal electronic information. Specifically, Senator Gore's bill mandated that the *Congressional Record* and *Federal Register* be made available electronically through GPO.

The bills were merged eventually and named the Government Printing Office Electronic Information Access Enhancement Act of 1992. It passed through the House of Representatives but was killed in the Senate.

(Joyce Thompson-Stipe, chair of the division's Government Relations Committee, prepared the article above after listening to Sandy Morton-Schwalb, director of government relations for the SLA, at a speech she gave October 22, 1992, at the South Carolina Library Association annual meeting in Columbia, SC. The speech was titled "Information Technology and Policy: The Special Libraries Connection".)

Others interested in watching and reporting on legislative consideration and action on information issues are urged to join the Government Relations Committee. To do that, contact Joyce Thompson-Stipe by telephone at (202) 358-9163, by telefax at (202) 358-3469,

or by INTERNET at jthompso@nhqvax.hq.nasa.gov.

AERO SMITHS (and JONES and ...)

Dottie Moon, senior librarian at United Technologies/Pratt & Whitney, was applauded recently by the Connecticut Valley Chapter of the SLA. Named chapter member of the year (for 1991-92), she was cited for contributions she had made to the chapter bulletin and to the leadership of the chapter, particularly as chair of the nominations committee.

Ronald L. Buchan, lexicographer for the NASA Center for Aerospace Information in Linthicum, MD, has authored a pair of articles, both of which appeared recently. One, "Qualify Indexing with Computer Aided Indexing", was in *Information Services and Use*, volume 12 (1992), pp. 77-84. The other, entitled "NASA STI Database, Aerospace Data Database and ARIN Coverage of Space Law", was published in *Journal of Space Law* (volume 20, no. 1, 1992, pp. 81-82).

Stan Elman, formerly a chair of the division and a colonel in the USAF, has concluded an assignment in Poland where he was working with the National Library to upgrade access with computers. He's going back, though. The National Library asked that he continue the work he has been doing, and he has said he will. (See his article printed further on in this section.)

Nan Paik recently traveled to New Providence, NJ, for a meeting of the Bowker Library Advisory Board. She was one of 12 who participated. Sixteen are assigned to the board. Some of the news announced at the meeting was that Reed International and Elsevier have merged and that updates of *Books in Print* on

CD-ROMs will be issued monthly instead of bi-monthly.

THREE TO FOCUS ON SLA

Hope Coffman, Lynn Ecklund, and Thomas Pinelli, all of whom are members of the division, were assigned recently to a committee which will delve into what the vision of the SLA will be in the 1990s and possibly beyond.

Assigned to the committee by Kitty Scott, the three will join Bill Fisher, chair, and 12 others to identify and recommend what the association feels its focus for the future will be. The group will have had interviews and meetings by this time with a trio of visioning groups. The first was with itself in San Francisco this summer. The second one was with the Board of Directors and the Executive Director of SLA... in October 1992. The final one will be at the Winter Meeting with chapter and division officers

The committee, called the Visioning Committee, will convene then and develop a report for the general membership to consider. Members who want to discuss visions for SLA prior to the release of the report are encouraged to contact Bill Fisher at San Jose State University [(408) 924-2494] or any of the other 15 members of the committee.

Other members are Stephen Abram, Nick Mercury, Ellen Mimnaugh, Marilyn Stark, Lynn Tinsley, Lois Webster, Bill Woodruff, Carolyn Hardnett, Bob Isaacs, Charles D. Missar, Jeannette Mueller-Alexander, Joseph Becker, and James J. Olsen, Jr.

NOMINEES

Dottie Moon, Eileen Dorschner, and Nan Paik have been affirmed by the

Nominations Committee as nominees for 1993-94 offices. Dottie is the nominee for chair-elect, Eileen for secretary, and Nan for treasurer.

Others who wish to run or would like to nominate peers and cohorts for an office can do so by contacting Lynn Ecklund at (818) 242-2793. Nominations will be considered/accepted through February.

Dottie is the senior librarian with United Technologies/Pratt & Whitney/International Fuel Cells. A graduate of the School of Information Studies at Syracuse University, she began a career in librarianship as an information broker in and around Boston. She specialized in medical and scientific research for malpractice cases and in providing information to smaller hospitals. Now, though, she is active not only in the Aerospace Division but also in the Connecticut Valley Chapter of the SLA. She is also a member of the Society of Competitor Information Professionals (SCIP).

Eileen is the librarian of the Aeronautics and Astronautics Library at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She has been piloting that library now for three years. She also serves on the Circulation Committee, the Branch Libraries Group, and the Electronic Journals Task Force for the MIT libraries. She has an MLS from Simmons College and a BS in chemistry, also from Simmons.

A member of the SLA since 1982, Nan is the manager of the Technical Information Center (TIC) at Rockwell International in Downey, CA. She has been with the TIC since 1974 and became its manager in 1992. Prior to that, Nan,

who has an MSLS from the University of Southern California, was a reference librarian with the Orange County Public Library.

SALUTE

Twenty-four is the number of members added to the rolls in 1992. Three were from Canada and one was from Sweden. California was represented by four, and three came from Virginia and Texas, respectively. The rolls now include the following:

Mary-Ellen Bechard
66 Oakmount Rd., #714
Toronto, ON, Canada M6P 2MB

Jill C. Bigden
2420 Raleigh Drive
Lancaster, PA 17601

Susan J. Brewsaugh
18282 Hartlund Lane
Huntington Beach, CA 92646

Priscilla Clarke-Rutledge
327 S. Wayne Street
Arlington, VA 22204

Travis C. Cox
562 Allen's Mill Road
Grafton, VA 23692

Barbara Delzell
New Mexico State University
University Library
Dept. 3475 88003/0006
Las Cruces, NM 88003

John M. Gilyard
1355 Orchard Park
Columbus, OH 43232-6432

Alena Gregorian
Paramax Systems Corp.
6111 Royalmount Avenue
Montreal, PQ, Canada H4P 1K6

Eileen M. Hamlin
1355 Kutalek Road
Kirkwood, NY 13795

Melissa K. Jarvis
118 Stoneway Trail
Madison, AL 35758

Elaine Joffre
Transportation Development Center, Library
200 Rene Levesque Blvd., W, #601
Montreal, PQ, Canada H2Z 1X4

Lola W. Kimbro
180 Holt Road
Marietta, GA 30068

Monnie Leah
22051 Finch Court
Simi Valley, Ca 99063

Lisa-Lotte Lindskog
NobelTech
S-175 88 Jarfalla
Jarfalla, Sweden

Anne Mettler
17 Catalina Court
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

Nellie S. Moffitt
8331 Fredericksburg Road, #1301
San Antonio, TX 78229

Jane L. Peterson
3463 Walnut Avenue, SW
Seattle, WA 98116

Mary V. Pitt
203 Montclair Blvd.
Savannah, GA 31429

Sandy Pritchard
LTV Aerospace and Defense Co.
Aircraft Division
Planning Library, MS 49L-05
P.O. Box 655907
Dallas, TX 75265-5907

Sandra K. Quicksall
801 Lincoln
McGregor, TX 76657

Karen S. Schaffer
UTC/Chemical Systems
600 Metcalf Road
San Jose, CA 95138

Ronald H. Shade
6289 Loveknot Place
Columbia, MD 21045

Gregory J. Square
Great Lakes Technology Transfer Center
Suite 450
25000 Great Northern Corporation Center
Cleveland, OH 44070

Patricia L. Williams
518 N. Thomas, #4
Arlington, VA 22203.

In March (1993), members can expect to see a 1992 Aerospace Division membership directory in the mail, Nan Paik reported recently. She added that without the sponsorship and efforts of Carroll Publishing Company, the directory would still be unpublished.

A POLISH ODYSSEY

By Stan Elman

In May of 1991, I was awarded an American Library Association fellowship to go to Poland to teach library automation and help automate and computerize the National Library in Warsaw. I left for Warsaw (via Frankfurt) in September on an American Airlines Boeing 767.

A year later, it was a plane similar to the 767 that delivered a Notre Dame University-donated IBM 4381 computer to the Okiece Airport in Warsaw for the National Library. It wasn't easy to get it there; it took a lot of persuasion to do it.

You see, it was delivered by the Polish airlines LOT, which I had promised a lot of publicity... for FREE. I convinced officials that LOT would be on

TV and radio and in newspapers and professional journals if it would deliver the computer. They had difficulty with this concept of advertising, though.

That's because until the 1989 bloodless coup of the Communist government in charge, there was little private industry, no competition, and no capitalistic innovations such as public relations... or advertising. The State had been responsible for everything, from communications to housing and production to pricing. Naturally, it was responsible, too, for the feeble attempts to modernize and computerize libraries, a process limited somewhat by strict embargoes against the importation of western technology.

With the overthrow of the Communist government and the subsequent election of Nobel Laureate Lech Walesa as Poland's president, this all changed. In fact, it was Walesa's free and democratic election and the subsequent access to inspiring, intoxicating information (on TVs and radios, in newspapers, magazines, and books, and in bookstores, universities, and, of course, libraries) that helped crumble the Berlin Wall and tear down the Iron Curtain in Eastern Europe.

It was into this region, at this explosive time, that I arrived in Poland. Obviously, this was a much different Poland than the one I saw briefly in 1958, when I was on my way to Moscow to study comparative Russian librarianship. It was a happier, more prosperous and friendlier Poland.

Still, the reception I got from the administration and staff of the National Library was overwhelming. They insisted, to my embarrassment, that I move into a vacant office meant for a Deputy Director, of which there were four, all of

whom report directly to the Director. This meant I would share a secretary with Jan Wolosz, the Deputy Director to whom I reported. We quickly established an excellent rapport.

Though my assignment was to teach library automation technology, it soon became obvious that there were more important matters in store for me. I was asked immediately to begin helping with administrative matters of higher priority, not the least of which was preparing proposals to obtain financing from American foundations for an integrated library system (ILS).

I found, though, that I welcomed the challenges of what I was asked to do. I didn't realize when I retired from Lockheed that I'd be able to enjoy any library experience more than the aerospace information services I had performed. But, I did. Still, I remember what a thrill it was to follow Kitty Scott as chair of the Aerospace Division in 1981. Holding that office was the highlight of an exciting, rewarding, thirty-plus-year career in aerospace librarianship. Obviously, though, I never thought I'd find myself, 10 years later, at the National Library of a country where my parents were born. I was pleased to be there.

Not surprisingly, my parents taught me the Polish language and culture as I was growing up in Buffalo, NY. I never suspected that what I learned from them then would be put to use in the 1990s. While I was in Poland, though, my mother died (in October 1992), and I didn't get the chance to tell her about the country she left in 1907. My father, who left Poland in 1914, died in 1986 at 99. Mother was 103½.

Other duties I began to assume at the National Library, which is financed by the State and is under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Culture and Arts, were the installation of an electronic mail system and enrollment in BITNET/EARN; introducing the ILS concept to everyone and arranging for demonstrations by selected vendors; and demonstrating the latest in PC and CD-ROM technology brought or sent to me. I felt like a member of administration—a consultant-in-residence.

I also travelled some, both for the National Library and for myself. I got VTLS, Micro-VTLS, GEAC, ALEPH (which is from Israel), DYNIX, and MARQUIS to demonstrate systems for us, but I also travelled to see automated libraries in other Polish cities—Cracow, Poznan, and Gdansk. I visited the national libraries in Greece and France as well.

On All Saints Day (November 1, 1991), a national holiday in Catholic Poland and a day Poles reserve for travelling to their home towns to visit and pray at the graves of relatives and friends, I went by train and taxi to Oswiecim (Auschwitz), the former Nazi concentration camp where hundreds of thousands of Poles and Jews were executed. I laid a wreath and lit a candle at an execution wall shrine and the crematorium.

In contrast to that, I also took exhilarating trips to the Tatra Mountains (near the Czechoslovakian border) and the Baltic Sea resort town of Sopot, located between Gdansk and Gdynia. I additionally attended the 1991 New Information Technology (NIT) Conference in Budapest, where I was asked to speak, and I visited libraries in Rome, Florence,

Venice, the Vatican, and the University for Foreigners in Perugia, Italy, where I had gone to school 45 years ago.

I wasn't the only American visiting Eastern Europe at this time, either. President Bush came to Poland on July 5, 1992, with his wife Barbara, and they were greeted enthusiastically in Castle Square in Warsaw. I invited Barbara Bush to visit the National Library (since she has interests in literacy and libraries) but she could not come. I was told by the American Embassy that there would not be time for her to visit.

By this time, I was seriously into the teaching I was sent to do, even though I had been there six months before I began to give seminars on the automation of libraries. I practically had to insist on doing them. The seminars on systems analysis and on the preparation of Requests for Proposals (RFPs) were the best and were attended well.

My fellowship, which was funded by the United States Information Agency (USIA), ended September 9, 1992, but I was asked by the National Library to please stay longer. I did stay, with the permission of ALA and the USIA, neither of which could extend additional funding. I was asked to stay primarily because the

computer from Notre Dame was coming. I was asked, too, to prepare an itinerary for a month-long study tour of American libraries by a group of librarians from the National Library.

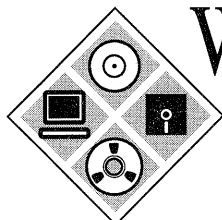
While this obviously included making all the arrangements for the tour and library visits, I realized later it also meant driving the van we rented for the trip. The tour, which was funded by the Mellon Foundation, was exciting, especially when driving through a snowstorm between the Kent State University library school and Columbus, OH.

An outcome of all of this is that I have been invited to return to the National Library in February. This time I'm going to help with the preparation of RFPs and the evaluation of vendor replies. This will mean, in the end, a selection of an appropriate ILS for the National Library, a 12-story repository expected to house five million volumes.

All I tried to do during my fellowship was to share my experience and expertise with everyone. Basically, I tried to open the windows there and generate enthusiasm for the automation of libraries. It was an honor and a privilege to serve the National Library of Poland.

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