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Aerospace Division

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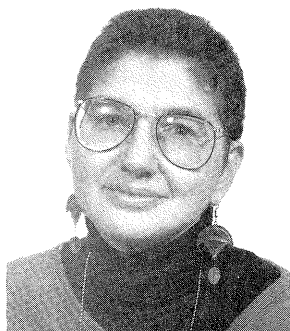
AEROSPACE DIVISION

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

SANDY MOLTZ

FINALE



I left my heart in San Francisco. . .with the Aerospace Division.

The final plans are being nailed down for our June conference in San Francisco. In the last issue of

Sci-Tech News, I gave a detailed description of the Aerospace Division's plans. Be sure and attend our programs and receptions. Also, please thank the vendors in the Exhibit Hall who have generously sponsored our events. To date, the vendors who have contributed are: AIAA, BusinessOne Irwin, DIALOG, EBSCO, and STN International/MPD Network. Check the final program for the names of other vendors. A schedule of our events for you to cut out is included in our column.

This is my final column as Chair. I thoroughly enjoyed being chair and chair-elect, and I highly recommend becoming a division officer. The experience gave me an opportunity to

speaking with and meeting many members of our division. To all of you who worked so diligently as committee chairs, project leaders, and officers—a special thank you! You have proven that teamwork is possible even when the team never meets.

My parting words to all Aerospace Division members: Please be actively involved in the Aerospace Division, as well as SLA. The association needs you to go forward with new ideas, such as the Media Plan, which will publicize the value of the information professional to corporate decision makers. Remember—try to do one activity a week to help SLA and you help yourself. The contacts with your peers and your educational growth directly benefit your employers.

LADY OF LETTERS

Librarians who knew and worked with Adelaide del Frate at NASA are being asked to support others at NASA to get a library there named after her. Joseph Langdon, Head of the S&T Library at NASA Headquarters, wrote the division recently, relating that “NASA Headquarters, where Ms. del Frate worked during her final four years, will

soon be moving to a new building.” He continued, noting that “the NASA Headquarters Library will be premiered in the new building in a show place location on the first floor. The administration at NASA Headquarters has expressed an interest in dedicating the show place library to Dr. James Fletcher, former NASA administrator, who also passed away on December 24 (1991, as did Ms. del Frate).”

“Many NASA librarians, particularly those based at NASA Headquarters, feel strongly that naming the new NASA Headquarters Library after Ms. del Frate would be a fitting tribute to her many years of service,” Langdon wrote. “Further,” he continued, “there is a strong feeling among the NASA librarians that a more appropriate dedication to NASA’s former administrator would be to either name the new NASA Headquarters building or the auditorium of that building after Dr. Fletcher.”

So, as head of the S&T Library, Langdon concluded that he “would like to enlist the assistance of SLA by requesting that members write letters to NASA administration supporting the initiative to name the show place library after Ms. del Frate.” Letters, he wrote, should be addressed to:

Admiral Richard H. Truly
Administrator
Mail Code A
NASA Headquarters
Washington, DC 29546

Mr. Samuel W. Keller
Associate Deputy Administrator
Mail Code ADA
NASA Headquarters
Washington, DC 29546

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The nominating committee of SLA is seeking nominations for the association’s Board of Directors. Candidates are being sought now for Spring 1993 elections.

Positions to fill include president-elect, chapter cabinet chair-elect, division cabinet chair-elect, and two directors.

Forward recommendations to members of the Nominating Committee: Chair Roger Haley, Jane Dysert, Rita Evans, Sandy Spurlock, and Fred Stoss.

PRODUCTIVITY AND INFORMATION

Papers on information productivity by several who made presentations to the AIAA at the 30th Aerospace Sciences Meeting have been selected for publication. . .by the AIAA.

Featured at the January meeting in Reno, Nevada, were eight presentations on various aspects of information productivity by theorists and practitioners in the field. The Technical Committee said the papers would be of interest to many outside the meeting, and it concluded that the papers should be published by the AIAA.

Citations and abstracts of each follow:

“Technology and STI policy and the competitive position of the U.S. aerospace industry” by Dr. Peter Hernon and Dr. Thomas Pinelli : AIAA Paper 92-0796.

With its contribution to trade, its coupling with national security and its symbolism of technological strength, the U.S. aerospace sector holds a unique position among our nation’s industries. Proper technology and scientific and technical information (STI) polices are

crucial to maintaining this position. Two problems exist, however. First, the U.S. does not have a coherent technology or STI policies, but should. And second, the relationship between a technology and an STI policy is not understood by the policy makers. A rationale for linking the two is suggested.

“Unification: an international aerospace information issue” by Gladys A. Cotter and Thomas F. Lahr : AIAA Paper 92-0797.

NASA is recognized for its continued development and maintenance of an international aerospace database. In recent years strong European efforts have developed to establish a similar aerospace database there. With the movement towards a united Europe, a European Aerospace Database concept has emerged. This paper discusses cooperative efforts between NASA and the European Space Agency (ESA) exploring issues and opportunities for the future of information exchange.

“Issues for effectiveness in scientific and technical information management” by Barbara Lawrence : AIAA Paper 92-0798.

Many technical libraries and information centers in the aerospace arena are underutilized and undervalued. Because the majority of these organizations are classed as overhead cost centers, they face not only cutbacks but often a struggle for survival. Their loss can severely impact the engineer’s access to information. Examples of techniques to enhance the value of information resources are recommended.

“Hypermedia: information management in the future” by Dr. Solomon H. Simon : AIAA Paper 92-0799.

Hypermedia creates a simple way to use complex information by providing a mechanism for storing, retrieving and interconnecting information of all types—both static (like text and graphics) and dynamic (like sound, animation and video). Future management systems will use hypermedia technology to form compound, multimedia documents.

“An analysis of CD-ROM as a long term archiving solution” by Denis Oudard: AIAA Paper 92-0800.

The history of archiving systems is reviewed. Then a methodology is described to enable archivists to select the medium and archiving system best suited to preservation of the integrity and long-term utility of digital data.

“A case study in resource sharing: United Technologies library and information resource services” by Jean Mayhew : AIAA Paper 92-0801.

Resource sharing maximizes the return on dollars invested in information and information retrieval systems. United Technologies information sharing philosophy and methodology will be described as an example of how centralized procurement of information can be managed to insure a maximum availability and quality throughout a multi-divisional organization.

“Technical and competitive value through productive use of patent information” by Rosalind Cheslock : AIAA Paper 92-0802.

Patent fundamentals are reviewed, with emphasis on their dual role as both information sources and legal documents. While use of patent literature to support the patent process itself is discussed, the major focus is the importance of patents as sources of both essential information about technological developments and key business insights. An underlying theme throughout is the contribution of on-line databases to the patent search process.

“Critical technologies for transfer and exploitation” by Dr. John Porter: AIAA Paper 92-0803

Recent published critical technology lists are reviewed and compared. Methods to apply these to both short range and strategic planning in industry, academia and government are described. The relationships between tactical thinking and technology transfer are discussed then.

Next year, the Technical Committee plans to sponsor the program again at the Aerospace Sciences Meeting in Reno. A call for papers will be issued sometime before that. Those interested in building on the 1992 session as the AIAA is will have an opportunity to enter papers at that time.

STRICTLY BUSINESS

Anyone having business to conduct at the annual business meeting, please contact Sandy Moltz at (617) 594-5363 as soon as possible. The item will be put on the meeting's agenda.

AEROSPACE DIVISION 1992 CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Sunday, June 7

3-4:30 p.m. Executive Board Meeting. Meet at AIAA Booth.

Monday, June 8

10:30 a.m.-noon Program “Technical Reports : Cataloging.”

Noon-1:30 p.m. Annual business meeting and luncheon.

3-4:30 p.m. Program “Materials Information On-line.”

8-10 p.m. Reception (to taste California's harvest).

Tuesday, June 9

10 a.m.-noon Visit Exhibit Hall.

1:30-4:30 p.m. Program “How to Get it Done.”

8-11 p.m. Reception (with Oriental flavor).

Wednesday, June 10

10-11 a.m. Visit Exhibit Hall.

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Program “Workforce 2000.”

AIDE AID

Those who volunteer to be program aides at the June conference can call Sandy Moltz at (617) 594-5363 and get information which will familiarize them with the duties of division program aides. An aide typically has the following duties: come 10 minutes early to check on the room; distribute materials; collect forms;

take headcounts; and prepare a summary of the event. For information call Sandy.

DIRECTORY ASSISTANCE

Have you received your Aerospace Division Membership Directory? If you haven't, contact Nan Paik about delivery. A special thank you goes both to Nan, Membership Chair, and Mala Sistla, project overseer, for getting the directory ready for us. Mala also got Carroll Publishing Company to make a donation to the project and Lockheed to provide assistance in preparing the directory for publication. Thanks to both of you.

NOMINATIONS!!!

Four of the best in the Division have agreed to run for office. The four, and the offices for which they compete, are Dee Holle, chair-elect; Mala Sistla, chair-elect; Marlene Sue Heroux, secretary; and Kay E. Salm, secretary. Biographies of each follow:

Dee Holle

Employment:

1979 to 1992 as Princeton Engineering Librarian;
1975 to 1979 as Princeton Architecture & Urban Planning Librarian;
1970 to 1975 as Assistant Head of Reader Services, NYU;
1969 to 1970 as Assistant Map Librarian, New York Public Library

Education:

BA in Geography, Hunter College of New York;

MLS from Columbia University;
MPA & MUP from NYU.

Memberships: Member SLA and ALA, Former member of Council of Planning Librarians.

Mala Sistla

Employment:

1990 to 1992 in Strategic Planning Department at Lockheed;
1986 to 1990 as Corporate Librarian at Lockheed;
1981 to 1986 as Technical Information Specialist at American Hospital Supply;
1980 to 1981 as Technical Information Specialist at ARCO;
1980 as Head of Reference at Huntington Beach Public Library;
1974 to 1980 as Technical Information Specialist at Stauffer Chemical Company.

Education:

BS from Osmania University (India);
BLS Osmania University (India);
MLS from Queens College, SUNY;
Postgraduate work at Queens College, SUNY

Memberships: Member SLA, SCOUG, and Lockheed Management Association.

Marlene Sue Heroux

Employment:

Currently at Rolls-Royce Inc. Information Center as Manager
Previously at EBSCO as Account Services Manager.

Previously at SOLINET as Marketing and Member Services Coordinator.

Previously, too, at Colorado State University, University of Nebraska, University of Vermont, SUNY - Binghamton, University of Florida.

Education: MLS SUNY - Albany.

Memberships: Member SLA, ALA, and AIAA

Kay E. Salm

Employment:

1989 to 1992 as Manager of Library & Information Research Services at Northrop Corp. in Pico Rivera, CA;

1987 to 1989 as Administrator of Information Research Center at Northrop Corp. in Pico Rivera, CA;

1982 to 1987 as Senior Information Researcher at Northrop Corp.;

1980 to 1982 as Head Librarian at Research and Technology Center of Northrop Corp. in Palos Verdes, CA;

1976 to 1980 as Acquisitions Librarian for Aircraft Division of Northrop Corp. in Hawthorne, CA;

1975 as Librarian for ARINC Research in Santa Ana, CA.;

1972 to 1974 as Operations Manager for Secure Monetary Systems in Los Angeles, CA.

Education:

BA in Economics, University of Southern California;

MS in Library Science University of Southern California.

Memberships: SLA and SCOUG

AERO THESAURUS

A thesaurus of aeronautical terms (by NASA) is available now as NASA Technical Memorandum 104230. Titled "NASA Thesaurus Aeronautics Vocabulary," it is constructed on a hierarchical format and with terms from "NASA Thesaurus Volume 1 - Hierarchical Listing." The new aeronautical thesaurus is also the second thesaurus constructed from "NASA Thesaurus Volume 1." The other was "NASA Thesaurus Astronomy

Vocabulary" (NASA Special Publication 7069). The thesaurus includes USE references, scope notes (SN), generic structure (GS), related terms (RT), and used for references (UF). This is the first edition of the thesaurus.

AERO SMITHS (and Jones and Harris...)

Hope Coffman, manager of the Technical Information Center at the Charles Stark Draper Laboratory in Cambridge, MA, has been selected one of four SLA members christened SLA Fellows by . . .the SLA. Hope joins Catherine Jones of the Congressional Reference Service; Ann Talcot, a library management consultant; and Milton Ternber of the University of California at Berkeley as the most recent Fellows selected. The SLA Awards and Honors Committee made the selections, which were announced in January at the Winter Meeting in Clearwater, FL, of the board of directors.

Patricia Marshall has retired. She called it quits in 1991 after 28 years of service to the AIAA. She began at the AIAA in 1964. Prior to that she worked in England at the Royal Aeronautical Society. Later, she made a stop in the United States at Tulane. David Purdy is now at the AIAA in the place of Patricia.

Ellen Reen has left Bell Aerospace Textron and joined Varity Corporation in Buffalo, NY. Ellen, who has an MLS from SUNY Buffalo, started at Bell Aerospace in 1987 and joined Varity after four and a half years at Bell.

BOOK REVIEW

Workforce America! Managing Employee Diversity as a Vital Resource. By Marilyn Loden and Judy Rosener. Homewood, Illinois; BusinessOne Irwin; 1991.

Workforce America! is a guide to understanding the changing demographics in our society and how we will be affected by these changes. This is not a book of dry statistics, however. Rather, the authors have created a fascinating study of how valuing diversity can lead to positive changes in organizations. Within organizations, these changes can unleash the creativity and productivity of the entire workforce. And externally, the ability to understand, respect, and communicate with diverse groups is emphasized for productivity.

The book has sections allowing us to study our own blind spots regarding people different from ourselves, and to see how our work performance is affected. The section on different communication styles is especially enlightening. The book also contains specific strategies for instituting changes in organizations to adapt to the new workforce and the new "one world" economic situation.

Workforce America! will be useful to you personally and professionally. The self-knowledge you gain about your attitudes will help you play a leading role when your organization begins creating a valued culture of diversity. This book will help you with your own management skills and help you to help your organization survive into the next century.

STRAIGHT AERO

by Don Welch

Well, the story I've got to tell is probably one with which many of you are familiar, particularly these days.

It's about layoffs.

Not surprisingly, they've been experienced here, where I work. Those who get the axe, or at least the ones I see, are sent to the library for clearances. Most are not happy when they come to the desk. You can see, however, that they are trying to be upbeat, civil.

When the first and the severest of the layoffs was enacted weeks ago, I was affected emotionally, though not officially. Of the 40 or so "out the door" in Engineering, half of them were sent to the library. That's because a day or two before the layoffs I was asked for a list of patrons holding materials. Those who had materials were sent to the library. The 20 or so sent to the library included half a dozen who used the library the most.

I was dismayed by this of course. Not only was I losing friends but I was losing employees who, by their patronage, made the library "hop." I feared statistics would suffer first, me second.

Use really hasn't suffered, though. The number of visits hasn't changed and I get just as many calls as I ever did. What has changed is the type of activity that's taking place. There's been a shift from reading periodicals and requests for ILL to circulating reports and engineers working on reports.

I feel better, obviously. Now, though, I wonder about some of the characteristics the terminated shared, the terminated I saw, that is.

One was that the guys who left were “young,” young for where I work. They were between 35 and 45 on average. Something I also noticed was that a quarter of those I saw were, as patrons, willing to read anything. They read books, they read periodicals, they read announcements and flyers from publishers. A lot of the patrons who still come to the library just to read one or two of the periodicals and browse the collection; they’re not as eclectic.

Finally, the trait of the terminated that struck me deepest was that those with a lot of materials to return were not native to America. Those with a half a dozen to a dozen to a score of items to return were from places like India and Ceylon and places elsewhere in the East.

This made me wonder, believe it or not, about the usage of the library by Americans. I don’t know who uses the libraries overseas in places like India and Ceylon but I imagine that it is that segment of society we would consider learned; people with degrees or getting degrees, let’s say. In America, everyone is used to having access to libraries, not just the learned. I know I’m creating a scenario here with a brush that’s, oh, wide, wide, wide, but I kind of feel that Americans have a plethora of libraries to use and people overseas do not.

Books must be held dear to people from India, Ceylon, Burma, wherever. Americans (at least where I work) don’t cherish them as much, or take them for granted more. This leads me, anyway, to the kind of thought I, as an American, get frequently—unsubstantiated.

What I thought, disregarding a lot of variables, was that Americans (engineers, anyway) like to get the inspiration or

information they need from sources besides books. . .which is not bad. What would be bad, for libraries, is that they get it from sources outside libraries. Since usage here hasn’t dropped, maybe those who are left are getting what they need from the library now. Before, they were getting it from those who are gone.

I’ve wrestled with this longer than I should have, I’m sure. I still wonder why, of those who got the axe, was it the ones from overseas who had the majority of books out. Y’all got any ideas?

D.C.. . .BRIEFLY

Early in December 1991 President George Bush signed the High Performance Computing Act of 1992, creating a National Research and Education Network (NREN). Though authorized now, NREN still must be funded by Congress and the President. NREN is planned to be a high-capacity, high-quality fiber optics cable network to link computer users in government, industry, universities, publishers, research centers, and libraries.

The Postal Appropriations Conference Committee has adopted a \$470 million package of postal subsidies for 1992. This is less than a proposed \$649 million approved by the Senate. This will necessitate a 2.2 cents per piece average increase on third class nonprofit “flats” twice. One of the increases was enacted in November 1991; the other will begin in October 1992. Third-class letters and second-class nonprofit rates will remain unchanged.