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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

How about including in your "next decade" planning schedule a trip to Pittsburgh in June of 1990? Yes, June 9th-14th is the date for the Annual Conference. The Information Professional: An Unparalleled Resource" will be the theme. All of the conference planners have been busy creating, scheduling and confirming-- topics, speakers, and events for this "don't miss" event. Complete details of programs sponsored by our Division will be forthcoming in the next issue of Sci-Tech News.

NEWS FROM AIAA/TIS

As most of you Aerospace Librarians know, the American Institute of Aeronautics & Astronautics is the professional association to which a good majority of your user population belong. The Technical Information Service (TIS) arm of the AIAA provides several information products and services for the aerospace community -- among which are the IAA (International Aerospace Abstracts) and the AEROSPACE Database. Three news worthy items from AIAA/TIS are:

* Issue 24 of the IAA for 1989 will contain the 1 MILLIONTH ABSTRACT! That's an average of approximately 40,000 abstracts per year since its inception.

* The AEROSPACE Database (file 108 on DIALOG) is now also available in DIALOG'S KNOWLEDGE INDEX as file ENG13. The database is produced by AIAA/TIS under contract with NASA. The rate for the KNOWLEDGE INDEX is \$24/hr for access to any database after 6 P.M. daily and weekends.

Good news for the Canadian aerospace community! Access to the AEROSPACE Database (file 108 on Dialog) is now available in Canada. Formerly, access to the AEROSPACE Database has been restricted to the U.S.A. The AEROSPACE Database is produced by the AIAA/TIS (American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics) under contract to NASA. Under an agreement recently negotiated between NASA and CISTI (Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information) access to the AEROSPACE Database has been extended to Canada. In return for Canadian access to the AEROSPACE Database, NASA requires input to its database from Canada, through a central point. CISTI will coordinate the collection and processing of relevant Canadian information for input into the AEROSPACE Database. To access the database in Canada you will first need to make arrangements through:

Michael Brandreth
National Research Council
Canada
Canada Institute for Scientific
and Technical Information
Ottawa, Canada K1A OS2
(613) 993-3234

Aerospace Database on Dialog which contains the same unclassified material as RECON but has no explicit citizenship requirement. Some other universities followed UC's lead when the issue was publicized during the summer of 1988.

CISTI, part of the National Research Council of Canada, provides specialized information services to Canadian researchers in science, engineering and medicine. It is one of the largest, most comprehensive technical information centers in the world. CISTI's document delivery service will provide copies of documents referenced in the AEROSPACE Database.

John Wilson, manager of database products for NASA, maintained that the citizenship clause in the RECON agreement was misleading, and that the restrictions on the use of citations and abstracts are the same whether they are retrieved through RECON or Dialog. This explanation, however, was not enough to satisfy Mr. Lawrence and UC.

The AEROSPACE Database contains worldwide references to more than 1.7 million articles, technical reports, contractors' reports, conference proceedings and papers, patents, theses, and other sources. Each year about 64,000 new records are added to the database.

The NASA/RECON Management Operations Working Group met in early March of 1989 with one of its objectives the clarification of this issue. Working with Mr. Wilson the group was able to suggest revised wording for the contractual agreement for access to RECON. The fruits of this collaboration have now been realized. In late October of 1989 NASA sent out to all NASA/RECON subscribers a revised agreement form [FF386P/SEP 89 (REV)] and its associated Fact Sheet [FF299 (SEP 89)].

The AIAA Library can also provide copies of documents referenced in the AEROSPACE Database. The Library can be contacted by:

*DIALOG's DIALORDER
*DIALOG's DIALMAIL: LIBRARY
AIA

The revised agreement form states "Access to, use of, or distribution of data contained in the NASA STI Database is intended only for the organizations or person whose primary activities are within the U.S. or its territories. Access by any foreign organizations or person acting on their behalf is not authorized without written approval. Refer to the Fact Sheet on Access to the NASA Scientific and Technical Information (STI) Database (FF299) that is enclosed as part of this agreement for additional information." The Fact Sheet, after

NASA CLARIFIES ACCESS POLICY TO RECON DATABASE

During 1988 the University of California coordinator of library affairs, Gary Lawrence, advised all UC librarians to stop using the NASA/RECON Database after discovering that the contractual agreement [form FF386 OCT 85 (REV)] specifically barred all foreign citizens from accessing the database without prior authorization. Lawrence suggested UC librarians search the

listing all the governing acts, regulations, and guidelines pertinent to the use and dissemination of NASA STI, goes on to say the following:

* Access to the Aerospace Database on Dialog follows guidelines similar to those for NASA/RECON, as specified in the agreement with the vendor.

* Technical libraries and other organizations that have authorized access to the STI Database may provide their user communities (i.e. students, post-doctoral researchers, faculty, and staff) with access to the Aerospace Database portion of the STI Database, regardless of citizenship, provided that data are used for university-related research or study only.

NASA hopes these changes will clarify the confusion that has previously existed over both the NASA/RECON Database and the Aerospace Database on Dialog. For further information contact:

Scientific and Technical Information Division
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Code NTT
Washington, DC 20546
Telephone: (202)755-1089

RESEARCH PROJECT UPDATE

For those of you who have not heard, there is a major research project in progress. The project "Exploring the Role of the Information Intermediary in the Transfer of Federally Funded Aerospace Research and Development" involves several phases. Phase one, which involved a study of U.S. aerospace engineers and scientists as end-users, has been completed, and the results are available in NASA Technical Memorandums 101534, pts. 1 & 2, and 101625.

Phase 2 will involve a study of the role of U.S. aerospace librarians and technical information specialists in the transfer of federally-funded scientific and technical information. Timing for Phase 2 is scheduled to run from November 1989 through early May 1990. This phase will be an interactive study employing questionnaires and personal interviews. The survey group will be YOU, the aerospace information intermediaries.

Some of the objectives for Phase 2 are:

* To explore the role of the information intermediary in the transfer of federally funded aerospace STI.

* To explore the relationship between the information intermediary and producers of federally funded aerospace STI.

* To determine how valid the information intermediary model is for transferring the results of federally funded aerospace STI?

*To identify what barriers inhibit the effective transfer of federally funded aerospace STI?

Anyone interested in becoming more involved with *Phase 2 or wishing to learn more about the entire project should contact:

Tom Pinelli
Mail Stop 180A
NASA Langley Research Center
Hampton, VA 23665-5225
(804) 864-2491 (FTS 928)

MANDEL SCHOLARSHIP

Contributions are now being accepted for the SLA Aerospace Division Mandel Scholarship. Checks should be made out to the SLA Aerospace Division Mandel Scholarship and mailed to:

c/o Ellie Reiter
8876 S. Surrey Drive
Evergreen, CO 80439

Stanford University
Stanford, CA 94305-4029
(415) 725-1012
(415) 725-1096 FAX
CN.SXG@FORSYTHE.STANFORD.ED
U

Questions or inquiries should be directed to Ellie at (303) 977-6363.

PROPOSED NAME CHANGE
(CONTINUED)

So far I have only received one comment on the suggestion by Sandy Moltz and Mitzi Rinehart that or division change its name to the Aerospace/Defense Technologies Division. Ruth B. Smith, of Bethesda, MD, writes that "the proposed name change is too long and its abbreviation, ADTD, sounds like a robot or insecticide." She also wondered if anyone has bothered to discuss this proposal with the Military Librarians Division. Well, Sandy and Mitzi, have you discussed it with the Military Librarians?

Ruth goes on to suggest that if increasing our membership is critical, that the Division consider merging with another, such as the Military Librarians, or Engineering, or even Sci-Tech. She comments that it appears to her that membership has remained stable over the years and that a name change is not likely to change that fact. Finally, Ruth suggests that if we do desire a name change that we avoid words that even sound like other divisions: defense (too much like military librarians) and technologies (too much like information technology). She suggests Aeronautics and Space Division as her candidate.

What do you think? Please send your comments to:

Steven Gass
Engineering Library
Terman Engineering Center

FINALLY

Do you think the Aerospace column in Sci-Tech News could be better? Don't be shy. Share your thoughts for improvement with me, the editor, Steve Gass. I welcome input, suggestions, contributions for the column, and any other creative thoughts you might want to share about this column. I can be reached at the address listed above.

Lynn Ecklund, Chair

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Aerospace Division welcomes the following new members:

Alan J. Denison
2721 149th St. Ct. E.
Tacoma, WA 98445

Marlene S. Heroux
1148 Briarcliss Rd. #2
Atlanta, GA 30306

Donna M. Mendenhall
Matters Industries
WSMC/PMET
Tech Library
Bldg. 7015, Rm. 119A
Vandenberg AFB, CA 93437

A membership survey form will be mailed in January to collect information for the Aerospace Directory. Please return the survey form ASAP. Thanks for your help.

Mitzi Rinehart, Chair