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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

Pittsburgh in 1990

Plans for an exciting and interesting Annual Conference in Pittsburgh next year are moving forward. The Conference theme will be "The Information Professional: An Unparalleled Resource." The Aerospace Division will be co-sponsoring several events with other divisions, including sessions about "Worldwide Information," "Patents," and "Marketing" — areas of concern and interest to us all. Our Division will also sponsor a suite for networking and meeting old and new friends, and a field trip that will include a look at robotics, artificial intelligence, and the Iron City Brewery — something for everyone! I am excited about attending Pittsburgh and hope that many of you will join me there.

Survey Results

The results are tabulated. Thank you to everyone who took their valuable time to fill out our Division survey. 18% of the Division responded. This poll will provide us with some guidance for our upcoming meetings and will offer insights into what our membership thinks.

Here are some highlights from the results:

66% of the respondents had 11+ years of library experience. 34% worked in libraries that were staffed by one full-time employee or less; 38% worked in libraries ranging from one and a half employees to nine employees; 19% worked in libraries of ten or more employees; and 9% were other.

23% said they would consider running for office (with lots of "maybe's"); 40% indicated they would be interested in serving on one of the Division's Committees (with lots more "maybe's").

Interest in specialized discussion groups/roundtables was indicated as follows:

Information Sources	62%
Aerospace Topics	51%
Managerial/ Marketing Skills	43%
Library Technology/ Automation	34%

Other suggested topics were defense, competitive intelligence, and serial holdings for all Divisional Libraries.

Most of the respondents were satisfied with the frequency of *SCI-TECH NEWS* (Quarterly). When asked what STN should have more articles on?, 60% said "various aerospace libraries," and 38% said "how I do this in my library." Other suggested areas of interest were document delivery cooperation, the impact of new technology on libraries/patrons, access to foreign technology, standards and aerospace ordnance/defense, and interlibrary loan availability. Thirteen people said they would be willing to write an article — so feel free to write. I am sure there are many of you who have something to share. We need your contributions. We have a very competent editor, Steven Gass, who will be happy to work with you. Please send your ideas, stories, news announcements, comments, etc. to:

Steven Gass
Engineering Library
Terman Engineering Center
Stanford University
Stanford, CA 94305-4029
(415) 725-1012

60% of the respondents to the survey have attended an SLA Annual Conference. When asked about the reasons why they did not or could not attend, the answers were:

cost prohibitive	21%
unable to take time from work	11%
conference location	4%
conference not interesting/ appropriate	4%

Other comments on this issue focused on the lack of monetary support from the organization, and the need to take turns with other staff. When asked what reasons made it easier to attend a conference, the following were cited most frequently:

giving a paper	47%
Division officer	30%
committee chair or member	28%
member of a panel	26%
continuing education courses	15%

Can someone write an article on "Creative Negotiating for Attending an SLA Annual Conference"? Finally, there were many suggestions for topics of interest at the Annual Conference. These topics seem to indicate various concerns, a lot of them shared. Some of the suggestions, not mentioned before, are listed here:

- Evaluating User Needs
- Networking
- Locating Obscure Government/Military Documents
- Career Paths
- Soliciting Management Support
- Competitive Technologies
- Collection Development
- Legislation Affecting Aerospace Libraries
- Changes in Government/Business Relationships
- Time Management
- Space Management (no, not as in outer, but facility)
- Cost Recovery: Maximum Service for Minimum Cost

These are all great topics. Perhaps they will trigger some inspiration for members to participate in upcoming programs.

Division Special Projects

As many of you know by now, George Mandel, our Division's Special Project's Chair, died in an automobile accident last July. We will all miss George very much (please read the tribute to George which follows), and I would like to thank everyone who has called about George and offered to assist in keeping his projects running smoothly. I am happy to announce that Leona T. Jarabek of the NASA Lewis Research Center has volunteered to take over our Division Special Projects Chair. Leona has been with NASA since 1972 and is familiar with the Criss-Cross Directory Project. She will be working closely with Eleanore Zay, who, as George

himself put it, has been "my right arm" since the inception of this important project. All correspondence, orders, and inquiries about the Criss-Cross Directory should be addressed to:

Leona T. Jarabek, 60-3
Library Branch
NASA Lewis Research Center
2100 Brookpark Rd.
Cleveland, OH 44135
(216) 433-5767

Lynn Ecklund, Chair

Membership

The Aerospace Division would like to welcome the following new members:

- Richard M. Mellon
Martin Marietta
Orlando, FL
- Carolyn J. Ray
Wright Patterson AFB
Ohio

The Division seems to be holding steady at 277 members. This count does not take into consideration those who have not renewed their membership for this year. It has been a long, hot and enjoyable summer, but be sure to renew if you have forgotten.

Proposed Name Change for Aerospace Division

We would like to propose changing the name of the Aerospace Division to the Aerospace/Defense Technologies Division. While Aerospace Division may be an apt name for many of our current members, it might be too restrictive in reaching new members. There are many companies that make aerospace-related products, but which are not primarily aerospace companies. Also, there are many companies involved in defense related work, e.g., marine propulsion, with no specific SLA Division for them to join. Possibly some SLA Divisions with small memberships would be interested in affiliating with an Aerospace/Defense Technologies Division.

The reasons for trying to expand the membership are: 1) our allotment from SLA headquar-

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