Engineering Division

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SLA 2011 Conference Report from the Engineering Division

What a fantastic conference in the City of Brotherly Love! Philadelphia is a beautiful city, amazing me with its combination of modern and historic ambiance residing together. The vision of Independence Hall with sky scrapers to either side of the block will be a favorite memory, as will the memory of visiting the Liberty Bell, Benjamin Franklin’s Court, and the view of the City Hall at night with lights shining on that impressive facade. The conference itself holds many memories, as well as new ideas and learning from the speaker presentations and interactions, networking with colleagues I have not seen for a year, and making new connections.

The Engineering Division was sponsor for several great sessions again this year. Here are a few short notes:

Monday morning was the Aerospace Annual Meeting and Breakfast. The George Mandel Award was a highlight at the meeting, where Gale Harris, of Lockheed Martin Aeronautics was honored as this year’s award recipient. Gale has been a librarian for over 34 years, promoting librarianship and contributing to the profession as well as to the aerospace industry in her role as a librarian over the past 28 years. Congratulations Gale!

We had a virtual speaker for the session “Veni, Vidi, Wiki – I Came, I Saw, I Collaborated,” presented by Adrianne Jones Washburn, who was unable to attend in person due to the pending birth of her son! Adrianne did an excellent job taping the session ahead of time so it would be ready to go, with one small glitch in technology. Her enthusiasm for her topic came across in her talk as she walked us through collaboration tools and applications. She moved the material along at a good clip with many examples to share with us.

Tuesday morning we heard from Jaime Scibelli, NASA Glenn Research Center, on the topic “Tweets from Space, NASA and Social Media Tools.” Jaime shared with us some of the tools NASA, as well as the astronauts, use to communicate. Some of the tools are internal to NASA, but there are sites and collaboration tools that can be followed and used by the public as well. The thought of tweets coming to us from the Space Station is to me amazing. Just think of how collaboration and communication has changed around the world in the last 10 years, and now we can have interactions with our astronauts as they circle the Earth from Space as well!

Our Engineering Division Annual Business Meeting and luncheon was on Tuesday afternoon, and was very well attended. The Executive Board and Advisory Board members were introduced to the membership. Our Executive Board members are: Chair, Kathryn Breininger, The Boeing Company; Chair-Elect, Pam Enrici, University of MN, Duluth; Secretary, Cheryl Cove, Raytheon; Treasurer, Mary Whittaker, The Boeing Company.

Daureen Nesdill reported on our membership for the Division and encouraged people to consider volunteering for the Chair-Elect position for 2012. Bonnie Osif introduced our first mentee, Tomoko Kurahashi, who received her MLIS in May and also has a degree in Mechanical Engineering. Mary Whittaker gave the Treasurer’s report from our May bank statement, with a total of $63,797.86 in the bank. She also sent all bank statements from 2010 through Jan 2011 to SLA in compliance with their audit.

I announced the decision reached by the Engineering Division Executive Board to fund the SLA Building Systems at the Platinum level of $10,000. This decision was made following several long and thoughtful discussions in several joint Executive and Advisory Board meetings. Other announcements included a listing of the Engineering sponsored sessions, and acknowledgment and special thanks to our generous and supportive sponsors. We could not provide the conference programming and sessions without their support. We look forward to continuing our relationships with our vendor spon-

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Nature Publishing Group
Covering the spectrum of the physical sciences

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sors in the coming years to bring additional thought-provoking and informative sessions to our members! Remember to mark your calendars for the SLA 2012 conference in Chicago, IL, July 15-18 (note the month change from when we have had conference in the past) and the Leadership Summit in Atlanta, GA, January 19-22. Diane Brenes presented the following awards:

1. Bonnie Hilditch International Science-Technology & Engineering Divisions Travel Award awarded to: Dr. Harish Chandra (not present).

2. INSPEC Travel Stipend Award awarded to: Gregory McMurray.

3. IEEE Continuing Education Travel Stipend awarded to: Daureen Nesdill.

4. SLA Engineering Librarian of the Year Award sponsored by IHS awarded to: Randy Reichardt.

(Please see her article in this SciTech News issue for additional details).

We wrapped up the business meeting with a raffle of donated items. We raised $155.00 through the raffle, which was donated to the Food Trust in Philadelphia.

“Designing a Physical Space in the Digital Age” provided several different approaches to incorporating space, high activity areas, and quiet areas to provide a library center that would meet the needs of the users. How the space would be used, who uses it, and what the needs are of the users are key to developing a physical space that will provide the atmosphere as well as the resources that are needed.

The Standards Update session was Wednesday morning. The timing for this session was unfortunate in that it was after the exhibits had closed, so attendees were not able to visit the vendors for additional information after the Standards Update Session. Sara Davis shares her notes: Standing room only for the session, yet again! Helen Josephine and Susan Morley moderated the session, which included several standards developing organizations.

- ANSI – announced that they are developing a completely brand new website and are in need of testers. If interested, contact them.

- ASCE – now has eBooks available – coming soon on their website is DRM free materials – they will now allow you to search for a series of titles – and there will be a new version of ASCE 7 coming out in 2012, breaking the 3 year update schedule for updating 7 in the past.

- ASTM International – soon will be able to access on your iPad – working on developing videos on their test methods.

- BSI – will be publishing Eurocodes, possibly this coming Sept.

- CSA – new ZED (that is what I heard but may not be the actual name of the std, Susan Morley can confirm or correct) 320 is coming – it is CSA’s commissioning standard – also a new Canadian Electrical Code will be out in June 2012.

- IEEE – new NESC coming in Aug with the handbook and with elearning/training available for it – their dictionary is now available thru iTunes with an app for the Android coming soon.

- IHS – added standards from the Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater – also adding administrative management of usage statistics.

The session included a lively discussion on Digital Rights Management. Please see Helen Josephine’s article on the Standards Update for additional information on that thought provoking session.

Betty Edwards and Mary Whittaker, both Engineering Division members, presented papers at the Contributed Papers sessions. Betty’s paper was titled “Curated Industry News Delivery – a Marketing Approach” and Mary spoke on “Facilitating Knowledge Sharing via an In-House, Online Scholarly Publication.”

I hope you all enjoyed the conference as much as I did, and are marking your calendars now for the Chicago conference in July next year. Thank you all for the support, help, and volunteering that made this a great success again this year!

On a final note, please carefully consider volun-
teering for a committee, or for a position in the Division. We are still looking for an Engineering Division Chair-Elect for 2012, and we have opportunities open to assist with several committees. Holding a position or chairing a committee is a great way to gain leadership experience, meet new friends, learn from each other, and have fun as well!

Kathryn Breininger, Chair
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The Engineering Division was pleased to present the following awards during the Engineering Division Luncheon & Business Meeting, held Tuesday, June 14, 2011 in Philadelphia, PA.

Randy Reichardt is the recipient of the 2011 SLA Engineering Librarian of the Year Award. This $1500 award sponsored by IHS, highlights the accomplishments and contributions of SLA Engineering Division members to the engineering librarian profession.

Randy Reichardt is Research Services Librarian (Engineering) at the Science & Technology Library, University of Alberta, in Edmonton. He has worked there since September 1983, and has focused specifically on engineering since 2000. His subject areas include chemical, materials, and mechanical engineering, engineering management, nanotechnology, and space science and technology. His responsibilities include collection development, reference and consultation service, instruction, and liaison.

Randy studied at the University of Manitoba (BSc in Mathematics, 1975) and the University of Alberta (MLS, 1978). He worked in the Edmonton Public Library system for 4 years before moving on to the University of Alberta in 1983. Early on, his subject areas included mathematics, entomology, and civil engineering. In 1993, he was asked to join the Engineering Information Scope and Coverage Committee. He was a member for six years, and chaired the Committee from 1996-1998. He also chaired the Committee when it reformed briefly in the mid-2000s. He was a member of the Materials Research Society Library Advisory Board from 2007-2010, and is a member of similar advisory boards for Knovel, CRC Press, Begell House, and SPIE. He joined SLA in 1984, and was the Standards Chair of the Engineering Division from 2003-2007.


Away from work, Randy is a part-time professional guitarist, and has appeared on at least ten recordings produced in Edmonton. He loves...
travelling to NYC and Cambridge MA, and is an avid fan of good quality television and film. He will always root for the Montreal Canadiens in hockey, and the Jays, Twins, and Red Sox in baseball.

Daureen Nesdill is the recipient of the 2011 IEEE Continuing Education Stipend.

This $1000 travel stipend sponsored by IEEE, is awarded to Engineering Division members attending any Continuing Education course offered at the annual SLA conference.

Daureen Nesdill started her career working in medical research, but moved on to study behavioral and chemical ecology at Auburn University, Alabama. A graduate library assistantship supported Daureen through her MS and PhD programs. It also piqued her interest in information science and prompted her alter her career choice. Daureen earned a MLIS from the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa in 2001. Her MLIS was supported by a graduate assistantship through Lister Hill Library of Health Science from the National Library of Medicine.

Daureen has been working as a science and engineering librarian at the J. Willard Marriott Library, University of Utah for eight years and was the Interim Head of Science and Engineering Library until reorganization. She received tenure in 2010. Her new position, Data Curation Librarian involves all subject areas; in fact she attended the 2009 University of Illinois Summer Institute on Data Curation in the Humanities.

Daureen presently serves on the Steering Committee and is Coordinator of the Communications Working Group of TRAIL, Technical Report Image and Archive Library. TRAIL is a task force of engineering and government documents librarians from a growing number of institutions nationwide working with Hathi Trust and Google to digitize legacy federal technical reports. Daureen is also working on an IMLS grant studying how libraries can offer publishing services to their communities.

Daureen was the Liaison for the ASEE Engineering Libraries Division and the SLA Engineering Division. She was elected Chair of the SLA Engineering Division in 2007. As part of her duties to plan for the 2008 conference, Daureen organized a symposium on cyberinfrastructure.

Daureen may be presently living in Salt Lake City after attending school in Alabama, but she was born in San Francisco and grew up in New York City and has not determined when or where to retire.

Gregory McMurray is the recipient of the 2011 Inspec Stipend Award. Inspec sponsors this $1500 travel stipend award for Engineering Division library school student members attending the annual Special Libraries Association conference.

Gregory McMurray was born in Montclair New Jersey, but grew up in Canton, a small town in
Upstate New York. He attended Nazareth College, graduating with a degree in History, and also attended Vietnam’s Hanoi University of Social Sciences and Humanities. He is currently enrolled in Long Island University’s Palmer School for Library Science. Mr. McMurray has also been accepted to The University of London’s Rare Book School, which he will attend this summer. He plans on having earned his Masters by the winter of 2011.

While his concentration will be in Rare Books and Manuscripts, his wider interests lay in the library landscape itself, which he sees as increasingly homogeneous. Specialty Libraries, and particularly engineering and science libraries, should remain retain their distinctiveness in the face of a growing movement to conform to standards adopted by college main-branch libraries. This is the topic of his contribution to this year’s SLA/INSPEC Student Award, which is Mr. McMurray’s first such prize.

He is currently building and managing the Faculty Publications database at Touro College, and works as a cataloguer at the Center for Book Arts, and at The New York Public Library’s Berg Collection for English and American Literature. He lives in Brooklyn with his girlfriend, where he reads, writes, and plots to live in Manhattan.
In 2008, the filmmaker Michel Gondry, in partnership with Deitch Media, embarked on a project where anyone, free of charge, was allowed time in a gallery space outfitted with cameras, a backlot of 15 sets, and projection equipment. Participants had free reign for two hours, using the space and equipment to produce a film of their own creation. This remarkable installation is possibly revolutionary for libraries because of something else that Gondry did. After each group finished making their films, after they had screened them and taken home a copy of their own, Gondry catalogued the films, set them on a shelf, and allowed anyone who wished, to rent the material created by their peers. He created a film library.

In fact the whole project gives one the feeling of a library system: open access by users to materials, a shared space used for a common purpose, and a collected body of work intended to educate, inform, and inspire. The key to this new library though, was the principle of “in-house generated material,” where a library becomes not simply a source for scholarship, but a space in which the advancement of scholarship is taking place at a significant and innovative level, all the while being catalogued, all the while remaining open.

So what does this mean for engineering libraries? In order to answer that question, we must first look at the changes that current engineering libraries are making, and in what direction they believe their libraries will be going in the years to come.

In scanning the websites of some of the country’s most prestigious engineering schools, one invariably comes across a section entitled: “Where Our Library Is Heading.” The startling information presented in such sections is that most engineering libraries intend to undergo the same transformation that their university’s main libraries have been working towards: less books, more space, better wi-fi, tasty coffee, et cetera, et cetera...

The following is an impressive sampling from these sites:

From Cornell University: “Thinking beyond traditional library models,” they begin, “the library’s electronic collections should be enhanced…with more group and individual study space…computer access should be provided [to all]...the role of librarians should be expanded to better support the research and information needs of faculty and students.” Then going further still to say that the “physical collections [should be] relocated and integrated with material at other campus libraries or the Annex.” (Cornell, 2010)

From MIT’s website: “Barker [library] offers a premier engineering collection,” with “quiet study space…a newly remodeled reading room…and group study spaces.” (Gabridge & Silver, 2011)

Now from Stanford: “Our new library is set to open with a decrease [of physical material] of more than 85 percent from the old library. Stanford library director Michael Keller found that the vast majority of the collection hadn’t been taken off the shelf in five years.” Then in an NPR article Keller gushes: “That’s what we’re so excited about, the idea of actually offering more services, offering more workshops, offering more one-on-one time with students.” (Sydell, 2010)

What is going on here? Where is the grand future predicted for these engineering libraries at top educational institutions? Their nearly identical statements belay a growing homogenization of libraries as a whole.

I don’t believe that the generalizations quoted above are the answer to where our engineering libraries are headed. To get such an answer, we must ask other questions. WHY do you need more room? WHY less books, and what will you add in their place? Why this stress on bibliographic instruction? What good will that do a graduate student at a top research institution? To most universities’ main libraries, increased student use staves off the budget hatchet; if you provide a more comfortable library, students will become increasingly regular patrons, demonstrating the usefulness and importance...
of the service. But how much content is sacrificed for the sake of atmosphere, and are our engineering libraries really in such peril?

There is a reason we have separate libraries: they fill different functions. In today’s atmosphere, it seems as though all libraries are meant to go the same route. In agricultural terms, the American library landscape would form a monoculture, an ecosystem totally lacking in differentiation, and one more susceptible to blight and famine: essentially an academic dust bowl. This is a real danger for any library system, and any Svengoli trying to sell a “modern library” is probably referring only to a more generic one. We must face the truth though: adding a coffee bar to an engineering library won’t make better engineers, they’ll just be chattier.

Let’s pause here briefly and return to Monsieur Gondry and his film library. As a result of Gondry’s project, a collection was set up, capable of being constantly replenished by original material produced in-house, that was both a draw for patrons and a center of interest for outside parties. No lounges, no coffee bars—all resources, all content. Engineering libraries, and all those fearing the hatchet, must take notice of this experiment.

It could be said that there are two ways to appreciate art: appreciation of the ideas expressed, and appreciation of the methodology employed. Engineering as perceived by other engineers, to me, is almost completely fixated on the appreciation of another’s methodology, and a library that stresses this interaction, is a library that will best serve its students.

Engineering students should have full access to the work of their peers. They should be able to observe the methodology at work, thousands of miles away if they wish, as the results come in. Even now, there are online databases that publish failed experiments and studies, because the academic community knows that research—successful or not—fuels further research. Why not have that in real time and in the trusted womb of academia?

Engineering libraries must become more specialized, not less. In order for research to advance, students must work within the strictures of an academic library stripped of pretensions and replete with resources. Move the libraries to the labs or the labs to libraries. Unscrew the drawers on the card catalogues, unscrew the classification system from the records themselves! The librarians in such institutions would need to act less as ambassadors of knowledge, and more as ‘keepers of the flame.’ Results would be instantly posted on a database or bound on a shelf—instantly catalogued, instantly made available. Visiting researchers, whether on the web or in person, would be able to interact with ongoing tests, able to review institution-specific data enfolded in the larger community.

These libraries, dotted throughout the country, would act as relay points for ongoing research at multiple universities. An intrepid library staff, documenting, cataloging, and streaming results, would provide a network of innovation. If that radical open-access approach seems frightening to some, then limit your policy only to students and faculty of sister-universities, or only to those researchers or professionals in the field who obtain special permission. Open-access is nothing to be afraid of. Grants for research will still be procured, results will continue to be credited to those who produced them. To quote the recent movie, The Social Network: “If you were the inventors of facebook, you would have invented facebook.”

If we truly want to better serve the needs of our engineer-populations, we have to get more specific, more creative. By integrating the laboratory with the database, the lecture hall with library, we will better meet the demands of a diverse but rabidly inquisitive base, and better tend to our engineering programs throughout the country.

**Bibliography**


Standards Update 2011 drew 75 attendees. Ten organizations representing both standard developing organizations (SDOs) and distributors presented concise updates from their organizations. Thanks to Susan Morley and her enthusiastic organization of the event, one additional standards developing organization participated this year, CSA (Canadian Standards Association). In addition, a new standards distributor MadCad (www.madcad.com) was exhibiting at the conference and they were asked to join the session.

VENDOR UPDATES

**ANSI**—Leanne Lowry [llowry@ansi.org]  
http://www.ansi.org  

Leanne highlighted the new website, new access to committees and update functions available in NNSN (National Search Engine for Standards) www.nnsn.org hosted and developed by ANSI. RSS feeds and news updates are now available as well as the option to e-mail links.


**ASCE**—Will Farnam [wfarnam@asce.org]  
http://www.asce.org  

Will Farnam announced that a new edition of ASCE 7 is coming in 2016. All books and standards are available from ASCE and other vendors such as, IHS, Madcad, SAI Global, ebrary, Techstreet. The ASCE website has improved browsing capabilities for series and topics.

**ASTM**—John Pace [jpace@astm.org]  
http://www.astm.org  

John Pace announced that the ASTM digital library is a combined platform for both the 12,000 standards and test methods and the digital library of Special Technical Publications, monographs, manuals and, journal articles. Using XML technology the content will be more versatile. MARC records are now available and usage data is Counter compliant. ASTM has also add 50 data sets, improved search functions and launched new test methods videos as part of the ASTM Digital Library. New areas of coverage include biofuels and homeland security.

**BSI**—Stuart Radcliffe [stuart.radcliffe@bsigroup.com]  
http://www.bsigroup.com  

Stuart Radcliffe described the work of BSI Global with the development and distribution of Eurocodes and Publicly Available Specification or PAS. PAS is a sponsored fast-track standard driven by the needs of the client organizations and developed according to guidelines set out by BSI. http://shop.bsigroup.com/Navigate-by/PAS/

There are 10 Eurocodes made up of 58 parts that will be adopted in all EU Member States. They replace existing British Standards which were withdrawn on 31 March 2010 when full implementation of the Eurocodes took place. Eurocodes Expert is a website devoted to information on Eurocode adoption. http://www.eurocodes.co.uk/
Over the next year, CSA will be focusing on growing its core business – the development of standards – including the following subject areas:

Electric Vehicles, Smart Grid, Mobile Fuel Cells, LED Lighting; Uranium Mines and Mills Safety, Upstream Oil and Gas Safety, Technology Neutral Nuclear; Home Care Safety Guides, Standard Operating Procedures for Health Care; Oil Sands, Sustainable Products, Environmental Labels, Green Mark.

New and Coming Soon

Currently under development - the world’s first standard for Underground Storage of Carbon Dioxide – aiming to provide essential guidelines for regulators and industry involved with scientific and commercial carbon capture and storage (CCS) projects.

July 2011 launch of CSA Registered Carbon Neutral TM Program. This new CSA label is based on the ISO 14064 series of greenhouse gas management standards and will recognize third-party verification of a building or an organization’s carbon neutral claims.

CSA / ISO 50001 - Energy Management Systems, a voluntary international standard to transform businesses of all types and sizes into highly efficient energy users through continual improvement leading to reducing energy use, energy costs and related emissions.

January 2012 – 22nd edition of the Canadian Electrical Code (C22.1). This Code is adopted across Canada as regulation for the installation and maintenance of electrical equipment and is now on a three year cycle.

Sustainable Product Standards for Appliances. CSA in collaboration with Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM) and UL is developing a series of sustainability standards for home appliances such as refrigerators, freezers and floor care products, which will be pilot tested over the next twelve months.

Check out all updates, and sign up for eNewsletters, at their online store www.ShopCSA.ca.

Michael Spade announced that there are over 2000 IEEE standards available via the IEL and other suppliers. Published exclusively by IEEE, the National Electrical Safety Code (NESC) 2011 sets the ground rules for practical safeguarding of persons during the installation, operation, or maintenance of electric supply and communication lines and associated equipment. Both a handbook for the code and e-learning courses on NESC will be available from the IEL. Redlined versions of the IEEE standards are now available via IEL as well as the Standards Dictionary. New areas include 54 active standards on smart grid technologies. The IEEE Standards Organization (http://standards.ieee.org/) has an online newsletter and updating service—Standards Wire—for the latest on IEEE standards and related products.

Erdem Dedebas explained that Madcad is a cloud-based provider of standards with HTML versions of standards available anywhere including on mobile devices. The latest information or revisions to standards are pushed to the user, solving the problem of older or out-of-date standards being used for current projects. Both concurrency models and single-user licenses are available as well as usage statistics. Madcad has been in business for 5 years, but this was the first time they exhibited at an SLA conference. Current standards include those from ASCE, ASHRAE, AME, ASTM, BHMA, COMBO, IAPMO, ICC, IEEE, NFPA, SMACNA and many state standards.

Todd Fegan discussed both the transaction side of Techstreet and the subscription side. Subscription services allow for reference linking of standards for course reserves, work group sharing via e-mail and other forms of communication. The transaction service has a new “preview” option to see the context of the standard, the related standards and keywords. Techstreet hosts the “Standard Store” for other organizations such as ASME, ASHRE, and IEEE. Coming
soon will be SAE PDF standards as well as enhancements to the subscription platform.

**IHS**—Steve Noth [steven.noth@ihs.com]  
http://www.ihs.com


**DISCUSSION**

After the presentations we had about 20 minutes for comments and discussion from the audience. The audience driven focus was digital rights management, but other topics did arise.

**Digital Rights Management**

- Reasonable prices for single user access with option of purchasing additional copies, as demand warrants.
- Renting content is not the preferred option.
- Need ‘lifespan’ access to protect users/purchasers against situation when aggregator license expires. Main reason for the later happening is that the aggregator terms change or the supplier (SDO) changes its agreement with aggregator.
- Annoyed with definition of site license, of which there is no uniformity. Can’t all SDOs and their resellers agree?
- Transfer download license from one computer to another – i.e. ASHRAE.
- Naming purchaser on document. Should be COMPANY name NOT individual name. In most situations the purchaser is buying on behalf of their employer, NOT for themselves.
- Participants from the Libraries/Librarians DRM challenge program held earlier in the conference provided this discussion point—librarians identities should not be on docu-

- All these topics raise issues with copyright, security and digital resources.
- One option - use digital documents 1 at a time, much like print publications, and keep usage secure.
- There are too many DRM & licensing restrictions.
- MADCAD has a feature of allowing temporary increase to number of users.

**Access, Acquisition, Technology Issues & Usage**

- Tracking downloads requires using specific technologies or use of Cloud/Live access.
- Firewall issues – notable problems occur when attempting to retrieve updates and download them. Why can’t technology get around this issue?
- PDF is a great archiving tool for frozen files, but not easy to update once the file is released. Some members of the audience commented that they’ve experienced this with vendors.
- Categories of usage – better reporting or more consistent “standard” across vendors/publishers.
- One option to reduce purchase prices - Read Only license for users, with full access for Librarian/Administrator.
- Hybrid views using combined PDF HTML option?
- Sara Davis – new release announcement is often misleading – whether from Aggregator, Reseller or Publisher. Be clear of availability and date. ASME & SAI Global cited as worst offenders.
**Sharing our pain on DRM and purchase access to standards.**

- Stuart Radcliffe requested that SLA invite vendors to participate in future discussions, regardless of what form they may take.

- Helen suggested options might be mid-year webinar on DRM. Also will ask for this to be a topic at SLA 2012.

Please mark your calendars now for the 2012 Conference, July 15-18 in Chicago, Illinois. Details on the day and time of the 2012 Standards Update, will be available soon and we have requested that the time be on Monday or Tuesday when the exhibits are still open. If you have topics to discuss or would like to suggest additional vendors or standards organizations, please contact Helen Josephine or Susan Morley. Thanks! ✤