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Aerospace Section

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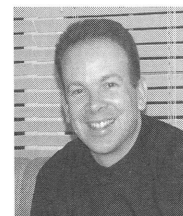
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Aerospace Section

David Hook, Chair



The Aerospace Section of the Engineering Division encourages communication and cooperation among information professionals concerned with aerospace, aeronautical and related technologies. In addition, it fosters dialog with entities such as NASA, the AIAA and other important sources of technical data and bibliographical services.

Hello everyone. I hope that you all had a good holiday and I wish you all the best for 2005.

Planning for the 2005 Annual Conference in Toronto is well underway. This year the Aerospace Section is working in conjunction with several other Divisions; mostly the Engineering Division. I won't go into a lot of detail here, because Mary Steiner will be mentioning most of the events in her column, but I'll mention some of the sessions we are planning. One session that we're working on is a panel comparing the concepts of knowledge management in the corporate sector with self-archiving and institutional repositories in the academic sector to see if there are things that different types of libraries can learn from each other.

For those of you who are big Sci-Fi fans, we're also working with the ITE Division to put together a walking tour of science fiction bookstores and the Merrill Science Fiction library (<http://www.tpl.toronto.on.ca/merril/home.htm>)

We'll also be involved with some of the social events – including the All-Sciences reception to be held at the Steam Whistle Brewery!

I'm looking forward to a great conference and hope to see many of you there.

As some of you probably know, I've lived almost all of my life in Toronto. Next issue I'll post some of my travel tips for those of you planning to attend the city. If however, you would like some specific details or recommendations about what to see, what to do or where to stay while you are in town, please feel free to contact me at dhook@mdrobotics.ca - I'd be glad to help!

At the time of writing this article, the earthquake and resulting tsunami that have hit South Asia are all over the news. By the time you receive this edition of *Sci-Tech News*, the

disaster may well have left the front pages of the newspapers, but those affected by the disaster are still working to rebuild their communities.

There may be ways in which we, as librarians, can assist in the reconstruction effort (beyond monetary assistance). For one thing, many of the countries affected by the Tsunami will need to rebuild their library systems. I have already seen a call for assistance from Sri Lankan Libraries (http://www.libr.org/Juice/issues/vol7/LJ_7.27.html#2). Remember that when you are weeding your own library's collections, there may be opportunities to help out a nation in need.

As well, there are several organizations that use engineering skills to help in developing nations and are helping with the tsunami reconstruction efforts. Perhaps they may be able to make use of your skills, or those of someone in your organization.

RedR (Registered Engineers for Disaster Relief - <http://www.redr.org> or <http://www.redr.ca> in Canada) and Engineers Without Borders (in US: <http://www.ewb-usa.org/> and <http://www.ewb.ca/content/en/index2.shtml> in Canada) are two such organizations.❖

Regards to all,
Dave Hook
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