



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SECTION

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### From the Chair Beverlee French

As I write this, I am really just back from the Mid-winter meeting in San Antonio. I am gratified and exhilarated by all the energy displayed by STS members. The dedicated committee chairs and members make the job of being STS chair a breeze. You will find updates on the myriad STS activities in this *Signal* issue.

For the annual meeting in San Francisco, the Program Committee has planned what promises to be an important and interesting program which follows the ALA President's theme of librarian's right to know: "Issues in Sci-Tech Information: Librarians' Right to Know" (p. 6). The STS program was one of three ACRL programs which received funds from ALA. You may want to make plans now for the STS tour to Sausalito on Friday, June 26 to the Marine Mammal Center and the San Francisco Bay Model. The California Academy of Sciences has again graciously offered its facility for the STS reception. It's not often you'll get an opportunity to party amidst alligators. I hope to see you there. Please remember to say thank you to the sponsors of the reception and program: Majors Scientific Books, Inc., Engineering Information, Inc., Chemical Abstracts Service, Elsevier Science Publishers, CRC Press, Inc., and Springer-Verlag.

Beverlee French  
University of California, Davis  
Davis, CA 95616  
916-752-2110

### From the Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect Karen Feeney Cargille

Thank you to all of you who have sent Committee Volunteer Forms to support the work of STS. For the first time, the numbers of volunteers far exceeded the number of spaces available on STS committees. If you sent in a form and did not receive a committee appointment, please be assured that I have retained your form and a list of the committees for which you have expressed interest. Your name will be considered as openings become available during the year. Also, remember that there are many ways to participate in STS without a committee appointment. All our discussion groups are open to all and are much more interesting when the group of attendees represents a broad diverse group of librarians. If you continue to be interested in the work of a committee, by all means visit that committee and express your interest in an appointment to the Chairperson.

My main responsibility now is planning for STS activities at the 1993 New Orleans Annual Conference. Please feel free to contact Program Chair Julia Zimmerman or me if you have ideas and/or suggestions. I look forward to working with you in the coming year to provide the kind of activities you need in STS.

Karen Feeney Cargille  
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STS SIGNAL is a semi-annual publication of the Science and Technology Section of ACRL designed as a communication vehicle to the members of the Section and other interested parties. Electronic transmission of materials for submission is preferable, and instructions for transmission are available on request. Inquiries should be made to the Co-Editors, Martha Lyle and Kathy Fescemyer, R.M. Cooper Library, Clemson University, Clemson, SC 29634-3001. Phone: 803-656-5185. © American Library Association. STS Signal is published twice annually in May and November. Editorial deadlines for each issue are March 1st and October 1st of each year. STS Signal is available to all section members at no additional charge, and is available to nonsection members for \$5.00/yr or \$3.00/issue through the ACRL office.

## STS Executive Council Meeting Highlights

ACRL's theme for 1992 is recruitment of science librarians.

Kathy Fescemyer reported that the Newsletter Committee has written guidelines for the *STS Electronic Communications*. Harry Llull said about ten new subscribers are added daily. Beverly French will report on the progress of the *STS EC* to ACRL.

ACRL is strongly encouraging bulk mailing for section newsletters.

Amy Pastor reported that a goal of \$10,000 for 1993 has been set for the Oberly Award endowment fund. NAL has recently donated \$1000. ALA's Public Relations Office will issue a press release for the Oberly Award's 70th anniversary and will publish an annotated bibliography of winning titles and biographies of winning authors.

The 1993 Preconference Committee is working for grant funds to cover some of the costs. ACRL approved the committee's plans.

The Council approved changing the name of the Publisher Relations Committee to the Publisher/Vendor Relations Committee with the charge altered appropriately.

The Sci/Tech Librarian Workshop Planning Task Force is supporting a \$65,000 grant request for a 1-week intensive training workshop for science librarians. If funding is not available, this group may merge with the Preconference Committee.

STS by-law revisions were approved by ACRL, with minor amendments, and will be sent to the ALA board for inclusion in this year's ballot.

The Subject and Bibliographic Access to Science Materials Committee is contacting ISO about the possibility of a standard for publication of conference proceedings.

Information supplied by Lois Pausch  
Reported by Julia Zimmerman

This fall, a new publication called, *Issues in Science and Technology Librarianship* was distributed. Its purpose is to enhance communications between STS members and others interested in science and technology publications. *Issues* will contain short articles and regular columns. Each issue may have a broad theme such as science literacy for the articles. We will look to the STS membership to provide ideas for articles and columns. The premier issue has received a very good welcome. Several groups such as PACS-L and the Tuttle newsletter provided publicity.

Prior to this additional publicity there were 150 subscribers. At Midwinter 1992 there were over 320 subscribers and the numbers are still increasing. We estimated that over 800 people have had access this first issue. The readership is a widely diverse group. Subscribers are from many libraries, government agencies such as the U. S. Department of Education, and other groups such as NSF or sci-tech librarian classes at universities. Subscribers are from a number of countries such as Great Britain, Israel, Switzerland, and China.

At Midwinter the Newsletter Committee reviewed a draft of Guidelines for STS Electronic Communications. Three types of publications will be produced to be distributed electronically. First, the *Electronic Update* will provide meeting information before annual conference and midwinter meetings. *Issues in Science and Technology Librarianship* will provide a forum for short articles and regular features. *Special Bulletins* will be issued for action items with short deadlines. The guidelines will be finalized at the Annual Conference.

For any of the STS Electronic Communications, requests for subscriptions, articles, suggestions or questions may be sent to the editor at [ACRLSTS@HAL.UNM.EDU](mailto:ACRLSTS@HAL.UNM.EDU).

Kathy Fescemyer



## Call for Sci/Tech Abstracts for Forum 4, 1993

Science and technology librarians -- take advantage of this opportunity to present your preliminary research results or ALA committee findings by submitting an abstract to the Forum for Science & Technology Research. The Forum Committee invites abstracts describing recent research or work in progress of interest to science and/or technology librarians. Committee members will select individuals to present reports of their research at the 1993 ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans.

The research should focus on timely, relevant and significant aspects of science and/or technology librarianship. Proposals should be limited to one page and should contain an abstract of not more than 250 words as well as the researcher's name institution, phone number and e-mail address (where available).

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SECTION  
1992 ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

<u>Day/Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Committee</u>
Fri/June 26	8:00 - 2:00	STS Tour (California Marine Mammal Center and San Francisco Bay Model)
	4:30 - 5:30	Continuing Education Committee
	7:30 - 10:00 PM	STS Council I (9:00 - 10:00 Executive Board)
Sat/June 27	8:30 - 12:30	Comparison of Science & Technology Libraries
	8:30 - 11:00	Importance of Conference Proceedings Task Force
	9:30 - 11:00	Publisher Relations Committee
	9:30 - 11:00	<b>College Science Librarians Discussion Group</b>
	11:30 - 1:00	Oberly Award Committee (Closed Meeting)
	11:30 - 1:00	Newsletter Committee
	2:00 - 4:00	SCIENCE DATABASES DISCUSSION GROUP
	4:30 - 5:30	Discussion Group Leaders Joint Meeting
	8:00 - 9:00 PM	Legislation Committee
Sun/June 28	8:30 - 12:30	1992 San Francisco Program Planning Committee
	9:30 - 11:00	Planning Committee
	11:30 - 12:30	Membership Committee
	11:30 - 12:30	Nominating Committee (Closed Meeting)
	2:00 - 5:30	GENERAL DISCUSSION GROUP/RESEARCH FORUM
	6:00 - 8:00 PM	STS RECEPTION (California Academy of Sciences)
	8:00 - 10:00 PM	<b>Heads of Science Libraries Discussion Group</b>
Mon/June 29	8:30 - 9:30	Legislation Committee
	8:30 - 12:00	1993 New Orleans Program Planning Committee
	8:30 - 11:00	Research Forum Task Force
	9:30 - 11:30	Subject & Bibliographic Access to Science Materials
	11:30 - 1:00	<b>STS Council II</b>
	7:00 - 10:00 PM	1993 Preconference Committee
Tues/June 30	8:30 - 12:30	STS Program Issues in Sce-Tech Information: Librarians' Right to Know

# 1992 Midwinter Meeting

## Committee Reports

### College Science Librarians Discussion Group

The College Science Librarians Discussion Group enjoyed a raucous and authentic Mexican dinner and hope to repeat it in San Francisco. The topic for our annual meeting is: "Science Journal Indexes in Print, CD-ROM, or Online? Selecting the Best Format for Undergraduates." We will consider a variety of products in alternative formats, including GeoRef and BIOSIS on CD-ROM, Infotrac's Expanded Academic Index, Reference Update, Carl's Uncover, and Current Contents on Diskette. Related issues for re-allocating the acquisitions budget and providing effective instruction will be addressed.

Information supplied by Alison Ricker  
Reported by Kathy Fescemyer and Martha Lyle

### Comparison of Science/Technology Libraries Committee

Julie Hurd led the discussion of the draft questionnaire for this summer's proposed survey. Julie will take the committee's recommendations and develop a final draft. The target date for completing the survey instrument is early May. The group then discussed the telephone pre-survey submitted by Tom Melvin. The discussion focused on the purpose of the telephone survey which will have the following goals: 1) to identify the most appropriate person to fill out the form 2) to ascertain the statistics the respondents will be able to supply easily and those that will be difficult or impossible to supply 3) to encourage participation with whatever information can be supplied. The committee reviewed the outline of survey assignments of ARL libraries that was sent out by Jeanne Boyle.

Information supplied by Harry LLull  
Reported by Harry LLull

### Conference Program Planning- New Orleans 1993

The working title for the program is "New Formats, New Services: Keeping Up" and will cover the range of formats, from traditional to electronic sources, in which scientific information is being produced and disseminated. How do we keep abreast of what is available? How do we keep our users informed of appropriate resources? How do traditional activities, such as acquisitions, cataloging, and circulation, for example, adjust? How much instruction in the use of networks and electronic sources can we provide? What does it all mean for the future of sci/tech libraries?

The the program format will consist of a keynote speaker with four breakout sessions. The first choice

for the reception is the Historic New Orleans Collection, where the 1988 STS reception was held.

Information supplied by Julia Zimmerman  
Reported by Julia Zimmerman

### Discussion Group

Kathy Fescemyer and Christina Peterson facilitated the discussion, "Promoting Library Services to the Scientific Community." The leaders guided the group through a structured discussion of successful and unsuccessful outreach programs to faculty, graduate students and undergraduate majors in the sciences. Innovative programs using list-servs, OPACS, outreach visits to academic departments, and campus public affairs offices were mentioned along with the problems of quantifying the success of such efforts.

Following up on the summer topic, "Access to Science Journals-after we cancel, What Next?" several participants described post-cancellation symposia on their campuses to address the future of the scholarly publishing cycle, thus opening discussions with colleagues in the humanities and social sciences.

Information supplied by Marlena Wald  
Reported by Martha Lyle

### Education Committee

The Committee began work on three information gathering projects: a) review of the ALA Handbook of Organization for other continuing education groups in existence within ALA, b) contact the ACRL Chapter Council for information on regional groups with continuing education or professional development activities, c) prepare a survey to be conducted at Annual Conference in San Francisco. From this information we hope to learn what other similar committees are doing within ALA and regionally, as well as a picture of the continuing education needs of STS members who attend the various Discussion Groups and the Annual Conference Program.

Information supplied by Janet Fore  
Reported by Martha Lyle

### Forum

The Committee evaluated and discussed 16 proposals which had been submitted for presentation on June 28th at the 1992 ALA annual conference. The evaluation criteria emphasized the scholarly approach to research. Four excellent proposals were selected.

Information supplied by Katie Clark  
Reported by Lynn Kaczor

### Heads of Sci/Tech Libraries Discussion Group

Discussion began with responses to the 1992 ACRL President's theme, recruiting librarians. Attendees shared experiences with various programs including joint efforts between academic libraries and library schools to provide internships, systematic at-

tempts to promote librarianship to classified and part-time staff, tuition remission plans, time off with pay for courses, transportation for staff needing to travel to classes, and recruitment of graduate students through faculty in science disciplines. Other discussion topics explored experiences in formulating access and materials budgets, evaluation of electronic reference tools, use studies in relation to cancellation projects and causes for the decreasing use of home libraries by faculty.

Information supplied by Emerson Hilker  
Reported by Becky Uhl

### **Membership Committee**

Marjo Gray mailed 119 brochures and welcoming letters to new members. Thomas Dowling mailed all the STS committee lists for Midwinter. Carol Robinson will attend the ACRL membership meeting to see what we might learn from or contribute to that group. The STS brochure will be at the ACRL exhibit in San Francisco. The next edition of the brochure will update committee names and charges and ask for interest in chairing the discussion groups.

Information supplied by Carole Armstrong  
Reported by Martha Lyle

### **Preconference Committee**

"Science Reference Service: An Introduction for the General Reference Librarian," is planned for June 25, 1993 before the Annual Conference. Its purpose is to help reference librarians without a science background become better equipped to answer their patrons' science questions. A keynote speaker will be featured followed by sessions on core reference sources in the life sciences, physical sciences, and applied sciences. The closing session will cover online and CD-ROM resources. Vendor demonstrations will be included. To lessen the registration fee, the committee has applied for a World Book--ALA Goal Award and is soliciting funds from vendors. Lists of potential speakers are being developed, so if you are interested, please contact Caroline Harnly at (415) 338-1454 or on Internet at [charnly@sfsuvax1.sfsu.edu](mailto:charnly@sfsuvax1.sfsu.edu) by June 1, 1992.

Information supplied by Caroline Harnly  
Reported by Mary Markland

### **Publisher/Vendor Relations Committee**

The inaugural meeting of the newly named committee was attended by more publishers and vendors than librarians. The new charge is: "To serve as a channel for exchanging information between science and technology publishers and vendors and science and technology librarians." A Gale representative described new print products while Elsevier, Pergamon and Silver Platter introduced new electronic products. Discussions included emerging technologies, LAN considerations, electronic formats and increased use of electronic publishing and communication. Purchasing versus leasing of CD-ROMs led to discussion

of the economic and financial climate and the future of journal publishing, as well as to potential marketing strategies. A list of publishers and vendors exhibiting at the San Francisco annual conference will be produced.

Information provided by Michael Fineman  
Reported by Julia Zimmerman.

### **Science Databases Discussion Group**

The discussion focused on CDs for the life sciences. A representative from BIOSIS demonstrated a CD which covers 7,000 journals back to 1989. Searching modes include free text, field-specific, subject searching by concept, and bio-systematic codes. Marketing representatives from Compact Cambridge demonstrated the "Cambridge Life Sciences Database on CD" which covers about 5,000 journals with a core list of 1,500. A variety of levels of searching are available from menu prompts to command driven.

Information supplied by Janet Fore  
Reported by Lynn Kaczor

### **Subject and Bibliographic Access to Science Materials Committee**

Discussion began with the reports of the task force studying ISO standards for publishers of conference proceedings. They found several related standards by none adequate and will continue to investigate what impact existing standards have on publishers. The task force investigating access to theses and dissertations reported their findings and will continue to gather information on how libraries treat theses and dissertations, including level of cataloging, use of subject headings, volume of theses handled, turn-around time for cataloging, and use of theses advisors' names as an access point.

Information supplied by Judith Carter, Joan Lussky  
Reported by Becky Uhl

### **Task Force on Proceedings**

The Task Force met twice to focus on the review, preliminary analysis and report planning for the national survey of scientists and engineers completed last year. The first meeting, an all day working session, reviewed individual data sets, compared the results to the full set of responses, began to analyze and discuss the results, and drafted the schedule for reporting results to *College and Research Libraries*. A draft report should be sent to the C&RL editorial board by June.

Information supplied by Denise Bedford  
Reported by Becky Uhl

**STS Pre-Conference Tour**

**8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Friday, June 26**

**California Marine Mammal Center and San Francisco Bay Model**

Tour the Marine Mammal Center, a rescue and rehabilitation location for wounded and stranded marine mammals with many orphaned pups in residence. In the afternoon visit the Army Corps of Engineers' San Francisco Bay model, a working-scale model used for tidal and environmental research.

Leave Moscone Convention Center by bus at 8:30 a.m., lunch in Sausalito, return at 3:30 p.m

**Registration deadline: May 22**

Send your check for the cost of the tour (\$18, lunch is not included) to Tae-Ock Kim, Michael Orradre Library, Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, CA 95053. Make the check payable to Tae-Ock Kim.



**STS Annual Program**

**8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 30**

**Issues in Sci-Tech Information:  
Librarians' Right to Know**

*Sci-Tech Information: Technology, Research, and Policy Trends*  
**Jane Bortnick**, Library of Congress

*Culture and Gender Diversity Issues in Providing Access to Health Information*  
**Tracey Cosgrove**, Planetree Health Resource Center

*The Publishing Industry in Emerging Democracies: What Western Librarians Need to Know*  
**Chuck Farrell**, Faxon Company

*Natural Resource Damage Assessments: Litigation, Science, and the Public Right to Environmental Information*  
**D. Michael Fry**, University of California, Davis

*Database Selection and Science/Technology*  
**Ron Rodrigues**, Dialog Information Services, Inc.



**STS Reception**

**6:00-8:00 p.m. Sunday, June 28**

**California Academy of Sciences**

Eat, drink, and join in good conversations with other Sci-Tech librarians.

Reception sponsored by Majors Scientific Books, Inc., Engineering Information, Inc., Chemical Abstracts Service, Elsevier Science Publishers, CRC Press, Inc., and Springer-Verlag.

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

### OBERLY AWARD FOR BIBLIOGRAPHY IN THE AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

The Eunice Rockwood Oberly Memorial Award was established in 1923 to give national recognition to bibliographic scholarship in the field of agricultural or related sciences. The Oberly Award is given in odd-numbered years to the authors of an outstanding English-language bibliography in the field of agriculture or one of the related sciences. The bibliographies are judged on accuracy, scope, format, arrangement, indexes, and text. To be eligible for the 1993 award, a bibliography must have been published in 1991 or 1992. The award will be presented at the 1993 ALA Annual Meeting in New Orleans.

Nomination letters are due by Dec. 30, 1992, to Oberly Chair, Amy Paster, E205 Pattee Library, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802 (Phone: 814-865-3713). A copy of the bibliography should accompany the nomination.



### Medical Anthropology: Choices & Challenges

Co-Sponsored STS and Anthropology and  
Sociology Program  
Sunday, June 28, 9:30-12:30

#### Speakers

*Traditions and Directions in Medical Anthropology*  
M. Margaret Clark

*Collection Development Challenges for  
Medical Anthropology*  
Daniel T. Richards

*The Anthropology of Biomedicine*  
Barbara A. Koenig

*Experience of HIV Illness:  
An Overview of Substantive Themes*  
Stephen Eyre

*Living with the Threat of Aids:  
Women, Drugs and Risk*  
Diane K. Lewis

### STS Program, ALA Annual Conference 1991 Promoting Scientific Literacy and Education: Can Libraries Meet the Challenge?

STS conference program chair, Patricia Maughan, began by thanking ALA, CRC Press, Engineering Information, the American Mathematical Society, and Wiley for their support. The Oberly Award was presented to *Useful Palms of the World: a Synoptic Bibliography*, edited by Michael Balick and Hans T. Beck. Honorable mention went to *Ethnoveterinary Medicine: an Annotated Bibliography* by Evelyn Mathias-Mundy and Constance McCorkle.

Mr. Robert Watson (NSF) spoke on the National Science Foundation programs designed to strengthen the pipeline of future scientists and science teachers. The NSF is also involved in promoting better science education for all students. Mr. Watson emphasized that strong academic, public and school libraries are necessary for successful science education and research.

Dr. Alphonse Buccino (Univ. of Georgia) spoke on the goals for the AAAS's report Project 2061. He sees two themes in scientific literacy. The first is the question of excellence vs. equity or the tensions involved in focusing on all students rather than a select few. The second theme is the role of science in developing social and moral values. One solution is to transform science education from mimetic to transformative. Project 2061 addresses this transformation process.

Dr. George Jones (Emory Univ.) presented a talk entitled "Science, the Universe and Everything." He focused on three areas of concern in higher education. Academic planning must include scientific literacy as a priority both on the institutional and departmental levels. There must also be a balance between teaching and research. However, Dr. Jones feels scholarship is an important complement to good teaching and student training. Student training is particularly important on the graduate level as ways must be found to increase the number of PhD's awarded in the sciences.

Dr. Joanne Euster (Rutgers Univ.) spoke on "A Leadership Role for Science Libraries: Challenge and Prospect." She believes librarians need to re-engineer themselves into "information change agents." Librarians should engage in self-examination and plan how they will institutionalize the changes that technology is bringing. Librarians are enablers who must realize that the future lies in themselves, not in technology.

Ms. Sara Penhale's (Earlham College) talk was entitled "Pipeline Partners: Librarians and Scientists in a Common Cause." The educational reforms emerging in the sciences require students to model scientific behavior. Therefore, students must develop skills in identifying, locating and evaluating information. Librarians can participate in these reforms through bibliographic instruction. The time is right for librarians and faculty to collaborate in this educational process.

Mary Markland

# STS DISCUSSION GROUPS ANNUAL CONFERENCE 1992

**Science Journal Indexes in Print, CD-ROM, or Online?**  
**Selecting the Best Format for Undergraduate Use**  
 College Science Librarians Discussion Group  
 Saturday, June 27  
 9:30-11:30 AM

**Calling all CARS: New Roles for Database Searchers**  
Science Databases Discussion Group  
Saturday, June 27  
2:00 - 4:00 PM

**Sci/Tech Electronic Journals--Production and Access**  
General Discussion Group  
Sunday, June 28  
2:00 - 4:00 PM

**Trends in Staffing & Training for Classified & Professional Staff**  
**Training Staff to Keep up with Automation**  
**Models for Staffing Reference Desks in Sci-Tech Libraries**  
 Heads of Science Libraries Discussion Group  
 Sunday, June 28  
 8:00 - 10:00 PM

## Mailing Experiment (Part 2)

**Help! Help! Please send Martha (MLYLE@CLEMSON) or Kathy (CUAGREF@CLEMSON) an e-mail message with your name, city and date that the *STS Signal* reached you. ACRL is changing the mailing of the *STS Signal* from first class to non-profit bulk rate. We are comparing delivery times of the fall edition mailed using first class rates and the spring edition using bulk rate. If there is a significant delay, we hope to convince ACRL to return to mailing the *STS Signal* first class.**

**Newsletter Committee Contributors:** Eleanor Elder, Kathy Fescemyer, Lynn Kaczor, Harry Llull, Martha Lyle, Mary Markland, Becky Uhl, Julia Zimmerman.

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