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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SECTION

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### From the Chair, Colleen Power

The Science and Technology Program Committee has a great session planned for Tuesday, July 2 on "Scientific Literacy" as well as a reception at the Sci-Trek Museum in Atlanta on Sunday evening, June 30.

How can you become involved in our committees? Each fall the incoming Chair-Elect of the Section appoints the Program Planning Committee. This is a two year appointment to plan the program and reception 18 months away. We often appoint new people to this committee. If you can come to four successive ALA meetings, and are an idea person, this is the committee for you! We also need people who can find caterers, design program flyers, and stand at the doors to hand out the program! Give your card to Beverlee French or myself.

Of course we have 18 other STS committees. Each March, the Chair-Elect makes the bulk of the appointments to these other committees. Every time you attend an STS meeting, there is a sign-up sheet making the rounds. Our membership committee tracks these sheets, and sends the chair of the committee a master list of attendees! We usually select people who attend committee meetings, so be sure to sign the attendance sheets.

There is one new committee this year. The Continuing Education Committee has been assigned the coordination, promotion and encouragement of all continuing education efforts within STS. It will act as the initial contact for individuals and groups wishing to plan science and technology related continuing education programs, and maintain channels of communication, as well as review proposals for work-

shops, new discussion groups and preconferences, and develop guidelines and recommendations for the membership in planning future continuing education activities.

Colleen Power  
California State University at Chico  
Chico, CA 95929  
916-898-4058



### From the Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect Beverlee French

I am impressed by the enthusiasm expressed by STS members and look forward to a very productive 1991/92. I was able to appoint nearly everyone who volunteered to be on a committee, but the response was so overwhelming, that for the first time, I've appointed some "interns" to committees. They are active participants, not just observers, and can often take the place of a committee member who may not be able to attend a meeting.

Because I have responsibility for the STS activities at the 1992 San Francisco Annual Conference, the 1992 Program Chair, Maria Pisa, and I welcome your program ideas within the general theme of librarians' access to scientific information as well as your suggestions for a reception venue. See you in Atlanta and let me know how STS can meet your needs.

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

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 Wood, 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

The Minority Assistance Award needs only to seek a donor. The proposal will be forwarded to ALA.

The new Publicity Officer, Deanna Nipp, has succeeded in displaying STS Discussion Group notices in *American Libraries* and other Section newsletters.

The Oberly Award Committee must raise an additional \$9000 to ensure continuation of the award for Bibliography in the Agricultural Sciences. ALA requires a minimum of \$10,000 for an award.

Marty Kesselman serves as the ACRL liaison to AAAS. Several programs may interest STS members, but overall AAAS concerns are not limited to academic librarian interests. Perhaps this liaison ought to come from ALA rather than from STS.

Continuing education issues for science librarians are now handled by several STS committees; one committee may be formed to handle these issues.

Concerns regarding the proliferation of STS committees may be allayed through the Planning Committee's five recommendations to the council for consideration. Council members rejected the suggestion to combine the two discussion groups; however, one Discussion Groups committee will be formed.

A description of the STS Council needs to be added to the STS Section Bylaws. This may delay approval of the revised Bylaws until after the 1991 Annual Conference.

The Section will look at the recommendation to publish the STS Signal Electronic Communications as an expansion of the electronic supplement to the Newsletter. Guidelines will be discussed at the next meeting.

The planned 1992 preconference in San Francisco on Information Seeking may be cancelled due to the high registration fees.

Information supplied by Marilyn Von Seggern  
Reported by Denise Beaubien

The *STS Electronic Supplement* is being re-named to the *STS Electronic Communications* and will be expanded in the fall. Currently, the Supplement provides additional information on meetings of new committees, discussion group topics, and election results before each major ALA meeting. The Subcommittee working on the *STS Electronic Communications* has recommended that it be issued more often to provide quick, efficient transfer of information on science and technology librarianship. The Subcommittee would like ideas for the type of information you would like to see in the expanded *STS Electronic Communications*. Some suggestions are short articles on science and technology library issues, current legislative issues, difficult reference questions, and references for literature on science librarianship in nonlibrary oriented sources such as *Biology Teacher*. The Subcommittee is creating guidelines for this new *STS Electronic Communications* and will present them to the STS Council in June in Atlanta. The target date for starting the expanded *STS Electronic Communications* is fall 1991.

The next *STS Electronic Supplement* will be sent out approximately a week before the Annual Conference in Atlanta. If you wish to receive the *STS Electronic Communications* and have not signed up already, send a message to Harry Llull who is coordinating the subcommittee. He can be reached by E-Mail at HLLULL@UNMB (BITNET) or HLLULL@BOOTES.UNM.EDU. (INTERNET), by mail at Centennial Science and Engineering Library, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87112 or by phone at 505-277-4734. If you have items to submit for the next supplement, send them to Harry. Harry will respond to your notes, after he receives them. If you are on other networks besides BITNET or INTERNET, contact Harry and he will attempt to add you to the distribution list.

Kathy Wood

### Call for Sci/Tech Abstracts for Forum 3, 1992

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 Library Research. The Forum Task Force invites abstracts describing recent research or work in progress of interest to science and/ or technology librarianship. Task Force members will select individuals to present reports of their research at the 1992 ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco.

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).

The deadline for submission is January 1, 1992. Papers will be selected at ALA Midwinter 1992. Send proposals to: Katie Clark, Head, Life Sciences Library, E205 Pattee, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802, (phone: 814-865-3708).

Reported by Kathy Whitley & Katie Clark

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SECTION  
1991 ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
ATLANTA, GA

<u>Day/Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Committee</u>
Fri/Jun 28	7:30 - 10:00 PM	STS Council I (9:00 - 10:00 Exec. Board)
Sat/Jun 29	8:30 - 11:00	Importance of Conference Proc. Task Force
	8:30 - 12:30	Comparison of Science & Technology Lib.
	9:00 - 12:30	Preconference Committee
	9:30 - 12:30	Planning Committee
	9:30 - 12:30	Newsletter Committee
	11:30 - 12:30	Oberly Award Committee
	2:00 - 4:00	SCIENCE DATABASES DISC. GROUP
	4:00 - 5:30	Discussion Group Leaders Meeting
Sun/Jun 30	9:00 - 12:30	1991 Atlanta Prog. Planning Comm.
	9:00 - 12:00	Taskforce on Librarian Workshops
	9:30 - 11:00	Publisher Relations Committee
	11:00 - 1:00	Membership Committee
	11:00 - 1:00	College Science Lib. Disc. Group
	11:30 - 12:30	Nominating Committee
	2:00 - 5:30	GENERAL DISCUSSION GROUP RESEARCH FORM
	6:00 - 8:00	STS RECEPTION
8:00 - 10:00 PM	Directors of Science Libraries Disc. Group	
Mon/Jul 1	8:30 - 11:00	Legislation Committee
	8:30 - 11:00	Subject & Bibliog. Access to Sci. Materials
	8:30 - 11:00	1992 San Francisco Program Plan. Comm.
	8:30 - 11:00	Research Forum Task Force
	11:00 - 1:00	STS Council II
Tue/Jul 2	8:30 - 12:30	STS PROGRAM

# 1991 Midwinter Meeting Committee Reports

## College Science Librarians Discussion Group

The discussion, "Using Student Staff in College Science Libraries" was moderated by Charles Meyers and Sara Penhale. Alison Ricker, co-chair of the group, described what she has done to improve training and supervision of student staff.

The problems encountered by smaller libraries where student staff must often keep the library open on evenings and weekends without direct supervision are not necessarily shared with larger institutions. These student staffers need training to handle reserve procedures, circulation, and stacks maintenance, as well as other atypical situations and even provide basic levels of reference service.

Sponsoring special events and using certificates to reward excellence may help retain good student workers. Support from the college student employment office may help discipline and termination problems.

Information supplied by Gregg Sapp  
Reported by Gregg Sapp

## Comparison of Science/Technology Libraries Committee

Subcommittees were appointed to address the following special issues: obtaining and analyzing the data from the previous survey; reviewing distribution lists to determine reasons for not responding to past surveys; revising past survey tools; and recommending other areas of science and technology librarianship to survey. The committee discussed issues of grouping libraries to survey so that the data would be valid and relevant across institutions. Non-academic science and engineering libraries should be included in the project. An additional survey question may be added to determine the relationships with local science and technology industry and laboratory libraries. A proposal was submitted to ACRL to fund the development of a database that would make the data from future surveys available through the INTERNET. This summer the committee will decide whether or not to move forward with another survey of academic science and engineering libraries.

Information supplied by Harry Llull  
Reported by Harry Llull

## Conference Program Planning--Atlanta 1991

The program topic has been expanded to encompass the concept of scientific literacy among the general public as well as the challenge of training scientists for the 21st century. The STS program was one of six ACRL programs selected to receive ALA funding. Acceptances have been received from all the proposed speakers.

Information supplied by Patricia Maughan  
Reported by Mary Markland

## Conference Program Planning- San Francisco 1992

The San Francisco program, "Hard to Access Science Information," will be a general discussion of factors influencing accessibility followed by three or four presentations on issues affecting access to scientific information. The wrap-up session will include a discussion of critical thinking skills helpful in evaluating the information resources discussed.

Information supplied by Maria Pisa  
Reported by Becky Uhl

## Discussion Group

Discussion of collection development, access to science materials, and acquisitions issues was facilitated by Alison Ricker and Tom Robson. Topics included separate science budgets, faculty input for CD-ROM purchases, serials cancellation, and union lists. Approximately 80 people attended. The Annual Conference discussion will focus on document delivery--commercial brokers and bibliographic utilities.

Information supplied by Julia Gelfand  
Reported by Lori Bronars

## Heads of Sci/Tech Libraries Discussion Group

A lively discussion which centered on the stereotyping of science and technology librarians and libraries lead to the feeling that the stereotyping came more from library administrations than from university administrations. The topic of differential salaries for science librarians evolved into discussing the recruitment and training of science and technology librarians. Liaison work between the science and technology librarians and library schools could be useful.

Summer meeting discussion topics will be facilities and space planning and cooperation between academic and special libraries. The group recommends that people planning to attend future meetings be prepared to report on "quick fixes" to problems or issues on the agenda. Please send ideas for topics, especially management issues to either of the co-chairs (Bob Michaelson at RMICHAEL@NUACC.BITNET or Emerson Hilker).

Information supplied by Bob Michaelson  
Reported by Harry Llull

## Legislation Committee

Kathy Wood distributed a brochure for new committee members which reviews science and technology information found in ALA legislative publications. The Committee will be monitoring the activities of the following; WHCLIS, NTIS/GPO, Library Legislative Day, and National Research and Education Network (NREN).

Information supplied by Kathy Wood  
Reported by Kathy Wood

## Membership Committee

Thomas Dowling will start learning how to update the membership database and issue lists for STS officers and committees because Maria Porta will be leaving the committee after the annual conference. As soon as new committee names and charges are approved, Martha Lyle will update the STS brochure and include a committee volunteer form.

Information supplied by Martha Lyle  
Reported by Martha Lyle

## Oberly Award Committee

The committee reviewed nominations for the award and discussed fundraising. Either the Cargill Foundations or the Associates of the National Agricultural Library may endow the award. If necessary, the committee may use *National FFA College and Vocational/Technical School Scholarship Programs* to identify other possible donors.

Members of STS are invited to send contributions to support STS's only award. Checks should be made payable to: American Library Association with "Oberly Fund" written in the memo section. Mail contributions to: ACRL, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

Information supplied by Alena Chadwick and Amy Paster  
Reported by Lori Bronars

## Planning Committee

The Planning Committee submitted recommendations regarding Section organization. The five items presented for consideration are:

1) Committees. New Section initiatives should be assigned to existing committees. If no appropriate committee exists, a charge should then be written for a new committee. The STS Executive Committee, or its designate, should review all STS committees and ad hoc groups annually to evaluate the need for their continuation.

2) STS Council. A description of the STS Council should be considered for inclusion in the Section Bylaws, noting its role as an information-sharing (rather than policy-making) group.

3) Discussion Groups. The STS Executive Committee should consider combining the General and Database Discussion Groups. Advantages to this action include: a) reduction in topic overlap; b) increased ease of topic selection; and c) reduction in meeting conflicts of STS groups. Before acting on this recommendation, however, the Planning Committee suggests that the Executive Committee seek advice from the STS Council regarding the purpose and effectiveness of the Section discussion groups.

4) Ad Hoc Committees. While the term "ad hoc committee" is defined in the Bylaws, the term "task force" is not. If the Executive Committee considers task forces to be unique from ad hoc committees, a definition should be written and included in the Bylaws. When an ad hoc committee (or task force) is formed, the STS Executive Committee should include

## FORUM FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY LIBRARY RESEARCH

Hear and discuss evolving research projects in science and technology libraries!  
Sunday, June 30 at 3:45 PM.

### Speakers

Julie Hurd, University of Illinois, Chicago  
Interdisciplinary Research in the Sciences

Katherine McCain, Drexel University  
Journal Cotation Analysis:  
A New Tool for Serials Collection Management

Sharyn Ladner, University of Miami  
A Study of Resource Sharing by Science and Technology Special Libraries

At the end of the formal session, audience members will have the chance to discuss their own potential project ideas with possible collaborators.

with the charge a deadline for completion of the task.

5) Subject and Bibliographic Access to Science Materials. Consider adding the Task Force on Conference Proceedings to the Subject and Bibliographic Access Committee. Future interests in conference proceedings, patents, standards, technical reports, etc., could be directed to this committee or other groups considered appropriate.

Information supplied by Linda Phillips  
Reported by Denise Beaubien

### **Preconference Committee**

The committee has received approval from the ACRL Board to hold a preconference prior to the 1992 Annual Conference in San Francisco. However, increased budget costs have necessitated an increase in the price and number of attendees required to cover expenses. The committee is concerned that this may discourage attendance. Marketing to non-ACRL librarians will be coordinated with the STS publicity officer.

Following the theme of "Scientific Communication," the committee agreed on a keynote speaker and potential panelists for the morning session on the topic of information seeking behaviors of scientists and engineers. The afternoon session will consist of workshops focusing on collection development, new technologies and instruction.

Information supplied by Karen Feeny  
Reported by Mary Markland

### **Publisher Relations Committee**

The committee will try to produce a list of scientific exhibitors at the Annual Conference to encourage STS members to visit their booths. Watch for this through the *STS Electronic Communications* or other E-mail systems.

The committee is compiling information on other ALA committees and task forces dealing with serials prices to enable this committee to determine how to best work with existing groups. The committee wants suggestions from STS members for new information sources or improvements to existing published sources.

Information supplied by Billie Jo Reinhart  
Reported by Lori Bronars

### **Science Databases Discussion Group**

"Increasing Electronic Costs, Decreasing Information Budgets: Are you Caught in the Financing Squeeze?" was the topic of brief presentations and discussions. Carole Armstrong, head of the Science Library at Michigan State University, described her library's CD-ROM's and online searching programs. Pat Ensor, coordinator of electronic information services at Indiana State University, described their migration from online to CD-ROM, funding sources, and local databases. Mary Reichel, head of public servic-

es at the University of Arizona discussed their shift from online searching to CD-ROM searching.

Information supplied by Susanne Redalje  
Reported by Janet Chisman

### **Task Force on Science Librarian Training & Workshops**

Eileen Dubin went to Washington, DC in August 1990 to investigate federal funding for grants to offer training programs in science librarianship for new or other librarians interested in providing science services. Competitive grants are available from the US Office of Education and she was encouraged to apply. The task force devoted the remainder of the meeting to reviewing the mission statement, logistics of the grant and other related matters.

The grant for \$102,000 has been submitted listing Eileen Dubin as the principal investigator. It proposes three one-week regional institutes at Case Western Reserve University, Rutgers University, and the University of California, Irvine for the summer of 1992. The objective is to attract 25 librarians to each institute with the following curriculum:

- The Electronic Library--how scientists access information and the nature of scientific research in cross-disciplines of the physical and earth sciences, life sciences, and applied sciences and engineering.
- Networking-building a campus information infrastructure.
- Reference services and specialized products or tools.
- Specialized formats in the sciences.
- Electronic access and various forms of document delivery
- Computer simulation and user education.
- Scientific learning-teaching and learning in the next decade.
- Collection development and the management of science and technology materials.

The teaching staff of the institutes will be a combination of established science librarians, faculty and scientists, publishers, information providers, computer and automation specialists. The task force should know whether or not the grant is approved by the Annual Conference in June.

Information supplied by Julia Gelfand  
Reported by Gregg Sapp

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

The committee discussed access to and use of theses and dissertations and decided to continue with these topics at the Annual Conference in Atlanta.

Mary Berger, Engineering Information, Inc. will also attend the Atlanta meeting to discuss converting *EI Vocabulary* to a thesaurus format. In the past EI and Ms. Berger have been responsive to the committee's comments.

**Atlanta 1991 Annual STS Program  
Tuesday, July 2, 1991, 8:30 - Noon**

**PROMOTING SCIENTIFIC LITERACY AND EDUCATION:  
CAN LIBRARIES MEET THE CHALLENGE?**

**Mr. Robert F. Watson, National Science Foundation  
National Trends Affecting Science Education**

**Dr. Alphonse Buccino, University of Georgia  
AAAS Initiatives Affecting Scientific Information and Education**

**Dr. John Palms, University of South Carolina  
Organizational and Curriculum Planning in Higher Education**

**Dr. Joanne R. Euster, Rutgers University  
A Leadership Role for Science Libraries: Challenge and Prospect**

**Ms. Sara Penhale, Earlham College  
Pipeline Partners: Librarians and Scientists in a Common Cause**

Anyone wishing to make their concerns known on either of the above topics is welcome to attend the committee meeting or write to the committee chair, Sara Shatford-Layne, 1753 S. Sherbourne Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90035.

Information supplied by Sara Shatford-Layne  
Reported by Martha Lyle

**Task Force on Proceedings**

These task forces were reformed this year to review the past and current projects undertaken by STS since it was created in 1982. The committee decided to disband the Task Force on Bibliographic Access to Proceedings after the 1991 Annual Conference. Proceedings-related interests of the section will be channeled to existing committees such as Subject and Bibliographic Access and Publisher Relations. The Importance of Conference Proceedings Task Force will continue for one more year to complete its national survey. As no existing committee deals with educational aspects of proceedings, the committee recommended that an Education Committee be formed. Laura Osegueda will draft a final report to the Executive Committee, summarizing the work of the various subcommittees over the past eight years. She will also forward relevant materials to the chairs of committees that will be tackling conference related problems in the future.

Information supplied by Laura Osegueda  
Reported by Denise Beaubien



**30th Birthday Party**



**The 1991 STS Reception**

**SciTrek  
Science and Technology Museum of Atlanta**

**Sunday, June 30  
6:00 - 8:00 PM**



The Science and Technology Section is celebrating its 30th anniversary! Come explore an experiential journey into the world of discovery while enjoying hors d'oeuvres, beverages and conversation with your colleagues.

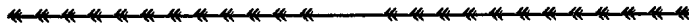
**STS DISCUSSION GROUPS  
ALA ANNUAL CONVENTION 1991**

**The Electronic Hitchhiker  
Exploring Databases on the INTERNET**  
Science Databases Discussion Group  
Saturday, June 29, 1991  
2:00 - 4:00 PM

**College Libraries Science Collections  
Separate or Integrated?**  
College Science Librarians Discussion Group  
Sunday, June 30, 1991  
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

**Access to Science Journals  
After You Cancel: Where Next?**  
General Discussion Group  
Sunday, June 30, 1991  
2:00 - 3:30 PM

**Cooperation Between Academic & Special Libraries  
Facilities and Space Problems**  
Directors of Science Libraries Discussion Group  
Sunday, June 30, 1991  
8:00 - 10:00 PM



Newsletter Committee Contributors: Denise Beaubien, Lori Bronars, Janet Chisman, Harry Llull, Martha Lyle, Mary Markland, Gregg Sapp, Helen Smith, Becky Uhl, Kathy Wood. Proofreaders: Betty Cook, Ellen Krupar.

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