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SIGNAL

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SECTION

VOLUME 7, NUMBER 2

FALL 1992

ISSN: 0888-6563

From the Chair

As we look forward to the ALA Midwinter Meeting in Denver, we face a year when ACRL, along with the rest of the economy, is facing severe budget difficulties. Our section budget was less than half of our original request; in addition, there is no funding for section orientation manuals, and funding for only one eight page newsletter this year. We have elected to go ahead with this issue of the *STS Signal* with the hope that funding will become available for the spring issue or that we will be able to develop alternatives by then. Some alternatives under consideration are more reliance on the online *Issues in Science and Technology Librarianship*, as well as more reliance on *C & RL News* for section news. This will be an important issue for discussion at Midwinter so please let your views be known to the Newsletter Committee or any member of the STS Council.

Despite the grim budget news, the section is continuing to plan for activities at both the Midwinter and Annual meetings. Three of the regular discussion groups, General, Science Databases and Heads of Science Libraries will meet at Midwinter offering opportunities for all STS members to get together and exchange ideas. Remember also that almost all committee meetings are open, so Midwinter is a great time to visit a committee and decide if you are interested in volunteering for an appointment.

Our summer meeting plans begin with our first ever STS Preconference, designed to train non-science librarians to do science reference. Plans are also continuing for our summer program still tentatively titled "New Formats, New Services, Keeping Up." We hope to have our reception in the French Quarter at the Pharmacy Museum and to arrange a tour of the New Orleans Aquarium of the Americas for members. We will keep you informed as plans firm up for all of these events.

I welcome your ideas for changes and improvements in the section that will make STS even more responsive to your needs as science and technology librarians.

Karen Feeney Cargille
Central Library, Acquisitions Dept. 0175A
Univ. of Calif., San Diego
9500 Gilman Dr.
La Jolla, CA 92093-0175

From the Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

This is a time of great challenge in libraries as well as in our Association. ACRL is facing increasing costs and decreasing resources. And as a Section within the Association, their challenges are ours. We must move forward to help find creative solutions to these challenges and the active participation of members in each Section is just the place for those solutions to begin.

As Vice-Chair of STS, some of my primary activities will be to make Committee appointments for 1993/94. Thanks to those of you who volunteered last year, we have an ongoing list of interested members. For those who are new to the Section, review the Committee Volunteer Form which is included in this issue of the *Signal*, then plan to attend Midwinter in Denver. Midwinter is when most committees are active and planning for summer programs. Bring your business cards, introduce yourself and let us know your interests and how you would like to participate within the Section.

Janet Fore
Science-Engineering Library
Univ. of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721

1992 Annual Meeting, San Francisco STS Executive Council Meeting Highlights

•The ACRL Board is considering budget cuts; costs are going up and conferences, advertising, etc. do not generate enough revenue to offset the increases. One recommendation is to reduce the number of issues of section newsletters. *College and Research Libraries* may be cut back from bi-monthly to quarterly.

•Over 30 volunteers have not been appointed to committees. Committees may add or replace members if needed. Karen Cargille is the contact person for these changes.

•STS brochures are available to committee chairs and at the ACRL booth.

•A committee is planning for the 1993 pre-conference. They hope for 200-250 participants at a cost of \$120-155 per person. This pre-conference will target the general librarian needing to do sci-tech reference.

•Library career training fellowships are available from the U.S. Dept. of Education.

•The ACRL Board is considering holding an ACRL conference only every other year beginning after 1995. Divisions are going in this direction also.

•In line with the high priority ACRL has given communication with its members, a motion was made and seconded that STS promote its newsletter as a primary mode of communication with its membership.

Information supplied by Lois Pausch
Reported by Nancy Shepard

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, BOX 343001, 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.

"An education isn't how much you have committed to memory or even how much you know. It's being able to differentiate between what you do know and what you don't. It's knowing where to go to find out what you need to know and it's knowing how to use the information you get" Attributed to William Feather



STS Electronic Communications Update

Four issues of *Issues in Science and Technology Librarianship* (ISTL), STS's electronic communication have been published in 1992, with additional special issues of current information. Articles appearing in ISTL have run the gamut of topics important to science and technology librarians. One column, "From the Director's Chair," regularly features discussions of managerial or administrative issues from the points of view of sci-tech library administrators. In order to facilitate the review and publication of material, ISTL encourages anybody interested in submitting an article to the appropriate member of its editorial board, as noted below:

ACCESS SERVICES ISSUES: Gregg Sapp,
ALIGS@MTSUNIX1.BITNET or SAPP/
LIB@REVVE.LIB.MONTANA.EDU

VIRTUAL LIBRARIANSHIP: John Saylor,
JOHN_SAYLOR@MRELAY.MAIL.CORNELL.EDU

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP REPORTS: Lynn Kaczor, LKACZOR@HAL.UNM.EDU

PRESS RELEASES, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND
OTHER TOPICS: Harry Lull,
ACRLSTS@HAL.UNM.EDU

In order to sustain this important publication, submissions are needed; the editors are anxious to work with you. Currently, ISTL has over 500 subscribers. New subscribers are always welcome; to do so, or if you have any comments or suggestions, contact the editor-in-chief, Harry Lull, at the above address.

Reported by Gregg Sapp

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SECTION
1993 MIDWINTER MEETINGS
DENVER, COLORADO

<u>Day/Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Committee</u>
Fri/Jan 22	7:30 - 10:00PM	STS Council I (9:00 - 10:00 Exec. Board)
Sat/Jan 23	8:30 - 12:30	Comparison of Science & Technology Lib.
	9:30 - 11:00	Publisher Relations Committee
	9:30 - 11:00	Discussion Group Leaders Joint Meeting
	11:30 - 1:00	Oberly Award Committee
	11:30 - 1:00	Newsletter Committee
	2:00 - 4:00	SCIENCE DATABASES DISC. GROUP
	4:30 - 6:00	Legislation Committee
Sun/Jan 24	8:30 - 12:30	1994 Miami Program Planning Comm.
	9:30 - 12:30	Planning Committee
	9:30 - 12:30	Preconference Committee
	11:30 - 12:30	Membership Committee
	11:30 - 12:30*	Nominating Committee*
	2:00 - 4:00	GENERAL DISCUSSION GROUP
	2:00 - 4:00	ALCTS/STS Joint Preconference Comm.
	8:00 - 10:00 PM	Heads of Science Libraries Discussion Group
Mon/Jan 25	8:30 - 11:00	Legislation Committee
	8:30 - 12:30	1993 New Orleans Program Planning Comm.
	8:30 - 11:00*	Research Forum Task Force*
	9:30 - 12:30	Continuing Education Committee
	9:30 - 11:30	Subject & Bibliog. Access to Scientific Materials
	2:00 - 4:00	STS Council II

* Indicates a closed meeting

1992 Annual Meeting

Committee Reports

College Science Librarians Discussion Group

"Science Journal Indexes in Print, CD-ROM or Online? Selecting the Best Format for Undergraduate Use" was the topic of the group's discussion. Alison Ricker distributed the results of her 1991 survey showing the numbers of college libraries that currently subscribe to journal indexes in a non-print format. The following science librarians presented information: Helena Warburg on Dialog CIP and CARL Uncover; Esther Williams on Expanded Academic Index; Robin Raquet on Compendex on CD; Charles Myers on GeoRef on CD and *Current Contents* on diskette; Brian Ebersole on *Science Citation Index* and *Index Medicus* on CD. The discussion included costs, ease of use, user response and instruction techniques.

There will not be a meeting during ALA midwinter, but the co-chairs are organizing a dinner to be held on Saturday evening. For more information on the dinner, and to suggest future discussion topics, contact either Robin Raquet, Trinity University Mad-dox Library, P.O. Box 15501, San Antonio TX 78212 (JRAQUET@TRINITY.EDU) or Esther Williams, Vassar College Library, Box 216, Poughkeepsie NY 12601 (ESWILLIAMS@VASSAR.BITNET).

Information supplied by Alison Ricker
Reported by Mary Markland

Comparison of Science/Technology Libraries Committee

The committee, which has added a number of new members, devoted the summer meeting to reviewing the draft of the survey instrument to be used for the next survey. Julie Hurd led the discussion on the revision. The committee plans to begin implementing the survey this fall to involve ARL libraries only. There is the possibility that the committee will be allowed to work through the ARL library contacts who facilitate the completion of surveys approved by ARL.

Information supplied by Harry Llull
Reported by Harry Llull

Conference Program Planning- New Orleans 1993

Steve Cisler of Apple Computer has agreed to be the keynote speaker at the 1993 STS program tentatively titled, "New Formats, New Services: Keeping Up." The program, examining the proliferation of electronic information networks in sci-tech libraries,

will include a panel of three or four. This panel will look at the issue as it affects library education, technical and access services, recruitment and career paths in academic libraries, and the information usage patterns of clients. Breaking from the recent STS tradition of Tuesday programs, the 1993 program will be held on Monday.

The committee reviewed several possible sites for the reception with the first choice being New Orleans' Pharmacy Museum, located in the French Quarter.

Also to be investigated is the possibility of a special trip to the Aquarium of the Americas.

Information supplied by Julia Zimmerman
Reported by Julia Zimmerman

Continuing Education Committee

Committee members distributed a continuing education survey at STS discussion groups and programs during the conference. This survey was designed to get a "snapshot" of the types of programs that are of interest to people attending STS-sponsored meetings. The committee continued a discussion of its mission. They plan to contact other ACRL sections and ALA divisions to coordinate and to share ideas and resources on continuing education. They also plan to review competencies for science and technology librarians and will possibly form a subcommittee to work on the project.

Information supplied by Laura M. Osegueda
Reported by Lynn Kaczor

Discussion Group

The theme was "Sci-Tech Electronic Journals: Production and Access." Two invited speakers: Ron Gardner, the OCLC liaison to the AAAS for the production of *Clinical Trials*, and Gail McMillan, team leader for the serials cataloging and maintenance at the University Library at Virginia Polytechnic, reviewed the current status of e-journals from editorial policy to patron usage.

Mr. Gardner described the working relationship between OCLC and AAAS and discussed details of producing a full text, peer-reviewed science journal such as screen design, adherence to NISO and ASCII standards, marketing and pricing strategies. Further, he explained the variety of current system searching features and hypercard features being added.

Speaking from the perspective of the institutional subscriber, Ms. McMillan outlined her library's active collection development policy for e-journals. She showed the sequence of screens that a user would see at Virginia Tech when accessing the journals, as well as individual journal issues. She discussed how the processing of such formats has been integrated into the routine workflow of acquisitions and cataloging.

The discussion brought up issues of preservation and archiving, copyright, interlibrary loan, indexing, patron education and equipment needed for access. Charles Bailey's bibliography of "Electronic Serials and Related Topics" was distributed to attendees.

Reported by Gregg Sapp

Forum

The Forum presentations were: David Stern, "IBIS User-Friendly Interface for Searching Local and Remote Databases;" Chestalene Pintozzi and Nancy Simons, "Evaluating a Collection Development Policy: the ILL Factor;" and Marty Kesselman, "European Online Service in Science and Technology."

Librarians interested in presenting results of theirs at the Annual Meeting in New Orleans must submit abstracts to Kathy Whitley, Science-Engineering Library, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721, (phone: 602-621-6375) by Jan. 1, 1993.

Reported by Becky Uhl

Heads of Sci/Tech Libraries Discussion Group

Thirty people attended the meeting which focused on staff training. Staff development related to new computer developments and electronic reference services were addressed. The new co-chairs of the discussion group are Carole Armstrong and Jeanne Boyle. Suggestions of topics for future meetings should be sent to the new co-chairs.

Information supplied by Robert Michaelson
Reported by Harry Llull

Membership Committee

262 brochures were distributed to new STS members between 7/91 and 3/92. The list of new members will be forwarded to Janet Fore to use in making committee appointments. Suggestions for future projects include: staffing the ACRL booth at conferences, identifying STS members by a sticker that attaches to the conference badges, and sending an STS brochure and letter to all new appointees to science libraries, as identified in *C&RL News*.

Information supplied by Carole Armstrong and
Thomas Dowling
Reported by Lynn Kaczor

Nominating Committee

Janet Fore is the new STS chair-elect. Janet Chisman is the new secretary/publicity officer. The candidates for this year are:

Chair/chair elect:
Caroline Harnly, San Francisco State
Katie Clark, Penn State

Secretary/publicity:
Dolores Hoelle, Princeton
Billie Joy Reinhart, Cleveland State

Information supplied by Marty Kesselman and
Colleen Power
Reported by Mary Markland

Oberly Committee

The committee is proceeding with the endowment fund raising effort, having received \$8650 towards the June 1992 \$10,000 goal. Committee members will continue to solicit vendors for the contributions. Nominations for the 1993 Oberly Award should be made to chair Amy Paster, E205 Pattee Library, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pa 16802. The winner will be selected at the Denver midwinter meeting. The proposed annotated bibliography of award winners did not receive funding from ALA. The committee will investigate outside publishers and will submit an informational article to *C&RL News*.

Reported by Alenka Chadwick

Preconference (1993) Committee

The budget had to be reworked as the preconference was not selected to receive the World Book/ALA Goal Award. The cost to ACRL members will be \$125. The fundraising subcommittee is working to obtain vendor donations to cover some of the costs.

The list of speaker assignments to be offered was finalized. The committee tried to find a balance of geographic locations and institution types among the potential speakers. Assignments were also made for designing the brochure, evaluation forms and press releases.

Information supplied by Caroline Harnly
Reported by Mary Markland

Designed for catalogers, public service and collection development librarians, the proposed preconference on "Bibliographic Control of Conference Proceedings," will address current standards and issues of bibliographic control, and citation practice and its implications for reference, ILL and collection development. In addition to presentations to the whole group, the committee has planned breakout sessions allowing participants to gain hands-on experience in their areas of interest.

Reported by Becky Uhl

Publisher/Vendor Relations Committee

This revitalized group set a record for attendance at their committee meeting. Active participation by both librarians and publishers promoted discussions on the following topics: alternative ways for librarians to become involved in publisher/vendor issues, the arrival and future of electronic journals and other types of electronic publications, the viability of science monographs in the face of serials price increases, problems relating to the marketing techniques of some publishers, licensing and copyright issues, alternatives to commercial publishing, publishers' need to test their products and the potential utilization of this committee as an advisory board. A discussion also touched on the future possibility of faculty retaining copyright for scholarly articles and distributing these rights free to not-for-profit organizations such as libraries, rather than assigning them to commercial publishers.

Information provided by Michael Fineman and
Billie Jo Reinhart
Reported by Lynn Kaczor

Science Databases Discussion Group

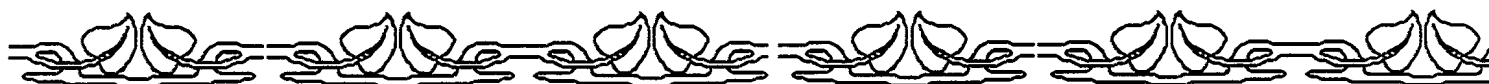
Three invited guests spoke on "Calling All CARS (Computer-Assisted Reference Services): The Changing Role of Database Searchers." As librarian-mediated database searching decreases, searcher find themselves filling new roles. Denise Beaubien Bennett now trains library staff in the online services offered at the University of Florida. Randy Gadikian uses his search skills to train end-users and has developed an in-house database for a scientist researching the Zebra mussel. Kathy Whitley is gradually taking over the computer technical support and troubleshooting from the systems office.

Information supplied by Janet Fore
Reported by Nancy Shepard

Subject and Bibliographic Access to Science Materials Committee

One subcommittee presented a draft letter addressing the following recommendations for publishers of conference proceedings: title page layout, the information necessary to provide a complete catalog records, enhanced access, etc. These will be sent to publishers in late 1992 or early 1993. Work continues on turning these recommendations into an ISO standard. Another subcommittee presented a report on access to theses, dissertations and related UMI products. The session closed with a discussion of access to non-print items. Midwinter discussions will include results of the publisher mailing.

Reported by Becky Uhl



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 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 Jan. 1, 1993. Papers will be selected at the ALA Midwinter Meeting 1993. Send proposals to: Kathy Whitley, Science-Engineering Library, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721, (phone: 602-621-6375).

Reasons to attend ALA Midwinter

DENVER

- ∞ Lively discussions
- ∞ Highlights of new products
- ∞ Learn what your colleagues are doing
- ∞ Issues important to sci-tech librarians
- ∞ Network with librarians with similar concerns

NEII

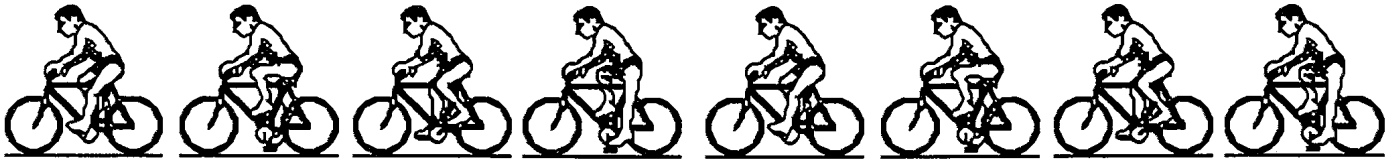
National Engineering Information Forum is a new listserv initiated by the June 1992 Conference for Exploration of a National Engineering Information Service (NENGIS). It has the goal to support communication among persons engaged in a collaborative effort to increase engineering productivity through enhanced access to and use of engineering information and data.

To subscribe: send the following command as an e-mail note to a unix-listserv (LISTSERV@CNI.ORG).

SUBSCRIBE NEII <your real name>

No subject is required, and there should be no other text in the body of your message. Upon successful completion of this command, you will receive a welcome message which explains more about the unix-listserv system and the NEII Forum in particular.

Martha Lyle



ACRL Science and Technology Section Committee Volunteers

I am interested in serving on the following Science and Technology Section Committees:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> College Science Librns. Disc. Group | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comparison of Sci/Tech Libraries | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conference Program Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Nominating Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Continuing Education Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Oberly Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Group | <input type="checkbox"/> Planning Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forum on Emerging Issues & Res. | <input type="checkbox"/> Publisher Relations Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heads of Sci/Tech Libr. Disc. Group | <input type="checkbox"/> Science Databases Disc. Group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legislation Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Subj. and Bibl. Access to Sci. Matls. |

Topics of interest for programs and discussion groups:

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Mail form to: Janet Fore, Science-Engineering Library, Univ. of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721

This may be your last SIGNAL for a while!

We have never taken any precious *STS Signal* space to do an Editor's column, but the elimination of the *STS Signal* is an issue that we can not ignore.

ACRL has cut the budget and will allow for only one section newsletter in this fiscal year. This decision has frustrated and disappointed many of us. We know that the *STS Signal* is full of good information and is the only ALA publication that specifically addresses science and technology librarians. The *STS Signal* is the most efficient way to learn about STS news on committee work, discussion groups and programs in one mailing rather than expensive individual mailings. We have been told that *C & RL News* will be able to carry more section news, but we also know that size of this publication is also being cut. Will there really be room for what the section members need to know?

We also wonder what is happening with our dues. Each year we all spend over \$100 for ALA membership which also includes ACRL and STS membership. Our dues money is supposed to be paying for these publications. By canceling one issue of the Signal, we are, in effect, paying twice as much for one issue.

This last year ACRL and STS were also trying to attracting librarians to the field of science and technology librarianship. By not having a publication specific to science and technology librarians, it will be more difficult to attract others to this area. To keep the sections strong and active, we need a strong and active form of communication and the *STS Signal* is our most effective means that reaches all STS members.

We will be relying solely on the *STS Electronic Communications* to transmit STS information in the spring. Please see the article on page 2 for information on subscribing.

Kathy Fescemyer, Martha Lyle



Newsletter Committee Contributors: Kathy Fescemyer, Lynn Kaczor, Harry Llull, Martha Lyle, Mary Markland, Gregg Sapp, Nancy Shepard, Becky Uhl, Julia Zimmerman.

Proofreaders: Jan Comfort, Darlene McKay.

The *STS Signal* is printed on recycled paper.



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16823-73