

AFAS NEWSLETTER

Issued by the Afro-American Studies Librarians' Section of the Association of College & Research Libraries

SPRING 1992

AFAS ELECTIONS

The Nominations Committee has recommended the following candidates for the 1992 elections for officers in AFAS.

Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect: Robert Miller, Curator of the Vivian Harsh Research Collection, Carter G. Woodson Regional Library, Chicago Public Library, and William C. Welburn, Diversity/Special Services Librarian and Coordinator Social Sciences Division at the University of Iowa Libraries.

Secretary: Diana L. Brice, Head Social Sciences, Woodson Regional Library, Chicago Public Library, and Joyce E. Jelks, Manager, Acquisitions Department, Atlanta-Fulton Public Library.

Member-at-Large (2): Carol A. Rudisell, Associate Librarian, Reference Department, University of Delaware Library, Michael C. Walker, Reference Librarian, Virginia Commonwealth University, Cabell Library, and Rochelle R. Ballard, Reference Librarian, University of Central Florida Libraries.

Summary of Recent AFAS Meetings

AFAS carried a full schedule of meetings during the ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Antonio this past January. The section's general membership received reports from committees, announcements, and updates on AFAS programs at upcoming conferences. Major projects for the section include the African American Indexing Terminology Project (see page 2 of this newsletter), an African American Studies LISTSERV, and progress toward a procedures manual for section members.

Rochelle Ballard reported to the membership that the multi-color designs for Section brochures and letterhead approved last year would be prohibitively expensive to duplicate. Brenda Mitchell-Powell agreed to adapt the designs and seek other means of reproduction.

Alma Dawson has been appointed Chair of the AFAS Program Committee for the 1993 ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans. The theme selected will be "Afro-American Information Resources, the 1960s vs. the 1990s."
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UPCOMING CONFERENCES (Continued from Page 1)

"Afro-American Studies in Libraries: The Collection's Development, Maintenance, and Future" will be the central theme of a program hosted by AFAS during the upcoming ACRL National Conference in Salt Lake City. Moderated by Tyrone Cannon of Boston College, the program will feature Howard Dodson, Chief of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, as its keynote speaker. Reactions will be received from Rolly Jackson Lee, Jr., Director of the Roosevelt Long Island Public Library in Roosevelt, New York, Jessie Carney Smith, University Librarian at Fisk, and Herman Totten, Regents Professor, School of Library and Information Science at University of North Texas.

The conference program committee is chaired by Michael Walker of Virginia Commonwealth University. The committee consists of Theresa Byrd, Tyrone Cannon, Clarence Chisholm, Mary L. Cleveland, Louveller Luster, Harry R. Murphy, Jill Perkins, Ronald Shelton, Marcellus Turner, Birdie O. Weir, and Pearl Woolridge. Other papers of interest to be presented during the conference include "African American Reference Sources: No Turning Back and Never Again a Drought" by Katherine Dahl and "Before the Waters Parted: Minority Leadership in Academic and Research Libraries," by Donald Davis and John Tucker.

National Conference of African American Librarians

A schedule for the upcoming National Conference of African American Librarians appears in the February 1992 issue of the BCALA

News. Of special interest is "Empowering Students and the Academic Community," a program featuring Yvonne Williams, Gladys Smiley Bell, and Marcell Elaine Hughes.

"Classification": AFAS in San Francisco

AFAS will host a program on "Classification" at the ALA annual conference in San Francisco. Scheduled for Sunday, June 28, it will feature a discussion among panelists Doris Clack, David Anthony, and Joseph Melack. The program committee is chaired by Vivian Sykes. The Executive Committee will meet on June 27 at 11:30 a.m.. The AFAS Conference Program Committee for New Orleans will also meet on June 27 at 9 a.m.

AFAS is also involved in planning for an ACRL program on different facets of recruitment into academic and research libraries. Look for this and other relevant programs in your mailings from ALA.

OTHER NOTICES

The State Historical Society of Wisconsin has received funding to begin a four year project entitled African-American Newspapers and Periodicals, a National Bibliography and Union List. For further information, please contact the Historical Society at (608) 264-6532.

More than Just a Dream:

**The African American Information Resources
Indexing Terminology Project**

Doris Clack, Vice Chair/Chair Elect of AFAS, has designated the African American Information Resources Terminology Indexing Project one of her highest priorities for the coming year. Revived under Project Committee Co-Chair Diana Brice, the Project will continue to undertake pilot analyses of specific reference tools, paper and electronic, and develop a standardized format for reviewing other tools. The existing guidelines will be recirculated among project participants. New participants in this project include: Mary G. Wrighten, Multicultural Service Librarian at Bowling Green University, Jerome Library.

The original research design for the Project had as its focus an analysis of relevance in indexing terminology, ease in retrieval, gaps in indexing systems, and need for library instruction to facilitate ease of use. If you wish to know more about the Project, please contact Diana Brice at the Carter G. Woodson Regional Library, Chicago Public Library.

BRIEF NOTES

African American Studies Listserv

Gladys Smiley Bell has moved forward on establishing a LISTSERV electronic communications network for the Section. An advisory committee has been appointed to undertake the necessary steps to set up LISTSERV for African American Studies Librarians with global implications.

Appointments of Committee Chairs for 1992/93

Doris Clack, Vice Chair/Chair Elect, is in the process of making Committee appointments for the 1992/93 program year. Anyone interested in serving in any capacity should contact Dr. Clack immediately.

ACRL/AFAS - Section Policy and Procedure Manual

Gladys Smiley Bell has adapted the Women's Studies Section's Policy and Procedure Manual for use by the AFAS. Draft copies have been distributed to the Executive Committee for review and comment. A revised draft will be submitted to the membership for consideration at the San Francisco meeting. Anyone interested in receiving a copy of the current document should contact Stanton F. Biddle, Section Chair.

AFAS OFFICERS

Chair - Stanton F. Biddle, Baruch College, City University of New York
Vice Chair/Chair Elect - Doris Clack, School of Library and Information Studies, Florida State University
Immediate Past Chair - Clarence Chisholm, Pennsylvania State University
Secretary - Joyce E. Jelks, Atlanta Fulton Public Library
Editor, Section Newsletter - William Welburn, University of Iowa
Chair, Nominations Committee - Curtis Kendrick, Emory University
Chair, By-Laws Committee - Michael Walker, Virginia Commonwealth University

Program Committee Chairs

ACRL National Conference, 1992 - Michael C. Walker
ALA Annual Conference, 1992 - Vivian Sykes
BCALA/NCAAL, 1992 - Allee Reviere Smith
ALA Annual Conference, 1993 - Alma Dawson

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