

LITANEWSLETTER

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From the President

Dear Members:

Thank you for choosing me as your president-elect! It is my goal to equitably represent the three sections of LITA and to be responsive to the membership's wishes.

For this I need your help. There are committee appointments to be made, programs to be planned, and LITA's future direction to be strengthened. We are building a file at ALA Headquarters of those who are interested in appointments. Sometimes we have more volunteers than we can appoint in one year, but the file will be kept and made available to future LITA presidents. If you wish to be appointed, you can help me by stating for which committee you consider yourself well suited, and telling me a bit about yourself. If you have program ideas or other suggestions for making LITA better, please call or write.

Let's make 1981/82 a productive year for all of us! Thank you. — *Brigitte L. Kenney, LITA President-elect, Infocon, Inc., 400 Plateau Parkway, Golden, CO 80401; (303) 278-7411.*

LITA Regional Workshops

"Data Processing Specifications and Contracting" is the title of a series of regional tutorials sponsored by LITA. The first tutorial was held at the Peter Kiewit Conference Center, Omaha, Nebraska, on October 28-30, 1980. Cosponsored by the Mountain Plains Library Association, the workshop was a preconference prior to the 1980 MPLA Annual Conference. A second tutorial was held at Nashville's Opryland Hotel in December.

Other regional workshops are tentatively scheduled for Boston in April, 1981, and in June in San Francisco as a preconference institute to the American Library Association's 1981 Annual Conference. Additionally, several other cities are being considered.

The "Data Processing Specifications and Contracting" tutorials have been developed to meet the needs of librarians installing or preparing to install varying types of automated systems. Since the degree of expertise of librarians varies greatly, the goals of these tutorials will be to establish a

basic level of competence in developing functional specifications, evaluating technical specifications, developing and evaluating bid specifications, and in negotiating and administering contracts for data processing equipment and systems.

For more information and/or registration forms, contact LITA/ALA, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611 or call (312) 944-6780.

LITA Serials Institute

Two hundred and fifty librarians and exhibitors attended the LITA institute, "Serials Automation: Acquisition and Inventory Control," held in Milwaukee on September 4-5, 1980. Cochaired by William G. Potter of the University of Illinois and Arlene Farber Sirkin of the U.S. Army Audiovisual Center, the institute considered the many changes and technological developments that have occurred since LITA's last conference on automated serials control in 1975.

Dan Tonkeray of the University of California, Los Angeles, gave the keynote speech in which a historical and philosophical perspective of automated serials control was presented. Although batched unit record systems have been in use since the 1950s, there has not been significant progress in serials automation. Technology is not the problem; available hardware and software products are more than adequate. The major obstacles to serials automation have included: conflicting priorities and competition for resources in libraries, the difficulties caused by the nature of serials themselves, the lack of a national serials data base, and the lack of standardized formats for holdings statements. The best configuration for serials control is "a local minicomputer connected to a bibliographic utility." However, serials subscription agents will provide "attractive alternatives to local development for many libraries." Tonkeray cautions that the serials module must be compatible with other automated systems in the library. Although it adds to the conversion cost to follow CONSER standards, it is important to create a record that can be shared with other libraries.

From the presentations of the conference speakers and

exhibitors, the elements of an ideal on-line serials control system emerged. Such a system would include: check-in, next expected issue prediction, detailed holdings statements, claims control, financial records, bindery control, routing information, and on-line public access to serials holdings. Automated serials control can provide cost savings, elimination of repetitive, time-consuming tasks, up-to-date check-in information, and multiple access points to the serials data base for public service.

A panel discussion of available automated serials check-in systems included Millard Johnson representing PHILSON, Gerald Lowell of F. W. Faxon, Inc., Ronald Gardner of OCLC, Inc., and J. T. Stephens of EBSCO Subscription Services. The EBSCO and Faxon systems are in the developmental stage and will be available to libraries in 1981. Costs are still flexible, and will be finalized after more testing has been done. A library must consider equipment charges, communications charges, monthly fees based on the number of titles and transactions, and an initial loading charge.

The "Check-in Function" was examined by Jim Fayolatt, systems analyst at UCLA. The UCLA Biomedical Library and Northwestern University have the two most highly developed on-line integrated serials control systems in the United States. UCLA's system features full bibliographic records loaded from OCLC tapes, a permuted title index as well as indexes by subject, ISSN, etc., Boolean searching, and passworded file security. All functions are on-line; a check-in transaction takes approximately one minute. Fayolatt assures librarians that automated serials check-in is feasible based on the current technology. There is little reason to wait for new technologies.

Millard Johnson, Washington University, described the "Subscription and Financial Functions" of serials control. Johnson was a designer and programmer for PHILSON, which serves a network of medical school libraries. The programming aspects of financial control are not a concern. The problem is that the fiscal control function must interface with other systems along lines that are not precise or well defined. The environment, which includes the vendor and the accounting office, is volatile and largely out of the control of the librarian.

Susan Miller, Ohio State University, covered "Inventory and Holdings Features." Holdings fields should use variable-length data and statements should be clear to the uninitiated user. The ANSI Z39 standard on holdings statements at the summary level was issued this year. This standard

does not provide for a natural language caption (e.g., "vol") at the summary level, which may be a problem for patrons. Two other ANSI subcommittees are drafting standards for detailed serial-holdings statements and for dealing with publication patterns of serials. Miller recommends that administrators wait for these standards to be issued before committing the library to any serials control system.

"In-house development is the last thing most libraries should be thinking of," advises Betsy Humphreys of the National Library of Medicine. "Serials Control by Agents" should be considered by any library with a lack of manpower to process serials or a lack of systems support to automate. Agents can provide subscription handling, bibliographic information, fiscal and budget allocation control, issue handling (check-in), and support for union lists. Advantages include reductions in staff work time, more rapid payment to publishers, prompt claims, and invoices in machine-readable form. Overall, subscription agent processing has been satisfactory for NLM. One disadvantage is that off-site check-in delays receipt of items in the library by several days. A library may choose to check-in items in-house using the vendor's computer and software.

Velma Veneziano discussed "Patron Access" based on her experiences with the NOTIS system at Northwestern University. Serials at Northwestern are entirely on-line, in full MARC format, with authority control and complete identification at the piece level. NOTIS was designed as an integrated materials control system, to include accounting, acquisitions, cataloging, etc. Veneziano cautioned that rapid response time is essential in a patron access system; user tolerance of poor response time is very low. Also, the concept of headings under authority control is important. Key-word access requires too much user sophistication to completely replace controlled headings. Northwestern users who need key-word access can switch to RLIN.

Michael Gorman, University of Illinois, ended the institute in his characteristically "off-beat" fashion by suggesting that rather than trying to *control* serials, librarians should direct their efforts at trying to *eliminate* serials. The expense of serials is seriously attacking the integrity of our large research library collections, eroding the monograph budgets for items that are relatively little used. Gorman suggests that as an alternative to current practice, librarians could use SDI techniques to supply tailor-made groups of articles to individuals who should read them. In the foreseeable future, however, libraries must cope with the flood of serials. The solution is automated, decentralized, integrated systems, developed at the state or regional level or by commercial services. — Carol A. Parkhurst, *Systems Librarian, University of Nevada, Reno, NV 89557.*

The *LITA Newsletter* is published by the Library and Information Technology Association, a division of the American Library Association; LITA Program Director, Donald P. Hammer, ALA, 50 East Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611. Editor Pat Barkalow, University of Tennessee, Main Library, Systems Office, Knoxville, TN 37916. Audiovisual Section Editor Sue Besemer; Information Science and Automation Section Editor Carol Parkhurst; Video and Cable Communications Section Editor Bob Katz.

Distribution is free to division members. Copies may be obtained from the program director. Send material for future publications to the editor. Deadline for Summer 1981 issue is March 20. Viewpoints expressed in the *LITA Newsletter* are solely the authors' and do not constitute the official position of LITA or ALA.

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Overtime Deft - nitions

Superimposition — 1967: LC's response to AACR1
Desuperimposition — 1980: LC's response to AACR2
Redesuperimposition — 1981: LC backs off, retains some pre-AACR1 headings
Interactivesuperimposition — 1984 and beyond: LC's response to AACR2 revisions

Contributed by Fred O'Hara, consultant, Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

Midwinter Meetings – Washington D.C., January 31 – February 5

Saturday – January 31, 1981

ALA Exhibits	4-7 p.m.
CLSI National Users Group	8-10 p.m.
LITA ISAS Retrospective Conversion Discussion Group	9:30-11:00 a.m.
LITA ISAS Technical Standards for Library Automation (TESLA) Committee	11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
LITA VCCS Executive Committee	9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
LITA VCCS Nominating Committee	4:30-5:30 p.m.
LITA VCCS Program Planning Committee	2-4 p.m.
LITA VCCS Video & Cable Utilization Committee	8-10 p.m.

Sunday – February 1, 1981

ALA Exhibits	11 a.m.-5 p.m.
LITA AVS Executive Committee	2-4 p.m.
LITA Development of On-Line Catalogs Discussion Group	8-10 p.m.
LITA Directors Board	8-10 p.m.
LITA Education Committee	2-4 p.m.
LITA ISAS On-Line Catalogs Discussion Group	2-4 p.m.
LITA ISAS TESLA	9:30-11:00 a.m.
LITA Legislation & Regulation Committee	9-11 a.m.
LITA Library Automation Discussion Group	3:45-5:30 p.m.
LITA MARC Users Discussion Group	2:00-3:30 p.m.
LITA Program Planning Committee	9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
LITA Publications Committee	9-11 a.m.
LITA VCCS Distribution & Exchange Committee	11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
LITA VCCS Legislation & Regulation Committee	2-4 p.m.
LITA VCCS Program Planning Committee	9:30-11:00 a.m.

Monday – February 2, 1981

ALA Exhibits	11 a.m.-5 p.m.
Council I	9:00 a.m.

GEAC Library System Users Group	4:30-5:30 p.m.
LITA AVS A-V Utilization Committee	8-9 a.m.
LITA AVS Executive Committee	11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
LITA Bylaws & Organization Committee	8-10 p.m.
LITA Directors Board	11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 2:00-5:30 p.m.
LITA ISAS COM Catalog Discussion Group	9:30-11:00 a.m.
LITA ISAS Executive Committee	9:30-11:00 a.m.
LITA ISAS Program Planning Committee	2-4 p.m.
LITA Membership Committee	9:30-11:00 a.m.
LITA VCCS Executive Committee	8-11 a.m.

Tuesday – February 3, 1981

ALA Exhibits	11 a.m.-2 p.m.
Council II	9 a.m.
LITA AVS A-V Utilization Committee	4:30-5:30 p.m.
LITA Bylaws & Organization Committee	8-10 p.m.
LITA Directors Board	11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. 2:00-5:30 p.m.
LITA ISAS International Mechanization Consultation Committee	9-11 a.m.
LITA ISAS Program Planning Committee	11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
LITA ISAS TESLA	8-9 a.m.
LITA Publications Committee	9-11 a.m.
President's Program	8-10 p.m.

Wednesday – February 4, 1981

Council III	2 p.m.
LITA ISAS Executive Committee	9-11 a.m.
LITA Legislation & Regulation Committee	9-11 a.m.
LITA Program Planning Committee	2:00-5:30 p.m.

All times are tentative; consult the Midwinter conference schedule for exact time and location.

LITA Automated Acquisitions Institute Cassettes Available

The papers presented at the LITA institutes, "Automated Acquisitions Systems—Or Does Your Library Acquire Materials Bit by Bit?" that were held in Nashville, Tennessee, on December 6-7, 1979, and in Vancouver, British Columbia, on May 19-20, 1980, are now available on audiocassette. Recordings are unedited, as taped at the Vancouver institute.

A full set of nine cassettes is priced at \$35. Individual cassettes are \$4.25 each. LITA members and institute registrants receive a 10 percent discount. Order from Information Yield, 311 Stonecrest Dr., Syracuse, NY 13214.

The speakers and their topics are: "The Functions of Acquisitions"—Keynote—Richard Boss, Information Systems Consultants; "Local Systems—Design and Costs"—Tia Gozzi, Syracuse University; "Vendor Systems, On-line Ordering"—Kenneth Bierman, Tucson Public Library; "The Network Role in Automated Acquisitions"—Mary Madden, SOLINET, Atlanta; "Compatibility of Systems (Acquisitions—Cataloging—Circulation)"—Richard Woods, University of Houston; "Financial Control and Reporting and Vendor Performance"—Janet Uden, University of Massachusetts; "Case Study—Mississauga (Ontario) Public Library"—Helen MacIntosh; "Case Study—Northwestern University"—Elizabeth Furlong; "Components Present in Existing Acquisitions Systems, a Survey"—John Kountz, California State Universities and Colleges.

Information Science and Automation Section

Carol Parkhurst
Section Editor

The Information Science and Automation Section exists to provide leadership and educational opportunities for those who are concerned with the development and application of automated library and information systems. All those interested in these and related topics are encouraged to attend the section committee and discussion group meetings at the ALA Midwinter Meeting. The calendar elsewhere in this newsletter gives tentative meeting times. Consult the final conference schedule for exact meeting times and locations.

ISAS Committees

Section chair Bonnie Juergens, Coordinator of Library Data Processing at Austin, Texas, Public Library, will conduct two Executive Committee meetings to cover general section business. Topics of concern to ISAS members may be introduced at the meetings by anyone in attendance.

The Ad Hoc Committee on International Mechanization Consultation, chaired by Michael Gorman, Director of Technical Services at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, will continue the task of examining roles of various international bodies in developing standards affecting mechanized library systems. Reports on the activities of such groups as FID, IFLA, and UNESCO will be reviewed.

Although the Nominating Committee will not meet at Midwinter, members of the committee will accept suggestions for nominees for Vice-chair/Chair-elect and Member-at-Large. Contact any of the committee members *immediately* if you have names to suggest: Steve Salmon, Executive Director, University of California Libraries, University Hall, Berkeley, CA 94720; James Kennedy, AMIGOS, 11300 N. Central Expy., Suite 321, Dallas, TX 75243; Mary Fischer Ghikas, Chicago Public Library, Technical Processes, 425 N. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611.

Carolyn M. Gray, Catalog Librarian at Western Illinois University, will chair the Program Planning Committee meetings. Two programs are in the works for ALA in San Francisco: "The Future of the Book" and an as-yet-untitled presentation on the interrelationship of library science, computer science, and information science. The latter program is being coordinated by Ward Shaw of the Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries.

Three sessions will be held by the Committee on Technical Standards for Library Automation. TESLA chair Walter Crawford, Research Libraries Group, reports that the committee will finalize plans for a program to be presented in San Francisco entitled "Technical Standards: The Good, the Bad, and the Missing." The group will also review ongoing work in standards relating to library automation.

ISAS Discussion Groups

ISAS discussion groups are intended to be informal, open forums for the exchange of ideas, experiences, and questions. Participation of all those present at the meetings is encouraged.

Diane Mayo, Anaheim Public Library, has organized a meeting of the COM Catalog Discussion Group. Jay Clark of the Houston Public Library has been invited to share his experience with extending the use of COM catalogs into other agencies.

The On-Line Catalog Discussion Group, coordinated by Susan Kallenback, University of Pennsylvania, will focus on planning for on-line catalogs. Among those who will offer thoughts on this topic are Trarie Kottkamp of the Evanston Public Library, which is soon to install a CLSI public access catalog. Jean Hamrick will explain the in-house automated library system at the University of Texas General Libraries. Karin Trainer of New York University will discuss the development of an on-line catalog for a small consortium of libraries.

Anne Adler, Fondren Library, Rice University, will chair the meeting of the Retrospective Conversion Discussion Group. The agenda will feature John Kountz, director of library automation, California State Universities and Colleges, Chancellor's Office. Lelia Payne and Nancy Douglas will also share their insights on retrospective conversion from experiences at Texas A & M University.

The Information and Referral Discussion Group and the Community College Discussion Group will not meet at Midwinter. Watch for these groups in San Francisco.

ISAS News

Please send any news stories or information of interest to ISAS section members to: Carol Parkhurst, Systems Librarian, University of Nevada Library, Reno, NV 89557 or call (702) 784-6566.

Audiovisual Section

Susan P. Besemer
Section Editor

News Flash to New LITA A-V Section Members. The *LITA Newsletter* is designed to welcome your contributions to the profession. Whether attending or presenting at an A-V program of any type, please write up a paragraph about it and send it to the A-V Section Editor, Sue Besemer, Butler Library 318, SUCB, 1300 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo, NY 14222. The fact that LITA A-V Section members are drawn from so many different types of libraries is our strength. An interest in the newer media, and our challenges in their day-to-day applications in libraries is the thread that connects us. Let's make the thread a network of media news from hospital librarians, those of us in school settings from K to PhD, those in the public libraries, and those at libraries in commercial settings. Let's all let each other know what's happening!

Section Updates

Be sure to check out the meeting times and dates for the four LITA A-V Section committees when you plan for the Washington Midwinter Conference January 31-February 5, 1981. In the Midwinter Meeting program they'll be coded LITA A-VS. The four committees of LITA A-VS are: Membership, chaired by Barbara Ortiz; Program Planning,

chaired by Vince Aceto; Nominating, which presently has no chair; and A-V Utilization, chaired by Ned Nordine. The LITA A-V Section's Executive Committee is chaired by Helen Cyr. While you're at Midwinter, see how you can contribute to these committees.

Around and About Media

A Chat with Don Hammer, LITA Program Director. In a recent conversation about what he sees as the goals and roles of the LITA A-V Section and its membership, Hammer expressed a wish for all members to make a concerted effort to bring others from all phases of media librarianship into the organization. Since LITA is the only ALA organization with a section devoted exclusively to A-V concerns, it can provide the support that isolated media librarians sometimes lack. The expertise of the LITA A-V Section is especially needed, said Hammer, in the development of continuing education packets or kits that take up the subjects of LITA institutes and present them audiovisually. To use the new media to teach about our new technology seems a natural to Hammer. A-V librarians who are interested in working on such kits should contact Don Hammer at ALA (phone 312-944-6780).

Bibliographic (or Should We Say "Mediagraphic") Control of A-V Materials. The difficulties of providing access to media collections have been the bugaboo of media librarians, A-V catalogers, educational technology people, and the library or media center user for more than thirty years since modern media have begun to be available in libraries. A conference dealing with AACR2's implications for libraries was presented November 7, 1980, at the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library sponsored by the Western New York Library Resources Council. The techniques and problems of applying AACR2 to audiovisual media were discussed by Sara Clarkson, Head of A-V and Microforms Cataloging, State University of New York at Buffalo. News of other such local conferences would be welcomed in this column.

Is Michener "Paper-Oriented"? Although he's surely well intentioned, James Michener, who likes libraries "so much that I married a librarian," really zapped the electronic media in his ad for International Paper Company, "Power of the Printed Word," in the October issue of several popular magazines. (Reprints available from "Power of the Printed Word," International Paper Co., P.O. Box 900, Elmsford, NY 10523.) To kick the "TV habit" Michener suggests that viewers who have enjoyed a TV dramatization of a book go get the book from the library. He cautions, however, not to waste the time of the reference librarian with "silly" questions. The effect that this ad may have in setting the media expectations of library users is yet to be seen. A two-page advertisement in such widely distributed and trend-setting magazines as *Omni*, *Psychology Today*, and *Newsweek* is sure to be noticed. One wonders if Michener is really trying to "sell" libraries, or books (paper).

Choice to Include Media Reviews. Following a survey of academic librarians, *CHOICE* began including reviews on audiovisual materials in its September 1980 issue. Jay Martin Poole, *CHOICE* editor, stated that the reviews will be identified by a code, but arranged by subject, not by format. Poole commented, "This method looks forward to the time when the format will be of lesser interest than the content."

Print on "Non Print." A recent conversation with Mary R. Sive, editor of the top-notch *Media Monitor: A Timely Guide to Learning Resources*, indicated that she is hard at work on several projects including her media guide series and her media selection handbook, *Selecting Instructional Media: A Guide to Audiovisual and Other Instructional Media Lists*. She is especially interested in the problem of providing more complete bibliographic access to media. She recommends that librarians who are interested in alternate ways of looking at curriculum and subject-matter divisions look into the work of Jack R. Frymier, an educational theorist from Ohio State University, whose work may also have implications for library training.

Lest we forget ALA's publications there are now almost twenty monographs available from ALA, many on media subjects. These publications provide recommended lists for children, young adults, tips on programming for public libraries and school library media centers, and evaluative criteria for materials and services. *Mediamobiles: Views from the Road*, edited by Don Roberts with Deirdre Boyle, is a conversational history of how media vehicles from public libraries have related to their communities in ways that were and still are innovative. If you wonder about the other titles, write to ALA's Order Department and request the current Publications Catalog or for a small fee you may purchase the *ALA Publications Checklist* which is more inclusive.

Video and Cable Communications Section (VCCS)

**Bob Katz
Section Editor**

Teletext

CBS recently announced that it has chosen to use the French Antiope Teletext System over the British Ceefax-Oracle System. CBS, which had been testing the various teletext systems for over a year, pulled out of the EIA (Electronic Industries Association) Subcommittee studying teletext, claiming that the committee was behind schedule. That committee had favored the British system. Now the FCC has to make a decision on the CBS proposal.

New Stations

The FCC is investigating the creation of possibly thousands of low power VHF and UHF television stations. The new stations would cover an area of five to fifteen miles, depending on their proximity to existing stations. Low-power stations would be able to originate programming, but may also rely on video disks, cassettes, and satellites for programming. Minorities and nonprofit institutions would be encouraged to apply.

Home VTR Survey

The number of homes using the Beta format recorders dropped from 42 percent in early 1979 to 32 percent in the same period this year. Homes with VHS format increased from 57 percent to 67 percent of the market. The survey was conducted by Media Statistics, Inc., of Silver Spring, Mary-

land. RCA was the most popular brand, followed by Sony, Panasonic, and Magnavox.

Video Guidelines Now Available

According to Marilyn Rehnberg, chairperson of the VCCS section of LITA, the new edition of the *Video Guidelines* is now available from the LITA office at \$6.75 a copy.

NVC at New Location

The National Video Clearinghouse, publisher of *The Video Source Book*, has celebrated its first anniversary by moving to a new home in Syosset, New York. This building has been specifically designed to be shared by NVC and its sister company, The Broadcast Information Bureau.

The Video Source Book provides information on more than 15,000 programs available on video. In addition, NVC's computer data base has grown to contain more than 30,000 listings — making it the world's largest collection of information about video programs. Those wishing further information about NVC publications and services can call Richard Lorber at (516) 364-3686, or write: The National Video Clearinghouse, 100 Lafayette Dr., Syosset, NY 11791.

Send material for this column to Bob Katz, Albany Public Library, 161 Washington Ave., Albany, NY 12210.

Symposium on Sci-Tech Info

The Information Division of Oak Ridge National Laboratory (Oak Ridge, TN) sponsored a two-day symposium titled "Perspectives on Scientific and Technical Information," September 9-10, 1980. In his keynote address, Andrew Aines, director of sci-tech information for the Department of Energy, commented on key information trends and prospects for the future. One issue concerns the geopolitics of information as a commodity. Major countries in Europe and Japan have already taken steps to ensure exchanges of information. Transborder data flow controversies have emerged over the past several years. Aines believes controls will soon be required and that those of us who will need to obtain or use such information should be involved in developing those controls. Citing the rapid proliferation and use of data bases, Aines predicts that the trend toward home computers could lead to the "golden age of data bases."

Henry Kissman, associate director of specialized information services at the National Library of Medicine, presented problems and possible solutions regarding chemical and biomedical information. Among the problems noted were dispersion of data, user knowledge required prior to querying data bases, quality assurance for computer-only files and the dilemma of the public versus the private sector in providing information services. Solutions suggested by Kissman included using specialists as intermediaries, building subject-specific on-line files from broad scope data bases, and developing "user friendly" access techniques.

Current research on constructing transparent information systems was Martha Williams' topic. Williams, who is director of the Information Retrieval Research Laboratory of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, co-

gently outlined the diverse problems in designing user-transparent aids to data base retrieval. She stated that she does not believe standardization can be achieved in the construction of data bases given the diverse environment of their construction and the technological milieu of hardware, software, and communications. Williams then presented four classes of transparency aids that can be developed as alternatives to standardization: convertors, selectors, evaluators, and routers. Williams' research has involved breaking each of these areas into its components, which are further analyzed to identify transparency clusters. Conceptual models of each aid are then designed, detailing requirements.

Other speakers included Eugene Wong, professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences at the University of California, Berkeley, who presented current developments in data base management; Joseph Becker, president of Becker and Hayes, Inc., of Santa Monica, California, "New Departures in Scientific and Technical Information"; and Carol Alexander, director of the Office of Library Systems and Services for the EPA who spoke on the role of federal libraries in federal information management.

Publications

"Disk-Storage Technology" by Robert M. White describes emerging laser read/write systems as well as the latest developments in magnetic recording devices. Extensive illustrations accompany the article, which appears in the August 1980 issue of *Scientific American* 243, no.2:138-48.

Sharon Edge, University of Louisville (Ky.), has edited a collection of papers titled "Acquisitions/Circulation Interface" for *Library Acquisitions: Practice and Theory* 4, no.1, 1980. Articles are grouped into three categories: "Design Considerations in Interfacing Automated Systems"; "Utilization of Data Generated by Automated Circulation Systems"; and "Studies of Use and Users." Contributors include Nolan Pope, University of Florida at Gainesville, Ken Dowlin, Pike's Peak Regional Library System, Nancy Eaton, Atlanta Public Library, Allen Kent, University of Pittsburgh GSLIS, and many others. Back issues of the journal are available at \$9.75, or order as a monograph for \$10.75, both from Pergamon Press.

Turnkey Automated Circulation Systems: Comparative Information by Joseph R. Matthews contains eight charts comparing the systems offered by nine of the major vendors: Cincinnati Electronics, CL Systems, DataPhase, GEAC, Kaman Sciences, Plessey, Systems Control, Universal Library Systems, and Gaylord. A list of customers for each vendor, sorted by state, is also included. Order from J. Matthews, 213 Hill St., Grass Valley, CA 95945. Cost is \$17.50 or \$15 prepaid. Multiple-copy discounts are available.

SciTech Book News is a monthly listing of new books in the fields of science and technology and is intended as a tool for acquisitions librarians and book selectors in colleges and research libraries. Prepublication prices are listed, and most entries carry brief reviews. Subscriptions are \$12 per year for twelve issues. Orders should be addressed to Salli Ford, Editor, 4725 NE Cleveland Ave., Portland, OR 97211.

News from the Field

ALA Alerts Librarians

The executive director of the American Library Association, Robert Wedgeworth, announced today that a "cumulation of the National Union Catalog 1956-1977 imprints" promoted by direct mail and in advertisements in the library press by Knowledge Resources, Inc., of Costa Mesa, California, has not been authorized by ALA's National Union Catalog Committee. ALA, which holds the copyright to entries contributed by key research libraries to the authorized National Union Catalog, has granted no license to Knowledge Resources, Wedgeworth said. He urged librarians to investigate fully any publisher soliciting prepayment, especially when substantial sums are sought for new works not available for examination.

Wedgeworth said that the publisher of Knowledge Resources is Michael Gille. A complaint charging deceptive business practices was filed against Gille by the attorney general of California, Evelle J. Younger, in 1978. Gille was enjoined on March 26, 1976, by Judge Prentice H. Marshall of the Federal District Court of Northern Illinois, from offering a purported "general index" to the *New Encyclopaedia Britannica*.

Wedgeworth observed that there is an approved National Union Catalog for pre-1956 imprints published by Mansell (London) under arrangement with the American Library Association. Further, the Rowman and Littlefield publishing company is authorized by ALA to publish printed five-year supplements. Also, under license, Advanced Library Systems, Inc., of Andover, Massachusetts, issues the NUC on microfiche 1953-80. Neither the printed volumes nor the microfiche version Knowledge Resources advertised is published with the knowledge or permission of ALA, Wedgeworth emphasized.

A Knowledge Resources advertisement in *Library Journal* (July 1980, p.1442) solicits prepaid subscriptions that could total as much as \$22,500 for volumes projected for future delivery. Similar ads appeared in the July 1980 issues of *College and Research Libraries* (p.294) and *Choice* (p.657). The advertising staffs had accepted the ads before ALA legal counsel had verified the identity of the publisher, Michael Gille.

Gille, and companies he has been associated with under various names, have been the subject of many complaints received by ALA from librarians. Among complaints received over the years have been failure to deliver books, failure to refund cash prepayments, and failure to pay contributors promised honoraria.

Knowledge Resources, Inc., appears on a list of some 45 imprints identified as those under which Michael Gille or his father, Frank Gille, has operated. The list, prepared by the Bookdealer-Library Relations Committee of the ALA, is available on request from the Executive Secretary, Resources and Technical Services Division, ALA, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

SOLINET Recruiting

SOLINET, the regional library network that serves the Southeast, is on the move. During the next twelve months, SOLINET will expand its technical staff by nine new positions. Responsibilities covered by these positions will in-

clude applications development and systems support. Qualified individuals interested in working in a Burroughs large-system environment dedicated to library automation with an emphasis on on-line support, should submit a résumé detailing education, experience, salary history, and availability to: System Development Manager, Southeastern Library Network, Inc., Plaza Level, 400 Colony Square, 1201 Peachtree St., NE, Atlanta, GA 30361.

GEAC Expands

GEAC, Ltd., of Canada recently signed a contract to install its on-line circulation system at New York University to replace the CLSI system presently in place. Other new purchasers of the GEAC system include USC at Los Angeles, four universities in England, and the University of Western Ontario in Canada.

CLR Receives Mellon Grant

The Council on Library Resources, Inc. (CLR), has received a grant of \$650,000 from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to meet some of the costs of extending CLR's program of professional education and training. The CLR Board of Directors authorized the expanded effort at its May 1980 meeting.

Using a variety of methods, the council will focus attention on recruiting highly qualified individuals into the field of academic librarianship, will encourage development of specialized professional education programs, and will seek to provide additional opportunities for those who show clear promise for leadership to gain pertinent experience. A part of the program will focus on research. The council will work to identify the most pressing questions in librarianship, about which more information is needed. Subsequently, CLR will try to increase the involvement of librarians and others in the research effort required to answer those questions.

The new program is at an early stage of development and many of the components have yet to be fully defined. The intent is to take a broad look at all aspects of professional education and supplementary training that relate to collegiate and research librarianship. To assist in formulating means and reviewing progress, an advisory committee will be formed. John McDonald, director of libraries at the University of Connecticut, has agreed to chair this group. Efforts are now under way to secure the balance of the required funds, estimated to total \$1,750,000 for all activities projected for an initial three-year period.

Micro Workshop in Missouri

Mid America Inter-Library Services (MAILS) at Park College in suburban Kansas City, Missouri, held its fall workshop on Friday, October 10. The workshop, "Librarians' Use of Small Computers, Chapter II," was a continuation of the spring workshop.

Twenty-one librarians from Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska participated in the workshop, which was conducted by Frederick J. Raithel, coordinator of the Mid-Missouri Library Network, Columbia. Hardware was discussed, and the development of computers reviewed. A small-computer demonstration dealt with computer-assisted staff development, computer graphics, and an exploration of artificial intelligence. Computer languages such as COBAL, FORTRAN, ALGOL, SNOBOL, and BASIC were explained

with emphasis on BASIC. Simple computer programs in BASIC were then devised by participants. The program was concluded with consideration of selection of the best computer system for the individual libraries. Equipment for the workshop was provided by Raithel and by the Radio Shack Computer Center in Kansas City.

ALA Forms Membership Initiative Group

The American Library Association has established the Library and Information Literature Membership Initiative Group (MIG), organized at the ALA 1980 Annual Conference in June, to develop new forums for discussion and action on a variety of issues relating to the library literature and information needs in the field.

Interest in this topic has been sparked by increasing publication about the literature of librarianship and information services, and concern for the quality, coverage, indexing, collection, and use of the literature. MIG organizers have identified a number of potential discussion topics, including: abstracting and indexing scope, research needs, current awareness, improving writing and editing skills, and locating and using research collections. They hope to draw a broad spectrum of participants, representing the range of creators and users of the library literature — writers, editors, and publishers; library science librarians; library educators; researchers; and, most important, those who read and use the field's literature.

The membership initiative group, a newly created structure within ALA, provides a short-term means for prompt membership activity on special topics. These groups can form, for a period of two years, to discuss and develop programs in their special subjects, and then either disband or find a permanent place in ALA. The Library and Information MIG is the first such group to be created.

The MIG will hold a planning session at the 1981 ALA Midwinter Meeting in Washington, 2-4 p.m., Monday,

February 2, and will be preparing activities for the Annual Conference as well. Those interested in participating in the group or seeking further information should contact its coordinator, Tim LaBorie, Drexel University Library, Philadelphia, PA 19104.

People on the Move

Joe Matthews and Associates have moved their offices to 213 Hill St., Grass Valley, CA 95945; telephone (916) 272-8743.

Arlene Farber Sirkin is now coordinator of A-V production for the U.S. Army at the Pentagon. Her address is the Pentagon, 5A470, Washington, DC 20310; telephone (202) 697-3350.

SOLINET has appointed Mary Madden to the position of associate executive director, director of network development. Contact her at SOLINET, 400 Colony Square, Plaza level, 1201 Peachtree St. NE, Atlanta, GA 30361.

Lynne Bradley is currently the coordinator of the Library Video Network, which is a consortium of seven libraries including the Baltimore County Public Library. Her new address is 1811 Woodlawn Dr., Baltimore, MD 21207; telephone (301) 265-6983.

Wanted: PR Samples

Joe Matthews has put out a call for information on public awareness or publicity campaigns developed to introduce any kind of on-line system to library users. Send samples of fliers, bookmarks, brochures, posters, ads, planning documents, or whatever, to Matthews at 213 Hill St., Grass Valley, CA 95945. The best of the samples will be included in a book of readings on library automation to be published by ALA in late 1981.

Send items for this column to the editor.

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