

LITA NEWSLETTER

Library and Information Technology Association

Carol A. Parkhurst, Editor

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New LITA Structure Proposed

The Library and Information Technology Association (LITA) Goals and Long-Range Planning Committee has submitted its final report for action by the LITA Board of Directors at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in San Antonio. An extensive revision of the structure of LITA is proposed; changes would include the abolishment of all sections and the establishment of only LITA-wide committees and "interest groups." Following is a list of the committee's recommendations:

1. To direct LITA to focus on access to information through technology:
 - *Information* is viewed as content
 - *Access* is viewed as linking the person with an information need to content which fulfills that need
 - *Technology* is viewed as a tool for providing access to information
 - *LITA* is viewed as a source of leadership linking librarians and technology for access to information
2. LITA should change its organizational structure in the following ways:
 - All sections would be abolished.
 - Any committee would be a LITA-wide committee. Committees would include: LITA administrative committees, e.g., Membership, Nominating, Program Planning, Publications, etc.; Functional committees, e.g., Technical Standards for Library Automation, MARBI, Systems Integration; and potentially, Topical committees.
 - Functional and Topical committees would retain their right to plan programs and prepare publications with appropriate approvals of LITA administrative committees.
 - The LITA Program Planning Committee would not plan programs but would coordinate and review program plans submitted by Interest Groups or Functional Committees to ensure that sufficient planning has occurred and that a realistic budget has been prepared.
 - Interest groups reflecting a specific interest, e.g., A-V utilization, COM catalogs, I & R, Online catalogs, Cable franchising, Retrospective conversion, MARC users, Telecommunications, Microcomputers, etc. would be created from existing discussion groups and some committees.
 - Interest groups can plan and put on programs or prepare a publication with appropriate approval of LITA administrative committees. The interest group may wish to create an ad hoc Task Force to concentrate on specific tasks.
 - The LITA Board may need to be expanded. This expansion may be needed in order to place a member of the LITA Board on each LITA committee. Such an approach will facilitate coordination of LITA activities and improve communications among and between LITA members.
 - An annual specific charge and objective will be published for

each committee and interest group. It will be the LITA Board's responsibility to review progress towards the attainment of goals.

- A comprehensive continuing education program should be developed to coordinate publications, institutes and to identify other ways to provide membership services.

Figure 1 provides an organizational chart of the proposed new LITA structure.

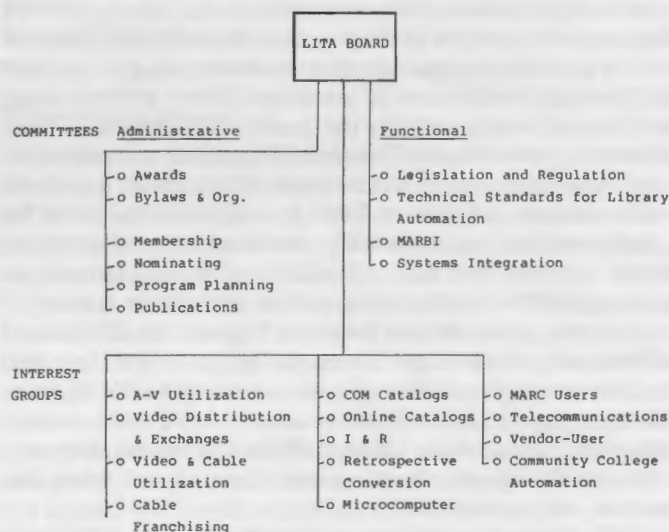


Figure 1. Proposed New LITA Structure

What Do You Think??!

Your reactions and comments on the recommendations are welcome. Contact any member of the Goals and Long-Range Planning Committee: George L. Abbott, Brett Butler, Susan H. Crooks, Kenneth E. Dowlin, Bonnie K. Juergens, Marilyn J. Rehnberg, Annette C. Salo, Sherrie Schmidt, Ward Shaw, Ruth Tighe, Joseph Matthews, acting chair, or notify LITA President Carolyn M. Gray, Brandeis University, Goldfarb Library, 415 South St., Waltham, MA 02254; (617) 647-2501 or 647-2522.

Wanted

Humorous pieces or cartoons for the *LITA Newsletter*. Send contributions to the editor.

Standard Fare

Pierre Badin LaTes
Column Editor

"HELLO, TESLA"—A Brief Chronicle

In an era that seemingly occurred approximately an aeon ago, a small number of brave souls took off their blinders and saw some light. Not only was the earth not flat, but neither were the two-dimensional constraints of (ugh!) three-by-five-inch cards very realistic. Further, these visionaries recognized that attempts at progress were being blind-sided by incompatibility in and a general lack of cooperation among the pioneers of emerging library automation projects. This small group of ISAD (the Information Science and Automation Division was the predecessor to LITA) members foresaw the tendency for some to quickly (and perhaps irresponsibly) cast aside traditional patterns and intrinsic barriers as though they were nonexistent. In effect, these heterodox professionals sensed that as advances in technology were coming into sight, some of the problems would be in dealing with the new and some with the old, i.e., the application of a new technology often creates and isolates certain particulars of earlier processes so that existing systems lose their commonality and thus their availability.

And so it was proposed that ISAD establish a "committee on non-cataloging data in machine-readable form," one that would focus on other than the cataloging data. In reality, the proposal was for a standards committee that would provide guidance and facilitate the development of automated library systems along uniform and orderly paths for the benefit of all concerned. Thus when the present twenty-five-year-olds of this universe were but a mere (and sweet?) sixteen years of age, ISAD bade farewell to *ad hoc* and hello to TESLA—*Technical Standards for Library Automation* (incidentally, this is an interesting play on words since Nicola Tesla is the electrical theoretician and genius responsible for alternating current as we know it today).

Under the stewardship of Frederick Kilgour, the ISAD Board of Directors ordained John Kountz as TESLA's first chair, and the first meeting was held during the course of ALA's Midwinter Meeting 1974. Successive chairs have been Arlene Schwartz, Illinois State Library; Walter Crawford, Research Libraries Group; and Paul Lagueux, Council on Library Resources, the current chair.

TESLA has three meetings scheduled for the Midwinter

Meeting in San Antonio. Work to be reviewed includes the preliminary report of ANSI Z39, Subcommittee U, on a standard format for computerized book ordering. TESLA subcommittee efforts to be studied are: checklists on personal computers, including software and hardware aspects; an analysis of the need and market for an inexpensive ASCII keyboard/display terminal with the full ALA character set; CRT/video display unit health-related problems and guidelines; MARC compatibility criteria for turnkey systems in such applications as journal check-in, cataloging, acquisitions, and circulation; and planning for future TESLA programs in Los Angeles and Baltimore.

Good work is not obsolete, but it is dependent upon good people. If you are so inclined, please join TESLA during its deliberations. We are particularly eager to learn and broaden our perspectives, especially in the areas of audiovisual, cable, and communications technologies. After all, there are times when one must stand firm on fundamental issues, and there are times for compromise. But connections and awareness are the keys—how else can one determine what the fundamental issues are?

MARBI Update

The RTSD/LITA/RASD Committee on the Representation in Machine-Readable Form of Bibliographic Information (MARBI) met with representatives of the national libraries, bibliographic networks, and interested observers on October 27-29, 1982, at the Library of Congress. The major items on the agenda were review of two new formats—for archives and manuscripts and for location and holdings. The archives format (a revision of the present format for manuscripts) is intended to support both library and archival descriptive practices. It was decided that this format should focus on archival collections. Booklike manuscripts and typescripts are most easily coded in the books format, which will be examined to see that it contains all the data elements needed for such material.

The *MARC Format for Holdings and Locations* was drafted on assumptions described in the *Library of Congress Information Bulletin*, 13 August 1982, p.241-42. It proposes that holdings information be coded in separate records linked to the bibliographic record. Discussion centered on the nature of that linkage and the degree to which this format should be integrated into the bibliographic formats.

In other action, the group: (1) approved the definition of parallel fields for vernacular and romanized versions of MARC fields, to support full vernacular search and display while permitting romanized data to be displayed on roman-alphabet terminals; (2) approved a field for the National Library of Medicine control number; (3) discussed additional data elements in the films format for nonprojected two-dimensional graphics.

The MARBI agenda at Midwinter will include final review of the format for archives, further discussion of the formats for holdings and for two-dimensional materials, proposals relating to machine-readable data files, publishers' numbers for music (028), and identification of the descriptive conventions followed in a bibliographic record. Further information may be obtained from: Library of Congress, Processing Services, Automation Planning and Liaison Office, Washington, DC 20540, ATTN: MARC Communications Format Specialist.—*John Attig*.

The *LITA Newsletter* is published quarterly by the Library and Information Technology Association, a division of the American Library Association. Editor is Carol A. Parkhurst; News and Communications Editor, Patricia Barkalow; Audio-Visual Section Editor, Janice Woo; Information Science and Automation Section Editor, Jean Swanson; Video and Cable Communications Section Editor, Robert A. Katz.

The *Newsletter* is sent free of charge to all division members. Copies are available only through annual LITA memberships; there is no single-copy price. Back issues and division membership blanks are available from LITA Executive Director Donald P. Hammer, ALA, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

Editorial contributions, articles, news releases, and letters should be sent to: Carol A. Parkhurst, University Library, University of Nevada, Reno, NV 89557; (702) 784-6566.

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Publication Briefs

- Datapro Research Corporation is among the nation's largest publishers of independent reports, ratings, analyses, and management information about computers, communications and office systems, peripherals, and software products and services.

Datapro has released several depositories and reports in 1982 that may be of interest to libraries: *Directory of Over 1000 Suppliers*, \$29; *All about Electronic Mail*, \$15; *User Ratings of Word Processing Systems*, \$25; *Management of Small Computer Systems*, \$310 (prepublication price); and *Datapro Directory of On-line Services*, \$390.

All are available from Datapro Research Corporation, 1805 Underwood Blvd., Delran, NJ 08075; or call toll free (800) 257-9406 (in New Jersey, 609-764-0100).

- "A monthly newsletter written specifically for today's information professional—this is *CTI—Communication Technology Impact*." *CTI* draws together the implications of advanced technology for information provision, dissemination, storage, retrieval, and use, and places these developments in the context of library and publishing economics over the next twenty years. Elsevier Journal Information Center, 52 Vanderbilt Ave., New York, NY 10017.

- The third edition of *Online Terminal/Microcomputer Guide and Directory* covers a wide range of both small and large microcomputers suitable for library/information center use. Not just a directory, this edition contains detailed guidance on how to choose terminals, printers, and microcomputers. Available from Online, Inc., Dept. T/M G, 11 Tannery Ln., Weston, CT 06883 for \$40.

- The *Chinese MARC Format for Books* has been designed to meet international requirements and to facilitate data processing of Chinese-language materials for regional and international exchange and sharing. Considerations have been given to various standards, such as ISO-2709 for record structure, ISO-3166 codes for the representation of names of countries, etc. Available for \$14 (paper) or \$17 (hardbound) from the National Central Library, Taipei, Taiwan, Republic of China.

- The Internal Revenue Service is offering libraries free audiocassettes, films, and videocassettes of *step-by-step instructions on how to prepare tax forms* 1040EZ, 1040A, 1040, and Schedules A and B. All materials feature a series of money-saving tax tips. The AV packages come in sets of two: one on the preparation of the 1040EZ and 1040A; the other on the 1040 and Schedules A and B. To obtain any of these tax-preparation aids, contact your local IRS district public affairs officer.

International Database Conference

The "1983 International Conference on Data Bases in the Humanities and Social Sciences" will be held at Rutgers University, June 10-12, 1983. Scholars are invited to send abstracts (in duplicate) of papers they would like to deliver at the conference, to Professor Robert F. Allen, Room 427, Alexander Library, Rutgers—the State University, New Brunswick, NJ 08903.

Information Science and Automation Section

Jean Swanson
Section Editor

San Antonio Programs

The Midwinter Meeting of the LITA ISAS/RTSD **Retropective Conversion Discussion Group** will feature Donald Green and Dean Corwin of Rice University on "How to Handle Retrospective Conversion of Music Materials (Scores and Sound Recordings)." Following, William Garrison and Elisabeth Janakiev of Northwestern University will lead a discussion on "The Retrospective Conversion of Authority Files."

The **COM Catalog Discussion Group** will present a program on "Staff and Public Relations and the COM Catalog." Speakers Judy Covell, San Antonio Public Library, and Carlen Ruschhoff, Minneapolis Public Library, will be aided by a brief report from Elizabeth Salzer of Stanford University.

The **Library and Information Technology Discussion Group** session will be structured a little differently this time. Diane Mayo, DG chair, reports that several speakers will be asked to do substantive (twenty-minute) presentations on such topics as: training for the use of microcomputers in small libraries, interfaces between separate circulation systems, cooperation among multitype libraries on a single system, and advances in telecommunication networks.

Philadelphia Reports

The **Online Catalog Discussion Group** meeting continued the theme of the RTSD/RASD/LITA preconference, "Prospects for the Online Catalog," with exciting reports of developments in the area. While many libraries are just beginning to consider online catalogs, Dale Garrison from Mankato State University shared the features of the successful system at Mankato State. The system is very user friendly, provides an offline print service, and has been accepted well by faculty and students. Recently the card catalog was actually removed from the library in a public ceremony. William Gray Potter presented a progress report on the online catalog project at the University of Illinois-Urbana, where they are connecting the Library Control System (LCS) with a database of full bibliographic records accessed through the Washington Library Network (WLN) software. The connection will allow most users to gain access to both systems via the same terminal. Since the LCS is operating in a statewide network, expansion of the project to include other members in Illinois presents a challenging opportunity.

The Universities of Wisconsin and Chicago are working with IBM in a joint venture to develop an online catalog that operates in a distributed processing mode on IBM Series I minicomputers. The first benchmark tests have been completed, reports Donna Senzig of the University of Wisconsin.

Future Online Catalog Discussion Group sessions will address: standardization of search syntax, developing cost estimates for operating online catalogs, comparing the effectiveness of menu versus command-mode systems, and assessing the impact on the library as users begin to access the catalog from outside the library. William Gray Potter was elected chair of the discussion group for 1982-83.

Two COM vendor representatives were featured at the **COM Catalog Discussion Group** meeting. Peter Adler from Auto-

Graphics and Richard Stine, Information Design, answered technical questions and offered some projections for the future of COM. For many libraries, the COM catalog will continue to be the first choice as a replacement for the card catalog. The investment in equipment is minimal, the technology is stable, and the cost is generally reasonable. In the future, there is a strong possibility that librarians will begin to see practical applications of computer-assisted retrieval of microforms, with the introduction of microcomputer technology to the COM industry.

ISAS Briefs

- The ISAS Executive Committee voted to dissolve the **Community College Discussion Group** due to a lack of interest and the feeling that this topic can be covered by another division.

- James C. Thompson, ISAS chair, reports progress in developing guidelines for selecting an automated system. Plans are under way to have the guidelines drafted by Joseph Matthews and edited by the **ISAS Bibliography Committee**, chaired by Anne G. Adler. It is hoped that the guidelines will be ready for the Baltimore conference.

- The new chair of the **Information and Referral Discussion Group** is Diane de Noyelles, Los Angeles County Public Library, 3202 W. Temple St., Los Angeles, CA 90012; (213) 974-6504.

Send items for this column to Jean Swanson, head of Acquisitions, Houston Academy of Medicine-Texas Medical Center Library, Jesse Jones Library Bldg., Houston, TX 77030; (713) 797-1230.

LITA's First National Conference

Save the dates of September 17-21, 1983, for the first Library and Information Technology Association (LITA) National Conference, to be held at the New Baltimore Convention Center in the heart of downtown Baltimore, Md.

The conference, titled "Information and Technology: At the Crossroads," will focus on library technology and its ramifications. A wide range of topics and activities will familiarize librarians, information specialists, and media people with present and future technology.

Three preconference workshops will be given on Saturday, September 17, covering "Computer Literacy: An Introduction to Information Technology," "Cable Communications: Information Technology for the 80's," and "Telecommunications: Technology, Systems, and Applications for Libraries."

Topics to be presented at the main conference include:

- integrated library systems
- user reactions to online catalogs
- automated authority-control systems
- economics of serials management
- impact of automation on library organization
- information resources and management
- impact of technology on managing A-V services
- new consumer electronics and their effect on libraries
- electronic transmission of government information
- state of the art: cable TV, online catalogs, office automation, telecommunications

Exhibits and demonstrations will be an important part of the conference, with vendors showing the latest in automated library systems, computer hardware and software, online services, videodisk, videotex, telecommunications, cable TV, and audiovisual information services. For information on exhibiting contact George Abbott, Syracuse University, Bird Library, B101, Syracuse, NY 13210; (315) 423-2438.

A registration brochure will be mailed in early 1983. Watch for special early-registration rates and reasonable air-fare packages.

Audio-Visual Section

Janice Woo
Section Editor

Midwinter Meetings

Barbara Ortiz-Feldman, Audio-Visual Section (AVS) chair, reports that items for discussion at the Midwinter Meeting include planning for the LITA Baltimore conference and determining the organizational role of AVS. Any LITA member who would like to submit recommendations on the role of the A-V Section should write to Ms. Feldman prior to the Midwinter Meeting at 7 Bahama Rd., Morris Plains, NJ 07950.

A-V Briefs

- Programs from the 1982 conference of the **Association for Recorded Sound Collections** are available on audiotape. Among those available are two tapes on audiovisual restoration (AC-827 and AC-828) and a tape on the Associated Audio Archives project (AC-824). Contact James Neher, 200 N. Main St., Hatfield, PA 19440.

- The third annual **National Videodisc Symposium** focused on the latest developments in videodisk technology and applications for interactive videodisks: a computer-controlled videodisk learning system, plans for a modular videodisk that will accommodate various interfaces, and an RCA interactive capacitant disc. Attorney Richard Marks delivered an address on the legal ramifications of videodisk technology. For audiotapes of the symposium sessions, contact the Nebraska Videodisc Group, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, P.O. Box 83111, Lincoln, NE 68501.

- Public hearings for the **Public Telecommunications Project** of the California Public Broadcasting Commission were held in Los Angeles on September 24, 1982. Among those providing testimony was Pat Barkalow, former *Newsletter* editor, who spoke on telecommunications and the Pasadena-Glendale Public Library. Diane de Noyelles of the Los Angeles County Public Library described the library's cable-TV policy; Michael Garofalo, coordinator for AV services at LACPL, re-

ported on video, cable, and audiovisual use in California libraries. Public access to the new technologies was a key issue.

- **Electronic Arts Intermix** is distributing a sixty-minute videocassette designed to bring video art to the home audience. EAI produces programs by such artists as Nam June Paik, Dan Reeves, John Sanborn, Bill Viola, and Skip Blumberg. For more information contact Electronic Arts Intermix, 84 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10011.

Send items for this column to Janice Woo, Pacifica Radio Archive, 5316 Venice Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90019.

On the Light'A Side

- You know it's going to be a bad day when you call Suicide Prevention and someone puts you on hold.
- Perhaps someday—deserving projects and PI's will be given a Golden Flea Award and membership in the Hall of Shame.
- A nagging question—Is Mt. St. Helens in the wrong Washington?
- Overheard while eavesdropping—"The reason that computers aren't more popular is that no one has banned them and there is no Round Table on their behalf."
- Q—What is the difference between true love and herpes?
A—Like old soldiers, true love will eventually fade away, but herpes never dies.

—P. Luap.

From the Geaction Glossary of Terms

ABSOLUTE LOGICAL TRACK ADDRESS—Where you think it is.

ABSOLUTE PHYSICAL TRACK ADDRESS—Where it *really* is.

BOOT THE SYSTEM—Field Engineer's last resort in a service crisis.

CHECKSUM—Used as in, "Damned if I know what's wrong. Let's take off that panel and checksum."

CURSOR—A programmer with a frustrating glitch.

DISK DRIVE—Loading the kids in the car to go to the park for a couple of hours of Frisbee.

DISK PACK—Molson's new circular box of eighteen beers.

EXECUTE—Re-education process applied to anyone who connects 220VAC directly to B +.

I/O—Short form of E.I.E.I./O.

LOGICAL DISK STORAGE SYSTEM—Well, it wouldn't make much sense to store your disks in the fridge, now would it?

MEMORY BUSY—Sorry, can't remember what this term means.

OVERBOOT—To kick it a little too hard (see **BOOT THE SYSTEM**).

PARROT ERROR—To choose the wrong pet to keep beside your terminal.

REMOTE JOB ENTRY—To work at home. !!

SYST—Time to see your doctor.

—Jack Sennet.

News from the Field

Pat Barkalow
Section Editor

Optical Disk Technology at LC

A revolutionary new system for storing, managing, and reproducing graphic images was dedicated at the Library of Congress on August 5. Officials of the Library and Xerox Electro-Optical Systems gathered to mark the completion of five years of research, development, and testing that led to the creation of the Cataloging Distribution Service DEMAND system: the first computerized system to store images on optical disks and reproduce them in facsimile quality using high-resolution laser printing.

The DEMAND system was developed in response to the library's need to access and reproduce more than 5.5 million master-card images in hundreds of different languages. For many years, catalog cards were stored in a massive warehouse and reproduced using traditional printing methods. The DEMAND system will enable the library to fill orders for cards in a fraction of the time.

The library has issued a request for proposal to optical-disk companies so work can also begin in using this technology for preservation and storage of materials in its collections. As many as 95,000 pages, or approximately 315 books, can be stored on two sides of an optical disk. Proposals are also pending for the application of lower resolution videodisk technology to the library's millions of motion pictures, recordings, photographs, and other graphic materials.

Cooperation in Canada

Twenty small libraries unable to afford individual in-house machine catalog support systems, or individual use of distant catalog support agencies, have banded together to use UTLAS, the University of Toronto Library Automation Systems. Known as Special Libraries Cataloging, the service provides one-week turnaround for derived and original cataloging, based on annotated, photocopied title pages. Some in the group elect to receive cards for existing card catalogs; others have switched to COM catalogs. Some also receive labels and/or acquisitions lists. For further information, contact Special Libraries Cataloging, 2012 Dollarton Highway, North Vancouver, BC, Canada V7H 1A4; (604) 929-3966. American libraries are welcome to participate.

Compact Decoder Enables Terminals to Read Bar Code

Welch Allyn, Inc., has introduced a streamlined, second-generation bar-code decoder, the HBD II, that interfaces with existing computer-based data collection systems and enables them to read bar code. The unit will connect to any keyboard terminal so that data from both keyboard and bar-code decoder are combined and interfaced to the computer. The terminal and computer function normally as before, with the added capability of reading bar code.

Several bar-code schemes are available. The customer has a choice of a wide range of infrared and visible light scanners. In addition, custom-designed hardware and software can be provided to satisfy any special OEM requirements.

The Welch Allyn HBD II is priced at \$759. For detailed spec-

ifications and a product bulletin, contact: C. N. Benoit, Marketing Manager, Welch Allyn, Inc., Industrial Products Division, Skaneateles Falls, NY 13153.

(Editor's Note: this device should work on OCLC or RLIN terminals, offering a less expensive alternative than currently exists.)

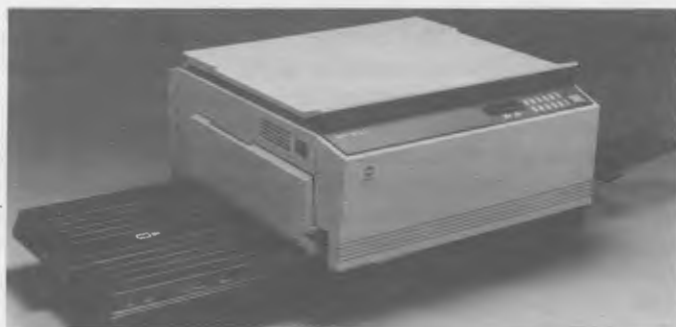
SatServ Forms Campus Network

The Board of Directors of Services by Satellite, Inc., (SatServ) has announced the formation of the Campus Conference Network™, a system of interconnected satellite earth stations and associated facilities to be located at participating colleges and universities.

The network will be used for teleconferencing and other satellite-assisted events coordinated by SatServ and its parent company, the Public Service Satellite Consortium (PSSC). In each selected city, the opportunity will be offered for a single institution of higher education to become a "primary affiliate" of the network. Becoming the primary affiliate will entail acquisition of satellite reception facilities, either from SatServ or directly from a participating manufacturer.

SatServ and PSSC will have "first call" rights to use the campus equipment and will bring business to the affiliated schools, but at all other times the institutions may use the facilities for other satellite reception. It is projected that each earth station will have a steerable antenna and will be able to access all domestic C-band satellites; Ku-band reception may be added as well.

The network is expected to become operational early in 1983. For more information, contact SatServ Communications Manager Michelle Wesley at 1660 L St., NW, Suite 906, Washington, DC 20036; (202) 331-1960.



Minolta Corporation Business Equipment Division expands its plain paper copier line incorporating focused fiber optics with the EP 300. A desk-top model, the EP 300 also features Minolta's exclusive micro-toning system for consistently high quality copies. Operating at twelve copies per minute, it can copy from sheet, book, or three-dimensional originals. Contact Edmund P. Murray, Bozell & Jacobs Public Relations, (212) 705-6185.

Software Loan Service

American Software Publishing Company has developed a new concept in community service for the library—the Software Loan Service. Its purpose is to provide a central location where people with personal computers can borrow software for use on their computers, much as they now borrow books, records, and movies.

To support this service, American Software introduces a product called the *Freeloader 500 Software Library*—a collection of more than 2,500 programs, on diskettes, for use on the Apple computer. Since all the software in the *Freeloader 500* is in the public domain, borrowers can take the software home,

copy onto their own diskettes, and return it to the library without any legal liability.

The programs are arranged in loose-leaf binders in seven subject categories: business and finance, utilities, graphics and sound, education, home, games, and adventures. The complete collection sells for \$500; individual subject modules may be purchased for \$75. Contact American Software Publishing Company, 1010 Sixteenth St., NW, Washington, DC 20036; (202) 887-5834.

1983 ASIS Annual Meeting

"Productivity in the Information Age" is the theme for the forty-sixth annual meeting of the American Society for Information Science (ASIS), to be held at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Arlington, Va., on October 2–6, 1983.

Participants will review research on productivity, and the measurement and enhancement of productivity in settings as varied as information centers, factories, offices, laboratories, and homes. Approaches to productivity enhancement around the world will be analyzed. Possible impacts and applications of technologies—including satellites, computers, and home information systems—will be forecasted. ASIS-83 will conclude with development of an Agenda for Change.

The technical program will feature invited presentations, contributed papers, Special Interest Group (SIG) sessions, and informative briefings. In addition, there will be exhibits, demonstrations, and tours of government and industrial information facilities in the Washington area.

ASIS-83 conference chairman is Edmond J. Sawyer of the U.S. General Accounting Office. For further information, contact ASIS, 1010 Sixteenth St., NW, Washington, DC 20036; (202) 659-3644.

Send items for this column to Pat Barkalow, Pasadena Public Library, 285 E. Walnut St., Pasadena, CA 91101; (213) 577-4043.

Nominations Sought for LITA/Gaylord Award

Nominations are being sought for the Library and Information Technology Association/Gaylord Award for Achievement in Library and Information Technology.

The award recognizes distinguished leadership, notable development or application of technology, superior accomplishments in research or education, or original contributions to the literature of the field.

An individual or a small group of individuals working in collaboration are eligible for the award; organized institutions or parts of organized institutions are not eligible.

The year 1983 will be the first in which the award will have a monetary stipend of \$1,000, which Gaylord Bros., Inc., of Syracuse, N.Y., has provided.

Nominations may be made by any member of the American Library Association and should be submitted by February 1, 1983, to Mary W. Ghikas, LITA Awards Committee Chair, Chicago Public Library, 425 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60611, or to Donald P. Hammer, Executive Director, LITA, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611; telephone (312) 944-6780.

Video and Cable Communications Section

Bob Katz
Section Editor

A Message from VCCS Chair Mary Diebler

VCCS WANTS YOU!!!

Cable comin' to town? Dropped a drop in your library? Now, what to do?

VCCS CAN HELP!!!

Inherited a studio? Some A-V equipment? Need programming resources?

VCCS CAN HELP!!!

The Video and Cable Communications Section is eager to expand its membership family. Whether you're a video-technology expert or just learning, we welcome you to VCCS. We're an active group, looking for active members. For more information, contact Mary Diebler, Public Service Satellite Consortium, 1660 L St., NW, Suite 907, Washington, DC 20036; (202) 331-1154.

PLUG INTO VCCS TODAY!!!

VCCS Discussion Group to Debut at Midwinter

VCCS members have been talking about it for years . . . and now, at Midwinter 1983, a **Cable Franchising Discussion Group** will become a reality. Charles Kritzler from Hennepin County Library, major organizer of the group, hopes that it will turn into a permanent fixture at ALA conferences. The discussion group will be an informal forum for exchanging ideas and keeping up with the rapidly changing telecommunications field. Topics will range from cable franchising, to programming, to data transmission using cable technology.

Grant Explores Cable Technology

The Wayne Oakland Library Federation (WOLF) in Michigan has received a \$51,000 grant from the Kellogg Foundation to explore two uses of cable-television technology, television programming, and data transmission over coaxial cable. Dolores Hayden, grant training coordinator, says that more than 200 people have participated in both basic and advanced television-production workshops. The workshops stress "hands on" experience. Hayden noted that these are among the most popular training programs WOLF has sponsored.

The second part of the grant demonstrates the feasibility of data transmission over coaxial cable. Three public libraries will be linked at their franchise border lines, eliminating the need for dedicated phone lines. Douglas Whitaker, deputy director of WOLF, reports that the actual transmission of data between the libraries has been successfully tested; however, delay in delivery of certain vendor-supplied equipment has not permitted the system to be implemented. Circulation, interloan, and database search information will be transmitted with the system. Whitaker is also investigating the use of omni-directional microwave as a communication link for libraries.

MGM-UA to License Libraries

MGM-UA Entertainment has announced a new licensing policy that will permit libraries to do "in-house public performance programming" with videocassettes, as well as circulate the cassettes to home patrons. Presently, most library videotape purchases of feature films are limited to use by the home patron. The license agreement will allow libraries to exchange unpopular titles and will make available more recent titles not available to the home market.

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

Library Briefs

- Ohio's state librarian, Richard M. Cheski, reports that fifteen libraries throughout Ohio have been awarded LSCA grants to be used to develop computer-literacy programs using microcomputers. Training in concepts, terminology, and use is expected to have a major impact on residents of small communities in Ohio. For example, the **Preble County District Library** will provide 1,000 county residents with computer training by June 1983. The library will also use the computer as a reference tool by constructing an information and referral file, thus eliminating the long-distance call to the nearest file.

"Libraries have always had a responsibility to public literacy. Today, that responsibility includes computer literacy, as the computer rapidly becomes *the* information management tool in business and entertainment," said Cheski.

- **Northwestern University Library's** online catalog LUIS (Library User Information Service) has become the university's primary access tool for recently acquired library materials. In a self-teaching, user-friendly mode, LUIS affords access to a database of more than 500,000 records representing materials

added to the Northwestern collections since 1970, as well as all serial titles and records for materials held by local participants sharing Northwestern's system.

Access to subject headings is the latest enhancement to LUIS. Another refinement under development is an improved interface with the online circulation system.

- A new automated library system based on minicomputers has been installed in the **Exxon Corporation corporate library**. Produced by Easy Data Systems, Ltd., the system is an enhanced version of an existing Easy Data library system operating in several regional libraries in western Canada. Built around Datapoint minicomputers, the system makes use of Datapoint's Associative Index Method (AIM) facility. It has been expanded to accommodate full MARC data. Easy Data Systems' headquarters are at 1234 Marine Dr., North Vancouver, BC, Canada V7P 1T2.

- The **Smithsonian Institution Libraries**, Washington, D.C., has entered into an agreement with OCLC (Online Computer Library Center) for conversion of its libraries' catalogs to computerized form. OCLC will convert cataloging records from card form to machine-readable form for the thirty-six branch libraries in the institution's museums, parks, and labora-

tories. The project is expected to take nine months.

- **The Providence Public Library**, Providence, Rhode Island, is now using the new C L Systems, Inc., Book Acquisitions Module on a daily basis. The library has been using CLSI's Circulation Control Module since 1974. The two integrated modules have been operating together successfully since the library began the final transition from its offline acquisition system this summer. Staff report that patrons are pleased that they are now able to determine if a book is on order by simply performing an online inquiry, rather than by phoning the library's order department.

- **Lexington Public Library**, Lexington, Ky., is now bringing library services into their patrons' homes using Cincinnati Electronics Corporation's CLASSIC CCS 100 on their cable channel 22. The CLASSIC CCS 100 system allows the library staff to use the CLASSIC database to output information for display on the television sets of Lexington cable users. Transmissions currently include public relations information on library services and special library and community programs. When the Lexington Public Library's database is in place, bibliographic data will be transmitted in response to patrons' requests.

LITA/VCCS Video/Cable Information Packet

A new information packet is now available from LITA's Video and Cable Communications Section. The *Video/Cable Information Packet* includes, as a sample, a bibliography of cable TV periodicals, a bibliography on satellite communications, the results of the Public Service Satellite Consortium's cable library survey, and an ALA pamphlet called *30 Questions Librarians Ask about Taping Copyrighted Television Programs for Educational Use*. Other items of interest are the October 1981 issue of *Community Television Review*, which is concerned with community access to information through library video, and the October 1980 issue of the Federal Communication Commission's *Information Bulletin*, devoted to the regulation and legislation of cable television. All orders must be prepaid; send \$8.50 to LITA/VCCS, American Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611.

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