Biological Sciences Division Special Libraries Association Volume 17, Number 3 Winter 1992 ISSN 1060-2488

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Cami L. Loucks

You will be pleased to know that your Division officers and Committees have been extremely busy and very conscientious about their duties and the deadlines they meet. Now that we have rounded the corner on the new year, we need to begin thinking about recruiting new committee members for the 1992-1993 committees. Present committee chairs will be mentoring a replacement for their positions, but we will need new members. Please be sure to contact me or Renee Bush, Chair in 1992-1993, as soon as possible if you have desires to become involved in the leadership. I cannot emphasize enough how important it is for us to get a head start on committee appointments. This year I have alerted the Executive Committee that we need to discuss having a committee for fund raising. On page 2 you will find a complete list of committees and their chairs.

We are also committed to planning a **Toxicology** Round Table and a **Biotechnology Round Table** which rotate every other year, with the current year (1992) being the Biotechnology Round Table. Those of you who desire to help in planning of the Round Tables need to come forward so that we can have you join us in discussions at the annual meeting this June.

On another note, please see the announcement in this issue about the special workshop on the GenBank nucleotide sequence database available for our BSD members on Saturday, June 6th, 1992. There is

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limited space available, and there will be **NO NOTICE** in the preliminary and final program announcement about this event, so please follow the registration directions noted in the announcement (page 14).

And finally, you will be receiving in the next few months some proposed changes to the BSD bylaws [Editor's Note: Changes to the bylaws approved last June are included on page 10]. We wish to make the bylaws conform more closely with the procedures manual with respect to nominations and elections. We have observed that other divisions of the association send ballots out shortly after the new year and we can see some real advantages in that practice.

Happy New Year,

Cami Loucks

KUDOS

Sponsorship for our Biotechnology Workshop is growing in anticipation of a STANDING ROOM ONLY EVENT.

Pergamon Press,

Springer Verlag, New York,

Chemical Abstracts Service, and

DIALOG, Inc.

have each pledged to provide financial assistance. Please mark your calendars for this main event.

BSD Committees and Chairs

Archives - Caroline Morris (215) 829-3998

Division Bulletin (*Biofeedback*) - Adam Schiff (415) 750-7104

Government Relations - Kay Collins (714) 856-7290

Membership - Virginia Lingle (717) 531-8581

Nominations & Elections - Lucy Rowland (404) 542-8441

Professional & Program Development - Judy Wojcik (704) 326-3659

Public Relations/Career Guidance - Janice Kemp (301) 344-4077

Cultural Diversity (Ad Hoc Committee) - Jane Cole (602) 941-1225

Fund Raising (Ad Hoc Committee) - newly forming committee

Biofeedback

Biological Sciences Division Special Libraries Association

Vol. 17, No. 3

Winter 1992

Special Libraries Association assumes no responsibility for the statements and opinions advanced by contributors to the Association's publications. Editorial views do not necessarily represent the official position of the Special Libraries Association. Acceptance of an advertisement does not imply endorsement of the product by Special Libraries Association.

The newsletter is published four times a year: February, May, August, and November. Deadline for submitting materials is the fifteenth of the month prior to publication.

Editor: Adam Schiff, California Academy of Sciences Library, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, CA 94118; 415/750-7104; FAX: 415/750-7106; BITNET: ASCHIFF@UCBCMSA

Assistant Editor: Steven L. Sowell, Biology Library, Indiana University, JH A304, Bloomington, IN 47405; 812/855-9792; FAX: 812/855-6612; BITNET: SOWELL@IUBACS

Giving More, Getting More

Renee Bush

A few months before attending my first SLA annual conference, I volunteered to serve on the Biological Sciences Division's Professional Development Committee. I hasten to add that this was done at the urging of my supervisor, not from any strong desire on my part to "get involved." Serving on an active committee of a professional organization has obvious <u>curriculum vitae</u>-strengthening benefits, however, and since my bid for tenure was only a few years away...

I arrived at the conference feeling both excited and a bit anxious. As a relatively recent library school graduate in a new job, I knew there was much I could learn from the experience, but I didn't feel very comfortable attending such a large meeting alone. Contributing to my uneasiness was the memory of the one ALA annual conference I had attended as a library school student when I had come away feeling more overwhelmed than edified, more isolated than supported.

My experience at the SLA conference turned out to be quite different. I decided that the first thing I should do was introduce myself to the committee chair. Ann Campbell greeted me with a warm smile, thanked me for volunteering to work with the group and asked me to have lunch with her. Over pizza, we became acquainted and Ann told me about the workings of our committee and the Division at large. As a result of Ann's kindness and enthusiasm at that meeting and our subsequent committee work together, I have met many other bright, energetic librarians. And these people have enriched my life in numerous ways.

I have learned much from BSD members that has helped me in my job--about service, sources, policies, procedures, trends, systems, vendors, and products. I have become part of an ever-widening network of professionals who I can contact when I need information or support. I have had the opportunity to visit fascinating libraries when traveling in other cities. I have developed some new skills and improved some old ones through my work with the Division: phoning librarians all over the country to help organize a new caucus, writing publicity and serving as moderator for a Continuing Education course, and soliciting funds in support of BSD programs, for example. And I have made some truly wonderful friends.

There are many reasons why people join professional organizations. Whatever your reason for joining the BSD, please consider that there may be more potential benefits than you were initially seeking. You might also reflect for a moment on the fact that your division is administered, its conference programs planned and executed, its newsletter produced and distributed, entirely by volunteers. It doesn't matter whether or not you frequently attend the Annual Conference--you can still make a valuable contribution to the BSD plus reap the benefits of involvement. Each of us has talents that can be put to good use and a unique perspective that enriches our Division.

If you would like to serve on a committee...

On page 2 you will find a list of the current chairs of the Biological Sciences Division's standing committees. Feel free to phone any of them and ask for a description of the group's purpose and the nature of the members' work. Contact me if you choose to become involved. Below, you will find a form to fill out if you wish to serve on a committee. I look forward to hearing from you soon!

Renee Bush, Chair-Elect

(716) 636-2947 office (716) 636-3719 fax SFEFANG@UBVMS.BITNET

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SLA STUDENT CONFERENCE AWARD San Francisco, 1992 Sponsored by the Biological Sciences Division, SLA

In June 1992, special librarians from all over the world will gather in San Francisco for the 83rd Special Libraries Association Annual Conference. To help defray costs of attending the conference, the Biological Sciences Division of SLA is offering an award to a graduate student interested in a career in biological sciences librarianship.

Support of the sponsored student will include:

- → Travel stipend, up to \$300
- Free tickets to Biological Sciences Division events
- Free lodging during the conference
- Opportunity to develop contacts with biosciences librarians

Persons wishing to apply should do the following:

- Submit an essay which describes some aspect of biological sciences librarianship, perhaps discussing a problem, issue, or challenge facing biological sciences librarians. The essay must be typed and sealed in a blank envelope for judging. The essay will be the basis for selection of the winner. Essays will be judged on the basis of thoughtfulness and quality of writing. Submitted essays will not be returned.
- Include a cover letter providing the applicant's name, address, phone number, graduate program and name of school, and anticipated date of graduation.

To be considered, applicants must:

- → be members of SLA (Students may join at the time of application. Student membership is \$15.)
- be enrolled in a graduate program leading to a degree in library/information science at the time of application

Applications must be received no later than Wednesday, February 26, 1992. Send essay and cover letter to:

Janice C. Kemp National Agricultural Library - Room 100 10301 Baltimore Boulevard Beltsville, MD 20705-2351

The Biological Sciences Division reserves the right to withhold the award if there are no suitable applicants.

1992-93 BSD Elections

The following individuals have been nominated for the positions of Chair-elect and Secretary-Treasurer of the Biological Sciences Division:

Chair-elect: Jo Anne Boorkman and Kay Collins

Secretary-Treasurer: Mary Compton and Joan DeFato

Ballots will be mailed around March 1. The results of the election should be available by mid-April. Curricula vitae of the nominees will be mailed with the ballots.



Disaster Preparedness for Libraries

The Biological Sciences Division is sponsoring a lunch and panel discussion on library disaster preparedness at the 1992 SLA Annual Meeting in San Francisco. It will be held on June 10th from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. A three-member panel will discuss fires, floods, earthquakes, and the psychological effects of living through a disaster in a library environment. A question and answer period will follow the presentation. Panel members include:

Steve Watkins, Assistant Head, Science Library, University of California at Santa Cruz

Tom Moritz, Academy Librarian, California Academy of Sciences

Philip Leighton, Buildings Project Manager, Stanford University Libraries

Golden Gate Park Tour

The Biological Sciences Division is sponsoring an all-day tour of the Golden Gate Park at the 1992 SLA Annual Meeting in San Francisco. It will take place on Thursday, June 11th from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The day will begin with a tour of the Strybing Arboretum Society's Helen Crocker Russell Library of Horticulture, followed by a tour of the Arboretum that will focus on the California Redwood display. A box lunch will be served on the Arboretum grounds.

After lunch, two special behind-the-scenes tours of collections at the California Academy of Sciences are planned. Dr. Norman Penny, Entomology Dept. Collections Manager, will give a tour of the over 8,000,000-specimen insect collection, which is ranked among the top five in the U.S. Dr. Tom Daniel, Curator of Botany, will give a tour of the Herbarium's collections of 1.6 million plant specimens (ranked sixth in size in the U.S.) and will demonstrate specimen preparation. Tour takers will also have an opportunity to visit the Academy Library, one of the largest natural history museum libraries in the country.

Because of the nature of this tour, participants should expect to do some walking throughout the day.

Recent Publications

Directory of European aquatic sciences libraries and information centres, edited by David S. Moulder and Nicole Momzikoff. Paris: Institut oceanographique, 1991. 184 pp. ISBN 2-903581-09-6. 120 FF or US \$30.

Recommended list of books and other information resources for zoo and aquarium libraries, by Kay A. Kenyon et al. 2nd ed. Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Libraries, National Zoological Park Branch, 1991. 59 pp. Available gratis from Kay Kenyon at the Branch.

Minutes of the 1991 Annual Business Meeting

Tuesday, June 11, 1991, 4:30-5:30 p.m. Marriott Rivercenter, San Antonio, Texas

Rita C. Fisher

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Barbara Montanary-Schader called the annual business meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. 108 members of the Division pre-registered for the Annual Conference; 47 signed the annual business meeting attendance sheet. Board Proctor was Gloria Zamora. Roger Haley attended as bylaws chair for SLA.

Sponsors of events at the 1991 annual conference included: Elsevier, DIALOG, Readmore, BRS, Biosis, Springer, ISI, Faxon, Majors, and BNA.

ELECTION RESULTS:

Renee B. Lahcen Bush, Chair-Elect Larry L. Wright, Director

Renee Bush was introduced.

BYLAWS:

Anna Therese McGowan, Past Chair, served as chair of the Bylaws Committee. The Committee distributed copies of the proposed bylaw changes [see Bylaws article, page 10]. A motion to accept the changes was seconded and passed unanimously. The changes were presented to the Chair for signing.

LONG-RANGE PLAN:

Jane Cole, Director, and McGowan distributed copies of a preliminary draft of the Long-Range Plan, 1991-1996-2001 (see p. 9). There was discussion of the proposal to increase the Division membership by 6% over the next five years. It was recognized that this corresponded with SLA's increased membership goals. The Plan was passed with no dissenting votes.

1990 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES:

It was requested that the Student Stipend winner's institution, the School of Library and Information Science, Louisiana State University, be added. McGowan moved that the minutes be accepted as amended. The motion was seconded and carried.

NATURAL HISTORY ROUND TABLE:

Ann Juneau provided a brief history of the discussions, which began at the Annual Conference in Pittsburgh last year, on the formation of a round table under the auspices of the Division. A survey had been conducted to determine the extent of interest in participation in a caucus of special interest group or organization for natural history librarianship and yielded 115 responses: 37 preferred participation in a larger group, 25 preferred an independent organization, and 26 had no preference. Interested individuals were asked to meet after the Business Meeting for further discussion. [Editor's Note: A Natural History Caucus within SLA has now been established. See the Fall 1991 issue of Biofeedback for more information. Minutes of the 1991 meeting of the Caucus appear on page 13.]

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS:

At the request of the Chair, Jean Crampon initiated a review of the Division committees. She contacted several past and current committee chairs to gather information about how a committee has operated, what suggestions there might be for future activities, recommendations for modifications in the committee structure and/or charge, the pattern of how successive chairs were identified, and any other information that was considered relevant to the functions and successes of the committees. The descriptions of the committees are incomplete but in process.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Archives--Caroline Morris
 There are currently about 1950 items in the Archives.

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2. Bulletin Editor--Montanary-Schader for Steven Sowell

Assistant Editor: Adam Schiff

Business Manager: Kurt Baumgartner

Four issues were produced, v. 16(1)-16(4). The total page count was 44 for the year. Advertisements appeared in one issue (revenue totaled \$60).

3. Consultant

Chair Karen Patrias was unable to attend. No report was given.

4. Government Relations--Kay Collins

Collins is looking for committee members. Collins spoke briefly about the White House Conference. There was little significant activity this past year. Some probable upcoming issues include increased impact of the earlier Paper Reduction Act. Collins encouraged attendance at a program on NREN (National Research & Education Network) at 1 p.m., Wed., June 12.

5. Local Arrangements--Montanary-Schader for Robin Raquet

Thanks were issued by the Chair for all of the hard work accomplished by the local arrangements committee.

6. Membership--Virginia Lingle

The committee members, Mae Cutler, Susan Lake, Jeffrey Wehmeyer, Margaret Welshmer, and John Sisson, were thanked for their assistance. A request for new members was issued to fill vacated positions. 99 new members and 66 members dropped either from SLA or just from the Division were contacted. Information was submitted for publication in *Biofeedback*. The Committee would like ideas for increasing the membership by about 30/year.

7. Nominations & Elections--Lucy Rowland for Carolyn Dodson

Rowland spoke briefly about the newly elected officers. Montanary-Schader announced that a new time line for nominations and elections would be in place for 1991-92.

8. Professional Development/Programs--Ann Campbell

The committee, Jack Cooper, Wei Wei, Judy Wojcik, Renee Bush, and Larry Wright, was thanked. The tours, to the San Antonio Botanic Garden and the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research were sold out and the CE course, "Drug and Pharmaceutical Information Resources," did very well financially.

The committee will conduct a survey (developed by Larry Wright) of the Division membership on programs, courses and tours for upcoming annual conferences. The committee is also looking for new members.

9. Public Relations/Career Guidance--Janice Kemp

The committee members, Barry Brown, Katherine Hart, Stephen Macksey, and Lucy Rowland, were thanked. Kemp introduced the Student Award Winner, Sheri Tickle Hester from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Montanary-Schader apologized that there was not enough time for Hester to read her winning essay. It will be printed in *Biofeedback*.

10. Publications--Montanary-Schader for Mary Compton

A biological sciences section was included in the SLA publication Tools of the Profession. Compton served as Coordinator/Editor of the section, with co-compilers Elisabeth Davis, Adam Schiff, Tracey Powell, and Linda Ordogh each preparing a bibliography on a subdiscipline of biology. Karen Bledsoe is investigating the feasibility of the Division sponsoring an issue of Special Libraries. Two lists of member publications were published in Biofeedback.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Rita Fisher, Secretary/Treasurer, gave the Treasurer's Report. The Total Operation and Reserve Balance as of May 31, 1991, was \$14,269.34. This figure does not reflect any costs associated with the 1991 annual conference. A report covering the period of June 1, 1990-May 31, 1991 was distributed. A question was asked concerning the costs of the 1991 annual conference. The Treasurer referred the question to the Chair. The amounts are not yet known.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Julianne Beall of the Library of Congress issued a report on the DDC. The 21st unabridged edition of DDC is scheduled for publication in 1996; the 13th abridged edition is scheduled for 1997.

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TRANSFER OF CHAIRSHIP:

Cami Loucks was invested as Chair. A book on the wildflowers of Texas was presented to Barbara Montanary-Schader, outgoing Chair, as a gift from the Division.

SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING (1992):

Loucks presented information on the proposed Biological Sciences Division Round Table on Biotechnology entitled "The Human and Plant Genome Project: Biotechnology Frontiers for Information Managers." The projected cost is \$6,000. She is planning to solicit contributions of \$1,000 from a selected group of SLA sponsors. A letter will be sent shortly. The proposed program would include a basic introduction, a panel of experts, and a professional librarian to describe our role in the project. Lunch would be included. It is hoped that the round table will not have to be a ticketed event.

Other preliminary plans are for a program on chemistry for the non-chemist, a tour of Genentech, possibly something to do with the Pacific Rim, and a field trip to Golden Gate Park, home to a Japanese tea garden, California Academy of Sciences and Steinhart Aquarium.

NEW BUSINESS:

Loucks relayed a question from a member unable to attend about possible interest in a surplus journal exchange list. It was noted that the National Agricultural Library publishes lists of its surplus titles and that the Science & Technology Division has a program.

Loucks circulated a sign-up sheet for individuals interested in a committee assignment.

It was announced that the cost of publication and distribution of Biofeedback is \$2.00/member.

David Self gave a pitch for the 1993 Annual Conference in Cincinnati. He requested input on possible field trips.

Jane Cole has been asked to chair the newly formed Ad Hoc Committee on Cultural Diversity. She requested input from the members.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was declared adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Rita C. Fisher, Secretary/Treasurer, 1990-92

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1992 (83rd	i Annual) June 6-11	San Francisco
1993 (84th		Cincinnati
1994 (85th	ı) June 11-16	Atlanta
1995 (86th	i) June 10-15	Montréal
1996 (87th	i) June 8-13	Boston
1997 (88th	i) June 7-12	Seattle
1998 (89th) June 6-11	Indianapolis
1999 (90th	i) June 5-10	Minneapolis

BSD Treasurer's Report

June 1, 1990-May 31, 1991

Rita C. Fisher

OPERATING FUND

Opening Balance	\$ 3,209.65
Income	
Transfer from money market fund	1,000.00
Biofeedback: Advertising	60.00
STOs	30.00
Reimbursement on advance	27.06
SLA Allotment	4,065.15
Interest	169.43
Reimbursement from other Divisions & SLA	432.30
Contributions: Readmore (1990 conf.)	300.00
Elsevier	125.00
DIALOG	500.00
Readmore	300.00
BRS	500.00
Biosis	500.00
Springer	200.00 500.00
ISI	500.00
Faxon	
INCOME TOTAL	\$ 9,208.94
Expenditures & Disbursements	
1990 Student winner	300.00
1990 Programs	1,114.96
1990 Conference Hotel	516.66
Biofeedback	1,315.13
Nominating Committee	250.00
Chair-elect (phone calls)	84.71
Winter meeting: Chair	494.00
Chair-elect	500.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 4,575.46
CURRENT BALANCE	\$ 7,843.13
Post Office Deposit Account	25.12
RESERVE ACCOUNT	
Balance as of May 25, 1990	\$ 6,977.37
Income	
Dividends posted June 1, 1990-April 26, 1991	423.72
Disbursements Transfer to Checking	1,000.00
ransier to Checking	1,000.00
CURRENT BALANCE	\$ 6,401.09
TOTAL OPERATING AND RESERVE BALANCE	\$14,269.34

Bylaws Changes Approved at 1991 Annual Meeting

Changes to the bylaws are underlined in the New Clause column.

Previous Clause

Article IV. Officers

Section 5. The immediate past chair shall be a member of the Executive Board; shall act as the Bylaws Committee Chair as needed; and shall carry out such duties and special projects as the Chair may assign.

Article IX. Nominations

Section 1. A Nominating Committee for each election of members to the Executive Board shall be appointed by the Board no later than nine months prior to the annual business meeting. This Committee shall be composed of four members, no one of whom shall be a member of the Executive Board, but only one of whom shall be a member of the previous Nominating Committee.

Section 2. Each year, the Nominating Committee shall present at least two candidates for chair-elect, and, in alternate years, for secretary-treasurer and director, each of whom will serve for two years. The Committee shall obtain the written acceptance of each nominee prior to submission of its report.

Section 3. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be published in the official bulletin or otherwise sent to Division members at least ninety days before the Division annual business meeting. Further nominations, accompanied by written acceptance by the nominee, may be entered by petition of twenty Division members, and shall be filed with the Nominating Committee at least sixty days before the annual business meeting.

Section 5. If a vacancy occurs in the office of chairelect, there is to be a special election to fill that office. The special election is to take place within sixty days after the office becomes vacant by mail ballot. Nominees for the office shall be selected by the Nominating Committee and a plurality of those voting will determine the person to serve the unexpired term and succeed as chair.

New Clause

The immediate past chair shall be a member of the Executive Board; shall act as the Bylaws Committee Chair as needed; shall keep the Division Procedures Manual updated; and shall carry out such duties and special projects as the Chair may assign.

A Nominations and Elections Committee for each election of members to the Executive Board shall be appointed by the Board no later than nine months prior to the annual business meeting. This Committee shall be composed of at least three members, no one of whom shall be a member of the Executive Board, and only one of whom shall be a member of the previous Nominations and Elections Committee.

Each year, the <u>Nominations and Elections Committee</u> shall present at least two candidates for chair-elect, and, in alternate years, for secretary-treasurer and director, each of whom will serve for two years. The Committee shall obtain the written acceptance of each nominee prior to submission of its report.

The report of the Nominations and Elections

Committee shall be published in the official bulletin or otherwise sent to Division members at least ninety days before the Division annual business meeting. Further nominations, accompanied by written acceptance by the nominee, may be entered by petition of twenty Division members, and shall be filed with the Nominations and Elections Committee at least sixty days before the annual business meeting.

If a vacancy occurs in the office of chair-elect, there is to be a special election to fill that office. The special election is to take place by mail ballot within sixty days after the office becomes vacant. Nominees for the office shall be selected by the Nominations and Elections Committee and a plurality of those voting will determine the person to serve the unexpired term and succeed as chair.

BSD Long Range Plan 1991-1996-2001

Preliminary Draft

Mission

The mission of the Biological Sciences Division of the Special Libraries Association is to further the objectives of the Association by providing representation and support for those professionals concerned with the provision of information services in the life sciences.

Division Objectives

In keeping with the Mission and the Bylaws, the Division will:

- create and maintain a positive climate within the Division which will attract new members and retain present members,
- · encourage increased student interest in biological sciences librarianship,
- facilitate communication among Division members through the Division newsletter, Biofeedback,
- provide programming and education for the members, and
- maintain a sound financial balance between services offered and funds available.

Division Goals, Continuing

- 1. The Professional Development/Program Committee will develop activities for both conference and non-conference programs.
- 2. The Publications Committee will encourage members to write for *Biofeedback* (Division newsletter), *Special Libraries* (Association newsletter and journal), and other relevant publications.
- 3. Joint programming will be sponsored with other Divisions in the Association.
- 4. A student stipend to attend the Association Annual Meeting will be coordinated with other Divisions.
- 5. A membership needs assessment will be conducted at least once every five (5) years.
- 6. Chapters will be encouraged to contact and recruit local library school student membership. (Amendment approved by Executive Board 6/9/91)

Division Goals, Short Term

1. Increase Division membership to 6% of the total Association membership over the next five years.

Actions: Continue to contact former members to determine reason for dropping membership. Contact members of the Medical Library Association to encourage joining SLA and BSD.

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2. Improve Division finances to support Division projects and Annual Conference programs.

Actions: Build a reserve fund to equal half of the Division's Annual Allotment over the next five years. Increase advertisement revenue in Division publication, *Biofeedback*.

3. Increase participation of entire Division membership in Division programs.

Actions: Work with SLA Chapters to support regional meetings of interest to BSD members.

4. Survey Division membership every fourth year before reassessing the BSD Long Range Plan to determine membership needs, concerns, and interests.

Actions: Publish survey results to inform members.

New Member Profiles

Ray Banks

Ray is the librarian at the Michener Institute for Applied Health Sciences in Toronto. The Michener Institute is a post-secondary institution offering undergraduate, graduate, and continuing education programs in various medical technologies. Ray has an A.B. from Dartmouth College, and M.A. from Queen's University (Ontario), and an MLS from the University of Toronto. He has published several papers on library administration, and has delivered papers at both American and Canadian health libraries conferences.

Anne Mackereth

Anne is Librarian at the Thomas Lowry Health Sciences Library of the Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis. She is the primary literature searcher, and also instructs residents and medical students in the use of BRS Colleague. Anne has a degree in information management from the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul. She was previously an Information Resource Services Specialist with the Minnesota Dept. of Transportation.

Carol J. Myers

Carol is an MLS student at Catholic University of America, Washington, DC. She will receive her degree in August of this year. She hopes to do reference/research work in a medical or life sciences library, in either a corporate, hospital, or academic setting. Carol has a B.S. in biological health/nutrition from Pennsylvania State University, and is currently employed as a cataloging technician at Catholic University's Mullen Library.

Ann Zimmerman

Ann is Librarian of the John Van Oosten Library of the National Fisheries Research Center-Great Lakes in Ann Arbor, Michigan. The Center is part of the research and development program of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Ann previously was Librarian at the USFWS Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center in Jamestown, North Dakota, and was Librarian of the Beacon-News in Aurora, Illinois before that. Ann received her B.A. in English and her MLS from the University of Iowa.

Minutes of the 1991 Natural History Caucus Meeting

Tuesday, June 11, 1991 San Antonio, Texas

In Attendance: Julianne Beale, Washington, DC; Renee Bush, Buffalo, NY; Michele Calhoun, Chicago; Jane Cole, Phoenix; Mary Jane Edwards, Rockville, MD; Kevin Harwell, University Park, PA; Carla Heister, Champaign, IL; Ann Juneau, Washington, DC; Elizabeth Kwater, Pittsburgh; Eleanor MacLean, Montreal, Quebec; Julia Perez, East Lansing, MI; Linda Russi, Philadelphia; Frederick Sepp, University Park, PA; Charlene Stachnik, Ann Arbor, MI; Priscilla Watson, New York; Wendy Weitzner, Cleveland; Duane Wenzel, Honolulu

The meeting was led by Ann Juneau, NMNH Branch Library, Smithsonian Institution Libraries, who began the meeting by asking each attendee to introduce themselves giving job and particular reasons for attending.

Ann Juneau then summarized the results of the survey conducted at the beginning of the year. The survey was a side-product of a similar meeting held at the annual SLA conference in Pittsburgh in 1990. First, telephone calls were made asking people if they would answer a survey regarding the formation of an interest group of natural history librarians; then, the survey was sent out. There were a total of 119 responses at the time the survey results were compiled. Thirty-seven thought the group should be affiliated with an established organization; about one-half of these thought that it should be SLA-affiliated; a mixture of other opinions ranged from being ALA-affiliated to being part of the American Association of Museums, International Federation of Library Associations, and the Society for the History of Natural History. Twenty-five responses were to form an independent group, a third group responded with no clear choice of affiliation, and 19 responded that they were not interested in participating.

There followed an open discussion of what this interest group should be: a caucus, a round table, a division within SLA, a section within SLA, or a part of the Science and Technology Section of Association of College and Research Libraries of ALA. Renee Bush had investigated the criteria to become a caucus within SLA. Caucuses are not generally subject-based. Current caucuses have overlapping interests such as retired members, women's issues and affirmative action. It is necessary to have 16 dues-paying members sign a petition to become a Caucus. As a member of a caucus, an additional \$6.00 is included in the membership fee. A caucus gets no funding from SLA but can present programs at the annual conference.

A Round Table within SLA is part of a division and is funded. It is necessary to have 10 dues-paying members petition for a Round Table. If we were to become a Round Table within the Biological Sciences Division of SLA, would potential members add or drop a division membership to one currently held? The majority said they would add a membership.

In order to become a divisional <u>Section</u> within SLA, it is necessary to have 35 dues-paying members sign a petition. To become a separate <u>Division</u> within SLA, 100 dues-paying members signing a petition are required.

There was a brief discussion of possible members from other countries - they could subscribe to any newsletter the group publishes and would pay the non-member registration fee for attending the annual conference. They would be encouraged and welcome to join SLA.

Becoming a part of ALA was then discussed. It was agreed that the only possible current section to join would be the Science and Technology Section of ACRL. That section is geared towards science and technology and not natural history.

It was agreed that the group would become a part of an established organization and not be an independent group at this time.

A vote was then taken on becoming a part of SLA. There was an almost unanimous vote "yes."

A motion was made to start as a round table within the Biological Sciences Division of SLA. This motion was interrupted for a discussion as to SLA funding through the Division and the group's ability to pay speakers and hold programs. It was decided that the group should depend on its own resources for the time being, i.e., to be its own Speaker. We can start with discussion groups within the larger group. In this way, a Caucus would give us more independence in keeping with our interests.

There was a vote to become a Caucus for a year.

Caucus scope note: The Natural History Caucus is intended to be a forum for issues of interest in the literature of natural history.

Renee Bush made a motion that we contact respondents to the survey who were interested in forming a group and report the results of this meeting and give them a chance to join SLA, if they are not currently members.

Follow-through with the correct procedure in establishing a Caucus will take place after this meeting.

Minutes taken by Michele Calhoun and Renee Bush. Submitted August 16, 1991.

Explore the Latest Biotechnology Information Resources

June 6, 1992: 8:00 am to 5:30 pm

Intelligenetics Corporate Headquarters, Mountain View, CA

Workshop fee: \$45

Discover the databases of molecular biology and learn how they can help you answer difficult reference requests. GenBank is the national nucleotide sequence database. Every time that you need to find a reference to any gene which has been sequenced, this is the database to answer those questions. Likewise, every time that you need to find the reference to any protein that has been sequenced the Protein Identification Resource (PIR) is the place to find it. "Intelligenetics Software Suite" is the retrieval software used to search these databases.

A one day hands-on workshop is being offered in conjunction with the SLA conference in San Francisco. Participants will learn how to search these databases, using the "Intelligenetics Software Suite." *Actual reference questions will be used as examples in developing the workshop.*

The workshop location will be the Intelligenetics Corporate Headquarters in Mountain View, CA. Round-trip transportation from the convention center and lunch is included in the workshop fee. Please phone in your registration, as space is limited.

To register contact:

Susan McCarthy
Plant Genome Data and Information Center
National Agricultural Library, Rm. 1402
10301 Baltimore Blvd.
Beltsville, MD 20705

Phone: (301) 504-6875 FAX: (301) 504-7098

Internet: smccarthy@asrr.arsusda.gov

Registration deadline: May 1, 1992; no cash refunds will be made after May 1.

This workshop is underwritten by the Plant Genome Research Program of the United States Department of Agriculture.

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Total Members as of December 31, 1991: 673. SLA Allotment: \$4138.95.

Job Announcements

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