# **Biofeedback**

Biological Sciences Division Special Libraries Association Volume 16, Number 1 Summer 1990

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### 1990 Annual Conference

The View from the Biological Sciences Division

Anna Therese McGowan, Past-Chair

As at every SLA Annual Conference, there is a plethora of programs, seminars, meetings, and roundtables offered to conference attendees resulting in constant decision making. The Biological Sciences Division was no different. The offerings ranged from our Annual Business meeting to a cosponsored class and a field trip to University-Presbyterian Hospital.

The Biological Sciences Division cosponsored three programs in Pittsburgh this year. The first one: "Biotechnology: Questions and Concerns" presented three speakers who are currently working in the biotechnology field and improving the flow of information to biotechnologists and the general public. They were Nancy Bruce of the North Carolina Biotechnology Center, Jeff Davidson of the Pennsylvania Biotechnology Association, and Dr. Jerome Schultz, from the University of Pittsburgh. They discussed the public image of biotechnology and the questions that it has caused. They answered many of those questions and then discussed information resources and how biotechnologists are putting their expanding knowledge and skill to useful purpose. A nice sidelight was that members of the audience identified their organizations as places to obtain more information if one was a beginning biotechnologist. The cosponsoring divisions of this program were: Environment and Resource Management, Food, Agriculture and Nutrition, and Pharmaceutical. This program was taped so it is available for purchase.

With the Geography and Map and the Environment and Resource Management Divisions, we cosponsored a fascinating program on the "Economic and Geographic Impact of Environmental Issues on Pittsburgh." Three local speakers, Joel Tarr from Carnegie Mellon University, Thomas Proch of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources, and William Adams of the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, collaborated to describe how Pittsburgh looked fifty years ago, when the street lights were on

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at 11:00 in the morning, the many hills had little to no vegetation, and the Monongahela River did not support any fish. The contrast with the pretty green city and the variety of fish now caught in the rivers was an impressive testament to our power to improve our environment rather than only destroy it. This session was covered by the local press as well as librarians.

The third program was our longest. It grew out of a similar program offered at the Great Lakes Regional Conference in October, 1989. Once again, the Biological Sciences Division cosponsored it with the following divisions: Chemistry, Information Technology, and Pharmaceutical. This program, entitled: "Gene Sequence Databases: Are They in Your Future?" brought together a molecular biologist, a database builder, and a librarian to describe a new way of working where everyone benefits. The speakers were: Dr. John Woolford, Jr. from Carnegie Mellon University, Dr. John Devereux from the Genetics Computing Group, Inc. and Efrat Livny from the University of Wisconsin Biotechnology Center. Dr. Woolford gave a brief overview of molecular biology, Dr. Devereux spoke about the creation of the various gene sequence databases and how they resembled and differed from one another, and Ms. Livny described how one searches these databases to help researchers find the information that they need.

Our trip to the University-Presbyterian Hospital was also quite interesting. This hospital does more liver transplants than any other in the world and the largest number of kidney transplants in the United States. It was reassuring to see the care and planning that goes into the wards where these patients spend time waiting for organs and then recovering. Although everything was clean and neat, it did not seem to be a sterile place. The human touch was apparent. Dr. Robert Gordon completed the trip by discussing some of the bioethical issues that arise when doing transplants.

If this does not already seem like a full agenda, we also cosponsored our first course. With the Environment and Resource Management Division, we offered a course on toxicology information taught by Philip Wexler from the National Library of Medicine. Phil developed this course for the Medical Library Association and has only taught it at the MLA Annual Meeting so we felt lucky to be able to offer it to a different audience.

In summary, we also enjoyed our evening Open Houses cosponsored with the Chemistry, Environment and Resource Management, and Pharmaceutical Divisions. We enjoyed meeting other members and then exploring the restaurants of Pittsburgh. It was a fun conference and I am only sorry that I did not get to many of the other programs.

This is my last regular column for Biofeedback. I would like to thank everyone who made my year as Division Chair such an interesting and enjoyable time. Many thanks go to all the committee chairs, who worked so diligently during the year. Thanks to Steven Sowell who did such an excellent job editing this newsletter and getting information out to the members. Again, I want to thank Lynn Labun for all her help during the planning of the Conference, her local knowledge was a great support. Thanks also go to Jean Crampon for her excellent work as Secretary-Treasurer during the past two years. Thanks to her monitoring, we have a respectable treasury. I also want to thank Eleanor MacLean, our Past-Chair, who introduced me to the responsibilities and delights of being Chair. Lastly, I want to thank Barbara Montanary-Schader, our new Chair. Working with her this year has been easy, she always helped out when she was needed. I wish her much good fortune in her year as Chair. Thank you all for giving me this wonderful opportunity.

#### Biofeedback

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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. Send all material to the Editor.

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### San Antonio Conference Plans

Barbara Montanary-Schader, Chair

It is exciting and a bit daunting to be starting my year as Chair of the Biological Sciences Division. Exciting because the planning for SLA in San Antonio, 1991 is going well and I think you will each be able to find something in the program to make the trip worthwhile. Daunting because I am following in Anna McGowan's footsteps and Anna was a superb Chair this year. The program Anna prepared for Pittsburgh was a major success and was well attended. Anna was not only a competent and indefatigable planner but she also managed to raise a record amount of money from sponsors for both the programs and also for the four Open Houses which we cosponsored with Chemistry, Environmental and Resource Management and FAN. Anna will spend her year as Past-Chair working on our long range plan, the division bylaws and any other necessary items which come up during the year. We all owe Anna a huge debt of gratitude for the tremendous amount of time and energy she expended this year on our behalf. Thank you Anna!

The planning for San Antonio in 1991 is progressing. Thank you to all of you who took the time to respond to the suggestions in the last issue of Biofeedback and to make your preferences known to me. Feedback from all of you is very important to my planning process. We will be cosponsoring three programs. Several divisions are interested in the session on handling scientific proprietary data and we already have several excellent suggestions for speakers. ERMD is interested in cosponsoring the global/climate change program. We hope to have Sherwood Rowland "discoverer" of the ozone hole and Michael Farrell, Acting Director of the Center for Global Environmental Studies as our speakers. We also have several vendors who are most interested in presenting their report literature in a panel format (e.g. ISI - Focus on Global Change, BNA - World Climate Report, etc.) And finally, we will be cosponsoring the copyright session with several other divisions. Speakers have already been contacted and this should be an extremely lively and informative session. More on this next newsletter!

We will also be having our four Open Houses, Sunday - Wednesday of the conference, and we are hoping to again cosponsor the Open Houses as this was a huge success in Pittsburgh with between 50 and 70 people attending each evening. There were many fascinating conversations in progress the evening I made my rounds! One Open House in San Antonio will be a margarita party. This may turn out to be a huge bash as many divisions want to cosponsor this.

The CE course on Toxicology in Pittsburgh was quite successful and I have asked Ann Campbell and her Professional Development Committee to look into planning another one for San Antonio. If you have any suggestions, please phone Ann at 404/894-4511 or write her at Georgia Tech Information Services, Georgia Institute of Technology, Prince Gilbert Memorial Library, Atlanta, Georgia 30332-0900.

Our field trip will probably be cosponsored with other divisions which are also interested in touring the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research in San Antonio. I will keep you posted as planning for this field trip unfolds.

This is the sort of planning which is greatly facilitated by an onsite local arrangements person. One last call for volunteers in San Antonio to help with local arrangements. I have several committee volunteers for the Local Arrangements Committee, but no one who is actually currently living in San Antonio. Being on the Local Arrangements Committee is not a great deal of work (I've done it), but it is a great deal of fun!

All committee chairs have now been selected but we are still filling in the committee members. In the next newsletter, I will have a list of all committees, chairs and committee members along with addresses and phone numbers so that you all know who to contact with questions or suggestions.

Congratulations to Cami Loucks, our incoming Chair-Elect and to Rita Fisher, our Secretary/Treasurer. I look forward to working with both of them this coming year. And I want to heartily thank Jean Crampon for all of her efforts these past two years. Jean, Eleanor MacLean and Anna McGowan have all worked diligently to replenish our treasury. We are in fairly good financial shape and Rita, Cami and I will attempt to continue building our treasury. I am looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible this coming year and I hope you all have plans to come to San Antonio. It should be a fascinating meeting in a wonderful location.

1990 Student Travel Award Essay

### Access to Non-print Material in Science Libraries

Katherine H. Hart was awarded the 1990 Student Travel Award to attend the Annual Conference in Pittsburgh for the following essay. In September Katherine will be an Associate at the National Library of Medicine. Congratulations, Katherine!

"I propose that we

search entry to the

using standardized

terms, stating the

format on which

the information is

provide an added

catalog record,

exact type of

stored."

In the last few decades, there has been an increase in the amount of non-print material found in libraries. Information that had previously been stored only in books has become available on microfilm, slides or audiocassettes. More recently, videocassettes,

computer disks and interactive videodiscs have found their way into many research

libraries. The preservation of material currently in book format has further increased the amount of non-print formats. "Optical laser disk technology is a revolution in the making which will change how we store, retrieve, distribute, utilize and display ... materials."

As librarians, we should be more concerned with the accessibility of information on these newer formats, especially considering the high cost of these materials. There are some sources to directly retrieve audiovisual material, such as annotated bibliographies and the online databases, AVLINE and NICEM, for example, but there is no

direct access to material in a particular format. Many standard scientific indexes do not contain audiovisual material. None of the major classification schemes take into consideration direct retrieval of audiovisual material. In addition, there are no standard methods of organizing the material. Should videocassettes on a particular subject be shelved with books on the same subject (the objective of a classed collection) or should they be located in a media room readily available for media users? The results of there factors are less available information and less collection use.

The current practice of descriptive cataloging is to use the GMD (general material designation) immediately following the title proper. While this is somewhat helpful for patrons browsing the catalog, the GMD does not provide exact form description (just generalities), nor direct access to the material by

format type. In addition, there is a fixed field code containing a general description and note fields containing more specific information such as VHS for a videocassette.

Librarians in the sciences must provide timely access to current information. Our patrons' information demands dictate that we provide the most complete access methods possible. The growth in audiovisual material and continual technological advances should signal a revamp of our organizational methods.

Although there is some accounting for the specific media type in our descriptive practice, there is no means of direct access. I propose that

we provide an added search entry to the catalog record, using standardized terms, stating the exact type of format on which the information is stored.

1. Fusonie, Alan E. and William G. Hauser, "Evaluating Optical Laser Disk Storage and Retrieval Systems for Non-print Access at NAL," *Agricultural Libraries Information Notes* 14 (Nov./Dec. 1988): 1-9.

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### **BSD Members' Publications**

The Publications Committee has compiled this list from member contributions and from scanning recent issues of library science journals. This list is not complete and we are interested in more contributions. Please send your list of publications to: Mary Compton, Sandia National Laboratories, Technical Library, Division 3144, P.O. Box 5800, Albuquerque, NM 87185. You can also send your list to Mary using BITNET or MILNET/INTERNET. My E-mail ID is MLCOMPT@SANDIA.GOV. We look forward to hearing from you. BSD members' names are in bold type.

Compton, Mary L. (1989) A study of the information resources and library services used by doctoral students in science education at the University of Georgia. Bethesda, MD: ERIC Document Reproduction Service. ED 313 041.

Prelec, Antonija, & Emilio, Betty. (1989) Impact of automation on collection development. In Health Information: New Directions, Proceedings, Joint Conference of the Health Sciences Sections of the Australian Library and Information Association and New Zealand Library Association, pp. 148-156.

Stoss, Frederick W. (1989) The Center for Environmental Information. Meeting community information needs. Science and Technology Libraries, 10 (2): 17-28.

### **New Member Profiles**

#### Denise L. Bien

Denise is a student in the library school at the University of Kentucky. She is currently an Air Quality Specialist with the Southwestern Ohio Air Pollution Control Agency. Denise holds a B.A. in zoology from Miami University and an associate's degree in environmental control technology from the University of Cincinnati. She has a particular interest in the Natural History Interest Group of the Biological Sciences Division.

#### Tracy D. Guebert

Tracy is a student in the library science program at Wayne State University, where she is also a member of the SLA student chapter. She received a B.S. in biology/chemistry from MacMurry College. After completing her studies at Wayne State in December 1990, Tracy plans to relocate to Martinsville, Virginia.

#### Kathy Hart

Kathy, a student at the School of Library and Information Science at Louisiana State University, is the recipient of the Biological Sciences Division's 1990 Student Travel Award. She holds a BS in psychology from Texas A & M University, where she has worked as a copy cataloger. Kathy is planning to do her field experience work at the Houston Academy of Medicine - Texas Medical Center. In addition to serving as president of the SLA student group at LSU, Kathy is also a member of ALA and MLA. Kathy will be an Associate at the National Library of Medicine during the coming year.

#### Emma Nan Jones Hampton

Nan is working toward an MLIS at the University of Texas at Austin. She is also employed as a part-time librarian at IT Corporation, an environmental consulting and engineering firm. Nan holds three degrees from the University of Texas at Austin: a Ph.D. in zoology, a B.S. in zoology, and a B.A. in liberal arts. She has been an instructor of zoology and has carried out research on the Mediterranean fruit fly and the cotton boll weevil. She is looking forward to attending the SLA annual conference in San Antonio in 1991.

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#### Kimberly J. Laird

Kimberly is Assistant Professor and member of the Information Services Department at the University of Illinois at Chicago's Library of the Health Sciences. She graduated from the School of Information and Library Studies at the University of Michigan in 1987, with a specialty in medical librarianship. She also holds a BA in biology from Bethel College in Minnesota.

#### Jennine Regas

Jennine is Associate Librarian at the Helen Fowler Library, Denver Botanic Gardens. She is a graduate of the University of Colorado and received her M.S. in library science from the University of Illinois. She has returned to full time library work after several years as a research project coordinator and marketing specialist in medical and veterinary electronics. She is coauthor of several research papers on ovulation monitoring, is co-inventor of an electronic ovulation monitor for women, and compiler of an early bibliography on diagnostic ultrasound.

#### Rosalie Shaffer

Rosalie is the Technical Information Specialist at the U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service Library in Panama City, Florida. She received her M.L.S. from the University of Maryland in 1975. She also holds a B.S. in biology from Towson State University, Maryland. Before moving to Florida in 1980, she worked for the Baltimore County Public Library. She is also a member of the International Association of Marine Science Libraries.

#### Judith Welsh

Judith is currently a health sciences librarian at the Carlson Health Sciences Library, University of California at Davis. She received her M.L.S. from UCLA in 1986. While attending library school, Judith worked as an intern at the UCLA Biomedical Library. She holds a B.S.N. from Cornell University-New York Hospital School of Nursing, and she worked as a registered nurse in the field of pediatrics prior to attending library school.

### Tools of the Profession

A new edition of SLA's *Tools of the Profession* will be published in the coming year. You are invited to suggest important tools that a biological sciences collection should have for inclusion in the Biological Sciences Division's chapter. Please send your titles of recommended reference sources no later than September 7 to Adam Schiff, Science Library, Campus Box 184, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309-0184; 303/492-1859; FAX: 303/492-2185.

### **New Members**

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Davida Glazer 83 Willowbrook Rd Thornhill, ON Canada L3T 5K7

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Lillian R. Hardwick Rte 2 Box 38-C Bolton, MS 39041

Catherine M. La Tour Amer. Assn of Retired Persons Resource Ctr 1909 K St. NW 4 Fl Washington, D.C. 20049 202/728-4663

Jacqueline M. Lawson 17118 Leslie Ave. Cerritos, CA 90701 Charles A. McFadden RD #1 Box 363 Grim Rd Kutztown, PA 19530 215/683-4162

Christine McGregor 11 Oak Hill Dr. Clinton, CT 06413

Hugh W. McNaught Connaught Laboratories Ltd Balmer Neilly Library 1755 Steeles Ave. W Willowdale, ON Canada M2R 3T4 416/667-2662

Susan G. Moore 143 Ashdale Ave. Syracuse, NY 13206

Bonnie L. Myers Cytogen Corp. Library 201 College Rd E Princeton, NJ 08540 609/987-8237

Kristine D. Olsen 523 Highwood Circle Albany, NY 12203

Paula G. Raimondo Center for Indoor Air Research Library 1099 Winterson Rd #280 Linthicum, MD 21090 301/684-3788

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Mary Ann Slocomb Miriam Hospital Health Sciences Library 164 Summit Ave. Providence, RI 02906 401/331-8500 Paul Tobin 77-31 270 St. New Hyde Park, NY 11040

Linda C. White 307 38 St. NE Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

Margaret R. Willis Empire Blue Cross Blue Shield Corporate Library 3 Park Ave. Mezzanine New York, NY 10016 212/251-2385

Emily N. Wixon 3817 Council Crest Madison, WI 53711 608/221-5000

Mary L. Wood Intercollegiate Center for Nursing Educ Betty Anderson Library W2917 Ft. George Wright Dr. Spokane, WA 99204 509/325-6147

### **Updates**

#### Address Changes

Marjorie A. Beary 18633 SW 105 Ave. Miami, FL 33157 305/554-2470

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Ann B. Campbell 3201 Henderson Mill Rd #11D Atlanta, GA 30341 404/894-4511

C. Mae Cutler 184 Owl Dr. Ottawa, ON Canada K1V 9P6 613/995-7829

David C. Duggar 8001 Jefferson Way Baton Rouge, LA 70809

Barbara G. Glicksberg 5866 NE Parkpoint Dr. Seattle, WA 98115

Marilyn A. Jensen 4434 Gibraltar Dr. Fremont, CA 94536 415/323-9011 Barbara J. Joarnt Bldg 4 Apt 23 1100 County Line Rd Kansas City, KS 66103

Mary C. Kellett 1121 W Banbury Dr. Spokane, WA 99218

James S. Koga 3375 Valencia Hill Dr. Riverside, CA 92507 714/869-3098

Barbara A. Lucas 364 Lynn Dr. Ventura, CA 93003

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Emily Falk Moser 4301B Brookeville Rd Brookeville, MD 20833

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Karen L. Shaines 3605 Kenilworth Driveway Chevy Chase, MD 20815

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#### Name and Address Changes

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#### Telephone Number Changes

Patricia Jameson 217/581-6072

### Climbing to the Top: SLA's 1990 Regional Continuing Education Program

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To register send completed form with appropriate payment to: Special Libraries Association, Professional Development Section, 1700 Eighteenth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009. Upon receipt of this registration form you will receive a confirmation letter with details of your specific location.

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