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**Fall 2002** 

STS SIGNAL is a biannual publication of the Science and Technology Section of the Association of College & Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association, 50 E. Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611; 800-545-2433 ext. 2517. It is designed as a communication vehicle to the members of the Section and other interested parties. Electronic transmission of materials is preferred, and instructions for transmission are available on request. Inquiries should be made to either of the Co-Editors: Elizabeth Cooksey, Skidaway Institute of Oceanography, 10

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committee membership after the annual conference in 2003. The Science and Technology Section is always on the lookout for members with new ideas and viewpoints who are committed to successful STS programs and activities. To volunteer for a committee appointment, fill out the web form at <a href="http://www.ala.org/acrl/sts/vol\_form.htm">http://www.ala.org/acrl/sts/vol\_form.htm</a>. This year, I will also be appointing members to a conference program planning committee for 2004. This committee will convene at Midwinter to begin developing a theme for the 2004 program on a timely topic of interest to the STS membership. Please feel free to contact me if you are interested in the work of this committee or have ideas for a successful program in 2004.

# **Publisher/Vendor Relations Discussion Group**

The Publisher/Vendor Relations Discussion Group chose to look at how the events of 9/11 affected the retrieval of government information. In order to shed some light on this topic two speakers were invited to share their thoughts. Patrice McDermott, who is the assistant director of the Office of

## **Organization and Planning Committee**

Council approved the final draft of the STS Strategic Plan, forwarded to the STS Council from the Organization and Planning Committee, during its first meeting of the Annual conference. That left the committee free to focus on specific action plans for each objective of the strategic plan. Committee members identified several new initiatives that the section could undertake to further its goals, such as securing funding to support STS member participation in science-based organizations, and working to define assessment standards for science libraries and information literacy in the sciences. We will develop a list of suggested initiatives for Council's consideration. The committee also agreed to review the contents of the STS Procedures Manual, which formerly was delivered in print to each committee and discussion group chair. The Manual is now available on the STS Web site only, and needs updating.

Information supplied by Alison Ricker

### **Research Committee**

The Research Committee sponsored the STS Research Forum for Science and Technology Library Research and the STS Poster Session at ALA 2002 in Atlanta.

This year's Forum on Sunday afternoon featured presentations of two research projects. Philip Davis, Life

### **SCHEDULE**

ACRL Science & Technology Section \* 2003 Midwinter Meeting \* Philadelphia, PA

Day/Date/Time	<u>Committee</u>	Day/Date/Time	<u>Committee</u>
Friday, January 24		Sunday January 26	
8:00 - 10:00 p.m.	STS Council I	8:30 - 11:00 a.m.	Government Information
•			Committee
Saturday, January 25		9:30 - 11:00 a.m.	Continuing Education
8:00 - 11:00 a.m.	Oberly Award Committee		Committee
	(closed)	9:30 - 11:00 a.m.	Science/Technology Databases
8:30 - 11:00 a.m.	Comparison of Sci/Tech		Discussion Group
	Libraries Committee	11:30 a.m 12:30 p.m.	Membership and Recruitment
8:30 a.m 12:30 p.m.	2003 Program Planning		Committee
•	Committee	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Organization and Planning
8:30 a.m 12:30 p.m.	2004 Program Planning		Committee
1	Committee	8:00 - 10:00 p.m.	Issues in Science/Technology
9:30 - 11:00 a.m.	<b>Publications Committee</b>		Librarianship Discussion Group
9:30 - 11:00 a.m.	Subject & Bibliographic		
	Access Committee	Monday, January 27	
9:30 - 11:00 a.m.	Publisher/Vendor Relations	9:30 - 11:00 a.m.	STS Council II
	Discussion Group		
11:30 a.m 12:30 p.m.	General Discussion Group		
11:30 a.m 12:30 p.m.	Discussion Group Chairs		
1	Meeting		
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Research Committee		
•	(closed)		

bibliographic and subject access to grey literature, to be held at the ACRL National Meeting in Charlotte, N.C. in Spring 2003. The tentative title is: "Fading of the greyness in grey literature: Is grey literature still grey?" Members discussed what topics needed to be included in the discussion and the logistics for promoting and implementing the program should the proposal be accepted.

The Committee agreed that if its proposal were not accepted, it would attempt to partner with another group to sponsor a discussion group at ALA Annual in Toronto on the same topic. Members agreed to conduct a literature review and to create an annotated bibliography on the topic. This will bring everybody up to date on the issues of grey literature and also serve as our handout for the program.

Members also discussed forming liaisons with other relevant committees, especially the Machine-Readable Bibliographic Information (MARBI) Committee (some members of MARBI had responded favorably at Midwinter to the idea of such a liaison). Members agreed to begin by having a liaison only to MARBI, postponing the development of other liaison relationships until this first effort was evaluated. The qualifications of a liaison were agreed upon, and Sophie Bodanski was elected to a two-year term to fill the position.

Information supplied by Ibironke Lawal

### **2003 Conference Planning Committee**

The 2003 Program will be **Partners in Science: an exploration of the scientist-librarian relationship**. The program will feature an in-depth exploration of key elements that constitute a successful scientist-librarian relationship from the perspectives of a working science faculty member, a science librarian, and an expert in information seeking behavior among scientists. Topics to be explored include roadblocks to information gathering, whether the library as a physical place is important, and how librarians can effectively promote their services to potential users of science-technology libraries.

The program, followed by a reception featuring poster sessions, is scheduled for Monday, June 23, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The Committee is exploring options for tours. Some ideas include an archaeology-focused tour of the Royal Ontario Museum or a University of Toronto scientific history tour. Plans will be finalized at ALA Midwinter.

Information supplied by Chestalene Pintozzi

#### STS Electronic Communications Update

#### STS-L Listserv

STS-L is a moderated discussion group, open to all interested persons. It is sponsored by the Science & Technology Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries.

To join STS-L, send the following message to LISTSERV@LISTSERV.UTK.EDU (do not include a period after EDU). The SUBJECT line should not be left blank; if your e-mail software does not allow leaving this line blank, try typing only a period (.) in the SUBJECT line.

SUBSCRIBE STS-L First Name Last Name

Moderators: Margaret Mellinger and Jeanine Williamson

Issues in Science and Technology Librarianship (ISTL)

http://www.library.ucsb.edu/istl/ Editor: Andrea Duda

#### STS Web Page

http://www.ala.org/acrl/sts/sts.html Webmaster: Jennifer Duvernay

### STS Signal on the Web

Available in portable document format (pdf) at: http://www.ala.org/acrl/sts/sts\_signal.html Editors: Elizabeth Cooksey & Barbara MacAlpine

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