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From the Chair, Jill Newby

During the ALA midwinter meeting in San Diego, I had the opportunity to attend an ACRL leadership meeting with other Section chairs in which Tyrone Cannon, 2003-2004 ACRL President, and others presented a draft

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From the Vice Chair/Chair-Elect, Jeanne Davidson

Jeanne Davidson

on the Task Force Website, with a form for submitting comments electronically. STS members will be notified via STS-L when it is available. Additionally, Virginia Baldwin will be presenting the work of the Task Force at the STS Program on Monday, June 28, 2004 from 8:30-11:30 a.m. at Annual in Orlando. After the program, Task Force members will present a poster at the STS Poster Session.

Information supplied by Catherine Woodworth Wong and Virginia Baldwin

College Science Librarians Discussion Group and Issues in Sci/Tech Library Management Discussion Group

The two discussion groups co-sponsored a dinner on Sunday evening. Twenty-two librarians met at the Fish Market Restaurant for an informal dinner. This was a great way for people to make new acquaintances, and there were many rave reviews for the food. The response was so enthusiastic that we are planning to have a similar get-together in Orlando.

We also began thinking about topics for our program in Orlando in an effort to try to create some commonality among the discussion programs and to link them to the major issues identified in our survey.

Information supplied by Julie T. Miran and Norma Kobzina

Sci/Tech Information Discussion Group

The Sci/Tech Information Discussion Group hosted Part Two of “Conversation About Libraries and Informatics” at Midwinter 2004. (Informatics means creative collaborations for libraries.) A group of 40 attendees explored library/faculty collaborations designed to support the research and instructional needs of faculty and students in data-intensive disciplines.

Guest speakers introduced the topic. Stephen Cammer, Bioinformatics Specialist, University of California at San Diego (UCSD) Libraries, described a joint program between the Libraries and the UCSD Graduate Program in Bioinformatics that provides teaching and consultation in this growing field. Sue McGuinness, UCSD’s Pharmacy Librarian, discussed her role in developing an informatics course for UCSD’s new School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. Susan Starr, Associate University Librarian Sciences and Director,

Biomedical Library at UCSD talked about the library’s role in informatics initiatives and future developments.

Many attendees shared their thoughts and questions about how our libraries might design and develop new initiatives to support both traditional informatics and the growth of what some have called “digital science.” Positive feedback about these discussions on informatics has encouraged the chairs of the discussion group to consider other forums for a continued conversation.

Information supplied by Angi Faiks

Assessment Committee

The STS Assessment Committee focused on item #6 (data collection and assessment) of the ACRL Strategic Plan. For 6.1 (data analysis), questions and possible resolutions focused on: (a) Analysis and distribution of STS program evaluation data; (b) Distribution of data via surveys conducted by STS committees; (c) Archived minutes of the STS Council. Does the STS Assessment Committee have an “information clearinghouse role?” If so, possible roles and responsibilities were noted. For 6.2 (benchmarks/standards), relevant benchmarks or standards for science/ technology libraries need to be defined. Additionally, they need to be used in accreditation processes. These will be explored and refined by the committee. For 6.3 (program evaluation), the committee will create two templates: (1) A template for the assessment of programs; (2) A template for outgoing chairs of committees and discussion groups, to provide updates on goals attained by the group, or what has been done; on goals to be attained by the group, or what needs to be done; and on the membership of the group. Demographic data, or who attends the STS programs, will provide information and perspective. It is possible to provide demographic data via the program evaluations. Additionally, do the “programs” at the discussion groups need to be assessed? For 6.4 (organizational audits), it is assumed the committee will assist and support the STS Council on structural changes. For 6.5 (strategic planning), the STS Organization & Planning Committee is responsible for strategic planning. Other issues: (1) The STS Assessment Committee is compiling a list of the ALA units currently involved in assessment; (2) The charge of the committee was reviewed and changes were recommended; (3) A bibliography of relevant articles on the assessment process is being compiled.

Information supplied by Don Frank

research and presentations, helping them to further their

STS Electronic Communications Update

STS-L Listserv

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Moderators: Margaret Mellinger and Jeanine Williamson

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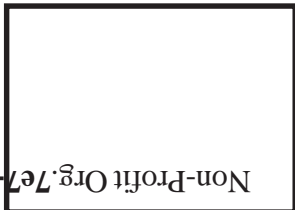
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