
STS *SIGNAL*

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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY SECTION / ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGE & RESEARCH LIBRARIES

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From the Vice-Chair/Chair Elect / Amy Paster

My thanks to all of the STS members who volunteered to serve on the various committees and discussions groups for 1997. I was able to appoint almost everyone who took the time to volunteer. If you were not appointed to a committee this year it is still possible to be an active member of the section. Make a point of attending the open committee meetings and be sure to participate in the various discussion groups.

The 1997 Program Planning Committee has started their work for the San Francisco conference and would like to hear your ideas. Contact either myself or Amy Shannon, chair of the 1997 Program Planning Committee.

Hope to see you all in New York.

*Amy Paster
Life Sciences Library
E205 Pattee Library
Penn State University
University Park, PA 16802-1801
ALP@PSULIAS.PSU.EDU*

STS-L Listserv

STS-L is a moderated e-mail list sponsored by this section. The purpose of the list is to a): provide a forum for the discussion of issues primarily of interest to all science and technology librarians; b): provide a quick communication link between the STS section leadership and the members; and c): serve as a distribution point for STS publications. It is a public list, open to all interested persons. As of press time, over 800 persons have joined the list!

To join STS-L, send email to LISTSERV@UTKVM1.UTK.EDU with the following message:

SUBSCRIBE STS-L First-Name Last-Name

Information supplied by Marty Courtois

College Science Librarians Discussion Group

A small group of College Science Librarians met informally over dinner at Midwinter to discuss ideas for topics to discuss at the Annual meeting in New York. We tentatively decided on the topic "Future Vision—The College Science Library in Fifteen Years". Suppose you were asked to come up with a scenario of what your library will be fifteen years from now? (It could happen to you.) What will it look like, what formats will predominate, how will your collection policies change? We hope for some imaginative, futuristic thinking and 'hot' ideas to combine with some cold realities in a kinetic reaction of lively discussion. The preliminary meeting time is 9:30-11:00 a.m., Saturday July 6.

The CSLDG will also meet Saturday evening for its "traditional" (but informal) dinner. Please contact Victoria Mitchell, Reed College, Portland, OR 97202, mitchell@reed.edu or Penny Russman, Science Library, Wesleyan College, Middletown CT, 06059, prussman@wesleyan.edu for further information, or with suggestions, comments, etc.

Information supplied by Victoria Mitchell

General Discussion Group

librarians, publishers and vendors. Ann Schaffner and Rob McGeachin are serving as co-chairs for 1995/96, and individuals appointed to the committee prior to the change will serve out the balance of their terms.

David Richard from EBSCO opened discussion with an overview of current trends in document delivery. More and more libraries are allocating a larger share of their budgets to providing access on demand via electronic modes of delivery. Yet librarians noted that journal subscriptions are being cancelled due to lack of funds; cancellations are failing to result in savings which could be reallocated to subsidize delivery on demand. E-journal subscriptions and article-on-demand royalties are not making up for publishers lost revenues from cancelled print subscriptions, and as a result publisher royalty fees are rising dramatically. Copyright and cost effectiveness issues of the "scan and store" method of delivery used by UnCover and others were also debated.

Library budget shortfalls have a negative impact on STM book publishing as well. Libraries report that interlibrary loan requests for monographs are rising dramatically, and publishers are seeing a substantial drop in standing orders.

The STM market is a finite one, and the decrease in library orders results in smaller print runs and higher unit costs. Rob McGeachin led a discussion on the proliferation of e-journal "teasers" or publicity put up by commercial publishers on the Net. These can take many forms the current issue only, a one-year back run of issues, or table of contents listings. Publishers view these "freebies" as a current awareness service. Libraries are reluctant to cancel print subscriptions for fear that electronic versions will not be adequately archived. The tenure system still does not view publishing in e-journals to be as prestigious as publishing in print. These factors serve to retard the growth of the e-journal market.

Ideas solicited from the audience for future meetings included: issues and current practices in the archiving of electronic texts; trends in document delivery pricing; the role vendors have to play in the electronic environment; examples of consortium site licensing; and the market for CD-ROM and other non-print formats.

Information submitted by Jana Lonberger

Science & Technology Section Meetings ALA Annual 1996 • New York

<u>DAY/DATE/TIME</u>	<u>COMMITTEE</u>	<u>DAY/DATE/TIME</u>	<u>COMMITTEE</u>
Friday, July 5		11:30-12:30	Legislation Committee II
7:30-9:30pm	STS Council I (8:00-10:00 pm)*	11:30-12:30	Nominating Committee (1997 elections)(closed meeting)
9:30-10:00pm	STS Executive Board	11:30-12:30	Organization & Planning Committee
Saturday, July 6		11:30-12:30	Science & Bibliographic Access
8:30am -12:30pm	Comparison of Science & Technology Libraries	2:00-5:30pm	GENERAL DISCUSSION GROUP & RESEARCH FORUM
9:30-11:00	COLLEGE SCIENCE LIBRARIANS DISCUSSION GROUP	6:00-8:00pm	STS Reception (Linda Hall East Library)
9:30-11:00	PUBLISHER/VENDOR RELATIONS DISCUSSION GROUP	6:00pm	Heads of Science & Technology Libraries Dinner
9:30-12:30	1996 New York Program Planning Committee	8:00-10:00pm	HEADS OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY LIBRARIES DISCUSSION GROUP
11:30-12:30	Continuing Education Committee	Monday, July 8	
11:30-12:30	Membership & Recruitment Committee	8:30am-11:30pm	Conference Program: Leaders on the Web Trail (speakers' presentations)
11:30-12:30	Oberly Award Committee (closed meeting)	11:30-12:30	Conference Program: Leaders on the Web Trail (demonstrations)
11:30-12:30	Publications Committee	7:30-9:30pm	STS Council II (8:00-10:00pm)*
6:00pm	College Science Librarians Dinner	Tuesday, July 9	
8:00-10:00pm	Legislation Committee I	8:00-9:00am	Forum for Science & Technology Library Research
Sunday, July 7			
8:30am-12:30pm	1997 San Francisco Program Planning Committee		
9:30-11:00	SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY DATABASES DISCUSSION GROUP		

*Time in parentheses is for official listing in ALA Schedule, if different from actual time.

**Heads of Science Libraries
Discussion Group**

Thirty-one librarians participated in a discussion titled "Are we sinking or

The committee also discussed a draft of our membership survey. This survey is designed to assess membership interest in various program or discussion topics. We decided to send the survey to *STS-L* and *STS Signal* by March and report our findings at the Annual Conference in New York.

Information supplied by Susan Norrisey

Legislation Committee

The committee heard reports from members who attended legislative and government relations meetings at ALA. Some of the key topics discussed in these meetings included: funding for libraries and technology, government information, copyright, and telecommunications policy.

Other discussion centered around support for the ACRL strategic direction, "Maintain at the national level a prominent role in planning and decision making for influencing information policy." The committee decided to rotate

STS Continuing Education Survey

The STS Continuing Education Committee wants your help in determining the needs and priorities you have for continuing education. Your input will be helpful for planning future programs.

Please indicate your level of interest in the following topics:

SUBJECT BASED

0=no interest; 1=some interest; 2=interest; 3=strong interest

Government policies and funding:
0__ 1__ 2__ 3__

Current issues & developments in science and technology:
0__ 1__ 2__ 3__

Subject training (Engineering, etc.):
0__ 1__ 2__ 3__

Subject reference training:
0__ 1__ 2__ 3__

Communication with scientists and engineers:
0__ 1__ 2__ 3__

INTERNET WORLD/WIDE WEB

0=no interest; 1=some interest; 2=interest; 3=strong interest

Internet/WWW access/searching skills and user instruction:
0__ 1__ 2__ 3__

HTML/Authoring Web pages and user instruction:
0__ 1__ 2__ 3__

New developments on the Internet:
0__ 1__ 2__ 3__

Copyright on the WWW:
0__ 1__ 2__ 3__

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

0=no interest; 1=some interest; 2=interest; 3=strong interest

Electronic journals:
0__ 1__ 2__ 3__

Electronic document delivery:
0__ 1__ 2__ 3__

Electronic databases:
0__ 1__ 2__ 3__

Digital libraries and the future of print resources:
0__ 1__ 2__ 3__

RESOURCE SHARING

0=no interest; 1=some interest; 2=interest; 3=strong interest

Consortia:
0__ 1__ 2__ 3__

Cooperative collection development:
0__ 1__ 2__ 3__

MANAGEMENT

0=no interest; 1=some interest; 2=interest; 3=strong interest

Science and technology collection management:
0__ 1__ 2__ 3__

Budgeting and serials:
0__ 1__ 2__ 3__

Marketing the library and services:
0__ 1__ 2__ 3__

Statistics as a management tool:
0__ 1__ 2__ 3__

Personnel and staffing issues:
0__ 1__ 2__ 3__

PROFESSIONAL

0=no interest; 1=some interest; 2=interest; 3=strong interest

Statistics as a research tool:
0__ 1__ 2__ 3__

Preservation and archiving of science and technology materials:
0__ 1__ 2__ 3__

Getting published:
0__ 1__ 2__ 3__

Presentation skills:
0__ 1__ 2__ 3__

Thank you for your assistance!

Please mail to: Susan Norrisey, Texas Tech University Library, P.O. Box 40002, Lubbock, TX 79409-0002
FAX: 806-742-0737 • E-mail: LISMN@ttacs.ttu.edu
