THE NASIG NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter of the North American Serials Interest Group, Inc.

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER
Beverley Geer, NASIG President

My mother always told me that time goes by faster and faster the older you get, but I am not sure that she ever envisioned a year that has gone by as fast as 1996/97. Many of you are probably heaving a big old sigh of relief that my term is up ("Get the damage control team in there, quick!" I hear you cry). Jimmie Dale is glad too. He feels I have been neglecting my main job -- providing a lap for him to lounge about on. I told him that I have a few more things to attend to before I can resume my position on the sofa, and this last column is one of them. Since this is my last chance to talk to you, I'd like to tell you what I am thinking about this past year and about the coming years in NASIG.

First, a bit of pleasant reminiscing. I can assure you that if anything went right this year, ALL of the credit goes to the following people:

- My fellow Board members. I am indebted to each and every one of them. Special thanks and recognition go to retiring Board members, Kat McGrath (if everyone in Canada is like Kat, NAFTA is a cinch to succeed), Dan Tonkery (master of the concise and understandable solution to any problem), and Julie Gammon (the soul of grace and kindness and the best of mentors).
- The chairs and members of the NASIG committees and task forces who conduct the business of this organization tirelessly and without failure.

In this issue you will find annual reports from the committees. Read them and be as amazed and grateful as I was to discover how dedicated, resourceful and efficient our volunteers are. Allow me to give you the highlights:

The Archivist, Teresa Mullins, collected and stored all the documents sent to her by the Board and the committees. Now she is working on a long-range plan for storing and retrieving NASIG's archives.

The Awards and Recognition Committee, co-chaired by Anne McKee and Debbie Sibley, completed its first year, having been formed by the merger of the Conference Student Grants Committee and the Horizon Award Task Force (how's that for good cataloging jargon?). They very ably carried out the selection of ten Student Grant winners and three Horizon Award winners. The Committee also took on the task of ordering the special service and recognition awards given to retiring Board members and committee chairs and to NASIG members who distinguished themselves in 1996/97.

The Bylaws Committee, chaired by Joanne Donovan, prepared a ballot that proposed two changes and one addition to the bylaws.

1. Refined the wording that describes the committee appointment process
2. Refined the timetable for notifying the membership of election results
3. Created a method for challenging election results.

The Continuing Education Committee, co-chaired by Michele Crump and Marilyn Geller, was very hard to keep up with this year. The Board received report after report of their efforts to take NASIG and its programs out to the field. In 1996/97, the Committee was involved in five continuing education programs, assisted with the development of the "Back to Basics" preconference to be presented in Ann Arbor, and worked on three projects: the Human Resources Directory, the "Shaping a Serials Specialist" brochure, and the mentoring program.

The Electronic Communications Committee, co-chaired by Steve Oberg and Maggie Rioux, continued to break all records for ingenuity and efficiency. In 1996/97 they not only carried out their regular duties with setting up lists for the Board and committees and keeping NASIG-L current but also managed to (and this is only a sample): freeze the gopher, WAIS index the current issues of the Newsletter, moderate NASIG-L, launch a job listing service on the Web page, and begin planning for Web decentralization.

The Evaluation and Assessment Committee, chaired by Beatrice Caraway, takes you and your opinions very seriously. They have taken all your ratings, comments, and suggestions from the 1996 conference and preconference evaluation forms and distilled them into tables, charts, and graphs that have been used by the Conference Planning and Program Planning committees in planning for the University of Michigan conference.

Personally, the highlight of my year was hearing that for the first time in its history NASIG can count among its members several of our colleagues in Mexico. We are now truly the *North American* Serials Interest Group thanks to the hard work of the Regional Council and Membership Committee. Much credit goes to Rogelio Hinojosa and Lynne Murphy for working to translate the membership brochure into Spanish and French and for actively recruiting new members from Mexico and French-speaking Canada. The RC&M also broke new ground by developing the position of Publicist. Judy Johnston is the first to hold this position and has done a wonderful job of working with the committees to publicize NASIG events and to get the French and Spanish language brochures printed.

The Newsletter Editorial Board, led by Maggie Horn, worked with our printer in Lewiston, Maine to improve the printing and distribution process.

The list of Professional Liaisons grew to include a liaison to the Public Library Association. The volunteers in this group keep us informed about their individual organization's activities through reports published in the NASIG Newsletter.

As I write this, the Conference Planning Committee (co-chaired by Leighann Ayers and Thomas Champagne, with vice-chair Judy Wilhelme) and the Program Planning Committee (co-chaired by Christa Easton and Karen Cargille) are putting the finishing touches on another ground-breaking conference to be held at the University of Michigan. NASIG conferences are the envy of the world, and these two committees deserve much praise and thanks from all of us.

The Proceedings Editors, Cecilia Leathem and Christine Christiansen, and the Database and Directory Committee, chaired by Cheryl Riley, accomplished the tasks of producing two of our most useful documents -- the conference Proceedings and the Membership Directory. The Directory will be available in June and the 1996 Proceedings will be published very soon. The Proceedings will also be available in electronic format on NASIGWeb.

Early in 1997, the Reimbursement Task Force, chaired by Fran Wilkinson, finished its work and presented to the Board two documents which clarified and documented NASIG's policy for compensation and reimbursement of speakers, presenters, and conference planning volunteers.

That was just a sample of what occurred in 1996/97. Many, many more people worked very hard keeping the organization running and insuring its continued success. In my opinion, one of the most important jobs is done by the Nominations and Elections Committee, and it was only when I became a Board member that I realized how important their work is. When I assumed office, I joined a Board that had members representing the geographic, institutional, and professional diversity that N&E strives for. I was most impressed by the two Board members who represented the commercial sector -- John Tagler and Dan Tonkery. It quickly became evident how their knowledge, insight and abilities complemented similar attributes that the Board members who were librarians possessed. It was quite a revelation and the experience influenced me to work hard to appoint members of the commercial sector to committees.

I also had several experiences this past year that drove home to me how committed our publisher/vendor/agent colleagues are to NASIG. For example, last fall John Tagler (Elsevier) helped me write a letter to a group of publishers inviting them to join. His experience and understanding made it possible for me to write a letter that addressed publisher interests and needs and thus attract them to NASIG. The Program Planning Committee has benefited from having members from the commercial group because they help balance the program between library and commercial issues and ideas. While at the UKSG meeting in April, I witnessed the advantage of having members from the commercial sector on the Regional Councils and Membership Committee because I saw NASIG membership brochures provided by Don Jaeger (Alfred Jaeger Inc.) who had an exhibit on site. He told me that he takes brochures with him everywhere he goes! I have seen brochures at the Swets booth at ALA, courtesy of Mike Markwith and Carol MacAdam. Finally, because of a suggestion by Dan Tonkery, Harry Hoffer (Readmore, Inc.) invited me to speak at a meeting in Mexico City in February. Because of Harry, I was able to share the podium with many of our commercial colleagues and fellow NASIG members and describe the benefits of membership in NASIG to our Mexican colleagues, building in a small way on the work already started by Rogelio Hinojosa whose accomplishments I

mentioned above. All of my experiences in the past year proved to me that NASIG is a stronger organization when all of the pieces of the serials chain are linked and working together."
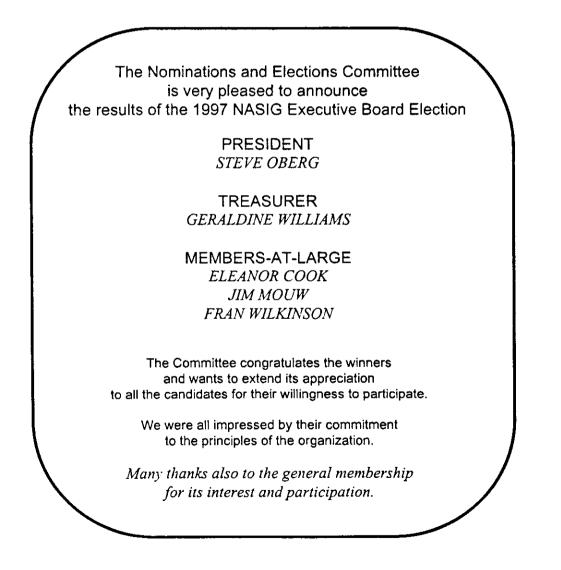
Unlike a democracy where the majority is meant to rule, we have an organization that, in my opinion, fares better when its leadership is made up of representatives from all groups, regardless of how large or small a group is. I have seen hard evidence that the commercial segment of the membership is a very active group whose commitment to NASIG is unshakable. The Nominations and Elections Committee strives to balance the slate with representation from the commercial sector, and I am asking you to give them very serious consideration the next time you cast your vote.

I am very grateful to you for the wonderful opportunity you gave me. This past year has been one of the best in my career -- in my whole life! I look forward to being Past President, but I have to admit that I will miss this job. I extend a big Texas welcome to new Board members, Steve Oberg (Vice-President/President Elect and fellow cataloger), Geraldine Williams (Treasurer), and Fran Wilkinson (Member-at-Large). To our new President Susan Davis, I hand over the gavel with pleasure and anticipation of great success.

Jimmie Dale and I wish you happy trails.

The Nominations and Elections Committee
is very pleased to announce
the results of the 1997 NASIG Executive Board Election

PRESIDENT
STEVE OBERG

TREASURER
GERALDINE WILLIAMS

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE
ELEANOR COOK
JIM MOUW
FRAN WILKINSON

The Committee congratulates the winners
and wants to extend its appreciation
to all the candidates for their willingness to participate.

We were all impressed by their commitment
to the principles of the organization.

Many thanks also to the general membership
for its interest and participation.

NASIG 13TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE (June 18-21, 1998):
Head in the Clouds, Feet on the Ground: Serials Vision and Common Sense
CALL FOR PAPERS, WORKSHOPS, AND PRECONFERENCES

The North American Serials Interest Group (NASIG), an organization that serves the interests of U.S., Canadian and Mexican members of the serials information chain, will hold its 13th Annual Conference June 18-21, 1998, on the campus of the University of Colorado in Boulder, one of the most beautiful university campuses in the United States. NASIG's annual conference provides a forum in which librarians, publishers, vendors, educators, binders, systems developers, and other serials specialists exchange views, present new ideas, proactively seek solutions to common problems, and discuss matters of current interest. The Proceedings are published in both print and electronic formats, with the electronic version made available on NASIGWeb (http://nasig.ils.unc.edu).

In keeping with a venue in Colorado, a state of remarkable topographic contrasts -- plains, plateaus, and high mountains -- NASIG's Program Planning Committee invites proposals for plenary papers and preconferences that deal with "big picture" aspects of the theme and which will help attendees scale new heights. We are especially interested in papers or preconference ideas that will examine both the visionary and practical aspects of the digital serials information age. Sessions which report on relevant research or which might inspire further research are particularly welcome, as are proposals which address decision making processes. Examples:

- Coping with the "digital shift"
- Cataloging and organizing evolving forms of information
- Web access issues -- technological, structural, cultural
- Innovative partnerships for information management
- E-journals -- access issues and their impact on user behavior
- Preserving digital formats for future generations
- Changes in library organizational structure
- Transactional commerce on the Web
- Selection criteria for online information

The committee also invites workshop and preconference proposals that will provide practical information to help serialists make informed decisions on a day to day basis. Workshop leaders share their experience in a collegial setting and facilitate related discussion with those in attendance, often explaining how they manage specific processes in their own settings. Examples:

- New technologies/services/software packages/standards
- Managing in times of change
- Survey methods for serialists
- Comparison of serials module features in the next generation of Integrated Library Systems
- Bibliometrics or statistics for serialists
- Licensing agreements for Web-based e-journals
- New models for serials publishing and their effects on the information chain

NASIG invites anyone in the information community to submit proposals and suggest topics/speakers. The Program Planning Committee reserves the right to combine, blend, or refocus proposals to maximize program breadth and relevance to our membership. As a result, not all presenters from proposals submitted by teams may be invited to participate. Since proposals are reviewed competitively, please include complete information for maximum consideration:

- Name, address, telephone/fax numbers, and e-address of the proposer(s)
- Program title
- A 200-300 word abstract clearly explaining the proposal and, if appropriate, its relevance to the theme
- A prioritized preference for the proposal: plenary, workshop or preconference

Proposals should be submitted, via e-mail if possible, no later than **August 1, 1997** to Connie Foster, NASIG Secretary to receive consideration. Send proposals to:

Connie Foster, Serials Supervisor
Helm-Cravens Library 306
One Big Red Way
Western Kentucky University
Bowling Green, KY 42101
Internet: rfosterc@wkyuvm.wku.edu

NASIG 11th Annual Conference (1996):
Proceedings

Carol Pitts Diedrichs

The NASIG Board is pleased to announce the availability of the print version of the 1996 NASIG Conference Proceedings. The Proceedings have reached such size that they now occupy 4 full issues (2 physical pieces) of the journal The Serials Librarian. This year they appear as volume 30, nos. 3/4 and volume 31, nos. 1/2 (1997). The NASIG Board and Haworth regrets that the Proceedings are split across a volume and will be bound in separate volumes in many libraries. NASIG and Haworth will work together to prevent this happening again in the future.

The 1996 Proceedings, *Pioneering New Serials Frontiers*, were edited by Christine Christiansen and Cecilia Leathem. They did an outstanding job and I thank them on behalf of the entire NASIG membership for their success. This task takes considerable time and intensive activity. I would also like to thank Maggie Horn and her husband, Tom McFadden, for indexing the Proceedings.
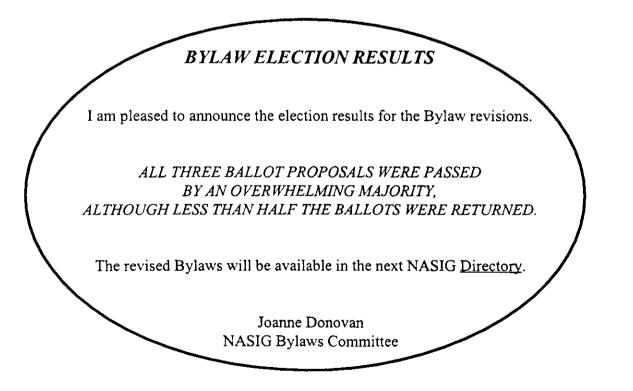
The Proceedings are also available as a single volume hardbound under the unique title. An order form was included with your notebooks at this year's conference in Ann Arbor. For others interested in purchasing the Proceedings, Haworth can be reached as follows:

> Phone: (800)-haworth
> Fax: (800) 895-0582
> Internet: getinfo@haworth.com

The Proceedings are available to NASIG members at a reduced price, and are also available electronically on NASIGWeb at the following address:

> http://nasig.ils.unc.edu/members/
> proceedings.1996/96proc_contents.html

(Ed. note: An order form is on the last page of this issue.)

BYLAW ELECTION RESULTS

I am pleased to announce the election results for the Bylaw revisions.

*ALL THREE BALLOT PROPOSALS WERE PASSED
BY AN OVERWHELMING MAJORITY,
ALTHOUGH LESS THAN HALF THE BALLOTS WERE RETURNED.*

The revised Bylaws will be available in the next NASIG Directory.

Joanne Donovan
NASIG Bylaws Committee

MINUTES OF THE NASIG BOARD MEETING

Connie Foster, NASIG Secretary

Date, Time: February 13, 1997; 2:20-6:30 p.m.; February 14, 1997, 8:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
Place: Washington, D.C.

Attending:
Beverley Geer, President
Susan Davis, Vice-President
Julia Gammon, Past President
Connie Foster, Secretary
Dan Tonkery, Treasurer
Jean Callaghan

Eleanor Cook
Carol Diedrichs
Ann Ercelawn
Birdie MacLennan
Kat McGrath

Guests:
Maggie Horn, Newsletter Editor
Cindy Hepfer, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, ALCTS Serials Section
Leighann Ayers, Tom Champagne, 1997 Conference Planning Committee Co-Chairs
Karen Cargille, Christa Easton, 1997 Program Planning Committee Co-Chairs

1.0 MINUTES

The minutes of October 4-5, 1996, were approved.

2.0 SECRETARY'S REPORT

2.1 C. Foster distributed the Board roster for revisions and corrections.

2.2 C. Foster compiled the following Board actions since the October meeting for inclusion with the minutes:

a) Agreed to the following disclaimer statement for the NASIG membership brochure:
"The English language is used by NASIG in all its activities and publications.
Promotional materials may also be available in French and Spanish." The statement will appear in French or Spanish for brochures in those languages. RC&M will decide on placement of the disclaimer in the brochure.

b) Acknowledged that ECC established a job listing service on the Web in late October, coordinated by Step Schmitt, and approved public announcement by ECC.

c) Approved printing 500 membership brochures each in French and in Spanish.

d) Appointed the following professional liaisons:
Marsha Bennett (Boston Public Library) to PLA
Kewal Krishan (University of Saskatchewan) to CLA
Isabel Czech (ISI) to SSP

e) Adjusted the Sunday morning conference schedule to accommodate the University of Michigan's firm check-out time.

f) Approved ECC's request to give a complimentary electronic membership and paperweight to D. Jay Cervino, the graduating UNC SLIS student who handles NASIG technical support.

g) Agreed to freeze the NASIG gopher as of 12/31/96.

h) Approved CEC's request that NASIG sponsor Trisha Davis as a speaker at the 6th annual North Carolina Serials Conference. NASIG will be acknowledged as sponsoring her session.

i) Reviewed NASIG's Human Resources Directory (HRD) on the Web and approved public announcement by CEC.

j) Authorized a donation in memory of John Malinowski (Teresa's father) to a fund designated by the family.

k) Accepted the 1997 ballot for officer elections as presented by the Nominations & Elections Committee.

l) Approved the charge for a Publications Program Task Force.

m) Accepted Bylaws Committee ballot with 3 items: 1) change in Article VI. Committees. Section 2. Standing Committees; change in Article VII. Nominations and Elections. Section 2. Elections ; and addition of Article VII. Nominations and Elections. Section 3. Challenges.

n) Selected Proceedings Editors for 1997/98: Charlene Simser and Michael Somers, Kansas State University.

2.3 C. Foster reported that persons whose program proposals were not accepted were notified on December 17, 1996.

3.0 TREASURER' REPORT

3.1 D. Tonkery reviewed the 1996 expenditures, with all expenses paid from the University of New Mexico conference and the budget year ending December 31, 1996. The cash position on January 19, 1997, was $181,239.39.

3.2 He reminded members of the high cost of Federal Express for early next day delivery and encouraged second-day or next afternoon delivery if possible.

Following discussion of renewals, Tonkery suggested that the appropriate forms contain a statement to the effect that a canceled check is a receipt.

ACTION: The Treasurer will notify Database & Directory to add a statement to renewal forms: "Your canceled check is your receipt"
DATE: In time for the next renewal cycle in 1997
ACTION: D. Tonkery obtained appropriate Board signatures to initiate transfer of $50,000 to another investment account as authorized at the October meeting.
DATE: Transfer to occur ASAP

As of February 1, 1997, there were 974 renewals out of 1250 members. The 1996 operating budget was $59,140.00 and actual expenditures were $51,417.27.

3.3-4 D. Tonkery reviewed the revised 1997 budget as revised per prior Board decisions for increasing the number of awards. The 1997 budget is $80,683.00. He is working on guidelines for the next Treasurer. The Board agreed that a manual is needed.

ACTION: The Board approved the revised 1997 operating budget.
ACTION: D. Tonkery will prepare a finance manual for the position of Treasurer.
DATE: By the May 1997 Board meeting

4.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

4.1 Archivist

As a temporary measure, J. Gammon recommended asking T. Mullins to move the NASIG archives to a storage facility until a plan for permanent storage can be devised. The Board agreed that the plan should include provisions for processing, access, insurance, and security. The Board agreed that B. Geer will appoint a Task Force to investigate a permanent storage site.

ACTION: J. Gammon will ask T. Mullins to store NASIG's archives at a local storage facility until a permanent site can be found.
DATE: ASAP
ACTION: B. Geer will appoint a Task Force to investigate a permanent storage site for the NASIG archives.
DATE: By the May 1997 Board meeting

4.2 Awards & Recognition (A&R)

E. Cook stated that the Awards & Recognition Committee recommends suspension of the NASIG research award.

ACTION: The Board approved suspension of the research award immediately.

The A&R committee favored two initiatives: 1) development of an international outreach program and 2) development of a scholarship for a serials paraprofessional who wants to attend library school.

ACTION: A report from the committee about further development of these initiatives.
DATE: By the May 1997 Board meeting

E. Cook discussed the SISAC/NASIG joint sponsorship of an award in honor of Fritz Schwartz. She suggested that A&R work directly with SISAC to develop a suitable award.

DECISION: A&R will work with SISAC to develop a suitable award to honor Fritz Schwartz.
DATE: As soon as can be arranged with SISAC

4.3 Bylaws

K. McGrath distributed a proposed schedule for mailing the bylaws ballot to members. The Board accepted the schedule as presented. Results will be reported May 1, 1997.

4.4 Continuing Education Committee (CEC)

B. MacLennan reported on six programs sponsored by CEC, including three with library schools as encouraged in the Strategic Plan. She highlighted projects and displayed the printer's draft of the brochure "Shaping a Serials Specialist."

ACTION: The Board revised initial print request to 3,000 copies of "Shaping a Serials Specialist" brochure.
DECISION: CEC will determine distribution sources and will work with ECC for mounting on NASIGWeb.
DATE: Immediately

B. MacLennan cited ongoing and additional activities and projects. The Board discussed the mentor/mentee program and the increase of participants to 30. The Board also explored the possibility of offering a scholarship to a library support staff member to attend a regional "road show" or conference featuring a NASIG presentation.

DECISION: CEC will study the feasibility of offering a scholarship, the application process, criteria, and other considerations for support staff, library school students, or NASIG members who live near the conference site and prepare a report.
DATE: Written report due at the May 1997 Board meeting

4.5 Database & Directory Committee (D&D)

4.5.1 J. Callaghan shared a membership profile and noted that NASIG has several new members from Canada and Mexico, a Strategic Plan initiative.

4.5.2-3 Callaghan reported that the renewal rate in January was 72%. The Board discussed how the rate was calculated and that it should be based on the number of paid members to date. Final renewal reminders were mailed in early February.

ACTION: The Board requested an updated renewal rate from D&D on April 1, based on paid members and also a report on the number of members by country and type of organization.
DATE: J. Callaghan will notify D&D of the request for a revised renewal rate and ask that the membership information be included in the June Newsletter as part of the committee's annual report.

J. Callaghan asked liaisons to remind committees that the D&D chair needs at least two weeks' notice to print mailing labels. Regarding the printing schedule for the Membership Directory, the Board affirmed that D&D is to use the original schedule for preparation and mailing of the Membership Directory so that it will be received by members in June.

4.6 Electronic Communications Committee (ECC)

A. Ercelawn presented activities of ECC relating to the gopher, Web, preconference, and the meeting of Maggie Rioux and Steve Oberg with UNC technical staff. She expressed hope that the installation of a new server and upgrade from the current shareware version of Listproc (6.0c) to the commercial version (8.0) will alleviate problems and enhance NASIG's electronic services and capabilities. She announced that Mike Randall and Wendy Moore will be trained as listowners by S. Oberg.

4.6.1 A. Ercelawn presented the ECC's plan for Web decentralization with ECC retaining primary responsibility for NASIGWeb and serving as liaison to committees and task forces that want to mount and maintain their own documentation. Committees that wish to participate in NASIGWeb should identify members with HTML skills to serve as Web liaisons for their committees or send members to a preconference on the Web to acquire such skills. Future volunteers to committees should list that skill on the volunteer form to assist in the appointment process. The Board discussed possible training options and decided to sponsor an orientation meeting for Web liaisons during the Networking Node time and to sponsor preconference attendance by members of several committees.

ACTION: The Board approved implementation of Web decentralization.
DECISION: The Board recommended that each committee interested in maintaining pertinent sections of the Web assign a member or members to serve as Web liaisons.
DATE: ASAP
DECISION: The Board recommended that representatives from CPC'98, D&D, Proceedings, CEC, and the Newsletter attend the preconference sponsored by ECC.
DATE: At the 1997 conference

4.6.2 A. Ercelawn announced that the issues of the Newsletter from 1996 on have been indexed on the Web. Back issues will be indexed as they are converted from gopher to Web format. The Board expressed its appreciation to Michele Collins Flinchbaugh for her work on the WAIS index. Individual articles are now in separate files and can be accessed individually. A. Ercelawn suggested that the Newsletter calendar of events (Web version) be enhanced with links to conference sites.

4.7 Evaluation & Assessment Committee (EAC)

J. Callaghan reported that the final comprehensive evaluation reports of the New Mexico conference had just been mailed to the Board. The Board discussed a workable deadline for the final evaluation results to be completed because none appeared in the planning calendar.

ACTION: The Board requested a sort by topic of the free-text comments for easier review and also hoped for a more timely distribution of the 1997 conference evaluation.
DATE: Distribution of final evaluation by the fall board meeting, or no later than December 31 of the year in which the conference was held.

4.8 Newsletter

M. Horn commented on some reorganization of the production and distribution elements of the Newsletter, resulting in more timely receipt of issues. A formal self-study will follow.

The printer in Lewiston, Maine, is assisting with application for a non-profit mailing permit to reduce mailing costs.

ACTION: The Newsletter Committee will conduct a self-study and prepare a report and analysis of workflow.
DATE: By the May 1997 Board meeting

4.9 Nominations & Elections (N&E)

J. Gammon stated that 27 potential candidates completed the nominee profile sheets and that a revised nominee profile form was used this year. The ballot reflects the committee's response to the Board charge in January 1996 to seek diversity among NASIG's constituencies.

S. Davis wondered if committee chairs should be invited to the Board meetings prior to the annual conference to allow for further development of potential candidates for NASIG offices.

ACTION: Discussion on the Board list.
DATE: Prior to the May 1997 Board meeting

4.10 Proceedings

C. Diedrichs reported that Cecilia Leathem and Christine Christiansen have sent the 1996 proofs to Haworth. They will send the Proceedings Editors manual to the new editors as soon as updates are made.

C. Diedrichs announced that the 1997 Proceedings Editors are Charlene Simser and Michael Somers from Kansas State University.

The publisher bid process for the 1998 Proceedings occurs this year. C. Diedrichs will initiate this bid process.

4.11 Regional Councils & Membership (RC&M)

B. MacLennan asked about storage and distribution of the French and Spanish membership brochures.

The Board recommended identifying two or three conferences where NASIG can promote and display membership materials.

DECISION: The Secretary will store membership brochures.
ACTION: RC&M will identify two or three conferences where NASIG can promote membership and display materials.
DATE: By the May 1997 Board meeting

5.0 COOPERATION BETWEEN NASIG AND ALCTS

C. Hepfer, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect of ALCTS Serials Section, expressed interest in cooperative efforts between the two groups but recognized the organizational differences between NASIG and ALCTS.

DECISION: The Board supported efforts by both groups to identify potential avenues for cooperation including establishment of a joint task force to identify specific areas for cooperation.
DATE: ASAP, pending ALCTS Board action

· Adjournment and Dinner

6.0 UMICH CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE (CPC)

L. Ayers reviewed the conference draft budget, dormitory housing limit of 650, events, transportation, and schedules. T. Champagne discussed the brochure size and efforts to reduce its length. The brochure will be mailed at the end of February. The Board discussed its policy about non-NASIG

sponsored events during the conference. (See section 8.0)

7.0 UMICH PROGRAM PLANNING COMMITTEE (PPC)

C. Easton reminded everyone that this is the first year for preconferences to be part of Program Planning's responsibility. She enlisted conveners from members of the Program Planning Committee in addition to Board members to meet the increased number required for the plenaries, projects, and issues sessions. The letter to speakers will be finalized soon and sent out by the end of February; biographical information will be sent to PPC to minimize the number of contacts for the speakers.

K. Cargille reviewed workshops and will coordinate assignment of introducers with the Proceedings editors, who assign session recorders. She will need to identify 44 introducers.

8.0 PERIPHERAL CONFERENCE EVENTS

K. McGrath introduced discussion about guidelines for non-conference special events and the posting of such information with regards to NASIG's position about non-NASIG events.

DECISION: The Board will continue discussion about peripheral events at the May 1997 meeting with the intent of revising and expanding the current policy to be added to the Conference Planning Committee manual and implemented at the 1998 conference.

9.0 TASK FORCE REPORTS

9.1 Reimbursement Task Force

The Task Force prepared a letter to host institutions (official sponsors) of NASIG's annual conference and also completed a Compensation and Reimbursement Policy.

ACTION: The Board approved the Compensation and Reimbursement Policy and the letter to host institutions, effective with the 1997 conference.

With the approval of the policies, the Board thanked the Task Force for its work in this important matter.

9.2 Program Planning Manual Update

S. Davis reported that no progress has been made on the Program Planning Manual, but that it will be updated by C. Easton, current PPC co-chair. M. Horn will index both the CPC and PPC manuals.

9.3 Conference Planning Manual Update

S. Davis and K. McGrath presented a section on Canadian issues which will be added to the CPC manual.

ACTION: The Board approved the addition of a section on Canadian issues, as revised, to the Conference Planning manual.
ACTION: J. Callaghan will send S. Davis additional revisions for the CPC manual.
DATE: ASAP

9.4 Publications Program Task Force

B. Geer and S. Davis stated that the task force appointments are progressing.

10.0 SITE SELECTION FOR 1998

10.1 J. Callaghan and S. Davis reported on their site visit to the University of Colorado, Boulder. They had a very positive experience. J. Callaghan received additional cost information from McGill University and prepared estimated conference expenses but recommended that this site be revisited as a possibility for 1999, given the favorable visit to the University of Colorado-Boulder.

10.2-3 J. Callaghan recommended the University of Colorado at Boulder as the site of the 1998 conference. In planning for the year 2000, the Board discussed San Diego as a site.

ACTION: The Board approved the University of Colorado at Boulder as the 1998 site for June 18-21, and authorized J. Callaghan to notify staff there immediately.
ACTION: The Board agreed to revisit McGill as a possible site for 1999 and identify other potential sites.
ACTION: The Board recommended formal contact with the University of California, San Diego, as a possible site for the year 2000.
DATE: ASAP

10.4-5 J. Callaghan distributed the short form used for initial site selection evaluation. She will discuss site selection in a forthcoming Newsletter article.

11.0 CALENDAR

J. Gammon observed that the NASIG Planning Calendar is outdated and needs revision. She agreed that it should be mounted on the Web as an administrative document when revised and then updated as changes come from the Board.

ACTION: Each Board liaison should contact committees and review timetables for responsibilities. The liaison should then notify J. Gammon of any corrections or additions.
DATE: ASAP

12.0 SISAC PROPOSAL (See 4.2)

13.0 STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

B. Geer requested that all Board liaisons ask their committees to review the Strategic Plan and incorporate its goals into their work.

B. Geer recommended that a revised and updated version of NASIG 2000 Strategic Plan be put on the Web.

ACTION: All Board liaisons are to refer to and review the Strategic Plan with their committees and incorporate it into committee work.
DATE: Immediately
ACTION: B. Geer will revise and update the Strategic Plan and submit it to the Web page.
DATE: ASAP

13.1 Education

B. Geer noted that CEC has linked programs with library schools in keeping with the Strategic Plan. The Plan also recommends contacting academic institutions that offer publishing programs.

ACTION: CEC will identify schools that offer publishing programs as possible avenues for programs, as recommended in the Strategic Plan.
DATE: Identify the schools by the May 1997 Board Meeting

13.2 Electronic Communications

B. Geer commented that WAIS indexing has been done and that decentralization issues and Web access to the Membership Directory are being explored, in keeping with the Strategic Plan.

13.3 Grants & Awards (See 4.2)

13.4 Membership

B. Geer summarized the need for an updated renewal rate in April to compare to that in the Strategic Plan. She noted that we are gaining members from Canada and Mexico and various organizations. The idea of a traveling display to promote membership will be pursue by RC&M per the Strategic Plan.

14.0 NEXT MEETING & ADJOURNMENT

The next Board meeting will be on Wednesday, May 28,1997, in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

The meeting was adjourned at noon.

TREASURER'S REPORT
Dan Tonkery

After four years as Treasurer, it is now time to turn over the financials, the banking, the budgeting to the next Treasurer. All financial indicators are fine. The cash position continues to grow; this year the meeting should show a profit; and the organization is below budget for 1997.

I have personally enjoyed this opportunity to serve NASIG and to support both the Presidents and the Board for the past four years. With the continuation of the conservative financial planning and budgeting philosophy, NASIG should continue to be the most financially successful library organization.

OTHER STANDING ISSUES

1. Investment Account

While all the forms have been completed, I have not opened the investment account due to the uncertainty of the market conditions. The mutual fund market has been unreliable during the February-May period, so I did not move any money into this program.

2. Transfer of Treasurer Duties

With the conclusion of the annual meeting, the next Treasurer will take over the financial activities of the organization. To support a smooth transition, I will reconcile the May bank statements and assist in paying the outstanding invoices from the Michigan meeting. The database will be transferred to Gerry Williams by the middle of June.

CASH POSITION

Checking	$ 84,491.33
Savings	$169,640.87
Investment	$ 51,157.66
Total Assets	$305,289.86

NASIG CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAM:
Order Out of Chaos

Leslie Horner Button

On November 19,1996, the University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Library and Information Studies and NASIG jointly sponsored a free continuing education program entitled "Order Out of Chaos." The focus of this program was the impact electronic resources have had upon library collections.

Maggie Rioux, Information Systems Librarian, Marine Biological Laboratory/Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, was the sole presenter. She opened her remarks by stating that librarians bring order to disorganized information. The Internet is very much like a vandalized library, according to Michael Gorman, but librarians have always brought

order to unorganized resources and patrons need access to quality materials. It is no different for the Internet. Collection development policies are much like agriculture, that is, the sowing and harvesting of valuable crops. The Internet is more similar to hunting and gathering -- it is primitive and there are many good things to be found among its many entities, but there are also poisonous materials. Maggie questioned why we should collect Web resources when it was difficult enough to manage print material. Her response: the future of libraries lies in incorporating electronic resources into existing collection; if libraries do not continue to grow and embrace new materials, they will become obsolete. As more services go online, it will no doubt be a natural extension for libraries to bring materials to users' desktops; electronic resources will be one method by which we meet this need.

Before libraries do that, however, we must determine how to select electronic materials. Maggie suggested that the basic collection development principles which apply to print materials must be extended to electronic materials. In order to be successful, libraries must have collection development policies that specifically include Internet and electronic resources. Further, when considering whether to select an electronic product, the following issues must be addressed:

- Quality and content: Is it a credible source; what is the importance of the resource; is it comprehensive or unique; is the Internet version complete?

- Relevancy: How does the material fit in with the existing collection; does it meet the user's needs?

- Ease of use: Will the user (and library staff) be able to use the resource with readily available instructions or will extensive training be required?

- Reliability and stability: Can you log in to the site when you want to or does the system go down frequently; when it goes down, how long is it inaccessible; if it is a Web resource, can you always find it with the same URL?

- Costs and copyright: What are the associated costs, for how many users; is the

cost worth expense or can the information be made available another way for a more reasonable expenditure?

- What hardware and software are required: Is it hardware and/or software the library already owns; will it require a special purchase; can the item be networked easily?

Maggie mentioned various tools which can help locate Internet resources. Altavista is a search engine which can be used to locate electronic resources. Having access to similar search engines can be the first step toward excellence. Yahoo is an index of Web sites rather than a search engine. Neither Yahoo nor Altavista make statements about the relevance of materials they locate; rather they simply assist users to navigate the Internet. NewJour is an electronic newsletter that lists new sites, but again, there is no statement about quality. Review columns in professional literature (American Libraries, Library Journal, and College and Research Libraries News) are published regularly. In addition, Maggie stated that Internet World is an excellent source for articles and journals on Web sites and librarians often review sites for this publication. Review of Internet resources are becoming more sophisticated all the time.

Maggie then discussed issues associated with Web and electronic resources that differ from those surrounding print materials and discussed, in more detail, the five items outlined about. First, what is free vs. Fee? Generally if one must pay for the resource, the criteria which apply to print materials can be used to evaluate an electronic resource. There is usually some sort of editorial effort which is applied by the producer of fee-based materials. Bibliographic databases available via the Web are used widely now; some databases work better over the Internet than in CD-ROM format. The next dilemma for the library is (if it opts for the Internet version) how will access be restricted? Username and password is one method for ensuring only the library's patrons can use the product, but in a large institution, what are the mechanics for distributing this information to a large group of people? A second possibility is to use a dummy server. In this situation, the machine acts as an intermediary, but it may require computer programmers. A third way to limit access is to load client software into each personal computer. This software communicates
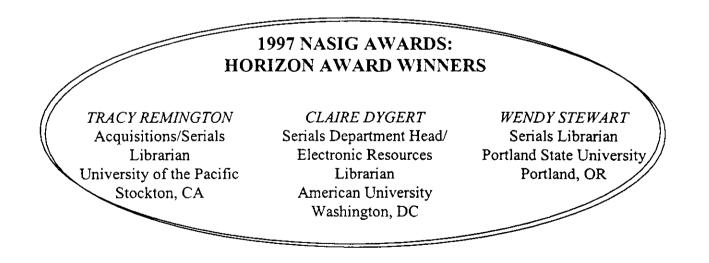
with a central site; this option is not practical for bringing libraries to the desktop, although it is acceptable for "in-library" use. Maggie suggested that the best way to limit access is by IP address, since one does not have to worry about the wrong people accessing information quite as much as with other methods. However, the negative side of IP address as access restriction is that patrons cannot use the resources from home unless they log in to their home institution's computer first, which may involve telecommunication charges.

What about ephemeral vs. permanent sites? A Web site is easy to put up and can disappear just as quickly. The library needs to consider whether this is someone's personal home page and when it was last update. A tilde (~) at the end of a URL directory means it is someone's personal directory and not a home institution's. This may give the user a clue as to how permanent the document is and how often it is revised. There needs to be a method of checking URLs to ensure they are still valid connections.

Maggie spoke about the delivery method for electronic materials: will access be provided via the Web, Telnet, or some other method. Will the users be required to come to the library to use the resource, or will remote access be allowed and encouraged? If the resource is something everyone will want to use, or at least know about, then the items need to be represented in both the library catalog and the library's home page. Libraries need

to provide links to the resources directly from the OPAC, using an 856 field in the bibliographic record or some other live connect method. Library Web pages should also have pointers to the electronic resources. Cataloging copy for electronic resources can be found frequently on OCLC or other bibliographic utilities. Determination of location, call number, and any holdings statements should be easy to comprehend and give the patron a clear indication of where to locate the resource. Maggie added that cataloging the resource is critical because it is another method by which patrons can locate materials, regardless of the format. When cataloging an electronic item, provenance and integrity are critical, so key bibliographic elements should be derived from the screen.

Maggie closed her presentation by stating that Ranganathan's quote is as applicable today as it was fifty years ago. Libraries need to be able to connect users with all types of information, both traditional and new, to bring patrons the information they need in the format that is most convenient and useful to them.

The presentation was followed by a question and answer session. Questions focused on what other publications were useful to locate information on electronic resources, as well as demonstrations of resources which at first glance appeared to be valid, but in reality were personal Web pages.

1997 NASIG AWARDS:
HORIZON AWARD WINNERS

TRACY REMINGTON
Acquisitions/Serials
Librarian
University of the Pacific
Stockton, CA

CLAIRE DYGERT
Serials Department Head/
Electronic Resources
Librarian
American University
Washington, DC

WENDY STEWART
Serials Librarian
Portland State University
Portland, OR

1997 NASIG AWARDS: HORIZON AWARD RECIPIENTS' ESSAYS

Anne McKee and Debbie Sibley, Co-Chairs, Awards & Recognition Committee

In response to the 1996/97 NASIG Board's generous support of the Horizon Award, the 1996/97 NASIG Awards & Recognition Committee was pleased to be able to award 3 Horizon grants for the 1997 Conference.

The Horizon Award (created in 1995 to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the NASIG Conference) is open to all aspiring serialists who have less than three (3) years experience in serials, have at least 50% of their job responsibility in some aspect of serials, and have never attended a NASIG conference. In addition to the application packet which requires the Horizon application, current resume/vita and a supervisor's recommendation; the applicants must also discuss the year's conference theme in an essay.

The Horizon Award grants a scholarship to the year's NASIG conference, travel expenses, a recognition plaque, the opportunity to serve on a NASIG committee, and one year's annual NASIG membership fee. The NASIG Awards & Recognition Committee is pleased to present the 1997 Horizon Award recipients' essays.

EXPERIMENTATION AND COLLABORATION: CREATING SERIALS FOR A NEW MILLENNIUM
CLAIRE DYGERT

CLAIRE DYGERT has been with American University since September 1996 but has several years of experience as a paraprofessional from Everett Community College, Everett, Washington and Emmanuel College Library, Boston. Claire has an M.L.S from the University of Washington, Seattle and a BA in English from the University of Massachusetts, Boston where she graduated magna cum laude.

A willingness to experiment is a definite prerequisite for anyone entering the serials profession today. The serials librarian no longer deals only with materials in print and microform, but is faced with a seemingly endless variety of new formats, each with their own unique problems. There are cases where a publisher's single subscription price suddenly includes, in addition to a print copy, an Internet edition with "continuous publishing," along with CD-ROM archives of back issues. On a lesser scale, individual print issues are increasingly accompanied by CD-ROMs and computer disks. As guidelines for managing these formats have yet to be fully developed, experimentation is a must.

The questions that these additional formats raise are endless and range across a broad spectrum of specializations. Collection development policies, previously considered format blind, are often insufficient to handle the intricacies of collecting and making accessible digital material. The technicalities of accessing remote computer files, archiving backfile data, and preservation of data, are issues, which must be comprehensible to the serials librarian of today. Questions of licensing and copyright of digital material can take on nightmarish proportions, leaving one feeling like law school might not be such an unreasonable idea after all...

To successfully meet the challenges of incorporating electronic serials into a print collection, the serials librarian will do well to collaborate widely with her/his colleagues. I personally find that my active and positive working relationships with the Collection Development, Systems, and Acquisitions Librarians (the latter being somewhat of a local licensing expert) are invaluable to me, but collaboration shouldn't be restricted to one's individual institution. Librarians around the world are struggling with the complexities in the New World of serials; we have much to gain from sharing experiences with one another as we work toward solving the problems of creating serials for the new millennium. High on my list of professional goals is to successfully guide the transition from a print serials environment into a multi-format serials environment. This goal can only be achieved through informed experimentation and extensive collaboration with colleagues in the library profession, the academic community, and the publishing world.

The serials librarian of today also has new opportunities for experimentation and collaboration within the greater world of the information community. I believe that electronic publishing and the World Wide Web provide the potential for a real

revolution in scholarly communication. Librarians can and should play a proactive role in shaping the direction of the revolution. The voices of librarians must continue to be heard in the Internet anti-censorship and free access debates, so we can further have an impact on future legislation. Locally, librarians should forge strong working relationships with their campus computing centers and/or community information services. By doing so, we can ensure that the library remains a strong partner in the information flow and continues to act as a gateway to knowledge.

EXPERIMENTATION AND COLLABORATION: CREATING SERIALS FOR A NEW MILLENNIUM
TRACY REMINGTON

TRACY REMINGTON received her M.L.S. from the University of California, Berkeley, an M.A. and B.A. in History and a B.A. in Government -- all from CSU Sacramento. Tracy has varied experience in libraries as a Reference Librarian at El Dorado County Library, Children's Coordinator at Nevada County Library, part-time reference librarian at CSU-Sacramento and most recently the Science Librarian at UOP before assuming her position as Acquisitions/Serial Librarian in 1995. Tracy is very active professionally and has been on the Feather River Institute Planning Committee since 1995.

The 1997 NASIG conference theme *Experimentation and Collaboration: Creating Serials for a New Millennium* can be used to sum up the daily life of the serials professional as easily as it can be applied to our role and responsibilities in the next century. The evolution in serials technology combined with increasing user demand for these new technologies, has created an environment in which librarians, subscription agents, and publishers will gain more as individuals if they work together.

For the serials professional, this means a daily awareness of the changes current and coming in the serials environment. Information users are looking for new ways to retrieve the information found in serials. In addition to the traditional in-house collections, users want electronic mediums, comprehensive indexing, and an increased number of access points. Reality, with shrinking budgets, rising serials prices, diminishing vendor discounts from publishers and downsized library staffs, is of course always there to remind us of our limitations. However, despite our grip on reality, we can respond to our changing environment with an openness to new ideas, options, and experiments. Unfortunately, the pull of reality and the push of new technologies do not inherently create an environment where experimentation thrives. The best response is collaboration. Collaboration between librarians, subscription agents, and publishers is the only option that shares the responsibilities of resources, investment (in time and money), expertise, and vision. It is a viable option in an increasingly complex world. Collaboration allows the serials industry to harness new technologies and turn them into useable, accessible, archivable, affordable, and merchandisable formats. In short, collaboration allows the experimentation that is and will continue to be necessary for the creation and maintenance of industry standards. With this scenario we are proactive and in control of the situation. Without collaboration the resources are not there for us to take the leading edge. Instead we are forced into a reactionary position which drains resources and patience, and dilutes technological possibilities.

The challenge of creating serials for the new millennium is simply an extension of our professional lives. Skills that work effectively in the current serials environment here at the end of the 20th century (coping, commiserating, experimenting, responding) will continue to be effective in the new millennium. However, the secret to our success will be our willingness to work together and to venture forward boldly. No one ever said serials were for the faint of heart. So with this in mind, the 1997 conference theme is both a reaffirmation and an admonition. Experimentation and collaboration present the best opportunity for successfully creating serials for the new millennium.

With an interest in staying active within this changing environment, my professional goals include increasing my knowledge and experience within the serials industry. I plan to continue to develop my role as a library professional in technical services where serials and acquisitions will continue to be my primary focus. My long-term goals include plans to expand my areas of responsibility and eventually manage a Technical Services Department.

WENDY STEWART has been in the library at Portland State for over 13 years as a paraprofessional but has been the Serials Librarian since October 1995. Wendy has recently co-authored an article describing PSU's innovative "Adopt-a-Journal" program and also has created many Web pages for the library. In addition to teaching several BI sessions, Wendy has helped plan the last two Oregon Library Association conferences. With a M.L.S. from Syracuse University and a B.A. in English from Oregon State University, Wendy was also a recipient of a 1994 H.W. Wilson Company scholarship in 1994.

It is easy to lose sight of the reasons we choose the work we choose. Often it feels as if we're more expert in crisis management than in information management. We spend time worrying over and manipulating budgets; implementing new systems applications; and resolving problems of access and ownership. It never seems to stop and it never seems the same. This is not a new phenomenon; it's the nature of serials work. What is different is the change in the nature of serials publication; the business of serials publishing; and the change in perception caused by the explosion of information and its accessibility via the Internet and the World Wide Web. The changes demand flexibility and we must do our best to adapt to the situation and, at the same time, respond to the needs of those whom we serve.

As serialists, we specialize in adapting to change. Sometimes our methods of problem solving are successful. Sometimes they fail. In order to ensure more success than failure, a serialist shares knowledge gained through experience and study and gathers information form a variety of sources. NASIG and its annual conference affords a great opportunity for sharing and gaining understanding of who we are in the information community and how we can remain health and creative members of it.

1997 NASIG AWARDS:
STUDENT GRANT RECIPIENTS

PAULA BOWERING University of British Columbia	*STEVE POSTI* University of South Florida
DARCY JONES Emporia State University	*LAURA POWER* University of Tennessee, Knoxville
KRISTEN TOOZE KERN Emporia State University	*ROUMI RADENSKA* University of North Carolina, Greensboro
SUSAN J. KIMBALL Catholic University	*FREDERICA G. SCOTT* Kent State University
HSIANGHUI LIU-SPENCER University of Rhode Island	*CYNTHIA WOLFF* Queens College

1996/97 NASIG COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORTS

NASIG ARCHIVES
Teresa Mullins, Archivist

During the last few months, I have changed jobs and have gone to work as an Account Manager for OCLC. Consequently, the housing of the archives and the address to which potential NASIG archival materials should be sent has changed. The new address of the archives is: 303 S. Broadway, Suite B402, Denver, CO, 80209.

In order to avoid wear and tear on the archival material and to insure that the material always be available to the Board, while still being housed in a secure area, the Board is hoping to find a permanent home for the materials at a NASIG member library. Discussions about this issue will take place at the annual conference.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION COMMITTEE
Anne McKee, Debbie Sibley, Co-Chairs

Committee members were: Anne McKee (Co-Chair), Debbie Sibley (Co-Chair), Charlene Chou, Patricia Frade, Linda Horiuchi, Sylvia Martin, Margaret Mering, Steve Murden, Elizabeth Parang, Michelle Sitko, Laurie Sutherland, Markel Tumlin, Sarah Tusa, Peter Whiting

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

As this was the first year of the newly-constituted Awards and Recognition Committee, the co-chairs spent the first several months delineating responsibilities between themselves and the other committee members. We were fortunate to have had several members (as well as the co-chairs) who had served on either the Student Grant Committee or the Horizon Award Task Force, and we relied heavily on the group's wealth of experience.

One of our first decisions was that each co-chair would take responsibility for one award while keeping fully involved with the other award. Anne McKee chaired the Horizon Award and Debbie Sibley, the Student Grant Scholarship Award. It was agreed upon by the entire committee that everyone wished to have some voice in each award. Therefore, it was the consensus of the committee

that one-half would undertake the initial review of the Student Grant Award and the final rankings of the Horizon Award. The other half of the committee reversed the process and reviewed the full group for the Horizon Award for initial rankings and the finalist group for the Student Grant Award. The co-chairs reviewed all applicants for each aspect of the award.

The Horizon Award was first advertised via e-mail on October 15th, 1996 on all NASIG approved listservs; the Student Grant Award was advertised via e-mail on November 1st, 1996 on the same listservs. Announcements of the Student Grant Award were mailed to library schools throughout the US and Canada soliciting applicants from among their students. Announcements and application forms for each award were also made available on the NASIG Web page. Subsequent announcements were made as the deadline drew nearer. Thirty applicants contacted the co-chair for applications for the Horizon Award. Several applicants for each award obtained the Web-based form. Seventeen applications were submitted for the Horizon Award. Five of the applicants did not fit the criteria for the award (they had worked longer than three years, submitted an incomplete packet, etc.), so the committee ranked twelve applicants. Forty applications were received for the Student Grant Award. Three were rejected (two were not enrolled in ALA accredited institutions; one was an incomplete packet). One applicant withdrew. The committee initially ranked thirty-six applicants.

The first ranking winnowed the pool for the Horizon Award to 5 finalists; the second ranking then awarded the prize to the top three applicants. It is interesting to note that the top three candidates were ranked within a few points of one another. The Student Grant Award initial ranking found a natural break at the top sixteen candidates, or a little less than half of the group. This group was narrowed to the final ten in the second ranking.

The committee is pleased to announce the winners of the two awards. (Ed. Note: See pp. 15 and 18.) Essays written by the 1997 Horizon Awardees appear on pages 16-18 of this issue of the <u>NASIG Newsletter</u>.

In addition to selection of this year's awardees, the committee worked very hard on several other new charges. This year's committee, for the first time, has responsibility for recognition awards presented each year at the conference. Pat Frade researched and located a vendor for plaques to be used as recognition for awardees. The traditional paper-weight for outgoing board members and committee chairs were ordered for the annual conference.

This year, much of the committee's work has taken place via the committee listserv. Additional projects which have been undertaken include:

Investigation' of possible new awards including an international award, a paraprofessional award, a research award, and a possible award in memory of Fritz Schwartz. Proposals for the international award and paraprofessional scholarship award will be presented to the Board at the annual meeting.

Worked with the Mentor program to have mentors provided for all award winners.

An additional award of $50.00 "pocket money" to cover awardees incidentals has also been approved and will be sent to each grantee.

It has been an extremely busy year for this committee. The entire committee has been helpful and quick to respond to all requests from the co-chairs throughout the year. Without this level of cooperation, the committee could never have accomplished its goals. Special thanks to Eleanor Cook, our committee's Board Liaison. Her quick responses to our questions and experience in working with the committee were invaluable to our work.

ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED

1. The co-chair for the Horizon Award kept a database of each person who requested an application. It might be beneficial to use this data in a survey for those who requested applications but did not submit packets. From the survey results, we may be able to discern some areas for improvement for this award.

2. The criteria for the Horizon Award needs to be investigated closely and refined. For instance, the award guidelines presently say that anyone who has less than three years of experience in their PRESENT POSITION may apply. This stipulation then allows those with many years of serials experience to apply for the award if they have less than three years' experience in their current position.

3. Another requirement for the Horizon Award which may need adjustment is that applicants must supply a letter of recommendation from a supervisor. Many libraries now have much "flatter" organizations. Perhaps, the guidelines should be adjusted to accept a letter of recommendation from a peer, if necessary.

4. The NASIG Board requested that the deadlines for both the Horizon Award and the Student Grant be made compatible. Previously, award deadlines did not coincide. The co-chairs felt that staggering the deadlines would have spread the work more evenly over a few weeks rather than creating two work crunches for the committee members.

5. In the future, the committee will need to adjust deadlines so that they do not coincide with major library conferences, such as ALA Midwinter.

6. Another area of concern is that the current organization of the committee may not support more than two awards. It may be that a different design of membership in the committee will be more efficient for processing several award programs. A model such as the one used by the Medical Library Association Scholarship Committee may work more efficiently. This model allows for a committee and several "juries" for selection of awardees. Jury chairs could be members of the Awards and Recognition Committee and manage one jury. Jury members would not necessarily be members of the full committee.

BYLAWS COMMITTEE
Joanne Donovan, Chair

Committee Members: Marifran Bustion, Joanne Donovan (Chair), Sandy Folsom, Karen Morgenroth, Catherine Nelson, Julie Su, and Kat McGrath (Board Liaison).

The committee's major accomplishment for the year was the revision of the Bylaws. 1239 ballots containing three proposals for changes in the NASIG Bylaws were mailed to the membership in early

February. 489 ballots were returned to the tabulator, Marifran Bustion. Revisions to Article VI. Sec. 2, Article VII, Sec. 2, and the addition of Article VII. Sec 3 were approved by the membership. Ballot preparation and postage costs totaled $570.45. The revised Bylaws were sent to the NASIG Directory in April.

The committee has been compiling suggestions for additions to the committee guidelines. The suggestions received so far relate to procedures on use of the tax identification number and ballot mailings, e.g., envelopes should be marked "Ballot." The guidelines have not yet been updated to reflect the Board's decision that the distribution of the Bylaws in the annual Directory and NASIGNET are sufficient and that they do not need to be published in the Newsletter.

A committee member will be attending the NASIG Web preconference to receive training so that committee documentation and reports can be entered on the NASIG Web.

The committee will meet at the annual conference in Ann Arbor, Thursday, May 29, 2:00-3:30 p.m. Discussion of the committee goals and how to meet them will be the major agenda item. Goals which have been previously identified include completion of the guidelines update, development of a manual, and adding committee documentation to the Web.

Committee members whose terms expire in 1997 are: Marifran Bustion, Sandy Folsom, and Julie Su. I would like to thank the whole committee for their participation and contributions to a successful year. A special thanks goes to Board Liaison, Kat McGrath, for her suggestions and support.

CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE
Michele Crump and Marilyn Geller, Co-Chairs

The current chairs of the NASIG Continuing Education Committee would like to acknowledge the diligence and hard work of all committee members, our Board liaison, Birdie MacLennan, and the many members of NASIG who contributed to the following projects and programs.

PROJECTS

1. Mentoring Program: Linda Golian and Alison Roth designed a Mentor Program application and instruction sheet which appeared in the February 1997 issue of the NASIG Newsletter and is also available on the NASIGWeb. The form will be used to match 30 mentees (library science students, new librarians, and new NASIG members) with 30 mentors. Mentors and mentees will meet at the First Timers' and Mentor Program Reception to begin the networking process.

2. Serials Brochure: Connie Foster and Linda Meiseles completed the design for the "Shaping a Serials Specialist" brochure. Curry Printing & Graphics, the NASIG Newsletter publishers, produced 3,000 copies of the two color tri-fold brochure. 1,200 copies accompanied the April NASIG Newsletter; 750 went to the Conference Planning Committee for distribution at the Annual Conference; 250 went to Regional Council and Membership for distribution at various functions; the remaining copies will be sent to library schools, continuing education workshops, and programs as requested. Plans are currently in the works to have the brochure mounted by the ECC on NASIG Web.

3. HRD: In early January, 1997, the NASIG Continuing Education Committee's Human Resources Directory working group consisting of Marty Gordon, Judy Luther, and Roberta Winjum announced the unveiling of a web page bringing to fruition over a year of planning and labor. More than thirty NASIGers submitted individual profiles providing expanded Directory information, brief narratives, recent presentations/publications history and contact limits. The resulting Directory available to all NASIG members as well as the public at large is accessible by profilee name as well as a "skills" index. It is expected that this on-going project will serve as a useful vehicle to identify potential speakers/consultants and, as a by-product, be a promotional tool for NASIG as a whole.

4. CE supports the NASIG Preconference Program "Back to Basics, the Serials Acquisitions Elements", Thursday, May 29, 8:30-1:00. The workshop will focus on three key areas: "Pre-order Processes: Making Orders out of Chaos", presenter Rita Echt;

"Serials Record Keeping", presenter Marcia Tuttle; "Vendor Evaluation and Interaction", presenters Jim Mouw and Phil Greene.

PROGRAMS

1. ACRL/DVC and NASIG collaborated to hold a seminar on October 4, 1996 entitled "Shopping in the Serials Supermarket Today." Speakers included John Tagler (Elsevier), Ellen Sauer (Johns Hopkins University Press) and John Zenelis (Temple University). It focused on the expanding modes of publication for scholarly information and their impact on collection development within academic libraries today. Eighty people attended the full day program. Marty Gordon coordinated on NASIG's behalf with Tom Karel for ACRL/DVC. Joyce Tenney submitted program reviews to the NASIG Newsletter and to Against the Grain.

2. Leslie Horner Button coordinated a program with the University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Library and Information Studies entitled "Order Out Of Chaos" presented by Maggie Rioux. The one and one half hour program was held on November 19, 1996 and was attended by 35 people. (Ed. Note: See p. 13 for a report.)

3. Collaborating with the NASIG Electronic Communications Committee and the University of North Carolina School of Information and Library Science, Maggie Rioux and Steve Oberg presented "Hunting, Gathering and Crafting in Cyberspace" on January 31, 1997. More than 60 people attended the three hour program hosted by Nancy Gibbs. Christie Degener and Frieda Rosenberg reviewed the program in the April issue of the NASIG Newsletter.

4. Denise Novak coordinated the co-sponsoring of two programs for the Ohio Valley Group of Technical Services Librarians 1997 Annual Conference held on Thursday and Friday, April 17-18, 1997 at the University of Notre Dame. The first program was "Library/Vendor/Publisher Partnership" and included the following speakers: Julie Gammon, University of Akron, Alison Roth, Blackwell's Periodicals, and Ed Heuckel, Elsevier. The second program was based on a workshop at last year's annual NASIG conference and was entitled "Using Focus Groups to Match User Expectations with Library Constraints" given by Sheryl Williams, University of Nebraska Medical Center. Next year's OVGTSL Conference will take place at Western Kentucky University, and

there is some interest in having NASIG sponsored programs there as well.

5. CE sponsored a speaker at the North Carolina Serials Conference, "Serials Vital Signs: Essentials for Service", on May 2, 1997. Trisha Davis led an informative discussion on licensing agreements for electronic journals in a breakout session during this one day annual conference. (Ed. note:)

DATABASE & DIRECTORY COMMITTEE
Cheryl Riley, Chair

Last July, the membership database was successfully transferred from the former chair, Theresa Baker, to Cheryl Riley, the present chair. Baker recommended the database software be upgraded to a Windows-compatible program. After consulting with the chair of the Electronic Communications Committee, Paradox was selected as the new database software. In August, the database was converted from the DOS-based PFS to the Windows-based Paradox. Since September, all database activity utilized Paradox.

Accomplishments for the year include several projects. The majority of the year has been spent learning the intricacies of Paradox and adjusting to the database workload. Mailing labels were prepared for three Continuing Education programs, the Bylaw's Committee, the Nominations & Elections Committee, and the 1997 Conference Planning Committee. NASIG members have been very good about sending address changes to the committee. This year's mailings each resulted in only one piece of returned mail. The e-mail addresses in the membership database were compared with those maintained by the Electronic Communications Committee. Arrangements were made by the Newsletter Editorial Board to have the printer responsible for mailing the newsletter. To facilitate labeling by the printer, the mailing label information is sent to the printer in dBASE format as an e-mail attachment.

United States Postal Service regulations require all bulk mailings be verified using a process called CASS certification. Since the NASIG Newsletter utilizes bulk mail, our database is subject to CASS certification. Our first mailing subject to CASS certification, resulted in 165 addresses which failed

CASS certification. Each of those members was contacted and several corrections were made. As a result, the mailing for the May newsletter had 48 fewer addresses (117 total) that did not pass CASS certification. Since CASS certification of addresses results in significant mailing discounts for NASIG, we will continue to try and reduce the addresses that fail certification. Many of the remaining addresses are workplaces that simply do not have a street address as part of the mailing address and consequently fail CASS certification.

Quality control is an important issue for a membership database. CASS certification requirements help assure correct address records. Additional quality control measures include: double-checking of keying and verification of certain data elements. All records are entered by a student, double-checked by the D&D chair, then triple-checked by a student. Data elements are presently being reviewed for accuracy and consistency of data input. Elements reviewed this year include: country, regional councils, e-mail address, institution, and automated serials system.

Committee expenses to date have been minor since our major expense is printing and mailing the Membership Directory. The Directory will be printed in June, so expenses will not be known until after the printing and mailing. Year-to-date expenses include: $344.41 for office supplies; $154.71 for postage; and $81.00 for contract labor.

The Directory information has all been sent to the desktop publisher, Kathy Mitchell. All items, other than the actual Directory entries, were sent to the chair for proofing prior to going to the printer. Kathy should complete the desktop publishing and send it to the printer by June 1. We have asked the publisher to have the Directory mailed by June 20, 1997.

The renewal rate for NASIG members was 80% with the first notice; after the final reminder the renewal rate rose to 87%. One problem occurred with renewals. Our process requires members to mail the check and renewal form to the Treasurer. The Treasurer then forwards the renewal forms to the D&D chair. This year, a packet of 72 renewal forms

was lost by USPS for two months. Those 72 members each received a final renewal reminder. Several members inadvertently paid their 1997 dues twice. Those members were contacted and their membership extended through 1998.

As of May 1, membership totaled 1,161. Membership make-up, by type of institution is:

Member type	Total	% of Total Membership
University library	577	49.70%
College library	87	7.49%
Community college library	11	.95%
Medical library	62	5.34%
Law library	47	4.05%
Public library	21	1.81%
Government, national, or state library	40	3.45%
Corporate or special library	36	3.10%
Subscription vendor or agency	100	8.61%
Book vendor	11	.95%
Publisher	87	7.49%
Back issues dealer	7	.60%
Binder	7	.60%
Automated systems vendor	7	.60%
Library network, consortium, or utility	13	1.12%
Professional association	13	1.12%
Database producer	5	.43%
Student	8	.69%
Other	22	1.89%.

Two committee members, Carol Gill and Leanne Hillery, are attending a pre-conference workshop on creating Web pages at NASIG in anticipation of mounting the Directory on the Web. Three committee members rotate off the committee this year: Theresa Baker, Jennifer Edwards, and Teresa Mullins. We appreciate the work each of these individuals has done for NASIG during their time on the committee. New committee members this year are: Kevin Randall, Rose Robischon, and Christopher Thornton. We welcome their expertise, ideas, and assistance in meeting our committee charge.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE
HIGHLIGHTS OF 1996/97 ACTIVITY
Steve Oberg & Maggie Rioux, Co-Chairs

I. *INTRODUCTION*

The ECC accomplished many things during a very busy year. Committee members for 1996/97 include: Michelle Flinchbaugh, Step Schmitt, Rick Ralston, Mike Randall, Wendy Moore, Betty Landesman, Ed Bergin, Robb Waltner, Donnice Cochenour, Christine Christiansen, Maggie Rioux (Co-Chair), Steve Oberg (Co-Chair) and Ann Ercelawn (Board Liaison). Special thanks are due to Ann Ercelawn for her thoughtful guidance and constant support. Also we would like to thank D. Jay Cervino, our student systems support person at UNC, for his substantial efforts to keep NASIGNET services going.

During 1996/97, Maggie Rioux served as Webspinner with Donnice Cochenour as gopher-meister. Maggie will be rotating off the ECC as of the end of June, and Donnice has agreed to take over as Webspinner for the coming year. Others working on the Web and gopher have been Michelle Flinchbaugh, Stephanie Schmitt and Michael Randall.

The group of people in the ECC involved in listowner work included Betty Landesman and Rick Ralston as backup listowners, and Steve Oberg as primary listowner. At the start of calendar year 1997, Mike Randall volunteered to become primary listowner-in-training, and Wendy Moore as backup listowner-in-training. Betty will rotate off of the ECC at the end of May, as will Steve. The newly constituted listowner group for 1997/98 will then consist of Mike as primary listowner, with Wendy Moore and Rick Ralston as backup listowners. So this is a farewell and thanks to Betty for her participation these last few years in listowner work! And welcome to the new people, Mike and Wendy, as they step in along with Rick to manage the lists.

II. *IMPLEMENTATION OF LIST ARCHIVE DECISIONS*

In May 1996, Betty Landesman coordinated the collocation of list archive decisions. The goal of this project is to have each committee/task force chair provide the listowners with a decision on how to dispose of archive files for their list: to keep the list archive for incoming members; to delete all message files; or to download and keep message archives on diskette. Based on their feedback, we then communicate these decisions to our support personnel at UNC for implementation.

III. *JULY/AUGUST COMMITTEE LIST SETUP/UPDATE*

One of the primary responsibilities each year for the listowners is to coordinate and implement the update and setup of committee and task force lists, based on the committee/task force roster provided by the Vice-President/President Elect. Outgoing members need to be removed from each list and new members "plugged in". This task was completed in July and August with minimal difficulties. E-mail letters were sent to each committee/task force chair with full instructions on who was on the list, as well as how to use the list. Some lists, such as NASIG-BD and NASIG-CPC, were set up well in advance of most other lists upon request, due to the time-sensitive nature of the work of those groups.

IV. *NEW LISTS ESTABLISHED: NASIG-PPC, REIMB-TF, PUBTF-L, NASIG-THEME*

Several new lists were established this year to support the work of the organization, among them NASIG-PPC (Program Planning Committee, incorporating members of both the plenaries group and the workshops group), REIMB-TF (Reimbursement Task Force), PUBTF-L (Publications Task Force -- not yet in use), and NASIG-THEME (a list for ad hoc group of theme planners for the next year's annual conference -- also not yet in use). The NASIG-PPC list was constituted to address the need expressed by the current PPC co-chairs for a forum where overarching planning issues could be discussed by members of both PPC groups: plenaries, and workshops. The last two lists, PUBTF-L and NASIG-THEME, were established in anticipation of use in the near future. The total number of NASIG lists now stands at 22.

V. *ANNUAL PURGE/LIST CLEANUP PROCESS*

After the setup of committee/task force lists, the next major list-related project each year is the annual purge of non-renewed members from NASIG-L. This year, the project timetable was accelerated so that it took place before the annual conference, in late April/early May, rather than in July or August as was done previously.

As part of this effort, usually each year we also take this opportunity to clean up the list subscribers file by comparing it with information in the official membership database maintained by Database & Directory. This past year we were unable to fully complete this part of the work. Rick Ralston investigated and tested ways to automate this process based on machine matching between two database files: one consisting of a copy of the membership database provided by D&D, and the other consisting of a copy of the subscribers file imported into a similar database structure.

VI. GOPHER FROZEN

This year was one of continued work to enhance our World Wide Web site and less work on the NASIG gopher. The gopher was officially frozen as of January 1, 1997, which means that all information currently on it will stay, but nothing will be added or updated.

VII. NASIGWEB ENHANCEMENTS

The five issues of the NASIG Newsletter which were published during the year were converted to HTML and mounted on the Web site. The three issues published prior to January 1, 1997 were also mounted on the gopher. WAIS indexing of the Newsletter was also begun, starting with the Feb. 1996 issue. Michelle Flinchbaugh volunteered to work on this difficult task and successfully implemented it with assistance from D. Jay Cervino at UNC.

The 1996 Conference Proceedings were converted to HTML tagging and mounted on NASIGWeb. The NASIG 2000 Strategic Plan, NASIG Committee Guidelines, and other miscellaneous postings were also converted and mounted on the Web throughout the year.

A NASIGWeb-based NASIG job listing service was also started this year. The credit for this successful project goes mainly to Step Schmitt. Step also worked with other ECC members who volunteered to take responsibility for monitoring various listservs for serials-related job postings and funneled them to Step to include in this new service for NASIG. Any NASIG member having serials-related openings may also forward the electronic posting directly to jobs@nasig.ils.unc.edu.

VIII. MEETING WITH UNC

At the end of January 1997, Maggie Rioux and Steve Oberg traveled to UNC to present a program on selection and control of Web resources which was jointly sponsored by the Continuing Education Committee. Maggie and Steve also took this opportunity to meet with system colleagues who support and maintain NASIGNET services at our host site. Several issues relating to the Web maintenance and listowner work were addressed, among them, the pending upgrade to a commercial version of ListProc, ver. 8.0. (We anticipate this version to be much more stable and easier to maintain with some added features, as compared to the current software version in use. The upgrade will occur as part of the migration to a new, better, faster, higher capacity server for all of NASIG's Web, gopher, and list files.) We also agreed to implement an e-mail to HTML archive capability for postings from NASIG-L in the future.

IX. WEB DECENTRALIZATION PLAN

Planning was begun this year for transition to a decentralized model of NASIGWeb publishing and maintenance. The plan was developed by the ECC and approved by the Board. Security and system administration issues were worked out with our colleagues at UNC. A documentation area on NASIGWeb was set up and an orientation session for committee liaisons will be held at the 1997 Conference. Thanks are owed to the Continuing Education Committee for helping test the plan with their Human Resources Directory.

X. ECC CONFERENCE PROGRAMS

One of the most important aspects of the ECC's charge is to provide training opportunities for NASIG members relating to electronic technologies. In keeping with past conference programs put together and presented by the committee to address this charge, the ECC proposed, planned, and will present at the 1997 annual conference, a preconference on Web use and publishing. This preconference will include a mini-plenary on SGML and 4 breakout sessions for participants with various levels of experience. Several of the new committee Web liaisons will be attending the preconference.

EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE
Beatrice Caraway, Chair

Committee members: Beatrice Caraway (Chair) June Chressanthis, Janice Lindquist, Jennifer Marill, Juliann Rankin, Lucien Rossignol, Marla Schwartz, David Winchester.

The cycle of activities for the Evaluation and Assessment Committee runs roughly from the beginning of the calendar year to its end. However, since the annual reports from committees are due May 1 each year, this report will represent activities from May 1996 through April 1997 rather than from January through December 1996.

ACTIVITIES

In pursuit of the committees goals and objectives, the EAC undertook the following activities:

May
> Created the conference and pre-conference evaluation forms for the Albuquerque conference.

July
> Within three weeks of the conference, provided a brief report of the results to the President and Past President.

August-September
> Within six weeks of the conference, provided a list of suggested topics and speakers to the 1997 PPC. Did data entry from the paper forms into Entry-Pro.

October
> Provided a brief report to the NASIG Board for the fall Board meeting, having failed to meet the deadline for generation of full reports.

November
> Submitted summary conference evaluation report to the NASIG Newsletter.

February
> Photocopied and distributed the various required reports to the Board and to specified committee chairs.

March-April
> Established committee assignments for the 1997 tasks. Created conference and pre-conference reports for the Ann Arbor Conference using the new version of Survey-Pro.

EXPENDITURES

> The EAC incurred no expenses May 1996-April 1997.

RETIRING MEMBERS (AFTER DECEMBER 1997)

> Beatrice Caraway
> June Chressanthis (unless she is reappointed)
> Marla Schwartz (unless she is reappointed)

GOALS FOR MAY-DECEMBER 1997

> Provide brief conference and pre-conference reports to the President and Past President shortly after the Ann Arbor conference.

> Complete data entry using the new version of Entry-Pro.

> Generate and distribute reports to the NASIG Board and specified committee chairs by the fall Board meeting.

> Submit summary conference evaluation report to the NASIG Newsletter.

NASIG NEWSLETTER EDITORIAL BOARD
Marguerite Horn, Editor-in-Chief

Members of the Editorial Board are: Maggie Horn (Editor-in-Chief), Steve Savage (Production Editor), Carol MacAdam (Columns Editor), John Harrison (Distribution Editor), and Beverley Geer (Board Liaison).

Yet another year of personnel changes for the Board -- Vikki Medaglia, our Distribution Editor, turned over her duties to John Harrison. The transition of Distribution Editors went very smoothly.

Two major changes in production occurred this year with the increased involvement of Curry Printing & Graphics in Lewiston, Maine. Curry had been our printer for the last two years and became our mailer this past year. Our thanks to Armand Gerard, at Curry Printing, for his willingness to take on stuffing and mailing the Newsletter (of course, he is paid for his troubles). The costs of this "outsourcing" of

volunteer work has proven minimal and has positively affected the turnaround between production and mailing. At the time of writing this report, we are still awaiting approval of our own nonprofit mailing permit.

The second change has been moving from a gopher-only electronic version of the Newsletter to gopher and Web to Web-only. During this transition, the Production Editor, Steve Savage, worked very closely with EEC. Initially, Steve prepared the ASCII text for EEC who mounted the gopher and Web version. With the last two issues, Steve has prepared and mounted the Web version. Steve has been a very able print producer and is proving to be a very able electronic producer.

At the time of writing this report, the Newsletter Board is working on a self-study, looking at what should be print only, what should be electronic only, how our changes impact the personnel on the Board and the expertise that is needed, etc. Most of this self-study is currently in the head of the Editor-in-Chief, but it will eventually see the light of paper or e-mail.

Additionally, Carol MacAdam will be attending one of the introductory HTML preconferences so that she can be an additional Newsletter Editorial Board member with Web skills.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION COMMITTEE
Emerita M. Cuesta, Chair

The Committee began its work in August with a discussion of the use of curriculum vitae as the primary source of information about nominees. The majority of the committee members felt there was a danger that we would evaluate academic nominees higher than non-academic because their vitae reflected the values of our profession. It was decided that we would draw up a profile form to be filled by all candidates. The committee also agreed to implement the suggestions of the outgoing committee that the majority of the committee's business be carried out through electronic communication.

All nominees were contacted in October. Two issues arose during this time: (1) only one of the members nominated for VP-President Elect accepted

nomination, and (2) there seem to be a pervasive reluctance among non-academic nominees to accept nomination.

These issues caused a great deal of discussion among committee members. On the second issue, the committee decided to table discussion until after the ballots had been mailed. On the matter of the VP-President Elect, the committee felt that, although there was some precedent for unopposed candidates, the importance of the position required two candidates to be nominated. Secondarily, the one candidate that accepted nomination had been in NASIG only a short time, and therefore would not be as recognizable to the membership. The committee decided to contact some of the other nominees a second time, as well as continuing to pursue one nominee that we were not originally able to contact due to changes in her work address. Finally, a second candidate was found, and a slate submitted to the Board.

Ballots were sent out in February with a deadline of March 25th. Response from the general member ship was very good, with over 40% of the members voting. Election results were as follows:

President:	Steve Oberg
Treasurer:	Geraldine Williams
Member-at-Large:	Eleanor Cook
	James Mouw
	Fran Wilkinson

After the Board approved the results and members were notified, a message was posted to NASIG-L announcing the results.

It was at this point that the drawbacks of primarily electronic communication became obvious. There were several problems reaching nominees, and at least one unsuccessful candidate was appraised of the results of the election before formal notification.

At this point, the committee took up the issue of vendor and publisher representation on the Board. Those committee members that had contacted non-academic nominees had clearly received a message of dissatisfaction from them regarding their chances of election. The results of the election seemed to confirm that negative opinion.

The committee feels very strongly that the composition of the Board should be as diverse as its make-up. NASIG's greatest strength is the ability to bring together representatives from all the groups involved in the serials world. The committee is concerned that the election results could signal an erosion of this concept. On the other hand, the committee took note of the fact that NASIG is a volunteer organization. Designating seats on the Board and on committees for a specific constituency would run counter to the basic organizational philosophy of the group.

One comment made by several committee members is that non-academic nominees did not seem to have as much NASIG committee experience as librarians. To quote one of the members it probably sounds a little patronizing to tell the vendors to do more committee work, but on the other hand, the more involved and visible they are in NASIG, the better their chances. For example, there is no vendor on this committee, and right now I wish there was so we could have their input on this issue. Based on our experiences, the committee recommends to the Executive Board that it pursue all appropriate avenues to address this question.

PROCEEDINGS
Christine Christiansen and Cecilia Leathem, Editors

The editors for the NASIG Eleventh Annual Conference Proceedings were Christine Christiansen and Cecilia Leathem, both from the University of Miami.

Cecilia visited Haworth Press on May 23-24, 1996, meeting with staff from both the production offices in Binghamton, NY and the editorial offices in West Hazelton, PA. Most useful were the meetings with Helen Mallon, head of the Editorial Section, and Nancy Deisroth, who is leader of the editorial team for the NASIG Proceedings. During the visit, the Haworth editors agreed that a later deadline of October 15 was necessary because the conference was scheduled for late June, and papers might not be ready for the normal September deadline.

Christine posted messages on NASIG-L inviting applications for the positions of workshop recorder and indexer of the Proceedings. Recorders were appointed on the basis of writing samples and an

effort made to match individuals to workshops of interest to them. Prior indexing experience was the primary criteria for choosing an indexer. Due to unforeseen circumstances, Linda Williams, the original indexer, was unable to carry out that responsibility, and Maggie Horn agreed to serve in her stead.

The 1996 Proceedings contain 46 papers:

    Preconference I -- 6 papers
    Preconference II -- 1 paper
    Plenary Sessions -- 6 papers
    Concurrent Sessions -- 13 papers
    Workshops -- 20 reports

While most papers and reports arrived on time, Christine needed to pursue vigorously a few speakers and recorders to obtain their submissions. We received one paper via e-mail, and a second was obtained from the author's Website. We did not need to use the taped presentations to produce any papers or reports. The majority of the Proceedings papers were submitted to the publisher on time, but a few were sent to Haworth Press in early November, 1996. We received galley proofs for proofreading in late January and returned them to Haworth Press within 10 days.

Other activities included updating the Proceedings manual on disk and printed copies in February, 1997, and submitting all files via FTP to the NASIG website on April 10, 1997.

Christine and I want to thank our NASIG Board liaison, Carol Pitts Diedrichs, and the NASIG Board for their confidence in allowing us to serve as editors, as well as for their advice and support during the process. Special thanks to Maggie Horn and her husband for taking on the indexing job at virtually a moment's notice. We also extend our gratitude to the editorial staff at Haworth Press, and particularly to Nancy Deisroth, for their patience, expert guidance and assistance.

PROFESSIONAL LIAISONS
Connie Foster, Board Liaison

The eighteen NASIG Professional Liaisons form a vital link to other professional organizations in the

information community. These NASIG members frequently contribute articles to our Newsletter, notify us of conference dates that help us in long-range planning, and explore ways to promote NASIG through membership information or program opportunities. In response to the Strategic Plan to identify groups that would benefit from a liaison relationship, the Board approved two new liaisons -- Marsha Bennett to the Public Library Association and Isabel Czech to the Society for Scholarly Publishing. New faces for existing links are: Craig Fairley (Canadian SISAC), Kewal Krishan (Canadian Library Association), and Sharon Cline McKay (Special Libraries Association). At the time this report goes to press, we thank Danny Jones (MLA) and Will Wakeling (UKSG) for their service as they end their appointments. Linda Hulbert will be the new NASIG/MLA liaison.

During this year the Newsletter published a report from Sandy Hurd on the NVB Serials Group (Dutch Organization for Librarians) and EDI and Buzzy Basch shared an ASIS report. A report from John Tagler on an STM meeting held in April will be forthcoming.

Thank you all for your contributions to NASIG.

PROGRAM PLANNING COMMITTEE
Christa Easton and Karen Cargille, Co-Chairs

The Plenary and Concurrent Subcommittee began the year with two major thrusts: developing a schedule for the program as a whole, and identifying potential speakers. (Relatively few plenary/concurrent speakers come to the committee via proposals.)

For 1997, the committee returned to having two sets of concurrent programs. As we identified speakers, the topics fell into two groups -- projects and issues. We hope that this distinction helps attendees in selecting sessions, and also implicitly explains why the sessions aren't repeated.

Another innovation in this year's schedule is that one plenary has been expanded to include reactors. We tried this in an attempt to make the plenary session more participative.

While the total number of plenary and concurrent speakers went up this year, we were able to draw many of them from the University of Michigan and other nearby institutions, without compromising speaker quality or reputation. In terms of speaker budget, 1997 promises to be very high in "bang for your buck"

The Workshops subcommittee had an outstanding group of proposals to work with in developing this year's program. Due to the large number of good ideas submitted, and our desire to maintain a large number of choices for NASIG attendees, we have expanded the number of workshops from 20 to 22 this year. Registrants will be able to choose among workshops targeted for technical services, collection development, issues in publishing (including electronic), as well as a number of unique workshops targeted for special interest serialists.

Once again we are repeating the workshops on the same day so our presenters will be able to focus on their presentation in a more limited time slot. We have attempted to schedule either a session or a lunch break between workshops to allow for some "recovery" time.

As always, the challenge exists to allow free time in the NASIG schedule. We hear this request, but we also feel an obligation to provide the best possible programming that we can develop. We have allowed for breaks and lunches, and evening events that are centered either on campus or in town. We hope that this less structured evening arrangement will allow members to have more of the free time that they have been asking for on conference evaluations. We are excited about NASIG 12 and we look forward to another fine conference.

PUBLICIST
Judith Johnston, Publicist

The NASIG Publicist began the task of organizing and defining the role of Publicist. Early in the year, she wrote a manual for the position. One of the goals, to send out special announcements to a selected number of listservs, was met when announcements were posted for the following: the seminar "Shopping in the Serials Supermarket Today," held Oct. 1996 in Lancaster, PA; NASIGWeb

job listings; the NASIG Human Resources Directory; and a reminder for the Horizon Award. An announcement of the 1997 NASIG Annual Conference was also submitted to American Libraries and appeared in the March 1997 issue.

Producing the membership brochure in Spanish and French was a major achievement, resulting from the collaboration of the committee chair, the volunteer translators, and the Publicist. The Spanish edition is printed and is being distributed. The French edition has been translated and will be printed soon.

The Publicist arranged for the printer of the brochures to print souvenir NASIG notepads as well. These notepads will be included in this year's conference registration packets.

REGIONAL COUNCILS & MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
Judy Johnson, Chair

Members: Judy Johnson (Chair), David Fritsch, Joan Griffin, Rogelio Hinojosa, Beth Holley, Don Jaeger, Judith Johnston (Publicist), Pamela Morgan, Lynne Murphy, Katy Nelson, Ann Nez, Gale Teaster-Woods, Joyce Tenney, Birdie MacLennan (Board Liaison)

The RC&M Committee had an active year. Several tasks specific to the Strategic Plan (SP) were accomplished; several remain to be completed.

To accomplish an SP goal of increasing member-ship throughout North America, the membership brochure was translated into French and Spanish. Don Jaeger found a company which did the initial translation; those translations were then taken by Lynne Murphy and Rogelio Hinojosa and translated into Canadian French and Mexican Spanish. A goal for next year will be to combine the English, Spanish, and French translations into a multi-language brochure.

With the outstanding help of the Electronic Communications Committee, the list of Regional and State Representatives was added to the NASIG Web site.

An SP goal is to work with CEC in developing area programs by identifying where state/regional library-related conferences were to be held during the year. The task of identifying the conferences proved to be labor intensive last year, so this year the Chairs of RC&M and CEC reached an agreement that the list would be compiled for the particular region in which the CEC was interested in developing a program.

To ensure maximum membership, Ann Nez contacted each attendee of the Albuquerque conference who was not a member of NASIG and invited the individual to join. A goal had been to contact each non-returning member and solicit information about why the individual chose not to rejoin. However, this goal was not accomplished and remains to be implemented next year.

Joyce Tenney finished revising the committee manual. It is now in electronic format and will be added to the committee's portion of the NASIG Web site. Also, thanks to the efforts of electronic Communications and Birdie MacLennan, a part of that site is a complete listing of the RC&M committee and the regions or state for which they are responsible. Lynne Murphy has been appointed as the committee's Webmaster.

With Marla Whitney's help, the RC&M continued sending out New Membership packets. This year approximately 140 packets were distributed. Next year, the packets will include notepads courtesy of the efforts of our Publicist, Judith Johnston.

Last, but far from least, the RC&M Committee worked closely with Judith Johnston, NASIG's first publicist. The Publicist's work and the work of the RC&M interrelates, and much of the year was spent working through the organizational aspects.

I am pleased to report that Ann Nez will assume the Chair of this committee. She will do a great job in moving this committee forward as it strives to meet the challenges of the Strategic Plan.

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TITLE CHANGES
Carol MacAdam

[Note: Please report promotions, awards, new degrees, new positions and other significant professional milestones. You may submit items about yourself or other members to Carol MacAdam. Contributions on behalf of fellow members will be cleared with the person mentioned in the news item before they are printed. Please include your e-mail address or phone number.]

Congratulations and best wishes to all!

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ROBERT ALAN is now Head of the Catalog, Serials, Preservation Departments at Shields Library of the University of California, Davis. He was previously Head of the Serials Department there. Robert's new phone number is (916) 752-0598. All his other addresses remain the same.

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RANDI ASHTON-PRITTING has a new title as Assistant Director, Public Services and Collections at the University of Hartford's Mortensen Library. She was previously Head of Periodicals there. Randi's email address and phone numbers with new area codes are:
    Phone: (860) 768-4811
    Fax: (860) 768-5165
    Internet: PRITTING
        @UHAVAX.HARTFORD.EDU

••••••••••••••••••••••••••

From *JAMES BEALE* we learn, "I started my new position as the Director of the Periodicals Division for Victor Kamkin in July of 1996. Victor Kamkin specializes in the titles from Russian and the Commonwealth of Independent States. I am really excited about being back in the often crazy world of Russian periodicals. As anyone who deals with Russian titles knows, delays or mystifying deaths and resurrections of these titles can often lead to insanity for vendors and subscribers alike. We are using the Web and the Internet to try and maintain sanity by keeping subscribers abreast of any changes or delays in the major titles." James' previous position was with Worldwide Government Directories. His new addresses are:

Victor Kamkin, Inc.
4956 Boiling Brook Parkway
Rockville MD 20852
Phone: (301) 881-4905, or 881-5973
Fax: (301) 881-1637
Internet: Kamkin@igc.apc.org

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MELISSA B. BRADLEY is now Serials Librarian at Denver Public Library. She was previously the Acquisitions Librarian there. Melissa's addresses have changed to:
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Phone: (303) 640-6230
Fax: (303) 640-6239

•••••••••••••••••••••••••

VIVIAN BUELL's new name is VIVIAN BUELL BERNSTEIN. Her addresses at the American Institute of Physics remain the same though the phone numbers have changed to:
Phone: (516) 576-2394
Fax: (516) 576-2327

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MICHELLE COLLINS has a new name, a new job, and a new home. She is now MICHELLE FLINCHBAUGH, Serials Cataloger at Hatcher Library at the University of Michigan. Previously, Michelle was the Virginia Site Coordinator for the Newspaper Project at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. Her new job started March 17, 1997. Michelle says that this is her first permanent job and she is very happy. Her new addresses are:
Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library, Rm. 320
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Ann Arbor, MI 48109
Phone: (313) 763-3426
Internet: MFLINCHB@UMICH.EDU

•••••••••••••••••••••••••

SARA DAVENPORT is now Coordinator of Technical Services at State University of New York, College at Oswego. She was formerly Head of Serials there.

Sara's new phone number is (315) 341-3553 and her correct email address is:
DAVENPOR@OSWEGO.EDU.
All other addresses remain the same.

•••••••••••••••••••••••••

CATHERINE DOYLE is now the University Librarian at Christopher Newport University. She was previously Access Services Librarian there. Catherine's new phone numbers are (757) 594-7130 and fax (757) 594-7717. There are no other address changes for Catherine.

•••••••••••••••••••••••••

ROBERT GIMMI was Serials/Circulation Librarian at Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania. He is now Technical Services Librarian there. All his addresses remain the same.

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JEFFREY HOLLAND has moved to Portland, Oregon from Reno, Nevada, to become the Serials Cataloger at Portland State University. He was previously Serials Cataloger at the University of Nevada in Reno. Jeff writes: "I started at Portland State on November 1, 1996. My new duties include cataloging all electronic materials (serials or otherwise) in addition to print serials. I also soon will be cataloging Internet resources. It was the expansion of my responsibilities, plus the physical attractions of Portland and Oregon, that attracted me to the new job." Jeff's new addresses are:
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Portland, OR 97207
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Internet: HOLLAND@LIB.PDX.EDU

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CORINNE JACOX, formerly a Serials Cataloger at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Libraries, began her new job as Head of Technical Services at the Euliano Law Library at the University of Orlando on May 1, 1997. The University is only a few years old and the Law Library has only been open since December. Corinne's new addresses are:

Euliano Law Library
University of Orlando
6441 East Colonial Drive
Orlando, FL 32807
Phone: (407) 275-2100
Fax: (407) 275-3654
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****

ANDREA KEYHANI's new position as Manager for Publisher Relations at OCLC, Inc. began in the spring of 1996. She was previously Manager of Electronic Publishing there. Her addresses are:
6565 Frantz Road
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****

DEBORAH LEGGETT-SIBLEY has been promoted to Deputy Director at the University of Massachu-setts Medical Center Library. She was previously Acquisitions/Collection Control Librarian there. Debbie's address remain the same.

****

Springer-Verlag announced *JOHN LONG's* new job, which began January 27, 1997, this way: "We are pleased to announce that John Long has rejoined Springer as sales manager, wholesalers and libraries, books. Mostly recently, Mr. Long was sales manager, North America for Institute of Physics Publishing. Prior to that, he was sales manager at Springer, having held increasingly responsible positions with the sales department from 1982-1992. John reports to Jerry Curtis." John says that he will miss many IOP friends, but intends to keep in touch with them. He writes: "The big change for me is in dealing with the vast amount of information that Springer publishes. Over the years I have gotten more involved with the library community, and I'll have the opportunity to continue doing that. At Springer, I have the added responsibility of working very closely with book vendors. As a community, we are in the midst of a dynamic system in which we are

moving from traditional publishing to electronic publishing at the same time that there are severe budgetary constraints effecting all of us. So, this is both very interesting and a significant challenge. I'll paraphrase a Henry James quote (from his essay, *The Art of Fiction*): 'Try to be one upon whom nothing is lost.' I'll try to do that. Fortunately, NASIG helps us deal with the dynamic issues of our time, and I'm looking forward to the upcoming 12th annual conference in Ann Arbor." John's new addresses are:
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Regional Office
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Phone: (401) 467-8567
Fax: (401) 467-8644
Internet: JLONG@SPRINGER-NY.COM

****

JUDY LUTHER has a new job as Consultant in market and business development for publishers. Previously Director of North American Sales for the Institute for Scientific Information, Judy left ISI in September 1996 during a company reorganization. As a consultant, Judy works with publishers to help them create, develop, and expand the services they offer to academic and corporate libraries. Focusing on electronic publishing, Judy provides support in product development and marketing (including focus groups), selling to consortia, and developing license agreements. Judy's new addresses are:
Judy Luther
Consultant
Market and Business Development
102 W. Montgomery Ave. #B
Ardmore, PA 19003
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Fax: (610) 645-5251
Internet: JLUTHER@EARTHLINK.NET

****

KAREN MATTHEWS has a new job as Archivist at Emporia State University. She was previously Periodicals Librarian there. All Karen's addresses remain the same.

BEA McKAY, Serials Cataloger at Trinity University Library in San Antonio, Texas, has a new name and a new email address. She is now *BEA CARAWAY*, and her email address is:

BCARAWAY@TRINITY.EDU.

All Bea's other addresses remain the same.

****

ALAN NORDMAN was previously Vice President for Technical Services at Dawson U.S. in Illinois. His new title is Executive Vice President/General Manager at Faxon Illinois Service Center. Only Alan's email address changed to:

NORDMAN@FAXON.COM

****

As of January 1, 1997, *JAN PETERSON* became the Director for Content Development at Information Quest. Jan's former position was as Fulfillment Director with Academic Press, Inc. Information Quest, a Dawson company, is a Web-based information retrieval service providing a single point of access to electronic information. In her new role Jan works closely with publishers to provide access to their content through IQ. Jan reports that it's been very interesting moving from the publishing world into the vendor world. She says that it's very exciting developing a new product, and that she is glad that she is still in the serials community so she can attend NASIG and see all her old friends. Jan's new addresses are:

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5838 Edison Place
Carlsbad, CA 92008-6596
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****

JENNIFER SCHAFFNER's new job is as a Librarian in the Historical Studies and Social Sciences Library at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey. She previously worked at New York Public Library. Jennifer's new addresses are:

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SCOTT H. SILVERMAN's new job at Bryn Mawr College's Canady Library is as Head of Technical Services and Budget Officer. Scott was previously Head of Cataloging there. All his addresses remain the same.

****

DAN TONKERY is now President and CEO of Dawson Subscription Group in Westwood, MA. Dan writes: "I am delighted to return to the library subscription business. After 10 years as President of Readmore, I took a small agency and built it into a major American supplier. Now I have an opportunity to re-engineer Faxon into the premier subscription agency. There are a large number of highly talented staff in the Dawson/Faxon organization and I look forward to leading the group beyond the year 2000 into the next level of electronic services. The library community needs competition and quality service providers. We are in this market for the long term and want to be a major service provider." Dan's new addresses are:

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****

From *KEN VAN ANDEL* we learn: "I was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor and continue to hold the dual titles of Periodicals Librarian and University Archivist. In addition to conducting the Internet related sessions of our team-taught Bibliographic Instruction, I was again elected by our faculty to serve as their NCAA Athletics Rep -- which keeps me busy auditing the academic transcripts of our athletes." Ken's only address change is in his phone numbers, where the area code is new:

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SERIALS RELATED REPORTS

1997 LAPT RESEARCH AWARD:
CAROL CUBBERLEY
Carol Pitts Diedrichs

Library Acquisitions: Practice & Theory (LAPT) is pleased to announce the recipient of the 1997 Research Award, Carol Cubberley. Ms. Cubberley is Director of Technical Services at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Her proposal, "Books Demonstrating Diversity in Mississippi School Libraries," has been funded as the 1997 Library Acquisitions: Practice & Theory Research Award. The study "will attempt to determine if collections in the elementary and middle school libraries of Mississippi reflect diversity, with emphasis on representation of African-American authors, illustrators, and characters." The study will build upon an earlier survey by Cubberley and Stella Wheat which showed the incidence of Caldecott and Newbery Award books in Mississippi school libraries. To quote one of LAPT's reviewers, "the questions around diversity in the schools is of great interest

and concern in the profession and nationally. Although the focus is narrow in terms of geography and type of library, the results have potential for broader applications in collection development."

SIXTH NORTH CAROLINA SERIALS CONFERENCE: *SERIAL VITAL SIGNS: ESSENTIALS FOR SERVICE*
Melissa Nasea

Sponsored by North Carolina Central University, School of Library and Information Sciences, Chapel Hill, North Carolina
May 2, 1997

GENERAL SESSION:
Postmodern Trends and Serialists
Peter R. Young, Executive Director,
U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science

Serials librarianship today is really a model for the future of the profession and for libraries. The situations facing serials librarians today such as the Internet and the postmodern age are similar to what libraries in general face. Among the network metaphors are travel, frontier, and fire/water.

There is a major shift from the modern culture (linear, logical, hierarchical) to the postmodern culture (decentered, fragmented, fluid, opaque, nonlinear). There is a shift from a culture based on print to one based on images. Constant change is the only constant.

The postmodern library faces problems, challenges, and opportunities. Funding cuts have reduced budgetary resources. There is increased competition for scarce resources and increased patron expectations. With all the anxiety about change, increased staff education and training are essential. Institutional inertia must be addressed.

The information environment is changing from one of order, objectivity, consistency, uniqueness, authority, and control to one of immediacy, anywhere, and anytime. This is a change from the print resources of fixed, permanent, text collections with permanently established editions, and locally owned permanent collections to digital resources with fluid and

transitory multimedia. With print, the library knows who their patrons are, privacy is ensured, and the materials are discipline specific. Digital resources integrate the informal with the formal. There will be pay for use services. Services will be available to multiple simultaneous users. Libraries will not know who their patrons are. Digital patrons require services tailored to collaborative teams and privacy is a question. Libraries have a PERMANENT role in offering networked information services.

BREAKOUT SESSION ONE:
OCLC Electronic Collections Online
Chip Nilges, Manager
Product Management & Marketing
OCLC Electronic Journals Division

As common distribution channels (such as the Word Wide Web) and full text data formats (like PDF and HTML) have emerged, electronic titles and service models have proliferated. This has provided mixed news for libraries which are having difficulties grappling with emerging models. Models are emerging to support library needs.

OCLC Electronic Journals Online existed from 1992 to 1996. It began with OCLC and a single publisher. It was a proprietary centralized service based on SGML originally and developed into a Web interface. It had about 50 titles in December 1996.

OCLC FirstSearch Electronic Collections Online is its successor. Its goal is to support library efforts to make the transition from print to online journals on a broad scale. It is to be integrated with OCLC services and local system procedures for acquisition, circulation, and management of electronic and paper collections. The goal is to support a broad range of searchers and they assume that no training will be required.

The collection will have a critical mass of titles in many disciplines from many publishers. Primarily STM (science technology medicine) publishers have been interested so far, but some social science publishers are becoming involved. They currently have agreements with twelve publishers. When released in June 1997, they expect to include about 100 journals from seven publishers. No money is being exchanged between OCLC and the publishers.

The publisher collection guidelines include offering a broad collection rather than a single title. Abstracting and indexing information is accepted in any tagged format with full text in PDF. The guideline is for complete coverage at the issue level but very few titles will be cover to cover. There will be timely delivery of new issues.

OCLC is giving publishers a venue to distribute the electronic version of journals. Their goal is to have the total cost be less than the TOTAL comparable print cost. They expect that the cost will be more than the print subscription because archiving is included. Check in, circulation, and binding will not have to be done by the libraries.

The archiving agreement gives OCLC the right to distribute all issues to which the library has subscribed. The publishers are granting perpetual access rights. The subscription profile will be maintained for five years after a library leaves so that a subscription could be resumed. There is off-site storage (in case Dublin is hit with a tornado). OCLC has a commitment to system and data migration but does not guarantee it.

Future directions include standardization of pricing models and licenses including fair use, copying, and interlibrary loan (ILL). Another future direction is increasing local control (such as preventing ILL requests for a journal the library owns). Open issues include resource sharing, central loading versus remote access (where is the archival copy kept?), future data formats, and local printing.

BREAKOUT SESSION TWO:
Negotiating Electronic Licenses: The Latest "Opportunity" for Serialists
NASIG Continuing Education Committee Sponsoree:
Trisha Davis
Head, Continuation Acquisition Division
The Ohio State University Libraries

[Trisha had a wonderful set of handouts.]

Ms. Davis looked at the changes from what serials librarians did to what they are doing. Her handouts included a modification of a spreadsheet that she did to explain electronic licenses to Ohio State University

(OSU) administrators. She contrasted the steps done by various library staff members for selection, order processing, and renewals of print resources with the larger number of both steps and staff members needed for electronic resources. She suggested that each library prepare a similar spreadsheet.

Electronic resources cannot be bought just like print resources. Among the differences in selection can be problems in getting reviews or test copies, and questions from the vendor's technical representative that the serials librarian may not be able to answer.

Pricing in the electronic world is a headache. The marketing information that a faculty member brings in may not include the additional costs needed for remote access or simultaneous users.

Serials librarians should think of ordering and selecting in a new way. Serials librarians need to become as user friendly as possible and become experts in this area. They need to say "tell me what you think you want and we will work on it." OSU has an Electronic Products Checklist with sections for information on the product (including format), vendor, order, and requester.

An order record should be put online for every product with a license that the library is considering buying. This is the place to record notes on price, definitions of the site, the date the license was sent to the attorney's office, and the how/when/where of access. These records should be updated at every step in the process.

The serials librarian also needs to find out who has the authority to sign the license.

An electronic order preparation form has questions for the publisher/vendor about the sales representative, ordering information about the product (including pricing, subscription period, and type and number of disks), and information about the licensing agreement.

Publishers do not necessarily have any experience in working with libraries. Many licenses are designed to fit everyone and, therefore, do not fit anyone. Serials librarians should become central to the library team by going to the publisher and telling them what the library wants and needs.

Ms. Davis developed a set of questions to be used in reviewing license agreements. It includes definitions, use capabilities/restrictions, user obligations, and other contractual provisions. The library needs to define its users (such as the university's faculty, staff, and currently enrolled students) to be used in licenses. If a particular license has a different definition of users, cross out that section and say "see Appendix A." Most of the time the publisher will accept this. Also, look out for gory details about payment time and interest charges, losing or breaking a disk, etc.

Many publishers believe firmly that contract law will supersede copyright law. By signing a license, the library has signed away their copyright rights except as included in the license.

Learning about licenses is similar to learning a foreign language; the only way to really learn about them is to read a number of them. Once you have created licensing policies for your institution, your life will be easier. This is a monumental change, but you can do it.

GENERAL SESSION:
Acquiring/Accessing Electronic Serials/Products/Document Delivery: A Symposium

Electronic Products in the Public Library Environment
Joseph Raker, Coordinator of Technical Services
Boston Public Library

Public libraries have a variety of patrons and they do not know who their patrons are. They provide equal access to the well off and the poor. Some cover huge geographic areas and some are in multi-type consortia. With public funds comes public accountability and political considerations.

A team approach is the best approach to the selection process with participation from subject specialists, acquisitions, automation, and attorneys. The teams should compare exactly what content one vendor offers compared to another vendor. They must choose the best format for the library and consider archival and preservation issues (such as how long a CD will survive if the library is allowed to keep it). They must consider their equipment, political environment, and consortium purchas-

es. A trial period should be included for examining contents, search strategies, glitches, and patron usefulness. The trial period may require a license or fee.

The licensing agreement binds both parties; if you do not like something, change it. Legal counsel should be sought. Be careful that the licensing agreement does NOT rewrite your rights under copyright law. Public libraries may have different pricing structures than academic libraries. Do not automatically accept the first price offered. Do not accept boilerplate license sections.

From Shelf to Surf - The OhioLINK Project
Barbara Winters
Director of Central Services
Wright State University

OhioLINK is an academic library consortium. The libraries have found that the number and cost of intellectual resources and journals are escalating at rates that cannot be supported by meager budgets. The numbers increased by 2% while the expenditures increased by 15% in a three year period.

Funding to subscribe to a number of databases was provided to an OhioLINK central site, thus freeing local dollars. OhioLINK developed cooperative selection criteria covering clientele, scope and coverage, usability, and cost-effectiveness.

Cooperative collection development requires much time and energy. It should focus on areas of high need and low resources. Good delivery systems are necessary for cooperative collection development. OhioLINK usually delivers within 48 hours, but no delivery system provides resources as immediately as those located at the patron's own library or office.

OhioLINK has group licenses to some print and electronic journals. One license with a publisher set 1997 costs at 80% of 1996 costs and set a ceiling on the 1998 price increases in return for an agreement not to cancel any of the titles for two years. This allowed electronic access by anyone, no restrictions on copying, and full course pack rights.

The success of any cooperative collection development program is dependent on strong central funds.

TRLN Revisited
Jordan Scepanski, Executive Director
Triangle Research Libraries Network

The Triangle Research Libraries Network (TRLN) is composed of Duke University, North Carolina State University, and the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill, with North Carolina Central University a new member. The original purposes were to develop and maintain a network of online catalogs and other automated library systems and pursue cooperative resource sharing. The ten TRLN libraries hold over 100,000 subscriptions.

Until consortia have very effective document delivery systems there will be a limit on cooperative collection development. TRLN is currently testing software to enhance delivery. Other consortia are interested in their software.

Serials issues and opportunities include continued price escalation, increased demand, traditional publications versus those in electronic formats, and the transition from the well-known culture of print. Online journal issues include accurate usage data inter-connectivity and linkages, pricing, simultaneous use, aggregation, interlibrary loan, and archiving.

Most electronic journals today are simply print journals sent electronically. A true electronic journal would fit the landscape screen, have links, have a table of contents for each article, and have forward links to later articles that cite it. There could be equations, models, and simulations.

Among the pricing models might be: print plus an electronic surcharge or vice versa, both formats for the print price, pricing based on full time students or budget, initial cost to participate plus an annual fee, discounts for multi-institution groups, and different prices for different categories of users. Simultaneous users could be defined by log-in sessions (which log out if there is no activity in a certain time) or by measuring the actual seconds that information is being requested and retrieved (which does not count the time spent on the user's machine).

Aggregation models include all or most titles from one publisher, but users are not interested in all of a publisher's titles. If a vendor offers electronic titles from several publishers, the library still has to negotiate with each publisher. Very few publishers allow interlibrary loans to those outside the user group. Cooperative collection development recognizes that no library can serve everyone. Voluntary co-operation permits activities beyond the capacity of a single library while preserving autonomy and diversity.

National Library Implications
Peter R. Young, Director
U.S. National Commission on Libraries and Information Science

Licensing provides exciting opportunities for serials librarians. A library can swim or drown. There can be legal consequences. High technology is accompanied by the need for high touch. We need to focus on the customer and interpret user needs to the vendor. Time is always on our side. We can use buying clubs and price ceilings with multiyear contracts. Serials librarians are worried about being charged multiple times for the same thing. Compared to public services and technical services librarians, lawyers are the most conservative.

UNITED KINGDOM SERIALS GROUP
20TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Edinburgh
7th-9th April, 1997
Ros Doig

The UKSG had its inaugural meeting in 1978 after a series of highly successful gatherings organised by Blackwell's in 1975 and 1977 to bring agents and librarians together to talk about serials. 1978 was in effect the first annual conference and took place in York. At this year's conference a brief history of the Group was illustrated in a special display in the form of a Timeline. Significant dates were highlighted together with parallel events taken from the news and developments in information technology.

From those early beginnings, such is the size and strength of the membership now, that the annual UKSG get-together has outgrown some of its watering holes and is restricted to certain locations that can cope with nearly 500 delegates. It is a great

tribute to the administration of the organisation that everyone enjoys themselves hugely and the programme unfolds mostly without a hitch. It is always well supported by an exhibition in which publishers , suppliers, and other relevant businesses can demonstrate the latest technological innovation to an eager audience.

Thus it was that I came to Edinburgh for this milestone conference. The city itself is an impressive one built as it is on volcanic rock with the castle dominating the skyline. Not for nothing is it called the Athens of the North. Alas, I had no time for sight-seeing on this visit -- I had to do with memories of my last trip in 1992. However as an opener to the conference, the Tourist Board did a presentation with slides to encourage us all to "stay awhile." The conference itself was located at Heriot-Watt University which has a most pleasant campus outside the city centre. It teems with wildlife which is so tame that wild is hardly an appropriate epithet!

At this point I have to confess that to report in detail on the conference is getting harder. Presentations are often filled with facts and figures and the use of software packages such as PowerPoint have greatly increased speakers' ability to enhance what they say! So instead of a blow by blow account I will try to give some impression of the main issues.

Consortia licensing featured on the first day. This I feel is an area which is going to become increasingly important as a way in which to combat ever-rising prices. Academic Press, who were the first publishers to get off the ground in the Pilot Site Licensing Initiative for British universities under the auspices of the Higher Education Funding Councils, now have a model which they market formally and which is being taken up by a number of US consortia. Other publishers are following on. There is so much available on the Internet -- besides the commercial databases, many publishers are putting their Table of Contents on the Web, if not the entire texts of their journals. I attended a workshop on current awareness which ended up as a general discussion looking at the pros and cons of such a service when there is so much that people can access themselves. I'm wondering how to discover the extent of what's out there and how to evaluate it. Do I need full text? If so, how much is it going to cost? What is available free? What about document

delivery? What about networks? What about licences? What about CD-ROMs? Someone forecast that CD-ROMs would quickly die but here they are alive and kicking and competing well with the Internet equivalent. CD-ROM licensing was the subject of another workshop. There is much to be done in this latter area to standardise and rationalise various pricing models.

The relationship between serial publishers and librarians was highlighted in a talk by Anthony Watkinson of Thomson Science and Professional. This was, from my point of view, a most timely subject as I have been engaged in some lengthy discussions and correspondence with a certain well-known UK publisher about their pricing policies. Anthony pointed out that publishers don't talk to librarians or end users as much as they do to authors and agents. Librarians in particular would like to have more dialogue with publishers on practical as well as financial matters. This has inspired me to see if some initiative could be made to rectify the situation. Intermediaries such as subscription agents are in the business of providing what customers want (rather than what they think they ought to have) -- they need to to survive. Publishers could follow suit so that all interested parties benefit !

Archiving of electronic material was also featured. This is a topic which will run and run and also gain in importance. Much retrospective conversion of print on paper to electronic formats is taking place, but there is a good deal of uncertainty about such archives. So much depends on having the relevant machines and software available in a future where technology is changing so rapidly...if the data lasts that long uncorrupted!

A perfectly splendid talk given at short notice by Gordon Graham , editor of Logos, focused on paper as a reliable technology. He brought us back down the Information Highway to earth with an impassioned speech on the lasting value of the paper product -- a handwritten letter on paper beats an electronic version any day. (A view also held by my 21 yr old son!) In essence it was all about what's appropriate. Electronic publishing should still carry all the hallmarks of scholarly print publishing. Unfortunately the Internet has become a free for all and therefore lacks control. Gordon comments "Journal publishers are now caught in a bind

between a shrinking print market and an electronic market which is technically feasible but commercially unproven. The utility of print is not in question. The demand for it is still there -- at the right price." This talk was full of sensible comment on the viability of print on paper and gave a fresh perspective on the place of technology in the pursuit of knowledge. Needless to say he received rapturous applause, and he must have found it difficult to find time for his lunch so many people wanted to congratulate him!

Some lighter moments were provided by an extremely amusing yet serious talk by Ian Mowat, the librarian from the University of Edinburgh. Starting in 2017 it was a somewhat tongue in cheek look at the history of journal publishing since 1997. In effect he was projecting current (1997) trends into the future and hoping that better technology would reduce the costs. We await the outcome of his predictions with interest.

The conference also finished in lighter vein with a talk on football fanzines by Hazel Hall from Queen Margaret College, Edinburgh. She had collaborated with Neil Smith who, when he was a final year student at the college on a BA Information Management course, had made football fanzines the subject of his dissertation. She entered into the spirit of her subject by dressing in a football shirt and presenting her talk in the style of a TV football match.

As usual I could not end my report without commenting on the social events. There was the obligatory Scottish dancing and disco enjoyed by those who twisted and gyrated into the wee small hours. The conference quiz has now become a firm fixture after its inception two years ago. The dinner this year took place in the extravagant surroundings of the Royal Museum -- a Victorian masterpiece with pillars, wrought iron balconies, a glass roof and lashings of marble. As we arrived we were formally piped in by pipers in full regalia and then again when dinner was announced. Our after dinner speaker was Laurie Taylor, broadcaster and academic. He was impressive and extremely entertaining having picked up the essentials of our business apparently mostly over dinner. It was a truly splendid occasion in every way. In conclusion I had a thoroughly good time in Edinburgh -- my best conference yet. I attended my first conference in 1989 and have only missed one since. Many colleagues are now old

friends and it's a delight to see them again. In years gone by I used to sit and listen and envy libraries that seemed to be in the forefront of the technological revolution and wished that I could work in such an environment. Now my library has caught up, and this year in particular I could relate most of what our speakers were saying to current experience and practice. However I do tend to agree with Gordon Graham -- we should not let I.T. developments run away with us to the exclusion of all else, but the Internet and its facilities are very seductive, and I for one enjoy its charms.

Back in Derby a wry comment from our university librarian seems to sum things up quite nicely. We were discussing the availability on the Internet of some of the free professional interest journals we receive. 'The trouble is,' he said, 'that whilst we are encouraging the students and academics to use electronic journals, I don't think the library staff are quite ready for them!'

[Ros Doig is Serials and Inter-lending Librarian at the University of Derby, and is a UKSG committee member.]

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS
Carol MacAdam

[Note: Please send announcements concerning meetings of interest to the NASIG membership to Carol MacAdam.]

May 29-June 1, 1997
12th NASIG Conference
Experimentation and Collaboration:
Creating Serials for a New Millennium
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI

June 2-4, 1997
American Society for Information Science
Mid-year Meeting
Scottsdale, AZ

June 4-6, 1997
Society for Scholarly Publishing Annual Meeting
J.W. Marriott
Washington, DC

June 7-12, 1997
Special Libraries Association Annual Meeting
Seattle, WA

June 19-22, 1997
Canadian Library Association
52nd Annual Conference
Reinventing libraries
Ottawa, Ontario

June 26-July 3, 1997
ALA Annual Conference
San Francisco, CA

July 19-24, 1997
American Association of Law Libraries Annual
Meeting
Baltimore, MD

August 31-September 5, 1997
63rd IFLA Council and General Conference
Copenhagen, Denmark

September 26-27, 1997
Washington, D.C.
A Capital Idea: Electronic Serials from Acquisition to
Access
A regional institute sponsored by Serials Section,
ALCTS

October 14-17, 1997
ARL Membership Meeting
Washington, D.C.

November 1-5, 1997
American Society for Information Science
Annual Meeting
Washington, DC

November 6-8, 1997
17th Annual Charleston Conference on Issues in
Book and Serial Acquisitions:
Great Expectations
Charleston, SC

THE NASIG NEWSLETTER

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August 1, 1997

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