



newsletter

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

In this issue of the Newsletter is the list of this year's committees. Thanks to so many people for pitching in and agreeing to help GIS. We have nearly a full roster and many activities will be forging ahead in '88-- from publicity about publication prices to the union list of guidebooks.

The Proceedings for the 1987 meeting are now being edited and should appear in your mail this spring. Many thanks go to the several people who wrote excellent papers for this volume.

The Executive Board is continuing a system of doing conference telephone calls for the 2nd year in a row and this is a big help to keep track of the several issues that we must follow.

I hope all members are seriously considering submitting abstracts to the 1988 Denver conference. The Denver conference should be a once-in-a-lifetime meeting not to be missed. GIS really needs more of its members to submit abstracts to the annual meetings. So I encourage each of you to put on your thinking caps and come up with a topic to submit to the conference. Abstracts are due in June.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The first scheduling attempt has been sent to the GSA Scheduling Coordinator. They will now determine how our proposed schedule fits in with the other societies' proposed schedules. If you need meeting arrangements or space for GIS business, please contact me by letter or phone as soon as possible.

A PLEA

This is a call for papers. As many of us work in situations with few employees to stimulate our professional knowledge and workshops are hard to justify, it is important that our Technical Sessions have several papers given to aid GIS members or other interested persons. Research, user trends, new innovations, or an idea that worked (or didn't) is the basis for a paper. If you have not done this before, speaking before GIS is a very positive experience. I have never felt such a supportive group before or since. If you would like to inquire about this professional activity, feel free to contact me. GIS NEEDS YOUR PAPER!

1988 GIS OFFICERS

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Michigan State University
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517/355-8494

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PRESIDENT ELECT** Joanne Lerud
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West Park Street
Montana Tech
Butte, MT 59701
406/496-4282

**IMMEDIATE PAST
PRESIDENT** Bob Bier
Library
U.S. Geological Survey
Box 25046, MS 914
Denver, CO 80225

SECRETARY Miriam Sheaves
Geology Library
Mitchell Hall 029A
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, NC 27514
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TREASURER Marilyn Stark
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303/273-3689

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The GIS Newsletter is published bi-monthly in February, April, June, August, October, and December by the Geoscience Information Society. Subscription to the Newsletter is \$30 per year and is included in the Society's annual membership dues. All correspondence regarding dues, membership status, and address change should be directed to the GIS Secretary.

GIS members are encouraged to contribute materials for publication. Research articles and technical reports should be submitted to the Editorial Board for review and possible publication. Information reports, officer and committee reports, publication notices, job announcements, and other news items should be submitted to the News Gathering Editor.

Material for the April, 1988 Newsletter should be received by the editors no later than March 20, 1988.

OFFICERS, COMMITTEES, AND REPRESENTATIVES FOR
GIS, 1987-1988

Below are the committees, officers and representatives for the current year.

The bulk of the work and progress of GIS is done by these committees and GIS owes these individuals a debt of gratitude for giving so generously of their time to help our Society.

GIS members who could act as representatives to SLA's Geography and Map Division, to the North American Cartographic Information Society, and to MOUG are still being sought. We need a person for each of those groups. The representative would have to regularly attend meetings of those societies, would be willing to listen with GIS ears and speak up for GIS and report to GIS relevant news of that society. If anyone is interested in representing us, contact Jean Eaglesfield.

Committee chairs and officers are reminded to submit budget proposals to the Officers by April 1. Committee chairs are reminded to submit half year reports to the Officers by May 1.

OFFICERS

President - Jean Eaglesfield
Vice President/President Elect - Joanne Lerud
Secretary - Miriam Sheaves
Treasurer - Mary Ansari (to Dec. 31, 1987)
Treasurer - Marilyn Stark (from Jan. 1, 1988)
Immediate Past President - Bob Bier

OFFICES

Auditor - Marie Dvorzak
Newsletter Editors - Connie Manson, Judy Geitgey
Publications Manager - Jim O'Donnell
Publications Distributor - Aphrodite Mamoulides
Standards: Field Trip Guidebooks - Claren Kidd

REPRESENTATIVES

ALA Magert - Jim O'Donnell
North American Cartographic Information Society - (vacant)
CUAC - Nancy Pruett (resigning 4/88), Charlotte Derksen, Connie Wick (filling Pruett's term)
American Geological Institute, Member Society Council - Claren Kidd
American Geological Institute, GeoRef Advisory Committee - (position requested, not yet approved)
MOUG - (vacant)
SLA, Geography and Map Division - (vacant)
SLA, Petroleum Division - Marilyn Stark
WAML - Michael Noga

COMMITTEES

Best Geologic Reference Book
Susan Klimley, chair
Lynn Fortunado
Barbara DeFelice

Exhibits
Elaine Watson, chair
Pat Sheahan
Dona Dirlam
Janice Sorensen

Best Paper Award
Louise Zipp, chair
Edward Jestes
Priscilla Johansen
John Kawula
Carol Messick
Amanda Masterson

Editorial Review Board
Alison Lewis, chair
Barbara Christy
Sarah How
Richard Walker

GSA Centennial Meeting Committee
Dederick Ward, co-chair
Joanne Lerud, co-chair
Bob Bier
Fran Drummond
Hart Phinney
Unni Rowell

GeoRef Users Group Steering Committee
Margy Malsh, chair
Marie Dvorzak
Marjorie King
Sandy Maxfield
Michael Noga
Dena Stepp
Phil Stoffer

Membership Committee

Lois Heiser, chair
Mary Ansari
Marjorie King
Carolyn Laffoon
Connie Manson
Connie Wick

Nominating Committee

Bob Bier, chair
Rosalind Walcott
Claren Kidd

Ad Hoc Committee on the 4th International Meeting on Geoscience Information

Julie Bichteler, chair
Susan Klimley
John Mulvihill
Rosalind Walcott

Ad Hoc Committee on Geoscience Information Prices

Michael Noga, chair
Marie Dvorzak
Lois Heiser
Susan Klimley
Connie Manson
Julie Rinaldi

Ad Hoc Committee on the International Geological Congress of 1989

John Price, chair
Reggie Brown
John Mulvihill
Trudy Sinnott
Henry Zoller

Ad Hoc Committee on the Union List of Geologic Field Trip Guidebooks, 5th edition

Charlotte Derksen, chair
Claren Kidd
Michael Noga
Catherine Pasterczyk
Richard Spohn
Dena Stepp
Nancy Thurston
Julia Triplehorn
Louise Zipp
John Mulvihill - liaison from AGI

Ad Hoc Committee on the Union List of Geologic Field Trip Guidebooks, 6th edition

Richard Spohn, chair
Dorothy McGarry
Claren Kidd
Clara McCloud
Jack Mount
Catherine Pasterczyk
Dena Stepp
Phil Stoffer
Nancy Thurston
Charlotte Derksen - advising only
John Mulvihill - liaison from AGI

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELECTION NEWS: We're please to announce that the issue passed: the new GIS Constitution and Bylaws were accepted.

GIS BEST PAPER AWARD

The GIS Best Paper Award Committee is soliciting nominations from the membership for the best paper in the field of geoscience information. An award may be made for one paper each from 1986 and 1987. Authors need not be GIS members, and there are no restrictions on publisher or nationality. Multi-author and single-author works are both eligible. Please send nominations, with your comments, by April 1 (if possible), to:

Louise S. Zipp
Chair, GIS Best Paper Award Committee
University of Iowa Geology Library
Iowa City, Iowa 52242

319/335-3084

In preparation for the expected introduction of GeoRef on the STN system this fall, the GeoRef Users Group has offered to help AGI test and evaluate the STN version of GeoRef during the development phase. We expect the testing would occur sometime this summer. If you are interested in participating (we especially need experienced STN users), please contact the User Group's Steering Committee chair:

Margy Walsh
Texaco USA
P. O. Box 770070
Houston, TX 770215-0070

713/954-6000, ext. 6630

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

JUDY GEITGEY is the proud mother of Sophia Margaret Geitgey, born December 15, 1987.

Promotions at the University of Nevada Reno Mines, Engineering and Life & Health Sciences Library: MARY ANSARI became Head of Branch Libraries and LINDA NEWMAN became Mines & Map Librarian.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIBRARIAN (PHYSICAL SCIENCES), USGS LIBRARY, RESTON, VA

Salary: GS-9 (\$22,907 - \$29,783 per annum)
or GS-11 (\$27,716 - \$36,032 per annum)

Qualifications: Completion of not less than 24 semester hours in the geosciences in an accredited college or university, or, 4 years of successful pertinent experience which provided appropriate knowledge of the geosciences, plus library science education or a combination of education and experience required by Civil Service Qualification Standard for professional librarians; training or experience in reference work; skill in working effectively with staff members and library clientele essential.

In addition, applicants must have completed graduate education or possess professional experience required in the Civil Service Qualification Standard. For example, for the GS-11, 3 years of graduate education in library science or equivalent professional library experience.

Duties: Functions as one of a team of reference librarians who are highly service orientated. Participates in all aspects of reference, including reference desk duty, book selection, computerized data base searching, and interlibrary loan activities.

Contact: Interested and qualified applicants must submit, by no later than February 26, 1988, a completed Personal Qualifications Statement (SF-171) to, and(or) request additional information from:

Barbara Chappell, Chief, Reference and Circulation Section
USGS Library
Mail Stop 950
National Center
Reston, VA 22092
(703) 648-6088 or FTS 8-959-6088

GEOLOGY LIBRARIAN, Lindgren Library, MIT, Cambridge, MA

The Lindgren Library is the branch library of the Engineering and Science Libraries for earth, atmospheric and planetary sciences at MIT. The Engineering and Science Libraries, while physically separate, have recently undergone an administrative reorganization, bringing together the planning and management functions for these two outstanding libraries. In addition to the two major facilities, the Engineering and Science Libraries also include the Aeronautics and Astronautics Library and the Schering-Plough Library (health sciences). The Engineering and Science Libraries contain over one million printed volumes, over one million microforms, 8,600 current subscriptions, and over 86,000 maps. The collections of Lindgren Library encompass 50,000 printed volumes, 40,000 microforms, 1000 journal subscriptions, and 14,000 maps. Staff have access to online databases through Dialog.

Description: Serves as branch librarian for the Lindgren Library. Manages the library's services and staff (1.5 FTE support staff, 1.0 FTE students). Plans and carries out creative information services and user education programs. Builds and manages research level collections in all formats in geology, geophysics, astronomy, meteorology and oceanography and serves as the subject specialist to the MIT community in these subjects. Serves as map specialist for the Engineering and Science Libraries. Serves as a member of the Branch Librarians Group and other appropriate committees and task forces.

Qualifications: ALA-accredited MLS required. Considerable professional experience in a research library, including experience in traditional and online reference and in developing collections required. Physical sciences degree or experience in a science library required, as is supervisory experience. Candidates must demonstrate well-developed interpersonal and communication skills.

Hiring Salary Range: \$25,000-\$30,000.

The MIT Libraries offer excellent benefits, including tuition assistance, children's scholarship program, and a relocation allowance. MIT is a smoke-free campus.

To ensure full consideration, interested candidates should send a resume and the names of three current, confidential references immediately. Position will remain open until filled. Responses should be addressed to:

Search Committee for Lindgren Librarian (GIS)
MIT Libraries
Room 14S-216
Cambridge, MA 02139

MIT is an equal opportunity employer with an affirmative action plan and welcomes applications from qualified women and minority candidates.

ASSISTANT NATURAL SCIENCES LIBRARIAN, University of Washington, Seattle, WA

The University of Washington seeks a service-oriented librarian, preferably with an earth sciences background, to fill the position of Assistant Natural Sciences Librarian. The Natural Sciences Library collection includes 200,000 volumes and 2400 serial subscriptions primarily in the biological and earth sciences. The library has a staff of 3 librarians and 3 classified staff, and an annual materials budget of more than \$250,000. During the next several years the Natural Sciences Library will be involved in major projects including implementation of the Geac online circulation system in 1989-90 and a plan to move to a new facility in 1990.

Responsibilities of the assistant librarian include: providing reference service, inclu-

ding computer-based reference service; supervising, training and evaluating student helps and managing the student budget; selecting in the fields of geological sciences, geophysics, atmospheric sciences, and maintaining liaison with the academic departments relevant to those subject areas; coordinating the reference desk schedule and reference statistics.

Qualifications include: Graduate degree from a program accredited by the ALA required; minimum of one year experience in science reference required; academic background in earth sciences preferred; online searching experience preferred; supervisory experience desirable.

Salary is \$20,400 minimum. Benefits include 24 days vacation, TIAA/CREF retirement, and premiums fully paid for medical, dental, and life insurance plans. There is no state or local income tax. The position is available April 1, 1988. Send letter of application, resume, names of 3 references, and salary requirements to:

Charles E. Chamberlin
Deputy Director of Libraries/Head,
Personnel and Administrative Services
University of Washington Libraries
FM-25
Seattle, WA 98195

Deadline for applications is Friday, March 11, 1988.

LIBRARIAN, BOTANY/CHEMISTRY AND THE BIOLOGY LIBRARIES, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

Under the direction of the Assistant University Librarian for Reader Services, the incumbent is responsible for the management of two separate libraries. Principal duties are the supervision of 2 full-time library assistants and several student assistants, the provision of reference services and bibliographic instruction primarily for graduate students and faculty, and, under the direction of the Assistant University Librarian for Collection Management, selection work in the areas of chemistry, chemical engineering, botany, and biology.

The Botany/Chemistry Library of 73,000 volumes serves 40 faculty and 150 graduate students, and the Biology Library, holding 14,000 volumes, serves 26 faculty and 80 graduate students.

REQUIREMENTS: An ALA-accredited graduate library degree; an educational background in either the life or physical sciences; a minimum of 3 years of professional experience which includes some science reference and/or science selection work and experience in staff management and supervision; a basic reading knowledge of at least one western European language other than English; good communication skills. Desirable characteristics include significant research library experience, a degree in the life or physical sciences, and experience in electronic bibliographic searching.

SALARY: Appointment will be made at the Librarian II rank. Salary will be in the mid- to upper-\$20,000 range; salary determination based on a combination of educational background and experience. The University offers an attractive package of additional benefits, including 25 days paid vacation per year, TIAA/CREF retirement, Social Security, disability and medical/dental insurance.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE: Applications received by Feb. 1, 1988 will receive first consideration. Qualified individuals should submit a letter of application, vita information, and the names, addresses, and telephone number of 3 references to:

William Sayre, Assistant University
Librarian for Administrative Services
The University of Iowa Libraries
Iowa City, Iowa 52242

The University of Iowa is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

SEARCHING BY GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES:
Summary of Presentation,
Advanced GeoRef Seminar, Phoenix

by

Marilyn Stark

Since 1977, GeoRef has added geographic coordinates, in a fixed field format of 30 characters, to entries where boundaries are available to index, the name is unique, and the area has definite natural or political boundaries. Coordinates are usually added for maps. In addition, coordinates are added for ocean areas, where possible. However, coordinates are NOT automatically added, even if the area has coordinates listed in the GeoRef Thesaurus.

Coordinates are useful for ocean areas and maps, but county and basin names are more reliable terms for searching geographic areas in GeoRef. Coordinates, county and basin names can all be used for comprehensive searching. Coordinates assignment is limited to what information the indexer has, so many areas are not assigned coordinates.

The major problem with searching by coordinates is still retrieving false hits: items that begin at 37 degrees when what you want should end at 37 degrees, and are west of 100 degrees when you want those items east of 100 degrees. This problem remains, with no easy solution in sight.

If results look odd, print out titles and index terms to help figure alternative strategies. Coordinates searching is significantly faster on DIALOG than on ORBIT, but ORBIT's "greater than" and "less than" can help cut down false hits. Most searchers at the session rarely used coordinates because of past problems in results obtained.

PUBLICATIONS

A new state bibliography is now available:

Hasenmuller, Nancy, editor, 1987, Annotated Bibliography of Indiana geology, 1956-1975: Indiana Geological Survey Bulletin 60.

This is a supplement to the Annotated Bibliography of Indiana Geology through 1955 (Bulletin 24, published in 1962). It has an extensive subject index and a serials list.

It sells for \$10.90 (prepaid), from:

Indiana Geological Survey
611 North Walnut Grove
Bloomington, IN 47405

The 3rd edition of Australian thesaurus of earth sciences and related terms is now available. For information, contact Information Services Manager, AMF, or:

The AMF Bookshop
63 Conyngham Street
Glenside, South Australia 50965
Australia

A data base file on gold deposits of western Australia is now available. Data is given on 80 major western Australian gold deposits, with information on geology, geologic settings, characteristics of host rock, production, history, ownership, and bibliographic references. It is available on microfiche (\$24.95), diskette or tape, in ASCII (\$150) or Oracle format (\$200). Prices include surface postage. It is accompanied by an explanatory text, map, and tables (BMR Resources Report 3). To order, contact:

Mr. Brian Elliott, or, Mrs. Rae Lorenz
Bureau of Mineral Resources
GPO Box 378
Canberra, ACT 2601
Australia

THE HIGH PLAINS DRIFTER

Now that Christmas is over, I'm tired of behaving myself. I need to act out. I propose "Cookie Day in the Library"!

When we were children and allowed to do that forbidden thing, like eat in front of the TV, skip church, stay up late, or blow our whole allowance-- life was much brighter and sweeter.

Now that we are adults (mostly) in today's permissive society, only libraries are left with RULES

- DON'T return that book late!
- DON'T reshelve the books
- DON'T write in the books
- DON'T eat or drink in the library

To save our sanity (or what's left of it), I propose Cookie Day. Urge patrons to bring cookies. Make cookies for those who are unprepared. Pass the plate during the day, and help patrons brush those cookie crumbs to the floor.

Patrons will go home absolutely euphoric. They will tell their friends about the wonderful library and how the librarians have turned into "nice guys." The next week, mobs of people will show up at your library. Smile pleasantly and greet them with a plate of fortune cookies, especially prepared of course. The fortune will consist of a pledge card and a particularly bad fortune of what will happen if they don't fill out the pledge card. After all, we need the money for preservation, restoration, prevention of vandalism-- and cleaning up the cookie crumbs.

Let me know if it works.

* * *

Did you hear about the tornado that tore through [the state next door]? It did \$25,000 worth of improvements.

* * *

(There's still time to volunteer to take over this column. Please!)

Connie Manson - Editor
Geoscience Information Society
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Olympia, WA 98506

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