



newsletter

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

About 60 GIS members attended the 1989 GSA meeting which was held in St. Louis November 5-9. The weather was most cooperative, and the convention facilities were excellent. Food was very good, and, as usual, the company was great.

Our Symposium and Technical Sessions were well received and attracted a fair number of non-GISers. I already have six camera-ready papers from these sessions in hand and am looking forward to editing a noteworthy proceedings volume. I heard rave reviews on the Field Trips and Field Guidebook Workshop. I hope to include at least one paper from it in the Proceedings. The GeoRef workshops, Database Forum, and Cost of Geoscience Literature sessions were all well attended and much appreciated. As Vice President, I must admit that I was somewhat apprehensive about surviving the meeting and certainly didn't expect to have a lot of fun (But I did manage to have fun!). I felt that GSA arrangements for GIS went incredibly smoothly this year.

Thus far, committee assignments seem to be falling into place nicely. As usual, they will be listed in the next Newsletter. Also, if you are a new committee member or chair a committee, you will be hearing from me personally. This year some new committees have been formed. They are the Archivist, Digital Data, Guidebooks Standards and the 4th edition of the Directory of Geoscience

Libraries committees. Several new members attended the meeting--we extend a warm welcome and already have several of you signed up for committees. If you didn't attend the meeting or "forgot" to sign up for a committee at the meeting, it's not too late. Please contact me, and I'm sure something can be worked out.

Many, many thanks to Joanne Lerud, Jean Eaglesfield, Michael Noga, and Marilyn Stark for their outstanding leadership this year. All committee chairs are profusely thanked for their indispensable contributions to the running of the Society. One thing that happened quietly this year after having been in progress for 5 years was the publication of the 5th edition of the Union List of Geologic Field Trip Guidebooks. I wish to extend the Society's sincere appreciation to Charlotte Derksen and her committee for producing this impressive reference work.

As we embark upon our 25th year, I feel that if we are to be as successful in our second 25 years as we have been in our first, our emphasis must be on outreach to the geoscience community and related professional societies and outreach for increased membership. Also, we must educate others that we were and are the first GIS rather than the other GIS. Let's work together to make this 25th year a landmark one.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

GSA began its second century with a great meeting in St. Louis-- good programs, well run sessions, and pleasant weather. Mary Ansari's planning and hard work produced an excellent GIS meeting with high quality papers in both the GIS Symposium and Technical Sessions.

As many of you know, GIS will celebrate its 25th anniversary in 1990. To complement our 25th anniversary, the GIS Symposium will focus on societies. What part have societies played in the transfer of geological information and what part will they play in the future? The overall theme for GSA's 102nd meeting is the information explosion and what effect computers are having and will have in geology. Speakers will give this topic some consideration in the symposium. Contributed abstracts on the information explosion, libraries

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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 changes 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 February, 1990 issue of the GIS Newsletter should be received by the editors no later than January 20, 1990. If possible please send materials on IBM-compatible disc (Wordstar, Wordperfect, or ASCII format).

or other topics would be welcome for the technical session. While the official call for papers will go out in the spring, it's not too early to be thinking about submitting an abstract. This is your opportunity to present research, projects, ideas to your colleagues.

Other events will include a gala dinner, instead of a luncheon, to celebrate the anniversary. The 25th Anniversary Committee, chaired by Jean Eaglesfield, is planning various projects including a history of the society and its accomplishments. In addition we are organizing the GeoRef Workshops, and discussing what emphasis the database forum should have. We will also explore the idea of a field trip.

1990 will be a special year for GIS. The 4th International conference will be held in Ottawa in

June, and GIS will celebrate its 25th anniversary in Dallas in October. I hope many members will be able to attend both meetings.

PAST PRESIDENT'S PEARLS

I am so very pleased at the number of GIS members who participated in the St. Louis meeting. The new faces were especially important; I look forward to the day when they are in charge. Proper thank-you letters will go to all of those who were so helpful this year. If your term has not expired, I will not send you a thank-you because I don't want you to give up. You were all wonderful. Let's do it again next year!

MINUTES GEOSCIENCE INFORMATION SOCIETY Annual Business Meeting

Monday, 6 November 1989
Adams Mark Hotel, Promenade E
Saint Louis, Missouri

The GIS Annual Business Meeting was called to order by Joanne Lerud, the President, at 1:15 PM Central Standard Time.

Introductions

Joanne Lerud introduced the officers. The minutes of the 1988 Annual Business Meeting were approved.

Members and visitors were asked to introduce themselves. Then the President asked members to introduce members who were attending their first business meeting: Diane Walter; Lynne Fortunato; Rusty Lotti; Sally Scott; Kit Fuller; Sylvia Bender-Lamb; Lisa Dunn; and Harry Davis.

The new Vice President/President Elect, Marie Dvorzak, and the new Treasurer, Janice Sorensen, were introduced.

Reports of Officers

Vice President

Mary Ansari announced that a special information session on the Loma Prieta Earthquake would be held during the conference.

Secretary

Michael Noga noted that about 5 new members have joined since the Annual Report was submitted. The Society has approximately the same number of members as it had at this time in 1988.

He also mentioned that the Secretary produces mailing labels for all the Society's publications.

Members should send any address changes to the Secretary.

Treasurer

Marilyn Stark noted that the October 1989 Newsletter contained the Society's Financial Report. GIS has a solid financial basis as we prepare for GeoInfo IV.

Past President

Jean Eaglesfield was glad about the greater involvement of members in the annual meeting. She noticed two trends during her term of office. First, she remarked that there were fewer scientists and growing illiteracy. She was encouraged that GIS was planning to contribute a special issue of Compass.

Jean also noted that during her tenure as an officer, geoscience libraries have not been able to collect as many materials. However, GIS cooperative collection development efforts have been a model for information providers for other sciences.

Auditor

Marie Dvorzak announced that the financial books for 1988 and 1989 will be audited soon. Bob Bier will take over the books, since Marie has become President Elect.

Editor

Connie Manson had nothing to add to the annual report in the Newsletter.

Publications Manager

Louise Zipp updated her Annual Report. Since the Annual Report was written, 24 copies of Proceedings vol. 19 and 3 copies of Proceedings vol. 18 have been sold. One standing order was cancelled. One subscription to the Newsletter was reinstated, and renewal notices were sent out. One copy of the Directory of Geoscience Libraries and one set of the mailing labels of the membership and subscribers were sold.

300 copies of the Membership Directory were ordered, and 312 were received. 243 were sent to members, and the remaining copies were shipped to the Secretary. The unit cost was \$2.94. Any member who has not received a copy or whose copy arrived damaged should contact the Secretary.

Guidebook Standards Officer

Claren Kidd wanted the Executive Board to consider updating the standards for field trip guidebooks.

Reports of Representatives

The following representatives announced additions to their annual reports in the October GIS Newsletter.

NACIS Representative

Ed Hall has agreed to become the NACIS Representative. He reported on a recent meeting of the ACSM in Cleveland. He noticed that the mapping sessions were poorly attended and several speakers for these sessions had cancelled. Ed noted that NACIS is another forum for map librarians and cartographers, and the organization will hold its next meeting in Orlando in 1990. NACIS may also stage a meeting in Costa Rica in the future.

CUAC Representative

Charlotte Derksen gave a report. Depository libraries have to select USGS Professional Paper 1200 (The National Gazetteer of the United States of America) separately. It is no longer sent automatically with the Professional Paper. Also, USGS is phasing out all direct map depositories. Maps are only sent through GPO depositories. Charlotte recommends that affected libraries try to receive them through the depository of a local law library. USGS direct book depositories are not affected by this action.

USGS is publishing more GQs, MFs, and Is, because funds are not available to send geologists into the field. Instead, they are working on their publication backlog. However, the number of new USGS open-file reports is decreasing rapidly.

Connie Wick remains the liaison to the National Geophysical Data Center. CUAC has requested that NOAA reports be added to the GPO depository, but the Depository Council has not responded. Marie Dvorzak urged that we contact

members of the Depository Council who are located on our campuses.

AGI GeoRef Advisory Committee Representative

Miriam Sheaves reported on Sunday's all-day meeting. AGI is discussing a possible exchange of information with VINITI, from the USSR. Miriam noted that the 50% GeoRef discount for academic searchers is still in effect. She also noted that there are advantages to searching GeoRef on STN. Julie Bichteler mentioned that there are problems with searching GeoRef on DIALOG. They can be solved if DIALOG reloads GeoRef. She passed out a list of the problems. They would be discussed at the GeoRef Users Group meeting.

MOUG Representative

Rich Soares reported that MOUG met in Dallas in June. They will have a membership drive. A new newsletter editor is needed (Ed Hall is the past editor). MOUG will meet next in June 1990 at the SLA Conference in Pittsburgh.

WAML Representative

Michael Noga mentioned that he brought some WAML membership brochures to the meeting. The brochure includes WAML's list of publications.

Association of Earth Science Editors Representative

Dena Stepp said that she could not attend the last meeting, but a Chemical Abstracts Service colleague went. A new archivist was appointed.

Reports of Committees

The following committee chairs or members announced additions to their annual reports in the October GIS Newsletter.

Archivist

Joni Lerud noted that not much material from the middle years of GIS had been deposited in the Society's archives at the Univ. of Illinois. She talked to Jim O'Donnell about the procedure of appointing a GIS archivist without changing the bylaws. The solution was to appoint an Archivist Committee, which had one or more members. As a result, Joni established the committee and appointed Jean Eaglesfield to it.

Jean gave some background information on the Society's archives. Approximately 150 organizations house their archives at the University of Illinois. The emphasis is on agricultural and information topics. The GIS Archives contains papers back into the 1960s. Several sheets are yellow carbon paper, and much is stored in liquor boxes and shoeboxes. She will visit the Archives in March, and she hopes to move documents into acid-free enclosures.

Jean's interest in the Archives was sparked when she needed to find out what to deposit from

her tenure as President. She is investigating deposition guidelines, and is interested in procedures that other small societies have developed.

Dick Walker noted that he can contribute the records of at least three officers. Joni mentioned that the USGS Library will also be sending some boxes to the Archives.

Finally, Claren Kidd turned over the GIS corporate seal to the Secretary.

Exhibits Committee

Elaine Watson asked members to sign up for an hour at the GIS exhibit booth. Joni Lerud remarked that she has learned something every time that she sat at the booth.

Editorial Review Board

Dick Walker thanked the committee members.

Membership Committee

Lois Heiser remarked that mass mailings might not be the most effective way to reach prospective members. She encouraged the Executive Board to consider advertizing in journals instead.

Nominating Committee

Jean Eaglesfield expressed her thanks to all the candidates.

Ad Hoc Committee on the 5th International Conference on Geoscience Information

Dick Walker announced that the Committee will meet after the Business Meeting. They had first considered China for a possible site for the 5th Conference, but dropped their plans after recent events.

Ad Hoc Committee on Geoscience Publication Prices

Julie Rinaldi announced that an open meeting would be held the next day. She also announced the time and location of the GIS Pacific Section annual meeting.

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

Charlotte Derksen explained why the publication of the Union List, 5th Edition was delayed in early 1989. At the 1988 GSA Annual Conference, the Committee discovered that the guidebooks from 5 organizations, including GSA and its sections, were missing from the computer file. Consequently, Committee members worked on adding the guidebooks. By February 1989, the missing guidebooks had been added to the file again, and the whole Union List was submitted to AGI for publication.

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

Richard Spohn mentioned that Joan Sandoz from AGI was not able to come to the GSA Conference.

She will send contributors a list of their guidebook holdings according to the Union List database at AGI. The Guidebook Committee will meet after the Business Meeting.

Gala 25th Anniversary Committee

Jean Eaglesfield announced that publications and souvenirs are being planned for next year's meeting. A dinner will be held instead of the normal luncheon. The meeting should be festive and fun.

Old Business

GeoInfo IV (24-29 June 1990, Ottawa, Canada)

David Reade, the Secretary-Treasurer of GeoInfo IV presented slides and handed out the first circular. On behalf of Tony Berger, he invited everyone to come to Ottawa. The Geological Survey of Canada is pleased to host the meeting. The organizing committee started in March 1989. They have received 80 abstracts.

The sessions are being organized around five themes. There has been an attempt to involve end users in the conference. Also, a sequence of meetings on one day has been organized specifically for managers. Sessions will run concurrently. Some sessions are focused on international concerns. The conference will include plenary sessions, 15 concurrent sessions (3 at a time), sessions with volunteered papers, poster sessions, and exhibits. Field trips to Canada's national science library, the Remote Sensing Centre, and the Energy, Mines, and Resources complex are planned. There will also be a geologic field trip to the Gatineau area.

Eight short courses will be offered. A GeoRef workshop and a half-day session on spatial data systems are planned. There will be a "Welcome to Ottawa" reception, a conference banquet at the Museum of Natural Science, and a closing luncheon. Registration and accommodations fees will be announced in the 2nd Circular. The organizers are planning on 300-400 attendees. Soon, decisions on accepted abstracts should be made.

New Business

GIS Archivist

This is being handled as a committee, not as an officer position. Photographic duties will be added. The Archivist will submit a budget for archival supplies to the Executive Board. Jean Eaglesfield, the GIS Archivist, noted that the papers of committee chairs are important additions to the Archives.

Gala 25th Anniversary Planning

The Anniversary Dinner has been scheduled for Tuesday night during next year's conference, because Monday is the alumni night.

Possible New Projects

--Directory of Geoscience Libraries

Ian Brock, a new Canadian member, noted that Canadian libraries were not represented well in the Directory of Geoscience Libraries. Louise Zipp spoke of the need for updating the Directory. Then there was a discussion on the format of a new edition. Jim O'Donnell suggested that a version on floppy disc with some form of search software would be useful. Possibly a disc could be slipped into a pocket of a new paper edition of the Directory.

A motion to have the Executive Board appoint a committee to produce a new Directory of Geoscience Libraries was made. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

--Standards for Serials

The attendees were asked whether the standards should be updated. No one expressed interest.

--Standards for Guidebooks

There was a discussion on the Standards. Mark Finnegan, mentioned that Ron Hart, past AAPG editor, thought that GIS should send the Standards for Guidebooks to field trip organizers for the 1991 meetings. Claren Kidd mentioned that she has talked to the Chair of the GSA Guidebook Committee, but the Chair has to spread the word to the field trip organizers. She also noted that she looks at Geotimes for field trip announcements. Ed Jestes suggested that perhaps a Best Guidebook Award was needed. There was much support for this idea.

--Ad Hoc Committee on Geoscience Publication Prices

The Ad Hoc Committee on Geoscience Publication Prices was scheduled to expire with this meeting. The incoming President will consider whether to continue this committee.

--"Compass" Issue

Joni Lerud said that Dan Merriam contacted her earlier this year. He suggested that GIS do a special issue of the Compass. Joni noted that this would be a good outreach tool for the Society. It would especially be useful to reach undergraduates. Perhaps a special cover for the issue would celebrate the 25th Anniversary of GIS. Dick Walker thought that a column would be more effective, because a special issue becomes old quickly. Kit Fuller volunteered to do an article. Phil Stoffer announced that he and Richard Spohn were working on some type of exercise. Others noted that articles from a special issue or column could be sent to library schools.

--Special GIS Function at GeoInfo IV

Joni Lerud asked whether GIS should cosponsor a session at GeoInfo IV. Several suggestions were

made. Perhaps GIS should cosponsor a session but not spend money on refreshments. GIS could send the exhibit, but not staff the booth. GIS members who attend GeoInfo IV could wear GIS button so that members might get questions about the Society. Finally, GIS could add a flyer to the registration packet or add a half-page to the program.

--Beginning and Advanced GeoRef Workshops at GeoInfo IV

Joni Lerud announced that the Executive Board would support GeoRef Workshops at GeoInfo IV if the GeoRef Users Group Steering Committee were interested. Margy Walsh remarked that only two members on the current committee will remain after the 1989 Annual Meeting. David Reade mentioned that GeoInfo IV would set up a meeting room for GIS at no charge, as long as no phone or extra equipment were needed. He also noted that GeoInfo IV is only interested in bibliographic database workshops right now.

--Sale and Distribution of the GIS Membership Directory

Joni Lerud noted that only the mailing labels of the preferred address of the membership are sold or distributed. She asked whether the membership wanted to approve the sale of the Membership Directory. There was some discussion. Some members questioned whether home phone numbers are given out [No.--Secretary]. There was a suggestion to add a box to the membership renewal form, so that members could exclude their names from the mailing label distribution.

--5th International Conference on Geoscience Information

Dick Walker gave a report earlier in the meeting. Tony Berger from the Geological Survey of Canada was interested in finding a location and host for the 5th International Conference. David Reade remarked that the GeoInfo IV organizers would like to announce this location during the Ottawa meeting.

Announcements

Jim O'Donnell wanted GIS to acknowledge the publication of the Union List of Geologic Field Trip Guidebooks, 5th edition. The attendees applauded.

Susan Klimley remarked that she was concerned about the impact of AACR2 rules on geoscience names. She would like to write an article on this topic, and asked anyone who was interested to contact her.

Jim O'Donnell made an announcement about the Database Forum.

Clara McLeod announced when and where the field trip would start. The attendees expressed their appreciation of her St. Louis arrangements.

Charlotte Derksen announced that she had pictures of damage in her library from the Loma Prieta Earthquake.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 PM Central Standard Time.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael M. Noga, GIS Secretary

LIST OF ATTENDEES
Geoscience Information Society
Annual Business Meeting
6 November 1989

Martha Andrews (INSTAAR, Univ Colorado, Boulder)
Mary Ansari (Univ of Nevada, Reno)
Sylvia Bender-Lamb (Calif. Div of Mines & Geol, Sacramento)
Julie Bichteler (Grad. Sch of Lib & Info Sci, U of Texas-Aus)
Nancy L. Blair (USGS Library, Menlo Park)
Reggie Brown (Ohio State Univ.)
Harry O. Davis (Southern Illinois U. at Carbondale)
Barbara DeFelice (Dartmouth College)
Charlotte R. M. Derksen (Stanford Univ. Earth Sci Lib, CA)
Dona Dirlam (Gemological Institute of America)
Lisa G. Dunn (Montana Tech Library)
Marie Dvorzak (University of Wisconsin-Madison Geol Lib)
Jean Eaglesfield (Michigan State Univ, E. Lansing, MI)
Lynne Fortunato (New York Public Library, NY, NY)
Kit Fuller (USGS Geologic Inquiries Group, Reston, VA)
Carol Gill (Univ of Washington, Natural Sci Lib, Seattle)
Edward J. Hall (Kent State University, Kent, OH)
Barbara Haner (UC Riverside, Phys Sci Library, Riverside, CA)
Bob Heidlage (Univ. of Missouri, Columbia)
Lois Heiser (Indiana Univ., Bloomington, IN)
Ed Jestes (Univ. Calif., Davis)
Claren Kidd (Univ. Oklahoma, Norman, OK)
Midge King (University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta)
Susan Klimley (Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory, NY)
Mary Krick (Ill Geological Survey Library)
Carolyn J. Laffoon (Purdue Univ.)
Suzanne T. Larsen (Univ. of Colorado, Boulder)
Joanne Lerud (Colorado Sch of Mines, Golden, CO)
Rusty Lotti (Lamont-Doherty Geol. Obs.-Columbia Univ.)
Connie Manson (Washington Div. Geology & Earth Resources)
Amanda Masterson (Univ. of Texas-Austin (State geol. survey))
Dorothy McGarry (UCLA)
Clara P. McLeod (Washington Univ, E & P Sc Library)
John Mulvihill (AGI)
Linda P. Newman (Univ. of Nevada, Reno)
Michael Noga (UCLA Geology/Geophysics Library)

Jim O'Donnell (Caltech)
David Reade (Geological Survey of Canada)
Julie Rinaldi (Univ. of Calif., Berkeley)
Sally Scott (UCLA Library School)
Miriam Sheaves (Univ. of N.C. Chapel Hill, NC)
Eileen Snyder (Syracuse Univ Geology Library, Syracuse, NY)
Richard Soares (BYU)
Janice Sorensen (Kansas Geological Survey, Lawrence, KS)
Richard Spohn (University of Cincinnati, Cin., OH)
Marilyn Stark (Colorado Sch of Mines, Golden, CO)
Dena Stepp (Chemical Abstracts Service, Col., OH)
Phil Stoffer (Columbia Univ., NYC, NY Sch of Library Service)
Thelma Thompson (Cornell College, Mt. Vernon, IA)
Julia H. Triplehorn (Geophysical Institute, Univ. of Alaska)
Rosalind Walcott (SUNY Stony Brook)
Richard Walker (Univ of Wis.-Madison, Sch of Lib & Info Stud)
Margy Walsh (Texaco E&P Tech Div)
Diana Walter (University of Illinois, Geology Library)
M. E. Watson (USGS-Denver)
Louise Zipp (Iowa)
Henry Zoller (USGS, Reston, VA)

MINUTES

GIS Executive Board Meeting
Sunday, 5 November 1989
1:15-3:30 PM CST
Adams Mark Hotel, St. Louis

The Executive Board

- Heard reports from Officers, Representatives, and Committee Chairs.
- Discussed the formation of a committee that would consider digital data.
- Considered the duties of the GIS Archivist.
- Discussed arrangements for the Gala 25th Anniversary of GIS.
- Considered whether the Directory of Geoscience Libraries should be revised and considered the sale of the old edition.
- Considered whether the standards for serials and field trip guidebooks should be revised.
- Decided to exclude information on access to cataloging utilities from the Membership Directory and instead put it in the next edition of the Directory of Geoscience Libraries.
- Considered an offer to have GIS members do a special issue of the Compass.
- Discussed GIS arrangements for GeoInfo IV.
- Discussed the sale and distribution of products from the membership database.
- Considered whether GIS should hold GeoRef workshops at GeoInfo IV.
- Discussed whether GIS should have a booth at GeoInfo IV.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael M. Noga, GIS Secretary

MINUTES
GIS Executive Board Meeting
Thursday, 9 November 1989
1:20-5:00 PM CST
Adams Mark Hotel, St. Louis

The Executive Board

- Heard a report from Claren Kidd on publicity for the standards on field trip guidebooks.
- Decided to add a statement to the membership renewal form that advised members to choose their preferred addresses carefully.
- Heard a request from Marilyn Stark to send reimbursement requests to her before 8 December. Afterwards requests should be held until January 1990, when Janice Sorensen becomes Treasurer.
- Learned that the Treasurer will design a reimbursement form, which will be distributed to committee chairs.
- Heard a report from Marie Dvorzak on planning for the Dallas meeting.
- Heard Joanne Lerud's report of the AGI Member Society Council Meeting.
- Supported a proposal for a GIS-sponsored database forum at GeoInfo IV instead of an advanced GeoRef workshop.
- Heard a report from Louise Zipp on the development of a special GIS logo for the Newsletter and other publications that are issued during the 25th Anniversary of GIS.
- Heard about plans to add fax numbers and electronic mail addresses to the Newsletter address page.
- Urged that book reviews be sent to the Chair of the Editorial Board first.
- Approved the formation of a new Committee on Collection Development Issues.
- Approved the formation of a new Committee on Digital Data.
- Approved the formation of a new Committee on Guidebook Standards.
- Decided to distribute membership brochures to members.
- Decided that Joanne Lerud would be the editor of the special Compass issue.
- Decided to raise the price of the GIS mailing labels.
- Decided that the incoming President will write a letter to DIALOG concerning the reload using the information provided by Julie Bichteler and consulting with appropriate persons before January 1, 1990.
- Decided to ask the Committee on Collection Development Issues to look at the checklist for evaluating serials to determine whether action should be taken.
- Scheduled three conference calls for 1990.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael M. Noga, GIS Secretary

1989 GeoRef Users Group: Annual Meeting Review
St. Louis, Missouri, November 8, 1989

1. GeoRef on CD-ROM

John Mulvihill reported that the GeoRef Advisory Committee had discussed the possible distribution of GeoRef on CD-ROM. While concerned about possible reductions in online revenues and "Bibliography" subscriptions, the Advisory Committee did support this new product.

In response to questions by various members, J. Mulvihill reported the following:

- (a) search software and vendor had not been selected
- (b) product might be expected at the end of the year, 1990
- (c) price has not been set, but prepublication discounts, reductions for multiple copies, reduced prices for "Bibliography" subscribers and/or site licenses are being considered
- (d) product is expected to be on 2-3 disks, depending on the search software and accompanying indexes
- (e) updates will probably be distributed quarterly

S. Larsen reported that earth science materials currently available on CD-ROM were generally priced much lower than products from other disciplines. She has also found that installation and use of these various CD-ROM products can be quite labor-intensive for library staff, which was echoed by other members.

S. Klimley commented that she's concerned that students may rely solely on GeoRef on CD-ROM and not realize that other sources may be needed to fully answer the question. She reminded users that while good search software simplifies the mechanics of searching, it will not provide much needed guidance about vocabulary selection.

After considerable discussion, the members attending expressed strong support for the production of GeoRef on CD-ROM.

2. GeoRef Reload on Dialog

Major concerns were expressed by many members about the continued delays in the GeoRef reload. J. Bichteler prepared a list of GeoRef's Dialog problems which was distributed at the 1989 GIS Business Meeting. J. Mulvihill reported that AGI had no further information to convey and they were frustrated that the project is not yet scheduled.

M. Walsh will write a letter to Roger K. Summit, President of Dialog, expressing the Users Group's concern over the delays. (The text of this letter appears elsewhere in this issue of the Newsletter). The GIS Executive Board will write separately to Dialog and it was recommended that AGI's GeoRef Advisory Committee also convey their displeasure. In addition, all GRUG and GIS members

are strongly encouraged to write Dialog individually to express their concerns.

3. Other News from AGI

(a) Plans are underway to scan journal and theses abstracts directly into the database, providing copyright-related questions are appropriately resolved.

(b) AGI is having discussions concerning a possible exchange program with the Russian VINITI group. In this exchange, VINITI would provide bibliographic citations with abstracts in exchange for citations and serials.

(c) Duplicate-checking algorithm is now in place for records entered during the current year. The next step will expand the period checked to the past 3 years. Users finding duplicate records are asked to report them to AGI.

(d) Microcomputer installed which will improve input for GeoRef. Features such as checking and automatic autoposting are expected to encourage indexers to use the online mode for data input.

4. 4th International Conference on Geoscience Information, Ottawa, June 1990

AGI had suggested to the Canadian organizers that Beginners and Advanced GeoRef workshops be held and had asked M. Walsh if GRUG would be able to assist with these Workshops.

Several members joined M. Sheaves in expressing concern that adding these Workshops to our calendar might be too much of a burden. It was recommended that GRUG solicit firm commitments from members attending GeoInfo IV before agreeing to support or sponsor these programs. It was also suggested that the international community attending the meeting might be better served by sessions that looked at a wider array of bibliographic databases.

After much discussion, the consensus of the members attending was that GRUG was willing to assist AGI in presenting a Beginners Workshop. In lieu of an Advanced Workshop, the members recommended the Bibliographic Database Forum as a more appropriate project for GIS/GRUG.

J. O'Donnell, C. Derksen and J. Lerud volunteered to assist AGI's S. Tahirkheli with the Beginners Workshop. AGI and the Canadian sponsors will be investigating alternate sites for the Beginners Workshop which may make it possible for at least one terminal to be available for use during the session.

J. O'Donnell volunteered to coordinate the GIS/GRUG Bibliographic Database Forum.

Respectfully submitted,

Margy Walsh
Chair, Steering Committee

[editor's note: Because of the current interest by GIS members in the state of GeoRef on Dialog, the following items are reprinted for their information.]

November 22, 1989

Roger K. Summit, President
Dialog Information Services, Inc.
3460 Hillview Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94304

Dear Mr. Summit:

On behalf of the GeoRef Users Group, I would like to express our grave concern about the lack of progress toward the much needed reload of the GeoRef database (Dialog File 89) produced by the American Geological Institute (AGI).

The GeoRef Users Group open to all who use GeoRef and its Steering Committee is a standing committee of the Geoscience Information Society. The Users Group presents GeoRef workshops at their annual meetings held in conjunction with the Geological Society of America (GSA). The Users Group also works with AGI throughout the year on selected projects designed to enhance the quality of the database and the skills of GeoRef searchers.

Members of the GeoRef Users Group assembled recently during the GSA meeting in St. Louis to consider a broad variety of topics related to the GeoRef database.

The most frequently discussed issues were problems associated with the current Dialog version of GeoRef and queries about the anticipated date for the Dialog reload.

As an example of the acute problems, many users fail to realize that limiting a set to English language actually eliminates a considerable number of older English language records--a fact not recorded in Dialog documentation. In fact, the "blue sheet" has not been revised since 1981 and still describes GeoRef as containing documents from the mid-1960s when it includes North American material from 1785 and worldwide material from 1933. I have enclosed a more extensive list of difficulties prepared by Dr. Julie Bichteler, a member of both the GeoRef Users Group and AGI's GeoRef Advisory Committee.

At both the 1987 and 1988 meetings of the Group, John Mulvihill, AGI's Director of GeoRef Information Systems, reported that Dialog planned to begin work on the reload imminently. At our most recent meeting, Mr. Mulvihill was unwilling to speculate on an anticipated reload date, which was quite disturbing to the Dialog users in attendance.

We strongly urge Dialog to schedule the GeoRef reload at the earliest possible date and would

appreciate a response from you by the end of the year concerning this matter.

The members of the GeoRef Users Group would also like to offer their technical assistance to both AGI and Dialog in support of this project.

Sincerely,

Margy Walsh
Chair, Steering Committee
GeoRef Users Group

PROBLEMS IN GEOREF: WHY DIALOG NEEDS TO RELOAD

by
Julie Bichteler
The University of Texas at Austin
November 5, 1989

The following problems could all be corrected if Dialog would agree to reload GeoRef. Please join in an effort to encourage reloading by letting Dialog hear from you. AGI's contact person at Dialog is Jo Maxon-Dadd.

Documents: A number of errors appear in the GeoRef search manual and blue sheet. They should be updated.

Corrections: Corrections made annually to GeoRef based on the cumulations in BIG have not been added to Dialog. These corrections include removing duplicates input in the same year, changes in author names, and correcting index terms.

Geographic Coordinates: Problems with searching coordinates include (1) retrieval of references which only touch the area searched on its boundary and (2) missing references to an area that contains and is larger than the area being searched.

Autoposting: Due to an error at AGI, autoposted terms were not included in GeoRef from 1982 to January, 1987. Although AGI has made new search tapes for this period, Dialog has not corrected the problem, choosing to wait for reloading.

Thesis Section Headings: Thesis citations from the 1967 GeoRef tape have different category codes from those used elsewhere in GeoRef. These thesis categories need to be mapped into the standard GeoRef categories.

Language: The citations from the Bibliography and Index of North American Geology contain no language fields. "English" should be added as the language for these. In addition, a code for "non-English" should be added to all records with language other than English. This would enable searchers to limit a search to English only and be able to retrieve old records which have no language code.

Abstracts: In order to be able to exclude citations to abstracts, "Abstract" should be added as a document type.

Degree-Granting Institutions: Add names of degree-granting institutions for theses, information which got dropped during the loading process.

Thesis Document Type: Add "Thesis" as a document type to all the old thesis records.

Notes: Add supplemental index terms from the notes field in 1967-1975 records in the Basic Index; after 1975 the notes field contains information which need not be in the Index.

Old Section Headings: Improve mapping scheme for mapping old section headings into new; AGI has suggestions on how the mapping could be improved.

Illustrations: Information on illustrations should be made directly searchable, since this indicates the presence and type of map.

Authors' Alternate Spellings: Allow searching on alternate forms of transliterated names, so that search on either form will retrieve the citation. In printing, include the alternate in parentheses after the author to alert the user.

Journal Name: Make journal names searchable by word in order to supplement a CODEN or ISSN search after 1975 and to enable serial searching before 1975.

Accession Numbers: Include both Accession number and Publication numbers in the GeoRef records to allow linkage to the printed Bibliography and to AGI's internal database on tape.

ANNUAL REPORTS--COMMITTEES

Exhibit Committee

The contract for exhibit space in St. Louis' Cervantes Convention Center has been confirmed-- Geoscience Information Society will occupy Booth 335 which will be located onr aisle northeast of the GSA and DNAG Bookstore. The display in St. Louis will be the same as that in Denver (1988). 1989 expenses will accommodate the purchase of a utility case; freight costs for the transport of the utility case and wooden crate to and from St. Louis; convention center rental/service fees; and payment of two student registrations.

All students and GIS members wishing to staff the GIS booth should contact Elaine Watson.

ANNUAL REPORTS--REPRESENTATIVES

Cartographic Users Advisory Council

The annual meeting of the Cartographic Users Advisory Council was held on January 12 and 13, 1989. GIS was represented by myself and Connie Wick. I was council president last year and this. The council met with representatives from the Government Printing Office, Soil Conservation Service, Central Intelligence Agency, Defense Mapping Agency, National Ocean Survey, and U.S. Geological Survey. In addition we also had presentations by Larry Carver (University of California, Santa Barbara) regarding the proposed Geographically Referenced Information Network of the Research Libraries Group, and Joan Sandoz (AGI) on the new USGS Publications Disk on CD-ROM. Jerry McFaul (USGS) also made a presentation on the APRS CD-ROM.

Items of interest to the membership of GIS were several. USGS Professional Paper 1200 (the National Gazetteer) has become a separate item number. It will be necessary to select it separately. All should have received notification of this. The USGS Open-File Report fiche backlog is nearly caught up. If you still have many to come in, please claim. USGS map depositories are being phased out. If you still have this status, expect to have your depository arrangement terminated. If you have lost your depository status, you might investigate working with a nearby law school to select maps on their depository agreement. USGS book depository arrangements are not effected.

The opposition of the GIS members, as passed in the annual meeting last year, to the distribution of the 125,000 map series in folded form was passed to Charlie Bennett.

John Aaron reported that we can expect to see a rise in the number of maps from the GQ, MF, and other map series. This is partly the result of federal budget cutting measures. Geologists have less money to go to the field now; consequently, they are spending time preparing items for publication that they've been too busy to do before.

As CUAC liaison to the USGS, I have monitored the amount of activity both in the various series and in the OFRs as well as the number of USGS publications not received on deposit. The number of OFRs not available on deposit is decreasing and should come to an end after all of those in the "pipeline" have been exhausted. However, there are a number of OFRs not listed in the publications lists and not received on deposit; the National Geophysical Data Center has put out a number of these and they are not inexpensive.

For the past several years an agenda item between CUAC and the USGS representatives has been the OFRs coming out in digital form. Discussion has centered on the concerns that these digital products ought to come with appropriate software and they ought to come on deposit.

The board has begun to work with a representative of the NGDC. It is expected that he will be present at the CUAC spring meeting. Connie Wick is the CUAC liaison to NGDC.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The National Science Foundation has awarded \$250,000 to the American Geological Institute to provide scholarships to ethnic minority undergraduate students who are currently underrepresented in the geosciences: Blacks, Hispanics, and Native Americans.

"Ethnic minorities constitute only 4.6% of the geoscience work force," said Marvin E. Kauffman, AGI's Executive Director, and "in 1988, ethnic minorities were 6.5% of the total enrollment in academic programs in geoscience. The need to encourage and support minority participation in the geosciences continues to grow."

Although the current grant is for one year, NSF has approved the grant to be renewed for each year of a 3-year period. Continuation will be based on scientific or technical merit and availability of funds.

There's an article on publisher's/page costs in the *Serials Librarian*, v. 17, no. 1/2, 1989. That citation was given in an on-line service, "Newsletter of Serials Pricing Issues," sponsored by ALA/Association of Library Collections and Technical Services/Publisher-Vendor-Library Relations Committee's Subcommittee on Serials Pricing Issues, edited by Marcia Tuttle.

That newsletter is available either electronically on in paper, by contacting Marcia Tuttle at:
Tuttle@UNC.Bitnet
or: Alanet "ALA0340"
or: Serials Dept. CB#3938
Davis Library
Univ. of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3938

Twenty-six scientists and educators met Aug. 6-19, 1989, at the Yellowstone-Bighorn Research Association Field Camp near Red Lodge, Mont., to develop guidelines for a complete precollege curriculum for earth-science education. Conference participants believe the new curriculum to be unique because it is totally sequenced from kindergarten through grade 12, an appreciation of earth-science concepts and stewardship of the earth is full integrated, the maximum focus is on children's natural interests, and it was developed by teams of teachers and scientists.

Results of the conference will be published and will provide content guidelines for future curriculum and teacher-training in the earth sciences.

PUBLICATIONS

Professional trends and demographics are identified in 3 new reports from AGI. Geoscientific employment and hiring survey--1989 identifies employment trends in 6 major employer categories. Geoscience student enrollment survey 1989 reports on who the current geoscience students are, where they are, and what they're studying. The North America survey of geoscientists is the only census of the geoscience community.

These reports sell for \$10 each, or order all 3 for \$24.95, from:

American Geological Institute
4220 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22302-1507

The Washington Federal Science Newsletter monitors and tracks scientific and engineering information through Congress and civilian and military federal agencies. It is published twenty-two times per year, at a cost of \$310, and contains information on meetings, new publications, budgetary news, projects, and workshops dealing with government-sponsored sci/tech programs. For more information contact the editor, Dr. Murray Felsher, at WFSN, 1057-B National Press Building, Washington, DC, 20045; telephone: 202-393-3640.

The Ministry of Energy in New Zealand is currently offering a series of publications on New Zealand's coalfields. The Coal Geology Report Series offers a comprehensive look at New Zealand's coal resources. Prices for individual reports range from \$15 to \$30. For information about the series, please contact the Resource Information Section, Ministry of Energy, P.O. Box 2337, Wellington, New Zealand; telephone: (04) 733 805.

The Institute for Scientific Information (ISI) has announced plans to release their Current Contents on Diskette/Physical, Chemical & Earth Sciences. The coverage will be identical to the print version and published weekly. Users will have a variety of searching options and will be able to create their own customized search profiles. The product is available on 5-1/4" and 3-1/2" diskettes for IBM and 100% compatibles, Macintosh and NEC 9800 Series microcomputers with at least 512K RAM and a hard disk. For more information call 800-523-1850, extension 1449, and ask for Jacqueline Trolley, Marketing Manager. Or write to ISI Customer Services, 3501 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104.

The Institute of Mining and Metallurgy has published their new 1989/1990 publications catalog which is free to interested readers. Copies may be obtained by writing to IMM North American Publications Center, Old Post Road, Brookfield, Vermont, 05036.

Two new publications are available from the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy. The completely revised third edition of the Field Geologists' Manual (Monograph 9) costs \$45.00 and the Geology of the Mineral Deposits of Australia and Papua New Guinea, a two-volume set, sells for \$150.00. For more information please contact Publication Sales, The Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, P O Box 122, Parkville Vic 3052 Australia.

State index booklets and companion catalogs published by the USGS are only being sent to libraries that requested particular states. Libraries that have not selected maps for all the states will not receive all of the state indexes and catalog booklets. Those libraries that do not select all states, but wish to receive all indexes and catalogs should simply request them when they are listed in New Publications of the U.S. Geological Survey. Write to the following address for copies of the indexes and companion catalogs:

Chief, Product Distribution Policy Office
National Mapping Division (MS 508)
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, VA 22092

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The GIS Nominating Committee will be considering candidates for the 1990/1991 terms. A Vice President/President-Elect and Secretary will be nominated in the Spring. Let us know your ideas of the ideal candidates for these positions by February 1, 1989.

GIS Nominating Committee:
Joanne Lerud
Jean Eaglesfield
Miriam Sheaves

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

HARTLEY K. PHINNEY, JR. has become chief librarian at the Institute of Paper Science and Technology.

DES TELLIS has received a Fellowship from the Australian Library and Information Association in recognition of his significant and far-reaching contributions to library and information services both in Australia and in international circles.

MEETINGS

Remote-Sensing Imagery Preconference at ALA

ALA's Map and Geography Round Table and the ALCTS/CCS Committee on Cataloging, Description and Access will cosponsor a preconference, "Remote-Sensing Imagery--Identification, Control and Utilization," on Friday, June 22, 1990 at the Newberry Library in Chicago, prior to the ALA Annual Conference.

This preconference will address the numerous problems of remote-sensing images, including satellite images and aerial photography; recognizing and identifying the various types of images; approaches in acquiring the images; discussions and practicum on creating bibliographic control within the guidelines of AACR2 revised and USMARC; storing and organizing for easiest accessibility; and, determining the best ways to use the images for reference and research. The practicum requires familiarity with the basics of USMARC. Speakers will be: Dr. HelenJane Armstrong, University of Florida; Mary Larsgaard, University of California, Santa Barbara; Elizabeth Mangan, Library of Congress; and, Nancy Vick, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Advance registration, postmarked by May 26, 1990, will be required. The cost will be \$50 for ALA personal members and \$65 for nonmembers. For further information, contact:

Nancy Vick, MAGERT Preconference
Map and Geography Library
University of Illinois
1408 W. Gregory
Urbana, IL 61801
217/333-0827

International Congress on Aquifer Overexploitation

The International Association of Hydrogeologists, Spanish Chapter, announces its 23d International Congress, on Aquifer Overexploitation, to be held April 15-19, 1991, at Puerto de la Cruz, Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain. For more information about the meeting and about contributing papers, please contact

Dr. Fermin Villarroya
Departamento de Geodinamica
Facultad de Ciencias Geologicas
Universidad Complutense
28040 Madrid (Spain)
Tel.: (34-1)449-73-91
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Telefax: (34-1)243-91-62

The Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy will hold its Pacific Rim 90 Congress on May 6-12, 1990, at the Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia. For registration information contact The AusIMM PACRIM 90 Congress Secretariat, PO Box 731, TOOWONG Q 4066 AUSTRALIA. Telephone: (07) 371 7900 (+617)371 7900 international; Fax: (07) 371 4876 (+617) 371 4876 international.

THE HIGH PLAINS DRIFTER

The High Plains Drifter was mingling at the St. Louis meeting. In fact, I was recognized! Obviously, you can't keep a secret in this group, but I has complimented so I did float on a little cloud. All of you who want equal time for slams will have to send your letters to the Newsletter editors.

We can relate to this: Comedian Mort Sahl was discussing the methods some publishers use to bolster the sagging sales of their books. One practice, Sahl said, was to republish a book with an eye-catching cover design and a new, more provocative title. As an illustration, he told of a paperback book he had seen in a drugstore. On the cover was a dramatic picture of a cossack sweeping a half-clad maiden onto his horse. In large red letters was the title, This Is My Flesh, and underneath, in small letters, was the statement, "formerly published under the title, Introduction to Accounting" (from, Soundings, v. C, no. 4B). I'm checking the shelves over at the Bookstore!

Connie Manson - Editor
Geoscience Information Society
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Olympia, WA 98506

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