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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The Proceedings volume of the Seattle meeting is slowly taking shape with more than half the papers into final format. I am indebted to Jim O'Donnell who has been creating compatible texts from the 15 disks we received written in eight different word processing programs. We certainly haven't arrived at the paperless society as my study continues to fill with paper copies from the editing and production process.

There have been several additions to committees. The Ad Hoc Publications Committee is now in place and Linda Pierce is new to this committee. Clara McLeod has joined the Ad Hoc Web Server Committee which under Vivienne Roumani-Denn has created a web site for our society. To

Corrections: Sharp-eyed readers will have noticed 2 major errors in the February, 1995 issue of the Newsletter. On page 1, it was incorrectly dated; please correct your copy to read Number 152, February, 1995. On page 11, the columns were incorrectly labeled in the 1994 Year End Financial Report. The corrected version is reprinted in this issue.

all committee chairs a reminder that Mid-year reports are due to me by April 30.

This year, 1995, seems to be the year when our national institutions are under siege as downsizing, reinvention, and restructuring become the buzz words of the decade. For the geoscience community the most important issue remains our support of the USGS and the USBM. In February and early March, I sent out over 70 letters to members of the House and Senate Appropriations, Budget, and Science Committees, and the House Subcommittees on Appropriations on the Interior, Energy and Mineral Resources, Energy and the Environment. I have also been in contact with the Australian Geoscience Information Association whose President, Anne Franklin has also been writing letters of support. If you have not sent a letter addressing your support of our geological agencies to your local congressman, it is an ongoing political reform process which will last all year, and there is still time to make your letter count. The USBM is still being considered for merging with other agencies and the USGS is expected to do more with less.

On March 1, at the hearing of the House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee, the Chairman, Ralph Regula (R-Ohio) stated publicly that he had no intention of zeroing out the USGS and asked USGS Director Gordon Eaton whether the USGS could take on the responsibility of other agencies. Eaton cautioned the committee on assigning other responsibilities stressing the USGS can "survive because we have no regulatory responsibility." This also comes at a time when although there is support for the USGS, funding may be cut by 18%. Yet additional responsibilities such as the inactive/abandoned mine inventory-site characterization and contaminated mine drainage programs of the USBM may become part of the USGS environmental remediation program. On Geonet-L we have already seen the proposed costs as the Geological Survey of Canada's

continued, p. 3

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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 \$40 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. Due to current vacancies, all materials--research articles, technical reports, information reports, officer and committee reports, publication notices, job announcements, and other news items--should be sent to the Newsletter Editor until further notice.

Material for the June, 1995 issue of the GIS Newsletter should be received no later than May 20, 1995. If possible please send materials by e-mail or on IBM-compatible disk (Wordstar 3.3, Wordperfect 5.1, or ASCII format).

Geoscience Information Centre introduces more computer based products and outputs, expands network use and remote access terminals for information and sales. These are the result of a 32% decrease in budget accompanied by approximately 24% reduction in personnel. Overall, this could eliminate some units and smaller branch offices as cost-sharing will be encouraged with industry, universities, and other government departments. Without our support, the same fees, department and program cuts could become the model for the USGS.

Dena Hanson attended the AGI Member Council Meeting held in conjunction with AAPG in Houston on March 8 and her report is in this Newsletter. It highlights the various programs now underway at AGI to provide services to member societies and support geoscience programs in Congress.

VICE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

It won't be that long until you receive the GSA announcement of the annual meeting in New Orleans this year. Please consider submitting an abstract for our technical session.

There are many reasons not to: You don't have time. You have to concentrate on a big project. You don't have anything important to say. You don't relish attention in the way TV lawyers and hopeful actors do, and standing in front of an audience terrifies you. November is a long way off and you don't know if you'll be available.

Frankly these reasons are true for everyone in GIS. We have too much to do in too little time. We have projects with deadlines that keep us awake at night. We envy the expertise of others. We suffer that overwhelming anxiety before a presentation and wish we were home, anywhere but where we have to be. We just might break a leg or get malaria during the last week of October.

There are many reasons to submit an abstract for a paper. The first is for your society, GIS. GSA literally counts the number of abstracts submitted in a subject field to determine the privileges of your society and how much support a division or associated society receives for the annual meeting. And how satisfying it would be for your society representative to have to worry about setting up theme symposiums or extra technical sessions to accommodate the quality and quantity of papers.

The second is for our professional standing in the geoscience world. Have you had the experience of running into one of your researchers at a GSA meeting who exclaims, "What are *you* doing here?" as though encountering the office janitor? Whether other earth science

professionals regard our society members as colleagues or just helpful assistants depends upon showing what we can add to the missions of our organizations, upon demonstrating our expertise at a high level, and upon taking on the same kind of responsibilities that other professionals have-- including presentations and publishing.

The third reason is for yourself. If you haven't presented a paper or a poster session before, you need the experience! No matter how frightening it is, your self-confidence will increase. Researching a subject related to your work and putting what you have learned into a formal presentation add dimensions that are unexpected. You learn to frame questions, organize material and develop criteria. That thinking process will help you champion projects to administrators, write proposals, and explain to colleagues. GIS members and associated friends are a warm, forgiving and interested audience. Try out your ideas and thoughts on them!

So please consider submitting an abstract for a talk or poster session for the New Orleans meeting. If you want to talk over an idea, have questions, or want a friendly bit of encouragement, call me on 415/329-5029 or home 415/462-1835 or e-mail, nblair@isdml.wr.usgs.gov (note that the l after isdml is the letter L).

REVIEWS

by

Linda Musser

RICHARD WALKER has published an article in the *Journal of Government Information*, (v. 21, no. 4 (1994), p. 335-349) titled "Use Made of U.S. Government Supported Technical Reports by Researchers in Water Resources." Using a method similar to Julie Bichteler's, he surveyed authors of articles in water resources journals about their citations to technical reports (defined in this study as water investigation and open file reports). While these materials were deemed quite valuable, the authors polled reported difficulty in identification and acquisition of these materials. Few authors had made use of bibliographic tools to identify these materials.

New library publications of interest:

* "Guide to Cooperative Collection Development" ALA, 1994.

* "Reports of the AAU Task Forces on Acquisition and Distribution of Foreign Language and Area Studies Materials; A National Strategy for Managing Scientific and Technological Information; Intellectual Property Rights in an Electronic Environment" ARL, 1994.

REPRESENTATIVES AND COMMITTEES

AGI Member Society Council Representative Mid-Year Report

The AGI Member Society Council met Monday morning, March 6, 1995 during the Houston AAPG meeting. Here is a summary of highlights from that meeting.

AGI status: AGI has returned to a sound financial position, and is expanding services, programs, publications, and products, and is bringing in outside funds. This is the second year in a row that AGI has positive residuals (just over \$4 million). AGI did not borrow any operating capital during 1994, for the first year in a long time.

- * GeoRef accounts for 40% of AGI revenue, Member Society dues for 2.7%.
- * The AGI Foundation (a not-for-profit organization) is soliciting major donations to help retire the mortgage on the AGI building.
- * AGI now has 27 Member Societies (up from 19 in 1992) and 10 publications.
- * Julie Jackson is leaving AGI, though will continue to consult for them. There is an active search to fill her position. Julie and her accomplishments were given a standing ovation.
- * NSF has funded AGI education programs for high school level and the Sourcebook project.

Environmental Advisory Committee: The committee will produce a textbook in 1997; a directory in 1996, with experts, societies, and agencies; a database, based on GeoRef with additional information in 1995; hydrology glossary in 1995 (in review); and a primer already released in 1995. The committee is including GeoRef data along with information from 40-50 other journals in its new Soil & Groundwater database. In answer to my question, AGI has not yet resolved whether to include this new information in GeoRef.

Congressional Activities: Craig Schiffries noted that the USGS issue is the most important issue facing the geoscience community. Although it may not be slated for disbanding at this minute, there is a rumor that there will still be an effort to get rid of the survey, and Craig repeatedly said "don't be complacent" - it can still be removed at any time. The USBM, the DOE Fossil Fuels program, the Minerals Management program, etc. are in much greater jeopardy. Please continue to contact your Representatives and Senators.

National Geoscience Data Repository: AGI has obtained \$1.2 million from DOE to proceed with Phase II of the National Data Repository project, aimed at developing a business model, standards, and costs for indexing and cataloging on a per unit basis, with pilot

projects; this includes data prioritization & evaluation. AGI expects to provide an umbrella for the cataloging/indexing functions for the system.

Promotion of the geosciences: AGI and its member societies have the opportunity to participate in two educational activities - the creation of a geoscience IMAX film, and the production of a geoscience careers laser disc product.

The next meeting of the AGI Member Society Council will be in New Orleans, Louisiana on Monday, November 6, 1995, during the GSA annual meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Dena Fraccolli Hanson, GIS Representative

Best Guidebook Committee

Nominations are being considered for "Best Guidebook Award 1994." Please get nominations for your favorite guidebook to Lisa Dunn, Chair, Guidebook Standards Committee or to any of the committee members by the end of May for best consideration.

If you would like a copy of the Guidebook Standards (on which the award criteria are based), please contact Lisa Dunn.

GIS-Mary B. Ansari Best Reference Work Award Committee

The GIS Mary B. Ansari Best Reference Work Committee is soliciting nominations for the 1995 award. All reference works published in the last 3 years are eligible. Works in all formats are eligible. Please submit nominations to any committee member as soon as possible.

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Historical Maps: Hybrid Color Micro-Imaging

by

Ara Hourdajian

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MicroColor International recently completed a project for Columbia University, New York, which included color microfiche, Print Photo CDR, digital color printing and the Internet.

Columbia University initiated an investigative project funded by the Commission on Preservation and Access. The project was to identify the most acceptable preservation and access techniques available for oversize, color historical maps.

Microfilm

MicroColor International, as one of the participating vendors, decided to handle this challenging project in stages. Having carefully looked at the merits of different storage media available today, they concluded that only Cibachrome color microfilm (now called Ilfochrome) offered a known history of image stability. Data from the tests performed at the Image Permanence Institute, Rochester, New York, had concluded that this color microfilm has an archival image stability of several hundred years. Therefore this film material was selected for the first stage of the project. A color microfiche of each map was created using a custom designed large copy-board 105mm camera, set for "full-frame" or one-map-per-fiche format. Microfiche was chosen because the film offers a human readable interface, a proven archival life and very high resolution in excess of 300 lp/mm (line pairs per millimeter).

Scanning

For the second stage of this project, after the oversize maps were microfilmed, each microfiche was then scanned using an Optronics high resolution drum scanner. The images were scanned at 2000 DPI generating a 18.5 MEG file from each fiche. This resolution was selected to create a reasonable file size for optimum digital color print quality and at the same time provide maximum storage on compact disc. The latest drum scanners offer even higher scan resolutions. In some cases higher scan resolutions may be selected but this would translate to larger file size, which would mean less maps can be stored on a given storage media.

Depending on map size, type font and image contrast, the scan resolution (DPI) can be adjusted to balance

storage needs and desired output. When larger scale projects are planned and attempted, it is recommended that the scan levels, storage needs, access, final display and print needs are reviewed relative to color image quality vs file size. As higher and faster compression/decompression routines become available, performed by software or hardware based, this in turn will provide alternatives for scanning the microfiche and providing more digital storage and faster image access.

Photo-CD

After scanning each color microfiche, the file was then written to Photo-CD. This was done to provide digital access and further flexibility for choice of electronic media available now and in the future. If the storage media is changed or the reading device modified, in this case the CD player, the film may be re-scanned without the need to return to the original archives. For the foreseeable future the safest solution for archival purposes, is to continue to use microfilm. Microfilm can either be considered an intermediate to digital imaging and storage, or as the final product for long term storage and access.

Since its introduction, the Photo-CD has evolved into a family of formats, expanding its professional capabilities to meet the needs of a wide range of imaging professions. This product, jointly developed by Eastman Kodak Company and Philips N.V., provides rapid retrieval and display of color images as well as support for very high quality continuous tone digital printing. The Photo CD format offers high resolution, color accuracy and quality and the ability to work with a majority of imaging software on the market today and at the same time provides cross platform compatibility with the Macintosh, Windows and OS/2 environments.

Color Printing

For the third stage of this project using the Photo-CD files, oversized color digital prints were created on an Ink-jet color printer. These high end printers particularly conspicuous in the graphic arts environment, produce high quality prints up to 34 x 44 inches. In the near future a larger selection of print media along with a significant improvement in dye image stability are anticipated. The wide availability of digital color printers will continue to

expand utilizing not only ink jet but also including dye sublimation, thermal wax transfer, laser jet, bubble jet and others.

The Internet

Finally the digital file from the Photo-CD was downloaded by Columbia University into their Internet server on site. Thus making it assessable to anyone on Internet using Mosaic software. So any library or individual anywhere with a modem and appropriate personal computer can access the file for research and review.

On The Horizon

In near future when low-cost high resolution color still/video cameras become available, it will be possible to capture the images directly from color microfiche. Fast and convenient microfiche image conversion from analog to digital will be accomplished by the use of software and imaging boards.

At the moment the present day display technology imposes a limiting factor for displaying higher quality images on a monitor. To achieve an improvement it will be necessary to use the next generation of monitors, with flicker-free large screen high definition color viewing. In the meanwhile, a number of new analog/digital hardware equipment are being developed for microfilm that will permit the displayed microfilm image to be captured and downloaded to a PC.

Summary

The original objective of this project was achieved by using color microfiche for the initial stage. In the subsequent stages the microfilm was scanned, written to Photo-CD and then digitally printed. Ultimately the Internet access was provided for universal access.

MicroColor currently is working with more than twenty major institutions in the U.S., Canada and overseas in developing procedures and projects utilizing color microfilm for preservation. In many cases, along with color microfilm, a combination of Photo CD, CD-ROM and other digital storage alternatives are being actively considered for oversize, standard, photographic and historical manuscripts. In conclusion, this project has demonstrated that it is possible to have the best of both worlds - microfilm for long term storage and digital for access. **Hybrid Imaging**, the merging of microfilm, digital imaging, CD storage and access on the Internet.

ANNOUNCEMENTS and PUBLICATIONS

*** Charlotte Derksen recommends the interesting column titled "Publishing and yet perishing" by Tj Van Anel in the latest *Terra Nova* (v. 6, no. 6, 1994 p. 651-652). The opening sentence states, "I shall not break new ground when, at the outset, I state firmly that our geoscience libraries are an endangered species..."

*** Elsevier has increased its "standard" article copyright fee (Copyright Clearance Center Inc.) from \$7.00 in 1994 to \$9.50 for 1995. This is an increase of 35%, which is more than double the increase from 1993 to 1994 (\$6.00 to \$7.00). This new fee applies "retroactively to all articles published in the journal, regardless of the year of publication."

*** Letters about photocopying and copyright were published in the Feb. 10, 1995 issue of *Science*, (v. 267, no. 5199, p. 773).

*** There's another home for your old CDs. Send them to:

Harry Goldstein
ASCE
345 E. 47th St. 16th Fl.
New York, NY 10017-2398

INTERNET NEWS

*** The University of Texas Austin Walter Geology Library has re-loaded their home page. It now includes a links page, and the current issue of *On-Track*, a newsletter for the fission track community. Address comments to Dennis Trombatore at drtgeol@mail.utexas.edu

You can go directly to the Geology Library home page at <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/Libs/GEO/geology.html>

Or you can see the UT libraries home page and browse that as well as other libraries in the system at http://www.lib.utexas.edu/Libs/UT_Libraries.html

*** The Texas Bureau of Economic Geology has mounted their home page. URL is <http://www.utexas.edu/depts/beg/>

*** The Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology is now accessible on the Internet. By gopher: <gopher:nbmg.unr.edu> or by telnet: <telnet:equinox.unr.edu> (the login account is `nevdata` and the password is `green.bar`).

GEOSCIENCE INFORMATION SOCIETY: Approved 1995 Budget

CATEGORY	INCOME	EXPENSES
Executive Board		2,595
Meetings		3,865
Dues	10,450	
Publications	6,165	8,575
Reps/Appointees		900
Committees		1,715
AGI Society Dues		750
Gifts	150	
Bank Charges/Interest	450	50
TOTAL	17,215	18,450

GEOSCIENCE INFORMATION SOCIETY: 1994 Year End Financial Report

	Income Budgeted	Income Actual	Expenses Budgeted	Expenses Actual
EXECUTIVE BOARD (Subtotal)	-	-	(\$2,740.00)	(\$1,116.09)
President	-	-	(\$100.00)	(\$66.70)
Vice-President	-	-	(\$480.00)	(\$416.13)
Past President	-	-	-	-
Secretary	-	-	(\$1,650.00)	(\$136.21)
Treasurer	-	-	(\$150.00)	(\$87.50)
Teleconferences	-	-	(\$360.00)	(\$409.55)
MEETINGS (Subtotal)	\$300.00	\$100.00	(\$3,800.00)	(\$3,324.00)
1994 Meeting	-	-	(\$400.00)	(\$444.95)
1994 Meeting : Exhibits	-	-	(\$1,500.00)	(\$1,276.08)
1994 Meeting : Field Trip	\$300.00	-	(\$300.00)	-
1993 Meeting	-	\$100.00	(\$1,600.00)	(\$1,602.97)
1993 Meeting : Exhibits	-	-	-	-
1993 Meeting : Field Trip	-	-	-	-
DUES (Subtotal)	\$11,500.00	\$10,625.00	-	-
Corporate	\$2,700.00	\$2,775.00	-	-
Corporate, Sustaining	-	\$200.00	-	-
Personal	\$8,500.00	\$6,880.00	-	-
Personal, Sustaining	-	\$500.00	-	-
Retired	\$150.00	\$180.00	-	-
Student	\$150.00	\$90.00	-	-
PUBLICATIONS (Subtotal)	\$6,300.00	\$7,900.00	(\$8,500.00)	(\$8,292.74)
Publications Manager	-	-	(\$1,200.00)	(\$970.31)
Dir of Geoscience Libraries	\$2,000.00	\$2,465.00	-	(\$83.87)
Mailing Labels	\$300.00	\$200.00	-	-
Membership Directory	-	-	(\$1,200.00)	(\$1,797.39)
Newsletter : Printing	-	-	(\$3,800.00)	(\$2,133.18)
Newsletter : Mailing	-	-	-	(\$935.83)
Newsletter Subscriptions	\$1,000.00	\$1,310.00	-	-
Proceedings, V24 (1993)	\$1,000.00	\$1,365.00	(\$2,300.00)	(\$2,372.16)
Proceedings, V23 (1992)	\$2,000.00	\$1,845.00	-	-
Proceedings, V22 (1991)	-	\$450.00	-	-
Proceedings, V21 (1990)	-	\$165.00	-	-
Proceedings, V20 (1989)	-	\$100.00	-	-

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

MAP AND GEOGRAPHY LIBRARIAN, University of Illinois Library at Urbana, IL

Position available: 1 July 1995. A full time tenure track position as Assistant Professor or a tenured position as Associate Professor of Library Administration. Date posted: 27 February 1995.

Responsibilities: The Map and Geography Library reports through the Special Collections Division Coordinator to the Deputy University Librarian. The Map and Geography Librarian is responsible for the administration of the Map and Geography Library, staff supervision, reference and information services, cataloging, collection development, and for the application of new technologies and other services identified to meet the needs of the faculty, students, and others using the collection. The Librarian will be responsible for development of UNIX based geographical information systems for the University Library. In addition, the librarian maintains a strong working relationship with the Dept. of Geography faculty, the library administration and faculty, the faculty of other related units, and the Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources.

Department: As a member of a decentralized library which includes 45 departmental and college libraries, the Map and Geography Library is a unit in the Special Collections Division. The Map and Geography Library contains approx. 16,000 books, 280 periodicals, 400,000 maps, and 160,000 aerial photographs. The collection is complemented by extensive holdings in the central stacks, the Documents Library, the Geology Library, and the Rare Book and Special Collections Library. In addition to this position, the library is staffed by 2 FTE support staff, and student assistants.

Qualifications: **REQUIRED:** Master's degree in Library Science from an ALA accredited library school, or its equivalent. Minimum of 3 years academic, research, or special library experience with increasing responsibility, including experience in public services, supervision, and administration. Familiarity with cartographic materials in all formats. Experience with ArcInfo and a UNIX platform and image processing such as Erdas or PCI. Ability to provide service to a diverse research oriented clientele. Evidence of ability to meet university standards of research, publication, and service. **PREFERRED:** Advanced academic training in geography, cartography, or related fields. Experience in cartographic reference service and collection development. **DESIRED:** Experience in cataloging cartographic materials.

Salary: Librarians have faculty rank. Salary for this position is \$33,000 upward for appointment as Assistant

Professor. Appointment as Associate Professor and tenure may be considered. Salary is dependent upon qualifications and experience. Libraries are faculty and must demonstrate excellence in librarianship, research, publication, and university/professional/community service in order to meet university standards for tenure and promotion.

Terms of Appointment: Twelve month appointment; 24 work days vacation per year; 11 paid holidays; 12 days annual sick leave (cumulative up to a maximum of 240 days) plus an additional 13 days (non-cumulative) per year if necessary; health insurance, requiring a small co-payment, is provided to employees (coverage for dependents may be purchased); participation in the State Universities Retirement system is compulsory upon appointment (8% of staff member's salary is withheld and is tax exempt until retirement); newly hired university employees are covered by the Medicare portion of Social Security and are subject to its deduction.

Campus and Community: Urbana-Champaign, located about 135 miles south of Chicago, is a university community of over 100,000 inhabitants, plus a student population of over 35,000. The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has an administrative, academic, and support staff of over 12,000. The academic units of the University are recognized for national leadership in instruction and research. The Library ranks first in size among state university libraries and third among all universities in the country.

Apply: Send letter of application and complete resume with the names, addresses and telephone numbers of 5 references to: Allen G. Dries, Library Personnel Manager, University of Illinois Library at Urbana-Champaign, 1408 W. Gregory Drive, Urbana, Illinois 61801. Phone (217) 333-5494.

Deadline: In order to ensure full consideration, applications and nominations must be received by MAY 15, 1995.

The University of Illinois is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS, American Geological Institute, Alexandria, VA

Responsibilities include directing all phases of production and distribution of Geotimes and AGI publications and products, and developing and implementing communications and marketing plans. Candidates should have a science background, preferably a degree in the

geosciences, plus five years of relevant experience in some combination of publishing, technical editing, marketing, public relations, and management. Outstanding written and verbal communication skills a must. Candidates should submit a letter containing salary requirements, a resume, and two to three samples of their work, including at least one writing sample. Apply by May 15, to:

American Geological Institute
ATTN: Leigh Sutherland
4220 King Street
Alexandria, VA 22302

MEMBER NEWS

JULIE JACKSON, AGI Director of Communications and Publications, will be leaving AGI at the end of April to work independently. To minimize the disruption of the transition, Julie will continue as *Geotimes* editor until the position is filled. She'll be producing a new edition of the *Glossary of Geology* and will work for AGI on selected projects.

Good luck, Julie!

Connie J. Manson, Editor
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