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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

It is hard to believe that we are more than half way through the "GIS year", and that the next annual conference is only four months away! The officers and committees are busy planning programs for the annual meeting. Current work includes choosing recipients for the three annual awards, and organizing the Symposium, Digital Database Forum, and the many other meetings and events that make attendance at the annual Geological Society of America conference so worthwhile to GIS members. If you've ever wondered about the costs of attending GSA, I highly recommend the article "Annual Meeting Costs-A Perspective" in the May 1997 issue of GSA Today, for an understanding of the factors behind attendance costs for this large and broad-ranging conference.

Regarding the annual meeting, I received a proposal from the newly formed GSA Annual Program Committee to radically change many aspects of the GSA annual meeting, with the goal of improving the programming for all attendees. The proposal includes replacing the Symposia with Keynote sessions, which would be limited in number and chosen through a competitive process. In essence, this eliminates the entitlement to a Symposium session (all invited papers) for each GSA Division and Society. However, every society would be guaranteed a Topical Session instead, which would be a mix of invited and volunteered papers. There would still be General sessions of all volunteered papers. The proposal includes ideas to make the meeting papers more current by changing abstract submission deadlines, and allowing for "Late Breaking Research" sessions. Due to the concern over meeting costs, the committee proposes to hold the annual meeting in Denver more frequently and to meet in many fewer locations, perhaps no more than 3 different cities. The complete proposal is too long to publish in this Newsletter, but you will find a summary of the recommendations, the GIS Board

response and a summary of information sent to the Board from the GSA Annual Program Committee Chair. Please let me know if you would like a copy of any of the full documents related to the proposal, or if you have questions or comments on this topic. Although the Programming Proposal has been accepted by the GSA Council, this is only the beginning of a process intended to make the GSA annual meeting more relevant and useful to attendees. The GIS Board will be commenting on further refinements to the details of the Programming Proposal as these are presented. The GSA annual meeting proposal is just one of the issues that the GIS Board has formally addressed this year.

The proposed cuts to the USGS Library serials subscriptions provoked a large response, among which were letters from the GIS Board and many individual GIS members. It was gratifying that the proposed cuts were at least put on hold due to this overwhelming response. The AGI Government Affairs Program has kept us up-to-date with congressional activities that necessitated quick action. As a result, the GIS Board wrote letters supporting the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992, and extending authorization for the U.S. Geological Survey's National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program. GIS joined other science societies in signing a letter supporting the science and math focus within the U.S. Department of Education's Eisenhower Professional Development Program.

As is reported elsewhere in this Newsletter, the International Initiatives Committee is having an active year. The Committee's GeoInfo VI Subcommittee will be busy working on the joint international conference of GeoInfo VI along with the European Association of Science Editors, the Council of Biology Editors, the Association of Earth Science Editors, the Society for Scholarly Publishing and other international societies in Washington, DC, in September of 1998. Claren Kidd, Chair of this group, and I participated in the initial planning meeting for this conference, and helped choose the main topics. The GeoInfo VI Subcommittee will be working on developing these topics, and soliciting papers and presenters. GeoInfo VI will both benefit from and contribute to this effort to bring a variety of professionals together who share an interest in the creation and dissemination of information "Across Disciplines, Across Boundaries, and Through Time". A first Circular should be distributed shortly, and it is not too early to make plans to attend this special event.

For updates on the activities of many of the GIS committees, officers and representatives, see the mid-year reports in this Newsletter.

Barbara J. DeFelice
GIS President

**GEOSCIENCE INFORMATION SOCIETY
1997 OFFICERS**

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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 August 1997 issue of the GIS Newsletter should be received no later than 18 July 1997. If possible, please send materials by e-mail or on IBM-compatible disc (WordPerfect 5.1, WordPerfect for Windows 6.1, or ASCII format).

VICE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

The speaker list for the GIS symposium, "The Costs and Values of Geoscience Information," is completed. I was especially pleased to be able to get strong representation from both publishers (Elsevier and AGU) and from geological surveys (the USGS and the Washington and Kansas state surveys). I'd hoped that this symposium would allow us to examine the whole life cycle of the geoscience report, through every stage and from all points of view. This spectacular list of speakers should do just that: Speaker List (as of May 23, 1997)

- Don Browne, UCLA (engineer); J. David Love, USGS, retired (geologist)
- Rex Buchanan, Kansas Geol. Survey (geologist-publisher)
- Charlotte Derksen, Branner Earth Science Library, Stanford University (librarian); Barbara Haner, Geology/Geophysics Collection, UCLA (librarian)
- Beth Duff, USGS, chair of the USGS Library Board; Product Development business area leader in Data and Information Delivery, National Mapping Division (publisher-distributor)
- Gary Fitzpatrick, Library of Congress Map Collection (librarian)
- Judy Holoviak, AGU (publisher)
- Bill LaPrade, Shannon & Wilson, Inc. (geologist)
- Katherine M. Reed, Washington Division of Geology and Earth Resources (editor)
- Bas van der Hoek, Global Publisher, Elsevier Earth Sciences Programme (publisher)

Given the timeliness of the theme and the high profile of many of these speakers, I expect that the symposium will be exciting-- and very well attended. You don't want to miss this one! And of course, the best way to get funding to attend is to present a paper or poster about your current research or experiences. GET THOSE ABSTRACTS IN! You still have a little time-- GSA's deadline is July 8, and they're encouraging electronic submission. (I have the paper abstracts forms, if anyone needs one.)

As usual, the Annual Meeting is a lot more than the presented papers. New products and technologies will be showcased at the Digital Database Forum, coordinated by Vivienne Roumani-Denn. The status of journal and monograph production and distribution-- and how we're all coping with the rapid changes-- will be presented and discussed at the Collection Development Issues meeting, chaired by Steve Hiller. The GeoRef Users' Group meeting has long-been the most important way to keep up on GeoRef, this year chair Suzanne Larsen is looking to GeoRef and Beyond! Jim O'Donnell will facilitate the Professional Issues session, as we share ways to successfully deal with the old problems and the new ones. We'll also have our luncheon and awards ceremony (for Best Paper, Best Reference Work (the Ansari Award), and Best Guide-book). Barbara Cox is working on the restaurant guide, and Rich Soares is coordinating the field trip.

It's going to be a great meeting. Don't miss it!

Connie J. Manson, GIS Vice President

MID-YEAR COMMITTEE REPORTS

AGI Member Society Council Representative

The AGI Member Society Council met Monday morning April 7, 1997 during the Dallas AAPG meeting. Below is a summary of highlights from that meeting.

AGI Status: In 1996 revenues exceeded \$5.1 million and is the second successive year when gross revenues have exceeded \$5 million. This represents solid sustained growth over the past four years. Revenues are balanced between subscriptions, sales, royalty incomes grants and contributions. Contributions have exceeded one million dollars coming from five areas; National Geoscience Data Repository; Russian Student Exchange Program; Education and Human Resources; GAP Program; and individual contributions.

- Royalty Revenues were AGI's largest single sources of revenues and totaled almost \$1.3 million with GeoRef royalties amounting to \$895,000.
- All citations in GeoRef will include author's abstract and interactive web site, GeoRef Alert will have latest additions available.
- AGI now has 31 members with the 30th being AGU and the 31st approved at the meeting, the Paleontological Research Institute.
- 1998 marks 50th Anniversary of AGI.

Sloane Foundation: Nine science disciplines have contributed to a video entitled *Careers in Science* for school distribution. AGI developed the geoscience portion. It includes profiles of scientists, careers, hotlinks to company profiles, and interviews. A CD-ROM version will be available in Fall 1997.

Data Preservation and Repository: AGI has submitted \$1.5 million proposal to DOE to preserve log tapes and cuttings as Phase III of proposal. The University of Texas will contribute a 250,000 sq. ft. storage facility.

Publications: Work continues to create a Member Society Joint Publication Catalog with societies contributing camera-ready copy. A revised *Dictionary of Mining and Related Terms* will shortly be published. Also outlined were changes to *Geotimes* making it the source for GeoNews. In 1998 six issues of *Geotimes* will be devoted to the history of member council societies and the AGI.

Government Affairs: Funding and the position of the USGS continue to be the most important issues facing the Geoscience community. Presentations to appropriate Congressional Committee members and Chairs have been made. AGI representatives have been present when budgetary agencies discussed earth science issues. Currently involved in a Strategic Planning Initiative involving a SWOT (Strength-Weaknesses-Opportunities-Threat) Survey.

Earth Science Education: AGI active at 3 levels; 9-12 developing curriculum modules; 5-8 Earth Science Source Book; and Undergraduate Teacher Enhancement. Supporting Colorado School of Mines Multidisciplinary Initiative which brings virtual exploration class onto the Web. Also exploring

use of 90 second short clips entitled *Inside Science* for viewing between TV news features which have been used effectively by American Chemical Society.

Member Society Discussion - USGS Library: Following a lengthy discussion of the USGS Library serial budgetary problems from the point of view of users, a national and international resource, core resource for GeoRef database, it was agreed that a letter should be sent on behalf of the Member Society Council by Edward Roy to Patrick Leahy and Gordon Eaton expressing deep concern for the budget and future library operations.

The next meeting of the AGI Member Society Council will take place on Monday morning, October 20, 1997 during the GSA Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City.

Respectfully Submitted by Barbara E. Haner

AGI Committee on the 50th Anniversary:

Monday afternoon, April 7: AGI Member Council Representatives were invited to attend a committee meeting convened by Sam Adams, Past-President, AGI to discuss ideas and brainstorm for the upcoming 50th Celebrations. It was an invigorating meeting and clearly showed how AGI has gained strength from the creative leadership of Marcus Milling.

Tentative Banner themes for the year are:

Influence through Information

Geoscience Public Awareness

Geoscience Formal Education

AGI: Reflection on the Federation of Geological Societies

Earth Sciences Week: It was suggested that President Clinton should be approached to declare the second week of October Earth Sciences Week. This could be adopted by the State Geological Surveys, museums, universities and teachers as a week to underscore that geological forces are critical for our economic strength and preparation for hazard mitigation and environmental protection.

Geotimes will emphasize the history of the member societies and other suggestions included a book of geological cartoons and a guidebook of geologic highway routes for each state. Logos, posters, t-shirts were all discussed.

A major event is being planned in Washington DC as a Forum on International Initiatives on November 17, 1998. AGI was discussed and founded over the 15-16 November, 1948 so this theme of embracing the international forum is appropriate.

The Geotimes and the AGI WEB are going to be the place to look for breaking news and 1998 will be a year to remember.

Ansari Best Reference Work Award Committee

The Mary B. Ansari Best Reference Work Award Committee is collecting candidates for the best reference work award. In June, via e-mail we will begin our suggestions and review. By the end of the summer, the selection will be accomplished. The award will be given at the GIS luncheon with invitations extended to the winner(s).

Cartographic Users Advisory Council

The Cartographic Users Advisory Council (CUAC) met at the Census Bureau in Upper Marlboro, MD, on May 8-9, 1997. Eight members from six organizations (ALA/MAGERT, ALA/GODORT, GIS, NACIS, SLA/ G&M Division, and WAML) were represented. Presentations and discussions with representatives of eight federal agencies that produce or work with spatial data occupied most of the two days. Full text of the minutes of the 1997 CUAC sessions will be published in a future GIS Newsletter.

During the meeting each CUAC member was assigned to be the contact person with the various federal agencies which produce spatial data or cartographic materials. Richard Spohn is the rep to the U.S. Geological Survey, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (formerly Soil Conservation) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Please feel free to contact Rich with comments or concerns. CUAC will officially meet with representatives of the various federal agencies again next May 7-8, 1998 at the U.S. Geological Survey at Reston, VA.

Respectfully submitted, Richard Spohn

Collection Development Issues Committee

Highlights of the Committee's work during the past six months include a discussion session at the Denver meeting that focused on:

1. Journal/Monograph Price Studies
2. Funding for Geoscience Information
3. GIS Support of Collection Development

Michael Noga and Steve Hiller have also presented serial and monograph pricing information in the GIS Newsletter.

Submitted by Steve Hiller, Chair

Database Forum:

It is the year for Electronic Journals. Elsevier, Springer, and AGU have agreed to speak at the Database Forum, and we are waiting to hear from AMS. We are looking forward to learning what publishers are planning for the future of electronic journals in the earth sciences and what front-ends they find most user-friendly. We are also hoping to learn what administrative structures they will have in place, i.e., pricing, access, and distribution.

Vivienne Roumani-Denn, Chair

Geonet-L

Geonet-L is still a successful method of quick dissemination of information and the sharing of resources. This Spring, a call to action about the USGS Library budget solicited many supportive and informative communications. We think this led to the reevaluation of the proposed budget cuts.

Geonet-L has changed its home computer. It's address is now: Geonet-l@listserv.indiana.edu. This change has also led to the easier access to the message archives via the web:

<http://listserv.indiana.edu/archives/index.html>

Lois Heiser, Geonet-L Moderator

GIS Homepage:

By now you will all have noticed that the Web Homepage looks quite different. The first screen prompts a viewer to select information from a brief index, thus making it easier to go directly to the information needed. During the next half of the year we will be concentrating on updating the content to make the homepage more of a reference tool for both users and staff, as we had agreed at our last annual meeting.

Vivienne Roumani-Denn, Chair

Guidebook Standards Committee

A new Committee was appointed. Richard Spohn is chair. The membership consists of Lorrie Knox, Carol Messick, Mary Spencer, Marilyn Stark and Thelma Thompson. Main activities of the Committee are selecting the best geologic field trip guidebook for an award to be presented at the GIS Annual Meeting and maintaining and distributing guidelines to editors/publishers of guidebooks.

The Guidebook Standards Committee is accepting nominations for this year's Best Guidebook Award. Nominations will be accepted until June 18, 1997. The Committee will make a selection from the nominations in early July.

Respectfully submitted, Richard Spohn

International Initiatives Committee (IIC)

This Committee has several subcommittees and those subcommittees have memberships beyond the IIC. The subcommittees are for the (1) 1998 GeoInfo meeting, (2) sponsored memberships, and (3) one informally called, "Adopt-a-Librarian Program". Each subcommittee has overlapping memberships and each has been active since the 1997 GIS annual meeting.

In September 1998, the sixth international meeting of geoscience information specialists, informally abbreviated GEO-INFO, will meet in Washington DC. Attendees will be able to share ideas with international earth science editors and publishers who will be meeting with us. Together we will share information across disciplines, across boundaries through time. Steering committee members from Australia, Austria, Canada, China, the Czech Republic, England, Finland, Israel, Netherlands, and Sweden will assist with the program planning and advertising the meeting within their nations. Be thinking about papers, posters, or demonstrations you might want to present. A call for papers will be forthcoming later this year. Mark your calendar and plan to attend this meeting, **September 10-14, 1998.**

This is the first year that GIS have been offered sponsored memberships to persons in developing countries. Several GIS members have sponsored a specific person and others have contributed to a pooled fund from which members could be sponsored.

The third subcommittee is working toward a program whereby a person or persons would be supported to come to the US to attend GEOINFO, to spend weeks at several North American libraries, and AGI. Prior to returning home, the guest/s will attend the annual GIS meeting. The goals of this extended visit

are to enhance their professional skills, to meet colleagues, and to experience North American life. The person will present a paper or poster at the international meeting. Funds will be solicited and candidates will be screened.

Respectfully submitted, Claren Kidd Chair, International Initiatives Committee

Nomination Committee

The Nomination Committee, composed of Nancy Blair, Lois Pausch, Miriam Sheaves, and Janet Sorensen, put together a list of candidates for the positions of Vice-President/ President Elect and Treasurer after an initial phone conference and have been determining the availability of prospective candidates. A slate is expected soon and, after gathering biographies from the candidates, ballots will be sent out to GIS members.

Nancy L Blair

Preservation Committee

Four subcommittees were formed in keeping with the Action Plan (subcommittees and membership are listed below). Each subcommittee was given a charge (from the Action Plan) and specific goals for this year. Work was begun on the GIS Preservation Committee home-page which will be based at Penn State; there will be a link to it from the GIS home page. Several small pilot projects are also in progress.

Linda Musser, Co-chair, GIS Preservation Committee

Preservation Committee:

Linda Musser (co-chair)
Lisa Recupero (co-chair)
Clara McLeod
Elaine Clement
Michael Noga
Lois Pausch
Elizabeth Fish
Louise Zipp

Core Literature Subcommittee:

Lois Pausch (chair)
Michael Noga
Elaine Clement
Louise Zipp
Elizabeth Fish
Linda Musser
Pauline Kamel

Funding Subcommittee:

Linda Musser (chair)
Clara McLeod

Preservation Technologies Subcommittee:

Lisa Recupero (chair)
Clara McLeod
Linda Musser
Sue Kellerman (Preservation consultant to the GIS Pres. Committee)

Access & Storage Subcommittee:

Elaine Clement (chair)
Lisa Recupero

Publications Manager Report

We have published three new titles this past six months:

1. Proceedings of the 1995 GIS Annual Meeting (v.26)
2. GeoInfo V (2 volumes)- Proceedings of the Fifth International Conference on Geoscience Information (1994)
3. Directory of Geoscience Libraries: North America. 5th edition.

Lois Heiser

Treasurer's Report

The GIS Board discussed the usefulness of publishing quarterly budget reports in the Newsletter. We decided to reduce the number of reports to two - a half-year report through June, which will appear in the August Newsletter, and a final report through December, which will appear in the February or April issue of the following year. The treasurer will have an updated report available at the annual meeting.

If you have any comments on this decision, please contact me or another Board member.

Briefly, through May 20, income received for 1997 totals \$10810.65. Expenses total \$6188.24.

Respectfully submitted, Sally J. Scott, GIS Treasurer

Vice President Mid-Year Report

The first half of the Vice Presidential year is dictated by GSA annual meeting requirements and deadlines. So that's what I've been doing: Submitting the symposium and technical session themes for acceptance and publication; coordinating the meeting program, schedule, and space requests; gathering speakers for the symposium.

Additionally, this year the geoscience world has been pelted with what I like to call The Crisis du Jour. In response, I participated in the Executive Board's support of the reauthorization of the National Geologic Mapping Act and our response to the proposal to reduce the USGS libraries' journal budget by 50%.

As the annual meeting nears, I'll be working closely with all the speakers and committees so we can have the best meeting possible.

Western Association of Map Libraries

Report on the 1997 Spring Meeting.

The WAML Spring Meeting was held April 16-19 in Tempe, AZ. The meeting was organized by Julie Hoff from the Arizona Dept. of Library, Archives & Public Records. The first day of the program emphasized presentations on GIS and sharing resources.

Elizabeth Burns talked about shared GIS computer space and software on the campus of Arizona State University. She recommended use of GIS technology to solve campus problems to show off this technology to and gain support from a university administration. She noted that the state of Arizona has an ESRI site license for ASU, UA and NAU.

Jana Fry provided a tour of the GIS Lab. ASU has central dissemination of ESRI software, and the facility is open to all GIS users on campus. The Lab is staffed by one full time staff

person and students. Use of the Lab is mainly self-service, i.e. students learn through tutorials, faculty have students do projects for them, etc. Chris Kollen and Pat Morris from University of Arizona gave a presentation on the team approach to offering GIS services at a major University library.

Jeremy Rowe from ASU gave an informative talk on copyright issues with electronic data. A format change requires copyright permission. Images produced after 1921 are under copyright, even if the original work came out before that year. Web pages are under the control of the developer. Janet Collins and Wendy Helms continued the open forum on GIS Service Levels in Libraries. A field trip to Boyce Thompson Arboretum, Globe and Tonto National Monument rounded out the activities.

The WAML 1997 30th Anniversary Fall Meeting will be held in Pasadena, CA on September 18-20 and hosted by Jim O'Donnell (jimodo@caltech.edu). The 1998 Spring Meeting location is still undetermined, but the 1998 Fall Meeting will be held in Washington, D.C. at the Library of Congress Geography & Map Division and hosted by Gary Fitzpatrick and Richard Spohn.

Respectfully submitted, Richard Spohn, GIS Representative to the Western Association of Map Libraries

NEWS OF THE USGS LIBRARIES

by Nancy Blair

The March announcement by U.S. Geological Survey management that the serials budget would be seriously cut brought in many letters of support from the Geoscience Information Society and its members. Although some duplicate subscriptions may be cut, the serious cut was avoided for this year largely as a result of the concern expressed by the library community. The USGS library staffs deeply appreciated the time and interest each message represented. Even though we realize that costs will continue to increase and budgets will not grow, we are grateful to have more time to plan our future collection.

The USGS Library Board is meeting to do strategic planning for the USGS libraries including the major USGS library system, smaller district and office libraries, and the newly added libraries of the Biological Resources Division (National Biological Survey). USGS librarians are also involved in some of the planning for future information management to fulfill the directives in OMD circulars, executive orders, and the National Paperwork Reduction Act for preserving and making accessible data collected by the federal government.

GSA ANNUAL PROGRAM COMMITTEE PROGRAMMING RECOMMENDATIONS

Following are the GSA Annual Programming Recommendations that the GIS Board addressed, the response from the GIS Board, and information from the Chair of the GSA Annual Program Committee in response to comments from GIS. The Programming Proposal has been accepted by the GSA Council with

some changes in details, and the GIS Board will be continuing to give input on the details of the proposal as these are presented.

Recommendation:

I. Replace the current Symposia with 8 half-day, non-concurrent Keynote sessions, selected on a competitive basis. Keynote sessions would be characterized by having invited speakers (paid in some cases), topics of broad and current interest, and flexible formats such as posters, papers and discussions. Topics that are not accepted as Keynote sessions would be considered for a Topical Session.

Response from GIS Board:

Although the idea of fewer sessions with broader appeal seems to solve some of the concurrent programming problems, we do not think the keynote sessions are adequate substitutes for the Symposia. A small, specialized society like the Geoscience Information Society will never be able to compete for a Keynote session. Since the Keynote sessions are made up of invited talks, we would not want to attempt to put one together because we would not want to invite speakers and then find out we did not have a place for them. However, we like the idea of having the opportunity to attend major, non-concurrent talks from good speakers, geared to a wide audience. If the Keynote proposal makes that possible without removing the opportunity to sponsor an invited symposium, we would be in favor of it.

Information from Chair of the GSA Annual Program Committee:

The proposal has been modified to make one per day the minimum, and one per half day the maximum, since the original proposal was too ambitious.

Recommendation:

II. Topical Sessions would be half-day sessions, and would replace the current Symposia and Theme Sessions (GIS does not sponsor Theme Sessions). All Divisions and Societies such as GIS would be guaranteed one Topical Session. These would be a mix of invited and volunteered papers. A variety of formats would be acceptable.

Response from GIS Board:

If this whole proposal is accepted, the Geoscience Information Society would have to fit our symposium program into a Topical Session. Unless the topic were extremely broad ("Current Trends in Geoscience Information", for example), we would have to solicit all papers for the session anyway, so it would essentially be a completely invited session. We think it would be very awkward for a convener to manage a session that was required to be half invited and half contributed papers, given our topics. The Topical Session idea would work best for us if it did not have the restriction on number of invited papers, and did not have a required minimum number of papers.

Information from Chair of the GSA Annual Program Committee:

Topical sessions are supposed to have the most successful elements of both the Symposia and Theme sessions. The problem with Symposia is that many GSA members feel shut out of the program because they are all invited talks, and sometimes conveners notice volunteered abstracts that they wish they could

include in the Symposia. The committee may reconsider the number of invited papers or consider making this variable. The committee realizes that for many of the smaller groups the Topical Sessions would be nearly all solicited and thus in reality similar to the present Symposia, but want people to have the option of submitting volunteered abstracts to these. The required minimum number of papers is the current requirement for Symposia.

Recommendation:

III. General Sessions would consist only of volunteered abstracts for posters and papers, with these guidelines: Content should be serious, material readable and presented in a comprehensible manner, and not violate ethical standards. It was specified that "Talks about technology only should not be considered."

Response from GIS Board:

We support continuing to offer general sessions for contributed abstracts that may not fit into a topical session. These offer the diversity that is one of the appeals of GSA to so many small societies. The statement that "talks about technology only should not be encouraged" seems unnecessary.

Information from Chair of the GSA Annual Program Committee:

"Talks about technology" refers to the "quasi-commercial talks that have started appearing".

Recommendation:

IV. Hot Topics Sessions would be held at noon daily; these have been scheduled for the 1997 meeting in Salt Lake City.

Response from GIS Board:

This sounds like a good idea.

Recommendation:

V. Late Breaking Research Sessions would give people an opportunity to submit abstracts very close to the time of the conference, so content of conference papers will be more up-to-date.

Response from GIS Board:

This is the true contribution to the meeting in this proposal. It is important to have allowance for the presentation of exciting new results at the annual meeting.

Recommendation:

VI. General Programming Recommendations: The Programming Committee proposes to hold the annual meeting in one to three different sites, probably in Denver every three years at least, to control costs and to help members move away from a regional focus at the annual meeting. "The section meetings, not the Annual Meeting, are the place for presenting strictly regional work mainly of local interest." Regional papers would be accepted, but the overall program theme would not be tied to the meeting location.

Response from GIS Board:

We do not see the benefit in an attempt to remove work with a regional focus from GSA annual. This meeting is seen as being much more important than the regional meetings, and offers the one time that scientists from many regions hear about each other's work. We want to emphasize the benefit of a large

variety of locations to our members in terms of access to the meeting. Funding to attend meetings is limited for many professionals, so a variety of locations makes it possible for more people to attend meetings over the years. We strongly discourage the idea of having GSA in only a few sites.

Information from Chair of the GSA Annual Program Committee:

Regional work and the location of the meeting are connected. The idea was to indicate that if/when GSA is held in fewer locations, it would be important to emphasize that GSA papers should not be solely about the region in which the meeting is held. In some years, the program seemed so local to the area in which the meeting was held that attendance was down. Any decision on changing the number or location of sites for the Annual Meeting would need input from the membership in general.

AGI GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS PROGRAM SPECIAL UPDATE: AGI Responds to Member Society Concerns Over USGS Name

In recent months, U.S. Geological Survey Director Gordon Eaton has predicted that "Geological" may not be a part of the venerable agency's name in five years time. According to the USGS Office of Outreach, Dr. Eaton's remarks were "off the cuff" and do not represent official policy of the USGS or the Department of the Interior. The leadership of the American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG) felt that these remarks, even if unofficial, should not go unanswered, lest silence be interpreted as agreement, and AIPG adopted a position in support of the current name and mission of the USGS (attached at end of message). In April, the AIPG position was discussed at the Dallas meeting of the AGI Member Society Council, and it was decided that a letter should be written in support of current name. As a result of the council's decision, AGI President Ed Roy has written such a letter (attached below) to USGS Director Gordon Eaton. A copy of the letter has been sent to Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt.

The letter argues that a name change would risk the Survey's positive name recognition in Congress and in the population as a whole. Moreover, a name change could make the agency more of a political target just when the controversy over the integration of the former National Biological Service is subsiding, and the biologists are experiencing their first political calm in many years.

May 20, 1997

Dr. Gordon P. Eaton, Director
U.S. Geological Survey
100 National Center
Reston VA 20192

Dear Dr. Eaton:

In several public statements recently, you have suggested that you expect the U.S. Geological Survey would change its name in the foreseeable future, including the removal of the word "Geological." Although I have been told that these remarks do not represent official policy at this time, your repetition of them at several stakeholder events suggests that you are seeking a reaction from affected communities. The American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG) has already developed a draft position in support of the current name.

Last month, at the American Geological Institute's Member Society Council meeting in Dallas, a motion was unanimously approved that I should write to you and express AGI's support for the draft AIPG position.

What's in a name? Recognition for one, and that was certainly a factor in the successful efforts to stave off congressional threats of abolition. People across the country recognized the value of services rendered by the USGS, and their broad support can largely be credited with the eventual outcome. Name changes put that recognition at risk, a move that would be counterproductive given the Survey's recent, laudable effort to develop a consistent visual identity for outreach activities.

In his comments at an AGI workshop last year, the Secretary of the Interior noted that when he created the National Biological Survey (NBS) amidst a political maelstrom, he had sought to give the agency the safest, most respected name he could think of -- one connoting that of the USGS. With the former NBS now part of the USGS, the relative calm must be quite welcome, and it seems ill advised to consider name changes that will again roil the political waters.

By focusing on the science, the current name avoids more politically charged designations. Changing the name to include environment or resources will only make the Survey a larger target for budget cutters and ideologues on either side of the political spectrum. Focusing on the science steers a middle course and is most appropriate given the Survey's role as a scientific agency separate from regulatory or management authority.

If the concern is with the breadth of the term, an argument can be made that the term "Geological" is quite broad enough to encompass the disparate functions of the Survey as has been pointed out quite well in the draft AIPG position. I would note in addition that the Geosciences Directorate at the National Science Foundation oversees research in the earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences, suggesting that the USGS could subsume NOAA without necessitating a name change!

Finally, I share AIPG's concern that losing the USGS name would further erode the already limited prominence of geology in the federal government at a time when this nation desperately needs the very best geological input for decision-making in the areas of hazards, environment, and natural resources. I urge you to take the views of the geoscience community into account as your consideration of this move continues to advance. Better yet, keep the name and focus on showing the nation just what a geoscience agency is capable of accomplishing.

Sincerely yours,

Edward C. Roy Jr.
President, American Geological Institute
The Honorable Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of the
Interior
AGI Member Society Presidents and Executive
Directors
AGI Member Society Council

AIPG Position on the Mission and Name of the United States Geological Survey (adopted April 26, 1997):

AIPG supports keeping "geological" in the name of the United States Geological Survey as a bureau within the Department of Interior.

Geology is "the study of the planet Earth--the materials of which it is made, the processes that act on these materials, the products formed, and the history of the planet and its life forms since its origin." (*Glossary of Geology, American Geological Institute, 1987*). By AIPG's definition, "geology is the science which treats the Earth and its origin and history, in general; the investigation, including collection of specimens, of the Earth's constituent rocks, minerals, fossils, solids, fluids including surface and underground waters, gases and other material from the center of its core to the outer limits of its atmosphere; the study of the Earth; and the application and utilization of this knowledge of the Earth. The knowledge and principles of geology are also applied to extraterrestrial bodies." By these definitions, geology has vital applications to a variety of national issues ranging from natural resources to hazards to environmental concerns. At a time when more geological information is required to better address numerous environmental issues in response to an expanding population and diminishing resources, geology is more vital to the safety, health and welfare of our citizens, not less.

AIPG enthusiastically supports the Congressionally mandated original mission of the USGS (1879), to classify the public lands and examine the geological structure, mineral resources, and products of the national domain. This mission has evolved into one that is much broader and self-defined, as stated in the Strategic Plan for the USGS, dated May 1996: "The U.S. Geological Survey provides the Nation with reliable, impartial information to describe and understand the Earth. This information is used to: minimize loss of life and property from natural disasters; manage water, biological, energy, and mineral resources; enhance and protect the quality of life; and contribute to wise economic and physical development." AIPG supports this expanded mission only to the extent that it applies to activities that are clearly in the national interest. The livelihoods of many AIPG members and other professional geologists are dependent on projects and activities that are of local and state concern. We believe that it is inappropriate for a Federal agency to duplicate and compete with them on these types of projects. The new Biological Resources Division of the USGS fits well into both the original mission and the more recent mission statement.

Activities of all divisions of the USGS appropriately fall within the term "geological." Ecological and environmental concerns of the Biological Resources Division; all surface- and ground-water activities of the Water Resources Division; hazard, energy and mineral- resource, geologic mapping, and environmental programs of the Geologic Division; and base-map preparation of the National Mapping Division are directly related to studies of the Earth and "geology."

A move away from the term "geological" in the agency's name would not only be inappropriate by definition but also would be confusing to the public. The fiscal and other costs of changing the name of the USGS would far outweigh any benefits of such a change.

The USGS has developed an excellent reputation for impartiality and defensible science to help solve national problems. Symbolic destruction of the very best of impartial science in the federal realm is unwarranted.

The American Institute of Professional Geologists is a non-profit organization of more than 5,000 members. The purposes of AIPG are advancement of the geological sciences and the profession of geology, establishment of qualifications for professional geologists, certification of the qualifications of individual member geologists to the public, promotion of high standards of ethical conduct among its members and within the profession of geology, and representation of and advocacy for the geological profession before government and the general public.

LITERATURE REVIEWS

by Miriam Sheaves

There is an interesting article in *RQ* {v.36(2) Winter 1996: 248-260} that addresses the question we frequently get from graduate students who are embarking on an exhaustive literature search for their thesis research, namely, "how do I know I've seen everything?". Linda G. Ackerson's article "Basing Reference Service on Scientific Communication: Toward a More Effective Model for Science Graduate Students" proposes a model for librarians to follow in guiding science graduate students through a systematic search of the literature.

In "The Role of Academic Librarians in the Era of Information Technology", Mary Lynn Rice-Lively and J. Drew Racine suggest skills and attitudes needed by librarians to cope with the changing information technology {*Journal of Academic Librarianship* v.23(1) Jan. 1997:31-41}. The article describes a case study at University of Texas at Austin. There is an appendix consisting of a two-page chart showing the history of the role of librarians from the 17th century "keeper of the book" to the present day "Cyberian / internet trainer", with references to articles at each stage.

Linda R. Musser and Paige G. Andrew describe their experience in a consulting role with a "Webmaster" from the College of Earth & Mineral Sciences at Pennsylvania State

University. They helped reorganize the College's Web page into a more useable and useful design. This article, "Collaborative Design of World Wide Web Pages: A Case Study", appears in the Communications section of *Information Technology & Libraries* {v.16(1) Mar. 1997:34-38}.

"Digital Libraries: For Whom? For What?" by Deanna B. Marcum discusses research libraries and how digital collections are changing how they function {*Journal of Academic Librarianship* v.23(2) March 1997:81-84}, asking how the best features of research libraries can be maintained in a digital environment.

Information managers, especially in a corporate environment, but also in a government or academic library setting may want to read W. David Penniman's article "Strategic Positioning of Information Services in a Competitive Environment". The author addresses how managers can position themselves for survival of their operations in today's harsh business environment. He suggests four necessary elements: a clear sense of mission; a clear vision of the future desired; active strategic positioning; and a willingness to form strategic alliances. {*Bulletin of the American Society for Information Science* v.23(4) April/May 1997:11-14}.

An article in *Online & CDROM Review* by Xiaoying Dong and Louise T. Su describes special features of the various Web-based search engines and a review of the literature evaluating them. The article {"Search Engines on the World Wide Web and Information Retrieval from the Internet: a Review and Evaluation", v.21(2) April 1997:67-82} includes helpful charts for comparison of Lycos, Excite, Yahoo, and several others.

Cordillera publications

Linda Newman recommends a very special set: *Geology and Ore Deposits of the American Cordillera, Symposium Proceedings, 1995*. Three hard-cover volumes, 1747 p. \$125. plus domestic shipping \$15.

The Geological Society of Nevada Symposium was international in scope and focused on the metallogeny and the tectonic and stratigraphic framework of the Cordillera from Alaska to Chile.

Also Recommended: *Field Trip Guidebook, Geology and Ore Deposits of the American Cordillera*. Hard-cover, 501p. \$65. plus \$10 domestic shipping.

To obtain an order form:

Geological Society of Nevada

702/323-3500 fax: 702/323-3599

gsn@mines.unr.edu

Linda Newman

Mines Library, UNR

lnewman@admin.unr.edu

NEW PUBLICATION

Union list of archival, manuscript, and theses, geological maps of New Zealand, by **Claren M. Kidd**, Professor of Bibliography/Geology Librarian, The University of Oklahoma Norman, Oklahoma USA, Geological Society of New Zealand, 1996.

Introduction: This book describes and lists the whereabouts of unpublished and early geological maps. Many unpublished maps occur in theses and B.Sc. Honours projects. Although their titles have been listed, the maps in them have remained unrecorded entities. Manuscript and early published geological maps appear in library and museum catalogs. The 4,250 maps included in this list are arranged alphabetically by author and the location is given where each map can be viewed.

Coverage is of New Zealand and outlying islands (Antipodes, Auckland, Bounty, Campbell, Chatham, Kermadec, Snares, Solander and Three Kings) and the Ross Dependency. Included maps show distribution of mineral deposits, geology, geomorphology, geophysics, and geochemical phenomena. Not included are lease, cadastral, bathymetric and topographic maps, locality maps of boreholes, sample/fossil collecting sites, imprecise locations of mineral deposits, mine workings or plans, cross sections, seismic profiles, and geologic columns.

The concept of a union list of geological maps of New Zealand was proposed by Elva Leaming, University of Auckland Libraries, and refined by Janet Horney, National Library of New Zealand, Diana Kelly, Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences Limited (IGNS), Kate Olsen, Turnbull Library of the National Library of New Zealand, several IGNS geologists and the author. A questionnaire was sent to regional, special, academic, historical or archival libraries which might hold maps applicable to the project. Availability for inspection or interloan were necessary requirements for inclusion. The author scheduled visits to the libraries holding relevant maps during 1994-1995. On site, each map was inspected, measured, and described using the maps format of Pro-Cite For Macintosh. Compilation was done during a 12-month sabbatical leave of absence from The University of Oklahoma, by the Librarian of the L.S. Youngblood Energy Library.

Explanatory Notes: Some of the conventions used in this Union List include: Square Brackets [] indicate that information was supplied by the author from the back of the sheet, text, or other sources. Author was considered equivalent to cartographer. Map Title was copied from the sheet or the caption. In a few cases where no title was given, one was devised.

Spelling and capitalization were used as it appeared on the map. If all words were in the upper case, only the first word and proper names were capitalized.

Scale was measured and recorded as metric dimensions. A representative fraction was computed if it did not appear on the map.

Sheet size was the dimension of the sheet/s on whatever medium the map was produced.

Notes include marginal data, academic degree, number of

inserts, sheet or figure number, title of the larger work (e.g. thesis, petroleum license report, etc.)

Descriptors or keywords constitute the subject index. Each map has multiple index entries which may include place names, geologic units, Department of Survey and Lands Information (DOSLI) sheet numbers (NZMS260 and NZMS262 numbers), and regional names used on the June 1994 "New Zealand Region, District and City Boundaries" (DOSLI Info map 319B). (Note that these boundaries may differ from those given when the map was drawn.)

Stream catchments and valleys are indexed by the river's name.

Verification of place names was in accordance with the Heinemann New Zealand Atlas edited by D. W. McKenzie 1987 W., Auckland: Reed Publishers, 1987 and the Gazetteer of New Zealand Place Names, DOSLI, 1990 (microfiche version).

The term "geologic hazards" includes landslips, mass movements and earthquakes.

Geologic names were verified in McGregor, E. 1987. Bibliographic Index of New Zealand Stratigraphic Names to 31 December 1986 (NZGS Bulletin 102). Names not found in this Bulletin were included as given by the cartographer. Those unpublished names not appearing in the above title and its predecessors should be considered invalid and unacceptable for citing in formal publications.

Theses: Theses and B.Sc. Honours projects at New Zealand universities offering degrees in geology were inspected, as were theses lists from geography, earth science and soil science departments. Maps both within the text and the pocket were considered for inclusion. If words such as "from", "adapted", "derived", and sometimes "after" appeared on the sheet, the map was not included. If there were indications on the maps that several sources were used and/or that the cartographer "modified" or "revised" the previous work, the map was included in the compilation. The text of thesis was scrutinized to decipher map originality.

To consult theses or projects, refer to the office listed in the accompanying list. Each university has specific regulations for access and use. In addition to the Ph.D., MSc, MSc Honours (Hons) and B.Sc. Honours (Hons), maps were recorded from theses awarded for the following degrees:

Bphil	Waikato
MA	Victoria, Canterbury, Auckland
Mphil	Auckland, Waikato
DipSci	Otago
DipAssoc	Otago School of Mines & Technology

for degrees in:

applied geology	Auckland
chemistry	Massey
engineering geology	Canterbury
geography	Canterbury, Auckland
geology	all universities
geophysics	Victoria, Otago, Auckland
marine science	Otago

physical geography	Massey
resource geology	Otago
soil science	Lincoln, Massey

The names of institutions holding theses are listed but these should not be considered the only site/s where a copy can be found. A limited number of theses written about New Zealand for degrees earned at international universities are included. It is probable that others accepted by international and domestic universities can be found in New Zealand libraries.

Petroleum and coal maps: Petroleum records in Callaghan, P. 1994. Index and Regional Cross Reference of Unpublished Open-File Petroleum Reports held at Lower Hutt, Lower Hutt: Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences, were inspected in the IGNS Library and added to this list. Most of the earlier and East Coast geological maps are not in Callaghan and were not inspected or included in this union list. Those maps can be identified in Heron, D.W., Hoolihan, K. and R. G. Lock. 1986. Register of geological maps in unpublished Open-File Petroleum Reports and University Theses, Raukumara Peninsula, and northern and central Hawkes Bay, NZGS Report G-103, Lower Hutt: DSIR New Zealand Geological Survey. The publication includes figures showing the areas covered by the maps identified by a reference number. An accompanying table provides the petroleum report number in which the map is contained, the date of the report, enclosure number, scale and type of map.

Also included are geological maps of New Zealand coal and coalfields housed in the IGNS Coal Section as identified in Callaghan, P. 1994. Catalogue of Coalfield and Coal Mine Maps and plans held at Lower Hutt, Lower Hutt: Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences. Some South Island maps held within the collection were not included in this Union List nor in Callaghan's publication.

Manuscript or early published maps: In the early 1950's, H. W. Wellman prepared a series of manuscripts on the Tertiary geology of the South Island. The text and maps were not published but records of the maps are included in this union list. The manuscripts, formerly held in Lower Hutt, were transferred to the National Archives in 1994.

The Dunedin office of IGNS (DGeol) holds a collection of approximately 2,000 sheets including the tracing film drawings from which the published maps were printed. If the author believed that the tracing film map was not published, the map was included in the database. Mine plans were not included.

The Museum of New Zealand (WMU) holds the maps and cross sections removed from the early New Zealand Geological Survey's published Bulletins and Progress Reports. Hand-drawn cross sections and a few large scale maps on small pieces of paper may have been prepared for publication, traced from publications, or from field notes. These can be found in an envelope labeled "Various mining maps of N.Z. c. 1871-81" which includes maps by James Hector, James Park, and Alexander McKay. Box 45, Folder I, holds Geological Reports 1875-1889 including 3 small water-coloured map segments (1 on tissue paper and 2 possibly done in the field on whatman's but having no title, date, or scale). These were not included in this union

list nor was a watercolour on a larger, 41 x 65 cm sheet with no scale, date, or identified cartographer. (A watercolour formation legend is present.) Along with McKay's correspondence in Box 45 Folder II are large scale watercoloured maps, such as one of Amuri Bluff.

Corrigenda: Any corrections should be sent to Rodney Grapes, Geology Department, Victoria University, for distribution in the New Zealand Geological Survey Newsletter.

Miscellaneous: "Geology in New Zealand prior to 1900," a 1967 dissertation presented by D.R. Oldroyd to London University for an M.Sc degree in History and Philosophy of Science, presents a history and evaluation of the early maps by Mantell, Hochstetter, Haast, Hector, Hutton, etc. Copies of this thesis, including photo-reduced maps of mediocre quality, are held at the University of Canterbury and IGNS. Another helpful listing of early maps is Maps: a catalogue of historical maps in the Canterbury Museum by Brian Lovell-Smith and published in 1988 by The Museum is available from the Christchurch Museum.

Acknowledgments: Funding for the printing of this publication was provided by contributions from the New Zealand Geological Society, New Zealand Map Society, New Zealand Mineral Industry Association, Royal Society of New Zealand, University of Auckland Libraries, and the Geology or Earth Science Departments at the Universities of Auckland, Canterbury, Otago, Victoria and Waikato.

Although many assisted in the compilation, Geoff Bethall and Nigel Taylor, in particular, provided computer assistance. IGNS provided space, facilities including e-mail, mail, telephone, photocopying, professional and personal advice and assistance from Jeffrey Aitken, Diana Kelly, and Nigel Taylor. Janet Bray, Les Kermode, Robert L. Kidd, III, Elva Leaming, Brian Marshall, Pat Suggate helped to edit the list.

The compiler thanks the numerous personnel at all locations from which the information was gathered for their time, assistance, and friendship. At the University of Oklahoma, Carolyn B. Powell, Kim S. Bishop and other library staff members assumed additional responsibilities during the librarian's absence. Their willingness to accept these responsibilities is acknowledged and appreciated. Generous and loving thanks to Robert L. Kidd, III who cared for growing things, paid bills, and forwarded urgent information to me wherever I might be.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Geonet-L

Geonet-L, the Geoscience Information Society electronic list, has changed its address. Please direct future communications to: **Geonet-L@listserv.indiana.edu**

If you haven't received any mail recently, you may wish to subscribe again. Send to: **listserv@listserv.indiana.edu**

Message: sub geonet-L your name

GeoInfo V

GeoInfo V: Proceedings of the Fifth International Conference on Geoscience Information, Prague 1994. 2 vols. \$45.00
Contact Lois Heiser

Directory of Geoscience Libraries

Directory of Geoscience Libraries: North America. 5th ed. 1997
Edited by Connie Manson and Ian Gordon. \$35.00 (\$25.00 member price) Contact Lois Heiser

MARC Version of GEOREF Available

The GeoRef database is now available in USMARC format. AGI can now provide the entire GeoRef file with MARC fields and in the MARC record format, on four CDS, together with ongoing, twice-monthly updates. GeoRef MARC format is offered as an alternative to the GeoRef Export format, which will continue to be available.

Dorothy McGarry helped in the conversion design, by giving us expert advice on MARC. A sample file of GeoRef MARC records was tested by the USMARC Standards Office of the Library of Congress and pronounced to be proper. We are confident that GeoRef MARC will work with existing MARC software.

More information on GeoRef is available through AGI's web page: <http://www.agiweb.org> or by contacting Kay Yost at AGI, kyost@agiweb.org or 703-379-2480.

Call for Nominations

The Best Paper Award Committee of the Geoscience Information Society is soliciting nominations for the award for the best paper in geoscience information published in 1996. Scholarly treatments of any aspect of geoscience information are eligible. Please send your nominations to Louise Zipp, GIS Best Paper Award Committee Chair, lzip@iastate.edu

The Best Paper Award for 1996 will be presented to the author(s) in October 1997 in Salt Lake City at the GIS Annual Luncheon. GIS holds its annual meeting in conjunction with the annual conference of the Geological Society of America. For more information about the Geoscience Information Society, see: <http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/GIS/index.html>.

National States Geographic Information Council

The National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC) was awarded an FGDC CCAP to undertake "An Educational and Research Program in Support of Content Standards for Digital Geospatial Metadata" The project consists of three phases. The first phase involves case studies of the FGDC metadata standard on a wide variety of local, state, tribal, and federal information in nine NSGIC member states. The second is the development of a "metadata primer" - a practical overview of the issues associated

with developing and maintaining metadata for digital spatial data. The third is a national satellite conference based on the results of the first two phases.

The national metadata satellite video conference has been scheduled for Wednesday, October 15, 1997 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Central Daylight Time. Information about registering for the Metadata Satellite Video Conference has been placed on-line at: <http://www.lic.wisc.edu/~dhart/metadat.htm>

Included in the home page are:

- background information about the satellite conference,
- the program agenda,
- a registration form,
- the site license agreement, and
- site facilitator guidelines.

More information about the overall NSGIC Metadata Project is available at: <http://www.lic.wisc.edu/~dhart/metahome.htm>
David A. Hart, AICP

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University of Wisconsin - Madison
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FGDC Invites Public Review of Revised Metadata Standard

The Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC, Washington, D.C.) is sponsoring a public review to revise the Content Standard for Digital Geospatial Metadata. Federal agencies are required to document geospatial data collected using the metadata standard. The metadata standard must also meet the needs and recognize the views of state and local governments, academia, industry, and the public. After the limited public review, the standard will be revised and considered for adoption by FGDC. The FGDC is inviting state and local governments, academia, and the public sector to send evaluations of or comments about the content, comprehensiveness, and usability of the draft revised Metadata Standard, dated April, 1997.

The public review is limited to three areas:

- Establishing guidelines for creating "user-defined" metadata elements; elements outside the current standard, but needed by the data producer;
- Establishing guidelines for creating a customized metadata profile, such as those for cultural and demographic data sets;
- Refining the standard's production rules for easier implementation

A second public review, later this year, will address additional user concerns and the relationship between the FGDC Metadata Standard and the International Standards Organization (ISO) Metadata Standard. The comments received at that time will contribute to the United States' position which will be forwarded to the ISO.

For the current review, it is intended that the proposed modifications will make the Standard extensible and easier to use and

will not adversely affect existing compliant metadata implementations. Please limit your comments to the three areas described above.

The FGDC metadata standard public review period will end July 10, 1997. The primary review activity will be conducted on the Internet, using Web sites, electronic mail and an on-line HyperNews threaded discussion. However, Internet access is not required, and participants wishing to use other means should contact the FGDC. Review participants will receive an acknowledgment as well as notification of how their comments were addressed. After the formal adoption of the revised standard by the FGDC, the revised standard and summary analysis will be made available at the World Wide Web (WWW) site.

Information on the metadata review can be accessed through the FGDC web page at <http://www.fgdc.gov>

GIS Preservation Committee Web Site

The GIS Preservation Committee is happy to announce the unveiling of the GIS Preservation Committee Web site. This site will hopefully become a useful vehicle for sharing information about the preservation activities of the GIS Preservation Committee and the geoscience community at large. The URL for the site is: <http://vector.gis.psu.edu/gispc/gispresv.html>

Please take a look at the site, and send any comments or suggestions to Lisa Recupero, Committee co-chair (LAR14@PSU.EDU)

The site will feature preservation projects completed by the Committee and GIS member libraries. If you or your library have done any preservation projects related to the literature of the geosciences please send the information to the Committee co-chairs so, that they can include a link to the digitally available material or information about any traditionally preserved materials. If you have citations you would like to contribute to the bibliography on preservation, or a Web site you would like to add to the 'Preservation Links' page please forward that information to Lisa Recupero (LAR14@PSU.EDU).

Please note, if you currently have a link to the GIS Action Plan for the Preservation of Geoscience Literature the URL has changed. The new URL for the Action Plan is:

<http://vector.gis.psu.edu/gispc/gispcplan.html>.

Lisa Recupero, co-chair, Geoscience Information Society,
Preservation Committee LAR14@PSU.EDU
814/865-3694

Future of Spatial Data

The recent report, "The Future of Spatial Data and Society: Summary of a Workshop", is now available on the web. The URL is www2.nas.edu/besr (Follow menu link to Mapping Science, and then to "on-line" under the brief description of the report.) Other reports of the Mapping Science Committee are also available from the same site.

The report is also available in printed copy (contact either jtestep@nas.edu or usselman@nas.edu).

The workshop was convened by the Mapping Science Committee in cooperation with the Federal Geographic Data Committee. The workshop considered technological and social issues in terms of, in the year 2010, how will societal needs and public policies affect the requirements for spatial information and services and their integration at the individual, community, national, and global levels?

Tom Usselman usselman@nas.edu

Dorothy Hill

Margaret Eva reports: "I am sure many of you will be saddened to hear that Emeritus Professor Dorothy Hill, the great palaeontologist, died peacefully in Brisbane on 23rd April in her 90th year.

Just a few days earlier the Senate of the University of Queensland had approved the name Dorothy Hill Physical Sciences and Engineering Library for the branch where most of the contents of the former Dorothy Hill Geology Library are now housed."

Margaret Eva
formerly Senior Librarian
Dorothy Hill Geology Library
The University of Queensland

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

1998 Meeting

First announcement and call for contributions: "**Science Editing and Information Management Across Disciplines -- Cross Boundaries -- Through Time.**" **September 10-14, 1998** Washington, D.C., USA

Combining Second International AESE/CBE/EASE Joint Meeting Sixth International Conference on Geoscience Information Thirty-second Annual Meeting of Association of Earth Science Editors.

To insure that you will receive subsequent mailings about the conference, complete and return the "Expression of Interest" form or register via the World Wide Web at:

<http://earth.agu.org/editorinfo98>

This integrated meeting will provide a unique opportunity to expand your professional horizons and explore issues with science editors, librarians, researchers, and managers of information services for scientists from all parts of the world. The conference, which will officially open with a welcoming reception on Thursday, September 10, 1998, promises to be one of the largest gatherings of its kind. The technical program will be timely, cross-disciplinary, internationally oriented, and highly relevant. From the opening sessions to the closing events of Monday, September 14, you will be challenged to extend your thinking. You will explore how today's economy and technology are effecting how data are being created and synthesized into published results. You will learn more about the success and

difficulties of production, management, and use of scientific information in an increasingly wired world. This meeting will also be a chance to expand your expertise in your own area of specialization.

You will choose what to attend from a diverse program of plenary and concurrent sessions that will include technical talks, panel discussions, demonstrations, posters, and workshops. You will have an opportunity to contribute to this rich program and share your experiences, solutions, and worries. You may want, also, to explore the natural and cultural history of the U.S. capital and surrounding region by taking one or more of the excursions offered.

Mark your calendar now for September 10-14, 1998, in Washington, D.C., USA. Don't miss the last great meeting of the century for science editors and information specialists and its unparalleled opportunities for professional growth and international cooperation.

Scientific Editing and Information Management across disciplines -- across boundaries-- through time will explore these critical issues and help you prepare for meeting the challenges in your own area of expertise. Plan now to join your colleagues in Washington, D.C., USA, on September 10-14, 1998. You will not want to be absent when this stimulating program is unfolding.

To learn more about the meeting and to be sure that you keep current on the program; and for registration information and details of the program as they develop, check and bookmark the Web site at: <http://earth.agu.org/editorinfo98>

Inquiries: For further information, address your messages to via standard mail:

Science Editing and Information Management
1998 International Meeting
American Geophysical Union
2000 Florida Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C., 20009, USA

or via FAX

Attention Fred Spilhaus
+1-202-328-0566

or via E-Mail: edinfo98@kosmos.agu.org

or via the World Wide Web <http://earth.agu.org/editorinfo98>

A Brief History. The International AESE/CBE/EASE Joint Meeting is an outgrowth of several conferences of science editors held around the world. The first AESE/ CBE/EASE joint meeting was hosted by the Council of Biology Editors in Ottawa, Canada in 1989. The first International Conference on Geoscience Information was convened in London, U.K., in 1978; the group has met every four years since in Golden, Colorado, USA; Adelaide, Australia; Ottawa, Canada; and Prague, Czech Republic. The organizers recognized that the coincidence of time and host country provided an excellent opportunity to gather professionals engaged in various parts of the scientific information cycle at a time when roles are blurring, challenges are increasing, and funding is under threat.

Program Committee:

Arly Allen, Chair
Seth R. Beckerman
Barbara DeFelice
Claren M. Kidd
Edward J. Huth
John Overbeke
John Tagler
Victor van Beuren

Organizing Committee:

Fred Spilhaus, Chair
Arly Allen
Thomas Dutro
Julie Jackson
Hal James
Diane Schnabel
Victor van Beuren
Judy C. Holoviak, Treasurer

Field Excursions:

Thomas Dutro
Second International AESE/CBE/EASE Joint Meeting

organized by:

Association of Earth Science Editors, host society
Council of Biology Editors
European Association of Science Editors

cosponsored by:

Geoscience Information Society
Society for Scholarly Publishing
International Group of Scientific, Technical and
Medical Publishers
Sixth International Conference of Geoscience Information

(GeoInfo VI) host sponsor:

Geoscience Information Society

cosponsored by:

Australian Geoscience Information Association

GeoInfo VI steering committee:

Claren Kidd
Barbara Haner,

Co-Chair (USA), Andrew McCulloch (Australia), Werner R. Janoschek (Austria), Beverly Chen (Canada), Cao Xiping (China, P.R.), Jiri Hruska, (Czech Republic), Mike McGarr (England), Caj Kortman (Finland), Zelda Colodner (Israel), P.M. Maurenbrecher (The Netherlands), Tore Torngren (Sweden), John Mulvihill (USA)

Thirty-Second Annual Meeting of the Association of Earth Science Editors hosted by the American Geophysical Union

Summer Institute in the Cartographic Sciences

at Salem State College, Salem, MA 01970 USA

A series of one week courses:

- Digital Image Processing of Remotely Sensed Data June 2 - 6, 1997
- Geographic Information Systems June 9 - 13, 1997
- Computer-Assisted Cartography June 16 - 20, 1997

- **Advanced Geographic Information Systems***

June 23 - 27, 1997

- **Air Photo Interpretation** June 30 - July 4, 1997

- **Interpretation/Analysis of Remote Sensing Imagery** July 7 - 11, 1997

* Geographic Information Systems is not a pre-requisite for Advanced Geographic Information Systems

- Each one week course is held daily, 8:30am -4:30pm, Monday through Friday;
- Participants are able to register for individual one-week courses, up to a maximum of six. In addition to taking any of the Institute courses on an individual basis, you may also earn a Certificate in the Cartographic Sciences by completing any four of the courses offered;
- These courses are offered for credit at the graduate level (Students: please consult your advisor before registering for a course if you plan to transfer credits to your academic institution) Each course is 3 credits.
- Each course is \$595.00 which covers tuition, registration and fees. Textbooks will be available for purchase at the college bookstore.

For more information on the Institute and our other programs, visit our WWW site: : <http://dgl.salem.mass.edu/www/si.htm>

For registration and course information via U.S. Mail, please contact: Marcie Talbot info@dgl.salem.mass.edu Voice: (508)740-7114

For other information about the Summer Institute, the MS in GeoInformation Science Program, or the B.S. in Cartography at Salem State College please contact:

Dr. William Hamilton - Department of Geography
352 Lafayette Street - Salem, MA 01970
Phone: (508) 741-6228 - Fax: (508) 740-7113
wolf@dgl.salem.mass.edu

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

Geographic Information Systems Librarian

Map Collection and Cartographic Information Services

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Under the general direction of the Head, Map Collection and Cartographic Information Services, provides reference, research consultation, and user education services with emphasis on the development of a digital geospatial data and computer mapping program in support of campus research and instructional needs. Collaborates with Libraries staff and campus users to implement and support local area networks, Internet applications and geographic information systems (GIS) software. Serves as the Map Collections primary resource for planning and recommending access to emerging electronic resources, software and computer hardware and peripherals.

SPECIFIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Coordinates Libraries GIS and geospatial data applications.
2. Participates in planning and implementation of user education programs and activities related to digital geospatial data and mapping in order to better integrate GIS skills into instruction and learning on campus.
3. Installs and maintains software, hardware and digital geospatial data in the Map Collection consulting with Library Systems, campus Computing & Communications and other units. Maintains current awareness of software, hardware and data capabilities and availability, including Internet resources.
4. Serves as Libraries-wide resource person for GIS-related questions. Develops GIS and geospatial data computer-based training and documentation for staff.
5. Provides reference and consultation assistance to users with computer-based and traditional cartographic materials.
6. Recommends for hiring, trains and supervises GIS student assistant.
7. Identifies ongoing campus user needs for GIS and digital geospatial data. Participates in selection of print and electronic cartographic information resources. Participates in liaison roles with campus users and digital data and software producers.
8. Participates in the preparation of proposals for external funding.
9. Participates in Libraries-wide committees and program planning and professional activities as appropriate.
10. Assumes other responsibilities as assigned; performs other duties as required.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Required:

1. Graduate degree from a program accredited by the American Library Association required.
2. Academic background or work experience with ARC/INFO and ArcView software, digital geospatial data, statistics and cartographic design concepts. Familiarity with other mapping and graphics software products.
3. Familiarity with cartographic information resources, their organization and use in a library environment.
4. High degree of computer literacy and interest in current awareness of new technologies. Demonstrated experience with Windows and DOS. Knowledge of CD-ROM, Internet and networking technologies.
5. Excellent oral and written interpersonal and communication skills. Self-starter with ability to work well independently and in groups. Ability to work effectively with all levels of staff and users.
6. Strong commitment to dynamic public services to support user needs and user education in an academic research environment.
7. Ability to adjust to a changing work environment.

Preferred:

1. Windows NT and UNIX experience.
2. Experience with microcomputer support in a networked environment.
3. Experience working with users in an academic research environment.
4. Experience teaching and preparing documentation.
5. Supervisory experience.

SALARY: \$29,000 minimum. Starting salary dependent on background and experience.

BENEFITS: Librarians are academic personnel and participate in a TIAA-CREF retirement program on a matching basis. Vacation is accrued at the rate of 24 working days per year; sick leave at the rate of 12 working days per year. Excellent medical, dental and life insurance plans. No state or local income tax.

APPLY TO:

Charles E. Chamberlin
Deputy Director of Libraries
University of Washington Libraries
482 Allen Library
Box 352900
Seattle, Washington 98195-2900

Applicants should submit a letter of application, full resume including a work telephone number and e-mail address, salary requirements, and the names, addresses and telephone numbers of at least three references who are knowledgeable of the applicants qualifications for this position.

APPLICATION

DEADLINE: To ensure consideration, applications should be received no later than 5:00 p.m., Monday, June 16, 1997.

University of Washington Libraries Home Page is:

<http://www.lib.washington.edu>

The University of Washington, and Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action Employer, is building a culturally diverse staff and strongly encourages applications from female and minority candidates.

In compliance with the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, the University is required to verify and document the citizenship or employment authorization of each new employee.



GEOSCIENCE MONOGRAPH PRICES 1995-96 AND UPDATE

1995-1996 geoscience book prices increased slightly from the previous year as the average price of a geoscience book rose from \$90.27 to \$91.75, a change of 1.7% compared to 1994-95 prices. The average price of a geoscience book published in United States rose by 2.0%, and those published in Europe saw a 3.3% increase while the cost of geoscience books published in Britain fell by 10.6%.

As always, the mix of publications changes some each year and this may also contribute to price variation on a year to year basis. The value of the U.S. dollar strengthened throughout much of the year which helped to keep price increases down or even reduce the cost of foreign published material. During the past three years, book prices have shown little variation except for a drop in the UK price. Book output, as measured by the BNA approval program, dropped 10% from the previous two years.

Updated information for July through December 1996 shows an average increase of 4.1%. The strength of the dollar helped mitigate costs of books published in Europe, however prices of U.S. and U.K. publications increased at a higher rate.

1995-96 Geoscience Average Book Prices in Dollars

	U.S.	U.K.	EUROPE*	ALL
1991-92	53.12	98.11	122.99	83.63
1992-93	62.04	98.14	139.17	94.35
1993-94	66.36	90.98	141.04	98.50
1994-95	58.65	94.37	133.41	90.27
1995-96	59.84	84.41	137.78	91.75
% Change	12.7%	-14.0%	12.0%	9.7%

Update July-Dec 1996

7/96-12/96	64.70	89.29	143.26	95.50
% Change 1995/96	8.1%	5.8%	4.0%	4.1%

Geoscience Book Prices for Selected Fields

	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
Mineralogy	104.20	113.19	109.89	134.65
Petrology	83.16	83.42	82.98	103.94
Geophysics	92.28	91.90	69.63	119.61
Geochemistry	123.76	104.49	105.06	99.74
Geomorphology	104.48	89.76	85.84	89.68
Hydrology	132.36	87.71	116.39	87.06
Paleontology	68.15	58.65	79.85	68.17
Stratigraphy	116.58	141.15	148.74	117.30
Structural	109.88	151.30	72.69	73.69

Data from Blackwell North America Approval Plan Coverage



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