



NEWSLETTER

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VICE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Abstract forms for the Toronto meeting are now available on the GSA web site:

<http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/98/abs/8absintr.htm>.

Complete instructions are available on the site for submitting the abstract; for some of us, the web form is much easier to deal with than the old paper forms. If you do need to submit an abstract using a paper form, please request one from me. The abstract deadline is midnight, July 13, 1998 for ALL submissions, paper or electronic. There is an abstract fee of \$15 dollars required for submittal this year; if this presents a problem for you, please let me know.

Plans for the annual meeting are taking shape. An exciting Digital Database Forum will kick off our GIS conference sessions on Sunday afternoon, October 25; a Preservation Forum has been added to our full, but very informative schedule. A trip to Niagara Falls and points in-between is in the planning stages for Thursday October 29. We got our first choice for the symposium time slot: Tuesday morning, October 27.

The topic is "Accreting the Continent's Collections" and the speaker list (as of May 15, 1998) is nearly firmed up:

- David Applegate (American Geological Institute)
- Rebecca Lasher (Stanford University) and ?
- Joanne Lerud (Colorado School of Mines)
- Michael Noga (MIT)
- Janice Sorenson (Kansas Geological Survey)
- David Soller (U.S.G.S.)

There is already a sizable list of exhibitors signed up for the exhibit hall. The list is already available on the GSA web site:

<http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/98/exhalpha.htm>.

Toronto is Canada's largest city, the capital of the province of Ontario, and one of the most exciting, vibrant, and progressive cities in the world! The city has put together a web page (of course) to whet your appetite and answer you questions: <http://www.tourism-toronto.com/>

I've heard from some of you about the papers and posters you'll be presenting. If you've been thinking that you'd really like to come, but are not sure your institution will cough up any dollars for you, plan on doing a technical paper or a poster session. If you have ever been aching to tell faculty, students, geologists in general, and/or your fellow earth sciences librarians about anything (new databases, new e-journals, the importance of ...) the poster sessions are the perfect place to do so. Your poster will be on display right along with those of other GIS members, as well as those of the geologists. You'll have a chance to chat with those looking at the posters and be on hand to answer their questions - a librarian's dream! The technical session papers are 15 minutes long and are an ideal venue to report on new databases you've created, studies of users you've done, facilities projects undertaken, preservation projects completed, or the like.

Any of the Program Committee Members, Beverly Chen, Barbara Haner, Patricia Sheahan or myself, will be happy to help you with ideas for topics, critique the abstract, or offer on-site support for first-time presenters.

Please don't hesitate to call (650 725 2534) or email (cderksen@marine.stanford.edu) regarding an idea for a poster session or technical paper.

Charlotte Derksen, GIS Vice President

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

This issue of the Newsletter includes mid-year reports from the GIS officers, representatives, and committee chairs. As you'll see there, it's been a busy and productive year so far, with more on the way.

There will be a bit of a hiatus between this issue of the Newsletter (which you should receive in early June), and the next issue (which you should receive in late August or early September). That delay, of course, is necessitated by GSA's Joint Technical Program Committee's (JTPC) meeting in August that sets the final schedule for the Annual Meeting. The August Newsletter is delayed so that the results of the JTPC meeting can be included there.

Enjoy the summer, and we'll see you next at the 6th International Conference on Geoscience Information, in Washington!

Connie J. Manson, GIS President

**GEOSCIENCE INFORMATION SOCIETY
1998 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 1998 issue of the GIS Newsletter should be received no later than 17 July 1998. If possible, please send materials by e-mail or on IBM-compatible disc (Word97 or ASCII format).

GIS COMMITTEES MID-YEAR REPORTS

Ad Hoc Committee on the AGI Anniversary Year Mid-Year Report

Members of the committee are Suzanne Larsen and Miriam Sheaves, Chair.

The charge is to acknowledge and celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the American Geological Institute; to prepare and present a special award to AGI from GIS; and to write an article about the history of AGI. The committee has generated several ideas on how to honor AGI and has conferred with other GIS members. We will present our recommendations to the Executive Board for approval within the next month. We also invite members to contact us with ideas.

Respectfully submitted,
Miriam L. Sheaves

AGI Government Affairs Program Mid Year Report

The AGI Government Affairs Program (GAP) was established in 1992 to serve as a significant link between the federal government and the geoscience community. While GAP is working to improve the flow of geoscience information to policy-makers, at the same time it is working to improve communication back to the member societies and the larger geoscience community on federal science policy issues.

GAP Web Site:

For current information on the GAP program and legislative activity, check the AGI GAP home page. It provides the up-to-date information on program activities, AGI testimony and official positions. This site is also an excellent source of recent information on congressional committees, their rosters and hearings, the status of pertinent legislation and activities of the congress, and executive branch agencies. The address for the GAP Home page is:

<http://www.agiweb.org/gaphome.html>

The staff interprets earth sciences broadly. So, a current visitor will find information on the president's budget, congressional activity, education policy (especially pertaining to science, math and engineering), an update on the 1872 mining law reform, royalties, energy policy, global climate, basic research funding, the proposed National Institute for the Environment, database protection legislation, the Clean Air Act, radon exposure, the Year of the Ocean, Superfund and nuclear test ban treaty among other issues.

Geotimes:

Each month, David Applegate, AGI Director of Government Affairs, writes a Geotimes column, Political Scene. In this column, he reviews a wide range of issues, including budgets, legislation and topical events.

The April 1998 Geotimes issue is "Geoscience and Public Policy." This issue includes articles on a New Mexico caldera, earthquake-hazard reduction in the US and Japan, regional science forums and energy R & D in the 21st century. It also contains the conclusion of the 3 part series "Communicating with Congress". The first two parts are in the December 1997 and January 1998 Geotimes.

There has been one meeting of the GAP Advisory Committee in 1998. It was held February 27, 1998 in

Washington, D.C. At this meeting a report on the program's finances indicated that support is up more than 25% over last year with an additional nine societies contributing. There were several other topics discussed. Members identified problems leading geologic field trips on Forest Service Lands. Proposed budget and legislative activities were reviewed. While many agencies including NSF and NIH fared well in the president's budget, the Geologic Division of USGS did not. AGI continues its efforts to establish a National Geoscience Data Repository System.

Committee members felt that AGI should improve marketing and promoting the geosciences. Also AGI should conduct an analysis of federal agency needs and uses of geoscience information. Member societies should identify and/or develop better ways to effectively communicate with their membership on policy issues.

At this meeting, the group prepared a revision of the 1996 GAP priorities. This revision highlighted 3 priorities:

- Support geoscience education and research including adequate federal investment
- Improve geoscience investment in public policy issues such as energy and resources, environmental hazards, data preservation and access, public lands and public health
- Establish strategic alliances with the private sector, other disciplines, government and international organizations and other non-governmental organizations

If you have comments or reactions to these priorities or any of the other issues concerning government affairs, please let me know.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Dvorzak

AGI Member Society Council Representative Mid-Year Report

I have submitted a report of the Society's activities for inclusion in the Activities of the AGI Member Society Council Report, May 1998. I will attend the AGI Member Society Council Meeting which will be held in conjunction with AAPG on May 18 in Salt Lake City. A written report of this meeting will be distributed to the Executive Board and sent to the GIS Newsletter.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara E. Haner

Mary B. Ansari Best Reference Work Mid Year Report

The Committee Members (Agnes Adams, Michael Farmer, Linda Newman, Michael Noga, Jim O'Donnell, and Joanne Lerud) have received notification to select appropriate reference works for the Committee as a whole to review. Those nominations will be received at the end of May and selection will begin in earnest. The nominations are compared against a set of criteria and general agreement is made for the eventual work selected to receive the Mary B. Ansari Best Reference Work Award. A certificate and a check are presented to the author/editor at the annual GIS luncheon.

Submitted by Joanne Lerud

Best Paper Award Committee Mid-Year Report

Searching assignments have been given to the committee members, and a tentative schedule of activities has been set. Nominations have been solicited by way of the June 1998 GIS Newsletter, GEONET-L and STS-L. To date, no nominations have been received.

Louise Zipp, Chair

Collection Development Issues Committee Mid-Year Report

The Collection Development Issues Committee continued to provide the geoscience community with annual pricing information on geoscience serials and monographs. Pricing data is presented at the Annual Meeting by Michael Noga (serials) and Steve Hiller (monographs) and also published in the Newsletter. Discussion at the 1997 Annual Meeting focused on electronic journals and was a good follow-up to the Database Forum, which featured presentations from electronic journal publishers. Preliminary plans for the 1998 Annual Meeting include presentation of pricing data and discussion on conducting user needs assessments.

Submitted by:

Steve Hiller, Chair

Cartographic Users Advisory Council Representatives Mid-Year Report

GIS Representatives Clara McLeod and Richard Spohn attended the Spring 1998 meeting of CUAC, which was held May 7-8 at the USGS National Center in Reston, VA. This year's meeting was hosted by Hedy Rossmeissl of the USGS and coordinated by Richard Spohn, CUAC Co-chair. Thursday the group had tours of the Earth Science Information Center and the Printing Plant. After lunch, Jay Donnelly gave a demonstration of the USGS's prototype *National Atlas of the United States* web site. The Atlas has a high degree of interactivity that allows users to select and view various layers and to build queries around place names and thematic data. USGS is cooperating with a number of other federal agencies on this project.

Of greatest interest to the geoscience community was the groups meeting with Hedy Rossmeissl of the USGS. Hedy addressed the problems with the DRGs. DRG or scanned map data is complete for the entire country. TVA and California data will not be distributed by the USGS, but rather by the agency and the state. Because of software problems the original CD versions of the DRGs had to be abandoned. USGS will be getting a copy of the data to GPO and deciding how it will be dispersed and in what format. Data is currently available from USGS on a cost recovery basis in 1-degree blocks. The DOQ's are about 25-30% done for the U.S., and this data is available from the EROS Data Center by the quarter quad. USGS plans to step up revision on the 7.5 topos in 1999 and about 1,000 revised topos should come out in paper during that fiscal year. Most of the thematic map series (GQ, MF, GP, I, etc.) will now be issued in the I series and will be called Geologic Investigations Series. Any project approved before the recent change will retain the old series names, so there will be a mixture for a few years. More detailed USGS notes and notes from the

other agency meetings will be published in the August GIS Newsletter.

The 1999 CUAC meeting is planned for May 6-7 at the Denver Federal Center. Donna Koepf from the University of Kansas will be coordinating this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Clara McLeod

Richard Spohn

Digital Data Committee Mid-Year Report

Members: Adonna Fleming, Chair, Shaun Hardy, Ian Gordon, Susan Bolton, Jan Ferrari.

The Digital Data Committee has been working hard to organize the GIS Database Forum which takes place Sunday, October 25, from 2-5pm, as part of the GSA Annual Meeting in Toronto.

The GIS Database Forum provides a venue where information specialists and scientists can learn about the latest in electronic resources and information services in the geosciences and related fields. This year's forum will feature a variety of products from document delivery vendors to electronic journals. Each speaker will give an in-depth, twenty-minute demonstration of his or her product.

If you know of a product that you would like to learn more about, or if you are a database producer or vendor, and would like to take this opportunity to show off your product at GSA, please contact me.

Adonna Fleming, Chair,

Geonet-L Mid-Year Report

There are currently 467 subscribers to Geonet-L; representing 36 countries. The list continues to be a good source of speedy information, requests for assistance, and the exchange of publications.

Submitted by Lois Heiser,

Geonet-L Moderator

GeoRef Advisory Committee Mid-Year Report

A major discussion item was sources of materials for the GeoRef database. Over the past few years, GeoRef has sought sources of materials that extend far beyond the USGS library in Reston. Currently there are nineteen different groups, both US and International, which are supplying electronic data to the GeoRef system. The Committee encouraged the continued pursuit of new sources.

New products and initiatives being developed by AGI were reviewed. These include:

- GeoRef in Process - a file of materials published prior to 1995 received through various electronic channels. This file of approximately 55,000 items is currently available on COS and will appear on the SilverPlatter CD-ROM with the June update.
- Arctic Bibliography - a print publication produced by the Arctic Institute of North America. AGI has received a grant from NSF to develop an electronic file of its 108,000 references.
- GeoRef Electronic Sources file - a file of Web-based geoscience resources. This file is currently under development and will be released to the public sometime this fall. The Advisory Committee urged the release to be as soon as is feasible, even though the file will initially be small.

- Guidebook database - a file of guidebook references and a distributed reporting system for new guidebooks done in cooperation with the Geoscience Information Society. This file is under development and is being overseen by Linda Pierce, the former AGI librarian, and John Mulvihill, former director of GeoRef.

Other topics of discussion included: GeoRef on FirstSearch, GeoRef Previews database, Groundwater and Soil Contamination database, and the GeoRef Document Delivery Service.

GeoRef Users' Group Steering Committee

As chairman of the GeoRef Users' Group Steering Committee, I have briefly been in contact with Sharon Tahirkheli, acting GeoRef Director since the retirement of John Mulvihill. I am also gathering responses of users and costs of the various forms of access available for GeoRef users. Members of the Committee would like to receive suggestions for ways to improve the program for the 1998 annual meeting.

Nancy Blair

Guidebook Standards Committee Mid-Year Report

The Guidebook Standards Committee selected for its Best Guidebook Award for 1997 the "Geology and Ore Deposits of the American Cordillera: Field Trip Guidebook Compendium" edited by Steven M. Green and Eric Struhsacker and published by the Geological Society of Nevada. The award was presented to Steven Green at the GSA/GIS Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City. In addition, GIS presented the Geological Society of Nevada with a seal made specifically for the GIS Best Guidebook Award. This seal is used to emboss loose foil stick-on disks to be placed in the award winner by the publisher. The Geological Society of Nevada was pleased to receive this seal and place disks in all copies of their winning guidebook. The seal also will help to publicize GIS activities.

The Guidebook Standards Committee will be accepting nominations for the 1998 Best Guidebook Award through June 19. The committee membership currently includes Lorrie Knox, Carol Messick, Linda Newman, Mary Spencer, Marilyn Stark and Thelma Thompson.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Spohn, Chair

International Initiatives Committee (GeoInfo VI Subcommittee)

Committee activity accelerated in April 1998 when AGU issued the Second Circular for the international meeting to be held in Washington, D C, Sept 10-14, 1998 entitled, "Science Editing and Information Management . . . across disciplines . . . across boundaries . . . through time". Internationally, a representative of the local geoscience organization distributed the circulars. The deadline for abstracts of meeting papers and posters was extended until June 1, 1998. For Thursday September 10, 1998, Sharon Tahirkheli is assembling a program of demonstrations of large, general, bibliographic geoscience databases and specialized, thematic databases. Barbara DeFelice has confirmed Friday keynote speakers on the topics of intellectual property and information retrieval, archiving, and preservation. Barbara Haner, Barbara

DeFelice, Pat Yocum, and Claren Kidd have solicited abstracts for paper/poster presentations to be given on Saturday and Sunday. In addition to field trips organized by Tom Dutro of AESE (Association of Earth Science Editors), Shaun Hardy has put together a full-day, Monday field trip to the Geography and Map Division (G&M) of Library of Congress and to the USGS Library-Reston. For those who can stay through Tuesday, Shaun has arranged another field trip to National Museum of Natural History where the staff will emphasize the services and resources provided to the museum community.

We will go behind the scenes to look at the Museum's paleobotany and vertebrate zoology collections and to visit with the curators. After enjoying a buffet lunch in the elegant 19th century Smithsonian "Castle" Dining Room, one of the Museum's volcanologists will lead and talk with our group as we walk through the new Hall of Geology, Gems and Minerals.

The meeting should allow you to mix with earth science publishers and editors to learn their perspective on issues common to all of us dealing with the literature of the geosciences. To learn more about the Meeting and to keep current on the program as it develops, check this Web site:

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

Wednesday Sept 16, the two day, Fall Meeting of Western Association of Map Libraries (WAML) will be held at the LC G&M. We are invited to attend the meeting. For registration and more current information contact Linda Zellmer at Linda.Zellmer@asu.edu FAX 602 965-0883

Phone 602 965-5973

GIS Members are: Cao Xiping, Beverly Chen, Zelda Colonder, Barbara Haner, Shaun Hardy, Independencia Iselidh and Pat Yocum.

Submitted by
Claren Kidd, chair

Newsletter Editor's Mid-Year Report

At the end of December, the Newsletter Editor took a new position at the Hanford Technical Library and moved to Richland, WA. The change in time zones now allows a few extra hours for people to submit items for the Newsletter before the deadline.

A permit was obtained from the US Post Office in Richland, WA so that the domestic mail can be sent using the bulk mail rate. In addition, an account was set up with The Digital Image Copying Services so that the bill for copying can be sent directly to the GIS Treasurer.

The Newsletter Editor now has a better e-mail system that can handle attachments in Word format; the Newsletter is being created in Word '97. Material for the newsletter can be submitted via e-mail, or on IBM-compatible disc in Word or ASCII format.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Frances Lembo, GIS Newsletter Editor.

"Science Editing and Information Management across disciplines . . . across boundaries . . . through time",
Washington D.C., September 10 - 14, 1998
WWW: earth.agu.org/editorinfo98

Nominating Committee Mid-year Report:

The Nominating Committee will be sending out ballots for the new officer elections shortly. GIS members who renewed their memberships by the end of April should have received these by the time the June Newsletter is published.

The candidates for office this year are:

Secretary:

Shaun Hardy

Carolyn Laffoon

Vice-President, President-Elect:

Lois Heiser

Suzanne Larsen

The Nominating Committee is very grateful to the candidates who are running for these important and rewarding offices.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara DeFelice, chair

Lois Pausch

Miriam Sheaves

Janice Sorensen

Past-President's Mid-Year Report

I attended two meetings as a representative of GIS:

- Forum on International Geoscience, 11/17/97, Washington, DC
- Online Journal Publishing in the Geosciences, 1/17/98, Washington, DC

Written reports were published in the April GIS Newsletter.

I am serving on the Program Committee for the upcoming conference "Science Editing and Information Management", reviewing abstracts and contacting speakers. I have set up a conference call for the Executive Board, and given files to the President. As Chair of the Nominating Committee, I organized the work of the group and talked to potential candidates; a slate of candidates has been developed. See that committee's report for more details.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara DeFelice

President's Mid-Year Report

One of the first duties of the GIS President is to edit the proceedings volume. I'm pleased to announce that the volume has been published and you should be receiving your copies soon. The printing costs for this volume were higher than we'd budgeted, primarily because we include 9 pages of color illustrations. However, because of the timeliness and relevancy of the papers, I'm hoping for higher than usual sales volume, so that extra investment may bring in more profit. The volume may be reviewed in Geotimes, and it will be displayed at the ALA and SLA annual meetings. We'll know the results of those efforts in the next few months and will report them at the Toronto meeting.

Many of the other duties of the GIS President are more reactive, as we respond to current issues and events affecting geoscience information.

I received the Call for Nominations from AGI, to nominate people for AGI committee openings and awards. After talking it over with the Executive Board, we nominated one GIS member for AGI Secretary and another GIS member for an AGI award. I was very pleased to learn that both

nominees were accepted; they will be announced by AGI soon.

The International Initiatives Committee worked very hard to identify companies to support our international fellowship program, to design the application process for the fellows, and to review those applications. The President gets to sign the letters and write the thank-yous. I'm delighted that we have received support for 2 fellows, and that 2 highly qualified candidates have been selected. This is a very exciting program for GIS, and I've been honored to play a part in it.

GeoInfoVI is shaping up very nicely, and I'm looking forward to the papers, field trips, and events the planners have arranged. This meeting gives us a unique opportunity to discuss common concerns with international and interdisciplinary colleagues, and it will be our first chance to meet our GIS international fellows. As co-hosts of this meeting, I'm hoping GIS will have a strong and effective presence.

I've just returned from 2 weeks in Washington, D.C.--a jam-packed combination of grant review, meetings, and touring. While there, I visited libraries and met with people at the USGS, Carnegie, AGU, and AGI. Charlotte Derksen and I represented GIS at a forum in Reston, about the USGS's national index to geologic mapping. It was a pleasure to discuss current issues in geoscience information with those D.C.-area folks and to examine the ways we can work together to find solutions to our common concerns. The 7 April editorial in Science was a recurring topic of those conversations. (As you probably know, that editorial heralds the many positive aspects of e-journals, including the belief that they will be less costly, while assuming that loss-term access and other intrinsic concerns will be easily resolved.) I've been working with many GIS officers and members as we prepare our response to that. When we're finally satisfied with it, we'll post the letter to GeoNet-L and publish it in the Newsletter.

Submitted by Connie J. Manson

Preservation Committee - Mid-Year Report

Two new members joined the committee this year - Pauline Kamel and Lois Heiser. The four sub-committees charged with working through the activities outlined in the Action Plan for the Preservation of the Geoscience Literature (1996) summarized their work and merged back into one committee. Lisa Wishard revised the PC website to reflect the new committee structure and to create an archive of committee documents. Last year's minutes and sub-committee reports are available at the site as well as copies of on-going committee activities, databases and surveys.

The committee developed an international survey, available in print or on the Web, for identification of preservation priorities and activities. It has been distributed to geoscience librarians around the world. The results of the survey will be used to assist in establishing priorities for preservation of the geo-science literature. Also developed was a Web-based listing of geoscience preservation projects. Entries include title of item preserved, method of preservation, format of the preserved item, and the organization or library involved. Members are encouraged to submit projects to the website and assist in building a list of preserved titles as well as sites of expertise or experience.

Committee members (and any other interested librarians!) are participating in a demonstration project to be presented at the GIS Annual Meeting illustrating preservation methods. Participants are encouraged to select a field trip guidebook or item focusing on regional geology (if possible from around the turn of the century), preserve the item, and bring the item to the Annual Meeting for a 'show and tell' of preservation methods and possibilities. The annual meeting will feature a Preservation Forum similar to the Collection Development Forum at which these demonstration projects will be displayed.

The co-chairs were asked to provide a response to AGI regarding the longevity of CD-ROMs as an information storage medium. The co-chairs will provide a letter shortly. The committee has asked the AGI representative to approach AGI regarding funding support for preservation initiatives.

Various publicity and outreach activities are underway to raise awareness of the need to preserve the geoscience literature as well as the technologies now available to achieve this goal. Each issue of the GIS Newsletter has featured the preservation activities of a GIS member librarian in addition to miscellaneous PC committee activity reports. We plan to continue these features throughout the year. If you have a preservation project you would like to share, please get in touch with Lisa Wishard. In addition, the co-chairs will present a poster at the American Library Association conference in Washington, DC in June 1998 illustrating geoscience preservation techniques. A session on preservation issues at GeoInfo VI is also planned. An article is planned for Geotimes as well as one in the library literature (possibly LRTS). Linda Musser will prepare a web page and brief report for the newsletter on the topic of the MARC field 583 and its use to document preservation information. Louise Zipp plans to attend preservation-related sessions at ALA and report back to the committee on this issue as well.

Submitted by Linda Musser and Lisa Wishard,
Co-chairs.

Publications Manager Mid-Year Report

Sales from September 1997 to April 30, 1998:
Directory Geoscience Libraries: 64 copies
GIS Proceedings v.27: 18 copies
GIS Proceedings v.20 - 26: 8 copies
GeoInfoV Proceedings: 7 copies
Directory labels: 1 set
Membership labels: 1 set

Member distribution of GIS Proceedings v.28 (Salt Lake City) began in May.

Submitted by Lois Heiser
Publications Manager

Secretary's Mid-Year Report

Our active membership now stands at 192. We have 16 new members:

- 10 personal
- 2 corporate (1 corporate sustaining)
- 4 student

New members' names and contact information are published periodically in the GIS Newsletter. Members' address changes have also been published to help update the Membership Directory.

There has been an increase in inquiries about GIS this year. Some of this is probably due to the Society's presence on the World Wide Web, since a number of inquiries and new membership requests have come through our website or via e-mail. The new membership brochure is being distributed to requestors as well.

The Sponsored Membership Program, through the International Initiatives Committee, received \$385.00 in gifts. This fund supports memberships for information professionals from countries without a strong information infrastructure. More candidates for this Program are needed. Please consider nominating someone you know--a person from a sister institution in another country, an interlibrary loan partner, or someone who relies on you and your organization to help them provide geoscience information to others.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa G. Dunn, Secretary

Special Libraries Association (SLA), Geography and Map Division (G&M) Mid-Year Report

The division will be holding its annual meeting in June in Indianapolis, in conjunction with the SLA annual meeting. There will be a number of papers presented, including one by Linda Musser and Lisa Wishard on Pennsylvania Mine Map Repositories. The Division will be presenting a slate of candidates for Division officers and will be holding a meeting to discuss the future of the division, due to decreasing memberships.

Submitted by
Elaine Clement

Treasurer's Mid-Year Report

As of May 13, 1998, income received for 1998 totals \$16,138.84. Expenses total \$12,214.20.

Balances:
Bank of America accounts: \$25,249.91
First Union checking account: \$11,051.62
First Union CD \$10,000.00
(corporate donations to sponsor librarians for GEOINFO VI)

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Goodman, GIS Treasurer

Western Association of Map Libraries Representative's Mid-Year Report

The Spring 1998 WAML Meeting was hosted by Jean Kan at Stanford University March 25-28. Program items of special interest to the geoscience information community included a reception at the new U.S.G.S. Library in Menlo Park hosted by Nancy Blair, pre- and post-conference ArcView GIS Workshops, a presentation on digital accessing and access, and a number of presentations on geological mapping.

The Fall 1998 WAML Meeting will be held September 16-18 at the Library of Congress, Geography and Map Division in Washington, D.C. The program is being organized by Gary Fitzpatrick and the general arrangements are being coordinated by Richard Spohn. The meeting will feature tours of the G&M Division and a reception on Wednesday, roundtables (acquisitions, reference, cataloging, collection

management, and specialists) and demonstrations (GIS facility, scanning program, and map preservation) offered multiple times for small groups on Thursday, and more general sessions and additional tours on Friday. The meeting is being dovetailed with GeoInfo VI to facilitate attendance by GIS members.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Spohn

PRESERVATION COMMITTEE PROFILE

Members and readers are encouraged to participate in the GIS Preservation Committee's survey. The survey can be taken online at:

<http://vector.gis.psu.edu/emsl/guides/GIS/survey.html>.

All of the technical glitches have been ironed out, so surf on over and give us your input about preservation issues at your institution.

This *Newsletter's* profile of GIS member preservation activities looks at the development of a digital archive of Texas geological materials at the University of Texas at Austin by GIS member Dennis Trombatore.

Creating a Digital Archive on the Geology of Texas

My goal is to develop an electronic source for documents relating to or deriving from our program at UT Austin, and to slowly create a digital archive of materials on the geology of Texas. To this end, we have identified source documents produced under the auspices of the Department of Geological Sciences, such as Dr. Folk's textbook, items which are out of print, or which are being reproduced by photocopy resulting in copy degradation, and to which we can obtain clear copyright or which are in public domain. There are already several thousand pages of eligible materials.

We do not have a staff program for processing these materials. We have a ScanJet scanner, a PowerMac with some upgrades, and cheap versions of several basic pieces of imaging and conversion software. This is a general-purpose workstation that is used all day long for various purposes. The document work is done by volunteers, who are either students in the library program on campus, or geology students who are interested in web applications. My assistant Jim McCulloch and I give the volunteers a basic overview, block out some time for them to use the equipment, help trouble-shoot, and do final edit and polish on their work. These files are then uploaded to the General Libraries server, where they are reviewed, and, once approved, mirrored to the production web page.

The process has been a slow, and at times painful, learning experience, and has left me quite dubious about the real potential for this medium. In our environment, the work is essentially a complete re-editing process from a labor perspective, and to do a proper job, we would need quite a bit of external funding and time, both of which resources are in extremely short supply these days in public institutions. There is no profit to be made at this, so we are doing what libraries have always done, taking up the slack for the good of the community.

Especially because this region is experiencing such rapid and contentious growth, I feel it is important to protect as well as publicize the legacy of several generations of

geological research into issues of intense local interest, so we will plod ahead as best we can. I hope that we will eventually be able to "divide and conquer" this material, either through a more organized volunteer program with local and regional organizations or by some kind of network arrangement with other institutions. For the foreseeable future, however, our goal is to get at least one document or coherent part of a document completed each semester, in hopes that our efforts will eventually draw attention and resources.

(The archive can be viewed online under the heading "Full-Text Material" at:

<http://www.lib.utexas.edu/Libs/GEO/secondpage.html>.)

Dennis Trombatore, Geology Librarian
drtgeol@mail.utexas.edu
University of Texas at Austin
Geology Library
Austin, Texas

NATIONAL DIRECTORY OF GEOSCIENCE DATA REPOSITORIES NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

The report is now available electronically at this web site:
<http://www.agiweb.org/agi/datadirectory/>

To view the directory listing, select the state on the clickable USA map. The web site will be updated periodically with additional data repositories.

The National Directory of Geoscience Data Repositories is the report of a survey conducted by the American Geological Institute in 1996. Repositories holding geoscience data, particularly cores, cuttings, and paper records were surveyed. The report contains contact information for more than 120 data repositories throughout the United States. The listings are organized alphabetically by state and include names, mailing addresses, telephone numbers, fax numbers and email addresses of key personnel. Also included are details about the repository type (public/academic, private/commercial-proprietary), data-access fee (if any), catalog and index types, data delivery media (online, paper, microform), quantity and type of holdings (well-logs, seismic lines, etc), services provided and geographic areas of holdings.

The report is also available in paper (ISBN: 0-922152-41-1), AGI #809. Price \$12.50; AGI member society member \$9.95, including shipping and handling. Order from the AGI Publications Department at geopubs@agiweb.org or (301) 953-1744.

Marie Dvorzak

GEOSCIENCE E-JOURNALS

Thanks to all of you who responded to my request for electronic geoscience journals which did NOT have a print version. There do not seem to be many - I wonder why? Here are the ones we all came up with:

- Earth Interactions

<http://earthinteractions.org/>

Published jointly by AGU, American Meteorological Society and Association of American Geographers

- Glacial Geology & Geomorphology

<http://ggg.qub.ac.uk/ggg>

Published by Wiley for British Geomorphology Research Group

□ Electronic Geology

http://www.electronicjournals.co.uk/electronic_geology.html

Published by Electronic Journals Inc in association with Kingston University Press

Compiled by:

Patrick Tooth, Geology Librarian

University of Sydney

AUSTRALIA

geology@library.usyd.edu.au

LITERATURE REVIEW

By Miriam Sheaves

The April / May issue of the *Bulletin of the American Society for Information Science*, 24 (4) 1998, is devoted to the evolution of text retrieval. There are four articles, two of which include: "Text Retrieval Online: Historical Perspective on Web Search Engines" by Trudi Bellardo Hahn and "Interface Design Concepts in the Development of a Web-based Information Retrieval System" by Rebecca Denning, et. al.

An interesting article in *College and Research Libraries*, 59 (2): 115-128, March, 1998, discusses variations of a new service model for restructuring serials management along access vs. ownership lines developed by a few academic libraries. In "Restructuring Serials Management to Generate New Resources and Services, with Commentaries on Restructurings at Three Institutions", Charles A. Schwartz describes a model at the University of Massachusetts - Boston and includes commentaries from three other institutions on their experiences.

A key component of this model is a fairly comprehensive serials cancellation project to generate savings for reinvestment in a fully subsidized, unmediated document delivery service. He discusses their serial review program with a top down (provost, deans, department chairs) deliberation and bottom up review. The article includes sample tables with use and cost data and discusses the strengths and limitations of the model. Schwartz noted that in the sciences, subscription price was a relatively insignificant decision factor compared to cost per use.

"A Texture Thesaurus for Browsing Large Aerial Photographs" by Wei-Ying Ma and B.S. Manjunath, *Journal of the American Society for Information Science*, 49 (7): 633-648, May 1998, reports on research funded in part by the NSF Digital Library Grant. The article identifies the components required for constructing such a system and discusses a prototype system that has been implemented. It is highly technical but interesting to see the many sample aerial photo images and how they are broken down into component patchwork images denoting physical land features, urban areas, etc.

A study by Hong Xu and F.W. Lancaster which looked at title, classification number, and subject heading fields from 205 records from OCLC is reported in "Redundancy and Uniqueness of Subject Access Points in Online Catalogs", *Library Resources and Technical Services*, 42 (1): 61-66, Jan 1998. Their findings indicate that there is an average number

of four subject access points in a typical OPAC record. Although title and class number fields do add some access points not provided by subject headings, the increase is less than librarians might have expected. An advantage of subject searching in the online catalog over the card catalog is allowing greater discrimination in searching, i.e., an improvement in precision, rather than recall.

MEMBER NEWS

New GIS Members

Welcome to the following new Geoscience Information Society Members!

Renee Davis, student for an MLIS at the University of Oklahoma

1539 S. Atlanta Ave.

Tulsa OK 74104

Phone: 918-747-9221. E-mail: zkrd7758@rogersu.edu

Dr. Phil Deboo

Department of Geological Sciences

University of Memphis

Memphis TN 38152

Sandra Myers, student at the School of Library & Information Science,

Kent State University

1450 Mulford Rd.

Columbus OH 43212

Phone: 614-488-2895. E-mail: smyers@netset.com

Ann Priestman, Research Librarian

Gas Research Institute

518th St., Ste. 610

Denver, CO 80202

Phone: 303-595-9030. E-mail: annp@ix.netcom.com

Penny Schweitzer, Librarian

Kennecott Canada Exploration Inc.

#354-200 Granville Square

Vancouver, British Columbia V6J 2K5 CANADA

Phone: 604-669-1880. E-mail: schweipt@kcivan.com

Bob Slamal, Exploration Geologist

Canyon Energy

125 N. Market St., Ste. 1255

Wichita KS 67202-1712

Phone: 316-269-2776. E-mail: slamal@feist.com

Anna Tellez, Interlibrary Loan

U.S. Geological Survey Library

345 Middlefield Road, M.S. 955

Menlo Park, CA 94061

Phone: 650-329-5029. E-mail: amtellez@usgs.gov

Diane Yassenoff, Associate Librarian

U.S. Geological Survey Library

345 Middlefield Road, M.S. 955

Menlo Park, CA 94061

Phone: 650-329-5028. E-mail: dyasseno@usgs.gov

Member Update – Linda Pierce

Linda Pierce left AGI in March, after almost eight years and accepted a position at Children's National Medical Center. She is now the librarian for the Emergency Medical Services for Children National Resource Center in Silver Spring, Maryland. She is in the process of setting up a new library from scratch, incorporating the copies of materials from the EMSC Clearinghouse and updating and taking over the Product database. Her new work email is: lpierce@emscnrc.com

Congratulations to Linda on her new position! Her new work address is:

EMSC National Resource Center
111 Michigan Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20010-2970
(202) 884-4927 main line
(301) 650-8015 direct line
lpierce@emscnrc.com

E-mail Address Change

Please note that Claren Kidd's old e-mail host of "uoknor.edu" will soon die. Any e-mail sent to the host, "uoknor.edu" will bounce after May 18. Change your directories to reflect the new address: ckidd@ou.edu.

GLOBAL CHANGE MASTER DIRECTORY (GCMD)

NASA's Global Change Master Directory is a comprehensive source of information about data in the Earth and environmental sciences. Descriptions of data sets provide scientists and the general public with information on how to obtain data and whether a data set is useful for a particular need. There are currently over 5200 descriptions of data sets from over 760 data centers, government agencies, universities, and research institutions from around the world. Scientific disciplines include meteorology, oceanography, ecology, geology, hydrology, paleoclimatology, solar-terrestrial physics, and human dimensions of climate change.

<http://gcmd.nasa.gov>

Features of the upgrade:

- New Guided Search Interface
 - Java geographic map allows geographic coordinates to be specified easily.
 - New location search functionality features a location hierarchy with expanded location keywords including countries and continental regions.
 - Tips on searching and online definitions of search criteria are available.
 - Up to 4 valid keywords from any search criteria may be selected at the same time.
 - Users may access the Advanced Search Interface for more extensive searching.
- Free-Text Search Interface
 - Text searches may now be augmented with geospatial and temporal searches. A Java geographic map may be used to specify geographic coordinates.
 - Improved search speed.
 - Uses the official release of the I site 2.0 search engine.
- Improved Search Results Pages

- Display of data descriptions is more readable.
- Aggregated descriptions with data subsets ("children descriptions") are illustrated. Users may optionally choose to see children.
- Internet email addresses are hyperlinked.
- URLs are hyperlinked in all fields.
- Display option (DIF, FGDC or GILS) may be selected on the results page rather than the search page.
- FGDC records can be displayed in Metadata Parser (mp-ready) format and used with FGDC Clearinghouse software.

➤ Experimental Search Interfaces

- Query Preview Interface

A joint collaboration between the University of Maryland's Human-Computer Interaction Laboratory (HCIL) and GCMD, this prototype search interface provides the user with immediate and continuous feedback about the database contents while the user visually formulates a query. A Java enabled browser is required to view this interface. The results page is frames-based and allows linkage to the Earth Observing System Data Information System.

- Science Keyword Interface

In this interface, users browse through a hierarchy of Earth science terminology, narrowing their query with each word selected. At any point in the hierarchy, a text query may be submitted on the full text of the documents that were subsetted for that portion of the hierarchy.

Ron Vogel

Global Change Master Directory
NASA Goddard Space Flight Center
vogel@gcmd.nasa.gov

GEOINFO VI

"Science Editing and Information Management across disciplines . . . across boundaries . . . through time"
Washington D.C., **September 10 - 14, 1998.**

Broad meeting topics include: electronic publishing, ethics, intellectual property, archiving and information retrieval, education and training.

e-mail edinfo98@kosmos.agu.org WWW
earth.agu.org/editorinfo98

Demonstrations of geoscience databases will take place on September 10, 1998 at AGU Headquarters. Have you constructed a dataset you would like to demonstrate? Would you like to see demonstrations of commercially developed geoscience databases?

"Science Editing and Information Management across disciplines . . . across boundaries . . . through time"

Be Part of It!

CONFERENCE/SEMINAR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Engineering The Future: A New Look At Organizational Thinking And Hyper-Learning

The ACRL Science and Technology Section and University Libraries Section are co-sponsoring a program at the 1998 ALA Annual Conference on Saturday, June 27, 2-4 p.m. For organizations to survive, they must adopt a new set of values--constant learning, self-organization, systems thinking, and attraction to order. These new organizations will allow workers to express their creativity and their desire for quality and learning.

The program will feature an introduction to new organizational theories by Paula Kaufman, Dean of Libraries at the University of Tennessee. Peter Denning, Director of the Center for the New Engineer (CNE) at George Mason University will discuss the interdisciplinary nature and strategic vision of the CNE. The Center exemplifies a program that seeks to put some of the vision and values of new organizational theorists into practice through an innovative science curriculum. Reactors Kenneth Frazier, Director of the University of Wisconsin Libraries and Paula Kaufman will discuss the CNE approach from their perspectives as library leaders.

A further announcement will be made as to the place of the program.

Lois M. Pausch
Geology Library
Urbana, IL 61801
e-mail: l-pausch@uiuc.edu

1998 Summer Institute in the Cartographic Sciences, Salem State College, Salem, MA 01970 USA

A series of one week courses
<http://dgl.salem.mass.edu/www/si.htm>

- Air Photo Interpretation June 1 - 5
 - Computer-Assisted Cartographic Modeling June 8 - 12
 - Geographic Information Systems June 15 - 19
 - Spatial Database Design & Analysis June 22 - 26
 - Advanced Geographic Information Systems June 29 - July 3
 - Digital Image Processing of Remotely Sensed Data July 6 - 10
- ♦ Each one week course is held daily, 8:30am -4:30pm, Monday-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>

For REGISTRATION & COURSE INFO via U.S. MAIL, please contact: Marcie or Kym,
mail to: info@dgl.salem.mass.edu
Voice: (978) 542-7114

For OTHER INFORMATION about the Summer Institute, the MS in Geo-Information Science Program, or the BS in Cartography at Salem State College please contact:

Dr. William Hamilton - Department of Geography
352 Lafayette Street - Salem, MA 01970
Phone: (978) 542-6228 - Fax: (978) 542-7113
Mail to: wolf@dgl.salem.mass.edu

Western Association of Map Libraries Fall, 1998 Meeting

The Western Association of Map Libraries will be holding its first ever out-of-region meeting this Fall at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. September 16-18, 1998 (after GeoInfo). Below is the tentative agenda for the meeting. We would like to give LC an approximate count of how many people to expect. Therefore, if you are thinking of attending, please contact Linda Zellmer at Linda.Zellmer@asu.edu

ANNOUNCEMENT

WAML Fall 1998 Meeting
September 16 - 18, 1998
Geography and Map Division
Library of Congress

The Geography and Map Division is pleased to host the Fall 1998 meeting of the Western Association of Map Libraries. Knowing that many members of WAML have not had the opportunity to visit us before, we have planned a program that will provide opportunities to see our facilities, view our collections, and meet and discuss professional issues with the staff and administrators of the Division. We are intentionally planning a schedule that has plenty of free time for interaction among WAML members and staff of the Geography and Map Division. The tentative schedule is attached. A final program with information on transportation and lodging will be provided in late spring.

Tentative Program

Wednesday, September 16
AM Executive Board and Business Meeting

PM Welcome, Introductions, and History of the Division; Tour of the Division Reception

Thursday, September 17

AM Acquisitions: Programs and Issues
Cataloging and Technical Processing:
Activities and Issues

- PM Reference and Cartobibliography:
Activities and Issues Scanning and GIS:
Activities and Issues

Friday, September 18

- AM Map Preservation: Discussion and demonstrations
Discussions with Head, Technical Services and
Unit Heads
- PM Discussions with Chief and Specialists
Tour of the Great Hall and Treasures of the Library
of Congress exhibit

**Sustaining Rural Environments: Issues In Globalization,
Migration And Tourism
First Conference Announcement
19 - 23 October 1999 - Flagstaff, Arizona, USA**

The movement of people, money and ideas across space has never been more fluid than today. While much of this tends to be generated by and between metropolitan centers, profound impacts are also being felt in rural areas, which have been heretofore protected by their very isolation.

This conference will examine the processes and impacts on rural environments of globalization and the movement of people between rural and urban places for permanent (migration) and temporary (tourism) purposes. Although broad in scope, particular attention will focus on the following themes:

- The Rural-Urban Interface: Conceptualizing the 'rural' and defining where and how it interfaces with the 'urban', how this interface evolves over time, and the impacts of urban changes on rural places, including their use for tourism, retirement and alternative e-office purposes.
- The Regulation of Rural Land Use and Sustainability: Assessing how regulations at different geographic scales shape rural development and the role of individual and organizational agency in this process, including aspects of public land resource management for both economic and recreation uses.
- Entrepreneurism and the Selling of Rural Environments: Examining issues of sustainability as they support and conflict with entrepreneurial activities, including tourism and the commoditization of rural landscapes and cultures, and resulting employment and migration patterns.
- Physical and Cultural Change in Rural Landscapes: Identifying the character and process of past and emerging rural landscapes, from wilderness areas to small communities, and how changing behaviors and values at national and global scales are creating influencing even the most remote rural environments.

The city of Flagstaff (pop. 55,000) is located at 7000 feet (2130 meters) at the base of the San Francisco Peaks and is the home to Northern Arizona University. The Grand Canyon is 80 miles (130km) to the north and the Navajo and Hopi Indian Reservations are nearby to the northeast. Flagstaff is a scenic 2.5 hours drive (30-minute flight) from Phoenix, Arizona's international airport. (For more information visit: <http://www.flagstaff.az.us/>)

For the latest information on this conference, please consult the conference homepage at:
<http://www.for.nau.edu/geography/igust/rural/>

E-mail the conference organizer to be placed on a mailing list and for any other inquiries:

Conference Organizer:
Alan A. Lew
Department of Geography and Public Planning
Box 15016
Northern Arizona University
Flagstaff, Arizona 86011-5016, USA
Tel: 1(520) 523-6567; Fax: 1(520) 523-1080
e-mail: Alan.Lew@nau.edu

Conference Sponsored by:

- ◆ Study Group on the Geography of Sustainable Tourism,
- ◆ International Geographical Union
<http://www.for.nau.edu/geography/igust/>
- ◆ Commission on the Sustainability of Rural Systems,
- ◆ International Geographical Union
http://www.stratec.ca/igu_rural_systems/
Office of Rural Research Management and Planning,
Northern Arizona University
<http://www.for.nau.edu/geography/orrmp.html>

GEOINFO VI – FIELD TRIPS INFORMATION

Library Tours Organized for GeoInfo VI

Plans are shaping up for two special tours of Washington-area libraries, offered in conjunction with the September 1998 international conference, "Science Editing and Information Management." The following schedule is still tentative, but registration procedures will be announced in the August Newsletter. For more information, contact Shaun Hardy at hardy@dtm.ciw.edu.

Monday, September 14

◆ U.S. Geological Survey And Library Of Congress

This full-day trip begins with a visit to the U.S. Geological Survey, headquartered in Reston, Virginia. Our tour will focus on the Survey's mapping, geological, and publications-related programs. Highlights will include the National Mapping Program, map printing plant, and Hazards Information Center (real-time data collection and exhibits). We'll also learn about the collections and services of the USGS Library -- one of the largest earth science libraries in the world, with over one million books and journals and 450,000 maps. (Tours of the newly-relocated library may be available, if construction schedules permit.) After a stop at the Earth Science Information Center, the sales outlet for USGS publications, lunch will be available in the Survey cafeteria.

The afternoon will take us to the Library of Congress -- the "national library" of the United States. We'll begin with a tour of the opulent Thomas Jefferson Building, newly reopened after a decade-long restoration project. The elaborately decorated Great Hall and Main Reading Room are spectacular! Specialists will then guide us through the Library's Science and Technology Division and Geography and Map Division -- the latter, home to 4 million maps, globes, atlases, gazetteers, and other geographically oriented materials. Computer technology used to digitize maps in the National Digital Library Cartographic Program will be demonstrated. Free time will be set aside to explore the

special collections exhibition "American Treasures from the Library of Congress." [Fee for bus transportation: approximately \$25.]

Tuesday, September 15

♦ **Smithsonian Institution - National Museum Of Natural History**

The 18 libraries of the Smithsonian Institution Libraries system support research, exhibitions, and educational programs at one of the world's leading museum complexes. Geological and paleontological materials are concentrated in the National Museum of Natural History (NMNH). Our visit to the NMNH library will stress the specialized services and resources provided to the museum community, with an emphasis on geoscience information. A "behind-the-scenes" look at the Museum's paleobotany and vertebrate zoology collections is planned, including visits with Smithsonian curators. After a buffet lunch at "The Commons," the elegant 19th Century dining room inside the Smithsonian "Castle", we'll return to the Natural History Museum for a tour of the fabulous new Hall of Geology, Gems, and Minerals, led by one of the Museum's volcanologists. [Fee for subway transportation and lunch: approximately \$20.]

Shaun Hardy

Ad Hoc Subcommittee for GeoInfo VI

hardy@dtm.ciw.edu

GUIDEBOOKS DATABASE

As many of you are aware, the current Union List of Geologic Field Trip Guidebooks of North America is voluminous, difficult to obtain, out of date from the moment it's printed, and not very end-user friendly in this age of keyword searching. In order to overcome these drawbacks, the Union List is currently being upgraded from a paper volume into a Lotus Notes database. This database (the *Guidebooks database*) will be accessible via the World Wide Web, allowing instantaneous retrieval of information by GIS librarians. In addition, the holdings will be dropped and a "reporting library" field added instead. For the more traditional and technology-limited libraries, paper versions will be available on demand from the current database for a nominal cost.

The current Coordinating Editor of this upgrade is the Chair of the Union List committee, Mrs. Linda Pierce. She is supported by the invaluable contributions of Mr. John Mulvihill, who recently retired from the American Geological Institute after 25 years of service. Mr. Lawrence Berg, also from AGI, is performing the programming for the Lotus Notes Guidebooks database.

The web version of the database will be fully interactive, with new guidebooks being input by individual GIS librarians throughout North America. Regional editors will be performing the actual edit on the data. This will ensure the instant availability of up-to-date guidebook information to users around the world.

GIS librarians are strongly encouraged to input new guidebooks into the database once it comes on line. New guidebooks can be input following these steps:

1. Verify that the guidebook does not currently exist in the database.

2. Input data into the pop-up fields provided.
3. Send a photocopy of the cover, title page, TOC and verso, and written notation of pagination for each guidebook to the coordinating editor for review and proofing. The editor will forward the information to AGI for indexing and inclusion in GeoRef. AGI will retain the page copies after using them to pick up the additional fields needed for GeoRef citations, including other series information, authors and titles of individual trips and papers, publisher, meeting name and dates and pagination.

It is intended that delays in getting the information into the database will be shortened by having each library input the information at the source. AGI will benefit by having access to the photocopies to input the guidebooks into the GeoRef database, and by knowing the source library if the original needs to be requested for further indexing. The labor-intensive task of collecting and compiling holding information will be eliminated, and instead, OCLC and GeoNet-L can be used for interlibrary loan, with the fallback of having the reporting library name and information available for last resort loan requests.

Linda Rose Pierce

TORONTO CONFERENCE REQUEST

To all Canadian Geonettors:

You may know that the GIS www.geoinfo.org is coordinating a number of workshops and sessions at the GSA annual conference to be held in Toronto this fall www.geosociety.org/meetings/98/index.htm. It is an excellent opportunity to attend a GSA conference, which are usually held in Denver or Boston.

As part of the conference the GIS is putting together a pre-conference workshop/demonstration on a number of geoscience information products, services and clients. In the past this forum has presented workshops on e-journals, geoscience digital and bibliographic databases. This year we are hoping to bring a mix of online vendors, but want to include some Canadian content.

I am asking you to think of a project, database, service or an idea that the GSC, Natural Resources agency, University or a corporate client may be of interest to this forum. It may be the GSC, Nordana, Geophysical Data Centre, Lithoprobe Canada, CCRS, etc. or a consulting firm interested in surveying, exploration, mapping, GPS, etc. in the Toronto, Ottawa, Quebec area or anywhere from across Canada.

I would appreciate it if you could pass this message on to your colleagues and get back to me if you have any questions or possible contacts.

Any comments or suggestions for an interesting presentation should contact:

GIS Digital Data Committee

c/o Adonna Fleming, Chair

afleming@wsu.edu,

Shaun Hardy hardy@clrs1.ciw.edu, or

Ian Gordon igordon@spartan.ac.brocku.ca.

Thanks,

Ian Gordon

Science Librarian/GIS

Brock University

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

University Of California, Davis General Library Announcement of Vacancy

POSITION AVAILABLE:

Engineering/Physical Sciences Librarian

SALARY

Assistant Librarian I to V (\$31,656 - \$38,688).
Appointment rank and salary based on qualifications and experience.

OPEN: Immediately.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Engineering/Physical Sciences Librarian delivers responsive, innovative information services that support the needs of the university community working in the physical sciences and engineering. Works collaboratively to develop and coordinate collections and services in assigned subjects, including electronic resources. Primary subject responsibility will be computer science and electrical engineering, with two more areas to be chosen from aeronautical and mechanical, civil engineering, or physics and applied science. Manages the print collections in assigned areas, including appropriate and timely transfers to an off-site storage facility. Cultivates and maintains strong working relationships with faculty. Maintains an understanding of the research and teaching programs in assigned areas. Develops and delivers instructional services in engineering and physical science disciplines. Shares in providing reference desk service (10-15 hours/week), instruction, ILL bibliographic verification, and database searches.

Participates in electronic delivery of information to researchers and develops information services and products, including design of web pages and instructional guides. Participates as a team member in the operation of the Physical Sciences Library and in library-wide responsibilities. Reports to the Head of the Physical Sciences Library.

QUALIFICATIONS

Graduate degree in librarianship from an ALA-accredited institution or its equivalent. Demonstrated interest in sci/tech topics via coursework, internship, or experience. Familiarity with standard subject indexes and major reference works in engineering and physical sciences, both print and electronic. Excellent and demonstrated grasp of information needs of scientists and engineers and of the application of information technologies, including an understanding of trends. Excellent computer and Internet skills and ability to use computers in a networked environment. Familiarity with electronic information resources, including those available on the Internet. Superior oral and written communication skills and interpersonal skills; excellent analytical and organizational skills. Demonstrated ability to contribute positively in a collegial, team environment. Ability to work independently and collaboratively. Ability to work effectively with colleagues, students, faculty and staff in a rapidly changing, complex, and multicultural environment. Demonstrated

initiative and flexibility in adapting to change. Strong commitment to public service. Ability to develop and deliver discipline-related instructional sessions. Ability to perform work requiring attention to detail. Strong bibliographic verification skills.

Desirable: academic background in engineering/ physics and/or experience in providing access to sci/tech information in an academic research environment. Database search skills, particularly STN. Knowledge of technical report literature and indexes.

THE ENVIRONMENT

The Physical Sciences Library is a branch library serving the information needs in the disciplines of engineering, chemistry, geology and physics. The staff consists of 4 Librarians and 8.5 FTE staff. The collection comprises over 300,000 volumes, including 4,600 currently received serials.

The University of California, Davis campus is a multicultural environment with a commitment to maintain a socially and ethnically diverse community of faculty, staff and students. It has an enrollment of nearly 23,000 students and offers a balanced academic program. The Library ranks among the top 35 research libraries in North America. Its current holdings of more than 2,600,000 volumes grow at an annual rate of 75,000 volumes. Davis is a unique environmentally-aware community of 50,000 located in the lower Sacramento valley - 75 miles northeast of San Francisco and 15 miles west of the state capitol. As a result of the University's presence, Davis offers many cultural advantages and a wide range of professional services.

BENEFITS

Librarians are academic appointees. They earn 24 days of vacation and 12 days of sick leave per annum. The University has an excellent retirement system, which is coordinated with Social Security. The University currently provides several health, dental, and vision plans. Group term life insurance and reduced enrollment fees are available.

Applicants should send letter, resume, and the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of three references (including current supervisor) to:

Sandra A. Vella
Academic Personnel Coordinator
Peter J. Shields Library
University of California
100 North West Quad
Davis, CA 95616-5292
Phone: (530) 752-1138
Fax: (530) 752-6899

This position is covered by a collective bargaining agreement. Applications received by July 10, 1998 will be assured consideration.

The University of California does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, veterans status, medical condition, ancestry, or marital status. The University of California is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Call (530) 752-2071 for more information. Speech or hearing impaired persons may dial (530) 752-7320 (TDD).

Geoscience Journal Prices
 compiled by Michael M. Noga
 Collection Development Issues Committee

This is a continuation of the list published in the December 1997 GIS Newsletter. Prices come from invoices, price lists from publishers, serial vendor catalogs, and journal issues. Prices vary depending on the subscription source and the date of payment.

Journals were included in this list if they fit two criteria: 1) the subject fit broadly in the geosciences; and 2) there was sufficient price information. The latest title of each journal was used.

Total number of serial titles (from both lists) = 201

Total number used to calculate price changes = 200

Average price change

1995/1996	21.2%
1996/1997	8.4%
1997/1998	6.6%

PRICES IN U.S. DOLLARS

	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Compass	12	12	12	---	30	24	24
Cretaceous Research	235	330	383	465	448	524	597
Engineering & Mining Journal	60	60	60	69	69	69	72
Environmental & Engineering Geosci	90	90	90	135	125	125	125
European Journal of Mineralogy	369	383	293	369	367	342	376
Exploration and Mining Geology	N/A	138	170	190	210	235	235
Exploration Geophysics	90	110	110	125	129	136	108
Geochemical Journal	150	160	180	190	190	190	190
Geochemistry International	8995	1150	1296	1488	1764	1800	1980
Geologie de la France	125	134	140	152	164	141	133
Geomicrobiology Journal	120	132	145	165	180	199	199
Grana	195	217	220	242	277	285	295
Icarus	858	966	1080	1242	1379	1512	1830
Israel Journal of Earth Sciences	50	95	160	160	185	200	210
Journal of Physics of the Earth	115	115	143	143	143	143	143
Journal of SE Asian Earth Sciences	392	513	---	485	859	663	721
Neues Jahrb fur Min. Abhandlungen	498	274	271	274	1197	284	261
Neues Jahrb fur Min. Monatshefte	361	462	446	767	299	673	447
New Zealand J of Mar and Freshwater	170	170	170	170	200	200	210
Oceanologica Acta	273	294	279	338	341	344	370
Origins of Life & Evol of the Biosp	182	251	228	276	344	350	354
Palaontologische Zeitschrift	31	30	29	46	47	43	39
Paleontological Journal	450	596	660	894	985	1084	1192
Progress in Oceanography	599	632	705	753	891	900	1094
Progress in Physical Oceanography	138	148	170	185	207	229	256
Radiocarbon	105	105	105	115	115	115	118
Schweiz. Min. und Petrol. Mitt	156	164	178	199	188	183	176
Shale Shaker	15	15	25	25	30	30	30
South African Journal of Geology	60	52	66	62	74	100	130

--- delayed publication, no payment
 N/A Not applicable or Not available

6th International Conference on Geoscience Information GeoInfo VI

[Note: In previous Newsletters, the dates of the conference were incorrect. The correct dates are September 10-14, 1998]

- Geoscience information specialists from around the world will meet **September 10 - 14, 1998**, in Washington D.C., for the 6th International Conference on Geoscience Information GeoInfo VI. The meeting entitled "Science Editing and Information Management across disciplines . . . across boundaries . . . through time" will include attendance and participation of international science publishers and editors.
- On September 10, 1998, keynote speakers, formal papers, panel discussions will bring into focus for better understanding the broad topics of electronic publishing, ethics, intellectual property, archiving and information retrieval, education and training.
- On September 10, 1998, large and small, bibliographical, graphical or digital geoscience databases will be demonstrated at AGU Headquarters. Workshops will also be offered. That night the welcoming party will officially mark the beginning of the four-day conference.
- The deadline for abstracts of meeting papers and posters has been extended until **June 1, 1998**

e-mail: edinfo98@knsmos.agu.org
WWW : <http://earth.agu.org/edinfo98>
FAX : Attention Fred Spilhaus +1 202 328 0566
Mail: Science Editing & Information Management
1998 International Meeting
American Geophysical Union
2000 Florida Ave. NW
Washington DC 2009 USA

The above addresses can also be used to gain more meeting information.

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