



NEWSLETTER

Number 174 October 1998

ISSN 0046-58301

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

GeoInfo VI

As those of you who attended the 6th International Geoscience Conference know, it was a terrific meeting! Meeting jointly with the geoscience editors had been a pragmatic decision, but it turned out to be a brilliant one. There were about 240 attendees: a lively mix of librarians, editors, and publishers. There were papers and presentations on the range of issues and projects we're all concerned with. This joint meeting gave us the rare chance to see issues from different points of view, to share our concerns and better understand theirs.

Only one of our international fellows, Arlene Marzo, was able to attend the conference. (Clement Siyumbwa was unable to participate, as reported elsewhere in this issue.) Arlene is highly qualified and is enthusiastic about her Fellowship program. She'll be reporting on her fellowship experience at the Toronto meeting.

We'll be publishing the proceedings for this meeting. The papers are due December 15 and we anticipate publication in Spring, 1999. Watch This Space for developments on that.

Annual Reports

Annual reports from the officers, representatives, and committee chairs are due. Many of those are published in this issue and others will be presented at the annual Business Meeting.

Annual Meeting, Toronto, October 25-29, 1998

Vice President Charlotte Derksen has assembled an excellent program, so this promises to be a very valuable conference.

There's still time to sign up for the field trip-- a geologic tour to Niagara Falls. It will be led by geologist Christopher Rancourt, University of Toronto, and should be both fun and informative.

It looks like there may be significant announcements made at this meeting. (I can't tell you yet: It's A Secret.) I can say, though, that I'm again impressed by the clout and influence our society has. We may be small in number, but not in impact and effectiveness.

Connie J. Manson, GIS President

VICE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Remember to bring this issue of the newsletter with you to Toronto for the annual meeting, since it includes the latest version of our meeting schedule, as well as many annual reports. Note: a meeting of the Friends of the USGS library has been added to the Sunday schedule, after the digital database forum. Plan also to bring a warm jacket, as well as something to protect you from possible rain. Average temperatures for the Toronto area in late October range from lows of 39 to highs of 54 degrees. October is usually sunny but November is known to be rainy; chances for rain on October 29th are said to be 50%.

I want to thank the members of the executive board, particularly Connie Manson and Barbara DeFelice, and the members of the program committee, particularly Barbara Haner and Pat Sheahan for all of their help and suggestions. Without such help, this year's annual meeting would be missing a lot. I also want to thank, in particular, the members of the Digital Database Forum Committee, chaired by Adonna Fleming and the Preservation Committee, Collection Development Committee, and GEOREF User Group for the informative sessions in the offing for us.

Do you want to participate in the work of GIS, but can't make it to Toronto? Look at the list of committees and their members on pages 52 through 54 in the GIS directory, then email me with your areas of interest, by the end of October or early November.

Looking forward to seeing many of you in Toronto! Don't forget to register for the special GIS field trip to Niagara Falls, with Connie Manson (see the last Newsletter for details).

Charlotte Derksen, GIS Vice President

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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 October 1998 issue of the GIS Newsletter should be received no later than 20 November 1998. If possible, please send materials by e-mail or on IBM-compatible disc (Word'97 or ASCII format).

GIS '98 - Toronto
Geoscience Information Society
Annual Meeting Preliminary Schedule
BETA version - September, 1998 **

Changes are in BOLD:

Sunday October 25

- 9:00-12:00 AM GIS Executive Board Meeting: Sheraton / Kenora Room
(Presiding: Connie Manson)A
- 1:15-4:30 PM Digital Database Forum: MTCC / **716B**
(Presiding: Adonna Fleming)
- 4:45-6:30 PM **Friends of the USGS Library: MTCC / 716B**
(Presiding: **Bill Holzer and Connie Manson**)

Monday October 25 in

- 10:15 AM Guidebook Committee Meeting: Sheraton / Gold Rush Room
- 10:15 AM GIS Membership Committee Meeting Sheraton /Executive Room
[Suggested time for other committee meetings as well]
- 1:30-5:30 PM GIS Poster Session: MTCC / Hall E
- 3:00-5:30 PM GIS Collection Development Issues Forum: Sheraton / Wentworth Room
(Presiding: Steve Hiller)
- 7:00-9:15 PM GIS Reception: Sheraton/Kenora Room
(Presiding: Connie Manson)

Tuesday, Oct. 26

- 8:30-11:00 AM Preservation Issues Forum: **Sheraton / Kenora Room**
(Presiding: Linda Musser and Lisa Wishard)
- 1:30-4:45 PM GIS Symposium - Accreting the Continent's Collections: MTCC / 716A
(Presiding: Charlotte Derksen, with Barbara Haner)
- 5:00-6:00 PM GIS Technical Session: MTCC / 716A
(Presiding: Barbara DeFelice, with Patricia Sheahan)

Wednesday Oct. 27

- 8:30-11:30 AM GIS Business Meeting: Sheraton / Dominion South Room
(Presiding: Connie Manson)
- 12:00-1:30 PM GIS Luncheon @ Awards: Sheraton / **Dominion South**
(Presiding: Connie Manson)
- 2:00-3:30 PM GIS GeoRef Users' Group: Sheraton/Kenora Room
(Presiding: Nancy Blair)
- 3:30-5:00 PM GIS Professional Issues: Sheraton/Huron Room
(Presiding: Claren Kidd)
- 5:30-8:30 PM GIS Executive Board Meeting: location to be announced
(Presiding: Charlotte Derksen)

Thursday Oct. 28

- 8:30 AM-3:00 PM GIS Field Trip to Niagara Falls: (Presiding: Connie Manson)

Preregistration with Connie Manson or Charlotte Derksen required

USGS library meeting at GSA in Toronto

You are cordially invited to attend a "friends of the USGS library" meeting, which has been set up for the GSA annual meeting in Toronto. It is scheduled for Sunday evening beginning at 4:45 in the convention center room 716B. It has been called by Bill Holzer of the University of Oregon, with the support of the Geoscience Information Society. This is an open meeting. Please spread the word to anyone who might be interested.

Charlotte Derksen

**Geoscience Information Society
ANNUAL REPORTS**

Elected Officers

President

At the beginning of the term, the President needs to form and complete the committee and representative appointments, and to compile and edit the Proceedings volume. Those were completed. Through the rest of the year, the President advises on and participates in issues before the Society and the various committees, as I've tried to do. We've seen excellent progress from many committees, most notably the Preservation and International Initiatives committees. There are now new, positive developments about the fate of the USGS libraries, so we're following that closely, and will report on them at the Annual Meeting.

Connie J. Manson, GIS President

Vice President

The primary job of the vice president is to plan the annual meeting for the society. The first piece of that duty is to organize, in conjunction with the society's officers and committee chairs, a tentative schedule for the many GIS events that might occur during that meeting. This is done working around the events of the GSA itself. At the same time, one is contacting various potential speakers for the Symposium.

This year, GSA was, at one and the same time, installing and learning to use new scheduling software, as well as a new server. This meant that in addition to discovering bugs in the software, the email system for GSA was frequently non-functioning. Some of the GSA staff were also new. Through all of the difficulties, the GSA staff remained intelligent, humane, and thoroughly professional. Although they must often have been frustrated and probably snapped at by impatient joint committee representatives, they remained a pleasure to work with. Complicating the technical and software problems, many thousands of quality abstracts were submitted for the conference making it very difficult to schedule all of the sessions into the space available. Next year's scheduling should go like clockwork as is usual; there can't possibly be more bugs to discover!

For GIS members, one result of this combination of difficulties is that the GIS symposium and the GIS technical session are scheduled for the same afternoon. This will make for a long afternoon, but it will be full of what promise to be outstanding papers. Another outcome was that the schedule was set much later than planned. Since it was unknown until early August, whether or not GIS would have some of the regular meetings scheduled for Thursday, it was not possible to proceed with field trip planning until August. We were very fortunate to finally have everything slotted into place. Results for some of the other societies may not have been so favorable.

We are looking forward to meeting the International Fellows and hearing from them in Toronto and elsewhere.

In addition, we will be able to participate, with other concerned geoscientists, in additional support of the USGS library system.

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you in Toronto and/or at the International Geoscience in Washington, D.C.! Look elsewhere in this issue of an updated version of the GIS Annual Meeting Schedule.

Charlotte Derksen, Vice President

Treasurer

During the first year of my two-year term as treasurer I have accomplished the following:

- Set up a local checking account to handle income and expenses.
- Set up a 90-day CD from donations for the GIS International Fellows.
- Used Excel to record the GIS accounts.
- Deposited incoming funds and paid invoices and reimbursements.
- Prepared the midyear report, which was published in the August newsletter.
- I will prepare a budget for the 1999 year and present an updated financial report at the annual meeting in Toronto.
- Received the audited records for 1995 and 1996 from Sally Scott, the previous GIS treasurer.

I would like to remind all committee chairs and officers to submit claims for reimbursement to me before or at the annual meeting if possible and to submit to me their proposed budget needs as soon as possible.

I would also like to thank Sally Scott for her patience and valuable advice during this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Goodman

Secretary

During the year, I addressed the standard secretarial responsibilities:

- providing minutes for executive board meetings; maintaining the membership database;
- compiling the Membership Directory;
- welcoming and processing new members;
- dispatching renewal notices;
- producing mailing labels for the Society;
- handling correspondence and inquiries.

The Society welcomed 35 new members, bringing total membership to 216 as of September 1 1998. Of the total membership, we have 165 U.S. members and 51 international members, representing 25 countries.

Appointees

Applicants and those inquiring for information have heavily used the membership form available on the World Wide Web. More detailed information about membership trends and categories will be available at the 1998 Annual Business Meeting in Toronto, or by request to the Secretary.

GIS has continued its sponsored member program through the International Initiatives Committee, funded by donations from GIS members. This program awards an annual GIS membership to information professionals from countries without a strong information infrastructure. We currently have 12 sponsored members.

This year a survey of the membership was done by the Secretary and the Publications Manager to determine whether the Membership Directory was meeting members needs, and whether use of the World Wide Web to disseminate directory information was appropriate. The results of this survey will be available at the 1998 Annual Business Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa G. Dunn, Secretary

Representatives

AGI Environmental Geoscience Advisory Committee Representative

This AGI Committee has several ongoing projects at the present time. *The Ground Water and Soil Contamination Database* has not been particularly successful and will be reviewed. *The Geoscience Environmental Textbook* is having problems at the publishing level and support may be dropped unless McGraw Hill becomes more active. *The Glossary of Hydrology* is printed and available. *The Environmental Research Needs of Metal Mining and Alternative Radiation Methods for Historical Mining Sites* have been published by the SME and are available.

The Environmental Page at www.agiweb.org was announced as was the Environmental "Bookstore" at the same site. The individual societies attending gave brief reports of environmental activities. The Environmental Awareness Series is working on the *Metal Mining and the Environment*, *Soils and the Environment*, and *Petroleum and the Environment* and these will be available soon. Other publications in this series are being developed.

Future Programs and Activities include the development of initiatives identified by the questionnaire. The top three initiatives seems to be

- career information,
- developing professional training catalog, and
- increasing international connections.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanne Lerud

Geonet-L Editor

Geonet-L continues to be a successful ListServ. Started in 1993, there are currently over 450 subscribers.

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Heiser

Newsletter Editor

As the Newsletter Editor learns more and more about using *Word '97*, style changes are made to improve the "look and feel" of the newsletter.

In December 1997, the Newsletter Editor moved to Richland, WA, and began editing the newsletter from the Pacific Time Zone. A permit was obtained from the U.S. Postal Service so that domestic mail can be sent at the bulk mail rate. Overseas mail is sent Air Mail/First Class.

Materials can be submitted via e-mail or IBM-compatible disc (*Word '97* or ASCII format). E-mail attachments in Word format can also be sent.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Frances Lembo, GIS Newsletter Editor

Publications Manager

Proceedings of the 1997 GIS Meeting, edited by Connie Manson, were distributed to members in May, 1998.

Sales since last report (September 15, 1997 - September 15, 1998)

Directory	77 copies
Directory labels	1 set
GIS Index	1 copy
GIS Member labels	1 set
Proceedings v.28	29 copies
Proceedings v.27	25 copies
Proceedings v.22	2 copies
Proceedings v.20-21, v.22-26	1 copy each
GeoInfo V	4 copies
(only 26 sets remaining)	

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Heiser

Publicity Officer

I prepared press releases for GIS awards, new officers, and GEOINFO VI. I also submitted additions for the GIS webpage and a revised list of officers for the AGI webpage.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol LaRussa

Committee Chairs

Archives Committee

Lois Pausch and Mary Krick met and reviewed materials sent to the Archives Committee. These materials were deposited in the GIS Archives at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. Photos for the archival photo album were also reviewed and identified.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Krick

Mary B. Ansari Best Reference Work Award Committee

The members of the Committee chose *The NASA Atlas of the Solar System* to receive the Mary B. Ansari Best Reference Work Award for this year from a rather large field of nominations. The Atlas was published by Cambridge University Press in 1997. Both of the editors, Ronald Greeley and Raymond Batson, will be attending the luncheon.

The members of the Committee are Linda Newman (University of Nevada, Reno), Michael Noga (MIT), Michael Farmer (University of Ohio), Agnes Adams (University of Nebraska), Jim O'Donnell (Caltech), and Joanne Lerud (Colorado School of Mines).

Respectfully submitted,
Joanne Lerud

Best Paper Award Committee

Twelve papers were nominated for the award, with one nomination coming from the membership. There was a request for nominations in GEONET-L, but the solicitation for nominations was not printed in the Newsletter. Two papers received the same number of votes, and two awards will be made for the best paper in 1997, for:

- Lamont, Melissa. Managing geospatial data and services. *Journal of Academic Librarianship*, vol. 23, no. 6, p. 469-473;
- Recupero, Lisa A. Where in the world? Finding meteorological and climatological data. *GIS Proceedings*, vol. 27, p. 63-77.

The Committee was heartened by the special issues of journals in 1997 covering geoscience information topics. *Computers & Geosciences* had two special issues, in May and June, respectively: "Exploratory cartographic visualization" and "Distance education and the Internet". *Journal of Academic Librarianship* contained "Geographic Information Systems (GISs) Revisited: A Symposium" as its November issue.

No changes to procedures or criteria for the award are recommended.

Respectfully submitted,
Louise S. Zipp, Chair

Preservation Committee

The committee developed an international survey, available in print or on the Web, for identification of preservation priorities and activities. It was distributed to over 500 geoscience libraries around the world. Sixty surveys have been returned as of September 15, 1998. The results of the survey will be used to assist in establishing priorities for preservation of the geoscience literature and will be shared at the annual meeting in Toronto.

A Web-based listing of geoscience preservation projects was created. Preservation activities relating to the geosciences at eight institutions are currently highlighted. Entries include title of item preserved, method of preservation, format of the preserved item, and the organization or library involved.

Lisa Wishard reorganized the Preservation Committee's webpage. Linda Musser and Lisa Wishard contributed content and maintained the site during the year.

The co-chairs provided a response to AGI regarding the longevity of CD-ROMs as an information storage medium. The Preservation Committee also contributed comments to CUAC encouraging discussion regarding preservation of cartographic material.

Issues of the GIS Newsletter this year featured the preservation activities of GIS member librarians in addition to miscellaneous PC committee activity reports. Features included:

- "Preservation Activities at Indiana University" by Lois Heiser (February 1998, GISNL 170:8)
- "Thesis preservation at the Mines/DeLaMare Library, University of Nevada, Reno" by Linda Newman (April 1998, GISNL 171:12-13)
- "Creating a Digital Archive on the Geology of Texas" by Dennis Trombatore (June 1998, GISNL 172:8)
- Preservation Committee Letter [to AGI re longevity of CD-ROMs] by Linda Musser and Lisa Wishard (August 1998, GISNL 173:7)
- "Geological Survey of Canada Logan Legacy Fund" by Pauline Kamel (October 1998, GISNL 174)
- "Recording preservation activities in the bibliographic record - US MARC Field 583" by Linda Musser (October 1998, GISNL 174)

In addition, the co-chairs wrote and submitted for publication an article on the status of preservation of the geoscience literature.

Lisa Wishard and Linda Musser presented a poster at the American Library Association conference in Washington, DC in June 1998 illustrating geoscience preservation techniques. They will also present a poster on this topic at the annual meeting in Toronto. Louise Zipp reported on preservation developments at the American Library Association Conference held in June 1998 in Washington, DC.

Linda Musser, Elaine Clement and Lisa Wishard organized two sessions on preservation at GeoInfo VI, the

Sixth International Conference on Geoscience Information, Washington, DC in September 1998. Elaine Clement moderated the two sessions which included a showing of the video "Into the Future" plus presentations by:

- Kathlin Smith, CLIR. "Council on Library and Information Resources Initiatives"
- Lisa Wishard, GIS Pres. Committee. "Activities of the GIS Preservation Committee"
- Christopher Keane, AGI. "National Geoscience Data Repository System"
- Hedy Rossmeissl, USGS. "National Satellite Land Remote Sensing Data Archive"
- Irene Schubert, LC. "Preservation Initiatives at the Library of Congress"

Committee members participated in demonstration projects illustrating preservation methods. Members selected a field trip guidebook or item focusing on regional geology (if possible from around the turn of the century), preserved it, and will bring the item to the Annual Meeting for a 'show and tell' of preservation methods and possibilities. Projects include:

- Lois Heiser, NAGT. Eastern Section 1966 Apr. "Some geological aspects of the Carboniferous of Southern Indiana." [Treatment: digitize]
- Pauline Kamel, 10 Guidebooks prepared for the 12th International Geological Congress held in Toronto in 1913 issued by the Geological Survey of Canada. Ottawa : Government Printing Bureau, 1913. [Treatment: microfilm]
- Lisa Wishard & Linda Musser, 1931, First Guidebook for the Annual Field Conference of Pennsylvania Geologists. Harrisburg, Pa., Field Conference of Pennsylvania Geologists. [Treatment: digital reproduction]
- Michael Noga, Report on the geology, mineralogy, botany, and zoology of Massachusetts. 2nd edition, Edward Hitchcock 1835. [Treatment: bindery/repair treatment]
- Elaine Clement, Geology of the Hanover District by J.W. Goldthwait 1916. [Treatment: Conservation, reformat & microfilm]
- Elizabeth Fish, Sampling of Classic Mineral Industry Textbooks [Treatment: Preservation photocopy]
- Lois Pausch, Turn of century Field Trip Guidebooks. [Treatment: binding]
- Louise Zipp, Romer. Vertebrate paleontology. Chicago, U. of Chicago Press, 1933; Howorth. The mammoth and the flood, London, S. Low, Marston, Searle & Rivington, 1887; Winchell. Sketches of creation, NY, Harper & Bros., 1870 [Treatment: Xerographic reproduction]

The annual meeting will feature a Preservation Forum at which these demonstration projects will be displayed. Additional plans for the Forum include a presentation by Pauline Kamel, who will profile the Logan Legacy Fund and

the preservation activities it supports; a showing of the video "Into the Future" Preservation of Knowledge in the Electronic Age"; a presentation of the results of the international survey; and an open discussion on preservation issues.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Musser
Lisa Wishard

Audit Report 9/10/98

I have examined the financial report and all the documenting materials sent to me by Sally Scott, covering the fiscal transactions of the Geoscience Information Society for 1997. I am forwarding these materials to Susan Goodman. I find the figures presented are, to the best of my ability, true and accurate statements of the Society's financial dealings.

Some comments:

- There was a computational error on one the midyear report, which Sally has amended.
- I believe it would be helpful if voided checks (should there be any) were reported as such, and perhaps saved or copied so that the check register can be fully reconstructed. Likewise for non-check transactions such as check printing, etc.
- I found it impossible, in one or two cases, to verify that memberships had, in fact, been paid. I am fairly certain that at least one membership was added via the web form for which dues were never received. It may not be cost effective to double check every membership recorded, but I would hope we are not extending benefits to many individuals who do not pay dues.

Lastly, I suppose this is a dead issue, but it still troubles me that we are spending the original gift to support the Ansari Award. If there were some way to secure a permanent fund from which only earnings could be spent, even if those earnings were less than the present award, I think this would give the organization more leverage in establishing a meaningful forum for the recognition of good writing and editorial work.

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GIS Fellowships

In June 1998, two applications were selected as GIS Fellows from a pool of almost 40 applicants from developing nations: Arlene Marzo, National Institute of Geological Science Library, University of the Philippines and Clement Siyumbwa, Geological Survey of Botswana.

Arlene Marzo arrived in the US on August 28, 1998. After visiting Susan Goodman at the Rutgers University Library of Science & Medicine, she traveled to Washington to participate in the GEOINFO VI meeting, September 10-13. She went on field trips to the USGS Library (Reston), the Library of Congress, and the Smithsonian Institution's, National Museum of Natural History. She subsequently spent one day each at the American Geological Institute with GeoRef Director, Sharon Tahirkheli, and at the Carnegie Institution of Washington, where she shared ideas with Librarian Shaun Hardy and learned more about the technology used in that Library. While in Washington, Ms. Marzo lived in two boarding houses and became proficient using the Washington DC Metro. As of today, Sept 21, 1998 she is at Penn State University with Linda Musser and Lisa Wishard. On Sept 26, 1998 she will fly to Austin Texas to spend 3 weeks with her local host, Julie Hallmark who has many activities planned for her.

Clement Siyumbwa notified GIS on the day he was scheduled to arrive in Washington DC, that he had not received the visa needed for entry into the US. Communications with the Consular Office in Botswana revealed that because he was no longer employed by the Geological Survey of Botswana, he was denied a visa.

Li Mei Chen, one of the 6 Fellowship finalists paid her own way to GEOINFO VI and is participating as a Fellow at Penn State. As this is being written, we are awaiting word from the Director of her Library concerning an extended leave of absence from her library. If approval for this leave of absence is granted, she will participate as a full Fellow and will follow the schedule created for Clement. This includes a three-week stay in the San Francisco Bay area hosted by Nancy Blair with the opportunity to visit the libraries of the USGS Menlo Park, UC Berkeley, UC Davis, and Stanford. (The previous issues of the GIS Newsletter specified that this period would be spent in Denver Colorado, but for several reasons, having the Fellow in Denver became infeasible.)

Prior to participating in the GIS activities at our annual meeting in Toronto, the Fellows will be hosted in Ottawa for five days by Pauline Kamel (Earth Sciences Information Center).

The Fellows have a full schedule of activities generously created by their hosts. We hope they enjoy their time in North America and that they learn enough to make them even more curious about geoscience libraries and the unique challenges they pose for librarians. GIS members will find both Fellows curious, intelligent, and willing to interact. I hope you have the opportunity to meet Arlene and, hopefully, Li Mei Chen from Academic Sinica (Taiwan).

Claren Kidd, International Initiatives Committee

GIS Database Forum

Mark your calendar and plan to attend the GIS Database Forum, Sunday October 25th from 1:15 to 4:45 p.m. at the Toronto Convention Center. The Forum is a great event to start off the GSA Conference. Mingle with your colleagues and discover the "latest" in terms of electronic resources for the geoscientist!

Presenters include:

John Broome, Physical Scientist, Department of Natural Resources of Canada, will speak on the Canadian Geoscience Knowledge Network (CGKN), Canadian Geospatial Data Infrastructure (CGSI) and the Canadian Geoscience Publications Directory (CGPD).

Jennifer Rumford, Chief Production Editor for the Proceedings of the Ocean Drilling Program (ODP) at Texas A&M, will demonstrate ODP's JANUS database as well as the online journal "Palaeontologia Electronica", for which she is the technical editor.

Carol Kizis, Database Coordinator for the Multidisciplinary Center for Earthquake Engineering Research (MCEER), will demonstrate three of their electronic applications: The QUAKELINE database, Enews, a personal web-page service generated from their monthly newsletter, and their "Frequently Asked Questions" module on earthquakes in the state of New York.

Christine Midwinter will demonstrate online products available from the Canadian Institute for Scientific and Technical Information (CISITI).

For additional information please contact:

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afleming@wsu.edu.

Literature Review by Miriam Sheaves

The August issue of *RLG DigiNews* (vol.2, #4) features an article "Creating and Distributing High Resolution Cartographic Images" by David Yehling Allen, Head of the Map Collection, Melville Library, SUNY Stony Brook. Allen's article focuses on the reformatting of paper maps to digital images, both for purposes of preservation and for access via CDs or on the Web.

Also in this issue is an article, "Imaging Production Systems at Corbis Corporation," by Sabine Susstrunk, Senior Imaging Researcher at Corbis. She discusses how Corbis, a large digital image collection with over 1.3 million high resolution digital images, has addressed the complex issues of digitizing images for an archive with commercial applications. *RLG DigiNews* is a web-based, quarterly newsletter available at:
<http://www.rlg.org/preserv/diginews/>

An article by Carol Casey in *College & Research Libraries* (59:4, July 1998) addresses the need to set up a cyberarchive. In "The Cyberarchive: A Look at the

Storage and Preservations of Web Sites" she discusses some of the issues involved in archiving Web sites from the Internet.

Also in this issue are two other articles of interest. "Effects of Library Instruction on University Students' Satisfaction with the Library: A Longitudinal Study" by Anthony Stamatoplos and Robert Mackoy describes a study which evaluated changes in student expectations following library instruction.

"The Downside of Scholarly Electronic Publishing: Problems in Accessing Electronic Journals through Online Directories and Catalogs" by Charlotte E. Ford and Stephen P. Harter reports the results of a study on the usefulness of four online e-journal directories and two online union catalogs in accessing electronic journals. The coverage, accuracy, currency, and overlap among the six sources are compared.

I would like to solicit feedback from GIS members. Is this column useful to you? What types of library and information science articles are of interest to you? Is there a need for this column? Would something else be more useful? Any comments, criticisms, suggestions are welcome. Please contact me at miriam_sheaves@unc.edu.

MEMBER NEWS

New Members:

Gene Major, Principal Scientist
NASA, Raytheon STX
7701 Greenbelt Rd., Ste. 400
Greenbelt, MD 21044
301-441-9486 major@gcmd.nasa.gov

Kit Pitkin, Graduate Assistant
Multidisciplinary Center for Earthquake Engineering
Research Information Center
University of Buffalo, NY
716-645-3377 pitkin@acsu.buffalo.edu

Linda Sjogren, Librarian
NOAA
737 Bishop St., Ste. 2200
Honolulu, HI 96813
808-532-6422 linda.sjogren@noaa.gov

Returning Members:

David Lepse, Reference and Instruction Librarian
Van Pelt Library,
Michigan Technological University
Houghton, MI
906-487-2598 dlepse@mtu.edu

Marisol Montellano, Investigador Asociado "C"
University of Nacional Autonoma de Mexico
Instituto Geologia
Ciudad Universitaria
Deleg Coyoacan, Mexico
52-5-6224280 marmont@servidor.unam.mx

Change of Address

New Home Address:
Mary Frances Lembo
406 Shoreline Ct.
Richland, WA 99352
509/375-3154

Recording Preservation Activities in the Bibliographic Record - US MARC Field 583

One important but often overlooked aspect of a preservation project is the record of what action has been taken to preserve an item. While re-binding is a preservation action, it is not something we commonly record in the bibliographic record. As we begin to utilize traditional and new preservation techniques on a more regular basis, however, we need to think about recording what we have accomplished. This is particularly important for materials at risk and rare materials. The US MARC Field 583 is designed to record assessments and actions involving a specific item, usually (but not always) relating to preservation. The 583 consists of an action subfield (\$a) which describes what action has been taken (e.g., *\$a mass deacidified*, *\$a rebound*, *\$a encapsulated*, *\$a reformatted*) plus other subfields indicating aspects such as the date the action occurred, reformatting method, status, and so forth. For each action (e.g., encapsulated and deacidified), an additional 583 field is used.

Despite the existence of the Field 583, its use has not been widespread. In a recent report the Research Libraries Group (RLG) Working Group on Preservation and Reformatting Information acknowledges past efforts to promote use of the 583 but "believes consensus on the encoding practice for the 583 field has not yet been reached". They are examining the use of other US MARC fields such as Field 533 - Reproduction Note (commonly used for microform reproductions) and Field 007 - Computer Files (being adapted to include digital reformatting information) as places to record preservation information.

These are exciting times for library preservation. Technology is enabling many libraries to embark upon various types of preservation initiatives. It is also a time of vast confusion as librarians, in order to maximize their preservation dollars, struggle to determine what titles have

already been preserved elsewhere. Adoption of common standards for recording preservation actions will allow future librarians to not only know what has been done in the past but more quickly identify what remains to be done.

Linda Musser

Geological Survey of Canada Logan Legacy Fund

The Logan Legacy Fund was established in 1992 by the Canadian Geological Foundation to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Geological Survey of Canada. The Fund represents a pioneer effort to raise funds from the private sector to support the conservation and preservation of the manuscripts, books, maps and photographs held in the Book and Map Archives of the Earth Sciences Information Centre.

Since its inception, the Fund has raised more than \$84,000, and the continuing momentum attests to the importance of the conservation work being done and the commitment of the geoscience community to provide support.

Conservation work and deacidification are now nearing completion for the Logan Collection. This consists of more than 80 books, maps, manuscripts and pamphlets that belonged to the founding Director of the GSC, Sir William Logan. Along with his collection of professional journals, these items became the initial library of the GSC.

Also of special interest are the 600 journals and accounts of exploration which provide some of the first observations on the geology of Canada, and approximately 200 monographs relating to the early development of the science of geology. Conservation work on these collections will begin soon.

For more details on the Logan Legacy Fund and the conservation work completed, please visit our website at: http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/ess/esic/logan_legacy/

Pauline Kamel
Earth Sciences Information Centre
Natural Resources Canada
Ottawa, Ontario

The Global Change Master Directory - A Directory to Earth Data and More

With the start of the academic year, researchers and students may find the Global Change Master Directory (GCMD) helpful in providing information about datasets for research projects.

The GCMD is an online directory for scientists, students and the general public to learn about environmental datasets and their accessibility. Scientific disciplines include meteorology, oceanography, geology, ecology, hydrology,

paleoclimatology, solar-terrestrial physics, and human dimensions of global change.

There are currently over 6600 descriptions of data sets from over 830 data centers, government agencies, universities, and research institutions from around the world.

The GCMD provides the following information about datasets: parameters measured, spatial and temporal coverage, instruments used, geographic location, summary, and others. In short, the GCMD provides the essential information for researchers to determine whether a dataset would be useful for their needs. The GCMD further provides contact information and URL links for access to data sets and data providers.

The GCMD is funded by NASA. Searching for information and contributing information about datasets are both entirely free of charge.

To conduct a search or to contribute information, see the GCMD homepage: <http://gcmd.nasa.gov>

Ron Vogel
Raytheon STX
Global Change Master Directory
NASA Goddard Space Flight Center
vogel@gcmd.nasa.gov

GUIDEBOOK DATABASE

An Internet version of the 1996 edition of the Union List of Geologic Field Trip Guidebooks of North America is being developed at AGI. The plan is to make this database searchable, in its entirety, on AGI's web page. At least for now, there would be no fee for searching the file.

The 1996 edition contains guidebooks announced through 1990. The Internet version is designed to allow new guidebooks to be added remotely, online. An edit function is also included. If the file is to be updated, the data gathering and editing involved will fall to GIS members, as it has in the past. The difference in the procedure would be that changes would be entered directly, by designated people, and edited online. Once incorporated into the database, these changes could promptly be made available to its users, thus making the database much more current than has been achieved in the print versions.

A preliminary version of the database, for examination by the GIS ad hoc committee (1998) on the Future of the Union List of Field Trip Guidebooks, will be available at the annual meeting.

John Mulvihill

The following library vacancy is being re-advertised with new qualifications.

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY EAST LIBRARY SERVICES

Science Librarian Position Available

This is a full-time continuing appointment-track (Academic Professional) position requiring professional development and service in addition to excellent teaching. The position reports to the Director of Library Services, ASU East. Salary: \$28,000.

Essential Functions: Provides reference service, in person or by electronic means. Works with reference colleagues to manage learning outcomes. Instructs faculty and students in the use of electronic library resources to satisfy their needs in a new, largely electronic library. Works with faculty to develop electronic equivalents to print resources needed for instruction, and to modify instructional plans if necessary to accommodate these needs. Works with the faculty and students of the College of Technology and Applied Sciences to develop the necessary electronic and print collections to support instruction and research. Designs instructional materials and contributes to the maintenance of the library's web.

Qualifications: Required: ALA-accredited MLS degree. Able to demonstrate current knowledge of electronic library resources and practices in an academic library setting. Undergraduate degree in math, engineering, or science, or a minimum of three years' reference experience at the professional level in an academic science library.

Desired: Experience in academic reference work. Demonstrated openness to innovative or non-traditional library services. Degree (preferably a graduate degree) in engineering, technology, or computer science.

Application Deadline:

Friday, December 4, 1998 or the Friday of each week thereafter until filled.

Application Procedure:

Send letter, resume, and the names (with addresses and telephone numbers) of three recent references to

Charles Brownson, Director of Library Services,
Arizona State University East
6001 South Power Road
Mesa, AZ 85206.

Telephone: 602-727-1150;

Fax: 602-727-1077;

email: brownson@asu.edu.

Position description available on the library's

web site: <http://eastlib.east.asu.edu/rlib> (news section).

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

REFERENCE LIBRARIAN - The Linda Hall Library, an independent research library of science, engineering, and technology has an opening for a Reference Librarian. The library is a privately supported independent research library open to the public, serving a worldwide clientele. Reference services are provided to a variety of local and non-local academic, business, technical, and general users. Development of services to special user groups and growth of bibliographic searching activities are part of the expanding service programs that provide challenges and exceptional opportunities for flexible and dedicated staff.

Responsibilities: This Reference Librarian position has responsibilities for development of the education program, with special attention to K-12 activities; coordinates the Bibliographic Verification Service; provides assistance at the Reference Desk; has responsibilities in providing extended reference services including support to special user groups, electronic services, citation verification; leads tours; assists in the development of the reference collection; and conducts orientation and training sessions for library users.

Qualifications: Required: ALA accredited MLS degree, microcomputer skills, familiarity with machine-readable records, strong communication skills, and forward-looking view of information access services. Preferred: One to three years professional library experience, teaching experience, and science/engineering background. The position permits a high degree of personal and professional development.

Salary: Commensurate with qualifications and experience of candidate.

All candidates should submit a letter of application, resume, and names of three references. First consideration will be given to resumes received by October 31, 1998. Send to:

Mary Moeller, Information Services Officer
Linda Hall Library
5109 Cherry Street
Kansas City, MO 64110-2498
Fax: 1-816-926-8790

Mary Frances Lembo, GIS Newsletter Editor
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