



GEOSCIENCE
INFORMATION
SOCIETY

newsletter

Number 183 April 2000

ISSN 0046-58301

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

As you can see from the masthead, we have gone forth with the new Geoscience Information Society logo. After a few uneasy moments about possible conflict with another's design, Shaun Hardy managed a "casual" discussion with a friend to verify that the GIS President would not be jailed or sued. The Executive Board agreed to accept the logo and the text design. It translates well to word processing software, or, at least, it works for me. The stationary will include the AGI mailing address, and our web site URL. Shaun has gone forward with the stationary order, so if your activities require GIS Letterhead and/or envelopes, please contact him with your requests.

The completed list of GIS committees and members are elsewhere in this issue. There have been a few changes from the February issue. My apologies to Charlotte and Lois Pausch, as I missed the precedent of the Past President's service as Chair of the Nominating Committee. Some members have chosen to decline service on a committee, so a final version of the GIS committees will appear in the Membership Directory. (By the way, I had some opportunity to use the Electronic Membership Directory on our web site, and it works very nicely.)

Almost all of the papers from the symposium sessions and committee programs have been received for the GIS Denver 1999 proceedings volume. Everyone has been extremely cooperative. Unfortunately, there will be some missing papers as authors have been unable to make their work available. In those instances, I will include the initial abstracts in order for future researchers to view them. I am currently working with them and preparing for the camera-ready copy. My ultimate goal is to have them in press by mid-April.

Our web site (URL: www.geoinfo.org) is expanding nicely. Tho, the section of GIS member's library sites is rather sparse. The few that are there are really great. Each of them is different and presents a unique entrance to their library. This is a wonderful promotion of not only you and your library, but the Society and our role as well. Please notify Jim O'Donnell about your sites and URLs, so that they may be added to the listing. Have you received interesting contacts because of your site? Questions from far away? We encourage you to write an article for the Newsletter describing your site or some unique aspect of it. And don't forget to send that information to the GEONET-L, for that data goes to even more colleagues and friends around the world.

Lois Heiser, President

Editor's note: We hope you like our new logo and masthead. Kudos are in order:

To **Jim O'Donnell**, for his tenacious efforts to give us a modern look,

To **Stu Silberman**, for the stunning logo,

To **Jari Roloff**, for the classy masthead.

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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 is free to GIS members. The annual non-member subscription rate is \$40 to the U.S. and Canada, and \$45 (by airmail) to other countries. 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. Material for the June 2000 issue should be received no later than May 25, 2000. If possible, please send materials by e-mail or on DOS-compatible disc.

VICE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Spring is here and the Bradford Pears outside my office window have turned the world white. Spring fever hit me earlier today and it has been difficult to settle down to write this column. The GSA Program Committee has accepted our Topical Session - 'Electronic Information Summit: New developments and their impacts', but actual time allotments won't be made until later in the year. Plans for the Digital Database Forum are already progressing with early notices appearing in the April 2000 GSA Today. I hope everyone is ready to pounce on those electronic abstract submission forms as soon as they're available. May 1 is the target date and I'll send out a general message as soon as I know that they're there.

When contemplating attendance at our annual meeting please remember that we're planning the field trip for Saturday, November 11. This will be a joint field trip with WAML and Linda Newman is handling the local

arrangements in Reno. We're planning to visit the Donner Pass. Rumor has it that we might have an opportunity to dine on ladyfingers at a local restaurant... Yes, that's November 11. GSA is holding their annual meeting later than usual this year: November 13-16.

Another exciting possibility for our annual meeting is a joint forum with the Association of Earth Science Editors. This group is meeting with GSA for the first time and I am currently investigating areas of overlap that might be of interest to both memberships. Members of GIS that attended the AESE/CBE/EASE joint meeting with GeoInfo VI in Washington several years ago may remember some of the cooperative sessions that were both informative and thought-provoking. Suggestions for joint ventures are welcome. Just let me know at SNT@AGIWEB.ORG

Sharon Tahirkheli, GIS Vice President

COMMITTEE REPORT

Union List progress report, March 14, 2000

About 780 surrogates of guidebooks published in the 90s will be distributed to the regular and special members of the Union List committee on March 17. Lawrence Berg at AGI developed guidebook and trip screens for adding and editing the new guidebook entries. Dorothy McGarry wrote guidelines for adding new guidebooks. Juanita Shaikh tested the online entry procedure. The system is ready, and the committee members, known as the Contributors in this update project, can add new guidebook records as time allows.

New guidebook records will be reviewed as part of the procedure. Dorothy McGarry is the Reviewer for guidebooks from the West, Southwest, Alaska, Hawaii and Mexico. Regina Frackowiak, who took Linda Pierce's place as Librarian at AGI, is the Reviewer for the East, Midwest, Canada and the Caribbean. However the review process will not delay access, since entered screens of data are available for viewing as soon as the Contributors hit the "Save" button.

Each Contributor will have about 40 guidebooks to enter. Pauline Kamel will have more. She is receiving all the guidebooks for Canada. The work to be done by each Contributor is no small task, since guidebooks can and often do contain multiple trips and each trip must be added and indexed. But after this eleven-year update has been done, it will be relatively easy to keep the database up to date.

We are short one Contributor, so if you would like to or, I might more realistically say, are willing to lend a hand, please contact me at saurus@patriot.net.

--John Mulvihill, Chair

Additional Committee Appointments

Best Reference Work (Mary B. Ansari Award)

Janice Norris, Chair	1998 - 2001
Michael Farmer	1998 - 2001
Linda Musser	2000 - 2002
Sally Scott	1998 - 2001
Charles Weston	2000 - 2002
Thomas Zogg	1998 - 2001

Preservation

Elaine Clement, Chair	1998 - 2001
Gloria Chawla	2000 - 2002
Carolyn Laffoon	1998 - 2001
Pauline Kamel	1999 - 2002
Linda Musser	1996 - 2002
Lois Pausch	1998 - 2001
Sally Skinner	2000 - 2002

Public Affairs

Marie Dvorzak, Chair	1998 - 2002
Diane Baclawski	2000 - 2002
John Mulvihill	1998 - 2001
Lisa Wishard	1998 - 2001

GEOSCIENCE INFORMATION SOCIETY - FINAL (12/31/99) REPORT

	<u>Income Budgeted</u>	<u>Income Actual</u>	<u>Expenses Budgeted</u>	<u>Expenses Actual</u>
DUES				
Institutional	1,900.00	2,025.00		
Personal	6,000.00	6,760.00		
Sustaining	400.00	400.00		
Retired	200.00	195.00		
Student	60.00	60.00		
Named Sponsorship	160.00			
Pooled Sponsorship	280.00	305.00		
Subtotal	<u>9,000.00</u>	<u>9,745.00</u>		
PUBLICATIONS				
Publications Manager			750.00	1,234.02
Directory of Geoscience Libraries	900.00	330.00		
Index	15.00			
Mailing Labels	400.00	100.00		
Membership Directory			1,400.00	1,170.00
Newsletter: Printing			2,800.00	4,072.03
Newsletter: Mailing			1,400.00	1,500.36
Newlsetter: Subscriptions	600.00	660.00		
Newsletter: Back Issues				
Proceedings, v.29 (1998)	1,500.00		2,500.00	1,660.00
Proceedings, v.28 (1997)	900.00	495.00		
Proceedings, v.27 (1996)	40.00	135.00		
Proceedings, v.26 (1995)	20.00	225.00		
Proceedings, prior volumes	80.00	45.00		
GEOINFO V Proceedings	45.00	225.00		
GEOINFO VI Proceedings	1,500.00	545.00	2,500.00	2,220.05
Reprints				
Royalties				
Subtotal	<u>6,000.00</u>	<u>2,760.00</u>	<u>11,350.00</u>	<u>11,856.46</u>
AGI Society Dues			300.00	286.00
GAP Contribution			225.00	358.00
EBSCO Sample Issue			200.00	
Ansari Award				500.00
GIFTS (Unrestricted)	400.00	320.00		

GEOSCIENCE INFORMATION SOCIETY - FINAL (12/31/99) REPORT

	<u>Income Budgeted</u>	<u>Income Actual</u>	<u>Expenses Budgeted</u>	<u>Expenses Actual</u>
BANK Charges			25.00	100.00
INTEREST	800.00	1,382.03		
SOUVENIRS	100.00	60.00		8.59
REFUNDS		1,754.52		
AGI Anniversary Ad				600.00
Subtotal	<u>1,300.00</u>	<u>3,516.55</u>	<u>750.00</u>	<u>1,852.59</u>

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President:			150.00	
Vice-President			100.00	
Past President			25.00	
Secretary			425.00	150.75
Treasurer			100.00	34.99
Teleconferences			200.00	247.67
Subtotal			<u>1,000.00</u>	<u>433.41</u>

MEETINGS

1999 Meeting			750.00	671.33
1999 Meeting: Exhibits			1,000.00	1,510.26
1999 Meeting: Field Trip	800.00		800.00	
1999 Meeting: Contributions				
1998 Meeting			3,000.00	3,362.09
1998 Meeting: Exhibits			100.00	770.74
SLA 1999				582.00
Subtotal	<u>800.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>5,650.00</u>	<u>6,896.42</u>

REPRESENTATIVES/APPOINTEES

AGI Member Council Rep			25.00	
AGI Gov't Affairs Program Rep				
CUAC (two reps at \$200 each)			400.00	
Publicity Manager			50.00	
Auditor			25.00	
Publications Manager (see PUBLICATIONS section)				
Subtotal			<u>500.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>

COMMITTEES

Ad Hoc Committee on the Future of the

GEOSCIENCE INFORMATION SOCIETY - FINAL (12/31/99) REPORT

	<u>Income Budgeted</u>	<u>Income Actual</u>	<u>Expenses Budgeted</u>	<u>Expenses Actual</u>
Union List of Field Trip Guidebooks				
Archives			50.00	
Best Guidebook			50.00	5.15
Best Paper			50.00	30.15
Best Reference Work			50.00	10.30
Collection Development				
Digital Data				
Educational Initiatives			25.00	11.45
GeoRef Users			25.00	
GIS Website Advisory Board			25.00	
Guidebook Standards				44.85
International Initiatives			50.00	93.62
Membership			200.00	
Membership Brochure			200.00	
Nominating			200.00	238.17
Preservation			250.00	
Subtotal			<u>1,175.00</u>	<u>433.69</u>
 GRAND TOTAL	 <u>17,100.00</u>	 <u>16,021.55</u>	 <u>20,425.00</u>	 <u>21,472.57</u>

Opening checking balances 1/1/99

First Union Bank
\$26,457.47
Bank of America
\$ 4,588.30

Closing checking balances 12/31/99

First Union
Bank \$25,942.44

Opening savings balances 1/1/99

Ansari Savings
\$ 146.15
Ansari CD
\$3,118.35
Bristol Fund
\$ 803.65

Closing savings balances 12/31/99

Ansari
Savings \$165.37

Ansari CD
\$2,741.93
Bristol
Fund \$813.16

Total Balances 1/1/99

\$35,113.92

(adjusted from 12/98 closing balance,
voided check)

Total Balances

12/31/99

\$29,662.9

0

REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

GSA Publications Committee

The Geological Society of America (GSA) Publications Committee met in Denver, February 25 and 26, 2000. The GSA Publications Committee includes the GSA book and journal editors and representatives from industry, the GSA Council, and GIS, and is chaired by GSA's Peg Lehr. This is an advisory committee only. Our discussions and recommendations about the various issues are reported to the full GSA Council, which then makes the decisions about them.

Major themes:

GSA is concerned about the fiscal viability and scholarly relevance of the publications. Subscriptions to both *Geology* and to the *Bulletin* continue to decline. GSA has about 16,000 members but only about 4,200 subscribe to the *Bulletin* and about 6,100 subscribe to *Geology*. *Bulletin* has been in slow but steady decline; *Geology* has held its own but has experienced some decline in the last year. There are about 1,650 nonmember (institutional) subscriptions to the *Bulletin* and about 1,500 to *Geology*, and those have been on a steady decline, too. GSA is concerned that these declines indicate that those journals are not relevant to the membership or to the libraries. They want to know how to reverse that.

They are trying very hard to sort their way through e-publishing, but that's expensive, as we well-know. Since the journals need to be self-supporting (or close to it), they are trying to find ways to deliver the journals electronically without losing subscription revenue.

Results:

1. e-versions of the *Bulletin* and *Geology*: The current issues are now available on the GSA website and can be freely downloaded. They're only the pdf files without reference links or other "bells and whistles", but they're there, but probably only until Fall, 2000 or maybe Jan. 2001). This is an experiment although they haven't advertised it widely; they want to see what happens, both in use and satisfaction, and whatever Council decides to do.

They're very much looking forward to robust e-journals: to link the Data Repository to the article; to use lots of color without the high cost of print; to have quick links to Comments and Replies, or errata; to link from GeoRef and/or other journals' References lists, etc.

There are no current intentions to discontinue the print versions, but if the e-access takes off as the futurists insist, that will surely be revisited.

2. Other journal topics: They're painfully aware of the backlog of articles for the *Bulletin* and the delay between the acceptance and publication dates. They're wrestling with ways to improve that, from increasing the number of pages (which greatly increases the printing and postage costs) to

reducing the number of accepted articles. They're also trying to find ways to encourage authors to reduce the length of the articles.

3. Subscription rates: There are no current plans to increase the subscription rates. Other pricing options discussed included: a slightly higher rate for print/online combo for both personal and institutional members and a special student rate that provides online journals with membership. Institutional e-access would be for in-library use only; they would not offer a site-license at this time to provide campus-wide e-access. However, they'll be working with a site-license consultant to explore those issues further.

4. Production of the print and e-versions of the journals: They've been shopping around for a new vendor. They hope the new vendor would bring an entire suite of activities to both the print and online (including indexing and searching; SGML conversion, hosting the site, migrating to new technologies, archiving, etc.) GSA would always own the copyright and could retrieve all the coded e-files at any time. They're well-aware of the e-archiving issues and will monitor it.

5. Proposals to partner with electronic systems: The proposal to add the GSA journals to Elsevier's FirstSearch was discussed at length. While the FirstSearch program has distinct advantages for linking to references and articles, such a partnership could pose other challenges. The SPARC program was only discussed briefly because SPARC intends to be a source for *new* e-journals rather than to host the e-versions of long-standing titles. There was similar brief discussion of partnering with OCLC.

GSA is well aware of these programs, and while no specific partnerships were recommended at this time, they will continue to be discussed.

6. Books: For now, the books will continue to be produced in print. However, sales fall off sharply after about 18 months, so the committee is suggesting that GSA partner with a for-profit entity to produce electronic versions after the 18 month period. There are no costs to GSA to do this, and they'd receive about 30% of the sales revenues so it looks like a terrific deal.

7. New initiatives: We recommended to Council the establishment of the 'Emerging Topics Advisory Group' (ETAG), a panel of noted scholars who would propose new GSA publications. The ETAG would also be asked to suggest topics and authors for timely and thorough review articles in the *Bulletin* and we'd hope for one of those per issue.

The Committee's next meeting will be at the GSA Annual Meeting in Reno.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie J. Manson, GIS Representative

REVIEWS

by Carol J. La Russa

Literature Review

In their article, "Alexandria Digital Library: User Evaluation Studies and System Design," Linda L. Hill, and others describe the evolution of the Alexandria Digital Library and the effect of user feedback and evaluation on the design process (*Journal of the American Society for Information Science*, v. 51, no. 3, Feb. 2000, p. 246-259).

Ard W. Lazonder, Harm J.A. Biemans, and Iwan G.J.H. Wopereis discuss the effect of the users' web experience on the search process in "Differences between Novice and Experience Users in Searching Information on the World Wide Web," (*Journal of the American Society for Information Science*, v. 51, no. 6, March 2000, p. 576-581).

Beth Sandore edits a special issue of *Library Trends* (v.48, no. 2, Fall 1999), "Progress in Visual Access and Retrieval," which describes the development of innovative retrieval approaches for access to visual information.

Steven B. Carrico has written an article with an annotated bibliography, "Gifts in Academic and Special Libraries: a Selected Bibliography" (*Library Collections & Technical Services*, v. 23, no. 4, Winter 1999, p. 421-431).

EContent has published an interesting article by Robert Schwarzwalder, "Manifesto: Seizing the Initiative in the Information Economy" in which he attempts to define the nature of the new information professional (*EContent*, v. 23, no. 1, Feb.-Mar. 2000, p. 60-63.)

Jennifer Perdue and James A. Van Fleet describe a project at an academic library to reduce interlibrary loan requests by purchasing current books requested on ILL. (*Journal of Interlibrary Loan and Information Supply*, v. 9, no. 4, p. 19-28).

Joyce Latham lists the skills every librarian should have in her article "The World Online: IT Skills for the Practical Professional" (*American Libraries*, v. 31, no. 3, March 2000, p. 40-42).

Book Reviews

Geology Terms in English and Spanish=Terminologia Geologica en Espanol e Ingles, by Henry Aurand. San Diego, CA: Sunbelt Publications, 2000. 118 p. \$7.95. ISBN:0-932653-29-4 (www.sunbeltpub.com)

This is a pocket-sized English-Spanish dictionary of common geological terms which also includes terms from the related specialties of mineralogy, paleontology, and seismology. Precedence is given to Mexican Spanish. It also contains geological time tables, igneous rock charts, grain size tables, and stratigraphic abbreviations, all in English and Spanish.

This would be a very useful book for English-speaking geologists traveling in Mexico and for Spanish-speaking geologists traveling in the English-speaking parts of the world.

Directory of Geoscientists. White Plains, N.Y.: Bernard C. Harris Publishing Company, 1999? (800) 877-6554 or inquiry@bcharrispub.com

This is a compilation of membership listings of twenty-four of the thirty-four American Geological Institute member societies. Noticeably absent from the directory are the members of the American Geophysical Union and the Society of Economic Geologists. It was compiled to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of AGI. The directory is for official AGI use and for personal communications between members listed only: it is therefore should not be placed in a public reference collection.

The directory contains a biographical section which gives name, society affiliation(s), subject specialty code(s), job title, employer, address, telephone and fax numbers, and an indicator of e-mail availability for each listee. Some listings give educational institutions and degrees. Not all listings appear to be complete. There are also sections listing membership of individual member societies, listees by geographical area, and e-mail addresses.

The *Directory of Geoscientists* would be most useful for GIS members working on inter-society business. Unfortunately it appears to be a one-time effort with no plans to update it.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

MATHEMATICS LIBRARIAN, University of Notre Dame Libraries, Notre Dame, IN

Responsibilities: This new position manages the Department of Mathematics Library and its services. Understands the Department's research, teaching and learning ambitions. Examines emerging information technologies and shifting scholarly communication patterns and develops the strategies and library resources necessary to support these ambitions. Serves as the reference, collection development and information specialist for mathematics and collaborates with other branch librarians, campus information providers and consortial partners in providing first-rate services to the Colleges of Science and Engineering. Shapes future library services by participating in library-wide planning teams, individual collaborations throughout the library and by leading or assisting in development projects. A major responsibility will be planning the Mathematics Library's move into a newly renovated site.

Directs and supervises the Branch Library Supervisor, who oversees the daily activities of the Mathematics Library. Serves as a member of the Library Administrators and Managers Group, the User Services Department Heads Team and the Collection Development bibliographers group. Reports to the Associate Director for User Services.

As a member of the Library Faculty, participates in faculty and professional activities in the University Libraries, the University of Notre Dame and library or other professional organizations. Serves on Library and University committees, task forces and teams. Maintains memberships and actively participates in relevant professional organizations. Engages in professional development, scholarship, and service to the profession, with a commitment to continuing growth and development. Contributes to the profession's growth through scholarship related to librarianship, information science, or the field of mathematics. Engages in continuing education, research and scholarship that help the Notre Dame libraries to meet the library and information needs of faculty and students.

Qualifications: The successful candidate will have: a master's degree in library/information science from an ALA-accredited program, at least three years of professional library work, experience in staff supervision, a strong background in mathematics, the ability to effectively exploit information technologies to support research and teaching in the sciences, a commitment to collaboration both within and outside of the library, an enthusiasm for creating patron-focused library programs and services along with the proven ability to solve problems constructively and to create a positive work environment. Excellent oral and written communications skills are essential.

Minimum salary \$40,000. Salary and rank will be

commensurate with qualifications and experience. Librarians at Notre Dame are non-tenure-track members of the University faculty and have an excellent benefits package, including tuition remission for dependents.

To apply, please send a letter, curriculum vitae and contact information for three references to: Sherry Veith, Human Resources Representative, 221 Hesburgh Library, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN 46556. Review of applications will begin April 1, 2000 and continue until the position is filled. The University of Notre Dame is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer; women, minorities, and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply. For more information on the University of Notre Dame, visit our web site at: <http://www.nd.edu>

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GeoRef is Now on IDS!

(by Michael Miyazaki, Marketing Manager, Cambridge Scientific Abstracts, 301-961-6761 michael@csa.com)

The complete GeoRef database, including backfiles to 1785, is now available via the Internet Database Service (IDS) from Cambridge Scientific Abstracts. Institutions subscribing to GeoRef on IDS are permitted unlimited, site-wide access to the database; the file on IDS will be updated biweekly.

The Internet Database Service, launched in 1994, was the first major service to make bibliographic databases available via the Internet. Originally a means of delivering databases published by Cambridge Scientific Abstracts such as ASFA and the CSA Environmental Sciences Collection, IDS now provides access to over 50 databases from a variety of publishers including PsycINFO from APA, the Aerospace Database from AIAA, MEDLINE from NLM, and EconLit by AEA. Currently, over 1500 institutions in 64 countries subscribe to the Internet Database Service.

The Internet Database Service offers a variety of benefits designed to expedite the search process for subscribers including:

- *Links to electronic fulltext from services including Catchword, EBSCO Online, Electronic Collections Online (OCLC) (forthcoming), HighWire Press, IDEAL (Academic Press), Information Quest (RoweCom), Kluwer Online, LINK (SpringerVerlag), ScienceDirect (Elsevier Science), and SwetsNet

- *Links to library holdings

- *Web Resources Database

- *Interactive Thesaurus

- *Online Usage Statistics

Additional information about the Internet Database Service is available from the Cambridge Scientific Abstracts Web site, www.csa.com.

MEMBER NEWS

compiled by Shaun Hardy
hardy@dtm.ciw.edu

Several new members joined the ranks the past two months and updates to directory listings continued to pour in. Please note the additions and corrections below. If your mailing label is marked "Last chance to renew," then your membership has lapsed! This will be the last issue you receive unless we hear from you. The cut-off date for inclusion in the 2000 Membership Directory is rapidly approaching, so don't be left out. As always, please remember to send all changes of address and other contact information to the Secretary.

New Members

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A special "welcome back" to two of our 1999 sponsored members, Li-Mei Chen and Sunita Prasad, who have become personal members of GIS this year.

Career Moves

Victor van Beuren is now:
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Congratulations

DOROTHY MCGARRY was elected to the Special Libraries Association "Hall of Fame" in January. The honor recognizes Dorothy's "extended and sustained period of distinguished service to the Association in all spheres." Congratulations, Dorothy!

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Proceedings of the Annual GIS Meetings (ISSN 0072- 1409) \$45.00 each; standing orders are \$45.00 per year.

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6th, 1998 *Science Editing and Information Management*, Proceedings of the Second International AESE/CBE/EASE Joint Meeting, Sixth International Conference on Geoscience Information, and Thirty-second Annual Meeting, Association of Earth Science Editors, ed. by Connie J. Manson. (ISBN 0-934485-30-5) \$ 25.00

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Directory of Geoscience Libraries, North America. 5th Edition, 1997. (ISBN 0-934485-25-9) Paper. \$ 35.00

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