PRESIDENT'S CORNER/Mary Elizabeth Clack

It was a pleasure to see many of you at our fifth annual conference at Brock University. Our Local Arrangements Committee hosted the largest number of conferees yet (approximately 450) and worked tirelessly on our behalf. Our thanks go to Esther Sleep (Brock University), Susan Davis (SUNY-Buffalo), Charles Dabkowski (Niagara University), Anne Farwell (CANEBCSO), Kamala Narayanan (Queen's University), and Lorna Robinson (Faxon Canada).

We appreciate also the participation of over 50 speakers, workshop leaders and informal discussion group leaders. We had a very full program which was well attended even in the late afternoon hours. Planning for our program is one of our biggest challenges. I thank the Executive Board for reviewing program proposals with me, and Tina Feick, Cindy Hepfer and Ann Okerson for valuable suggestions as we filled in the gaps. Brian Scanlan (Elsevier) conceived, organized, and admirably moderated the panel on peer review. Teresa Malinowski (California State-Fullerton) distributed our Call for Papers, received abstracts, corresponded with program participants and coordinated the informal discussion groups. Bonnie Postlethwaite (Faxon) developed and distributed guidelines for effective presentations, coordinated audio-visual requests and produced slides and transparencies, and contacted workshop introducers. Pat Rice and Jane Robillard (Penn State) were our liaisons with Haworth Press and are now completing the substantial task of editing our proceedings. This work is done within a very tight timeframe, insuring publication within six months after the conference, a schedule few organizations are able to meet. This leaves only the final accounting to be done and Roger Presley, Ann Vidor, Esther Sleep and the Finance Committee will file their report before the end of the summer. To all who attended and contributed to the success of this conference, mille fois merci!

In the past month, the Board has identified objectives for the coming year. Committee Chairs are now in place and appointments have been made. Since we have had many more volunteers than spaces
available, I will be writing to volunteers who were not appointed to explore alternatives to committee membership. At this point in our organizational development, we are ready to document procedures and policies. Committee guidelines have been drawn up and distributed; other areas of documentation will include site selection criteria, nomination committee guidelines, officer and board member position descriptions and financial reports. We are expanding our professional liaisons and reexamining our Continuing Education goals. We will produce a membership brochure and the second edition of the membership directory by the end of this year. 1992 Site Selection Committees will be investigating two sites, Chicago and Boston, and we will be exploring the possibility of a joint program in 1992 with the Society for Scholarly Publishing. We will take the first steps in establishing an archival repository for NASIG's papers. The Board is anxious to work with the membership in accomplishing these objectives. I am always gratified by the energetic and eager responses to our calls for participation.

Looking ahead, the Call for Papers for our 1991 conference at Trinity University, San Antonio, is included in this issue. Please send proposals and suggestions to Teresa Malinowski, or contact our Program Committee with ideas: Ann Okerson (Association of Research Libraries), Cindy Hepfer (SUNY-Buffalo Health Sciences Library) and October Ivins (Louisiana State University) will be pleased to hear from you.

Finally, included in this Newsletter mailing is a form to update your entry in the NASIG Membership Directory. Please send it to Joan Luke so that we may include as many members as possible (with the additional data as indicated) in the next directory. Also included is a Nominations and Elections Form to be returned to Rosanna O'Neil.

Here's to an active and productive year!

NASIG NEWSLETTER CHANGES EDITOR, PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

With this issue, the NASIG Newsletter has a new editorial board. Jean Callaghan (Wheaton College, MA.), Editor-in-Chief; Daphne C. Hsueh (Ohio State University), Submissions Editor; Daphne C. Miller (Wright State University School of Medicine), Distribution Editor; and Kathy Wodrich Schmidt (Indiana University School of Medicine), Production Editor, will be responsible for producing each issue of the Newsletter. The other members of the editorial board will serve in an advisory capacity: Patricia Ohl Rice (Pennsylvania State University), Chair of the Publications Committee; Brian Scanlan (Elsevier Science Publishers), Executive Board liaison; and Isabel Czech (Institute for Scientific Information), publisher liaison.

The Newsletter will continue to publish 6 numbers per year, but with a new publication schedule: February, April, June, September,
and November/December. The last issue of the volume will be a combined issue consisting of the Newsletter and the NASIG Membership Directory. The submission deadlines will be six weeks prior to the publication date (i.e. December 15 deadline for the February issue). Although the Newsletter's primary function will continue to be the distribution of information about NASIG and its members, it will accept solicited and unsolicited (subject to editorial review and approval) articles that pertain to serials.

NASIG 5TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE, BROCK UNIVERSITY GENERAL SESSIONS SUMMARY/Bill Robnett

Lucretia McClure, Director of the Edward G. Miner Library, University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry and President-Elect of the Medical Library Association, opened the Fifth NASIG Conference with her keynote address, "The Last Issue." McClure identified THE journal as THE problem, one international in scope and not particularly limited to the decade of the 80's nor one with a simple solution. In addition to accelerating prices, the way in which scholars and researchers keep abreast of the information that is being continually and rapidly produced is also a challenge to address. Topics exist now that did not less than five years ago, although libraries are purchasing less than ever and generally limiting those acquisitions to publications in which English predominates.

Another factor that drives the creation of publications is the quantitative emphasis on articles to attain tenure. The volume of publishing has led some institutions to readdress quality. For example, Harvard University Medical School requires candidates to list only ten papers to support their petition for tenure. Candidates for Fellows of the National Academy of Science require only 12 citations, as do nominees for Nobel prizes. In her own situation at Rochester, McClure shares information about the quality of publications with her Dean.

McClure advocates librarians participating in the judgment of quality in relevant literature; all disciplines have "filters," which include librarians, although this is infrequently mentioned. That group should be less collection-oriented, and more user/person-oriented, than in the past and should broaden their avenues of communication and should approach their scholar/researcher/educator/administrator colleagues on their own ground. Librarians must help clarify their own role in education and recognize how libraries contribute to scholarship and research—their role in adding value to the process. Rather than responding with anger and creating turmoil, we should be articulate and convincing in conveying our perspective. Exploring mutual interests and publishing in discipline journals can help in communicating librarians' views of the current predicament. The dialog must continue, since discussion increases understanding.
The cost AND the value of literature are better understood now because of recent efforts at such. Some players advocate alternatives, such as societies reassuming their role in publishing, more economical publishing operations by universities, authors keeping copyright to their articles, and electronic publishing. In medical literature, highly specialized limited readership journals may be better suited for electronic distribution to audiences; on the other hand, electronic formats for high circulation journals (e.g., New England Journal of Medicine) may be prohibitively expensive. Also in medicine, databases are being built for clinical information and data, as well as for textual information. As the numbers and scope of these databases increase (and usage increases concomitantly), the need for print equivalents may decrease accordingly. However, print is still the best mechanism for information dissemination, particularly given the international distribution of that information. Libraries must balance their choices, given finite budgets.

Questions from the audience included one on graphics and electronic transmissions. McClure is confident that the capability will be developed for high quality and high resolution graphics, given how rapidly technology does develop. In defining the crisis of today as opposed to those in the past, she stated that the money situation is different. There are a myriad of aggressively competing demands for a finite "pie" of dollars. Also, obsolescence of information is particularly true in medicine, so medical libraries are in a very tough situation in keeping relevant information available.

Gayle Garlock, Associate Librarian for Collection Development and Preservation at the University of Toronto, authored the next paper but was unable to attend. Susan Collins of the University of New Brunswick/St. John read his paper, "The Crisis of Rising Serial Prices in a Canadian Context."

The Canadian situation for serials, according to Garlock, is unique due to the extensive impact of exchange rates, and the current fluctuations have an even greater impact, since the Canadian dollar generally follows the movement of the US dollar. For example, at the University of Toronto, 90% of the C$6.7 million budget is spent on foreign purchases, and 44% of the invoices are paid in US dollars. Also, there is a strong mandate for scientific and technical information embodied in the Canadian Institute for Scientific and Technical Information (CISTI) founded in 1924, which is not equalled in the social sciences and humanities. The result is the absence of a national resource in social sciences and humanities; the National Library of Canada is relatively young, having been established in 1953.

The initial reactions to the serials pricing crisis were analysis of the situation (a 1988 Canadian Association of Research Libraries survey showed that 40,406 subscriptions worth C$4.2 million dollars
had been cancelled between 1978 and 1988, and more were to be cancelled); a search for internal funds; negotiation for better prices; and library cooperation.

To date, negotiations for better prices have not been successful. Protection of the acquisitions budgets with additional university dollars has been instigated by the University of Toronto. The university has mandated that the 1979 buying power should be maintained, and the university guarantees exchange rates for different currencies (money is returned if the Canadian dollar strengthens, for example). This is a temporary respite without instituting fundamental changes, and Toronto is seeking a better resolution.

Brenda Hurst, Head of Acquisitions at CISTI, took the podium to further explain the programs at that Institute. CISTI is a division of the National Research Council of Canada (NRC) and has as its mission the provision and promotion of scientific and technical information for the purpose of economic, regional, and social development in the country. CISTI maintains these information resources and provides services utilizing them. Only 2% of all scientific and technical information is produced in Canada, but it needs access to the other 98% to serve the needs of the NRC divisions. To meet this mission, CISTI has the fifth largest acquisitions budget in North America and is able to collect exhaustively in the natural sciences, technology, engineering and biomedicine. The organization also has branches for astronomy, aeronautics/mechanical engineering, including complete holdings for standards from various bodies, and construction research. In addition, CISTI has exchange agreements with 70 other countries.

Services are very well supported for clients that are seldom on-site and are located in all parts of Canada. CAN/OLE is an online enquiry system in both French and English and is comprised of 41 databases (23 are Canadian and 18 are foreign); CAN/DOC is a document delivery system through which interlibrary loan requests are made and includes customer support and training; CAN/SDI is a current awareness operation in which on-site editors tailor profiles for users and then run these against the databases; and CAN/SND is a scientific numeric database system containing crystallographic, thermodynamic, and infrared spectral data. All the data is evaluated for accuracy, and it is possible to get tapes of data sets for local mounting. CISTI/MEDLARS enables MEDLARS access and provides reference and literature searches through the Health Science Resource Center. In addition to using data and information from the sixteen CISTI information retrieval systems, NRC scientists or other requestors can be referred to other external collections for their needs.

CISTI and the National Library of Canada have produced a Union List of Science Serials in Canadian Libraries, which has the holdings of more than 300 Canadian libraries. The union list is maintained on DOBIS and is produced in microfiche once per year. The National
Science Film Library, another associated service center, provides films and videos on scientific, technical, and medical subjects.

**Patricia Greig**, Associate Director for Public Services, and **Becky Rogers**, Space Planning and Administrative Librarian, University of Western Ontario, presented the results of a serials cost study in the Canadian context, "The Elephant and the Mouse Revisited." In their survey, 3,942 titles were selected to determine if the Library Journal periodicals price index is valid for the University of Western Ontario (UWO) and, by extension, other Canadian libraries. UWO titles were matched with the Faxon titles first by ISSN, and then by title. Sixty percent of the UWO titles included in the Faxon survey were paid in Canadian currency to Canadian vendors; the costs of their remaining 40% were calculated in Canadian dollars using the exchange rate at the time of payment. Memberships were problematic, since many titles have no unit price; ceased, inactive, gifts, etc., titles were deleted from the list. The average price in the Faxon survey was US$147; for the UWO index the average price paid was US$178 or C$211. Ultimately, two contradictory results emanated from the UWO study; the in-house index closely profiled the Faxon survey and UWO is still reluctant to use their index.

The investigators derived a theoretical model to apply to their local budget, which took into consideration the 1989 average price and the 1990 average price, the number of subscriptions, and the disciplines. The model indicated that the increase averaged 9.35%, while the actual increase was 4.34%, indicating that global data is not necessarily applicable to local situations. In questioning their initial assumptions, the investigators decided that the study was not based on a true random sample but was rather a historical study, and that these data show industry trends rather than actual impacts on institutional budgets.

In the follow-up question-and-answer sessions, the presenters were asked if they were able to isolate what has happened specifically to Canadian titles. Hurst said she felt that there had been little impact on local budgets, as these titles are not very expensive. Grieg indicated that there was only one Canadian title in their UWO profile. In response to another question regarding her view of the impact of cancellations in other Canadian libraries when CISTI is a highly accessible, shared resource, Hurst said that it is impossible to tell which ILL requests are ultimately based on cancellations in other libraries. However, the union lists they maintain help them know if they are the unique holding library. When questioned about the selection of new titles for the CISTI collections, Hurst described the three selectors as being flooded with new title information and that the decision process is speedy, since their aim is to collect exhaustively within scope.
Frederick (Fritz) Schwartz of the Faxon Company described the ongoing pilot project in "The EDI Horizon: Implementing an ANSI X12 Pilot Project at Faxon." In introducing the concept of electronic data interchange (EDI), Schwartz described EDI in the transfer of business information as a process that occurs in highly structured units across industries without human mediation. That data is not ASCII-based, is not dependent on remote job entry, is not electronic mail, is not similar to an electronic bulletin board, and is not MARC or MARC-like. EDI decreases routine clerical tasks, eliminates "information float," rectifies buyer/seller discrepancies and fosters stronger working relationships between the two parties, streamlines operations, supports "just-in-time" manufacturing, and facilitates electronic fund transfer.

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) is one of three standards groups developing EDI parameters and is the most empirically important. ANSI X12 describes the communication mechanism of choice for about 60 US vendors and 5,000 US users who did $400 million worth of combined revenue in 1989. There are four parts to X12: the interchange control structure, approximately 25 transmission set tables, a directory of 430 data segments (lines of data), and a communication data elements directory (a data dictionary).

Why is this interface important to the serials community? Its use is characteristic of the most progressive industries and is now used in the book industry. It is poised for enormous growth and has been embraced by the larger data processing community, and it facilitates systems that are functionally integrated, such as universities and their libraries.

At Faxon, the pilot project is viewed as an exercise in applications investigations for data transfer between libraries/publishers/Faxon (as a vendor), to identify technical and logistical obstacles in such exchanges, to identify costs, and to decrease paper flow in operations such as claiming, etc. Participating libraries include Welch Medical Library at Johns Hopkins, Miles Laboratories, and the University of Minnesota (working with NOTIS on claims); system vendors include NOTIS and VISTA; and publishers include John Wiley, Kluwer, Pergamon, Plenum, and the National Research Council of Canada. Criteria for participation include interest, availability of technical resources, high volume of activity, and a corporate strategy.

Patricia Sabosik, Editor and Publisher of Choice, followed with her presentation, "Managing Electronic Subscriptions," to close the Sunday general sessions. Sabosik compared and contrasted electronic subscriptions/licensing agreements and paper subscriptions, indicating that the latter is an implied agreement while the former makes explicit the arrangement. In both cases, copyright is retained by the publisher or the author. As scholars and other users evolve toward using electronic workstations in
addition to print sources, the gap between the user and the source narrows. Concomitantly, the roles of libraries and publishers change.

As importantly, the pricing base shifts back toward the unit-based model since many electronic products also levy fees for use or for each workstation as well as an annual price structure (subscription). She went on to describe the interrelation of the various models for access (local processing with a view to user needs, tertiary literature: abstracts and indexes, online databases, CD-ROMS, locally mounted databases, gateways, etc.) for which subscriptions and licensing agreements come into play.

Integrated automated library systems will augment the move toward electronic formats, and, in the short-term, libraries will likely acquire both formats, which will be costly. Some will ultimately move toward only the electronic format.

From the administrative perspective, negotiation of the license is the most significant aspect. Dual acquisitions, providing or restricting access (given that revenue generation, particularly for electronic formats, is crucial to publishers and producers), funding and budgeting, management of the electronic library, and the circulation of electronic information must also be considered.

Brian Scanlan of Elsevier moderated the Monday morning panel discussion, "The Peer Review Process: Strengths and Weaknesses." Bruce Dancik, Assistant Editor-in-Chief for the thirteen National Research Council journals, and Editor-in-Chief for the Canadian Journal of Forest Research acknowledged that the peer review process had been under attack as of late. While recognizing that fraudulent science has slipped through the process, he also described that process as a difficult balancing act. Peer review, Dancik said, is that process by which outside referees comment on the merit and appropriateness of research methods and results to be promulgated in a serial publication by identifying flaws in design, etc. It has been with us since the middle of the eighteenth century, when, as now, editors either had too little knowledge of a specific subject or had received too many papers. The types of peer review are open (in which the author is known), blind (in which the referees are not known to the author), and double-blind (in which referees and authors are unknown to one another).

The critics of the peer review process state that it unduly delays publication (although authors do take their manuscripts to other journals if one is thought to be too slow) and that it is too expensive. Others maintain that the process has not eliminated fraud, although it must be recognized that many of these papers are caught and are never published, at least by the journal in question. The most serious concern is that the peer review may eliminate innovative science because it can favor "unadventurous nibblings at the margins of truth."
For all its weaknesses, the peer review process still improves the quality of manuscripts, helps to avoid some fraud, and most importantly, encourages careful investigation and better experimentation and writing.

Anne Weller, Deputy Librarian for the Health Sciences at the University of Illinois at Chicago, also is examining the peer review process. She described the origins and evolution of the process. One of the opinions she gathered may represent an extreme about the process today—that the scientific article is dead or dying and that scientific communication is now a person-to-person process. A recent international congress on peer review has stimulated investigation of that process and the inherent quality control mechanisms of science in general. Little hard data exists, although some assume uniformity across academic disciplines.

Weller is comparing editorial and review processes in two groups of indexed journals and notes that each interaction has the potential for bias. For example, because editors make decisions at very key points, personal bias can be introduced by soliciting articles for submission. She found that 88% of the manuscripts are published when they are solicited. Also, about 85% of the time, editors follow the advice of reviewers when there is basic agreement among them. When asked how frequently editors encounter reviewer bias, some said that all reviewers bring some bias into the process. It was found also that some authors require that certain reviewers be used or not be used. General descriptions of the review process given by editors included "impartial arbitrator" and "struggled to be just." Ultimately, some involved in the process felt that time, rather than the peer review process, provides the ultimate validation, since once the work is published in the journal, the initial scrutiny of that review is continued by other investigators.

Lewis Gidez, Director of Publications for the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) described his feelings of frustration after the congress on peer review, since there were no definite answers and the fragmented studies addressed few of the critical questions. He has surveyed about 2,000 FASEB members to gather information on their perceptions of the peer review process and on the FASEB Journal. He found that 85% had reviewed at least one paper in the two-year period 1988/89. He compared his findings to a study by Yankauer, who found that 64% had reviewed two-to-six papers; Gidez found 81%. Greater than 69% in the Gidez group had reviewed between one and ten papers, 31% reviewed more than eleven papers, and eight individuals had each reviewed more than 100 manuscripts. About 8,000 manuscripts had been scrutinized by 710 reviewers, which represented the work of 25,000 scientists. 20,200 reviewers had reviewed at least one paper, and 227,000 papers were reviewed in about an 18-19 month period.
Bruce Squires, Editor-in-Chief of the Canadian Medical Association Journal, deemed the peer review absolutely essential and beneficial to all parties. Investigators must have input, advice, and constructive feedback. Readers must be able to trust what they read, although the validation process actually begins when papers are presented at conferences. He stated that editors can hasten the process and also should clearly define the standards for publications. Problems do arise when authors and reviewers do not know what the editors want. There may be a need to provide feedback to authors before the peer review process begins. His journal rates reviewers and edits the reviews to eliminate what is not useful to authors. Editors must assume their proper roles—they must edit diligently, objectively, and ethically. Nevertheless, some fraud will occur, and there will be delays.

During the subsequent question-and-answer session, the panelists were asked what the reviewers gain if they are not paid. Participation in the peer review process, it was said, is regarded as part of the training as a scientist. How do editors and publishers work together? Executive editors are involved in production, but one panelist said that they should stay out of the publishing end. How are reviewers found? Scientists participate in all sorts of networking, and authors often suggest reviewers. Very occasionally, keyword searching in relevant databases is used to find authors publishing in similar fields. Questions about anonymous reviews were raised. Reviewers can critique freely when unknown to authors, and often younger scientists feel more secure when their identities are not known. In a narrowly focused field, it is hard to remain anonymous, since everyone knows everyone else. Squires said that he sends manuscripts in epidemiology or biostatistics to appropriate departments in universities and stipulates that at least one graduate student be involved in the review. He indicated that this results in excellent reviews, and that the professor and the graduate student are aware of each other. All editors try to detect and prevent double submission of a manuscript. Authors found doing so can be banned from getting papers published in a journal for two years.

On the final morning of the conference, Tuesday, 5 June, Kenneth Marks, formerly University Librarian at Utah State University, now at East Carolina University, and Steve Nielsen, Fiscal Officer at Utah State, presented their "Longitudinal Study of Journal Prices in a Research Library." Because faculty had asked for hard data and also because they felt they were losing control of the ability to make sound decisions about cancellations and reviews of their serial collection, the two investigators decided to create a database of serials information. The ARL study was getting underway at the same time, and they have since found that the conclusions of both studies are compatible, if not identical.

Marks and Nielsen began with a random sample of 1000 titles from a 1971 list of serials from a mix of publishers representing nine countries and 47 disciplines. The sample eventually included 370
journals for 1967-1987 after eliminating ceased or cancelled titles or those for which data was incomplete. The largest number of titles was in biology; 67% were US-origin, and 16% were British. Forty percent were commercially published. The Utah State University Library serial payment records were used as sources. For foreign prices in a given year, they obtained the local country price and the price in US dollars and adjusted for inflation using such sources as the *Europa Yearbook* and the UN statistical yearbooks.

When comparing US subscription rates, they found that in current dollars there was an inflation factor of ten; in constant dollars the factor was closer to three. Dollar inflation accounted for most of the increases, according to the authors. Changes in journal lengths also played a major role. In current dollars the cost per page had increased sixfold; in constant dollars, 50%.

How, then, to explain the residual price increases? One theory was differential pricing by foreign publishers to accommodate a weaker local currency compared to the US dollar. Shipping charges were another possible cause. However, when prices in US currencies in the sample were converted to country-of-origin currencies and then compared, there was no clear trend. The ratio of US/original currency was 1.3 in 1967 and 1.1 in 1986/87, although there were large "bulges" in 1981 and 1986. They concluded that differential pricing did not contribute significantly to the overall price increase.

In summary, Marks and Nielsen stated that it was difficult to discern any one factor from their study to explain the price difference for US buyers and that foreign publishers' prices had increased much faster. The two did not see any implications of price gouging, particularly when societal publications are subsidized. However, if higher production costs are incurred by some publishers (the ARL study indicated that this could not explain the increases), then the community of US research libraries surely deserves a clear explanation.

Following the USU study, Dorothy Milne of the Memorial University of Newfoundland presented the results of her and Bill Tiffany's study, "A Cost-Per-Use Method for Weeding a Journal Collection." The investigators wanted to measure the level-of-use of titles in their collection and then relate this to prices. The basis of cancellation was the comparison of the cost-per-use to the estimated ILL cost of borrowing. If the latter were smaller, the title would be cancelled.

Each use was indicated by a mark made by the user on a sheet attached to the issue each time it was used. Under-recording was measured in a pilot study, the results of which resulted ultimately in each mark being multiplied by 1.5 to accommodate this factor. The test period was the most recent five years, since the investigators concluded that 38% of the use occurred within that time frame, based on ISI's journal citation reports. They also
decided that six marks would be the cancellation threshold. Twenty-six percent of the titles by dollar amount received less than six marks (20.5% in numbers of subscriptions) and were cancelled. The range of cost-per-use was $0.03 to $1,000.

There was no correlation between faculty opinions and cost-effectiveness and between high prestige and cost-effectiveness. Milne indicated that they would cancel additional titles if the mechanism for rapid document delivery were more readily available and also indicated that if subscription prices continue to escalate, more of their titles will become cost-ineffective. However, cost-effectiveness for a given title would certainly vary from institution to institution.

The final general session paper, "Serials Cataloging: Time for a New Perspective" by Sheila Intner of Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science, was read by Pat Rice of Penn State. Intner maintains that a new paradigm for access to serials is long overdue. The generally accepted model is that one serial title equals one monographic title, although this "theory of bibliographic equivalence" ignores serials content. While the option currently exists for analytical cataloging, this is still considered extraordinary treatment. More frequently, indexing services with "shotgun" coverage is used for accessing serial contents.

Intner proposed a new paradigm under which cataloging permits access to smaller bibliographic units, which she called the theory of physical equivalence. It is a compromise theory which will alter the current model that underrepresents contents of serials without overwhelming cataloging departments. Intner maintains that the current emphasis on the seriality of works assumes status and that cataloging should move toward emphasizing the monographic nature of works, such as an individual volume within a series or a particular annual volume. These physical units can be the bibliographic representations.

Intner questions whether our current finding tools are necessary if physical equivalence is assumed. In academic libraries she maintains that broad indexing has created havoc by providing more and more access to materials often outside the scope, and certainly the budgets, of local collections. The money saved by not purchasing these indexing journals can be applied to cataloging departments. In the future, expert systems may facilitate increased access when physical equivalence is adopted for serials cataloging.

To close the conference, Rosanna O'Neil of OCLC, Keith Courtney of Taylor and Francis, and Lisa Peterson of UC/Riverside gave a "RAP-UP." This session provided an opportunity for Jan Anderson of Utah State University to paint her picture of the serials future, one that is highly automated. The needs of the Third World were questioned as part of Lucretia McClure's electronic future.
US is only part of the world market, so if information consumers in many countries still need paper formats, it is likely that subscription prices will increase to support all versions. However, since hardware prices are continually dropping and electronic formats may be better preserved than paper in some parts of the globe, developing countries may not be left behind after all. Brian Scanlan of Elsevier opined that this issue may be as social as it is economic, and that electronic communication may not be universally accepted.

Many other topics were brought up at this session. The desirability of a serials discussion group on BITNET was addressed. The concept of multiple formats represented in one bibliographic record was mentioned. Coverage policies by various indexing journals were questioned. No fees are charged for inclusion, and various boards and groups of subject experts are involved in selection of journals. Non-overlapping coverage among the services is desired, but policies about selectivity can be a problem. One participant wondered if X12 will eliminate the need for the intermediary, i.e., the vendor. Fritz Schwartz felt that it would change, but not eliminate, the vendor. A question on the services of the new USBE was posed. The Zubals intend to disseminate more information shortly. Don Jaeger of Alfred Jaeger, Inc., offered the information that since the Thor Power Tool decision, there has been a reduction in the percentage of back issues available for US titles, although clearly foreign publications are not affected. Another conferee was interested in the resource-sharing scheme of the Council of Prairie University Libraries. Professors are not particularly happy with faxed articles, but, in general, users are satisfied by seeing the table of contents. The program has spurred other resource sharing in the provinces. In concluding the conference, the Rappers/Wrappers described a perceived reluctance to address systematic problems. Publishers are indeed concerned about library budgets, and NASIG promotes communication among all parties. We are in the same industry and should and can resolve problems if we work in a coordinated way.

Bill Robnett is Director, Central & Science Libraries, Vanderbilt University.
MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING/Teresa Malinowski

Date, Place & Time: 1 June 1990, Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario 2:00-8:00 p.m.

Attending:  R. Presley, President  M.B. Clack, Vice President
A. Vidor, Treasurer  T. Malinowski, Secretary
T. Feick, Past President  K. Courtney
C. Hepfer  S. Martin
A. Okerson  R. O'Neil
E. Rast  M. Saxe
B. Scanlan  A. Weller

Guest:  E. Sleep

1.0 OLD BUSINESS

1.1 Minutes

The minutes of the Semi-annual Board Meeting, 9 January 1990, were approved with the following corrections:

4.2 In the fourth sentence change "Chair of the Publications Committee" to "Chair of the Task Force on the Membership Directory."

10.0 In the first sentence change "liaisons with NASIG Committees" to "liaisons to committees."

11.0 In the third sentence change "Gelantes" to "Gelenter."

2.0 BROCK 1990 CONFERENCE

2.1 Conference Update

E. Sleep distributed maps and a schedule of daily conference activities. She briefed members on various local arrangements and activities. Board members volunteered to assist with various tasks during the conference.

The Board expressed its appreciation of the work done by E. Sleep and the Local Arrangements Committee. E. Sleep praised the efforts of her Committee.

2.2 Feedback to Conference Speakers

M. Saxe asked for clarification on the policy regarding conference evaluations and feedback to speakers. R. Presley explained that information gathered on the conference evaluation form is reviewed by the President, Program Committee and Local Arrangements Committee. T. Malinowski noted that the speaker's numerical rating by conference
attendees was included in the letter of appreciation sent to each speaker. The Board agreed that letters of appreciation sent to speakers should advise speakers of the availability of feedback on their presentation but should not include the numerical rating. Specific numerical ratings will be sent to speakers upon request. E. Rast agreed to summarize the 1990 conference evaluation forms.

3.0 1990/91 ELECTION & NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE GUIDELINES

The Board went to an executive session to discuss election processes. The Board agreed that more time was needed for the nominations process and that the call for nominations should be distributed during the conference. Questions regarding the composition of the Nominations Committee were raised. The Board agreed that it is highly desirable to have all segments of the organization represented on the Committee. E. Rast noted that the wording in the guidelines should reflect wording in the bylaws. E. Rast, B. Scanlan, R. O'Neil and K. Courtney agreed to serve on a subcommittee that will examine the documents. The subcommittee will forward a draft of changes to the Bylaws to the Board. After reviewing the changes, the Board will forward changes to the Bylaws Committee.

4.0 FISCAL STATUS

4.1 Tax Accountant's Report

T. Feick reported that the 1989 income tax statement was filed prior to the May 15th deadline. Feick distributed "Financial Statements and Accountant's Review Report," prepared for NASIG by R. Bellew, CPA. The report indicates that the organization is in "fairly good shape" but overspent for 1989 by $208.00. Feick commented that dues were raised this year to increase revenues. The report recommends placing 3% of the yearly earnings in a higher yield money market account offered by nonbanking institutions. Feick reported also that an IRS error concerning a filing deadline was resolved. The Board accepted Feick's recommendation to retain R. Bellew as accountant.

4.2 Current Budget Status

R. Presley reported that the status of the 1990 budget will be reviewed after conference expenditures are paid (after August 1st). Strategies to decrease spending were discussed and included: reducing the travel subsidies for board members; charging nonmembers a higher conference fee; reducing the mailing cost for the Newsletter and reducing the number of student awards. The Board agreed to review the budget and consider possible strategies at its fall meeting.
4.3 Insurance

Insurance for NASIG is currently provided by AETNA. Carol Patrick (Cleveland State University) has been working with AETNA to maintain the coverage. The Board expressed its appreciation of the work done by Patrick. The Board agreed to explore the cost and coverage offered by other insurance companies.

5.0 TRINITY 1991 CONFERENCE

5.1 Local Arrangements Report

M.B. Clack presented a report prepared by Kathy Soupiset and Danny Jones, Co-chairs of the Local Arrangements Committee. The report outlined committee assignments which included:

- Kathy Soupiset (Trinity University) - Coordination & liaison with Trinity's Continuing Education Office, tours, entertainment, brochure and food/liquor
- Danny Jones (University of Texas Health Science Library) - Registration and entertainment
- Jackie Crinion (University of Texas at San Antonio) - Transportation
- Marifran Bustion (Texas A&M University) - Information & signs
- Adrian Alexander (Faxon, Dallas) - Publicity
- Craig Likness (Trinity University) - Opening greeting
- Larry Keating (University of Houston) - Fun Run/Walk

M.B. Clack noted that the Trinity Continuing Education Office will design and print the conference brochure. Conference registration fees will be discussed at the Fall Board meeting.

5.2 Program Committee

A. Okerson will chair the 1991 Program Committee. October Ivins and Cindy Hepfer will serve on the Committee. The Board asked the Committee to explore a preconference event or shared program with STM.

6.0 1992 CONFERENCE SITE SELECTION COMMITTEE

Sites in and around Chicago and Boston will be explored. C. Hepfer, A. Weller, E. Rast and possibly Nancy Rodgers will serve on the Site Committee for the Chicago area. M.B. Clack noted that SSP will be meeting in Chicago in 1992. SSP is interested in presenting a joint program with NASIG. The Board agreed that the possibility of a joint program should be explored. C. Hepfer agreed to serve as a consultant to the site selection committees and using
documents from previous committees, will draft a set of guidelines and a checklist for site selection.

7.0 COMMITTEE GUIDELINES AND EXECUTIVE BOARD LIAISONS

7.1 Committee Guidelines

M.B. Clack presented a draft document and noted that a standard practice of distributing a copy of the guidelines, bylaws, and voucher forms to all committee members should be established. After a short discussion the Board agreed to keep the current policy that states no corporate donations, sponsorship, conference exhibits, etc. will be accepted by NASIG in support of its objective of parity of membership. The policy of appointing committee chairs was discussed. T. Malinowski noted that there had been some discussion among Regional Council Coordinators about the possibility of electing a committee chair. T. Malinowski proposed that on a trial basis the Regional Council Committee be allowed to vote and present to the Board a recommendation for Chair. The proposal was approved. M.B. Clack will revise the guidelines and send them to committee chairs.

The Board agreed that committee volunteer forms should be published in an early winter issue of the Newsletter and the next conference schedule should include a separate time slot for committee meetings.

7.2 Executive Board Liaisons

The Board agreed to continue the practice of appointing Board members to serve as liaisons to committees. Appointments include:

- M.B. Clack: Local Arrangements 1991
- C. Hepfer: Site Selection Committee
- T. Malinowski: Regional Council & Membership Committee
- S. Martin: Bylaws Committee
- R. O'Neil: Nominations Committee
- E. Rast: Continuing Education Committee
- M. Saxe: Professional Liaison Committee
- B. Scanlan: Publications Committee
- A. Vidor: Finance Committee
- A. Vidor: Student Grant Committee

The Board asked liaisons to draft and submit a formal committee charge and budget request at the Fall meeting.
8.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

8.1 Bylaws Committee

Committee report, prepared by Martin Gordon (Franklin & Marshall College), was accepted.

8.2 Continuing Education Committee

Committee report, prepared by Bonnie Postlethwaite (Faxon Co.), was accepted. E. Rast (liaison) noted that attendance at recent programs presented in conjunction with library schools indicate that library school students are not nearly as interested as serials librarians. The Committee will be discussing refocusing presentations. The Board discussed NASIG sponsorship of joint programs and the need to attract additional speakers. The Board asked the Committee to develop guidelines for speakers and present a draft at the Fall meeting.

8.3 Finance Committee

A. Vidor distributed a financial statement for January 1-May 20, 1990. The report shows a balance of $88,873.00, and includes income derived from conference registration. Vidor expressed her appreciation for the database support provided by Joan Luke (Georgia State University). Vidor noted that new membership cards need to be printed and asked if the organization should continue to produce and distribute membership cards. After some discussion the Board decided to present the question to the membership at the Business meeting on June 4, 1990.

8.4 Job Exchange Committee

The report, prepared by M. Saxe, was accepted. Saxe noted that the Committee was relatively inactive this year and asked the Board to consider disbanding the Committee. Saxe noted that information on job exchange opportunities can be obtained directly from LIBEX. After some discussion the Board agreed to disband the Committee.

8.5 Job Connections Committee

The report, prepared by R. O'Neil, was accepted. O'Neil noted that very few job listings were received this year and asked the Board to consider the need for the Committee. Members agreed that job information is available from a number of other sources. The Board agreed to consider disbanding the Committee but to continue to publish job announcements in the Newsletter. A statement on the policy of publishing job announcements will appear regularly in the Newsletter.
8.6 Professional Liaison Committee

The report, prepared by Christie T. Degener (Univ. of N. Carolina Chapel Hill), was accepted. The Board expressed its appreciation of the work done by Degener. The Board agreed with the recommendation to increase the number of members on the Committee dealing with administrative functions. The Board agreed also that the reporting about NASIG activities to liaison organizations should be strengthened. M. Saxe suggested the Committee explore the possibility of establishing a liaison with SISAC. A. Okerson suggested exploring the possibility of establishing a liaison with the Council of Biology Editors. The Board agreed and asked the Committee to investigate possible candidates to serve as liaisons.

8.7 Publications Committee

The report, submitted by M.B. Clack, was accepted.

8.7.1 Conference Proceedings

Clack reported that Patricia Rice and Jane Robillard (both Penn State University) will serve as co-editors for the fifth annual proceedings. Haworth Press will publish the 1990 proceedings and handle the indexing of the volume for an approximate cost of $222.00. Clack noted that Haworth is advertising the proceedings on the cover of its international catalog and producing separate flyers about the publication. Clack asked the Board to examine the 1989 Proceedings and give comments about quality of workmanship to her.

Editor(s) for the 1991 proceedings will need to be appointed. After some discussion, the Board agreed that the Committee should review its publication program for 1991.

8.7.2 Membership Directory

M.B. Clack reported that the first directory was produced at a cost of $1610.00. The Board agreed to fund a 2nd edition of the directory this year. Volunteers for the membership directory will be selected from the list of volunteers received in response to the call for committee volunteers published in the last Newsletter. The Board expressed concern about use of the directory for advertising and promotional efforts by library groups and companies. The Board agreed that the copyright policy should be printed on each page of the directory to discourage misuse.
8.7.3 Newsletter

M.B. Clack reported that after reviewing applications the Task Force to Select the New Editor-in-Chief and Editorial Board made the following appointments: Jean Callaghan (Wheaton College, MA), Editor-in-Chief; Daphne C. Hsueh (Ohio State University); Daphne Miller (Wright State University); and Kathy Wodrich Schmidt (School of Medicine Library, Indiana University). The deadline for submitting copy for the next issue is July 6th.

8.8 Regional Council & Membership Committee

The Committee report, submitted by T. Malinowski, was accepted. Malinowski reported that the subcommittee preparing the membership brochure will finalize the draft during the next month. The brochure will be printed and distributed by the end of the summer. Malinowski discussed cost estimates and asked the Board to approve the Subcommittee's recommendation to use Nelson Printing Co. of Charleston, S. Carolina. The Board approved the recommendation and agreed to fund the project in the amount of $800.00. On behalf of the Subcommittee, Malinowski expressed appreciation for the support provided by B. Scanlan. The Board expressed its appreciation of the work done by the Subcommittee.

8.9 Student Grant Committee

The Committee report, prepared by Carole McIver (University of N. Carolina at Charlotte) was accepted. 1990 Library Science Grant recipients include: Nancy Wolf (University of Western Ontario), Martha Hill (Florida State University), William T. Rodgers (Louisiana State University), Sarah D. Tusa (University of Texas at Austin), JoAnna Scott (University of Alabama), and David O'Connor (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign).

9.0 DATABASE MAINTENANCE

R. Presley announced that Joan Luke (Georgia State University) will be maintaining the NASIG database until June 1991. The Board expressed its appreciation of the work done by Luke this year.

10.0 LIBRARY OF CONGRESS DEPOSIT

R. Presley report that the NASIG Newsletter can be registered with the Library of Congress at no charge, but there is a $10.00 charge per issue to copyright. The Board agreed to register the Newsletter with the Library of Congress but not to copyright issues of the publication.
11.0 NASIG ARCHIVE

M.B. Clack reported that the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is interested in being the permanent repository of the NASIG Archives. A letter and guidelines for the transfer of material was received from Maynard Brichford, the University Archivist. Clack noted that there would be a charge for archival service when the volume of material reaches 30 cubic feet. The charge would fund a graduate assistant to process the archives and provide reference service. The Board agreed to establish a NASIG archive at University of Illinois. E. Rast volunteered to sort the current NASIG files and prepare an estimate of the volume of material to be sent to the archive. Past presidents will send appropriate files to Rast.

12.0 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS 1990.91

The Board will meet on November 3-4, 1990 in Washington, D.C. T. Feick volunteered to make arrangements at the Normandy Inn (reasonable rates are available). A. Okerson will investigate a site for the meeting. The Board will meet on January 11, 1991 from 12:00-5:00 p.m. in Chicago at ALA Midwinter. A brief meeting will be held in Chicago at ALA on June 22, 1990 at 2:00 p.m.

13.0 UKSG CONFERENCE REPORT

R. Presley reported on the 13th Annual UKSG Conference, held at the University of Southampton in England, April 2-5. Presley attended the UKSG business meeting to report on NASIG activities and also attended numerous informal discussion groups. Presley asked if the organization should continue to support the president's attendance at UKSG. The Board agreed that attendance at UKSG by the president was a valuable avenue of communication between the groups and should be supported.

14.0 LONG RANGE PLANNING

Due to the lateness of the hour, the discussion of long range planning was tabled and will be discussed at the Fall meeting.

15.0 TRAVEL BY RUSSELL

R. Presley reported that Travel by Russell sold 88 airline tickets and 210 ground transportation fares. The Board agreed that the services provided by the agency would be evaluated after the conference.
NOTIS DISCUSSION GROUP/Bill Sozansky

Bill Sozansky, University of Minnesota, opened the meeting with a report on the activities of the NOTIS Serials Interest Group. He mentioned that this group was currently surveying its membership about possible enhancements for serials control in the NOTIS system. He announced that there will be an all day pre-conference on the MARC Format for Holdings & Locations (MFHL), on October 23, 1990, prior to the NOTIS Users Group Meeting.

Dale Wood, Senior User Services Librarian, NOTIS, Inc., then spoke to the group about upcoming release 5.0, and how it would affect serials and acquisitions. He stated that there would be two major areas of interest. First, there is the fiscal period close software, which will allow five different methods to close a library's financial books. Secondly, there is the introduction of MFHD (a.k.a. MFHL). The information in the August 1989 notice on MFHD was still pertinent. There were many questions concerning both of these topics. It was pointed out that libraries could move to release 5.0 without changing their holdings to the new MARC format.

The need for regional training for NOTIS release 5.0 was discussed. The level of interest was acknowledged, and participants were urged to contact NOTIS Systems. The audience also expressed an interest in a serials electronic mail network in order to keep in touch with current developments.

VTLS SERIALS CONTROL INFORMAL DISCUSSION GROUP/Lisa Macklin

The majority of attendees at this Informal Discussion Group had not yet implemented VTLS Serials Control. As a result, the discussion focused on problems and concerns of implementation of the Serials Control Module. The moderator, Lisa Macklin, distributed handouts with examples of check-in records created at the University of North Texas.

The VTLS Serials Control Module uses the USMARC Format for Holdings and Locations to predict check-in patterns. The discussion focused on methods of coding for various publication patterns. Also, the manipulation of this data by the system was discussed; including recording the receipt of claimed issues, recording issues with combined numbers, and the public display of check-in records.

The meeting concluded with a brief discussion of the binding aspects of VTLS Serials Control and the Serials Routing List function. The group agreed that some aspects of the Serials Control Module required VTLS' attention and increased communication among the VTLS libraries would facilitate these changes. This Informal Discussion Group sponsored by NASIG is a step in that direction.
INNOVACQ USERS GROUP/Elizabeth Parang

The INNOVACQ Users Group continues to grow with a record 47 attendees at this year's meeting. The highlight of the gathering was Leslie Straus' (I.I.I.) presentation of features to be included in the next INNOVACQ release. All present were pleased to learn that in the "transfer attached records" function we will finally be able to transfer selected records as opposed to all attached records. Leslie and Jamie Hurley, also of I.I.I., reminded those present that I.I.I. needs to hear from users about desired upgrades and improvements.

Attendees discussed some common problems, including the usefulness of the binding module's ability to append bound volume information to holdings statements; problems arising from check-in records incorrectly coded "i" (incomplete) and why this occurred. The importance of sharing such problems was emphasized as a determining factor in deciding whether a library has an isolated problem, or is one of many libraries experiencing the same difficulties.

Those attending the session will be receiving a list of attendees with the type of OPAC utilized. Many felt that the type of OPAC was a factor in the type of problems they faced.

The Users Group was moderated by Blythe Kropf of New York Public Library and Elizabeth Parang of the University of Nevada-Las Vegas.

GEAC USERS' GROUP MEETING/Jan Anderson

The NASIG Geac Users' Group meeting convened with fourteen in attendance. Interests and concerns were wide-ranging, covering topics from difficulty in loading the last release to whom had upgraded to the 9000 Series. Concerns were so diverse, and time so short, that the greatest value of the meeting was to share names and addresses for future contacts.

For those who did not participate, a list of the names and addresses of those attending is available from:

Jan Anderson, Head of Serials
Merrill Library, UMC 3000
Utah State University
Logan, UT 84322-3000
CATALOGERS' DISCUSSION GROUP MEETING/Marilyn Geller

The agenda for this year's catalogers' discussion group meeting included a range of topics which were both substantive and controversial, as well as specific and advisory in nature. The first topic on the agenda was a discussion of place vs. corporate body as unique qualifier for uniform titles and the possible use of latest entry cataloging when the corporate body used as the qualifier changes. The discussion was based on an article by Mitch Turitz recently published in Serials Review. Our second agenda item was a discussion of a paper presented by Ester Fulsasas to the California Library Association last fall which identified four types of serials which might be better dealt with under latest entry cataloging rules. There were also some questions regarding specific cataloging rules and/or specific titles including two 'RAP-UP' Session questions which were briefly discussed.

Discussion then centered on topics we would like to see as workshops or plenary sessions at next year's conference. Some of these topics are: title changes (the legend lives on), cataloging of multiple versions, creating access through OPACs to material not owned by individual libraries, options for OPAC displays in various systems and the reorganization of the public catalog record, and areas of common interest for vendors and catalogers. Another suggested topic was a volleyball game between the latest entries and the successive entries. This may, in fact, be the best way to resolve this burning cataloging issue.

Catalogers are encouraged to think about presenting workshops at next year's conference and to suggest agenda topics for next year's Catalogers' Discussion Group Meeting. Please send questions, comments, ideas to: Marilyn Geller, Serials Cataloger, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Libraries, 77 Massachusetts Avenue, Room 14E-210C, Cambridge, MA 02139. Thanks to everyone for an increasingly active, well attended, and interesting meeting.

LIBRARY/PUBLISHER/VENDOR: ORDER AND PAYMENT ARRANGEMENTS DISCUSSION GROUP/October Ivins

Fifty to sixty people attended this session led by October Ivins, LSU, and Dan Tonkery, Readmore. Tonkery began by describing the situation that occurred in fall 1989 when Faxon issued post-dated checks to some publishers. Ivins elaborated, telling participants that a recent Serials Prices column in Serials Review (16:2, 7-27, 29) entitled "Do Serials Vendor Policies Affect Serials Pricing?" addressed the broader issues of how the actions of libraries, vendors, and publishers affect the other players. The article contains essays by three publishers, three librarians and five vendors. The ensuing discussion covered a range of issues. Publisher opinions were mixed; some felt separating order and payment information was totally unworkable in their situations; others were willing to consider such arrangements if it would help contain vendor costs and improve service to libraries.
In response to the question "are libraries returning renewal lists later, and does this cause delays in forwarding renewal information to publishers?" the vendor representatives seemed to agree that this is a potential problem, but so long as most lists are returned on time, a few late ones can be accommodated. The vendors saw late payment by libraries as a much more serious problem, and asked librarians to forward payment as soon as possible. A description of vendors' cash flow situation pointed out that problems can occur when librarians do not forward payment before publishers require payment. Late payment to publishers in turn can cause late renewal, skipped issues, and unnecessary claims.

The topic of claims provoked questions about automated claiming. Several librarians questioned vendor assertions that publishers simply discard computer generated "first claims." Publishers acknowledged that they do discard without response claims dated before issues were mailed, but they do not automatically discard computer produced ones. The librarians present agreed that computer generated claims should be reviewed before mailing. One publisher earned a round of applause for stating that she felt the short claim window was to blame for early claims, and had accordingly lengthened the period for claims to 4 months.

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT SERIALS: CATALOGING AND ACQUISITION/RECEIPT DISCUSSION GROUP/Connie Roberts

The informal discussion group was led by Susan P. Smith, Head, Serials Section, Acquisitions Dept. and Connie Roberts, Head, Cataloging & Classification Section, Bibliographic Control Dept., University of Connecticut. Ms. Smith and Roberts gave an overview of the library's ongoing "Government Documents Transfer Project." Started in the fall of 1986, the project's aim is to transfer the acquisition and receipt of the non-depository foreign, international and state document collections from the Government Publications Dept. to the Acquisitions Dept. As part of the same process, the serials documents were cataloged, classified, and, in most cases, merged into the general collection. More than 2,000 document serials have been transferred to date.

Much of the ensuing discussion focused on cataloging issues, particularly the problems associated with using uniform titles for document serials. Several participants noted that since the concept of main entry has not died, it would be an advantage to enter documents under issuing agency. Uniform titles are often confusing to patrons. Furthermore, the current trend toward qualifying uniform titles by place, rather than agency, while it leads to fewer title changes from the cataloger's point of view, further confuses the issue—particularly in non-automated environments. A kardex filled with dozens of records beginning "Annual statistical report (Qualifier)" is a daunting sight indeed.
Other topics of discussion were the use of OCLC's new GOV DOC service and the GPO tapes. Also, a quick poll of the audience revealed that there seemed to be an even split between libraries where federal depository check-in was done in the acquisitions or serials department, and libraries where it was handled in a separate government documents department.

**CLSI/PERLINE USERS GROUP/Kris Nordlie, Faxon**

Five users of the Perline serials system met during the informal discussion group session. Despite the fact that this session was "billed" as a CLSI user group, some people who use the Blackwell version added considerably to the discussion. Specific questions about the use of the system were raised: how do you handle xyz title and/or frequency and/or binding and what is the best way to set up fund codes.

We discussed briefly future enhancements and software releases. Because Perline is marketed by two vendors, CLSI and Blackwell, it was interesting to note the focus for enhancement for each vendor: CLSI is migrating its version to a Unix platform utilizing Atlos and Sequent hardware, while Blackwell is introducing a PC-based version of Perline.

All of the participants agreed that this was a good forum in which to exchange ideas.

**EAST EUROPEAN UPDATE: PUBLISHING AND DISTRIBUTING INFORMAL DISCUSSION GROUP/Jane Maddox**

Approximately 25 people attended this session, which was moderated by Jane Maddox, Otto Harrassowitz, and Bill Willmering, National Library of Medicine.

Although there is much more freedom for access to information in the Eastern European countries, there is not necessarily more material available because:

Many publishers from other parts of Europe are buying manuscripts that previously would have been published by publishers in these countries.

There is no infrastructure for Distribution and Marketing/Sales within the publishers' offices in most of the Eastern European countries, since previously this has not been necessary. Some of the publishers have established other means of distribution, and some of the former government-operated state distribution agencies are still functioning, but there is a great deal of reorganization taking place and it will be some time before all of this is functioning effectively.

The economy is very weak and, in many cases, there are severe paper shortages which limit the availability of publications.
Several people in the audience mentioned that one of the staff members in their library was currently traveling in the Eastern European countries and it is hoped that those traveling will find a way to make their report available to a broad audience, since we are all eager to learn more about the current situation.

There was concern expressed by several attendees in regard to their present exchange agreements and whether or not these exchanges would continue.

The general consensus was that there is not a great deal of definite information available because no one really knows the "new rules." As the new situation becomes more organized, we will all have to watch carefully for any new developments. If we all share the information that we have, it will help to keep everyone informed about the status of the reorganization that is taking place in Eastern Europe.

CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT/Bonnie Postlethwaite, Chair

The Continuing Education Committee met on June 4, 1990 at Brock University. At that time the process of selecting new members was nearly completed. The selection process attempted to get a balance of NASIG members and geographical distribution. Two members concluded their terms at this meeting: Gerry Williams and Nancy Terry. Both are to be commended for their fine work. We hope that they will continue to remain active in the various programs planned by the Committee.

The Committee members for 1990 are: Buzzy Basch (Basch & McQueen Associates), Marifran Bustion (Texas A & M), Janice Lange (Sam Houston State University), Bonnie Postlethwaite, Chair (Faxon), Arlene Sievers (Case Western Reserve), Mary Ellen Soper (University of Washington Library School), and John Tagler (Elsevier). Elaine Rast will serve as the Executive Board liaison to the Committee.

Reports to the Committee from the SubCommittee and Task Forces

Serials Management Workshop: This program has been coordinated by Buzzy Basch and has held 4 successful workshops to date. The workshops were originally intended to be held at library schools in order to attract future librarians to serials librarianship. However, most of the attendees are local librarians involved in serials work, primarily from public and school libraries. It was decided that we should focus on a different strategy for library school students and continue to offer the workshops for practicing librarians. We are hoping to involve more local people in the workshop presentations in the future. To facilitate that process, Buzzy and John Tagler are preparing a standard outline for the vendor and publisher presentations. An outline exists already for the librarian presentations.

Speaker's Bureau: Gerry Williams reported no use of this service. To date, 14 speakers are on file in the database, and no one has
requested any speaker information. Although Gerry is no longer a member of the Committee, she will continue to coordinate the Speaker's Bureau. In about 6 months, she and Bonnie Postlethwaite will review the continuation of this service for the Executive Board. If you are interested in more information about the Speaker's Bureau, or would like to add your name as a speaker, please contact Gerry (Northern Kentucky University).

Subcommittee on Support Staff Programs: Marifran Bustion reported on the Binding Preconference Workshop which was co-sponsored by the Texas Library Association. Each participant was charged a registration fee of $5.00, and 75 people attended the workshop. Because the anticipated enrollment was only 40 people, 2 half-day sessions were offered. Although the program was designed for support staff, over 50% of the attendees were librarians. This was a hands-on workshop on repairs and pamphlet binding. TLA would like to co-sponsor this program again next year.

Task Force on Regional Seminars: Nancy Terry reported that no programs had been held. Some progress has been made toward developing a program in conjunction with the Michigan Library Association.

New Opportunities: With the inclusion of a library school faculty member on the Committee (Mary Ellen Soper), we can address how to offer courses or workshops on serials in library schools.

Bonnie and John Tagler had previously discussed the opportunities for presenting programs for publishers. John will work on a proposal in conjunction with the Society for Scholarly Publishing.

REGIONAL COUNCIL AND MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING/Teresa Malinowski

The Regional Council and Membership Committee met on Monday, June 4, 1990 from 12:30-2:00 p.m. at Brock University to discuss various issues relating to membership activities. Teresa Malinowski (California State University-Fullerton) chaired the meeting. The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend Rita Broadway (Memphis State University) to serve as chair of the Committee for 1990/91. The recommendation will be forwarded to the Executive Board for approval.

Bill Tiffany, Chair of the Subcommittee on Preparing a Membership Brochure, reported on their activities. Members of the Subcommittee include the following Regional Coordinators: Bill Tiffany (Memorial University of Newfoundland), Rita Broadway (Memphis State University), Bobbie Carlson (Medical University of South Carolina) and Anna McCalla (Trent University). Bill reported that the draft, submitted to the Executive Board in January, had been revised and additional cost estimates had been gathered. On June 1, 1990, the Subcommittee presented a recommendation with the cost and the printing company to the Executive Board. The recommendation to employ the Nelson Printing Co. of Charleston was accepted. Bobbie Carlson will serve as the contact person and
coordinator to the printer. Bill noted that final copy will be prepared and the brochure will be printed this summer.

The Committee discussed preparation of an information packet to be sent to all state representatives. A draft document describing responsibilities of coordinators, representatives, and chair was distributed and members agreed to send comments to Teresa Malinowski by July 1. Members agreed also to send copies of sample letters and an updated list of state representatives. Information packets will be distributed by September.

The Committee discussed also the need to encourage more publishers to join the organization and the need to contact individuals whom have not renewed their membership. The Committee agreed to work with the Local Arrangements Committee for the Trinity Conference to promote membership in Mexico.

BY-LAWS COMMITTEE REPORT/Martin Gordon, Chair

The By-Laws Committee met on June 3, 1990 at Brock University in order to review 8 excellent applications for 2 new expansion positions authorized by the Executive Board. Two new committee members were chosen from these 8 applicants, who were all at parity in their experience and interest. The Committee's nominees were appointed after approval by the Executive Board and are:

Joyce Tenney, University of Maryland Baltimore County
David Winchester, Washburn University

Both appointments are for a two-year term, commencing June 1990.

The By-Laws Committee met in open session on June 4 and received no formal proposals for amendments. A discussion was held among Committee members regarding Article VII. Nominations and Elections. Section 2. Nominations.

The Chair is preparing for Committee review a set of procedural guidelines for Committee activity, should any be necessary as defined within their charge set forth in Article XII. By-Laws. Section 1. Amendments.
LIBRARY SCIENCE STUDENT GRANT COMMITTEE REPORT/Carole McIver, Chair

The recipients of this year's Library Science Student Grant Awards are as follows:

Nancy Wolf (Library School: University of Western Ontario)
Martha Hill (Library School: Florida State University)
William Ted Rogers (Library School: Louisiana State University)
Sarah D. Tusa (Library School: University of Texas at Austin)
Joanne Scott (Library School: University of Alabama)
David O'Connor (Library School: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign)

The grant recipients were notified on April 13 and final confirmation was received from all first choices by May 1, 1990. All recipients attended the Brock Conference in June. All of the recipients reported to me that they were very appreciative of their grant award and that they were having a great time at the Conference. They all felt that it was a wonderful opportunity to meet other librarians in the field of serials and, for some, it was their first experience at a professional conference.

In a future issue of the Newsletter, we will publish excerpts and/or summaries of their evaluation of the Conference. The Committee plans to contact all former grant recipients to determine if the grant award helped them to decide to make serials librarianship their career choice.

NASIG PROCEEDINGS CO-EDITORS SOUGHT

The Publications Committee is seeking editors for the 1991 Trinity Conference proceedings. Qualifications include:

- Demonstrated writing ability (required)
- Access to word processing support (required)
- Prior publishing or editorial experience (highly desirable)

The editors will work under the general direction of Patricia Rice, Chair of the Publications Committee. Most of the editorial process will be concentrated in June and July of 1991.

You may volunteer as an individual or as part of a team of two or more persons. Previous editors have found it helpful to work with a colleague from the same institution or geographic region.

To volunteer, submit a writing sample and a letter stating your qualifications to:
If volunteering as a team, please list all proposed team members.

CALL FOR PAPERS
CALL FOR WORKSHOPS
CALL FOR DISCUSSION GROUP LEADERS

The North American Serials Interest Group (NASIG), an organization committed to serving the interests of all members of the serials information chain, will hold its sixth annual conference from June 14-17, 1991, at Trinity University, San Antonio, Texas. NASIG's annual conference provides a forum in which serials librarians, publishers, vendors, educators, binders, systems developers, and other specialists exchange views, present new ideas, and discuss matters of current interest. The proceedings are published and distributed to a wide audience.

This is a call for PAPERS treating any aspect of serials activities such as administration, acquisitions, cataloging, automation, binding, budgeting, union listing, publishing, and future developments. Topics addressing interrelationships between the various NASIG constituencies are of special interest, as are presentations on new developments and new paradigms for the dissemination and control of the serials literature.

This is also a call for abstracts from individuals interested in leading a WORKSHOP at the conference. Workshops are sessions designed to develop ideas and techniques for managing any aspect of serials work. Related to workshops, NASIG is also calling for DISCUSSION GROUP topics and leaders to stimulate lively exchanges, particularly about links between librarians, publishers, and vendors.

Submission from all members of NASIG and the serials community are welcome. Topic and speaker suggestions from the information community at large are also welcome. Titles and abstracts, to a maximum of 100 words, must be submitted by October 1st, 1990 to:

Teresa Malinowski
NASIG Secretary
Library
California State University, Fullerton
P.O. Box 4150
Fullerton, CA 92634-4150
Phone: 714-773-3713
FAX: 714-449-7135
NASIG SERIALS MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP IN ST. LOUIS/Buzzy Basch

The NASIG serials management road show gave its fourth performance in St. Louis on May 15. Sponsored by Pius XII Memorial Library at St. Louis University and Washington University Olin Library, the meeting was arranged by Mark Leutkemeyer of the Serials Department of St. Louis University. Dr. David Genaway, Dean of Libraries at Youngstown University provided meeting space at the Hyatt Regency Hotel and complimentary coffee and danish.

Sixty librarians braved a severe midwestern rain storm to hear Frances Piesbergen from the University of Missouri at St. Louis define the issues in serials management. Jerry Curtis, Manager of Springer-Verlag's Journals Marketing Department, gave an informative and entertaining inside view of journal publishing, and Buzzy Basch described serial subscription agency services and marketing strategies.

Attendees enlivened the proceedings with a high level of participation, showering the presenters with questions, and sharing their ideas and experiences.

NASIG is interested in arranging similar workshops in other locations. Organizations interested in co-sponsoring a presentation in a specific locale should contact Buzzy Basch at 860 North Lake Shore Drive, Suite 7J, Chicago, IL 60611. Phone: 312-787-6885. Sponsorship entails providing a meeting place and a local contact person, and arranging and funding the reproduction and mailing of prepared material to NASIG members and libraries in the local area.

ALA ASSOCIATION FOR LIBRARY COLLECTIONS AND TECHNICAL SERVICES
SERIALS SECTION ACQUISITIONS COMMITTEE
1990 MIDWINTER MEETING, CHICAGO

The ALCTS Serials Section Acquisitions Committee reviewed progress on the drafting of guidelines for performance evaluation of serials vendors at its meeting on January 7, 1990. Preliminary work on this project was based on the format followed in Guide to Performance Evaluation of Library Materials Vendors, a document developed by the ALCTS Resources Section Acquisitions Committee, which focuses on evaluation of monographic vendors. It was noted that comparison of serials vendors is particularly difficult, due to the relatively small number of serials vendors available and to the nature of the orders placed through them. Evaluation of serials vendors should focus on comparing an individual vendor's performance against a library's needs. The Committee hopes to have a rough draft ready for review at the 1990 Annual Conference.

Work continues on an extensive glossary of acquisitions and serials terms. Originally intended as an addendum to the vendor evaluation guidelines, the glossary has generated much interest in the serials community and is currently under preparation as a separate entity.
A draft will be completed this spring and distributed to various groups for comment.

In other business, committee members voted to co-sponsor, with the AAP/ALCTS Joint Committee Subcommittee on Serials Marketing, a program on marketing of serials for the 1991 annual conference. Committee members were urged to comment on the Serials Marketing Subcommittee's draft of a serials marketing survey, and to volunteer their institutions as test sites for the survey.

Acting on a request from the ALCTS RS Acquisitions Committee, the Committee agreed to work on revising an unpublished document on the handling of library orders for serials and periodicals.

Report submitted by: Jana Lonberger, Head, Serials Control Dept., Georgia Institute of Technology Library, Atlanta, GA 30332

REPORT ON UKSG'S 13TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE/Roger Presley

UKSG's 13th Annual Conference and Annual General Meeting was held at the University of Southampton, April 2nd-5th, 1990. It was definitely a pleasure for me to attend the conference as NASIC's official representative. I arrived in London Saturday afternoon on March 31st after a rather shaky flight, and just in time to witness the Poll Tax riot at Trafalgar Square. I was happy that I had taken John Merriman's advice and arrived in London a day and a half before leaving for Southampton on Monday, April 2nd. This gave me enough time to recover from jet lag so that I could stay awake at the appropriate times as the conference progressed.

It was a most enjoyable and interesting conference. Following a buffet dinner the first day of registration, we were entertained with a concert of classical music. It was perfect for relaxing after everyone had been traveling and it helped us wind down and sleep well to enjoy the opening conference session on Tuesday, April 3rd.

The keynote speaker was Bernard Naylor of Southampton University. His presentation was entitled, "Serials: Publishing for No-One?" Mr. Naylor talked about a triangle of relationships between scholars/researchers, serial publishers and librarians. He talked also about the proliferating number of articles and whether we need to speculate about alternative methods of achieving the purposes of serials publication. He asked: "What would a world without serials be like?"

After the keynote speaker, a panel entitled, "Why I Publish," was presented by: Tony Burkett of Loughborough University, an academic; Graig Thornber of ICI Pharmaceuticals; and Robert Welham of the Royal Society of Chemistry. Next was a presentation called, "How I Cope." It was presented by David Baker of the University of East Anglia, an academic librarian, and Roger Brown of the Beecham Group, an industrial librarian.
After lunch, we returned to a presentation, "Serials and Document Supply: Is there a BLDSC Alternative?", presented by Alan MacDougall of Loughborough University. Following this program was a paper entitled, "LA-NET and Serials Applications," by Sandy Norman of the Library Association. The general sessions for the day closed with the "Group 4 FAX," presented by John Wales of ICI Chemical & Polymers, and Andrew Braid of the British Library Document Supply Centre.

After dinner, UKSG had its Annual General Meeting. I was asked to say a few words about NASIG's activities and to talk a little about the then, up-coming, Brock Conference. At the meeting, Hazel Woodward was reelected as Chair of UKSG.

On Wednesday, April 4th, the conference's general session began with the "CD-ROM Panel." The Panel's participants were: Derek Law of King's College, London; Steve Hall of Chadwyck-Healey; Cally Brown of Pergamon Compact Solution; and, Bela Hatvany of Silver Platter. Following the panel was a paper presented by John Riddick of Central Michigan University, entitled "New World in the Morning: Artificial Intelligence, the Dawn of a Solution for Serials."

Following the morning coffee break, the conference participants chose one of six workshops to attend. The workshops that were offered included:

"Third World Serials," led by Hedley Sutton of the British Library India Office Library.


"Do It Yourself: The Problems of the Small Library," led by Lyndsay Rees-Jones of the GEC Electrical Projects, Ltd.

"Library/Trade Relationships," led by Albert Prior of Swets UK, Ltd.

"Training for Serials," led by Hazel Woodward of Loughborough University.

After the workshops, the conference delegates ate lunch, and then went on one of several tours that had been arranged. The tour that I chose was a visit to the Beaulieu National Motor Museum and Palace House & Gardens. After the tours, the Conference Banquet was held, and then all attendees went on a cruise on the Solent (including a disco). It was lots of fun, entertaining, and a chance to mix and mingle with everyone in a very relaxed atmosphere.
On Thursday, April 5th, the last day of the conference began with a morning theme of "Preparing for Europe." The first presentation was "Prices for Europe." The publishers' view was given by Sally Morris of Churchill Livingstone, and the subscription agents' view by Eric le Strat of Dawson Europe. Next on the agenda was "Standards for Europe," presented by Verina Horsnell of Digital Equipment, Ltd. This was followed by "Information for Europe," by Eric Gaskell of the Commission of the European Communities.

The closing address of the conference was "Is There a Future for Librarians Now?" , given by Dick Fletcher of New Media. All told, it was an excellent conference, with good programming and wonderful social events. As at most conferences, one of the things I liked the best was the opportunity to meet new people and talk with them about their libraries and firms, careers and concerns regarding serial publications. This was even more dynamic in a foreign setting. I wish to thank the UKSG for inviting me to be their guest at their 13th Annual Conference.

SOCIETY FOR SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING 12TH ANNUAL MEETING/John Tagler

The 12th Annual Meeting of the Society for Scholarly Publishing was held in San Francisco, June 5-8, 1990. The theme of the meeting was, "Facing Forward: Meeting Challenges New and Old." This year's program was chaired by Sara Miller McCune of Sage Publications and the sessions focused on the search for intelligent and economical solutions to the problems facing the scholarly publishing community and its constituencies: librarians, academics, researchers, students, and professionals.

The program consisted of two plenary sessions and a plenary wrap-up, with the remainder of the conference devoted to concurrent sessions. The sessions reported below reflect the selections of an attendee with a serials bias.

Keynote Speaker: Kenneth Boulding, Professor Emeritus, University of Colorado at Boulder opened the proceedings with an overview of scholarly communication. Boulding reviewed the role of the written word from antiquity, reminding us that today's challenges represent new twists on old problems. The greatest challenge facing publishers, librarians, and scholars is to maintain and expand our learning society.

Scholarly Publishing in the 1990's: Challenges and Opportunities: Four speakers examined challenges to the existing system for the dissemination of scholarly information. Steven Piersanti, President of Jossey-Bass, Inc., representing the professional publishers' view, saw scholarly publishing as akin to vanity publishing with the principal goal of furthering the author's career. Publishers will need to build specific markets rather than forcing publications into already crowded markets. Everett Rogers, Professor of Communications at University of Southern California, contrasted the role of the author/researcher with that of the
publisher who enhances the author's output by bringing marketing, sales, business, and distribution expertise to the process of communication.

Representing the librarians' perspective was Charles Hamaker, Collection Development Librarian at Louisiana State University, who provided price index statistics for books and journals for 1985-1989. Hamaker suggested that the declining buying power in libraries is not a library problem but a publisher problem. The session concluded with Robert Campbell, Managing Director of Blackwell Scientific Publications, whose predictions for the future included: fewer but better new titles, lower royalties, lower print runs, higher prices, an increased propensity for merging or ceasing journals and increased emphasis on industrial and individual sales.

Making the Decision to Publish: The speakers explored the myriad of considerations involved in the decision to publish a particular title and the publisher's responsibility as gatekeeper. Virginia Martin, Publisher, Scientific and Technical Division, John Wiley and Sons, spoke about the decisions involved in launching or ceasing a journal. In the past year, Wiley in New York transferred or closed seven journals and Martin sees a trend for journals to be under increased economic pressure. Charles Smith, President of Simon and Schuster's Academic Reference Division, reviewed the perils of publishing encyclopedias which have come under tremendous pressure due to rising overheads and declining sales.

Clayton Carlson, Senior Vice President, Harper & Row, discussed the importance of individual decisions. Publishing does not lend itself to committee decisions because by the time a consensus of six people is reached it is probably too late or an opportunity is missed. Stanley Holwitz, Assistant Director of University of California Press, reviewed the changing role of university presses.

Association Publishing: What's the Best Way to Publish Them: Different types of society publications call for various approaches in publishing. Representatives of three society publishing sectors presented their perspectives. Robert Shirrell, Journals Director, University of Chicago Press, listed the areas of service that a publisher offers: manuscript editing, production, marketing, sales, fulfillment, and financial services. A critical mass is often necessary to carry out these functions effectively which, according to Shirrell, can often be found in the university press.

Michael Boswood, President of Elsevier Science Publishing Company, discussed the advantages that a commercial publisher can offer a society. Boswood recommended that a society avoid farming out its publishing operation if the society is either very small or very large. Judy Holoviak, Group Director, American Geophysical Union, advocated that societies self-publish and she reviewed the various hidden resources and options available.
The Multicultural University: Implications for Scholarly Publishing: This plenary session explored demographic trends that are changing the composition of the university student population which, in turn, require adjustments throughout the university's services. Representatives of the academic, library, and publishing communities offered perspectives on how their roles and behavior are modified to meet the increased cultural diversity of the new university population.

Europe 1992: This session explored the prospects ahead as Europe prepares for the changes mandated by the EC for 1992, with the situation compounded by accelerating political changes in Eastern Europe. Jolanda von Hagen, President, Springer-Verlag New York, effectively summarized the current situation with regard to scholarly publishing. STM publishers, both American and European, have been marketing, publishing, and selling internationally for many years, so 1992 should not auger traumatic changes in this community. The most significant change will be toward smoother and more expedient movement of goods and services within Europe. Major changes will not happen overnight; the acceptance of a single currency, for example.


Rogers, University Librarian and Vice President for Academic Affairs, George Washington University, and Hurt, Director of Libraries, George Mason University, opened the session by reviewing the scope and intention of their proposal and summarizing the response they received in the six months since the article was published.

John Tagler, Director of Corporate Communications, Elsevier Science Publishing Company, discussed the financial and economic realities which render the Rogers and Hurt plan implausible. Christine Borgman, Professor, UCLA School of Library and Information Sciences, considered some of the bibliographic and logistic considerations which had been overlooked in Rogers and Hurt's new world. Edwin Shelock, Director, Turpin Transactions, representing the scientists' perspective, challenged the viability of the plan due to its failure to understand and accommodate the needs of the working scientist.

Intellectual Property Rights: A Nineteenth-Century Concept in a Twenty-first-Century Environment: This session, probably the most stimulating and provocative of the Meeting, ran the entire morning of the last day. Various speakers explored domestic and international laws governing copyright protection and intellectual property rights. Existing uncertainties about copyright law are compounded by the growth of photocopying, electronic dissemination
and other new technological innovations. A lengthy session with many controversial issues debated, here is a selection of some points presented by the speakers:

William Lindberg, Manager of Educational Services for West Academic Publishing Company, reminded the audience that ultimately someone has to pay for access. Fair use of scientific information is very different from that of poetry. The true impact of the internationalization of copyright remains untested. Richard van Orden, Program Director, OCLC, discussed intellectual property rights in the year 2000 where there will be heavy reliance on electronic formats.

Ann Akerson, Director of Scientific and Academic Publishing, Association of Research Libraries, discussed the National Research and Education Network (NREN) and the changing perceptions of ownership. Eamon Fennessey, President, Copyright Clearance Center, provided statistics on CCC activities, with a particular focus on licensing agreements.

For further information on the proceedings of the SSP 12th Annual Meeting, please contact the following address: The Society for Scholarly Publishing, Suite 21, 1918 18th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009.

John Tagler is Director of Corporate Communications, Elsevier Science Publishing Company.

**CANADIAN LIBRARIAN QUESTIONS JOURNAL PRICE INCREASE/Roger Presley**

On February 8, 1990, I received a letter from Anna McCalla, Acquisitions & Serials Librarian at Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario, questioning a price increase of Haworth's journal Cataloguing and Classification Quarterly. After receiving Ms. McCalla's letter, I contacted Bill Cohen of Haworth Press and told him that I would be printing Ms. McCalla's letter in this issue of the NASIG Newsletter. I also told Mr. Cohen that I wanted to give him an opportunity to respond to Ms. McCalla's letter. On June 12, 1990, Mr. Cohen replied to her letter. The following are Ms. McCalla's and Mr. Cohen's letters:

"8 February 1990

Dear Roger:

I am writing to enquire if you have heard any comments or complaints from other librarians regarding the recent outrageous price increases for certain Haworth Press publications. It seems ironic that we, as librarians, are so concerned with journal price increases, yet we do not question the price increases of a publisher specializing in library science publications.
The renewal invoice for our 1989/90 subscription to Cataloguing and Classification Quarterly shows a doubling of the annual cost from $80.00 to $190.00. A similar jump in cost occurred for Serials Librarian from the 1986/87 subscription year. The rationale appears to be that the publication schedule now calls for 2 volumes a year (up from one) at $90.00 a volume, and the price per volume remains unchanged. This argument might make sense if we now received 8 issues per year (up from 4). In fact, however, we continue to receive 4 issues a year, but now these issues are all double issues (in name, but not in size!). In my opinion this kind of cost increase is not justified.

I did write to the publisher asking for an explanation of this pricing policy but received a one-line perfunctory answer that was less than edifying.

I would be interested in your thoughts on this matter.

With best wishes,
Anna McCalla"

"June 12, 1990

Dear Anna:

It was very nice chatting with you over the telephone the other day, and I appreciate your forgiveness of the initial 'non-response' to the initial letter you had sent us!

I am writing to hopefully recap our conversation in a nutshell:

1) Your first letter was intended to question why a double issue should cost the Publisher more than a single issue, as one is dealing with binding costs that cover two issues instead of one; in addition you question why 'SL' and 'CCQ' have different prices from 'Technical Services Quarterly.'

2) My best response is the cost of binding is not a significant cost to the Publisher. If we are dealing with the costs of a 200-page double-issue rather than a 100-page single issue:

   a) there are 100 additional pages to typeset
   b) "        "        "        copy-edit
   c) "        "        "        print on the
      additional sheets
   d) our related labor and personnel costs are really double, because we deal with 'cost per page' in a general sense

And on the related question: the costs of serials vary but main factors for us are their launch date and circulation success; whether a journal is supported by an outside foundation or university or not; and a host of additional factors. 'Pricing'
also varies from publisher to publisher, with one important aspect being the 'recapture' goal: i.e., some publishers attempt to plan to recapture their initial losses at an early state; others wait longer. It is difficult to make a science out of this, because these decisions are made by individual publishers whose decision-making revolves around the idiosyncracies of their personalities.

There is not even that much of a savings in postage as I had thought, as afterwards I forgot to say that the postage is based on weight, and a double-issue will still cost more to mail than a single-issue, although not twice as much. This, however, is just a very tiny part of the picture.

I hope I have answered the inquiry accurately, finally! I appreciate your note that you did not intend to make a large issue out of the correspondence, and I am forwarding these kind comments to Roger Presley. With good wishes,

Bill Cohen, Publisher

I would like to thank Anna McCalla for bringing her concerns on serials pricing to our attention. I would also like to thank Bill Cohen for graciously responding. We are all in this together, and as long as we can keep talking and working with one another, the relationship between publisher and the library can only become stronger and more positive.

FIRST EUROPEAN SERIALS CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN SEPTEMBER 1990

The first European Serials Conference will be held 10-12 September, 1990 in Noordwijkerhout, The Netherlands. The conference is sponsored by the United Kingdom Serials Interest Group, Gauthier-Villars, and Swets Subscription Service. The keynote address "Serials: the European Perspective," will be given by Jolanda L. von Hagen of Springer-Verlag, Germany.

A panel on "Pricing for Europe" will be presented by Ulrich Montag, Bayerische Staatsbibliothek, Germany ("A Librarian's View"), Irmelin Langermo, Wennergren-Williams Subscription Agency, Sweden ("An Agent's View"), and Herman Pabbruwe, Kluwer Academic, The Netherlands ("A Publisher's View").

Other speakers include: Nathalie Dusoulier, L'Institut de l'Information Scientifique et Technique, France ("The Impact of New Technology on the Traditional Serials Scene"); a "CD-ROM Panel" with Suzanne Bakker, Medical Centre, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Jean Ledieu, Digipress, France, and Peter Hyams, Editor, Information World Review, United Kingdom; K. Arziani, International Centre for Scientific and Technical Information (ICSTI), USSR ("East-West Exchange of Information: Problems, Pitfalls, Outlines for the Future"); Hazel Woodward, Chair, UK Serials Group ("Serials: The Role of a National Body"); Dag Smith, Book House Training Centre, United Kingdom ("Common Standards for Education and Training in
European Communities ("Plan of Action for Libraries in the European Communities"); and John Merriman, Blackwell's Periodicals Division, United Kingdom ("The Future of Serials Cooperation within Europe: A Summary of Conference Themes and Prospects").

For further information contact: Mrs. Jill Tolson, UK Serials Group Administrator, 114 Woodstock Road, Witney, OX8 6DY, United Kingdom. Phone: 011-44-993-703466 FAX: 011-44-993-77879

LITA/ALCTS RETROSPECTIVE CONVERSION INTEREST GROUP

The LITA/ALCTS Retrospective Conversion Interest Group and the LITA US MARC Holdings Interest Group will hold joint meetings at the ALA Mid-Winter and Annual conferences. The focus of these meetings will be the conversion of serials holdings. Proposals and speaker recommendations are welcome.

For further information, please contact: Marjorie Li, Co-Chair, Retrospective Conversion Interest Group, University Libraries, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ 08903

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept. 10-12, 1990 - 1st European Serials Conference, Noordwijkerhout, The Netherlands

Nov. 8-10, 1990 - Charleston Conference, Charleston, SC

Jan. 12-17, 1991 - ALA Midwinter Meeting, Chicago, IL

May 31-June 6, 1991 - MLA Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA

June 14-17, 1991 - NASIG's 6th Annual Conference, Trinity University, San Antonio, TX

June 29-July 4, 1991 - ALA Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA
The NASIG Newsletter (ISSN: 0892-1733) is published 6 times a year for the members of the North American Serials Interest Group, Inc. It is available only through personal membership in the organization. Members of the Editorial Board of the Newsletter are:

Editor-in-Chief:
Jean Callaghan
Wheaton College (MA)

Submissions Editor:
Daphne C. Hsueh
Ohio State University

Distribution Editor:
Daphne C. Miller
Wright State University
School of Medicine

Production Editor:
Kathy Wodrich Schmidt
Indiana University
School of Medicine

Chair, NASIG Publications Committee:
Patricia Ohl Rice
Pennsylvania State University

NASIG Executive Board Liaison:
Brian Scanlan
Elsevier Science Publishing, Inc.

Publisher Liaison:
Isabel Czech
Institute for Scientific Information

The Newsletter is published in February, April, June, September, and November/December (this is a combined issue that includes the NASIG Membership Directory). Submission deadlines are 6 weeks prior to the publication date. The submission date for the next issue is October 15. NO LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Send all solicited material and Calendar of Events items to:
Daphne C. Hsueh, Retrospective Conversion Specialist, Cataloging Dept., University Libraries, Ohio State University, 1858 Neil Avenue Mall, Columbus, OH 43110-1286. 614-292-8114 x44131 FAX: 614-292-7859 BITNET: DAPHNE@OHSTMVSA

Send all editorial comments and unsolicited material to:
Jean Callaghan, Serials Librarian, Wallace Library, Wheaton College, Norton, MA 02766. 508-285-7722 x530 FAX: 508-285-2908 BITNET: JCALL@WHEATNMA

Send all inquiries concerning the NASIG organization and membership, and change of address information to:
Teresa Malinowski, NASIG Secretary, California State University, Fullerton, P.O. Box 4150, Fullerton, CA 92634-4150. 714-773-3713 FAX: 714-449-7135

Special thanks to Joan Luke (Georgia State University) for her help in producing and distributing this issue of the Newsletter.
NASIG EXECUTIVE BOARD 1990/91

PRESIDENT:
Mary Elizabeth Clack
52 Fresh Pond Place
Cambridge, MA 02138
Work no.: 617-495-2422
FAX no.: 617-495-0403
Faxon Courier Address: ClackMB
Serial Records Librarian
Harvard College Library
Cambridge, MA 02138

VICE PRESIDENT/PRESIDENT ELECT:
Ann Okerson
Director
Office of Scientific and Academic Publishing
Association of Research Libraries
1527 New Hampshire Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20036
Work no.: 202-232-8656
FAX no.: 202-462-7849

SECRETARY:
Teresa Malinowski
California State University,
Fullerton
800 N. State College
P.O. Box 4150
Fullerton, CA 92634-4150
Work no.: 714-773-3713
FAX no.: 714-449-7135

TREASURER:
Ann Vidor
1981 Innwood Road
Atlanta, GA 30329
Work no.: 404-727-6833
FAX no.: 404-727-0053
BITNET: LIBAV@EMUVM1
Head, Catalog Dept.
Emory University

PAST PRESIDENT:
Roger Presley
1040 Lenox Valley Road
Atlanta, GA 30324
Work no.: 404-651-2176
FAX no.: 404-651-2508
Faxon Courier Address: Presley
BITNET: LIBRLP@GSUV1
Head, Acquisitions Dept.
Georgia State University

EXECUTIVE BOARD:
Cindy Hepfer (2 years)
Head, Serials & Binding Dept.
Health Sciences Library
Abbott Hall
SUNY-Buffalo
Buffalo, NY 14214
Work no.: 716-831-2139
FAX no.: 716-835-4891

Minna Saxe (2 years)
Chief Serials Librarian
City University of New York Graduate School, Mina Rees Library
33 West 42nd Street
New York, NY 10036
Work no.: 212-642-2888
FAX no.: 212-642-2896

Brian Scanlan (2 years)
Senior Editor
Elsevier Science Publishing Company, Inc.
655 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10010
Work no.: 212-633-3922
FAX no.: 212-633-3913

Sylvia Martin (1 year)
6592 Sunnyside Ct.
Brentwood, TN 37027
Work no.: 615-322-2409
Head, Serials Department
Vanderbilt University

Rosanna O'Neil (1 year)
520 Toftrees Avenue, #335
State College, PA 16803
Work no.: 814-835-1858
Home no.: 814-234-6851
Chief, Catalog Department
Penn State University

Elaine Rast (1 year)
304 Forsythe Lane
DeKalb, IL 60115
Work no.: 815-753-9864
FAX no.: 815-753-2003
Head of Cataloging and Automated Records
Northern Illinois University
NASIG COMMITTEE CHAIRS 1990/91

BYLAWS
Martin Gordon, Chair
Serials Librarian
Franklin & Marshall College
Shade-Fackenthal Library
P.O. Box 3003
Lancaster, PA 17604
Work no.: 717-291-3842
FAX no.: 717-291-4160

1991 CONFERENCE LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS
Kathryn A. Soupiset, Co-Chair
Head of Acquisitions
Trinity University
Maddux Library
715 Stadium Drive
San Antonio, TX 78284
Work no.: 512-736-7613
FAX no.: 512-735-3342

Daniel H. Jones, Co-Chair
Assistant Library Director
for Collection Development
Univ. of Texas Health Science
Center at San Antonio
7703 Floyd Curl Drive
San Antonio, TX 78284-7940
Work no.: 512-567-2400
FAX no.: 512-567-2490

CONTINUING EDUCATION
Bonnie Postlethwaite, Chair
The Faxon Company
15 Southwest Park
Westwood, MA 02090
Work no.: 617-329-3350, ext. 40
Work no.: 800-225-6055
FAX no.: 617-329-9875

FINANCE
Ann Vidor, Chair
1981 Innwood Road
Atlanta, GA 30329
Work no.: 404-727-6833
FAX no.: 404-727-0053

PROFESSIONAL LIAISONS
Ann Weller, Chair
Deputy Librarian for the
Health Sciences
Library of the Health Sciences
Univ. of Illinois at Chicago
1750 W. Polk
Chicago, IL 60612
Work no.: 312-996-8974
FAX no.: 312-996-1899

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE
Patricia Ohl Rice, Chair
Acquisitions Librarian
E506 Pattee Library
Pennsylvania State University
University Park, PA 16802
Work no.: 814-865-1858
FAX no.: 814-865-3665

PUBLICATIONS: NEWSLETTER
Jean Callaghan, Editor-in-Chief
Serials Librarian
Madeleine Clark Wallace Library
Wheaton College
Norton, MA 02766
Work no.: 508-285-7722, ext. 530
FAX no.: 508-285-2908

REGIONAL COUNCILS AND MEMBERSHIP
Rita Broadway, Chair
Periodicals
MSU Libraries
Memphis State University
Memphis, TN 38152
Work no.: 901-678-2208
FAX no.: 901-678-2511

STUDENT GRANT COMMITTEE
Carol McIver, Chair
J. Murrey Atkins Library
University of North Carolina
at Charlotte
Charlotte, NC 28223
Work no.: 704-547-2221
REGIONAL COUNCIL COORDINATORS 1990/91

Rita Broadway
Chair of Regional Council
NASIG Mid Region Coordinator
3363 Carrington
Memphis, TN 38111
Work no.: 901-678-2204
FAX no.: 901-678-2511

Leslie Knapp
NASIG North Atlantic Coordinator
New England Field Account Services Manager
EBSCO Subscription Services
48 Revere St., #7
Canton, MA 02021
Work no.: 201-842-3600
FAX no.: 617-821-2279

Virginia Reed
NASIG Great Lakes Coordinator
3420 North Lake Shore Drive
Apartment # 0-163420
Chicago, IL 60657
Work no.: 312-583-4050 x4473
FAX no.: 312-794-2550

Kathleen Thorne
NASIG Pacific West Coordinator
Serials Cataloger
106 Fox Ave.
San Jose, CA 95110
Work no.: 408-924-2826
FAX no.: 408-924-2701

Sue Williams
NASIG Central West Coordinator
Acting Head, Serials Dept.
University of Colorado Libraries
Campus Box 184
Boulder, CO 80309-0184
Work no.: 303-492-4605
FAX no.: 303-492-2185

Bobbie Carlson
NASIG South Atlantic Coordinator
Serials Librarian
Medical University of South Carolina
171 Ashley Avenue
Charleston, SC 29425
Work no.: 803-792-2352
FAX no.: 803-792-7947

Anna McCalla
NASIG West Canada Coordinator
608 Walkerfield Avenue
Peterborough, Ontario K9J 4V8 Canada
Work no.: 705-748-1445
FAX no.: 705-748-1246

Terry Ann Sayler
NASIG Central Atlantic Coordinator
Head, Serials Unit, Acquisitions
University of Maryland
McKoldin Library
College Park, MD 20742-7011
Work no.: 301-454-3022
FAX no.: 301-454-4985

Bill Tiffany
NASIG East Canada Coordinator
Head, Acquisitions Periodicals
Queen Elizabeth II Library
Memorial University of Newfoundland
Saint John's, NF A1B 3Y1 Canada
Work no.: 709-737-7438
FAX no.: 709-737-4569