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PRESIDENT'S CORNER / Ann Okerson

Shaping the Future of NASIG's Publications

As NASIG's membership continues its gradual climb, communications to and between the members become critically important. A key agenda item for the Board has been how to preserve and to enhance the networking and "connectedness" of an organization with a membership of some 1,000 individuals, to achieve at least some of the same intimacy we enjoyed when we were 1/4 that size, only a few years ago.

Publications are the visible component in an organization's communications. NASIG has met formal needs via the annual conference proceedings and has provided organizational information via the bi-monthly newsletter. Informal networking happens largely during the annual conferences. We are in the process of developing an additional outlet for informal networking among members through the electronic "list" capability being established for NASIG through the American Mathematical Society's computer facilities. In two mailings of an e-mail survey, the Electronic Communications Committee learned that 446 or about 1/2 of the members currently have access to Bitnet/Internet mail. As this column is being written, just before ALA Midwinter, the committee members are keying in addresses and by the middle of February there will be a NASIG-list for organizational announcements and discussions. Naturally, we want as many members to have access to this facility and will be providing non-networked members with lists of options for connectivity.

This electronic capability ties directly into another NASIG exploration. The Self-Publishing Task Force, chaired and coordinated by Danny Jones with the collaboration of Rosanna O'Neil and Buzzy Basch, has just submitted a report to the Board. There has barely been time to read the document, let alone debate it, and the discussions will, no doubt, take place over the next several months. Essentially, the group was asked to assess what it would mean for NASIG to be its own publisher for the annual proceedings. The Task Force was asked to conduct its analysis in light of NASIG's current publications program, and to feel free to explore any interesting scenarios.

Danny Jones will be attending the January-end Board meeting to present and discuss the 8 options presented in the final report. Some options include: continue as at present, which is the easiest course of action; expand the newsletter into a journal and include the proceedings therein; self-publish in a variety of ways from total NASIG...
involvement to contracting out to a society management organization; explore another publisher; and distribute electronically.

The report highlights the tremendous amount of effort that volunteers are currently contributing to our publications process and to the excellence of the "products." Its utility is not only in raising current discussion but in standing as a document that can be considered by the Strategic Planning Task Force (headed by John Tagler) which will be surveying members later this year about their needs and expectations of NASIG. The wishes of the membership will influence our long-term communications strategies.

NASIG will be making a new venture into publishing with the release in February of Beth Holley's Directory of Back Issue Dealers. Cover design, estimates for printing, and production have been coordinated by Board member Dan Tonkery. We have established a selling price of $10 per copy for a first quality print and design job and a spiral binding for users' convenience. Our success with this directory will teach us more about self-publishing and will contribute to the optimism or pessimism we feel about subsequent attempts. Please refer to the order blank in this issue, and if you are interested, mail your payment quickly to secure your copy of the 500-copy print run.

[Ed's note: Due to the additional planning required to organize a joint annual conference, all of the pre-conference planning information originally scheduled to appear in this issue will be published in the April issue. We hope to have the issue mailed by the beginning of March.]

The NASIG Newsletter (ISSN: 0892-1733) is published 5 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

NASIG Executive Board Liaison: Teresa Malinowski California State University, Fullerton

Publisher Liaison: Isabel Czech Institute for Scientific Information

The Newsletter is published in February, April, June, September, and December. The NASIG Membership Directory will be mailed with the April issue. Submission deadlines are 4 weeks prior to the publication date (January 1, March 1, May 1, August 1, & November 1). The submission date for the next issue is March 1. NO LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

Send all submissions 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 43210-1286, 614-292-8114 x44131 FAX: 614-292-7859, Bitnet: daphne@ohstmsva

Send all editorial comments to: Jean Callaghan, Serials Librarian, Wallace Library, Wheaton College, Norton, MA 02766, 508-285-7722 x530 FAX: 508-285-6329, Bitnet: jcall@wheatnma

Send all inquiries concerning the NASIG organization and membership, and change of address information to: Lisa Peterson, NASIG Secretary, 420 Effey Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95062 408-427-3090, FAX: 408-459-0895

Send all claims for unreceived issues of the Newsletter to: Daphne Miller, Serials Library Media Assistant, Wright State University School of Medicine, Fordham Health Sciences Library, P.O. Box 927, Dayton, OH 45401-0927, 513-873-3574 FAX: 513-879-2675
MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Date, Time, & Place: 2 November 1991 9:00AM-5:00PM, Association of Research Libraries, Washington, D.C.

Attending:
A. Okerson, President C. Hepfer
T. Malinowski, V. President S. Martin
M.B. Clack, Past President E. Rast
A. Vidor, Treasurer M. Saxe
L. Peterson, Secretary J. Tagler
J. Callaghan D. Tonkery

1.0 Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the 13 June 1991 Board meeting were approved as presented. Malinowski was complimented on the helpful format which included "action items."

2.0 Action Items from 13 June 1991 Board Meeting

Clack reported that the copyright matter under discussion with Gloria St. Clair, editor of College and Research Libraries, has been resolved.

3.0 Financial Reports

3.1 Treasurer's Report

Vidor distributed a financial statement for the period January 1 - September 30, 1991. She reported that NASIG is financially sound and currently has $21,765.81 in investments (Georgia State University Federal Credit Union and in Municipal Bonds). The Finance Committee oversees these investments and calls any changes to the Board's attention. Mailings and correspondence go to Roger Presley.

Vidor further reported the new system for renewals is working very well with over half the membership renewing as of October 20, 1991. The Finance Committee meets November 15 to send reminders. Non-renewals will be dropped from the membership after December 30, 1991.

3.2 1991 Conference Financial Statement

Vidor distributed the Trinity financial statement. Total income for the conference was $105,361.00 and total expenses were $96,217.47. The $9,143.53 credit balance was due to a higher than anticipated registration for the Trinity Conference. Clack had some suggestions for a more detailed conference financial statement which would include categories for speakers, workshop leaders, and scholarship recipients.

Tonkery requested more information on the sales of the NASIG proceedings. Total sales for the period were $525.00 and royalties $35.78. The proceedings sell at a 50% discount at the conference and are considered a subsidized member service. Tonkery suggested that NASIG include order forms in the Newsletter and only have sample volumes and order forms at the Conference and have Haworth handle shipping the volumes.

ACTION: The Proceedings Committee will investigate other methods of selling the proceedings and look into arrangements with Haworth.
DATE: Report to Board at June 1992 meeting.

3.3 Budget Status

The Board discussed NASIG's overall credit balance and voted to invest another $15,000 in the existing municipal bond. Okerson discussed her draft budget for 1992 which included any budget requests submitted to her. Discussion also included the need for a financial reserve for an organization the size of NASIG.

ACTION: Okerson will finalize the 1992 budget and work with strategic planning on strategies for handling profits and any extra incomes.
DATE: Final Budget to Board at January 1992 meeting.

ACTION: The Finance Committee will investigate what an appropriate financial reserve should be for NASIG.
DATE: Report to Board at June 1992 meeting.
Finance Committee meets November 15 to discuss acquiring a P.O. Box and a safety deposit box. Vidor will ask a member of the Committee to investigate obtaining a credit card for NASIG.

DATE: Report to the Board at January 1992 meeting.

4.0 1992 Conference

Okerson met with the 1992 Local Arrangements Committee in mid-October. Committee assignments are set. Umbrella theme for the Conference is "New Ways of Communicating." Proposals for papers, workshops and discussion groups were discussed. The joint NASIG-SSP day includes breakout sessions which could result in a larger proceedings volume. There is the possibility that we will not get copies of some papers presented during the joint NASIG-SSP day. Okerson noted that SSP has no intention of printing proceedings for its conference. Acceptance decisions for proposals will be made in late December or early January.

Okerson appointed Malinowski as Liaison to Local Arrangements. The Board reviewed the budget submitted by Jim Mow, Local Arrangements Chair, and two draft conference schedules submitted by Malinowski and Pat Scarry (SSP). Conference registration mailing should be sent out by March 1, 1992. Some preliminary conference and cost information should be included in the February Newsletter. Information will also be posted on SERIALST. The Program Committee will have the conference "press release" available at vendor booths for ALA Midwinter.

ACTION: Okerson will invite Jim Mow to the January Board Meeting to report on conference and local arrangements planning.

5.0 1993 Conference

Malinowski, Clack, Callaghan reported on their October site visit to Brown University. They were very positive about the site. Tentative dates are June 10-14, 1993. Callaghan will investigate whether this could be a Brown Library sponsored event. With the Library as sponsor NASIG might eliminate some contract paperwork and reduce charges for meeting rooms. The Local Arrangements Committee is now being appointed.

6.0 1994 Conference

NASIG is looking for a site in the Portland/Seattle/Northwest area for the 1994 Conference. Board members are reviewing a video of facilities at the University of British Columbia. Mary Devlin (Faxon) is scouting out possibilities in the Portland and Seattle areas. Okerson reported that we will not consider the proposal of a possible joint 1995 meeting with the Council of Biology Editors until after the 1992 joint conference. More information will be available by the June 1992 meeting.

7.0 Current Action Items Carried Over from June 1991 Meeting

7.1 Special Evaluation Forms for Speakers

Hepfer discussed the need for separate evaluation forms for speakers. The Board agreed that a special form was not needed at this time. Speakers can contact the Program Committee if additional feedback is required.

7.2 Holley Back Issues Directory

Beth Holley completed revisions to the Back Issues Directory she distributed at her 1991 Conference workshop. NASIG has a camera ready copy and a formatted disk. NASIG also retains the copyright. Tonkery will get estimates for a 300-500 copy run. Copies will be priced to recover all costs. Availability will be advertised in the Newsletter and copies will be sold at the conference.

ACTION: Directory Committee will handle production of the directory. Tonkery will organize fulfillment operation.

DATE: Report at the January 1992 meeting.

7.3 Council of National Library and Information Associations (CNLIA)

Saxe reported on the suggestion that NASIG join CNLIA. Membership is $70.00 per year and there are two meetings held in New York City each year. Usually the Association President and a
Representative attend these meetings.

ACTION: Okerson will call David Bender to get more information about CNLIA's goals, projects, etc.
DATE: Report at the January or June 1992 meeting.

8.0 Publications

8.1 NASIG Newsletter

Callaghan reported on the new publication schedule (February, April, June, September, December) and the positive response to the two column format. Callaghan's term as editor ends June 1992. A Call for a new editor will be in the December Newsletter. Callaghan will gather and accept responses.

ACTION: Okerson, Malinowski, and Callaghan will review responses and make recommendations to the Board.
DATE: Report at the January 1992 meeting.

8.2 Proceedings

Hepfer reported the Proceedings publication schedule is on target. Proceedings will be published in the Serials Librarian vol.21, no.2/3 (January 1992) and the bound volume will be available about three weeks later. Okerson noted that Haworth retains copyright to articles in the proceedings and that information about copyright and the compliance form should be sent to the speakers at the earliest possible date so responses are received before the conference.

ACTION: Okerson and Hepfer will review procedures for discussing copyright with authors.
DATE: Report at the January 1992 meeting.

8.3 USSR Distribution of Proceedings

Okerson reported that Bill Cohen of Haworth would like to send 50 free copies of the proceedings to the USSR. The Board agreed to waive the royalties but noted that NASIG does not want responsibility for mailing the proceedings.

ACTION: Okerson to contact Bill Cohen with NASIG's response.

8.4 Directory and Database Update

Tonkery reported that updating the database for the Directory is on schedule. About 75% of renewals required changes to the database. The Directory will be published in the April 1992 issue of the Newsletter.

8.5 Electronic Communications Survey

Okerson reported on the survey sent to members by the Electronic Communications Committee. The next step is to enter e-mail addresses in template provided by AMS. The NASIG electronic list, a communication vehicle for NASIG members, could be called NASIG-L. The list would not replace the Newsletter as the primary method NASIG communicates with members. The list would not be a forum to discuss serials issues and would not be in competition with SERIALST.

ACTION: Okerson will ask the Committee to put together an information packet for people who do not have access to electronic mail. The Board decided NASIG had no obligation to NASIG members to provide access. The Committee will gather and check e-mail address information taken from the survey and provide the latest addresses to Joan Luke Stephens for the Directory. AMS has given us its list manager.
DATE: Report at the January 1992 meeting.

9.0 Task Forces

9.1 Membership/Strategic Planning Survey

Tagler reported that the Strategic Planning Task Force (Tagler, Clack, Hepfer) will survey the membership to determine what members think our priorities and goals should be, etc. The Board will use the survey to develop a long range plan for the organization. The last such survey was done in 1988.

ACTION: Task Force will develop a draft survey and distribute prior to Midwinter. If the survey is ready, the Board will review at the January 1992 meeting. Survey will be sent out in May with a second notice in the June Newsletter. Responses will be tabulated over the summer.
DATE: Report at the November 1992 meeting.
9.2 Self Publishing

Okerson reported that the committee has started gathering information and will report at the January 1992 meeting.

10.0 Committee Reports

10.1 By-Laws

Martin reported no activity and no issues to deal with at this time.

10.2 Continuing Education

Rast reported on the successful workshop on Serials Management cosponsored by NASIG, ASIS and the Catholic University of America School of Library and Information Science held on November 1, 1991. She noted that the target audience was library school students but most of the 100 in attendance were librarians. Rast suggested reviewing announcements and distributing more information about our free educational workshops. The Board discussed goals and priorities for continuing education and agreed additional study was needed.

ACTION: Rast and Okerson will contact current co-chairs Adrian Alexander and Marilfran Bustion.
DATE: Discussion with Alexander and Bustion at the January 1992 meeting.

10.3 Student Grants

Applications for student grants will appear in the December Newsletter. Announcements will also go out on SERIALST and AUTOCAT. Deadline for application is March 1, 1992. Vidor reported on difficulties with sponsor information given the best applicants regardless of geographic location. The budget for grants is $3,000. The Board opposed limiting applications to residents of the U.S., Canada, or Mexico. The Committee is also starting a survey to find out where grant recipients are now and what they are doing.

ACTION: Vidor will send via e-mail a set of sample questions for phone interviews for the Board to review before the January meeting.
DATE: Discuss at January 1992 meeting.

10.4 Nominations and Elections

Clack reported that the Committee is developing quantitative criteria for the nominations process. Possible criteria include level of commitment to NASIG, personal traits, other relevant activities, and the position statement. Clack asked Board members to review the criteria and submit comments to her. The Nominations Timetable was also discussed.

ACTION: Clack will review the Board's comments on the criteria with the Committee. The timetable may also need to be changed. Currently the election results appear in the April Newsletter, not the June issue.

10.5 Professional Liaisons

Saxe recommended eliminating all professional liaison reports during the conference business meeting and instead have liaisons put reports into writing and have them distributed at the meeting. The Board agreed that this would save time. Okerson reported that both SSP and AAUP are considering the appointment of a professional liaison to NASIG.

10.6 Regional Councils

Martin reported that all Regional Council positions are filled but that guidance is needed in developing regional activities. The NASIG brochure has been revised and is now at the printers. Regional Council will send a membership mailing to selected individuals using the SSP mailing list. The mailing is scheduled for January.

ACTION: Rita Broadway and Martin will develop a cover letter for the mailing to SSP members. Okerson will sign the letter and determine who will receive it.

11.0 ALA San Antonio Meeting Scheduling

The Board agreed to meet in San Antonio on Friday, January 24, 1992. Meeting tentatively scheduled to begin at 2:00PM at the Plaza San Antonio.
3. I have access to electronic mail:
   Yes - 446; No - 138 --> total = 584 responses
4. I could get access to electronic mail by asking:
   Yes - 64; No - 55; Maybe - 3; I don't know - 1
5. I could get access to electronic mail by asking, provided I can specify a good reason for such a capability. A letter from NASIG would help me obtain an electronic mail address:
   Yes - 15; No - 65; Maybe - 7
6. I could not get access to e-mail at my institution but would welcome information about other means (i.e., commercial networks) of obtaining an electronic mail address:
   Yes - 38; No - 40
7. I am not interested in electronic mail capabilities at this time:
   Correct - 34; Don't know/tell me more - 49
8. I have electronic mail:
   Private - 375; Shared - 61
9. Networks / services that NASIG members use for electronic communications:
   Bitnet and Internet - 136
   Bitnet - 151
   Internet - 131
   CompuServe - 3
   Envoy - 3
   Alanet - 2
   Easylink - 2
   Local - 2
10. Who has Telnet/FTP capabilities:
    Telnet - 105; FTP - 106; Couldn't find out - 25
11. If your current account does not allow Telnet or FTP functions, could you get an internet account that would give you these capabilities?
    Could - 30; Couldn't - 20; Couldn't find out - 12
12. Does your institution charge you for e-mail services?
    Doesn't charge - 382; Does charge - 36; Funny money - 65
    (Some people without e-mail answered this)
13. Interested in:
    NASIG BBs & e-lists - 313
    Conference workshops - 305
    Other - 50

As I said earlier - a lot of people either wanted/could get instruction at the local level; a few were interested in some sort of how-to book.

[Ed.'s note: This is the summary of the results of both the first and second mailings of this survey. The results of the first mailing were published in the December 1991 (vol. 6, no. 5) issue of the Newsletter.]
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 30-April 2, 1992</td>
<td>UKSG Conference, Edinburgh, Scotland</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 12-14, 1992</td>
<td>ACRL National Conference, Salt Lake City, UT</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 6-11, 1992</td>
<td>Special Libraries Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA</td>
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<td>June 11-14, 1992</td>
<td>Canadian Library Association Annual Meeting, Winnipeg, Manitoba</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 18-21, 1992</td>
<td>NASIG 7th Annual Conference, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 18-20, 1992</td>
<td>Society for Scholarly Publishing 14th Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 27-July 2, 1992</td>
<td>ALA Annual Conference, San Francisco, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug. 30-Sept. 5, 1992</td>
<td>IFLA Annual Conference, New Delhi, India</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 13-17, 1992</td>
<td>LITA National Conference, Denver, CO</td>
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