



THE NASIG NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter of the North American Serials Interest Group, Inc.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

PRESIDENT'S CORNER	1
NASIG 1992 CHICAGO CONFERENCE FINANCIAL STATEMENT	3
NASIG FINANCIAL STATEMENT JANUARY 1-OCTOBER 16, 1992	3
EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES	4
1992/1993 NASIG BUDGET REQUEST	8
1992 NASIG MEMBERSHIP SURVEY: SUMMARY REPORT	9
TREASURER'S REPORT	12
WORKING GROUP ON NASIG ANNUAL CONFERENCE EVALUATIONS	12
NASIG 7TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE (1992): CONFERENCE EVALUATION REPORT	13
NASIG 8TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE (1993): TRAVEL INFORMATION	13
PRELIMINARY PROGRAM PLANS	14
INFORMAL DISCUSSION GROUPS	16
NASIG ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT	17
TITLE CHANGES	20
NEW BYLAWS COMMITTEE MEMBER	20
CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS	21

PRESIDENT'S CORNER / Teresa Malinowski

1993 will be an exciting year for NASIG. Thanks to the efforts of many of our members, our organization is financially sound and has resources to invest in the future.

Included in this issue is the financial report for the 1992 conference held at the University of Chicago (UIC) and the financial statement for January-October 1992. Income from the 1992 conference was considerable and exceeded the income generated by our earlier conferences. A number of factors contributed to the substantial increase. For one, the UIC conference was the largest to date with a record 503 attendees. This is more than double the number of attendees present at our first conference held at Bryn Mawr College in 1986. Another factor was that the conference featured an innovative joint-day program with the Society of Scholarly Publishing (SSP). Also, the Executive Board asked the 1992 Conference Planning Committee to be conservative in their budget planning. And finally, the cost of several budget items including housing, photocopying, entertainment and brochure production, were lower than estimated. This is due primarily to the efforts of the UIC Conference Planning Committee, which was very creative in its use of local resources.

As noted in the December issue, NASIG's strong financial position allowed the Board to set the 1993 conference registration fees at the 1992 rate. (Like last year, the top rate for registration with single room accommodations is \$275 and the commuters rate is \$175.) In addition, the organization can maintain an appropriate cash

reserve and entertain proposals to increase support for existing programs and fund new activities.

Focusing on strategic planning, the Executive Board recently initiated two projects, a survey of the membership and the development of a financial and investment strategy. Both projects build on earlier discussions and decisions. (The leadership of past presidents, Mary Beth Clack and Ann Okerson, and the past Executive Boards should be noted.) The Board first addressed strategic planning at a meeting in November 1990. The agenda for that meeting included a half-day session on strategic planning, conducted by Susan Jurow, Director of the Office of Management Services, Association of Research Libraries.

In the Fall of 1991, the Board created a task force to survey the membership on current activities. John Tagler, who serves as chair, and the task force members have compiled the survey data and prepared a summary report [which is included in this issue of the Newsletter on page 9.]

Response to the survey was tremendous! Approximately 75% of the membership completed and returned the questionnaire. In addition to providing a profile of our organization, the survey report indicates strong membership support for our annual conference, including the current structure of the program and its "reasonable" cost. NASIG publications received good grades! The Newsletter "received high marks with an impressive 94% of respondents indicating they read the Newsletter sometimes or frequently." Members also indicated strong interest in continuing education and electronic publications. The Board will be discussing the survey results with committee chairs as part of the strategic planning process. I encourage you to read the summary report and welcome your reactions and ideas.

The second component in the strategic planning effort is financial. At last November's meeting, Dan Tonkery and John Tagler agreed to seek professional advice to develop a long-term investment strategy for NASIG. A preliminary report is scheduled for discussion at the midwinter meeting.

Look for more discussion of our strategic planning efforts, the membership survey report and the investment plan in future issues and on NASIGNET.

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NO LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

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**NASIG 1992 CHICAGO CONFERENCE
FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

Income

Proceedings - sales	\$ 450.00
Registration	119,137.45 ^a
Souvenirs	1,968.00 ^b
Total Income	121,555.45

Expenses

Brochure	500.00 ^c
Building Rent	6,435.00 ^d
Entertainment	2,620.00
Housing	37,863.00
Meals	25,993.90
Office	659.89
Other	5,350.50 ^e
Photocopying	1,938.71
Postage	1,302.81
Receptions	17,922.76
Souvenirs	971.32 ^f
Speakers	1,530.00 ^g
Transportation	1,158.00 ^h
Proceedings: sales, shipping	465.82 ⁱ
Temporary help	560.00 ^j
Total expenses	105,271.71

Balance \$ 16,283.74

NOTES

- a Includes SSP reimbursement of \$2,436.95.
- b Souvenirs sold included visors, tote bags, T-shirts and mugs. Only the mugs were ordered and purchased this year.
- c Actual cost of brochure \$400.00.
- d Includes building rental (\$3,000), AV equipment (\$970.00), parking passes (\$500.00), lost key charges (\$240.00), etc.
- e Includes various refunds.
- f Cost of mugs only.
- g Includes travel costs for speakers (\$630) and honorariums for recorders (\$900).
- h Cost of travel for student grants recipients.
- i Actual shipping costs \$15.82.
- j Cost of clerical support for conference evaluation survey.

**NASIG FINANCIAL STATEMENT
JANUARY 1-OCTOBER 16, 1992**

Income

Conference	\$ 121,105.45
Back Issues Directory	1,880.70
Interest - Savings	1,312.31
Membership fees	6,133.00
Other	3,000.00 ^a
Proceedings - sales	450.00
Royalties	358.83
Total income	\$ 134,240.29

Expenses

Accounting fees	\$ 650.00
Bank charges	220.51
Conference 1991	29.87
Conference 1992	103,805.89 ^b
Conference 1993	11.53
Expenses - other	251.49 ^c
Insurance	557.00
Meeting expenses (Board)	113.00
Other	1,278.59
Photocopying	3,829.82
Postage	2,708.11
Printing	1,793.00
Proceedings	465.82 ^d
Refunds (non-conference)	20.00
Stationery & supplies	1,031.59
Telephone	63.12
Temporary help	297.50
Travel - hotels	986.14
Travel - transportation	1,777.76
Total expenses	\$ 119,890.74

Investments	\$ 38,122.22
Beginning balance	\$ 29,007.73
Ending balance	\$ <u>81,479.50</u>

Membership Statistics

New Members 1992	222
New Members 1993	26
Renewals	<u>775</u>
Total	1023

NOTES

- a Proceedings honorarium from Haworth Press.
- b Amount reflects expenses during period 1/1/92-10/16/92. Total expenses for 1992 Conference were \$105,271.71 and includes deposits to UIC paid in 1991.
- c Amount should be combined with "other" \$1,278.59. Total expenses for "other" should be \$1,530.08.
- d Actual cost to NASIG is \$15.82 for shipping.

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Date, Time & Place: November 7, 1992,
9:00AM-5:30PM, New York, NY.

Attending:

T. Malinowski, President	B. Hurst
C. Hepfer, Vice President	S. Martin
A. Okerson, Past President	E. Rast
S. Davis, Secretary	J. Tagler
E. Duranceau	D. Tonkery
J. Gammon	

Absent: Ann Vidor, Treasurer

MINUTES:

The minutes of the June 17-18, 1992 Board meeting were approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Permanent Address

A. Vidor has established a permanent address for NASIG. This address will appear on the new NASIG brochure, which is being reprinted. The Secretary will update NASIG's address in various directories. The address is:

NASIG, Inc.
2103 North Decatur Road
#214, Decatur, GA 30033

2. Nominations and Elections Committee

The Committee has been formed and will present a slate of candidates for approval at the January 1993 Board meeting. Members and their term expirations are: Bill Robnett, Chair (1993); Dana Alessi (1994), Starla Doescher (1993), Judy Luther (1994), Wayne Jones (1993), Kathy Soupiset (1994), and Ann Okerson, ex-officio.

3. Proceedings Author Release

A. Okerson presented the revised author release form. Haworth has first paper publishing rights for the 1992 Proceedings, with NASIG retaining electronic rights. In the future, the Board agreed to add a statement giving NASIG optical rights to the proceedings. D. Tonkery will offer suggestions for wording.

There was a motion to allow Haworth to publish a hardbound edition of the 1992 proceedings. The motion passed.

ACTION: Okerson and Malinowski will contact Haworth Press and Suzanne McMahon, the proceedings editor, to finalize the details of publishing the hardbound edition.

4. Investment Options

This item was tabled until discussion of the Treasurer's report.

5. Publicity Committee Proposal

Tabled until January 1993 Board meeting.

6. Awards & Recognition Recommendations

Tabled until January 1993 Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Treasurer's Report

A financial statement for the 1992 Conference was distributed [which is included in this issue of the Newsletter on page 3]. The conference shows a profit of \$16,283.74. T. Malinowski reported that costs for housing, entertainment, photocopying and the conference brochure were lower than the original estimates. Also, Malinowski distributed a report on 1992 speaker expenses.

ACTION: The Program and Conference Planning Committees will coordinate efforts to more clearly inform conference speakers about registration procedures and fees.

A financial statement for the period 1/1/92-10/16/92 was also distributed [which is included in this issue of the Newsletter on page 3]. 1993 membership fees have not been included in this tally. Membership stands at 1,023.

A motion was made that in the future checks in the amount of \$2,000 or more should carry two signatures, the second being the President's. The motion passed.

ACTION: The Treasurer will present details of the number and type of checks written for over \$2,000 and comments about the logistics of obtaining two signatures.

DATE: January 1993 Board meeting.

ACTION: T. Malinowski and A. Vidor will review the procedures for completing reimbursement/ payment vouchers.

There was discussion of NASIG's investment program prompted by a request from Roger Presley for a decision on reinvesting the funds from a maturing Certificate of Deposit.

D. Tonkery obtained an informal opinion from the accounting firm of Ernst & Whitney that NASIG's income and cash reserves are at appropriate levels for a nonprofit organization. It is quite common for organizations such as NASIG to keep one to one-and-a-half year's worth of operating expense in reserve. NASIG does need to be reinvesting in activities that were part of the original not-for-profit filing document.

It was moved that D. Tonkery and J. Tagler obtain estimates of services and costs of a financial planner, and that they be authorized to spend up to \$3,000 to begin setting up a financial strategy for NASIG. The motion passed.

ACTION: Discussion of NASIG financial strategy.
DATE: January 1993 Board meeting.

ACTION: R. Presley will be notified to deposit the funds from the CD into the Municipal Bond Account for the time being.

2. 1992 Conference Evaluations

The Board reviewed the Conference Survey results prepared by A. Okerson with support from the staff at the Office of Scientific and Academic Publishing. Okerson noted that 273 forms were completed and the overall rating for the conference was well above average.

A number of members asked if attendees could receive continuing education credits for attendance at conference and continuing education workshops.

ACTION: The Continuing Education Committee will be asked to look into how NASIG can offer CEU credits.

Distribution of the conference evaluation report was discussed. It was moved and passed that distribution be as follows:

Full report to: Program Committee and the Conference Planning Committee (from that conference and the current committee), as well as the Board and past year Board members.

Selected data/General summary to: membership, through the Newsletter.

ACTION: Malinowski will distribute and work with Okerson to prepare a summary for the Newsletter [included on page 13].

An Ad-hoc Committee will be formed to review past year evaluation forms and to draft the 1993 conference evaluation form. E. Rast and A. Okerson will serve on the committee. A call for volunteers for additional members will be sent out on NASIGNET.

3. 1992/93 Budget

T. Malinowski submitted a budget based on requests from committee chairs. The Board agreed to include travel expenses for student grant recipients in the Student Grants Committee budget. Other minor corrections were made, and the budget was approved as corrected.

ACTION: Corrected budget will be attached to minutes from this meeting [included in this issue of the Newsletter on page 8].

4. 1993 Conference

T. Malinowski reported that she, Pat Putney and Jean Callaghan (co-chairs of the Conference Planning Committee) met with Pat Henry, Conference Director at Brown University in October. Two dormitories will be used to house conference attendees. The Thayer Street Quad, the new, air-conditioned dorm, has 300 single rooms. The Graduate Center dormitory, an older facility without air conditioning, also offers single room accommodations. The Conference Planning

Committee recommended a two-tier registration fee with a lower rate for accommodations in the older facility. The Committee is also recommending holding a reception instead of a banquet because of the difficulty seating all the registrants.

The 1993 Conference budget was reviewed. The Board voted to cap registration at 500 and to accept the recommended registration fees submitted by the committee, subject to confirmation that NASIG does not have to guarantee a minimum number of registrants and that meals are billed by head count. Registration will be \$275 for a single in Thayer, \$245 for a single in the Graduate Center dorm and \$175 for non-residents.

The deadline for registration was set as May 14, 1993. It was moved and passed that NASIG charge a late registration fee of \$25 for all registrations after May 14, subject to the availability of space.

5. Program Planning

C. Hepfer distributed a tentative program schedule and a report on plenary sessions and workshops. Feedback from the Board was requested. Comments about the workshops should be sent to O. Ivins, other comments should be sent to C. Hepfer. The Program Committee has selected the theme "New Scholarship: New Serials" for the 1993 conference.

It was suggested that next year the call for papers be distributed earlier to allow more time to develop the program. No decision was made.

6. Membership Survey

A draft of the 1992 NASIG Membership Survey, distributed prior to the meeting, was discussed. The Board expressed their appreciation for the work done by J. Tagler and the other members of the survey task force.

ACTION: J. Tagler will prepare an Executive Summary for the Board to review. The Board agreed to send comments to Tagler by Dec. 15. The full report will be sent to committee chairs for their information. The Executive Summary will be

published in the February issue of the Newsletter [on page 9].

ACTION: Development of a planning document based on the results of the survey.

DATE: Discussion at the January 1993 Board meeting.

7. 1994 Site Selection

The Board reviewed the site reports and the recommendations submitted by the Northwest Site Selection Committee and the Vancouver Site Coordinator. Not all committee members were able to visit each site. Members of the Northwest Site Selection Committee included: Mary Devlin (Faxon), Karen Darling (University of Oregon) and Laurie Sutherland (University of Washington). Kat McGrath (University of British Columbia) served as site coordinator for Vancouver. After weighing the pros and cons, it was moved that the University of British Columbia in Vancouver be named the site of the 1994 Conference. The motion carried. The Board expressed its appreciation for work done by both groups.

8. Electronic Communications Committee

The Board discussed a report prepared by Birdie MacLennan, Chair of the Electronic Communications Committee. Okerson and Hepfer reported that the conference call with Dave Rogers (American Mathematical Society) on October 1, 1992, clarified several maintenance and planning issues. On behalf of the AMS, Rogers expressed interest in continuing support for NASIGNET even if their grant is not renewed. Approximately 58% of the membership is on NASIGNET.

The Board recommended to the Committee that updates to the "subscriber" files be made on a continuous basis, and that deletions be processed once a year on Aug. 1.

ACTION: D. Tonkery will ask J. Stephens to mark non-renewals as inactive in the membership database, and send this list of inactives to the committee for purging from the network.

The issue of new services on NASIGNET was discussed. The GOPHER application will be used to access the various files mounted. GOPHER is

only available through INTERNET. The Board agreed not to pursue a LISTSERV application since most members on NASIGNET have access to the INTERNET and changes to BITNET are expected in the near future.

Mounting the 1992 Conference Proceedings will be the first priority, and work has already started. The Newsletter will be next. It was decided to treat the electronic version of the Newsletter as a prototype, and evaluate its success. The electronic version of the Newsletter will be distributed at the same time as the paper version goes to the printer. If all goes well, the 1994 renewal will ask members if they prefer to receive the Newsletter electronically or in paper.

Mounting the membership directory was discussed. Numerous concerns about copyright and possible misuse were raised. The Board agreed to continue the discussion of this issue at a future meeting.

The Board affirmed its opinion that SERIALST and NASIGNET are two distinct entities.

9. Newsletter

The Board reviewed the report submitted by Ellen Duranceau for the Newsletter Editorial Board and discussed recommendations for new features. The Board approved the addition of a "People in the News" column [see "Title Changes" on page 20] and also discussed the proposal for a publishers column. It was decided that the topics proposed for this column were more appropriate for publication in existing library journals or for discussion on existing listservs. There was discussion about the Newsletter being cited in SERCITES.

DATE: Decision on inclusion in SERCITES at January 1993 Board meeting.

10. 1993 Proceedings Update

J. Gammon reported that a number of applications for editor of the proceedings have been received. J. Gammon, C. Hepfer, and B. Hurst will review the applications and make a recommendation for appointment to the President. M.B. Clack will be asked to serve as a consultant to the group.

ACTION: Appoint 1993 editor(s).
DATE: March 1, 1993.

The Board accepted a proposal by C. Hepfer to dedicate the 1992 Proceedings to Margaret McKinley (UCLA), a NASIG member who recently passed away.

11. 1995 Site Selection

Various areas were mentioned as potential sites for the 1995 Conference. Several Board members noted that the membership survey indicated a preference for East Coast sites. After some discussion, the Board agreed that the Nebraska/Kansas sites were not workable and tabled the Denver sites for consideration for 1996 or beyond. The Board agreed to explore sites in Minneapolis/St. Paul and the Research Triangle area in North Carolina for 1995.

The Board expressed its appreciation for the report submitted by Agnes Adams (University of Nebraska, Lincoln) on behalf of the Nebraska/Kansas group and the information gathered by Glenda Thornton (University of Colorado, Denver) and her staff concerning possible Denver sites.

ACTION: T. Malinowski will share the decisions with the site coordinators and work with C. Hepfer to appoint site selection coordinators for Minneapolis/St. Paul and the Research Triangle.
DATE: Preliminary checklists to be reviewed at the June 1993 meeting.

12. Remainder of Agenda

Agenda Items 14 and 15 (Archives and Conference Planning Manual) and the remainder of the agenda were tabled until the January 1993 meeting.

13. Next meeting

The next Board meeting will be held in Denver prior to ALA Midwinter, January 22, 1993 from 9am-5pm. The meeting will be held in the Westin Hotel. It was agreed that NASIG will pay one night's hotel for Board members in attendance.

1992/1993 NASIG BUDGET REQUESTS (approved 11/7/92)

Budget Reports	Accounting	Advertising	Fees	Labor	Insurance	Other	Photocopy	Postage	Printing	Specific	Supplies	Telephone	Travel	TOTAL
Board (Executive)						1500.00 ¹							3550.00 ²	5050.00
Bylaws							300.00	250.00	200.00					750.00
Conf-1994 Site Selection						200.00							800.00	1000.00
Conf-1995 Site Selection						200.00							800.00	1000.00
Continuing Education							75.00	100.00	100.00		50.00		1000.00 ³	1325.00
Directory				400.00			50.00	2700.00 ⁵		2800.00 ⁶	150.00			6100.00
Electronic Communications		150.00				50.00	150.00	200.00	250.00		75.00	500.00		1375.00
Finance	650.00		400.00 ⁶		557.00		100.00	350.00			50.00			2107.00
Newsletter							4750.00	2000.00			300.00	25.00		7075.00
Nominations								300.00	150.00		20.00			470.00
Proceedings				1700.00			100.00	100.00				50.00		1950.00 ⁷
Regional Council							110.00	440.00	1100.00 ⁸			220.00		1870.00
Professional Liaisons							20.00	20.00			10.00			50.00
Strategic Planning								952.81	600.00		920.60			2473.41 ⁹
Student Grant						20.00 ¹⁰		175.00					2040.00 ¹¹	2235.00
TOTAL	650.00	150.00	400.00	2100.00	557.00	1970.00	5655.00	7587.81	2400.00	2800.00	1575.60	795.00	8190.00	34830.41

NOTES

1. Room rentals etc. for board meetings.
2. Estimated travel to November meeting (9 people @ \$350 +\$400 for Pres. spring visit to Brown University).
3. For workshop speakers.
4. For production of the membership directory.
5. To cover costs of mailing the directory plus \$100.00 for mailing labels.
6. For bank charges including fees for depositing Canadian checks.
7. Figures based on 1992 estimates.
8. For brochure printing.
9. Costs from 1992 membership survey [not included in Financial report, 1/1-10/10/92].
10. For film and processing of photos for scrapbook.
11. Travel for student grant recipients.

1992 NASIG MEMBERSHIP SURVEY: SUMMARY REPORT / John Tagler

Overview

In late 1992, the NASIG Executive Board appointed a task force to survey the association membership. The survey solicited members' opinions on current NASIG activities and collected information about members' professional responsibilities and activities. The feedback received will be used in identifying strategic directions for NASIG in the next three to five years.

A six-page questionnaire was mailed to 914 NASIG members on May 15, 1992, with a follow-up mailing six weeks later to 393 members who had not responded to the first questionnaire.

A total of 693 completed questionnaires were returned by mid-August, representing a response rate of 75.8%. This high level of response yields statistically valid results and provides NASIG with a reliable set of information upon which to base decisions for future programs.

Demographics

Over three-fourths (78.4%) of the responding NASIG members worked in libraries. Among the remaining members, publishers (6.3%) and subscription agencies (5.9%) were the principal employers.

The largest group of members were librarians who indicated their principal focus was serials activities (31.5%), followed by such specific areas as cataloging (14.0%) and acquisitions (10.0%). Librarians in academic libraries represented the largest segment of NASIG membership (60.2%).

Among the members not working in professional library positions (21.6%), the largest number worked for commercial/for-profit companies (13.0%), while 4.3% were employed by not-for-profit organizations. The largest number of the members working outside of libraries were in management/executive positions (8.4% of the total NASIG membership).

The majority of responding NASIG members lived

in the eastern half of North America -- 57.3% located in the Eastern U.S. or Eastern Canada and another 20.5% in the Midwest U.S.

Membership Information

One-third (34.3%) of the members joined NASIG in its infancy (1986-1987), while another 39.2% became members during NASIG's middle period (1988-1990). NASIG continues to attract new members, as 25.3% joined in 1991 or 1992.

When asked their reasons for joining NASIG initially, the most frequently cited reasons were: information on serials (78.1%), NASIG's stature as a unique professional serials organization (67.5%), and its involvement of all members of the serials chain (64.4%). The principal reasons for continuing membership were similar, but members also indicated that professional networking (66.7%), continuing education (54.8%), and electronics current awareness (49.9%) -- while somewhat strong motivations initially -- were significant inducements for continued membership.

In regard to members' other professional activities, some interesting patterns emerged. NASIG members were not active in a wide variety of other societies. Most belonged to ALA (61.6%), followed by SLA (10.1%). In terms of conference attendance, ALA conferences were the most widely attended (47.8%) with SLA again a distant second at 10.5%. Members' service on committees of other professional organizations was significant only in ALA (19.3%).

As for service on NASIG committees, relatively few members have been active. Two areas with the greatest involvement were Regional Councils/Memberships (5.8%) and Conference Local Arrangements (5.5%). But members expressed interest in increasing their level of participation, particularly in the Continuing Education Committee (25.4%) and Electronic Publications (21.4%).

NASIG Publications

The NASIG Newsletter received high marks with an impressive 94.0% of the members indicating that they read it sometimes or frequently. Newsletter features were highly rated, most notably

Conference Plans, Professional Meetings Reports and President's Corner.

Half of the members (53.3%) indicated that they use the membership directory with some regularity, but they were split on how frequently it should be updated: 47.5% suggested updating biannually and 36.9% suggested annually.

While the Newsletter and membership directory are benefits of membership, the Directory of Back Issue Dealers, first published in 1992, is offered for purchase. Slightly less than half of the members (43.6%) did not or do not plan to purchase the directory. It was purchased, however, by nearly one-third (29.6%), while an additional 23.2% were unaware of its availability.

The question of distribution of the annual conference proceedings arises repeatedly in discussion and impacts negotiations for their publication. More than half of the responding membership (57.1%) indicated that their institution subscribes to Serials Librarian, the journal in which the proceedings are published. Over one-quarter (27.1%) indicated that they do not receive the proceedings at all, while a few (9.7%) members indicated receiving proceedings on a personal basis.

How frequently the membership use the proceedings is open to question since 33.3% indicated that they sometimes refer to the proceedings while an almost equal number (28.7%) indicated that they seldom refer to them. Frequent use was cited by 3.5%.

With the membership's growing involvement in electronic formats at many levels, there is keen interest among NASIG officers in the viability of distributing some NASIG publications electronically. Nearly half (47.6%) of the members expressed interest in receiving the Newsletter in electronic form.

Annual Conference

A steady upward progression of attendance at the annual conferences is apparent with the greatest number of responding members attending the most recent conferences. More than one-third attended the 1991 Conference at Trinity University in San Antonio, TX (37.7%). However, a substantial number of members (39.0%) did not indicate attending any NASIG annual conference.

Cost containment has always been a goal at NASIG Annual Conferences, with the intention of keeping the registration affordable (e.g., 1992 rates were \$275/\$225 residential and \$175 commuter). This goal has been achieved, since two-thirds (66.1%) of the members found the current fee structure reasonable and another 18.3% found it inexpensive.

Under what arrangements do members attend the annual conferences? Less than half of the members (41.0%) had their transportation expenses paid by their institutions. Costs were split between the individual and his/her institution in 20.8% of the cases. Concerning registration fees, nearly half of the members (43.6%) had their fees covered by their organization, and around one-fifth (20.8%) indicated a split payment between the individual and institution. In the majority of cases (70.3%), however, the institution provided time off for the member to attend the conference. Approximately one-fifth did not respond to any of the questions concerning provision for travel costs, registration fees or time to attend conferences.

Where and when should conferences be held? Slightly more than two in five (42.3%) of the responding members indicated that they try to attend regardless of location. Where a clear geographic preference was expressed, the most-desired locations were the East Coast (19.4%) and Midwest (15.7%) of the United States. These regional preferences are not surprising in view of the large percentage of membership located in the eastern half of North America.

As to scheduling, nearly half of the responding members (47.5%) were satisfied with the current June date. A small but not insignificant minority (22.1%) expressed interest in an August conference, another summer month when dormitory rooms are available but when library conferences are less densely scheduled than in June. There was, however, no clearcut group (i.e., librarians, publishers or vendors) who decidedly preferred the August date.

Members expressed satisfaction with the format of the conference. Over half the members (55.4%) endorsed the existing conference structure (i.e., evening + full day + full day + half day, spanning a weekend). Nearly half of the responding members (47.5%) indicated satisfaction with the structure of recent programs which devoted almost

equal time to plenary sessions and workshops. (In Chicago at the 1992 Annual Meeting, there were 6 hours of workshops and 6 1/2 hours of plenary sessions.) A small number (13.9%) endorsed expansion of workshop sessions. There was little demand for greater emphasis on plenary sessions. Nearly one-third of the respondents either did not reply to questions concerning annual conferences or indicated that they do not attend the meetings.

Continuing Education

Awareness of continuing education seminars and workshops far exceeds the actual number of NASIG members who have participated. Well over half of the members indicated awareness of the program, with the largest single group (50.2%) aware but inactive. There was enthusiasm in participating, as a majority (67.2%) would be a presenter at a continuing education program, if asked. Enthusiasm was somewhat tempered by the prospect of travel costs: 28.2% were willing to present locally; however, 28.1% were willing to present anywhere and 11.1% would only present if reimbursed for expenses by NASIG.

Although only a few members (5.1%) had participated, over one-third (36.1%) believed that continuing education programs should be held as often as a specific region could provide support. A similar number (33.0%) indicated that workshops or seminars should be held in conjunction with state or regional library conferences or, alternatively, as NASIG pre-conferences (32.5%).

Responding members concurred by a solid margin (76.6%) with an approach to combine technical and theoretical subjects in continuing education programs. Topics of greatest interest for these programs were automation, electronic options, serials pricing and document delivery. A majority (55.7%) were familiar with and recommended further support of the Student Grant Program.

NASIG Administration

NASIG has relied upon various activities to generate surplus revenue. Responding members endorsed continuation of current programs such as special publications (66.4%) and continuing education (54.0%) as revenue sources. Close

behind were two other current activities: annual conferences (46.6%) and proceedings (45.0%). Accepting Newsletter advertising, which would be a departure from present policy, was endorsed by 37.4% of the members.

With respect to changing NASIG policy on accepting gifts and contributions, there was almost equal response for and against. Slightly more (46.5%) recommended not changing policy, compared with 45.9% who favored outside fund raising activity. Librarians, the largest group represented in the survey (543 replies) were almost evenly divided as to whether they recommend (44.4%) or do not recommend (48.3%) a policy change to accept gifts and contributions.

Publishers, the next largest group in the sample (44 responses), were positive about a policy change in this direction (61.4% said yes; 27.3% said no), whereas subscription agents, a group comparable in size to publishers (41 replies), were not in favor of the policy change (31.7% said yes; 58.5% said no). Among those in favor of outside income sources, corporate sponsorship was preferred (32.0%), followed closely by corporate memberships (29.6%), exhibits at NASIG annual conferences (28.7%), and corporate donations (23.4%). It is worth noting that in numerous instances, members who favored fund-raising activities strongly urged a "no-strings" policy in accepting contributions and gifts.

This is clearly a complex set of issues and would warrant further investigation if any action in this direction is to be taken.

The Task Force

Special thanks are in order to the task force members: Mary Beth Clack (Harvard College Library), Tina Feick (Blackwell's Periodicals), Cindy Hepfer (SUNY Buffalo Health Sciences Library), Jamie Hurley (Innovative Interfaces), Sharon McKay [succeeded by Phil Greene] (EBSCO Subscription Services) and Barbara Meyers (Meyers Consulting Services); John Tagler (Elsevier Science Publishers), Chair.

TREASURER'S REPORT / Ann Vidor

Renewal notices (hot pink) and directory information (bright yellow) forms were included with the October Newsletter. Individual renewal reminders were mailed in early December to members who had not renewed. If you have still not renewed by the time you read this Newsletter, this will be the last Newsletter that you will receive. Names of people who have not renewed were deleted from the database after the mailing labels were produced for this issue.

If you are not sure if you renewed, please call me at 404-727-6833, or send an e-mail inquiry to LIBABV@EMUVM1. Also, I have a "problem" file of people who had their organizations issue checks but there was not a single clue on the check or in the envelope as to whom the check was for. In each case, I have written to the organization, but there are several still in "limbo."

WORKING GROUP ON NASIG ANNUAL CONFERENCE EVALUATIONS / Ann Okerson

Every year, the NASIG annual meeting packet includes an annual evaluation form, a form which registrants diligently fill out each year. For instance, at the 1992 UIC conference, a grand total of 279 completed forms were tabulated. In past years, the compilation of an evaluation form has principally been the work of one or two individuals, with Teresa Malinowski handling much of the evaluation form preparation, asking for input from other board and committee members.

In the November 1992 NASIG board meeting, the Board agreed to establish a Working Group to prepare and then to arrange to tabulate the 1993 Brown evaluations. The group is charged to:

- Study and critique past evaluation forms
- Improve them as and if necessary
- Consider and discuss necessary software to facilitate the job
- Recommend a gathering and tabulation process
- Ensure such a process
- Carry out any other tasks related to creating the best evaluation process possible for NASIG

The Board liaisons and participants in the project are Ann Okerson, Past President, and Elaine Rast, a two-term member of the ARL Board. In addition, volunteers with suitable qualifications and a desire to get involved in NASIG were solicited

on NASIG-L and in the last issue of the Newsletter. As a result, the following individuals will be part of the evaluations group for 1993:

Theresa Baker. Theresa is a new member and the Head of Acquisitions at the University of Kansas Medical Center. Her responsibilities include serials cataloging and system management along with acquisitions. In her previous accounting career she used Lotus 1-2-3 and Excel extensively to tabulate data. This skill will be highly welcomed by the team.

Linda Golian. Linda is the Serials Librarian for Florida Atlantic University's Wimberly Library in Boca Raton, Florida. She is an active NASIG member and has presented workshops for the NASIG conference in both 1989 and 1990. Linda is particularly interested in the assessment of NASIG presentations.

Martin Gordon. Marty is Acquisitions Librarian at Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Marty is well known to NASIG and seeks to continue his long involvement following his membership and chairing of the By-Laws Committee, being a workshop recorder, and presenting a workshop at NASIG.

Pamela Morgan. Pam works as Assistant Head of Technical Services at the Health Sciences Center at the Memorial University of Newfoundland in St. John's. She volunteered because she likes working with numbers and is familiar with spreadsheets. Pam would like to balance her work with the local Newfoundland Library Association with active participation in a national organization.

Cecilia Tavares. Cecilia is Assistant Director for Technical Services at Suffolk University Law Library. This position includes acquisitions, serials, cataloging, budget administration, and automation/computer technology. She volunteered because she has conducted workshops and thought evaluations would be a useful opportunity to contribute further. Cecilia has skills with various spreadsheet programs as well.

There is a LISTSERV capability established for the group (nasig-eval@e-math.ams.org) which is expected to begin some real work after ALA Midwinter. Once again, NASIG thanks its volunteers, who always come through for the organization.

**NASIG 7th ANNUAL CONFERENCE:
CONFERENCE EVALUATION REPORT / Ann
Okerson**

As in years past, this year NASIG handed out evaluation forms, encouraged everyone to fill them out, and got a very high return. Of about 500 attendees, 279 filled out valid questionnaires. For this first time, we used software to tabulate them, although we did not buy the software in time to actually prepare the evaluation form. Incidentally, the software used is called Survey Pro, a comparatively inexpensive package that was also used in the Strategic Planning Survey.

The evaluation tabulations are very detailed and this year took a student statistician about 60 hours to key in. It produced the usual results: a crash along the way, strange datasets, errors to be corrected, and finally an interesting picture of two things: the actual responses to the conference, and a profile of the NASIG conference-goer. With a low of 1.0 (on a scale of 5) and a number of 5's, the overall average conference rating was a high 4.1.

The highest ratings for plenary speakers went to James O'Donnell, Clifford Lynch, and Anita Lowry, each between 4 and 5. "New Publishing" and "Z39.1" swept the boards with near perfect rankings in the breakout sessions. The most popular workshops included two professional development offerings: "Publishing Opportunities," and, "How to Deliver a Great Workshop." A number of more technical topics also attained very high ratings. (The specific ones are available to presenters who request them.)

NASIG attendees preferred suburban campuses as their first choice, with urban campuses scoring quite high. When asked what topics they would like to see covered in future NASIG conferences, registrants suggested a mere 130 topics!

The favorite write-in comments were from those who loved the reception high atop Chicago -- clearly a winner. The favorite thing to dislike was, for some mysterious reason, the brand-new dorm rooms at UIC, leading organizers to wonder if we are spoiled by hotel rooms! Breakfast was the least favorite meal. People very much liked the brochures and registration, along with the e-mail

announcements, and disliked what felt like an over-full or even crowded schedule. A great majority said they liked the idea of joint conferences, such as this one with SSP, and asked for more.

What patterns do we see in NASIG conference-goers? Several:

- 167 were from university libraries
 - 113 had more than 10 years of serials experience
 - 159 were serials librarians on the job
 - Over 30% had never attended a NASIG conference before this one, while only 5% of people said they had attended all seven conferences
 - Nearly half of NASIG conference-goers attend ALA
 - Slightly over 50% of the attendees rated the conference as a 4; just under 30% as a 5
- Statistically, no meaningful correlation could be made between satisfaction with the conference and either years of work experience or previous conferences attended.
-

**NASIG 8TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE (1992):
TRAVEL INFORMATION / Jean Callaghan**

The Conference Planning Committee hopes to see you in Providence for NASIG's 8th Annual Conference to be held June 10-13, 1993 at Brown University. We are planning a traditional New England clambake and a cruise on Narragansett Bay as part of the festivities. Detailed information will be included in the conference registration packet, scheduled to be mailed in mid-February. A notice will be posted to NASIGNET when the brochure has been mailed.

Travel Information to Brown University

By air: Providence is served by T.F. Green Airport, a 15 minute ride to the Brown University campus. Major airlines (American, Continental, Delta, Northwest, United, and US Air) offer direct flights to Atlanta, Burlington (VT), Charlotte, Chicago, Detroit, Erie, Newark, New York (Kennedy & La Guardia), Orlando, Pittsburgh, Raleigh/Durham, and Washington, D.C., as well as connecting flights to other destinations.

Travel from the airport to the campus will be

provided by Beverly Hills Limousine. The cost is \$7.00 each way. If you prefer to travel by taxi instead of the airport van, the approximate fare is \$16-\$20 (these fares vary, so ask before securing a cab).

Although we recommend using Green Airport in Providence, you also may travel to Logan Airport, Boston. Bus service (via Bonanza Bus Lines: 401-521-7222) is available from Logan to the Providence Bus Station. The traveling time from Logan to Providence is 75 minutes (longer during rush hour). The fare is \$12.00 one way, or \$20.00 round trip. It is necessary to take a taxi from the bus station to the Brown University campus (approximate fare is \$7.00 each way).

By train: Providence is served by Amtrak (800-523-8760) on the Northeast Corridor Route). Please check with Amtrak for exact fares and schedules. Although it is possible to walk from the train station to the campus, we recommend that you take a taxi, as part of the walk is up a steep hill. The approximate taxi fare is \$4.00 each way.

By bus: Providence is accessible by bus via Greyhound (401-751-8800) or Bonanza Bus Lines (Boston Express: 401-521-6700 or Logan Express: 401-521-7722). Please check with the individual bus lines for exact fares and schedules. It is necessary to take a taxi from the Providence Bus Station to the campus (the approximate fare is \$7.00 each way).

By car: Providence is located on Route 95, the main East Coast north/south interstate. The Brown University Campus is 5-10 minutes from the interstate. Approximate driving times are: one hour from Boston, 3 hours from New York City, and 2 hours from Hartford, CT. Parking is available on campus for a fee of \$1.00 per day. There is no overnight parking allowed on city streets in Providence. Detailed driving instructions, including location of parking facilities, will be sent with your registration acknowledgements.

If you have any travel questions, contact: Jean Callaghan, Co-Chair, Conference Planning Committee, Wheaton College, Norton, MA 02766. Phone: 508-285-7720 x530 or FAX: 508-285-6329 or Bitnet: jcall@wheatnma.

NASIG 8TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE (1993): PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE PROGRAM PLANS / Cindy Hepfer and October Ivins, Co-Chairs, Brown Program Planning Committee

The Program Planning Committee

We designed the 1993 Program Planning Committee to be larger than previous program planning committees in order to involve more members and to mentor new folks to carry on this key responsibility. We also decided to formally split the workload into two parts and thus created Plenary and Workshop Subcommittees.

The Plenary Subcommittee consists of Cindy Hepfer, Ann Okerson, Danny Jones, and Jim Mouw. The Workshop Subcommittee is comprised of October Ivins, Julie Gammon, Bobbie Carlson, Michele Crump, and Beatrice McKay. The two of us and Ann bring prior NASIG program planning experience to the committees, having participated in NASIG's program planning activities for 1991 and 1992 (Ann concentrated her efforts in the plenary area, while we worked one year with workshops and another with breakouts). Danny and Jim were chairs of the 1991 and 1992 local arrangements committees, respectively, and thus offer us significant experience in general conference planning. Julie and Bobbie add the perspective of past NASIG workshop leaders, while Bea and Michele lend the perspective of energetic NASIG conference-goers who have not previously been involved in either program planning or presentation. We are delighted with the enthusiasm and willing hard work our committee members have displayed.

Plans for NASIG 1993 Program

As of January 1, 1993, the program has neither been finalized nor approved by the NASIG Board. However, we can provide newsletter readers with some preliminary information. We plan to share final program information on NASIGNET and SERIALST as soon as it is complete, perhaps as early as the end of January. We hope to mail the registration brochure (which includes program information) in late February or early March.

1. Location and Schedule

The conference will be held at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island from Thursday, June 10 through Sunday, June 13. The schedule will likely include the following:

Thursday, June 10

- Committee meetings
- Preconference workshops
- Welcome and business meeting
- Social event

Friday, June 11

- Plenary session (4 speakers)
- Workshops (2 sets)
- Evening activities

Saturday, June 12

- Plenary session (1 speaker)
- Concurrent sessions (choose 1; non-repeated)
- Workshops (2 sets, repeated from Friday)
- Conference reception and evening activities

Sunday, June 13

- Informal discussion groups
- Closing plenary panel
- Tours

2. Program theme and Plenary Program plans

The theme for the 1993 NASIG annual conference is "New scholarship: New serials," which we believe nicely continues our 1992 theme "If we build it: Scholarly communications and net-working technologies."

In preparing our plenary programs, the Plenary Subcommittee members reviewed feedback from the Chicago evaluations. We also used preliminary data from the strategic planning survey that was conducted last year. These instruments told us that NASIG conference-goers like having a balance between plenary programs and workshops, with a slight preference toward workshops. However, the future-oriented papers presented by the plenary speakers in Chicago were uniformly highly rated and encouraged us to continue both to "look forward" and to bring in outside speakers.

The opening plenary session will (we hope) feature four faculty members from our host institution,

Brown University. A number of Brown faculty are using new technologies to facilitate their research, professional communication, and publication. We anticipate some extraordinary demonstrations and some thoughtful, provocative discussions. Our sincere thanks go to Merrily Taylor, Director of Libraries at Brown, for suggesting the names of several very exciting potential speakers.

In lieu of a second morning of plenary speakers, subcommittee members opted to feature a single plenary speaker followed by four concurrent sessions. These breakout sessions are intended to address the conference theme, but in ways that relate to our day-to-day work. The concurrent sessions will deal with:

- Cataloging electronic serials
- The future of the subscription agency
- New publishing concepts
- Copyright/Intellectual property

We are very excited about the breakout sessions and hope that conference attendees will find them stimulating and useful. The concurrent session speakers are being asked to leave ample time for discussion with their audiences, and we hope that attendees will ask questions and participate! The Plenary Subcommittee would like to thank Birdie McLennan and Marilyn Geller for helping us develop the cataloging breakout. Their ideas and advice have been invaluable!

We plan for the final plenary session on Sunday morning to feature a panel of six speakers who will address the notion of "Serials 2020." We anticipate that this session will be well worth attending and strongly suggest that no one make plans to leave for the airport, train station, or turnpike before the plenary session has concluded! This is a plenary session that delegates won't want to miss!!

3. Preconference workshops and Informal discussion groups

We anticipate offering two preconference workshops on Thursday afternoon. The program planning subcommittees are suggesting a new workshop on e-mail and NASIGNET. We also hope to repeat last year's top-rated "workshop on workshops" in order to give aspiring NASIG (or other conference) speakers tips on how to prepare a workshop proposal, how to develop a workshop

presentation, and how to effectively lead a workshop.

The importance of the informal discussion groups to many NASIG delegates has repeatedly rung loud and clear on the conference evaluation forms. This year, we have decided NOT to hold them at the end of an already long day, wedged in between workshops and dinner. Instead, we will offer them Sunday morning and lengthen the allotted time from one to one-and-a-half hours. These discussion groups have proven to be a popular venue for delegates to talk over nitty-gritty concerns and issues. We hope that the longer, early morning time slot will prove attractive.

4. Workshops

The call for papers produced 42 exciting proposals and several fine suggestions, and NASIG Secretary Susan Davis did a wonderful job of entering them into e-mail and distributing them to both subcommittees. Some strong proposals did not fit the theme of the plenaries and have been selected as lecture workshops. Our subcommittee considers the workshops to be the heart of the conference, and our key goal is to select and develop high quality workshops that usually focus on methodology and practical applications. We try to offer something for everyone in attendance. We will again present 18 different workshops. We always strive to find the best balance of topics and presenters, but choosing from a record number of excellent proposals and having more subcommittee members to offer opinions has been a delightful challenge. We have also studied evaluations from 1992 and are responding accordingly. Abstracts will be more precise, distinguishing lectures from interactive formats and indicating target audiences when appropriate. We are trying to limit the number of workshop leaders without sacrificing breadth and making time limits clear to permit ample discussion time. We are also providing feedback in the nature of referees' comments to those making unsuccessful proposals.

5. Plans for NASIG 1994 Program

The Board is discussing the idea of sliding the entire program planning process forward next year, issuing the call for papers PRIOR to the Brown conference, with a submission deadline sometime

during mid-to-late summer. If the Board approves this idea, anyone who is interested in leading a workshop or discussion group, or who is interested in delivering a plenary session paper, should be prepared to submit a proposal at that time. Also, any NASIG member who is interested in serving on the 1994 program planning committee (the 1994 conference will be at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver) should contact Cindy directly.

NASIG 8TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE (1993): INFORMAL DISCUSSION GROUPS / Susan Davis

The Brown Conference schedule includes a time slot for informal discussion group meetings on Sunday, June 13 from 8:15-9:45 a.m. The time has been increased to one and one-half hours from the one hour slot in past years. The 1992 Chicago Conference had eight lively and well-attended discussion group meetings.

So far there have been four proposals for discussion at Brown: Union Listing, Involving ILS Vendors in the EDI Process, DRA Users Group, and Dynix Users Group. Meeting locations will be announced at the conference.

If you would like to lead a discussion group, or schedule a group meeting, please contact Susan Davis, NASIG Secretary, before April 16, 1993.

ADDRESS: Susan Davis
Head, Periodicals
Lockwood Library Bldg.
State University of New York at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY 14260-2200
PHONE: 716-645-2784
FAX: 716-645-5955
Bitnet: UNLSDB@UBVM
Internet: UNLSDB@UBVM.CC.BUFFALO.EDU

NASIG ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT / Birdie MacLennan

The Electronic Communications Committee, in collaboration with colleagues and supporters at the American Mathematical Society (AMS) have been working hard over the past several months in continuing efforts to plan and implement new services for the NASIGNET electronic communications forum, which is housed on the "e-math" machine at an Internet site in Ann Arbor.

The EC committee report in the September 1992 Newsletter documents much of the work that has already been done in establishing NASIG-L, the membership listserv/discussion group and central e-mail distribution list for all known electronic addresses within the membership. This report outlines our subsequent work.

Additional Listserv Activities

EC committee members made a concerted effort to contact chairs for all of NASIG's standing committees to notify them that a listserv capability was being offered to them and could be used for committee work if the committee opted to use a listserv. Six committee chairs responded affirmatively and one chair declined. New committee listservers were implemented for: Bylaws, Continuing Education, Conference Planning (formerly Local Arrangements), Nominations & Elections, Database & Directory, and the Newsletter Editorial Board.

Committee chairs from each of these groups were notified of their listserv capability in late October and several of these groups are now making active use of their lists.

Additionally, three new lists were requested and established for Site Selection, the workshop planning contingent of the Program committee, and the recently formed Working Group on NASIG Annual Conference Evaluations.

A total of 9 listservers were revised or created on NASIGNET since June. Thanks to Ann Ercelawn, Shiela Osheroff, Cecilia Leathem, and Ann Okerson for contacting committee chairs and gathering names and e-addresses to make these lists happen.

New & Continuing Activities

Beginning in August, shortly after committee rotations had been decided and the 1992-93 EC committee was in place, Cindy Hepfer, Ann Okerson, Teresa Malinowski, Birdie MacLennan, and Dave Rodgers (AMS systems manager) began "meeting" regularly on the network in group conferences to address current and future concerns regarding NASIGNET priorities. These discussions culminated in early October with an "Issues for NASIGNET Agenda." What follows is a summary of the conference agenda items, interspersed with recent follow-up and some recommendations and decisions from the Board on continuing (i.e. immediate) and future courses of action.

The NASIGNET Agenda

1. Technical Support: Who should NASIG members report problems to?

There are two addresses that are mapped to the same mailbox:

support@e-math.ams.com, or

support@e-math.ams.org

AND

admin@e-math.ams.com, or

admin@e-math.ams.org

(The .com and .org extensions are currently interchangeable.)

"Support" (the recommended address) is an alias for "admin." All replies will come from the "admin" address. Kevin Curnow (AMS) is our main contact at this address. Dave Rodgers also monitors this account. Technical problems, such as listserv crashes or problem addresses should be reported to the "support" address so that they can be handled as quickly as possible. Batch loading of e-address updates and/or new members' addresses are currently being routed to this address via the joint efforts of Joan Stephens, Chair of the Directory & Database committee, and EC committee member, Ann Ercelawn.

2. Maintenance issues:

a. **The Bitnet question:** NASIG-L Bitnet subscribers who do not have Internet gateways extended onto their addresses (e.g.,

bmacleenn%uvmvm.bitnet@mitvma.mit.edu where mitvma.mit.edu is the gateway extension) may experience problems sending (but not receiving) mail to NASIG-L. We are investigating a remedy (via getting copied -- or "CC'd" on ALL error notifications for mail that bounces from the list), however, since we have been experiencing problems in getting the CC notification function to work properly, Bitnet subscribers and/or those of you who have had recent changes of address, should be advised of this problem and notify us directly if your mail bounces. After careful examination of all electronic address on NASIG-L, the EC committee estimates that this problem could affect as many as 30% of our subscribers. So if you experience problems in sending a message to NASIG-L, please contact support@e-math.ams.com to apprise us of your difficulty and/or issue a SUBSCRIBE NASIG-L <your name> message to listserv@e-math.ams.com so that we have your latest e-address.

b. Updating NASIG-L addresses: The EC Committee will update e-addresses and/or add new members on a continuing basis, and will delete non-renewals once a year, at approximately the same time non-renewals are removed from the Membership Directory. We anticipate ongoing coordination with Joan Stephens and the Directory and Database Committee to keep electronic addresses as consistent and accurate as possible.

c. Listownership: It would be helpful to have more than one person from the EC committee involved in NASIG-L listownership responsibilities. AMS prefers the single listowner model, but suggested that it would be possible to add secondary listowner(s) so that a primary coordinator (currently Birdie) could delegate various maintenance responsibilities to others for resolution. Ann Ercelawn has agreed to assist with listownership maintenance. AMS will set up some test files in the near future and we will run some experiments. Depending on test results, it may be possible to add other EC committee members to listownership backup roles and thereby broaden the range of committee members' involvement in these matters.

3. New Services: Electronic Publications

a. NASIG Proceedings: Thanks to the efforts of Ann Okerson, representing NASIG, and Bill Cohen, of Haworth Press, a new and innovative publishing arrangement in authors' licensing articles to Haworth (for print) and to NASIG (for NASIGNET) has made it possible for us to make the 1992 Proceedings available to members electronically on NASIGNET. We are currently experimenting with an electronic prototype model, utilizing the Internet's gopher technologies on the e-math machine to determine our best options. We hope to be making an announcement regarding their availability to the NASIG membership in the near future.

b. Other backburner projects:

i. Newsletter: The Newsletter will be a prototype project on gopher -- which we will make available electronically at the same time as the Newsletter is sent to the printer. We hope to begin experimenting with electronic copies of the Newsletter early on in the new year.

ii. NASIG's Bylaws: Thanks to the coordinated efforts of Joyce Tenney, Marty Gordon, and Marilyn Geller, an electronic version of the Bylaws has been made available to us as yet another experiment for availability on NASIGNET.

iii. Membership Directory: We have also discussed the possibility of making the Membership Directory available on NASIGNET. AMS has already made available a membership directory as a menu option for their 40,000 or so members, so we would be likely to benefit from their experiences in anything we might endeavor to do. In the meantime, and in light of our other priorities, we will defer on this until we see how some of the other applications are working.

4. Summary and Outstanding Issues

The Electronic Communications Committee has charted and implemented an innovative array of

networked services for NASIG members. In our 18 months of existence, we have established networking provisions via 12 listserv "talking outlets" for each segment of the organization, and the membership as a whole. We have taken steps to plan and envision new applications beyond the listservers: proceedings, newsletter, online directory, links to other networking services beyond NASIGNET. We are pioneering in these areas as there are few (if any) other associations or organizational models that have attempted to offer their membership comparable services from one central location. Most amazingly, we have accomplished this through the volunteer efforts of a very dedicated and hard-working group of individuals from the EC committee, AMS, and interested NASIG members and supporters who have offered suggestions, ideas, and encouragement.

Unfortunately, we are not flawless, and there is still a long road to travel. The most prominent outstanding issue that needs to be addressed is that of network access. Statistics from October 1992 reveal that there are currently 1023 members of the organization. Of these, approximately 600 (58%) are listed on NASIGNET with either Bitnet (20%) or Internet (38%) addresses. The statistical breakdowns are important in several respects:

1. A promising statistic is that 38% of NASIG's membership has Internet access and the capability to participate fully in current and proposed services. This statistic has more than doubled since March 1992, when EC committee survey results indicated that only about 16% (136 out of 872) of our members had Internet access.

2. Of 1023 members, 20% are subscribed to NASIGNET under Bitnet-only addresses. (This 20% of the membership amounts to roughly 30% of all NASIG-L subscribers.) While this gives them complete and total access to listserv applications, there are Internet routing (or "gateway") problems that may cause problems or delays for some in sending (but not receiving) mail.

Additionally, Bitnet-only (and some Internet-without-telnet-access) subscribers will not be able to telnet to retrieve the publications (proceedings, newsletter, bylaws) that we are proposing to offer.

It has been noted that many subscribers may have Internet/Telnet access and not be aware of it. The EC committee recommends that Bitnet subscribers check with their local computer service centers to find out if they have an Internet capability -- and preferably one that can take advantage of Telnet applications.

3. Of 1023 members, 42% are not connected to NASIGNET (an increase in participation of 8% since we brought NASIGNET up in March, when 50% of the membership supplied the EC committee with electronic addresses). The EC committee expects that the number of members with network access will gradually increase over time and is prepared to help members who want network access to get it. As a start, EC committee member, Shiela Osheroff has compiled a relatively extensive listing of commercial and public access vendors who provide access to the Internet. The Osheroff listing was included in a networking packet of handouts that was made available to Board members and network workshop participants in Chicago this past June. The committee has been looking at ways to update the listing and possibly to make it available to NASIG members who are interested.

Your input, as members of NASIG, is important to us! If you have ideas or feedback to offer on any of the services outlined above, please let us hear from you!

Electronic Communications Committee Members, 1992-93

Genevieve J. Clay (Eastern Kentucky University)
Ann Ercelawn (Vanderbilt University)
Marilyn Geller (Massachusetts Institute of Technology)
Cindy Hepfer, Ex-Officio (SUNY Buffalo)
Cecilia Leathem (University of Miami)
Janice Lindquist (Univ. of Missouri, Kansas City)
Birdie MacLennan, Chair (University of Vermont)
Ann Okerson (Association of Research Libraries)
Shiela Keil Osheroff (Oregon State University)
Juliann Rankin (California State University, Chico)
Laurie Sutherland (University of Washington)
Sarah Tusa (Lamar University)
Geraldine Williams (Northern Kentucky University)

TITLE CHANGES / Ellen Finnie Duranceau

Here is the first sampling of NASIG members' job changes, as announced in the September issue. Please submit items about yourself or others to the Editor.

--**Marifran Bustion** is now the Head of Acquisitions at George Washington University in Washington, D.C., having formerly been Head, Serials Department at Texas A&M University. Marifran finds that while she misses Texas, she likes working in D.C. and says that "it's exciting to work in the District. I can walk to the White House on my lunch hour. It's also great working in a city where there are so many bookstores available for rush orders, where we can go to GPO for quick pickups, and there are lots of libraries to visit and meet librarians."

Marifran's new address is:

Marifran Bustion
2130 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20052
Phone: 202-994-6846
Internet: marifran@gwuvm.gwu.edu

--**Beverley Geer-Butler** became the Head Cataloger at Trinity University as of 31 August 1992. Previously, she had been the Head of Copy Cataloging at Ohio State University, and reports that "I have been working in libraries since 1976, with most of my experience being in serials (binding, acquisitions, cataloging, check-in. I truly believe that my experience with serials prepared me to assume responsibility for cataloging policy and procedure at Trinity. I was told that they wanted a 'nuts and bolts' cataloger, something that serials work teaches you (or forces you into). For example, one of the big projects at Trinity is to record series treatment decisions in the online authority file and to convert a card series decision file to an online file (Trinity uses NOTIS). My experience with serials cataloging has made it possible for me to set policies and procedures for series treatment and to create authority records. The continuing education I have received at NASIG meetings helped me a great deal. I am grateful for the experience I have had and am glad to be at an institution that gives me a chance to use my skills."

Beverley can now be reached at:

Beverley Geer-Butler
Head Cataloger
Maddux Library
Trinity University
715 Stadium Drive
San Antonio, TX 78212
Internet: bgeer@trinity.edu
Bitnet: bgeer@trinity
Phone: 210-736-8124

--**Diane S. Hollyfield** has been named Head of the Acquisition Services Department of University Library Services at Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond. Her new work number is 804-367-1097.

--Formerly a Project Manager for Ameritech Information Systems, **Ellen C. Rappaport** has just started as Technical Services Librarian at Albany Law School's Shaffer Library, where she'll continue to work with Ameritech's SC350 system, but this time, as a user!

Her new address is:

Ellen C. Rappaport
371 Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 6044
Albany, NY 12206
Phone: 518-445-2342
Bitnet: rappape%slscva@snycenva

NEW BYLAWS COMMITTEE MEMBER

The Bylaws Committee has a new member:

Sandy Folsom
Park Library
Central Michigan University
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
Phone: 517-774-6868
FAX: 517-774-4499
Internet: 32fswux@cmuvm.csv.cmich.edu

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

February 28-March 3, 1993
Computers in Libraries Conference
Washington, DC

March 19, 1993
INformation EXposition '93 (INEX '93)
Presented by the Law Librarians' Society of
Washington, D.C.
Washington, D.C. Convention Center

March 22-25, 1993
United Kingdom Serials Group Annual Meeting
Southampton, UK

May 14-20, 1993
Medical Library Association Annual Meeting
Chicago, IL

June 5-10, 1993
Special Libraries Association Annual Meeting
Cincinnati, OH

June 10-13, 1993
NASIG's 8th Annual Conference
Brown University
Providence, RI

June 16-18, 1993
Society for Scholarly Publishing Annual Meeting
Crystal City, VA

June 17-20, 1993
Canadian Library Association Annual Meeting
Hamilton, Ont.

June 24-July 1, 1993
ALA Annual Conference
New Orleans, LA

August 22-26, 1993
IFLA Annual Conference
Barcelona, Spain

October 24-28, 1993
American Society for Information Science Annual
Meeting
Columbus, OH

November 4-6, 1993
Issues in Book and Serial Acquisitions Conference
Charleston, SC