



NASIG

THE

NASIG

NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter of the North American Serials Interest Group

Vol. 2, no. 1

ISSN 0892-1733

March 1987

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER / John F. Riddick

With membership growth and fiscal stability, the North American Serials Interest Group now requires a policy on future gifts and grants offered to the organization. Through the four years of development, NASIG has shifted its policy stance on this subject but now with formal governance and a fiscally adequate budget, a fairly permanent, broadly-conceived policy statement is warranted.

During the early years of organization, NASIG gratefully received direct financial support for printing, postage, and advertising. With the collection of 1986 dues and a break-even inaugural conference, however, the ad hoc Executive Board made the decision that direct financial gifts were no longer needed. Furthermore, the Executive Board ascribed to the philosophical value of all members belonging to NASIG on an equal basis. Some of the commercial NASIG members felt the preclusion of gifts and the resulting potential for one-upsmanship was healthy for the organization. In recent months the formally elected Executive Board reiterated this practice but reserved the right to establish a final policy at a later date. Until then a policy of operating from NASIG's existing funding will be maintained.

Before the Executive Board makes a final decision on this issue, we would like to hear from the membership. Having your opinions in writing to take into consideration at the June Executive Board meeting would be deeply appreciated. From my vantage point and experience these are some of the issues:

1. Members belonging to the organization on the basis of a \$15 membership provides a sense of equality.
2. Most NASIG programs presently have sufficient funding from dues, royalties, and earned interest.

3. Grants from foundations and noncommercial organizations not associated through membership with NASIG could be considered for acceptance.

4. Blind gifts or grants coming from the commercial segment of NASIG membership might offer a vehicle for giving support to NASIG in the most altruistic manner.

Please share with us your thoughts so that we can make a reasonable decision representative of your views and the future needs of the North American Serials Interest Group. Send your views to John F. Riddick, President, NASIG, Park Library, Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859.

NASIG LIBRARY SCIENCE STUDY GRANT PROGRAM / Ann Vidor

In order to support library science student attendance at NASIG conferences and encourage student participation in NASIG, a grant program is being developed this year. We are in the process of forming a committee and are particularly hoping to have at least two committee members who are library school faculty. If anyone has any suggestions of names of interested faculty members, please let me know.

Once the committee has been selected, the next steps will be writing guidelines and contacting library school deans and directors in order to enlist their support. We will be looking for students who have excellent academic records as well as a strong interest in serials. Our goal is to award the grants (4 to 6) for attendance at the third NASIG conference in Atlanta.

If any NASIG member has had any experience in establishing this type of program, the committee would appreciate suggestions. All comments, suggestions, etc should be sent to: Ann B. Vidor, Head, Serials Cataloging Dept., Price Gilbert Memorial Library, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia 30332.

NASIG'S SECOND ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Registration materials for the Second Annual NASIG Conference, June 14-17 at Denison University are being sent out in March. If you haven't received your materials, contact John Riddick at (517)-774-3031 or Park Library, Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI 48859.

PROCEEDINGS OF NASIG'S 1ST ANNUAL CONFERENCE

SERIAL CONNECTIONS: PEOPLE, INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION. PROCEEDINGS OF THE NORTH AMERICAN SERIALS INTEREST GROUP'S 1ST ANNUAL CONFERENCE, edited by Leigh Chatterton and Mary Elizabeth Clack will be published in hardbound format available in mid-May from Haworth Press at a cost of \$34.95. The Proceedings will also appear simultaneously as vol. 11, no. 3/4 of the Serials Librarian. Single copies of v. 11, no. 3/4 will not be available. Orders may be sent to Haworth Press, 12 West 32nd Street, New York, NY 10001. If you wish to order using your credit card, you may phone order by calling Haworth at (607)-722-2493.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT / Susan Davis

It has been a busy quarter: processing memberships, ordering membership cards, handling the finances of Tuttle's Tours, and other financial duties. I will be working on filing the proper tax forms to the IRS before the April 15th deadline.

A Finance Committee, consisting of me, Kit Kennedy (Coutts) and Cindy Hepfer (Health Sciences Library, SUNY Buffalo), has been appointed by the Executive Board. We will be working on putting our books in auditable order and dealing with other financial questions.

Membership cards will be mailed out over the course of this month. They will be going to 1987 members. Please bear with this delay.

Renewals to date = 213. New members for 1987 = 110. Please renew (or join) promptly so you will remain on our mailing list.

IT'S TIME TO SHAPE UP!

Are you thinking that it's time to start doing something about this year's winter accumulation of blubber? Well, NASIG would like to give you a little impetus for getting in shape. As part of the Second Annual NASIG Conference at Denison University, we are sponsoring a FUN RUN/WALK. Plans are not yet firm (like our muscles) but it will take place on Tuesday morning, June 16, at 7 a.m. Rumor has it that there will be a one mile walk and a 5 kilometer run with age categories (one is allowed to lie about one's age). More information, including maps, will be available when you jog to the conference registration desk. We look forward to seeing all of you fun-seekers!

CORRECTION!!!!!!!

An incorrect list of NASIG Executive Board Members was received by the newsletter and was printed in the December 1986 newsletter. Ms. Ann Vidor, Head, Serials Cataloging Dept., Price Gilbert Library, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia 30332 should appear in place of Ms. Colleen Wall. Our apologies to both of these NASIG members.

ACQUIRE: The University of New Brunswick In-house Automated Acquisitions System / Purabi Pal

The initial work for this automated acquisitions system started in May 1985 with the main intentions being to eliminate paper files and to provide both financial and statistical information.

ACQUIRE includes both serial and monograph records for all titles on order or received within a budget year. Copies of all new orders input into ACQUIRE are automatically dumped into the PHOENIX, UNB's online catalogue. While monograph records consist of an order screen, standing order records have an extra screen to hold the more complex order information.

In addition to the bibliographic information which is coded using standard MARC tags, each order consists of 28 fixed fields. Much of the information in these fields is either machine-generated or provided as a default. Since many of these fixed fields are indexed as are the normally indexed bibliographic fields, the system is capable of very sophisticated searching and report generation.

At the beginning of 1986, Faxon's financial tapes were dumped into ACQUIRE and a previously developed error message system alerted Acquisition staff to any problems with the dump. Once a year the system will check serial information in the file with our Faxon subscription list and inform us of any discrepancies. The UNB staff has also added journal classifications to assist in commitments for future journal prices in different subject areas.

The system can also produce an interim cataloguing worksheet which is a copy of the order screen. The UNB programmer is now working on ACQUIRE's report generation and print programs which include claims, cancellations orders, etc. Meanwhile, upgrading of all serial order records continues with the goal of having all ACQUIRE information available in PHOENIX.

The next major upgrade of ACQUIRE is the addition of the serial check-in and binding records functions. Programming will begin in May 1987 with

some of the functions ready for use by September 1987. The functions are intended to eliminate all paper files and produce on demand all forms now hand-produced. Ultimately the library users will be able to get online information which they cannot currently get: serials/periodicals on standing order, vendor information, claiming, pricing, binding records, etc.

THE BINDER'S LEAF / Martin Gordon

In this part of the newsletter we would like to provide readers with annotations of sources that will serve as basic introductory readings within the area of commercial binding liaison and administration. We would also like to become a forum for questions and answers that you may have on any topic related to commercial binding. Future input from binders, librarians, publishers etc. is most welcome and encouraged. Please let us know if there are any additional types of information you would like included in this column. Send all comments etc. to: Martin Gordon, Shadek-Fackenthal Library, P.O. Box 3003, Lancaster, PA 17604.

Bibliography:

Library Binding Institute. Standard for Library Binding. (8th ed.)
Rochester, N.Y. 1986.

Edited by Paul Parisi (President, Acme Binding) and Jan Merrill-Oldham (Head, Preservation Department, University of Connecticut) this handsomely produced and formatted set of guidelines is the single most important source for establishing policies that will support a sound commercial binding program.

The Standard provides, within well-defined sections, all technical specifications that are necessary for the construction of general commercial binding guidelines through which the librarian and the binder can successfully communicate.

Because it is so well-written, this compilation is readable throughout its entirety, yet also facilitates ready-reference approaches to specifics. The illustrations by Gary Frost enhance individual sections and eliminate any possible confusion over the finerpoints. In addition, the illustrated "Glossary Section" enables the novice to use these standards at once.

Copies of the Standard are available for \$5.00 from: Library Binding Institute, 150 Allens Creek Road, Rochester, NY 1461

Parisi, Paul A. "Methods of Affixing Leaves: Options and Implications." New Library Scene. 5:9-12 (Oct. 1986).

The author, a commercial binder by trade, provides a succinct description of eight common methods of leaf attachment currently employed in the U. S.

Mr. Parisi begins by providing the reader with a checklist against which all items for commercial binding can be measured so as to determine what is the best method for each before it is sent to the bindery. This checklist will quickly help the librarian become more knowledgeable about when and why certain methods are employed from the viewpoint of not what is most expeditious but what is actually the best for the item in hand.

Each of these methods is then explained in detail from the first to final step. At the end of each of these descriptions, the method's chief advantages and disadvantages are cited.

Because it is written with the librarian in mind, this four page overview becomes an invaluable aid for those making commercial binding decisions and should be inserted in their binding manuals for continuous reference.

A SPECIAL SERIALS PROGRAM AT ALA THIS SUMMER

The RTSD Serials Section and the RASD Machine Assisted Reference Section are co-sponsoring a program entitled: "High Tech Shopping for Serials Automation: Linking Public and Technical Services." It is designed to stress the desirability for close cooperation between public services and technical services in the selection of an automated serials system. It will be held on Saturday, June 27, 1987 from 9-11 a.m. at a location to be announced in the summer ALA Conference Program.

NASIG CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE FORMING

At the NASIG Executive Board meeting in January, Marcia Tuttle presented a draft of an ambitious program of continuing education. She is now in the process of refining the proposal and forming a committee. Those interested in becoming a member of this committee or anyone who would like to offer opinions, suggestions, etc. should contact Marcia at: Serials Dept., UNC-Chapel Hill, Davis Library 080-A, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514 or (919)-962-1067.

NASIG EXCHANGE PROGRAM COMMITTEE FORMED

Minna Saxe, Chair of the NASIG Librarian Exchange Program Committee, met with John Merriman, her UKSG counterpart, in Chicago this January to discuss further plans for a librarian exchange between NASIG and the UKSG. Mr. Merriman cautioned that the initial planning will take a long time. Only one or two exchanges per year are contemplated. Both Minna and John will be conferring at the UKSG Conference this month with Mr. A. T. Hiller, coordinator of LIBEX (Bureau for International Library Staff Exchange). LIBEX has as its aim to help facilitate exchanges between British librarians and librarians from other countries. After these meetings, Minna will be drafting guidelines and goals and purposes of the committee which will be presented to the Executive Committee at the conference at Denison.

Some very helpful information concerning what it is like to be an exchange librarian has come from Ms. Jillian McDonald who is currently on exchange with the Arizona State University Hayden Library. Ms. McDonald is from the Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh. Others who may have had a similar exchange experience are asked to contact Minna at (212)-790-4311.

Members of the Librarian Exchange Committee are Kimberly Dobbs, Library of Congress; Norma Hervey, Gustavus Adolphus College; Deborah Jensen, Syracuse University; and Kenneth Kirkland, De Paul University.

The CONSER Project is now a Program / Barbara Nichols Randall (Associate Librarian, Collection Acquisition and Processing, New York State Library).

The CONSER Participants Group, the governing body of CONSER (Conversion of Serials) Project, held a retreat November 16-19 at Airlie House in Virginia. The retreat was held to decide the future mission, policies and operations of the CONSER Project and was attended by fifteen of the CONSER Participants, the CONSER Advisory Committee and representatives from OCLC, RLIN and the Library of Congress CONSER staff.

The retreat was a well-attended and rewarding experience for the attendees. The results of three solid days of hard work which will have long-range effects on both the Program and the serials community. I am listing some of the highlights of the retreat below.

The general operations of CONSER will remain the same but the focus will be broadened. The first change demonstrating the difference is the name: the official name of the group has been changed to the CONSER (Cooperative Online Serials) Program.

The CONSER mission statement adopted at the retreat is:

To build and to maintain cooperatively a comprehensive, machine-readable database of authoritative bibliographic information for serial publications; to uphold standards and to exercise leadership in the serials information community.

To this end five goals were adopted:

GOAL 1 -- The CONSER database should be a widely available source of authoritative bibliographic information about serials.

GOAL 2 -- The membership will consist of institutions committed to participating in the CONSER Program at a national and international level which may also have local and regional applications.

GOAL 3 -- The CONSER Program should operate in a cooperative manner with an effective and efficient governance and management structure.

GOAL 4 -- The CONSER Program should support and promulgate standards and establish necessary standardized practices for the bibliographic control of serials.

GOAL 5 -- The CONSER program should exercise leadership in the fields of serials management and education and CONSER achievements should be publicized.

The governing structure of CONSER was also changed. The Participants Group which has always governed will now be called the Policy Committee. The Policy Committee will consist of Full Participants only. The Policy Committee now has a chairperson: Gloria Werner from UCLA.

The Executive Coimmittee, a newly formed committee, is responsible to the Policy Committee. This committee sets agendas for meetings, arranges for meetings, monitors participation and recommends action to the Policy Committee. The Executive Committee consists of the Chair of the Policy Committee, and representatives from the Library of Congress, the National Library of Canada, another national library (for 1987-88 National Library of Medicine) and OCLC. The Advisory Committee remains essentially the same but will include groups from all areas of serials.

The Operational Staff Group has been renamed the Operations Committee with responsibilities remaining the same. All Full and Associate participants will have representation on this committee.

Membership is one area where major changes were adopted. There were two levels of participation in the past. The four levels of future participation in CONSER will be: National, Full, Associate, and Affiliate

National participants are institutions such as LC, NLC, NLM, etc. They will authenticate, contribute to NACO, report to NST and disseminate records. They will have representation on the Executive Committee, the Policy Committee, and the Operations Committee.

Full participants will generally be research libraries. They will authenticate, contribute to NACO, and may provide online reports to NST. They will have representation on the Policy Committee and Operations Committee.

Associate participants will be libraries doing projects of specialized format or content such as union lists or the US Newspaper Program. They will authenticate and will have representation on the Operations Committee.

Affiliate participants will make contributions to already authenticated records. They will enhance records and will have representation through the CONSER Operations Coordinator at the Library of Congress.

Further information about the CONSER Retreat or the revitalized CONSER Program will be appearing in the professional literature. Anyone with specific questions about CONSER or the experience of being a CONSER library should feel free to contact me.

MEMBERSHIPS FOR 1987 NOW DUE

If you have not as yet renewed or joined NASIG for 1987, please do so now. This will be the last mailing of the newsletter and other NASIG news to those who have not joined or renewed their membership. To join or to renew, please send your check for \$15 to: Susan Davis, Treasurer, NASIG, 7721 Lewiston Road, Batavia, NY 14020. Please indicate your home and business address and specify which is to be used for mailings.

THE NASIG NEWSLETTER (ISSN 0892-1733) is published for the membership of NASIG (North American Serials Interest group).

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Submissions for the June 1st issue are due May 15th and should be sent to: Lenore Wilkas, 1 Veterans Square, Apt. D-2, Media, PA 19063.

NASIG wishes to thank the University of Pennsylvania Libraries for its cooperation in producing this newsletter.