1995

1995 Charleston Conference Call for Papers

Editor

tors. The most important factor is whether such records can be suppressed from public view. There may be excellent reasons for the public to know about what the library is not adding — after all, we have public notes informing them that titles have been canceled. At our institution, however, the majority view seems to be that showing negative decisions would frustrate the average library user. For most libraries, adding negative decision records to the catalog remains the most convenient way to provide a central record that is accessible only to the library staff. If the library can't include these records in the local bibliographic database, they may want to create a separate computer file that could be accessed by the appropriate staff. Keeping the file in computerized form makes it easier to use and maintain, particularly if the file can be accessed through a network. The file could even be kept on 3X5 cards, as we did at Cornell for many years. What form the negative decision file finally takes depends as we stated earlier, on an individual library's needs, time, and resources available. The maintenance of the negative decision file should be the final step considered during the planning process. One important consideration will be whether or not it is possible to mark negative decisions in your system so that they can be deleted at a later time. If it is possible, such encoding represents an ideal situation. The important question to consider is how long this information will remain useful to your collection development decisions. It may be desirable to keep negative decisions on serials indefinitely, while deleting the monographic records after a specified period of years. For unsolicited serial titles, some libraries delete their negative decision records after a year or two when no additional issues have been received.

In conclusion, the savings in staff time and online search costs, recording negative decisions can be very beneficial. Such information is useful to both collection development and receipts and acquisitions staff. With the high volume of titles passing over everyone's desk these days, it makes sense to have the "memory" of what gets discarded or refused, in an institutional database rather than relying on individuals' recall. The possibility of overloading the catalog can be minimized through careful planning, both for what information regarding negative decisions is recorded and the establishment of a regular schedule for maintenance. All these factors combine so that a negative decision file provides the institution with a valuable resource that supports an intelligent, cost-efficient, and intellectually defensible collection development program. 🌳

The 1995 (15th) Charleston Conference

Issues in Book and Serial Acquisition:
Still Crazy After All These Words
November 2-4, 1995
Charleston, SC

CALL FOR PAPERS/IDEAS/SPEAKERS/ETC.

1995 will be a big year for the **Charleston Conference** because it is **15 years old!** Help us to make it the very best Conference ever. The 1995 Charleston Conference will deal with issues regarding acquisitions, collection development and technical services, scholarly publishing and selection of print, electronic and other materials, vending of materials, standards, and issues which impact the world of publishing, vending and acquiring and accessing materials in the library environment.

If you are interested in leading a discussion, acting as a moderator, or would like to make sure that we discuss a particular topic, please let us know. The **Charleston Conference** prides itself on creativity, innovation, flexibility and informality. If there is something you are interested in doing, please try it out on us. We'll probably like it . . .

The Planning Committee for the 1995 Conference includes **Barbara Dean** (Fairfax County Public Library) bdean@Leo.vsla.edu, **Heather Miller** (SUNY-Albany) hm766@cnsvax.albany.edu, **Cerise Oberman** (SUNY-Plattsburgh), **Katina Strauch** (College of Charleston) and **Judy Webster** (University of Tennessee Library). The Preconference Coordinator is Julie Nilson (Indiana University) 812-855-1666, nilson@indiana.edu.

Send ideas by **June 30, 1995** to **Judy Webster**, Head, Acquisitions and Processing Team; University of Tennessee Library ; 1015 Volunteer Blvd.; Knoxville, TN 37996-1000. Phone (615) 974-4431; FAX (615) 974-2708; Internet: Webster@UTKLIB.LIB.UTK.EDU. 🌳

Profiles Encouraged:
Celia Scher Wagner

Early on: I was born in Seattle and raised on Mercer Island, a suburb where the local newspaper ran an article on stolen pet rabbits. (The headline was "Parents Stolen" and the article was written from the point of view of the orphaned baby bunnies.)

And then: I graduated from Yale in 1977 with a B.A. in English and a teaching certificate, taught briefly in the wilds of Washington state, fled to Portland, stuffed envelopes for the State of Oregon, and then joined Blackwell in 1978.

Family: Husband Rick and nine-year-old daughter Anne Marie, plus a wonderful extended family.

Favorite accomplishment: I once got to play the title role in a production of *The Diary of Anne Frank*.

Other life: I choreograph high school musicals.

Pastimes: Cooking, dancing, reading, writing letters, having friends over.

Pet peeve: I dislike bullies. Also, in the way some people can't stand a crooked picture, I am undone by cute misspellings: the "Kleen 'N' Korner" laundromat bugs me, but not as much as the local establishment named "Clancy's Country Citchen." Aaak! I'm sorry I brought it up!

Biggest surprise: Labor and delivery.

Lifestyle shared by only 3% of the population: We don't have a TV.

Notable social liability: We don't have a TV.