June 1989

American Behavioal Scientist

Katina Strauch
Against the Grain

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ARL SERIAL PROJECT

continued . . .

Convening a group of university and granting agency representatives to explore making publication through a non-commercial channel the preferred means for reporting research results;

Presentation of the ARL position to appropriate congressional committees for actions in furtherance of the national interest;

Consideration of means of providing support for the development of credible alternative(s) to traditional publications provided by commercial publishers.

A set of actions proposed on page 45 of the Okerson report suggests that ARL form a partnership with others in the scholarly community to examine the scholarly publishing process and to find ways to manage the explosion in research and knowledge and the concomitant explosion in publishing. The suggested actions include:

Publication and distribution of arguments regarding the need to reform the technique for judging academic promotions and grants so as to eliminate undue pressure for excessive publication;

Presentation of the problem to appropriate Congressional Committees, especially those involved in the funding of federal granting agencies.

Quotes from *Profscam*

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"The motivation to read appears to fall far short of the motivation to Publish."

"By one estimate academics in the sciences turn out articles for their 40,000 separate journals at the rate of two every minute."

(See page 30 of this issue.)

Making it Public

Corporate Information Provided to Us By Vendors
and Publishers

This is the first of what we hope are many corporate information sheets. Our first information sheet is provided by Sara McCune of Sage Publishing Co. If any corporate types want to submit something for this section, we would love it!

Turn the page.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

American Behavioral Scientist seeks librarian to co-edit special issue

The bimonthly journal *American Behavioral Scientist* seeks a librarian interested in co-editing a special issue which will focus on "Research resources for the Twenty-first Century: how to identify our needs, and how to finance them." The issue will seek to move beyond current dialogues (diatribes?) about the escalating pressures on library budgets and examine both causal stresses and proposed solutions. Social scientists, information scientists, and librarians will be invited to contribute papers by the issue's guest editors. If you are interested in the guest editor slot (or in participating as a contributor), please write or FAX the journal's publisher and managing editor, Sara Miller McCune at Sage Publications, Inc., 2111 West Hillcrest Drive, Newbury Park, CA 91320 (FAX # 805-499-0871).