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And They Were There

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And They Were There

Reports of Meetings

Column Editors: **Sever Bordeianu** (U. of New Mexico)
and **Julia Gelfand** (UC, Irvine)

**Art Libraries Society
of North America**
San Francisco, Jan. 28-Feb. 3, 1993
Moving into the 21st Century
by **Nina Stephenson**
(U. of New Mexico)

The Art Libraries Society of North America (ARLIS/NA) recently held their 21st Annual Conference at the venerable Westin St. Francis Hotel on Union Square in San Francisco. Conference attendees enjoyed a full and varied conference schedule, the cultural amenities of the Bay Area, and (last, but not least) unseasonably warm and sunny weather.

The theme for this year's conference was "Moving into the 21st Century," and program offerings reflected this orientation. Ten art information professionals from the former Eastern bloc attended this year's conference funded by Getty Travel Awards. Their presence and participation initiated a new era of international cooperation which should grow in the coming years. The California setting provided an appropriate environment for investigating other future challenges and potentials. Art and slide library professionals, like their colleagues in other settings, work in an era of proliferating electronic services, and must select, master, and train others to use new systems in technical and public service arenas. They are also trying to better serve the needs of increasingly diverse client populations. This is certainly true in California, where demographic statistics document a rapidly growing "minority" population. Conference programs addressed these areas, and others, with a number of programs and tours focusing on the San Francisco area's unique history, art traditions and cultural offerings.

Workshops addressed electronic services and systems used in art and visual resource settings. Among these were sessions on the Visual Resources Management System (VRMS), Dialog databases, image databases, and navigating the networks. Several conference programs focused on elec-

tronic resources. "Resource Access and Bibliographic Instruction in the Electronic Age" featured presentations on teaching users to access information through online databases, CD-ROMs, OPACs, and the Internet. Speakers in the "New Directions in Visual Resources" program discussed image databases, electronic access to images and music, and the computer exchange of museum records. "Digital Photography: The Beginning of a New Art Form" explored various aspects of digital photography. Participants in "Silicon Stepchildren: The Issue of Computer Facilities Within Art and Architecture Libraries" spoke about planning for computer labs in the library and the use of computers by architecture, art and design students.

The Bay Area's distinctive artistic and cultural heritage provided the impetus for interesting presentations on the arts of California, the west coast, and the Pacific Rim. **Gary Brechin**, author and environmental historian, lectured on the architectural development of the San Francisco area. "Decorative Arts and Architecture on the West Coast: Influences and Trends" featured slide-illustrated lectures on the California arts and crafts movement, Native American art traditions, and World Fair architecture and design. "Pacific Cultures: Multiple Images and Collections" attendees enjoyed presentations and slides on Chinese painting since World War II, Melanesian historic collections, Mexican folk art, and Japanese religious costumes and textiles. Speakers in the session "Art Scholarship in the Closet: A Little Queer, Isn't It?" spoke on issues related to gay and lesbian art historical research and scholarship. Conference attendees also had the opportunity to see attractions such as the Mission District murals, Bernard Maybeck's Palace of Fine Arts, and San Francisco art galleries.

Exhibits and business meetings also appeared prominently in the conference schedule. Plans are underway for next year's ARLIS/NA conference which will be held in Providence, Rhode Is-

land, from February 10-16, 1994.

*Julia Gelfand was in London as a Fulbright Librarian. From her vantage point, she is still communicating with the United States! Besides the interview with **Sir Charles Chadwyck-Healey** (see ATG, v 5#2), she filed the following meeting reports. Keep reading —*

National Acquisitions Group
Annual Meeting, Manchester,
England, September, 1992
The Library As A Business?
by **Julia Gelfand**

The Charleston Conference counterpart is the annual meeting of the National Acquisitions Group (NAG) which meets every September bringing together people who share the acquisitions and collection development activities in all kinds of library environments. The majority of the members were from academic and public library authorities. The most recent meeting was the seventh annual conference held September 23-25, 1992 in Manchester, England, with the theme — *The Library is a Business?* The emphasis was on development, sponsorship and fundraising activities in libraries to enhance program development and collection building. With a common directive in British libraries to develop more opportunities for competitive tendering and relying upon raising external monies to support them, this was a very timely theme. It was also a meeting where everyone clearly has a good time. NAG includes lots of social interaction and a time where librarians meet their suppliers, agents and colleagues to explore issues such as what is happening on the European front in bookselling as well as trends in the UK. This is a meeting of substance, content and great collegiality crossing the barriers of library environments.

**Technology, Scholarship, and
the Humanities: The Implications**

of Electronic Information
U. of California, Irvine,
September 30-October 2, 1992
Politics of Electronic Information
University College, London,
February 13, 1993
by **Julia Gelfand**

An invitational conference was held at the University of California, Irvine September 30 - October 2, 1992 on Technology, Scholarship and the Humanities: The Implications of Electronic Information. This conference brought together seasoned academics in the humanities, university librarians and representatives of the information technology industry to explore how computer technology could be more integrated in their teaching and research endeavors. A common theme was that electronic delivery of information may be bypassing the humanities scholar and that greater awareness is necessary of new products and ways such products contribute to the scholarly communication of their disciplines. The conference was sponsored by the Getty Art History Information Program, American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS),

the Council of Library Resources (CLR), Coalition of Networked Information (CNI) and the Research Libraries Group (RLG). It deliberated five papers created for this retreat which was designed around five major themes: 1) The Intellectual Implications of Electronic Information by **Prof. Oleg Grabar** of the School of Historical Studies at the Institute for Advanced Study; 2) The Professional Implications of Electronic Information by **Prof. Carolyn Lougee** of Stanford; 3) The Implications of Electronic Information for the Sociology of Knowledge by **Prof. Richard Lanham** of UCLA; 4) The Institutional Implications of Electronic Information by **William Arms** at Carnegie Mellon Univ.; and 5) The National Implications of Electronic Information by **Lawrence Dowler** of Harvard University Libraries. It came through loud and clear that greater attention needs to be paid to promote the role of humanities in scholarly communication. Many specialized examples of resources exist but are not universally accessible because of traditions in humanities scholarship and the fact that most scholars are unaccustomed to them and how to access and ma-

nipulate the resources.

Another related conference was held on a similar theme on 13 February 1993 at University College, London, cosponsored by the Centre of the Text in the Humanities at Oxford. The title of the conference was The Politics of Electronic Information and focused on issues of electronic texts in the humanities. Very common themes transpired as humanities faculty were targeted as underexposed to the ability to conduct research using technological advances. It was felt that many tools were not being collected by academic libraries to support their needs. Implications for copyright and related issues were explored. Clearly, this is an area that needs to be more fully supported. With input from such diverse communities of scholars, librarians, and technical experts, advances will no doubt develop quickly.

Knowledge for Europe: Librarians and Publishers Working Together
Brussels, Belgium, November, 1992
by **Julia Gelfand**

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and Publishers Working Together, a joint conference by the European Foundation for Library Cooperation and the Working Group of European Librarians and Publishers took place in Brussels November 11-13, 1992. Nearly four hundred publishers, librarians, information agents and intermediaries from throughout Europe attended to share, investigate and discuss the impacts of new and evolving technologies to enhance information products and services in Europe and abroad. Representatives of government as well as special and academic libraries participated. The content of the sessions encompassed copyright and intellectual property, scientific communication, the economics of publishing, the nature of acquisitions work, interacting with agents and intermediaries, the importance of indexing and abstracting services, cooperation between types of libraries and other equally significant issues. A small exhibition hall and ample opportunity for discussion about incorporating new services and products in a fast-changing Europe made for an interesting and worthwhile conference. Conference proceedings will be made available in 1993 by Saur.

Computers in Libraries International Conference

London, England,
February 23-25, 1993
by **Julia Gelfand**

The **Meckler** organization has established significant roots in the UK by offering an annual Computers in Libraries International Conference in London. This year it took place just prior to its U. S. counterpart on February 23-25, 1993. By collaborating with the Library Association, it gives the UK two major professional library conferences each year with the Library Association's annual meeting taking place each July. Functional and environmental emphases provided the structure of the Conference and sessions were designed around them. There were more than two dozen product review sessions introducing new methods of accessing or organizing information with various tools and resources. Tracks of sessions were available for nearly every special library environment — health and medical, commercial, law, school,

academic, information technology. Hosts of media configurations and network projects in design or operational stages were also presented. Exhibitors were represented with focus on British experiences and needs.

Ninth International Learned Journals Seminar Economics of Journal Publishing London, England, March 19, 1993 by **Julia Gelfand**

The Ninth International Learned Journals Seminar offered by the Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers in London took place on 19 March, 1993 with the theme: **The Economics of Journal Publishing**. Attending this one-day conference were representatives of the major publishing houses and some smaller society publishers who were interested in learning how best to respond to libraries being far more selective in their subscriptions and the directions of document delivery. Papers were delivered by academics who contribute to the scholarly journal and representatives of the Higher Education Funding Council who direct research funds and have expectations about where and how the findings will be disseminated. A librarian from the pharmaceutical industry shared the importance of timeliness in responding to user needs, and an editor from the British Medical Association identified the critical need for the refereeing process. The afternoon sessions consisted largely of case studies on the pricing of journals. However, different viewpoints were shared from the learned societies and commercial publishing sectors. The editorial sector was important because so many changes are taking place as the result of shorter print runs and multiple technological formatting possibilities. The conference explored production and the value of quality and examined trends in conventional journal distribution versus various options for document delivery. This was a very interesting follow-up to the EFLC meeting because it too was attended by so many STM representatives. **Paul Nijhoff Asser** was both the Honored Chairman of this session and did the conference summary. He has just retired from being President of STM and leading it for the past twenty-plus years.

United Kingdom Serials Group University of Southampton, England, March 22-25, 1993 by **Julia Gelfand**

The 16th annual conference of the United Kingdom Serials Group (UKSG) took place the 22-25 of March, 1993, at the University of Southampton. Nearly 400 librarians, subscription agents, and publishers attended. The content of this meeting most closely corresponds to the annual NASIG meeting held in the U.S. each June. The keynote address was delivered by a member of staff of the Higher Education Funding Council for England who shared insights on the Follett Study, a survey just sent to all institutions of higher education on all aspects of library services and collections. The conference offered a number of workshops on themes ranging from networked services, serials pricing, trade/library relationships, downloading, presentation skills, and copyright. A series of papers on electronic information were the most timely and relevant issue examined. **Derek Law**, Librarian at Kings College, London, delivered a very insightful paper on "Access, Control, and Availability: Current Issues for Libraries" which explored theories of decision-making in expanding holdings of alternative formats. **Dr. Fytton Rowland** of Loughborough University spoke regarding the Electronic Delivery of Research Information. An interesting paper on "Post Disaster: Rebuilding the Information System in Kuwait" was delivered by **Andrew McDonald** from Newcastle University. Lots of area visits were an option for attendees to choose from. This conference was an extremely social event with a 1960s disco one evening and a formal dinner-dance the other and attendees certainly seemed to enjoy themselves very much.

Librarians, Libraries and Publishing Chapel Hill, N.C., UNC-CH School of Library Science, April, 1993 by **Janet Flowers** (UNC-Chapel Hill)

The theme of the UNC-CH School of Information and Library Science's annual Alumni Day was very appro-

appropriate for acquisitions librarians this year. The title was "Librarians, Libraries and Publishing".

There were two parts to the program: a panel discussion on publishing opportunities for librarians and a luncheon talk by **John Berry**, Editor-in-Chief of *Library Journal*. (see related discussion in Firehose, this issue, page 64)

The panel consisted of three "editors", one for a traditional print journal, one for an electronic journal, and one for authors of scholarly monographs. The names of the speakers will be very familiar to you.

Frances Bradburn, editor of *North Carolina Libraries* described a few trends in publishing from her perspective. The three predominant ones she mentioned were the effects of economics on publishing decisions, the dumbing down of literature, and the issue of freedom of expression. She described the editorial process, including a thorough review of every feature, being used by *North Carolina Libraries* to stay within budget. She also deplored the need to write to a lower level audience, citing trends in newspaper publishing as indicators of the public's inability to absorb in-depth analysis of news issues. Finally, she expressed her concern that it is critical for the editor of a publication to have control over its contents to ensure the focus and quality of the work.

She also gave the following tips to would-be authors:

Read widely; analyze articles and consider why you do or do not like them.

Find a niche for your ideas.

Be sure to meet the publication deadlines.

Expect your work to be edited; do not take it personally when it is.

Do the necessary research.

Do a reality check (Are my thoughts worth \$125 per page as is the cost for a page in *North Carolina Libraries*?).

Look beyond the obvious; write for publications in other fields besides librarianship.

Just do it! Writing forces one to think, focus, and synthesize his or her ideas.

Marcia Tuttle, editor of the *Newsletter on Serials Pricing Issues*, an electronic journal, described the history of the publication, including some of the technical hurdles involved with electronic publishing. Looking to the future, she noted problems and oppor-

tunities. The problems include a reward system (i.e. tenure) which does not yet recognize electronic publication as meeting current standards, lack of access to electronic sources for everyone, problems with undetectable tampering with text, issues regarding who is going to archive the material, and the high cost of the technology.

On the positive side, she noted that there is now an international communications network which can provide instantaneous access to information. Also, there are efforts to organize the information being provided.

Robbie Franklin, of **McFarland Books**, gave an anecdotal approach to book publishing by describing his own career with books, starting with parents who were librarians. After characterizing his press as a very traditional one, he noted the satisfactions of editing the thoughts of others. He has edited over 1,000 manuscripts. He expressed his appreciation for the ability to pick up vibes from the manuscript itself and the author's efforts to draw his attention to it.

In advising librarians about publishing, he followed the same line as Frances, which is to get on with it. Robbie makes a distinction between an author and a writer. His view is that an author is a person much like an executive or manager who is professional with his/her writing. In other words, the author is productive and gets the work done.

Thus encouraged to share our ideas on paper or electronically, the group was then treated to a lively paper by **John Berry** on Clintonomics. John's talk, while humorous, reviewed the critical role played by libraries in the political process. He reminded us that libraries exist for the public good, which is the way we have defined and laid claim to tax support.

In describing our current political situation, John noted that the politicians in power now favor more government intervention than previous administrations because of what are perceived as marketplace failures. Despite this, there are signs that libraries may be ignored in the Clinton agenda. Therefore, John sees the need for librarians to play a stronger role in the political process.

As his example of where we need to apply political pressure, John cited the NREN (which by the way he says is equally supported by Clinton as it is

by Gore!). He is concerned that the market place forces may be applied without the public or politicians being aware of the importance of libraries to the commitment to diversity, equal access to information, and to all perspectives, including radical positions. He particularly noted our commitment to providing services for all, including the economically disadvantaged.

He thinks that libraries need to be careful to be seen, not as a special interest group on the NREN, but as representing all constituencies. He noted that, given Clinton's style, the new mode in government seems to be alliances and that libraries should be building a case for our role while becoming partners with others in the political arena, which is where he says we do our work, whether we consider ourselves political or not.

Innovative Users Group First Annual Meeting

Oakland, California,

April 16-19, 1993

by **Deborah Cole** and

Mechele Palmer

(University of New Mexico)

The First Annual Meeting of users of Innovative Interfaces systems brought together over 300 people from across the nation to learn, share, brainstorm, explain and problem-solve the various intricacies of Innovative products. The first two days were given over to user presentations and discussion groups with demonstrations of new Innovative products and Release 8 changes.

After the Opening Session seven concurrent sessions were held and repeated once: *Acquisitions, Catalog Management, Circulation, Innovacq-Only Libraries, Library Administrators, Reference/Bibliographic Instruction and Systems Administrators*. The discussion groups allowed new and older users of Innovative systems to pose and answer questions and make needed contacts. These groups were certainly of help to the more recent Innovative customers.

Saturday began with three concurrent sessions, each repeated once, on Innovative Uses of Innovative systems. How Innopac functions as an inventory system for the *Northern Regional Facility of the University of California* was presented by **Charlotte Rubens**,

Head, Technical Operations. The facility houses over three million items and their holdings can be displayed in the UC MELVYL catalog. **Anita Cook**, Director of Library Systems for OhioLINK, gave a presentation on OhioLINK's unique enhancements to the Innovative software. They are a large consortium which has developed unique modifications as well as problems to which Innovative has responded. Cook also spoke on a new development of Z39.50 which accesses OCLC through FirstSearch. *Electronic Data Interchange: Innopac + SISAC + X12 = Claims Pilot Project* presented how Dartmouth College Libraries, Innovative Interfaces and the Faxon Company have come together to develop electronic data interchange (EDI) following SISAC conventions for serial claims.

The first half of Saturday afternoon held seven concurrent panel presentations. *Barcoding Strategies* covered smart, generic, duplicates and singles barcoding as well as migration from systems using OCR labels. *Downloading Records* included presentations by four institutions on various sources used for downloading acquisitions and cataloging records as well as information stripped from or added to records, effects on workflow and cost implications. **Amy Morrison** (Swarthmore College) explained an interesting integration of Acquisitions, Paying/Receiving and Cataloging departments into one unit which accomplishes all three tasks and downloads from OCLC only once. *Staff Training* touched on training supervisors to train staff, one-on-one training, how to develop and test procedures, cross-training, documentation, manuals, checklists and orientation packets. *Fines and Patron Debt Management* presented various ways of controlling patron accounting files including using an Innovative terminal in a university business office, an automated link between the business office and Innovative and a consortium. *Retrospective Conversion* included topics on planning a retrocon project, revising the plan as work proceeds, fallout from retrocon, and solving problems discovered before and after tape loading. *Systems Parameters* covered the pitfalls to avoid and points to consider when setting up OPAC parameters. *Data Loading and Tape Output* discussed just that.

Later Saturday five concurrent discussion groups for new users were held which were aimed at newly-hired staff and new sites. These sessions covered *Acquisitions, Circulation, Database Management/ Cataloging, Serials and Systems Administration*. Wiser, if not older, Innovative site staff were available to field questions from the needy.

Sunday began with a presentation by **Jerry Kline**, President, Innovative Interfaces. Kline covered the history and growth of Innovative and plans for the future. The rest of Sunday and Monday were taken up by presentations of Innovative products by Innovative staff. *Inventory Control, Cataloging in Release 8, Statistics, Release 8 Changes for Circulation, Materials Booking, Alternate Databases, Systems Administration and What's New in Acquisitions and Serials*. Sunday evening, **Bob Walton** and **Steve Silberstein** of Innovative gave presentations on "An Ever Changing Automation Marketplace" and "Innovative: Strategies and Future Directions", respectively.

Throughout the conference various "birds of a feather" groups met as users identified their own topics needing discussion. Several poster sessions were set up covering labeling and public instruction manuals among other topics. Innovative also had demonstrations of new diacritic display terminals as well as Release 8 functions online to reinforce what was referred to in the conference presentations.

USMARC Format Integration Workshops

by **Claire-Lise BÉnaud**
(University of New Mexico)

After more than a decade of planning, MARC format integration will finally be implemented at the beginning of 1994. In the Spring and Fall of 1993, MARBI, the Machine-Readable Bibliographic Information Committee of ALA, sponsored four regional workshops across the country in Worcester, Atlanta, Dallas and Chicago. The workshops, entitled "Implementing US-MARC Format Integration" focused on four main issues: 1) describe the implementation plans of the Library of Congress and the bibliographic utilities; 2) identify ways in which the changes will affect library cataloging

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processes and online catalogs; 3) discover the cost implications for implementation; and 4) discuss techniques for implementation management. The workshops were designed for catalogers, technical services librarians, and systems/automation librarians. A show of hands at the workshop I attended in Dallas showed that it was attended mostly by catalogers.

The integration process was adopted by the Library of Congress and MARBI in 1984. Because some materials are uncatalogable and refuse to fit neatly into one of the eight MARC formats (Books, Scores, Sound Recordings, Serials, Audiovisual Media, Maps, Archives and Manuscript Control, and Computer Files), catalogers were forced to choose one format over another. This led to inconsistent treatment depending on who did the cataloging and to incomplete cataloging records. For example, one cataloger may choose to catalog a sound recording issued serially as a sound recording while another may choose to catalog it as a serial. The piece cataloged as a sound recording lost its seriality while the one cataloged as a serial lost its "sound recordingness." The integration of formats will allow the cataloger to catalog the piece as a serial and also as a sound recording. Today's eight formats will still exist: the cataloger will decide what is the primary focus of the piece (the physical characteristics of the piece according to AACR2) and add fields to fully describe the piece in hand. All fields will become valid across all formats and the cataloger will need to add one or more 006 fields to describe the secondary characteristics of the piece. The fact that all fields will be valid for all formats means that some fields will be redefined, deleted or made obsolete. The presenters stressed that while some records will require more complex cataloging, the vast majority of records will only be affected superficially.

The impact on the library online catalog designers may be far greater than on cataloging per se. The overall amount of change will vary among systems. Following is a listing of possible effects on systems — changes to validation tables, effect on the "search by format" capability, different input screens, format-specific displays, and conversion of non-integrated formats into integrated formats. Cost implica-

tions for libraries and techniques for implementation management were not presented in much detail. The implementation of format integration will have a significant impact on libraries' cataloging practice and online catalogs but will not be nearly as traumatic as the implementation of AACR2.

Professional Partners Communicating Workshop

May 18-19, 1993

The Siena Hotel, Chapel Hill, N.C.

by **Katina Strauch**
(College of Charleston)

This seminar, sponsored by **Mead Data Central** and the **UNC-CH School of Information and Library Science** had a profound impact on me. It began with dinner where I sat next to the fabulously famous **Fred Kilgour**, who at 79 is as sharp as a tack. Medieval manuscripts, he told me, were like the electronic publishing environment of today. This heightened my interest in listening to **Dr. William Graves**, Associate Provost and Director of the Institute of Academic Technology at UNC. Dr. Graves talked about the internet, gophers, and information cyberspace. This kicked off the meeting which was designed to discuss "what skill sets, knowledge bases and attitudes are key to positioning information professionals successfully within the corporate environment." Over fifty professionals were present to discuss what exactly library school should be teaching. Speakers included: **Bob Linville** (IBM), **Linda Moulton** (Cornstow Information Services, Inc.), **Debbie Norris** (Mead Data Central) and **Doug Kelly** (MCI Telecommunications Corporation). The talk was of technology and information and systems, change and transition. The moderator of the session was **Dr. James M. Matarazzo**, Professor, Simmons College, Graduate School of Library and Information Science. In the afternoon, breakout groups discussed the ideal educational experience for an individual preparing for a career in information management and information systems. **Dean Barbara Moran** (UNC-CH SILS) and **Dr. Evelyn Daniel**, Professor at UNC-CH SILS, described the school's curriculum and asked for response to the curriculum presentation. It was an

amazing experience. As a practicing librarian, I have rarely been led to believe that I had anything useful to impart to library school types, yet this group was interested. Really. Plus the changes in the library school environment since I went there (this was my alma mater) were phenomenal. It was sobering and invigorating at the same time. I was left with a great sense of optimism about our profession. Mead Data Central and other business types like IBM, MCI, Microsoft, Burroughs Wellcome, Baker & Taylor, Glaxo, Inc., GESCAN, NationsBank and many others were truly interested in the library professional and found the need for such a professional great within their organizations. One remark did stick with me. One speaker said that we need to change the name "librarian" because it was "negatively" charged. Hmmm, I thought. (It was a librarian who said this, otherwise I might not have paid any attention.) Is there any substance to this suggestion. What do you think? Should the name librarian be changed? If so, what should it be?

Imaging Attracts Record Attendance at ASIS Mid-Year Meeting by **N. Bernard "Buzzy" Basch** (Basch Associates)

Over 500 attendees participated in the imaging revolution as it unfolded at the ASIS mid-year meeting in Knoxville, Tennessee, in May 1993. Members and non-members explored one of the critical challenges in information management in a casual and collegiate atmosphere in the hills of the Smoky Mountains. **John Gage** of Sun Microsystems lead the attendees from today's exploding scientific research to multi-lingual capabilities in world scripts for documents and other applications. Panel sessions covered the evolution of imaging and the potential of visualization techniques to transform data into information from remote data bases, paper and words, imaging applications in libraries and government agencies, and the use of imaging in large corporations. Whether at the pool-side, along the Tennessee River, climbing the Appalachia trails, or digesting the rich fare presented in sessions, attendees were staying ahead of the crowd as the imaging revolution unfolds. ☞