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From Your Editor

Katina Strauch
Against the Grain

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From your (trying to get organized) editor:

Okay. I realize that this is kind of an oxymoron. Anybody who knows me well knows that I adore chaos, I thrive on it. When my life's not chaotic, I feel — well — strange, calm, unfocused. Still, I have to admit that there are times that organization has its place. Really. You read it here.

As I approach this issue of *ATG*, I am struck by its organization. We have two "feature" themes — standards and approval plans. **Isabella Hinds** has told us about electronic rights management and **Sandy Paul** about barcodes. And we'll have even more on standards in the November issue. **Judy Evans** helps bring it all together when she talks about merging a new automated system with an approval plan. **Beau David Case** has done a great job of telling us what's in the literature about approval plans. Meanwhile, there are those like **John Perry Smith**, who totally "disapprove" of the approval plan. And there's more. From the UK, **Keith Renwick** discusses CD-ROMs, **Mark Nelson** shares his vision of fulltext, and **Mike Markwith** remembers the **Richard Abel Company**. On the reviewing side, **Tom Gilson**, **Bill Finley**, and **Norm Desmarais** have done their part.

Last but not least, I can't help but remind you that the **Charleston Conference** is coming up November 7-9 and the flyer and registration form are in this issue (see pages 69-70). And so

is more information about the sixth *ATG* — the Annual Report Issue coming out in February. Here will be our chance from year to year to take stock of what's happening in our industry. Look, if I have the nerve to say something, so do ALL of you! No excuses are applicable. Send us your "input:" see this issue pages 37-38.

And, so, it's back to the chaos. See y'all soon! — Yr. Ed.

Against the Grain — Deadlines 1996 and 1997 — Volume 8 and Volume 9

Event	Issue	Insertion Order	Camera-Ready Copy
Charleston	November 96	9/13/96	9/27/96
ALA Midwinter	December 96/January 97	11/1/96	11/15/96
Annual Report	February 97	12/11/96	12/24/96
	April 97	1/29/97	2/12/97
	June 97	4/23/97	5/7/97
	September 97	7/2/97	7/16/97
	November 97	9/3/97	9/17/97
	December 97/January 98	11/5/97	11/19/97

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for authors to submit proposals and manuscripts and receive feedback electronically and will bring together Ashgate's North American, European, and Asia-Pacific offices. For further information, contact **James W. Gerard** (President, Ashgate US) at 800-535-9544 or <info@ashgate.com>.

Elsevier Science has announced the development of **ScienceDirect™**. Elsevier is inviting other publishers to participate in the service to build the most comprehensive access to the world's scientific literature. When complete **ScienceDirect™** will feature an integrated database providing Internet access to the fulltext of all 1,200 Elsevier Science journals and the fulltext of other participating journal publishers. The first release of 300+ titles will be tested in the first quarter of 1997 and will be commercially available by July, 1997. Titles will be added steadily throughout the year. **ScienceDirect™** will provide participating publishers with a full range of technical and business options for the online delivery of information and with complete control over their content. Journal fulltext will be available in HTML and PDF formats, will include all graphics, and will be fully searchable and be accessible using standard Web browsers. The journals will be complemented by access to broader abstracting and indexing services, including Elsevier's EMBASE and Geobase and other services. These abstracting & indexing services, when linked to fulltext

online and document delivery services, will provide comprehensive access. Elsevier Science is developing **ScienceDirect™** with **Lexis-Nexis** as a technology partner and continues the evolution of network electronic journal publishing which Elsevier Science started in 1991 with its experimental programs (TULIP, EASE, ELSA) in the U.S. and Europe and broadened in 1995 to commercial electronic delivery of all of its journals for local area network use, known as Elsevier Electronic Subscriptions, EES. For further information, contact **Karen Hunter**, VP, Strategic Planning & Development <k.hunter@elsevier.com>.

Speaking of **Elsevier Science**, they have announced the publication of a final report on **TULIP** (The University Licensing Program), a five-year collaborative project between Elsevier and nine leading American universities. Among the technical conclusions addressed in the TULIP summary report are: the growth of Web-based user interfaces, the importance of bandwidth in large-scale Internet FTP transfer, the importance of quick delivery in on-screen image viewing and the variability of quality output in different printer configurations. User studies emphasize the importance of: the ease of using a single system and a familiar interface, the preference for single-source access, effective search capabilities and the value of high processing speed for downloading and printing. Users also require good image text quality, sufficient critical mass of journals in a subject field, rapid turnaround time from acceptance to publication and links to related information. The report is available at <<http://www.elsevier.nl/locate/tulip>>.

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