

SLA Chemistry Division E-Newsletter

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The pH Property Help column is on vacation this issue. It will return in the April – June issue.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

TED BALDWIN

Hello, Chemistry Division members, including those in the new Materials Research & Manufacturing Section! I hope that you enjoyed pleasant holidays with friends and family, and that the start of a New Year gave you a chance to relax and renew.

As you may realize from my greeting, the SLA Board officially approved adding the Materials Research & Manufacturing Division as a section, effective November 1, 2005. The Transition Committee, led by Dawn French (DCHE Past Chair), has gone into full swing integrating MRM into the life of the Chemistry Division. Other members of this committee are Marty Rhine and Betsy Aldridge (representing the MRM Section), Ted Baldwin (DCHE Chair), Ben Wagner (DCHE Chair-Elect), Luray Minkiewicz (DCHE Archivist), and Linda Shackle (DCHE Strategic Planning).

The Transition Committee wants to ensure that MRM section members feel welcome in the Chemistry Division and that they receive appropriate support and resources to become an active section. The committee's first major activity has been to develop and distribute a survey to MRM Section members. The survey queries section members on their general needs and interests, as well as more specific activities and interests related to Six Sigma quality management program participation in libraries.

One MRM Section resource I would like to highlight is the MRM discussion list, a handy listserv that I joined several years ago and found to be a very good source for getting help from info pros in manufacturing, materials, and related areas. To join the listserv, send an e-mail to Lyris@lists.sla.org with the following command in the body of the message: `Subscribe SLA-DMRM <your-e-mail_address> <FirstName> <LastName>`.

Conference planning for the Division continues to forge ahead! Since my last column, more details have been finalized. I would like to highlight some division business and networking events. For "early birds" who arrive in Baltimore by late Saturday afternoon on June 10, please join other members of DCHE for a Dutch treat dinner at a local restaurant. On Sunday, there will be a Science Divisions Newcomer's Lunch for new members and first-

Chair's Message, cont's on page 2.

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Send Newsletter items to:
Mary Ann Mahoney
SLA Chemistry, Div E-Newsletter Editor
Chemistry and Chemical Engineering Library
100 Hildebrand Hall
Berkeley CA 94720-6000
Email: mmahoney@library.berkeley.edu
Phone: 510 642-4345
Fax: 510 643-9041

The Editor welcomes readers' contributions. Items wanted include: Articles of interest to the community of chemistry information specialists, book reviews for new reference materials, citations for new journals, accomplishments & accolades for the Members' Corner and website recommendations for "Beyond the Web of Chemistry." If you have something you would like to contribute, please contact the Editor or send it via e-mail as a text file or Word document.

Copy Deadline For April Issue:

April 5, 2006

time attendees. The lunch is co-sponsored by PAM and Sci-Tech Divisions and is a great kickoff to the conference. Anyone interested in division business is welcome to attend the DCHE Board Meeting on Sunday afternoon, just after the newcomers' lunch.

On Monday morning, you can attend one of two ticketed breakfasts, the Chemistry Academic Roundtable or the Chemistry/Engineering Corporate Roundtable. Two additional division events will follow Monday's conference sessions. The MRM Section will host a roundtable, moderated by Betsy Aldridge, highlighting Six Sigma implementation in libraries, and the DCHE Ad Hoc Committee for Information Literacy will hold its planning meeting. Monday night wraps up with the ever-famous division open house which Denise Callihan & I promise to make a memorable event. Don't stay up too late, since Tuesday morning starts bright and early with the DCHE Annual Business Meeting and Breakfast.

The complete 'dance card' of DCHE conference sessions and events will be in the next issues of *Sci-Tech News* and this newsletter. In the meantime, a preliminary conference program will be in the February issue of *Information Outlook*. You can also find information on sessions and sponsors for the 2006 conference at <http://www.sla.org/division/dche/2006/>. This page will be updated frequently in the months leading up to the annual conference; it will also be the home for speaker presentations, session summaries, board meeting minutes, and more post-conference items.

In addition to the above activities, DCHE has signed on to be part of two new and interesting initiatives. First, thanks to a suggestion from Dawn French, the Board is now participating in the SLA Twinning Project which allows SLA units to provide professional support to information professionals in developing countries, including sponsorship of a 2-year SLA membership. From a list of available candidates, the Division chose to "twin" with J. K. Vijayakumar, a native of India who is currently the Assistant Director of the Health Science Library at the American University of Antigua. We look forward to a fruitful new relationship and to further expanding the Division's international reach. See page 14 for a brief introduction to our newest member.

Second, John Saylor, Director of Collections for the National Science Digital Library (NSDL), recently invited the Chemistry Division to designate a liaison to serve on the Collection Development Advisory Council of NSDL. The NSDL (<http://www.nsdl.org>), a National Science Foundation-funded project, provides organized access to high quality resources and tools in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. This new liaison role is in line with the educational interests of the Division, and the Board agreed to establish this liaison. Ben Wagner (Chair-Elect) graciously agreed to step up to fill the role. Ben will attend the first face-to-face Advisory Council meeting at ALA Midwinter in San Antonio, right after the January SLA Leadership Conference in Houston. If you have comments or questions about this new liaison role for the division or the NSDL, please contact Ben or me.

Finally, some gentle reminders on upcoming deadlines. Entries for the Marion E. Sparks Award for Professional Development are due to Svetlana Korolev by March 15, 2006. Also, submissions for the Baltimore poster session are due to Bill Armstrong by March 1, 2006 and nominations for Division Officers to Dawn French by February 15, 2006.

– Ted ❖



Greetings from the Chair-Elect – A. Ben Wagner

Much of the excitement at this time of year is anticipation. By the time this is published, the anticipation of gifts, parties, and time with family will have mostly passed. We will be anticipating slightly longer daylight and an end to winter. For some of us, we hope that comes before May! We also look forward to summer conferences, especially SLA 2006 in Baltimore, MD from June 11-14. Our chair, Ted Baldwin, and our 2006 program planner, Denise Callihan, have put together a fine program that will soon be listed at our divisional web site.

My job as chair-elect is to look even farther ahead to SLA 2007 in Denver. To that end, I am very pleased to announce our 2007 program planner, Marie C. Fraties-Block who is employed at the NAFTA Information

Center, BASF Corporation in Wyandotte, MI. Both Marie and I will be attending the SLA Leadership Summit in mid-January 2006 in Houston, TX (a great choice for us Northern folk!). At the summit, we will begin planning for Denver 2007 in earnest. Obviously, we would love to hear from you about any program ideas or just general comments about SLA annual conferences.

At SLA 2006 in Baltimore, we will continue to plan the 2007 conference for our division. One of my main goals at the 2006 conference will be to attend as many divisional and other conference events as possible so that I can talk with as many of you as possible in person. I know Marie will also be interested in talking with you about what you find most valuable in the total conference experience. So we will do our best to be visible in Baltimore. Be sure to seek us out!

– Ben ❖

[A. Ben Wagner](#)

Sciences Librarian, University at Buffalo

abwagner@buffalo.edu

716-645-2947 x230

IMAGE UNIV.BATH



WELCOME TO ALL OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Janette D. Cross
XenoPort Inc., Santa Clara CA

Thomas L. Day
Royal Society of Chemistry,
Haddonfield NJ

Aslinda R. Stockman-Meertens
Dow Benelux BV, Terneuzen
Netherlands

Jacqueline A. Taddonio
Chemical Heritage Foundation,
Philadelphia PA

Andrea Tomlinson
Chemical Heritage Foundation,
Philadelphia PA

Norah Ningning Xiao

Valerie A. Walters

J. K. Vijayakumar
Health Sciences Library,
American Univ. of Antigua
Antigua, West Indies

The World Before 1907: Searching for Chemical Literature before Chemical Abstracts

by
David Flaxbart, Chemistry Librarian, University of Texas at Austin

“This is no study for the man who is in a hurry.”
G. Malcolm Dyson, 1947

What chemistry librarian hasn't winced at the prospect of verifying an obscure 19th-century reference? Or gotten sweaty palms when faced with a search for an otherwise unknown procedure dating from “sometime in the 1870s”? It's times like these that modern librarians, spoiled just like our patrons by desktop access to almost everything of importance, must dig deep to find their inner detectives and dust off their old print-based searching skills.

Yes, there was a world “B.C.A.” (Before Chemical Abstracts). Modern chemical science had its origins in the 18th century Enlightenment, and so did its literature. Papers on chemical topics were published in many scholarly journals, often those of various academies and philosophical societies throughout Europe and America. Journals dedicated to chemistry, such as Crell's *Chemisches Journal* (1778) and Lavoisier's *Annales de Chimie* (1789), began in the late 18th Century (Crosland, 1994). The idea of including abstracts dates from the same period, when editors realized that scientists no longer had time to read everything that was published. Both Crell's and the *Annales* included abstracts, and the first chemical abstracting journal, *Pharmaceutisches Central-Blatt*, began in 1830 (Williams, 2000). Yet for most English-speakers, 1907 – the year *Chemical Abstracts* began indexing the world's chemical literature – is the watershed date that now serves as a somewhat arbitrary demarcation between “modern” and “historical” chemistry.

Few researchers today bother to do any exhaustive documentation or attribution of the historical aspects of their work beyond the rote citation of a seminal paper, which they almost certainly have not seen or read. For most practical purposes, this is not a serious crime. Delving into the ancient minutiae of a chemical discovery or process is not something most chemists are interested in doing, since it can be very time-consuming. Some might claim quite legitimately that there is little to be learned from pre-20th century literature that has not already been thoroughly re-examined, improved upon, or discarded in the decades since (Dyson, 1947). (Patent searchers should take note that I am intentionally omitting discussion of the patent literature, where prior art is an important concept, albeit for different reasons.)

Thus most questions about pre-CA literature are likely to come from the most curious and thorough patrons. Furthermore, many historical questions are likely to be bibliographic in nature, involving the verification of a reference and locating the article, rather than a more general topical search. This can often be accomplished with CASSI, WorldCat, and a few other basic tools, without resorting to unearthing dusty old abstract sources. But when deep digging is necessary, librarians can benefit from some knowledge of resources beyond the typical. The most challenging example is the patron who wants to know the earliest discovery of a particular piece of knowledge, without knowing exactly who discovered it or when. In these cases it's important to use good reference sources in conjunction with bibliographic sleuthing, to save time and increase reliability.

Finding Journal Articles

The searcher should realize that the journal landscape of the 19th century and before was considerably different than the one we know today. Dyson lists three significant pitfalls encountered on our journey through the past: multiple

publication, anonymous authors, and short-lived or ever-changing journals. An author might have published a particular paper in several different journals, identical, slightly revised, or translated into various languages -- a practice that had largely died out by the 1870s. While this may help locate an otherwise obscure paper in a findable journal or a readable language, it can cause serious bibliographic confusion too. Anonymous communications common in journals of that era can be even more maddening. And finally, when journals were very much a personal endeavor on the part of an editor, they often died with him, or were taken over by other editors who promptly put their own stamp on it, usually by starting over with new volume numbering and prefixing their name to it: *Gilbert's Annalen* begat *Poggendorff's Annalen*, which begat *Wiedemann's Annalen*, and so on. That these possessive labels were often unofficial shorthand rather than formal titles just adds to the fun (Dyson, 1947).

Here are some resources that can be helpful in identifying pre-1907 journal articles. They are listed in rough order of usefulness and accessibility, but naturally you should choose your targets based on the time period in question and what kind of information you're starting with. This section might help librarians re-discover some forgotten gems in their collections, and maybe even rethink some weeding and storage decisions.

Beilstein/Gmelin Crossfire

The chemical Handbuch concept pioneered by Leopold Gmelin and F.K. Beilstein took a different approach to summarizing the literature for working chemists, organized around chemical substances rather than the chronological abstracting of publications and patents. The Beilstein database covers the literature of organic chemistry fairly comprehensively back to 1779. The Gmelin file covers inorganic chemistry in a similar fashion. Unlike the printed handbooks, Crossfire can be searched in a variety of ways, including author name and bibliographic data. If you're starting from a chemical structure or reaction, this is your tool of choice. Versions of these databases are also available on STN.

SciFinder/SiFinder Scholar (Chemical Abstracts)

The CAPLUS file in SciFinder contains the full content of Chemical Abstracts back to 1907. CAS has done selective retro-indexing of some pre-1907 journal literature, starting with JACS and J. Phys. Chem. (including their abstracts sections) back to their first volumes (STNews, 2005). Users should be reminded that the more powerful Registry-based search features in SciFinder and STN (e.g. CAS Roles) query only the 1967-forward CA file segment. In addition, the CASREACT file includes about 590 references from the French database back to 1840 INPI core reaction (STNews, 2004).

Catalogue of Scientific Papers. (1800-1900)

This is the best source for identifying scholarly papers by author in all the sciences (except medicine and surgery) from the 19th century, and it's also the easiest to use. Compiled by the Royal Society of London, the *Catalogue* covered nearly 1,900 periodicals at its peak. It is an author index divided into date ranges: v. 1-6: 1800-1863; v. 7-8: 1864-1873; v. 9-11: 1874-1883; v.12: Supplementary volume, 1800-1883; v.13-19: 1884-1900. Entries are brief, providing only the article title in its original language, and an abbreviated citation. One excellent feature is that multiple published versions or translations of the same paper are grouped together in a given entry. Seventeen separate subject indexes were planned, but only three were published: mathematics, mechanics, and physics. The entire set was reprinted by Scarecrow in 1968, and copies are available on the used book market.

While full digitization of the now-public-domain *Catalogue* might seem like a no-brainer, it has been the victim of missed opportunities, and so far no satisfactory electronic version exists. The three subject indexes have been added to Paratext's subscription-based **19th Century Masterfile** (<http://poolesplus.odyssey.com/19centWelcome.htm>), but the chemistry coverage in these indexes is very limited. Paratext did not respond to inquiries about when the full work might be available. The volumes have also been scanned (rather poorly) by the Bibliothèque Nationale de France, which provides free single-page PDFs on their **Gallica** site (<http://gallica.bnf.fr/periodiques.htm>). Because no text-searching or index capabilities are available, this version is not useful unless you already know the exact volume and page number you want to view. For practical purposes, it is still easier to use the print edition. For more information on the CSP, see the Scholarly Societies Project (<http://www.scholarly-societies.org/history/RSLC.html>).

International Catalogue of Scientific Literature. (1901-21)

This title, also published by the Royal Society, continued the *Catalogue of Scientific Papers* after 1901. It was a multi-part serial divided into sections on the various scientific disciplines; part D covered chemistry. It ceased in 1921, after covering literature up to about 1916 in 14 annual volumes. World War I was the disrupting force in its demise, but it helped to bridge the gap until most disciplines started their formal abstracting services. (Some biology sections remain especially useful since *Biological Abstracts* did not start until 1926.) In 1969 the Mini-Print Corp. issued a reduced-size reprint of the entire series. It has not been digitized.

Journal of the Chemical Society: Abstracts. (1871-1925)

The Chemical Society's flagship journal's even-numbered volumes contained abstracts of the literature in pure and theoretical chemistry after 1871. This section merged in 1926 with the abstracts section of the *Journal of the Society of Chemical Industry* to form *British Abstracts*, which continued until 1953. The JCS abstracts were not comprehensive, but they are the most readily accessible option for the time period before 1907. Each volume has subject and author indexes. The abstract text can be searched and PDF scans retrieved from the online RSC Archives, but it is not a database per se. It takes a bit of persistence to yield results this way.

Journal of the American Chemical Society. (1879-90)

JACS published abstracts from major foreign journals starting in its first volume in 1879; this section disappeared after 1890. (A separate section abstracting patents of interest to chemists can also be found in these early years.) After 1897 the *Review of American Chemical Research* was included as a supplement (see below). The pre-1890 abstracts have been digitized in the ACS Archive and have also been added to the CAPLUS file in SciFinder.

Review of American Chemical Research. (1895-1906)

This abstracting journal was founded at MIT by Arthur A. Noyes. Its first two volumes were published with *Technology Quarterly and Proceedings of the Society of Arts*. From 1897 to 1906, it was published as a separate supplement to the *Journal of the American Chemical Society* (bound with the Society's Proceedings). As its title implies, it initially covered only U.S. journals. When William A. Noyes (a distant relative of Arthur) became editor of JACS in 1902, RACR's scope was enlarged to include U.S. patents and papers by Americans published in foreign journals. By its final volume in 1906 RACR had grown to about 700 pages. Chemical Abstracts took over and further expanded this operation, under the latter Noyes' editorship, in 1907 (Powell, 2000). Librarians should note that RACR has *not* been digitized and is not included in the ACS Archive or in CAPLUS.

Chemisches Zentralblatt. (1830-1969)

This pioneering German abstracting journal had various titles and spellings over the years (*Pharmaceutisches Central-Blatt*, *Chemisch-Pharmaceutisches Zentralblatt*, etc.). After 1897 it was published by the German Chemical Society. It is an important tool for identifying 19th-century chemical and pharmacy literature, although it is a challenge to use for the non-German reader. Its coverage of German chemistry is regarded as superior to CA's until World War II, and its abstracts were longer and more informative. The disruptions of wars hot and cold brought on a long decline, but it lingered on through the 1960s. Many libraries have probably relegated CZ to storage or, worse, the recycler – this is a shame. Its use nowadays is naturally very limited, but it is a unique historical source that was very important in its day. No electronic version exists. (Crane, 1957; Weiske, 1973; Flambard, 1992)

Chemische Berichte. (ca.1880-96)

The German Chemical Society published abstracts (Referate) in its *Berichte* from about 1880 (in a separate section after 1884) until it took over publication of *Chemisches Zentralblatt* in 1897. Wiley now offers a new backfile package that includes *Berichte* plus the German *Angewandte Chemie* and *Liebigs Annalen*, but the status of their abstracts is still unknown.

Reuss Repertorium.

This bibliography, compiled by J.D. Reuss and originally published from 1801-21 (and reprinted by Burt Franklin in 1961), covers journals published by scholarly societies in the 17th and 18th centuries, and is a good precursor of the Royal Society's *Catalogue*. Its full Latin title, *Repertorium commentationum a societatis litterariis editarum secundum disciplinarium ordinem digessit*, translates as "Index of Articles published by Scholarly Societies, arranged by discipline." It has been digitized by GDZ at the University of Göttingen (<http://www-gdz.sub.uni-goettingen.de/cgi-bin/digbib.cgi?PPN36645336X>). For more information see the Scholarly Societies Project web page (<http://www.scholarly-societies.org/history/reuss.html>).

Poggendorff, J. C. *Biographisch-literarisches Handwörterbuch der exakten Naturwissenschaften*. (Berlin: Akademie-Verlag, 1863-)

Its title is a mouthful, and it's a handful to use. This multi-volume German biographical resource gathers dust on many a library's shelves, but it can shed light on publications from the early period into the early 20th century. For more information see the Scholarly Societies Project (<http://library.uwaterloo.ca/society/history/Poggendorff.html>). Wiley-VCH released a CD-ROM version of the entire database in 2004: (<http://www.poggendorff.com/>).

Science Citation Index (Web of Science)

SCI indexes articles and books from all time periods that have been cited by later authors. It's a good place to verify or clarify mysterious or incomplete bibliographic citations to early papers, books, patents, and miscellany. However, the abbreviations used in citations can be cryptic and often require further investigation.

In addition to the journals listed above, some of the other journals that also published abstracts during this time include:

- *Bulletin de la Société Chimique de France: Répertoire de chimie pure and Répertoire de chimie appliqué* (1857-?)
- *Annalen der Chemie* (1832-60)*
- *Journal für praktische Chemie* (1834-73)*
- *Journal of Physical Chemistry* (1896-1906)*
- *Journal of the Society of Chemical Industry* (1882-1925)
- *Annales de Chimie et de Physique* (1789-1870)

* electronic backfile available

Many journals published their own author and subject indexes annually, and some, such as *Liebigs Annalen*, helpfully cumulated these indexes every few years to make searching within that title easier.

Abbreviations and Union Lists

CASSI remains the key to translating almost any obscure journal title abbreviation. If you're stumped by cryptic citations to *Pogg. Ann.* or *Arch. Ges. Naturl.*, CASSI will lead you into the light. It also includes many serials that predate its titular 1907 starting point. CASSI's union list function, though lacking for recent titles, remains useful in identifying possible holding libraries of older materials, although WorldCat is broader and more up to date. Other earlier union list compilations, such as Bolton's *Catalogue of Scientific and Technical Periodicals, 1665-1895*, the *World List of Scientific Periodicals*; and Gregory's *Union List of Serials* were important in their day but are now largely obsolete (Mellon, 1950; Labov, 1950). Union lists specific to U.S. chemical libraries, mostly corporate, were published by the Special Libraries Association in 1935, 1939, and 1947 and are likewise now only of historical interest, as is the CZ journal title and abbreviation list, *Periodica Chimica* (Pflücke, 1952).

Finding Books

The need for this kind of literature searching is less likely to arise in everyday chemical research, but it is important for historians of science and rare book collectors.

WorldCat (OCLC)

With nearly 60 million records from over 10,000 libraries worldwide, this is the obvious first stop when searching for historical books, pamphlets, and serial publications.

RLG Union Catalog

The database formerly known as RLIN serves as a major union catalog of records describing books, serials, archival collections, manuscripts, and ephemera. It reflects the collections of a select group of major academic, public, and national research libraries, as well as archives, museums, and historical societies. It complements WorldCat and is stronger in coverage of historical/archival and rare book materials. Be sure to consult it along with WorldCat when searching for library holdings of old and obscure journals.

Chemical Abstracts Service Source Index. (CASSI)

One should not overlook the beloved CASSI when verifying obscure monographs and conferences that might have been indexed in CA. It might be your only clue for those in Russian or Slavic languages.

Dissertation Abstracts

Indexes PhD dissertations written at U.S. universities back to 1865. Records for older dissertations are brief and usually lack abstracts.

Bolton, Henry C. *Select Bibliography of Chemistry*. (Washington DC: Smithsonian Institution, 1893-1904; NY: Kraus Reprint, 1967)

This bibliography and its two supplements list books in chemistry in many languages from 1492 up to about 1902. Entries are arranged by author within these seven sections: bibliography, dictionaries/tables, history, biography, pure and applied chemistry, alchemy, and periodicals. Section VIII appeared later as a supplement covering dissertations.

Ferguson, John. *Bibliotheca Chemica*. (London: Derek Verschoyle, 1954)

Subtitled "A bibliography of books on alchemy, chemistry and pharmaceuticals," this two-volume set was originally published in 1906. It is a richly descriptive bibliography of early chemistry books in the collection of James Young (1811-83), a Scottish chemist and inventor.

National Union Catalog, pre-1956 Imprints.

The famous "green wall" beloved by catalogers and reference librarians "of a certain age," this massive printed card catalog of the Library of Congress, known as Mansell, contains book holdings information for a number of major research libraries. It's an invaluable source for books and ephemera that are not found in the WorldCat or RLIN databases (Beall, 2005).

The Web

Lastly, one should not forget that web search engines like Google can have a remarkable power to solve bibliographic mysteries if one is persistent enough. The growth of new deep-web indexing tools such as Google Scholar and digitization projects like Google Print (and many others) holds great promise in our quests for the obscure. They can locate digital copies of books and articles in otherwise unknown repositories, and they can free us from the tyranny of restrictive author-title-date searches that the more traditional resources impose. Many librarians (including this one) might even make Google their first stop, even if they're not yet prepared to admit it in public.

Happy sleuthing!

Notes

Beall, Jeffrey and Kafadar, Karen. 2005. "The Proportion of NUC pre-56 titles represented in OCLC WorldCat." *College and Research Libraries*, 66(5) 431-35. A random sample search indicated that 28 percent of Mansell entries are not represented in WorldCat.

Crane, E.J. et al. 1957. *Guide to the Literature of Chemistry*. 2nd ed. (NY: Wiley). Quoted in Maizell, Robert E. 1998. *How to Find Chemical Information*. 3rd ed. (NY: Wiley), pp.140-141. Crane was long-time editor of CA. His claim that "it is very unusual to find an abstract of a paper in CZ that is not also in CA from 1907 on" may have been based more on personal pride than actual fact.

Crosland, Maurice. 1994. *In the Shadow of Lavoisier : the Annales de Chimie and the Establishment of a New Science*. (Chalfont St. Giles: British Society for the History of Science)

Dyson, G. Malcolm. 1947. "Searching the older chemical literature." in *Searching the Chemical Literature*. (Advances in Chemistry Series, no. 30) (Washington: ACS, 1961), pp.83-91. This book collects a number of papers presented at ACS national meetings for the Divisions of Chemical Literature and Chemical Education from 1947 to 1956.

Flambard, A.R. and Weiske, C.M. 1992. "Fachinformationszentrum Chemie GmbH, Berlin: a decade in the service of chemistry information." *Chemische Berichte* 125 XXV-XXXI. The authors claim that CZ expanded its scope "to include all branches of pure and applied chemistry" by 1886-87, and that "in 1888 no fewer than 273 journals were covered." However, according to Mellon and Power, in 1910 CZ covered 162 titles; CA 435; and J. Chem. Soc. and J. Soc. Chem. Ind. combined covered 222. Crane states that CZ focused on pure chemistry until 1919, when it absorbed the abstracts section of *Zeitschrift für angewandte Chemie*.

Labov, Teresa G. 1950 (revised 1961). "Identification of less common forms of abbreviations for chemical journal titles." in *Searching the Chemical Literature*, op. cit., pp. 92-101.

Mellon, M. G. and Power, Ruth T. 1950 (revised 1960). "Searching less familiar periodicals." in *Searching the Chemical Literature*, op. cit., pp. 92-101.

Pflücke, M. and Hawalek, A. 1952. *Periodica chimica: Verzeichnis der im Chemischen Zentralblatt referierten Zeitschriften mit den entsprechenden genormten Titelabkürzungen*. (Berlin: Akademie Verlag, 1952). A supplement appeared in 1962.

Powell, Evelyn C. 2000. "A History of Chemical Abstracts Service, 1907-1998." *Science & Technology Libraries* 18(4) 93-110.

STNews, Jan./Feb. 2004, p.9.

STNews, Sept./Oct. 2005, p.9. The pre-1900 records added in 2005 to CAPLUS represent 1,600 articles from JACS; 125 articles from J. Phys. Chem.; 7,200 patent abstracts from JACS vols. 1-4, 6-10, and 12-17; plus approximately 5,000 article abstracts and book reviews from JACS and J. Phys. Chem. 7,000 records from these journals spanning 1900-06, plus several hundred "landmark papers of enduring value from 1900-1912," were added in 2004 (Sept./Oct. 2004, p.7). These records have been assigned volume "0," 0CI, and the year 1906 for CA reference purposes. They have been assigned to appropriate ICI sections, but do not have CA indexing.

Weiske, Christian. 1973. "Das Chemisches Zentralblatt: ein Nachruf." *Chemische Berichte* 106(4) I-XVI. History and statistical data on CZ, in German.

Williams, Robert V. and Bowden, Mary Ellen. 2000. "Chronology of chemical information science." <http://www.chemheritage.org/explore/timeline/CHCHRON.HTM> (Accessed 1/12/2006)

This article is based on a pathfinder available at <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/chem/info/old.html>.

Call for Nominations For Division Officers

The Nominating Committee is requesting nominations for the offices of Chair-Elect (January –December 2007, term as chair begins January 2008) and Treasurer (January 2007-December 2008). The Committee would like to hear your suggestions for names of people to consider for these offices. Self-nominations are welcome.

The Committee will prepare the slate of candidates (one candidate for each position) and present the entire slate for a vote at the Annual Business Meeting in Baltimore (June 2006).

Nominations should be received by February 15th, 2006.

Please submit nominations to:

[Dawn French](#)

Chair, Nomination Committee, SLA Chemistry
Division

Library

Millennium Chemicals

6752 Baymeadow Dr.

Glen Burnie, Md. 21060

410-762-1117

410-762-1030(fax)

dawn.french@millenniumchem.com ❖

2006 Marion E. Sparks Award for Professional Development.

The Chemistry Division of the Special Libraries Association is sponsoring a student/new member scholarship essay competition in 2006. The award is named to honor Marion E. Sparks, a chemistry librarian at the University of Illinois from 1913 until her death in 1929. Ms. Sparks contributed a great deal to the field of chemical information, her achievements include teaching courses on chemical information, and authoring and publishing what is argued to be the first book to formally address chemical literature and library instruction.

This competition is intended to encourage student members or new members of the Chemistry Division to attend the annual meeting and participate in the activities of the Chemistry Division of the Special Libraries Association.

AWARD: The winner will receive \$1,500 to attend the 2006 SLA Annual Conference June 11-14 in Baltimore, MD. The winner will also receive a certificate of achievement and will be introduced at the Chemistry Division Business Meeting & Breakfast. This award is intended to reimburse the winner's expenses for attending the convention, including: registration, airfare, lodging, food and/or the continuing education course (registration in one of the Chemistry division CE courses - "Chemistry for the non-chemist librarian" or "Chemical Information

Sources, Requests, and Reference", or any other continuing education course is recommended but not required).

ELIGIBILITY: All student members of the Chemistry Division and all individuals who became members of the Chemistry Division since January of 2005 are eligible to enter the contest.

TO ENTER: Compose an essay to address the candidate's objectives for professional development and the outcomes if a person be granted the award. Essay should not exceed 400 words or two typed doubled-spaced pages. Please include a resume and the names of two references.

Entries may be submitted by email or regular mail to:

[Svetlana Korolev](#)

UWM Libraries

University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

Milwaukee, WI 53211

skorolev@uwm.edu

Deadline for submission: March 15, 2006

Essays will be judged by a panel of SLA Chemistry Division members.

The winner will be notified by April 10, 2006 ❖

Call for Posters : SLA Annual Conference - Baltimore 2006

Libraries are changing at a rapid rate these days, forcing librarians to seek new and innovative ways of interpreting and fulfilling their roles within various organizations. How are you meeting the future? Are you using resources, materials, or even spaces in new or innovative ways that may help re-define or clarify your role as librarian or information professional? Are you beginning to interact with non-traditional users or groups?

If the answer is yes to any of these questions, we would love for you to consider sharing your ideas and experiences with your colleagues in the upcoming poster session at SLA in Baltimore, June 2006, sponsored by the Chemistry Division, Physics-Astronomy-Mathematics (PAM) Division, and the Science-Technology Division. The theme of this session is, "Working outside of the box: Science and Technology academic and corporate librarians interacting with non-traditional user groups, materials, spaces, and resources."

The poster session will provide an informal and lively venue for sharing innovative ideas on a topic that concerns us all. How are we defining or re-defining ourselves in these changing times? How do we see ourselves ten years down the road, and how is this vision beginning to manifest itself in the way we operate now? If such questions are of importance to you, please consider submitting an abstract for possible inclusion in the poster session. This is a theme that should engage us all, for it concerns the future of our profession. Guidelines for materials and layout of poster presentations are available on the SLA Chemistry Division website at <http://www.sla.org/division/dche/poster.html>.

Please submit your name, institution, fax, email address, poster title, and description (250 words or less) by email, fax, or surface mail to Bill Armstrong at the address given below. The deadline for submissions is March 1, 2006.

Any SLA Member is welcome to submit an abstract for consideration. In the event that a greater number of submissions are received than can be accommodated, members of the three sponsoring divisions will be given first preference. All applicants will be notified no later than April 1, 2006 as to whether or not their proposal has been accepted.

Contact Bill Armstrong at the address given below if you have any questions about this session. ❖

[Bill Armstrong](#)
Chemistry Librarian
Middleton Library, Reference Dept.
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803
Ph. (225) 578-2738
Fax: (225) 578-2760
Email: notwwa@lsu.edu



Tri-Society Symposium – *“What is the future of science and engineering libraries?”*

At the American Society for Information Science and Technology Science and Technology Information Systems Special Interest Group (SIG-STI) planning meeting in October 2005, the group decided to change the format of the Tri-Society Symposium. This was in part due to a conflicting pre-conference program for the ASIST 2006 Annual Meeting and in part because SIG-STI has changed focus from a heavily chemistry-oriented group to one that is more broadly focused on the sciences. Rather than overwhelm interested attendees with too many choices, SIG-STI chose to combine with the DASER Summit (<http://www.daser.org>). The theme for the combined program is “What is the future of science and engineering libraries?” This theme, which will include chemistry libraries as participants, is a result of many science and engineering libraries closing or being folded into larger central libraries.

If you wish to contribute to the planning of the Tri-Society Symposium/DASER Summit, please contact K.T. Vaughan at ktlv@email.unc.edu. ❖

[Ann Eagan](#)
ann.eagan@nau.edu
Head, Reference Services
Team Leader, Engineering and Natural Sciences Team
Cline Library
Northern Arizona University
PO Box 6022
Flagstaff, AZ 86011-6022
(928) 523-0340 Fax: (928) 523-9180
Library. ENSTeam@nau.edu



Beyond the Chemistry Web...

By Bob Buchanan

In taking over this column from Ben Wagner, chair-elect SLA Chemistry Division, I plan to keep up the tradition of covering more than chemistry. However, as an industrial chemist turned academic librarian, I find chemistry really is central. If you have any recommendations, please send them to me at buchara@auburn.edu.

GENERAL

- **Peter Sandman Risk Communication Website** (<http://www.psandman.com/>) aims at industry and governments, but libraries can also benefit. His **Laundry List of 50 Outrage Reducers** (<http://www.psandman.com/col/laundry.htm>) suggests what to do when bad news needs to be delivered, such as a journal cancellation project.
- **32 Tips to Inspire Innovation for You and Your Library** (http://www.imakenews.com/sirsi/e_article000458643.cfm?x=b11.0.w) presents lively and practical advice from Stephen Abram.

GENERAL SCIENCE

- The online version of Robert Todd Carroll's book *The Skeptic's Dictionary* (<http://skepdic.com/>) provides a skeptic's view of supernatural and pseudoscientific phenomena and ideas. Most entries are documented with references or further reading in this growing database along with links to reader comments pro and con.

FUN STUFF

- **60 Optical Illusions and Visual Phenomena** (<http://www.michaelbach.de/ot/>) offers interactive demonstrations and explanations.

MEDICAL & HEALTH

- Merck makes the full text of several **Merck Manuals** (<http://www.merck.com/pubs/>) freely available including *The Merck Manual of Medical Information – Second Home Edition*, *The Merck Manual of Geriatrics*, *The Merck Manual of Health and Aging*, and *The Merck Manual of Veterinary Medicine* (1998 edition).
- **The Merck Manual of Diagnosis and Therapy** (<http://www.merck.com/mrkshared/mmanual/home.jsp>) is a classic deserving its own entry.

CHEMISTRY

The ACS keeps adding new links, features, and resources. Some of the following are new, others are not, but all are worth keeping in mind.

- **DGRWeb 2005** (<http://dgr.rints.com/>) is the online version of the *ACS Directory of Graduate Research*. Faculty can be searched by name, discipline, research interests, institution, state, gender, keyword, and more. Kudos to the ACS for making this classic resource available free online. Also includes the 2003, 2001 and 1999 databases.
- **LiveWire** (<http://pubs.acs.org/4librarians/livewire/>), which is part of the Librarian Resource Center for ACS publications, began adding Librarian's Corner and Chemist's Corner in July 2005. Since there is no easy way to find these articles (besides opening each issue of LiveWire), here are links to two recent articles.
 - "Using RSS to stay ahead" by Erja Kajosalu (<http://pubs.acs.org/4librarians/livewire/2005/6.8/librarians.html>)
 - "Scientists as writers, scientists as readers" by Judith Currano (<http://pubs.acs.org/4librarians/livewire/2005/6.12/librarian2.html>)
- **C&E News** (web version) (<http://pubs.acs.org/cen/index.html>) currently offers free access to many sections including Books, Careers & Employment, Education, News, Safety Letters, Special Reports & Cover Stories. Browse current and previous content back to 2000.
- **Chemical Safety Letters** (<http://pubs.acs.org/cen/safety/index.html>) published in C&E News since 1993 are organized by chemical name.
- **Heart Cut** (<http://chemistry.org/heartcut.html>) and **Patent Watch** (<http://chemistry.org/patentwatch.html>) are two weekly sci-tech new features that stayed online after the cancellation of *Chemical Innovation* (formerly *Chem Tech*).
- **What's That Stuff** (<http://pubs.acs.org/cen/whatstuff/stuff.html>) connects chemistry to everyday life. ❖

The Chemistry Division Archives – What, where, why?

By Luray M. Minkiewicz

In 1966 the Chemistry Division formed from the Chemistry Section of the Science-Technology Division; how many members were in the original Chemistry Section in 1933/34?

Who was the Chair of the SLA Chemistry Division 35 years ago (January, 1971)?

These questions and more about the Chemistry Division can be answered by looking in the Archives of the Division. These archives are presently housed at the Chemical Heritage Foundation in Philadelphia, PA. Thanks to the great effort put forth by Sylvia O'Brien, my immediate predecessor as Division Archivist, in weeding and organizing the archives, it is now fairly easy to find the answers to these questions. But first, some background....

“It is the practice of the Special Libraries Association that each division shall maintain archives.” This first sentence from the Practices for Division Archives (<http://www.sla.org/content/SLA/governance/Policies/43-79.cfm>)

provides the impetus for the existence of the Chemistry Division Archives.

The “Practices” document cited above also outlines the type of documents that are normally housed in the archives, stating that “the archives should contain only materials of genuine historical importance.” The retention schedule guidelines state that records considered permanent should go to the archives.

Some of the more common materials kept in the Archives include:

- Rosters of the Division Officers and other Division committee/functionary members
- Minutes of Executive Board and other Business meetings
- Annual Reports (from the Division President and other committees)
- Procedural Manuals
- Bylaws (including all revisions and amendments)
- Publications, such as the *Chemistry Division Newsletter*
- Information on Awards (e.g., Sparks Award 2002-)

Other, perhaps less obvious, materials kept in the Archives include:

- Information on the Logo (1989)
- Surveys sent by the Division (1989, 1996, 2003)
- Certificate acknowledging contribution to SLA Building Fund (1985)
- Information on the quadrennial TriSociety Symposia (from the 3rd held in New York, NY, in 1986 to the 7th held in Los Angeles, CA, in 2002).

Most of the information in the Division Archives is in print format, with the exception of some audiocassettes of Annual Conference programs from the late 1990s. It is generally not recommended that archival documents be kept on electronic disks with the exception of possibly CD-ROMs (that should be recopied every 5-10 years); microfilm is acceptable. Any scanning for complete digitization should be accomplished within the guidelines set forth by the Association.

Now to the answers of the questions we posed at the beginning:

Q: In 1966 the Chemistry Division formed from the Chemistry Section of the Science-Technology Division; how many members were in the original Chemistry Section in 1933/34?

A: The document entitled “Chemistry Section – History” compiled by Mrs. Marie S. Goff, Chairman (circa 1952) states that there were 150 members of the Section in 1933 and membership had reached 570 by 1951/52.

Q: Who was the Chair of the SLA Chemistry Division 35 years ago (January, 1971)?

A: I purposely selected a date that was prior to 1972 since all Chairs of the Chemistry Division from 1972 to present are now listed on the Chemistry Division web site (<http://www.sla.org/division/dche/pastofficers.htm>). The archives have names of all Chairs from 1933 to present. Marian E. Wickline of Dow Chemical Co. was Chair in 1970-71. Later, she was also the Division Archivist for a few years.

According to Sylvia, most of the questions that require looking through the Archives involve questions about the members – when were they active, what did they do, any positions they held, etc. I recently did receive such a request that necessitated going through the archives.

If you have any materials for possible inclusion in the Division Archives please send me an email describing the items and, in conjunction with the Division Officers, I will determine if the materials warrant archival status. Since I am new to this responsibility, I also find that support from the Association is also just an email or phone call away!

Again, I gratefully acknowledge my predecessor, Sylvia O'Brien, who has made my job as archivist so much easier with her work in organizing the archives so efficiently and making the arrangements for their present location in Philadelphia. ❖

News from Our New Section – Materials Research & Manufacturing

On Friday, August 19, 2005, Marty Rhine, chair of Materials Research & Manufacturing Division (MRM), received notification from Ted Baldwin, Chemistry Division Chair, that the Chemistry Division had overwhelmingly voted in favor of accepting MRM as a section of the division. Marty encouraged MRM members to help with the transition to the new division and get involved in Chemistry Division activities. Marty also reminded members that if they were already members of the Chemistry Division and had recently paid the extra amount for membership in the MRM Division, they should inquire about a refund from SLA.

The section is currently planning a roundtable discussion on library projects that have been accomplished based on Six Sigma quality improvement techniques, a process that began in manufacturing and subsequently spread to service arenas. The roundtable discussion results from interest in Jean-Marie Cote's introductory Six Sigma

presentation at the 2005 conference and is planned for Monday, June 12, 2006 from 5:15-6:30 pm during the conference in Baltimore. If you have content to share for this Roundtable, please contact Betsy Aldridge, PACCAR Technical Center Library, betsy.aldrige@paccar.com or (360) 757-5234. If you are planning to attend the Baltimore conference, please let Marty know so that additional section meetings and/or social events can be scheduled.

A survey is also underway to gather input on how best to make this transition and future activities beneficial for section members. If you are a member of MRM and did not receive an invitation to complete the survey, please contact Dawn French at dawn.french@millenniumchem.com. Let's each do our part to contribute to the success of this merger -- a big thank-you from MRM to CHEM for welcoming us to your division. We do appreciate it! ❖

Meet J. K. Vijayakumar – Our Newest Member!

J. K. Vijayakumar is the winner of an SLA-KIIE Twinning Membership Award for 2006-07. As part of this program to support international librarianship in developing countries, the Chemistry Division has chosen to sponsor Mr. Vijayakumar as our newest member. Mr. Vijayakumar holds a B. Sc. in Mathematics, a Masters in Library and Information Science and finished PhD research from India. He currently is the Assistant Director of the library at the American University of Antigua, West Indies. Some of his major contributions include:

- Development of an online national database of Indian PhD Theses that contains around 1,60,000 records from more than 200 Indian Universities. The database is freely available from the INFLIBNET Website.
- Active involvement in development, testing and training of the library management software developed by INFLIBNET, called SOUL, which is being used in more than 700 Libraries in India.
- Course coordinator for World Bank supported seven training programs for Agriculture librarians in India called IT@AGRILIBNET-2003. Active involvement in number of training programs organized by INFLIBNET and Universities in India.
- 30 Articles published in international and national conference proceedings and journals.



*A warm welcome from the Chemistry Division to all our new members including the MRM Section and Mr. Vijayakumar! For more information regarding the SLA Twinning Program see:
<http://www.sla.org/chapter/cdc/twinning.html>*

Information Resources News



The International Union of Crystallography recently announced that their *International Tables for Crystallography* will be available online from SpringerLink. The anticipated date is May 2006. All eight volumes will be online, including the new Volume G, *Definition and exchange of crystallographic data*. For more information visit, <http://it.iucr.org/>. ❖



The complete *Canadian Journal of Chemistry* backfile (1951-1997) is being made available by the National Research Council Canada. The anticipated date is April 2006. For more information contact [Jason Charron](mailto:Jason.Charron@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca), Business Manager, National Research Council Canada, Research Press at Jason.Charron@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca. ❖



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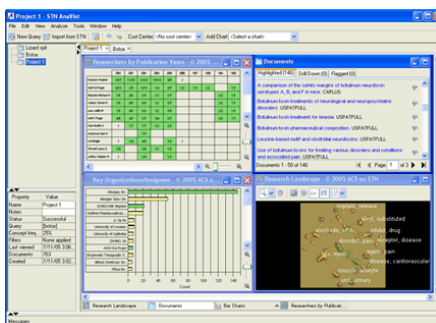
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<p>CHAIR: Ted Baldwin College of Applied Science Library University of Cincinnati 2220 Victory Parkway Cincinnati, OH 45206-2822 ted.baldwin@uc.edu 513-556-4211 513-556-4217 (FAX)</p>	<p>CHAIR-ELECT: A. Ben Wagner University@Buffalo, SUNY Science & Engineering Library 226 Capen Hall, North Campus Buffalo, New York 14260-1672 abwagner@buffalo.edu 716-645-2947 X230 716-645-3710 (FAX)</p>	<p>PAST-CHAIR/NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR: Dawn French Millennium Chemicals Library 6752 Baymeadow Dr. Glen Burnie, MD 21060 dawn.french@millenniumchem.com 410-762-1117 410-762-1030 (FAX)</p>
<p>SECRETARY: David Peck Univ Of Michigan Shapiro Science Library 919 S Univ Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1185 drpeck@umich.edu 734-647-1068 734-764-9813 (FAX)</p>	<p>TREASURER: Kiem-Dung Ta Room 306 Edmon Low Library Oklahoma State University Stillwater, OK 74078 tkiem@okstate.edu 405-744-9743 405-744-7579</p>	<p>BULLETIN EDITOR: Mary Ann Mahoney Chemistry Library 100 Hildebrand Hall UC Berkeley Berkeley CA 94720 mmahoney@library.berkeley.edu 510-642-4345 510-643-9041 (FAX)</p>
<p>MEMBERSHIP: Jim Martin University of Arizona Science and Engineering Library 744 North Highland Tucson AZ 85721-0054 martinj@u.library.arizona.edu 520-621-6378 520-621-3655 (FAX)</p>	<p>PROFESSIONAL DEVOPMENT.: Judith Currano Chemistry Library University of Pennsylvania 3301 Spruce Street Philadelphia PA 19104-6323 currano@pobox.upenn.edu 215-898-2177 215-898-0471 (FAX)</p>	<p>ARCHIVIST: Luray Minkiewicz E I DuPont De Nemours Co Experimental Station PO Box 80301 Wilmington, DE 19880-0301 luray.m.minkiewicz@usa.dupont.com 302-695-1257 302-695-1350 (FAX)</p>
<p>STRATEGIC PLANNING: Linda Shackle Arizona State Univ Noble Sci & Eng Library PO Box 871006 Tempe, AZ 85287-1006 linda.shackle@asu.edu 480-965-7609 480-965-0883 (FAX)</p>	<p>SPONSORSHIP: Dana Roth Caltech 1-32 Pasadena CA 91125 dzrlib@library.caltech.edu 626-395-6423 626-792-7540 (FAX)</p>	<p>MENTORING: Loren Mendelsohn City College of New York Science/Engineering Library New York NY 10031 LMEND@cuny.cuny.edu 212-650-8244 212-650-7626 (FAX)</p>
<p>WEBMASTER: Teri Vogel Science & Engineering Library University of California, San Diego 9500 Gilman Drive, Dept 0175E La Jolla, CA 92093-0175 tmvogel@ucsd.edu 858-534-1216 858-534-5583 (FAX)</p>	<p>ACS LIAISON: Sue Cardinal Carlson Library University of Rochester Rochester NY 14627 scardinal@library.rochester.edu 585-275-9007 585-273-4656 (FAX)</p>	<p>ASIST LIAISON: Ann Eagan Cline Library Northern Arizona University Box 6022 ann.eagan@nau.edu Flagstaff AZ 88011-6022 928-523-0340 928-523-3770 (FAX)</p>
<p>PROGRAM PLANNER – 2006: Denise Callihan PPG Industries Inc Chem Tech Ctr Library 440 College Park Dr Monroeville, PA 15146-1553 callihan@ppg.com 724-325-5221 724-325-5289 (FAX)</p>	<p>EDITOR APPRENTICE: Meghan Lafferty Science & Engineering Library University of Minnesota 108 Walter Library Minneapolis MN 55455 mlaffert@umn.edu 612-624-9399 612-625-5583 (FAX)</p>	<p>SPONSORSHIP APPRENTICE: Mindy Pennington Univ. of Cincinnati Libraries Lyondell Chemical Company 11530 Northlake Drive Cincinnati, OH 45249 mindy.pennington@uc.edu 513-530-4056 513-530-4401(FAX)</p>

<p>INFORMATION LITERACY AD HOC COMMITTEE, CO-CHAIR: Cory Craig [cjrcraig@ucdavis.edu] University of California, Davis Physical Sciences & Engineering Library One Shields Avenue Davis, California 95616-8676 530-752-0347</p>	<p>INFORMATION LITERACY AD HOC COMMITTEE, CO-CHAIR: Linda Maddux [lbm@reed.edu] Reed College Library 3203 SE Woodstock Blvd Portland, OR 97202-8199 503-777-7272</p>	<p>MRM SECTION CO-CHAIR: Betsy Aldridge [betsy.aldridge@pacar.com] 12479 Farm to Market Rd. Mount Vernon, WA 98273 360-757-5234</p>
<p>MRM SECTION CO-CHAIR: Marty Rose Rhine [mrrhine@yahoo.com] 28070 E. Frontage Rd Farmersville, IL 62533-8032 618-967-9589</p>	<p>PROGRAM PLANNER - 2007: Marie C. Fraties-Block [fratiem@basf.com] NAFTA Information Center BASF Corporation 1609 Biddle Avenue Wyandotte, MI 48192 734-324-6204 734-324-6194 (F)</p>	<p>SPARKS AWARD: Svetlana Korolev [skorolev@uwm.edu] UWM Libraries University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee Milwaukee, WI 53211 414-229-5045 414-229-6791 (F)</p>
<p>NSDL LIAISON: A. Ben Wagner (see Chair-Elect)</p>		