


FOOD FOR THOUGHT



Food, Agriculture and Nutrition Division

Special Libraries Association 

NEWSLETTER OF THE FOOD, AGRICULTURE, & NUTRITION DIVISION OF THE SPECIAL LIBRARIES ASSOCIATION
Volume 34, Number 2 ISSN: 0198-0246 Pre-Conference 2004

From the Executive Chef

Pat Allen
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I had the pleasure of representing the FAN Division at the Mid-Winter Meeting of SLA in Albuquerque, New Mexico this past January. Actually, the meeting itself is going under the new name of "Leadership Summit", which truly does seem more appropriate for what went on. Anne Hurst, our Chair-elect also attended. Valerie Perry was also in attendance, but I believe she was representing the Kentucky Chapter this time around.

I have always heard that it is bad practice to fly with a head cold, and I can now verify that most definitively. Flying into Albuquerque, which is already at a very high altitude, did cause me some problems. But, with the help of much decongestant it turned out to be a fairly productive meeting. I did miss out on some of the fun stuff that always goes on with the assistance of the hosting city, but people tell me that it was much fun. Oh well...

One of the best things that happened at the Leadership Summit was the chance to get together with all the other people from different divisions who are doing the program planning for the upcoming Nashville conference. Even though there are great benefits to doing business by e-mail or over the phone, there really is nothing like being able to sit down with somebody and discuss things face to face. The Leadership Summit provided this opportunity.

One thing I have tried to focus on this year in regards to program planning is shared programming with other divisions. One of the big trends in academia these days is the growth of interdisciplinary research areas. The interests of the FAN Division complement this trend very well, and there were two proposed programming ideas that seemed to fit our interest. One of the proposed programs was "factory farming"

and another was "sustainable fisheries". Though the original concept for these programs was proposed by the Environment and Resource Management Division (ERMD), they both seemed like they could hold a great deal of interest for many of our members. The Biomedical and Life Sciences Division was also interested in the sustainable fisheries concept. We actually started talking about these shared programs back at the winter meeting in New Orleans in January, 2003. Some tentative plans were being made at that time. We had a chance to begin firming the plans up at the summer conference in New York, 2003. It was at that point that we made the commitment to share the programs between the divisions, with Barbara Butler from ERMD taking the leadership role in putting the programs together.

Shared programming seems like a great way to add interest to our conference offerings without completely re-inventing the wheel. While ERMD was

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willing to take on the planning for the program , we agreed to share the risk of the program by taking a share of the financial burden for the program. Each time a program is put into place, there is a significant amount of financing involved in putting the program on. The audiovisual cost charged by major hotels is absolutely staggering by itself, but when you figure in all the other costs that can be accrued by putting on a conference it becomes quite unwieldy. By sharing the financial burden between divisions, we are able to put on quality programming without stressing the finances of a single division so much. SLA as a parent organization has realized this for quite awhile, and they always try to get the ball rolling on shared programs during the initial planning process that takes place in the years leading up to a conference.

Our membership also likes to get out and mingle with folks, which is something that shared programming fosters. Based on the results of our membership survey from last year, being able to go out and mingle informally with other members is a main attraction for people when they attend a conference. I tried to focus on this desire of our members by agreeing to co-sponsor an "All Sciences Reception" at the Wildhorse Saloon on Sunday night. I tried to get another shared reception activity going, but this did not work out for the upcoming conference. Putting together shared activities is not always an easy matter. We also are sharing the sponsorship of the Thursday tour with a number of other divisions, with the Engineering Division taking the leadership role in putting the tour together. SLA has changed their philosophy on tours this year, and required that tour planning be done by outside agents rather than by SLA itself, which is how I think it was done in the past. This means that a professional tour company is responsible for the tour coordination and provision, which is probably a good thing as that is what they do. Having SLA do this in the past was probably not as reliable as our members would like. After all, SLA is not in the professional tour business and the people at SLA Headquarters must work from afar in cities that they do not necessarily understand in terms of packaging and delivering tours.

Another thing that the Chair of a Division does is attend the formal sessions of the Division Cabinet. This is where decisions that affect the entire membership often get mulled over and voted on. The past few years have had a great deal of time and energy devoted to the name change that was voted

down at the New York conference. Much time in the Division sessions and Leadership Summit type meetings has been devoted to branding, the need for a new name (or not), and what would be more effective for SLA as a new brand name. That issue did not entirely go away after New York. I am not sure if it qualifies as a controversial issue or not, but there was a motion put forth at the combined Division and Chapter Cabinet meetings in Albuquerque to **do business as SLA**. The following is a summary of information that is available on this matter at the web site: < <http://www.sla.org/content/SLA/dbafaq.cfm> >.

DBA (Doing Business As) is a business practice that allows organizations the flexibility and leverage to use variations of their legal name. The Board of Directors voted and made the DBA decision during the SLA 2004 Leadership Summit in Albuquerque, NM in January 2004. The Board's decision was discussed by both the chapters and divisions at the same Leadership Summit. Many potential members outside of North America are confused by the terminology used in our extended name and, consequently, hesitate to join SLA. It appears the term "special library" is not used in Europe or the rest of the world, and this move is intended to allow people to perhaps become more interested in SLA. I think the intent of this practice will be to use the term SLA and then come up with a definition of SLA that fits the target audience more appropriately than "Special Libraries Association" would. This is not a legal name change for the organization, but is more focus on a less defined acronym that we already have used for many years being adopted more in the visual presence of the organization.

SLA has been putting a great deal of effort in changing its visual appearance. This is evidenced in the new web page that is currently being used. It will also be apparent in coming months as SLA replaces its official correspondence, adopts new logos and moves into a new headquarters building. We are now doing business as SLA, even though you will still see "Special Libraries Association" used if it fits the particular situation. I must admit, it certainly is easier to write "SLA" than the longer version. Since I ended up writing that particular acronym 18 times in this column, I am thankful for the DBA model.

2004/2005 FAN Slate of Candidates

Chair-Elect:

Jennifer Cessna
Hershey Foods Corporation

Secretary:

Marcia Stoklosa
Solutia

Director:

Pat Wilson
University of Kentucky

Director:

Tim Gaus
Heinz

Respectively Submitted by 2004/2005 FAN
Nominating Committee: Carolyn Speakman
(Chair), Patricia Arnold, Linda Hanrath

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CISTI

Dialog

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IFIS

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Swets

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Biotechnology Column

Kevin Adams

(Kadams@esr.cri.nz)

Greetings once again. Is it just me or do the years seem to go faster. I was looking over my other columns recently and found one I had started around this time last year in the month before conference was due to begin. Now amazingly enough here I am doing another column within the same space of time. As the saying goes, *time flies when you're having fun*. Mmm, not sure about that.

A great deal has occurred in the biotechnology/GMO area since my last column and it is reflected in the resources that I am reviewing. Some will be updates of sites I have previously written about others I have discovered since writing the previous column. That is the nature of the web that I both love and hate.

One page that I have been remiss in mentioning in my other columns but has now become very important in these issues is that of the European Food Safety Authority < <http://www.efsa.eu.int> >. Created originally in 2002 in response to among other things the dioxin food scare in Belgium in 1999, the EFSA has now taken on responsibility for biotechnology/GMO issues in the European Union. One of the areas that it has taken on a great deal of responsibility for is risk assessment of GMO's. In fact on the 7th of April the Authority issued a draft guidance on the risk assessment of genetically modified food and feed. It has also released opinions on new gm food crops in the last month. This site will become increasingly important for information on Europe and the way it regulates GMO's.

Governments around the world are either increasingly legislating standards for issues such as labeling or they are calling on organisations to introduce some form of standards for foods containing genetically modified content. Canada has recently joined this list. Indeed, it has moved from a voluntary standard to a national standard in this area. Last month the "Standard for Voluntary Labeling and Advertising of Foods That Are and Are Not Products of Genetic Engineering" came into force. The standard can be viewed full text, and free of charge, at the Canadian General Standards Board < http://www.pwgsc.gc.ca/cgsb/032_025/standard-e.html >.

In a previous column, I talked about alert services that were available for keeping track of these areas. One that has recently come to my attention is

Checkbiotech.org < <http://www.checkbiotech.org/root/index.cfm> >. Apart from being a good source of news in the biotechnology world you can, by clicking on a link on the right hand side of the page, subscribe to a newsletter. This can be sent to you, via e-mail, either daily or weekly. Further, you can set the newsletter up to send you information on a variety of subjects and geographical areas. Down the left hand side of the main page there are links to topics covered by the site and special reports that have been produced by the organisation responsible for the website.

Another new resource set up by an established organisation is the Global Knowledge Center on Crop Biotechnology < <http://www.isaaa.org/kc/> > set up by the International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-Biotech Applications or ISAAA. You may know them for the publications they produce in this area, especially the yearly Global Status of Commercialized Transgenic Crops, the latest of which has just been published. Some of the information on this new page is of course taken directly from the ISAAA webpage, however, there is a great deal of other information gathered by the website from other sources. Again, there is an ability to subscribe to a newsletter for up to date information. There are a number of useful links from the homepage including one to the various biotech information centers set up in various Asian and African countries. The links webpage also provides a host of resources and one group is of particular use if you are looking for resources in Latin America, although many of them look to be in Spanish.

An interesting development that has occurred in the United States recently is the opening of a website by the three government departments responsible for the regulation of biotechnology and genetically modified organisms. The United States Regulatory Agencies Unified Biotechnology Website < <http://usbiootechreg.nbio.gov/> > focuses on "the agricultural products of modern biotechnology." It provides a list of U.S. laws and regulations that cover this area and links to these relevant acts and to the agency and the regulations that these agencies produce under these acts. This is a very useful resource when looking for this sort of legal information. There is also a searchable database that contains information on "genetically engineered crop plants intended for food or feed that have completed all recommended or required reviews for planting, food, or feed use in the United States." It also states that this database will be updated regularly and while there is not a large amount of information in the database at present, it will grow in time. There is also a useful link on the homepage to

the role that the USDA, EPA and FDA play in the area of biotechnology and genetically modified crops.

The Pew Initiative on Food and Biotechnology has also produced a new report in the last month or so. Entitled "Issues in the Regulation of Genetically Engineered Plants and Animals" < <http://pewagbiotech.org/research/regulation/> >. It examines the regulatory framework that has grown up in the last 18 years in the U.S. Therefore it is a timely resource that can be used in conjunction with the one I described above.

While the ISAAA Knowledge Center gives you some links to biotechnology information in Asia, a site which provides you with a more detailed breakdown of what is happening in the Asia Pacific region is Asia Pacific Biotech < <http://www.asiabiotech.com.sg/> >. This is the website of a magazine that is published fortnightly on biotechnology and GMO's. However much of it is only available via subscription. However, on the main page, you do get access to the abstracts of the two feature articles in the latest issue and the same is true of archival issues. The main page also provides links to conferences that are being held in the region. In addition, there are links to resources in both countries in the region and in other parts of the world that have been mentioned in the magazine. The former is of the most useful I feel as it provides, as does the ISAAA website, a collection of resources not found in many other areas.

Another Canadian government organisation that has released a new report in recent months is the Auditor General. In the 2004 report < http://www.oag-bvg.gc.ca/domino/reports.nsf/html/04menu_e.html > of this department, chapter 4 of this document is an audit of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and its regulation of plants with novel traits. The focus of the audit was on this regulation and the legislation that gives the agency the mandate to evaluate the environmental safety of plants with these novel traits. It is an interesting overview of the agency responsible for these functions.

Lastly, another Canadian alerting service that is an invaluable resource that everyone should take advantage of. This is FSNet, AgNet and AnimalNet from the Food Safety Network < <http://www.foodsafetynetwork.ca/listservs.htm> > which is based at the University of Guelph. These three alerts are the work of Doug Powell constituting a major source of alerts on biotechnology and genetically modified organisms from around the world. The web

address that I have provided is where you can link to subscribe to each of these services. There are others but having subscribed to each of these for the past few months I find them the most valuable. A tremendous amount of work goes into compiling them and, while there may be overlap with other services that you may use, much of the material is from resources I have not found anywhere else.

So, that's it for another column. As always, if there is anything you think I have missed or think there is something worthwhile that I should mention please drop me an e-mail. Also, I hope to see a number you at conference. Till next time.

A Brief History of the Kathi Kohli Memorial Award

Amy L. Paster
(alp4@psu.edu)

The Kathi Kohli Memorial Award was a \$2000 scholarship, jointly funded by the Cargill Information Center and the Food, Agriculture and Nutrition Division (FAN) of the Special Libraries Association (SLA). The award was established in 1998 in honor of Kathi Kohli, who was a talented librarian at Cargill, a leader in the Special Libraries Association and its Minnesota Chapter, and a strong advocate of the information profession. Kathi passed away in 1996 after a nine month battle with ovarian cancer. The award was given to a College of St. Catherine graduate student in Library and Information Science for the purpose of encouraging the recipient to pursue a career in special librarianship. The recipients were selected based on interest in special librarianship, leadership activities, and overall academic achievements. The scholarship was funded for a five year span, 1998-2002.

Kathi Kohli Memorial Award Scholarship Recipients

1998	Sheila Hatchell
1999	Kristine Spanier
2000	John Chapman
2001	Emily (Nielsen) Waitz
2002	Noelle C. Lowrie

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Where are they now?

1998 scholarship winner Sheila Hatchell

Sheila was Head of Technical Services for the Minnesota Department of Transportation Libraries from 1998-1999. From 1999-2001 she served on the Committee on Cataloging for SLA, and helped them design and launch their Web site for SLA catalogers < <http://www.sla.org/committee/catalog1/index.html> >. That committee also approved or made recommendations on cataloging standards. While still at Minnesota Department of Transportation Sheila worked with catalogers at UC Berkeley to develop a discussion list for Transportation catalogers - its purpose was to give support to all the catalogers of transportation materials. She was hoping to then work with the catalogers to expand on the classification numbers and subject headings available for transportation materials. But then a position opened up as a manager of cataloging at the Minnesota Historical Society that was too good to pass up.

Sheila left the Dept. of Transportation Library in December 1999 to accept the position of Library Processing Manager for the Minnesota Historical Society where she supervises eight staff and the cataloging of published materials. Sheila was a member of SLA but has recently become a member of ALA. Her decision to join ALA was driven by the fact that their publications and conference programming provided more support for the kind of work she now does. Sheila attended several SLA conferences and was most impressed by the programming and professionalism of the Association, including the Minnesota Chapter.

1999 Scholarship winner Kristine Spanier

Kristine has been an active member of SLA since February 1999. She is currently the Knowledge Manager at Carmichael Lynch, Inc., in Minneapolis one of the largest advertising agencies in the Midwest. Kristine has held leadership positions within SLA. She is currently serving as the past-chair of the Advertising and Marketing Division and is also the bulletin editor. Kristine started her career in advertising with a copywriting internship at Carmichael Lynch in 1990 and worked as a copywriter in agencies and on a freelance basis until 1999. She was the founding president of the College of St. Catherine SLA Student Group. She also served as Career Guidance Chair for the Minnesota Chapter in 2000 and helped to spearhead the chapter's first mentoring program for which she won the Quality in Action Award in 2001. Kristine said it was an honor to win the scholarship and that it allowed her to complete her studies in thirteen months and to begin working with Carmichael. Kristine is one of thirteen "super searchers" included in the book "Super Searchers on Madison Avenue: Top Advertising and Marketing Professionals Share Their Online Research Strategies" written by Grace Avellana Villamora in 2003.

2000 Scholarship winner John Chapman

John graduated from MacCalaster with a degree in religious studies in 1986. John became interested in Library Science while a student doing historical research. During his library school studies, John had internships at the Minnesota Historical Society and Cargill. He would like to be famous for developing a new classification system that is more appropriate to the knowledge and information systems of the 21st century, such as the World Wide Web.

2001 Scholarship winner Emily Nielsen

Emily graduated in 2002. After graduation she worked for a while in the library at NRG Energy, Inc., until it was closed. After that she started working at EBSCO. Emily is the Account Services Manager for the Minnesota and Wisconsin area. She provides hands on training and customer service for their subscription and database customers. She is currently a member of SLA and MLA (Medical Library Association). Emily's major contribution to SLA is her continued participation with the SLA Student Group at St. Catherine's.

2002 Scholarship winner Noelle Lowrie

Noelle is a member of SLA, the Minnesota Chapter, and FAN. She is currently employed as a Senior Research Information Scientist at General Mills in Minneapolis.

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Schedule of FAN Division Activities for SLA Annual Conference, Nashville, 2004 - June 5-10

Sunday, June 6, 2004

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

FAN Outgoing Board Meeting

Join the FAN Board of Directors for this meeting. Committee Reports will be presented and happenings during the past year will be discussed. Plans for the coming year will begin at this meeting. Volunteers welcome!

Moderator: Robert (Pat) Allen, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Sponsor: American Chemical Society; Elsevier Science

Sunday, June 6, 2004

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

FAN New Member and Welcoming Reception

Come to relax and enjoy a social period with your peers. New members, student members and prospective members are especially welcome. This is a great opportunity to network!

Moderators: Carolyn Speakman, National Center for Food Safety and Technology and Pat Wilson, University of Kentucky

Sponsor: Dialog, The Information Professional Partner

Sunday, June 6, 2004

8:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.

All Sciences Reception

Reception for all science-related divisions. Come join your fellow members from the Kentucky Chapter and the Science-Technology, Engineering, Physics Astronomy and Mathematical, Biomedical and Life Sciences, Food Agriculture and Nutrition, and the Transportation Divisions for some great networking and begin to experience Nashville!

This is separate from the ACS/CAS Reception. The location for the reception is the Wild Horse Saloon in downtown Nashville from 8:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.. This is a ticketed event, \$15, which will include two drink tickets and hors-d'oeuvres. The Wild Horse Saloon was voted the Academy of Country Music Club of the Year. For more information on the Wild Horse, visit their web site: < <http://www.wildhorsesaloon.com> > (Ticket #350=\$15.00)

Monday, June 7, 2004

7:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.

FAN Business Meeting Breakfast

This ticketed event serves as the FAN Annual Business Meeting. Committee reports and awards are also presented. (Ticket # 440=\$15.00)

Moderator: Robert (Pat) Allen, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Sponsors: Chemical Abstracts Service; CABI

Monday, June 7, 2004

2:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

FAN Vendor and Publisher Update

Vendors and publishers will make presentations of new products and services of interest to the Food, Agriculture, and Nutrition Division.

Presenters: Geri Potash, NERAC, Inc.; Jerry Selman, IFIS; Thomson Scientific

Moderator: Anne Hurst, University of Georgia

Sponsor: Thomson Scientific

Monday, June 7, 2004

3:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

No More Old MacDonalds - Environmental Consequences of Factory Farming

Co-sponsoring divisions: Environment & Resource Management Division; Food Agriculture & Nutrition Division

This program will describe the environmental damage that can occur with large-scale, or "Factory Farming" of meat products. The program will provide an overview of the problem, discuss environment-friendly alternatives to factory farming and close with references and resources that can be used to learn more about the problem.

Speakers: Ms. Bettye Glover, Friends of the Drakes Creek and Red River; Ms. Jenny Drake, Peaceful Pastures.

<http://www.sla.org/nashville2004>



Schedule of FAN Division Activities for SLA Annual Conference, Nashville, 2004 - June 5-10

Tuesday, June 8, 2004

12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

FAN Luncheon with Peter Young

Come enjoy a delicious lunch and hear an informative presentation by Peter Young, Director of the United States National Agricultural Library. (Ticket #545 = \$25.00)

Moderator: Robert (Pat) Allen, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Sponsor: Nerac, Inc.

Tuesday, June 8, 2004

2:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

FAN Contributed Papers Session

Speakers will present reports on their research and projects that are of interest to the members of the Food, Agriculture and Nutrition Division.

Presenters: Sean Gaffney, Archer Daniels Midland Company; Erica Burnham, Macdonald Campus Library, McGill University; Jonathan Nabe, Agriculture and Natural Resources Librarian, University of Connecticut; and Lutishoor Salisbury, University of Arkansas Libraries

Moderator: Kevin Adams, Institute of Environmental Science & Research

Sponsor: Swets Information Services

Tuesday, June 8, 2004

3:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Food and Agricultural Information Update

Representatives from organizations that are allied with or of interest to the FAN Division will make short presentations about their organization. Reports will come from United States Agricultural Information Network (USAIN), AgNIC, United States National Agricultural Library (NAL), IAALD, FAO and the Canadian National Agriculture Library.

Moderator: Lutishoor Salisbury, University of Arkansas Libraries

Sponsor: American Chemical Society

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

7:00 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.

Incoming FAN Board Meeting

This is the meeting of the newly elected/appointed FAN Division Board. Old business left from previous Outgoing Board Meeting and new business will be covered.

Moderator: Anne Hurst, University of Georgia

Sponsor: CISTI

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

Eat Your Fish and Have it Too

Co-sponsoring divisions: Environment & Resource Management Division; Biomedical & Life Sciences Division; Food Agriculture & Nutrition Division.

Enjoy a boxed lunch and learn about issues and challenges surrounding sustainable fisheries. Dr. Charles Kennel, member of the Pew Oceans Commission discusses the "Ocean Blues" currently faced by a number of fisheries. Dr. Phillip W. Bettoli will describe the over-exploitation of paddlefish roe as a substitute for caviar.

Speakers: Dr. Phillip W. Bettoli, Professor, Tennessee Tech University; Dr. Charles Kennel, Director, Scripps Institution of Oceanography

Thursday, June 10, 2004

8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Tour: Jack Daniels Distillery

Responsible Units: Engineering Division; Food Agriculture & Nutrition Division; Science & Technology Division.

Jack Daniels Distillery Tour: learn the fundamentals of making fine Tennessee whisky with your colleagues from the Engineering & Sci-Tech Divisions! The processes will be presented from Engineering and Scientific points of view. Lunch and Shopping in lovely Lynchburg included. For the Thursday tours, buses will pick up at the Presidential Portico. You may pick up your tickets on-site at the Concierge desks located either in the Magnolia or Cascades Lobbies. (Ticket=\$45.00, Tickets must be purchased on a separate form instead of regular registration, Tickets will be sent directly from Gaylord Destination Sales)

2004 FAN Contributed Sessions

Impact and publication patterns: A model for examining resources in an international context

Erica Burnham
Macdonald Campus Library
McGill University

Objective: To determine the international impact of publications from a variety of institutes of parasitology and to evaluate sources for research in order to make better collection development decisions. The goal was to develop a straightforward method of providing academic librarians with information on the relative impact of their institution when compared with other similar institutions, as well as a method for comparing research sources on an international level.

Methodology: Using articles indexed in ISI Web of Science, Science Citation Index, eight parasitology research centers from five countries were compared over a five year period for number of publications produced and times each of the journal articles was cited. In addition, the cited references from each of the journal articles were analyzed to determine in which sources the faculty are publishing, which types of publications faculty cite, and the age of material cited. This information was compared to library holdings. With this information, the library can determine if it is meeting the needs of students and faculty in their increasingly international pursuits.

Results and Conclusions forthcoming.

Developing an Agriculture-related Digital Project

Jonathan Nabe
Agriculture and Natural Resources Librarian
University of Connecticut

Reason for Interest to the FAN Community: Digital projects are an increasingly important part of the academic library's landscape of resource offerings. They serve to enhance the library's visibility inside and outside the university community, create opportunities for faculty/staff cooperation, capitalize on new technology to

expand access to information resources, and serve as a vehicle to develop new skills in the profession. This paper will detail the best methods of creating a digital project from start to finish, as revealed in one librarian's experience.

Abstract: One librarian's experience in the development of an agriculture-related digital project, from identifying a potential project, seeking library support, developing a plan and time line, coordinating activities amongst all participants, identifying and contracting outsource services, and marketing the new project are all described. Potential for scaling up is also discussed.

Digital projects are best identified in consultation with faculty and staff members of the university community, not decided upon in advance and imposed from above. In this way, useful products which will result in consistent use from an identified community will be the result. Typical outreach activities can lead to such opportunities.

Digital projects will require the cooperation of many library staff members. Incorporating other staff into the development of a project is necessary for timely and successful completion. A library wide program for the development of such projects eases the process and increases the chances for success (especially if funding is made available).

Planning ahead in conjunction with all participants will identify questions that may not be obvious to an individual librarian intent on a project. Pitfalls can thus be avoided from the start, though not all of them. Additionally, other potential developments and directions for the project may be revealed in these consultations.

Often, using contractors to do the technical work in a digital project will save time and money. There are increasing numbers of experienced and reasonably priced contractors to choose from. Soliciting bids is a necessary but not sufficient step in identifying the best contractor for the job; in depth discussions are necessary, and can help to identify issues that may not have been considered.

The project in question (discussed below) has the potential to lead to a regional - or even national - project along the same lines. The implications of this for the development of the project are discussed.

The Project: The Water Resources Research Act authorized by P.L. 101-397 provides for Water Resources Research Institutes in each of the 50 states, the trust territories, and the District of Columbia. The Connecticut IWR was founded in 1965 with the goals of organizing effective research on water resources in the state, and to cooperate with Connecticut colleges and universities in addressing regional and statewide water issues. The Special Reports represent water-related research conducted under the auspices of the IWR from its inception to the current date. Requests for the reports come in regularly, not only from state agencies, local planning boards, and interested members of the general public, but also from water researchers around the world.

While previously the reports were listed on the IWR web site, until now they were only available by requesting hard copies from the Institute office. Many of the documents would have to be photocopied since there were no longer enough remaining copies in print for general distribution. Some were in poor physical condition, and the Institute's collection was not complete. A digital project was initiated to address these concerns and to increase access to the Reports. As a result, 37 reports are currently available as pdf files, and more will be added as they are created by the IWR.

**Evidenced based collection development at the University of Arkansas:
Results of a Faculty Survey to Assess the Usefulness of Access to Electronic Resources**

Lutishoor Salisbury (Presenter), Ty Vaughn, and Vikramjit Bajwa
University of Arkansas Libraries

The effectiveness of an information system depends on the extent to which (1) the system's characteristics are in tune with the needs of the users and (2) the users are willing and able to make use of the services provided. Identifying users' needs is the vital link in the chain of operations from information gathering to its dissemination. This presentation will highlight the results of a survey to assess the usefulness of access to electronic resources at the University of Arkansas. The primary purposes of the survey are to determine: (1)

the extent of the Faculty and research staff of the College of Agriculture, Food and Life Sciences and the Department of Biological Sciences are satisfied with the access to electronic resources, (2) the faculty preferences for electronic resources, and (3) what type of materials faculty perceived as being important to instruction and research.

224 e-mail questionnaires were sent to faculty, 162 replies (a response rate of 72.32%) were received. If both (electronic and paper) formats were provided 73 % of the faculty that responded prefer electronic journals to paper. However, if faculty had to choose only one format, 79 % will opt for electronic format. 92 % of the respondents favor a 'virtual' periodicals room. 51 % of the respondents favor an alphabetical arrangement of titles in this virtual periodicals room while 48% prefers an alphabetical arrangement by subject. 67 % of the respondents prefer encyclopedias in electronic format, 60 % favors handbooks in electronic format but only 40 % favors books in electronic format.

Mapping the Literature of Food Science Using Co-citation Analysis

Sean Gaffney, M.L.I.S.
Manager – Information Resources
Archer Daniels Midland Company

Because of the increase in the number of pertinent journals, and the rising costs of subscriptions, it is impossible for most libraries to collect anything approaching the entire set of available journals in a discipline. By using the bibliometric tool of citation analysis, it is possible for the librarian to gain a clearer picture of which journals are likely to be of the most value and to plan accordingly.

Abstract: This study mapped the scholarly literature in the discipline of food science using co-citation analysis, and explored the relationships found within this literature. Using the *Journal of Food Science*, examination of a random sample of its articles published from 2000 to 2002 yielded a ranked list of frequently cited journals. The top 13 most-frequently cited journals formed a core set for further analysis. Using the SciSearch onlinedatabase and a standard statistical package

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(SPSS), a two-dimensional map was created, and relationships between the journals studied and the discipline of food science was explored. Food science journals tended to be either industry-specific (i.e., dairy science) or industry general. The journals also tended to focus on either “pure” science (i.e., chemistry) or on applied science and technology. Of the 13 journals mapped, six fell within the area of pure science, while four were in

the area of applied science. Interestingly, three journals fell on the axis line dividing the two. At the same time, seven journals had the characteristics of being industry general, while six were more industry-specific. The results are consistent with previous indications of the interdisciplinary nature of the field of food science, drawing as it does from many fields, such as chemistry, microbiology, engineering and agricultural science.



Globalization of Information: Agriculture at the Crossroads

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And
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Food Safety Column

Carolyn Speakman
(speakman@iit.edu)

Special Resources in Food Safety Information at the National Center for Food Safety and Technology

The National Center for Food Safety and Technology (NCFST) is a consortium of government, industry and academia. It was established in 1988 by a cooperative agreement between the Illinois Institute of Technology and the U.S. FDA Center for Food Safety & Applied Nutrition and participation of the food industry. NCFST engages in collaborative research in food processing and packaging technologies. Two of the collaborative projects are specialized information resources—an extensive bibliography on *Clostridium botulinum* developed by Dr. Guy Skinner and the Biotechnology Information for Food Safety databases developed by Dr. Steven Gendel.

The *Clostridium botulinum* bibliography < <http://www.ncfst.iit.edu/CBOT/cbotbibl.html> > was developed over a number of years by Dr. Skinner in support of his research. The production of botulinum toxin in foods has been a concern of the food industry. "Botulinum toxin is 'the most poisonous substance known,' says Stephen S. Arnon, M.D., head of the Infant Botulism Prevention Program at the California Department of Health Services." (Botulinum Toxin: A Poison That Can Heal: < http://www.fda.gov/fdac/features/095_bot.html >). While the rate of foodborne disease caused by botulinum toxin in food has decreased significantly over the last thirty years, the potential for foodborne disease is still present. One of the difficulties retrieving relevant articles on *Clostridium botulinum* as it relates to food is the quantity of literature on this bacterium and its toxins. Articles on this bacterium and its toxins are indexed in the literatures of medicine, chemistry, biology, and food. The NCFST *Clostridium Botulinum* Bibliography has identified articles from all of these domains and has citations to literature published as far back as the 19th century.

One can access the botulinum bibliography from the NCFST home page < <http://www.ncfst.iit.edu> >. The bibliography is a single web page; and individual citations have been linked to PubMed when the article is indexed there. It can be searched using the Find command in your web browser. Plans for this bibliography include updating of citations, linking

citations not found in PubMed to other public databases such as Agricola. Eventually, it is hoped to reformat the current list into a searchable database.

The BIFS – Biotechnology Information for Food Safety

One of the earliest projects of the NCFST collaborative research efforts is the Biotechnology Information for Food Safety databases developed by Dr. Steven Gendel. This project provides food scientists with direct, focused access to DNA sequence information for the identification of food-related microorganism (initiated in 1991), and sequence databases for assessing the potential allergenicity of proteins used in transgenic foods (initiated in 1994). These databases will make it possible for food scientists to rapidly obtain accurate probe and primer information without the complexity of using general purpose databases or sequence analysis software.

Dr. Gendel initiated the Biotechnology information for Food Safety (BIFS) web pages in 1995. Today, the Foodborne Pathogens section contains description and links to hybridization Probes and PCR Primers for the detection, identification, and characterization of *Listeria monocytogenes* and of various *Clostridium* species or Clostridial toxins. A web page has been developed for each of these genes. The page contains, in most cases, a graphic showing the location of the Probe # and Primer #, a link to the GenBank citation, tables showing probe and primer sequences and a link to the reference in which it is described. The references are, in turn linked to the PubMed database which provides an abstract of the article, and links for ordering a copy of the cited article.

The Allergen section of the BIF pages contains three databases, "Food Allergen Sequences," "Non-Food Allergen Sequences," and "Wheat Gluten Sequences." A list of references is provided with each table. The database information on each allergen is displayed in a table format and identifies the common name of the allergenic protein, the source organism, sequence accession numbers or identifiers for each of the reference databases, and citation information. Each accession or identifier is linked directly to the matching record in the source database. The source databases for allergen sequences are:

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SP- Swiss-Prot < <http://us.expasy.org/sprot/> > - an annotated protein sequence database established in 1986. The Swiss-Prot Protein Knowledgebase is a curated protein sequence database that provides a high level of annotation, a minimal level of redundancy and high level of integration with other databases. It is maintained collaboratively by the Swiss Institute for Bioinformatics (SIB) and the European Bioinformatics Institute (EBI).

PIR (Protein Information Resource) < <http://pir.georgetown.edu/> > - a division of the National Biomedical Research Foundation (NBRF) affiliated with Georgetown University Medical Center. The Resource was established in 1984. The PIR-International Protein Sequence Database evolved from the original NBRF Protein Sequence Database developed by the late Margaret O. Dayhoff and formerly published as the "Atlas of Protein Sequence and Structure."

Entrez < <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/entrez/query.fcgi?db=Protein> > text-based search and retrieval system used at NCBI for the major databases, including PubMed, Nucleotide and Protein Sequences, Protein Structures, Complete Genomes, Taxonomy, and others. Currently, work is under way to reformat the Allergen tables into a database structure which can be queried in a variety of ways.

Sources:

Gendel, Steven M. 1992 – 2002. Biotechnology Information for Food Safety. In *NCFST Annual Reports*.

Gendel, S. 1998. Sequence Databases for Assessing the Potential Allergenicity of Proteins Used in Transgenic Foods. *Advances in Food and Nutrition Research* 42, 63-92.

Food For Thought 2003 Annual Report

Advertisers: Foodwatch; ACS Publications (American Chemical Society); Dialog; IFIS (International Food Information Service); MITS (Michigan Information Transfer Source); ORMI (Organic Materials Review Institute); Ralph McElroy Translation Company

Distribution: *FFT* is primarily an electronic publication in pdf format. Notification of new issues is sent to both the SLA-FAN Discussion List and a private distribution list. *FFT* paper subscriptions are available at no cost to current individual FAN members.

Issues: Three issues of *FFT* were published in 2002/2003. Pre-conference 2002 (V33 N1); Post-conference & Fall (V33 N2/3); and Pre-conference 2003 (V33 N 4)

Production Methods and Costs: *FFT* is produced using Adobe PageMaker 6.5 (currently supplied by the Oklahoma State University) and Adobe Acrobat 5.0 (currently privately supplied). Ongoing costs with production are minimal and are currently absorbed by the Oklahoma State University.

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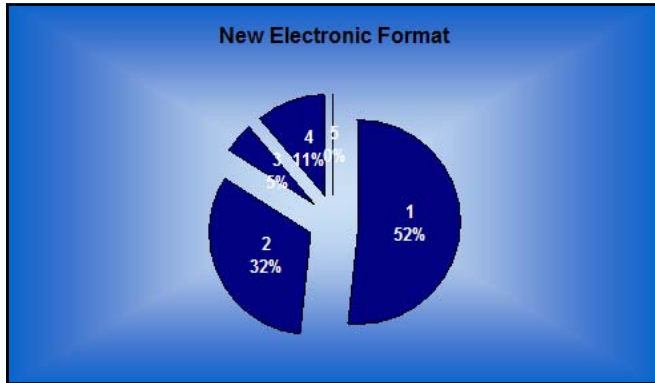
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541-343-7600, fax 541-343-8971, info@omri.org

**2003 Biennial FAN Member Survey
Results Tabulated June 5, 2003
Maximum Respondents to any question: 37**

SECTION 1: Food For Thought – The Official FAN Newsletter

**Question 1. Please rate your satisfaction with the following aspects of *Food for Thought*.
(37 respondents)**

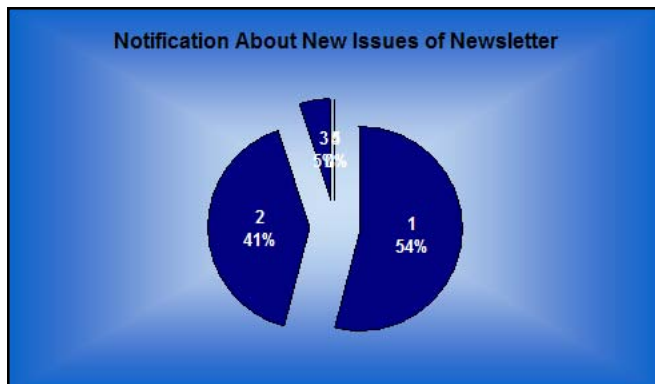


Aspect 1: New Electronic Format

1=Very Satisfied=51% (19 responses)
2=Satisfied=32% (12 responses)
3=Neutral=5% (2 responses)
4=Dissatisfied=11% (4 responses)
5=Very Dissatisfied=0 (0 responses)

Average Response=1.76

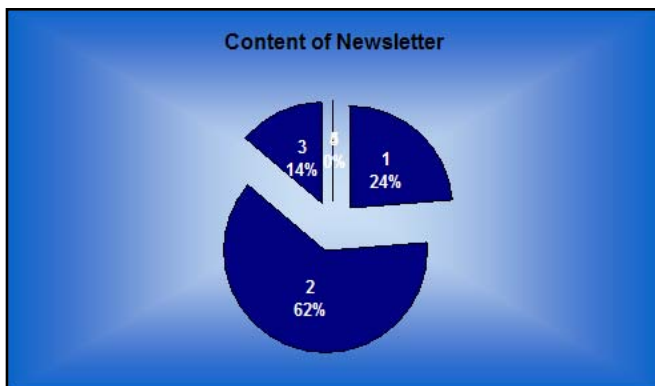
(Chart shows 52% rating "1" because the charting software rounds data)



Aspect 2: Notification About New Issues of Newsletter

1=Very Satisfied=54% (20 responses)
2=Satisfied=41% (15 responses)
3=Neutral=5% (2 responses)
4=Dissatisfied=0 (0 responses)
5=Very Dissatisfied=0 (0 responses)

Average Response=1.51



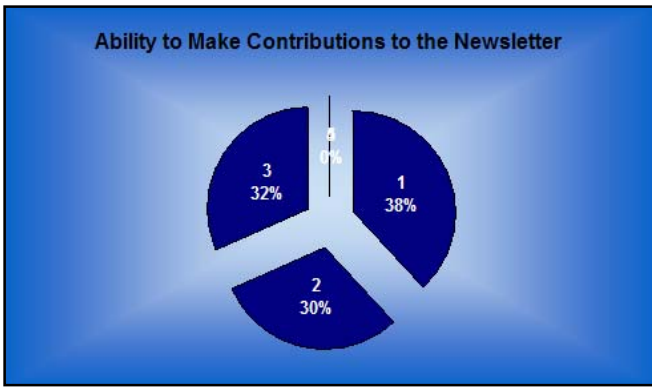
Aspect 3: Content of Newsletter

1=Very Satisfied=24% (9 responses)
2=Satisfied=62% (23 responses)
3=Neutral=14% (5 responses)
4=Dissatisfied=0 (0 responses)
5=Very Dissatisfied=0 (0 responses)

Average Response=1.89



<http://www.sla.org/nashville2004>



Aspect 4: Ability to Make Contributions to the Newsletter

- 1=Very Satisfied=38% (14 responses)
- 2=Satisfied=30% (11 responses)
- 3=Neutral=32% (12 responses)
- 4=Dissatisfied=0 (0 responses)
- 5=Very Dissatisfied=0 (0 responses)

Average Response=1.95



Aspect 5: Quality of Newsletter

- 1=Very Satisfied=32% (12 responses)
- 2=Satisfied=59% (22 responses)
- 3=Neutral=8% (3 responses)
- 4=Dissatisfied=0 (0 responses)
- 5=Very Dissatisfied=0 (0 responses)

Average Response=1.76

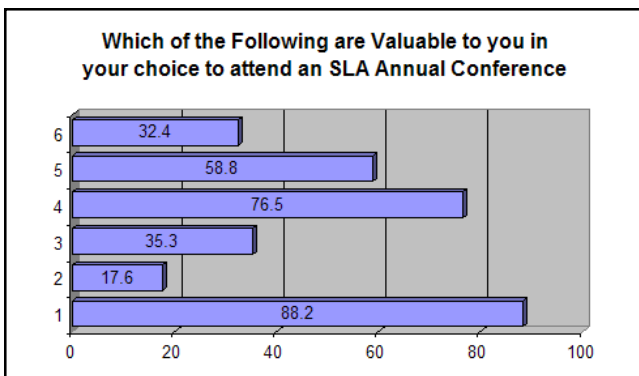
(Chart shows 60% rating "2" because the charting software rounds data)

Question 2. Please offer suggestions for improvement to our division newsletter. (5 respondents)

1. I can't print nothing but a few pages, then an error appears. This has happened for the 2 latest issues.
2. Too many ads, but I understand why ...
3. It would be nice to have the newsletter in html format instead of just pdf.
4. I would prefer that the announcement email provide the direct URL for the new issue. Or, if not that, then to the list of FAN issues. I'm always annoyed when I have to "find" the FFT link on the SLA/FAN website.
5. Convince the membership that it is important to contribute so that issues can come out in a timely manner with more than just advertisements.

SECTION 2: SLA Annual Conference

Question 3. Which of the following are valuable to you in your choice to attend an SLA Annual Conference?



1. Chance to network informally with other members (30 respondents)
2. Chance to present my research paper (6 respondents)
3. Chance to be involved in committees (12 respondents)
4. Chance to see the exhibits and vendors (26 respondents)
5. Chance to see keynote speakers (20 respondents)
6. Other (11 respondents)

Individual responses listed for Question 3, Number 6 "Other"

1. Location
2. Attend sessions
3. Overall product presentations by food database producers
4. Chance to learn about new ideas from conference programming
5. Professional development
6. Usually FAN has an interesting luncheon speaker, and excursion on Thursday!
7. To select what is meaningful to me in my profession and specific subject areas within my organization.
8. Attend presentations that speak to subject content
9. Interested in technology programming
10. Too expensive to travel from Europe to USA
11. CE courses

Question 4. Please make suggestions for future programming ideas for FAN annual conferences here. (10 respondents)

1. I like the idea of contributed papers. This allows for timely topics to be covered and also introduces some random programming interest.
2. Better balance of programming among all the interests of FAN, not just agricultural, nutrition, but also food business related topics; food industry trends, etc.
3. Form committees ahead and formulate agendas or issues to be discussed. Remind everyone to bring their business cards Follow up resolutions etc.
4. Possibility of talk on biotechnology resources and issues.
5. Consumer food trends are always interesting to learn about.
6. GMOs revisited – labeling, ethics, worldwide concerns (especially EU)
7. Food Allergens (with Biomed) Food Processing Technologies such as High Pressure (with Chemical or Engineering)
8. Solicit some topic areas to informally discuss during the conference. Establish a mentoring program. Make first time members feel welcome.
9. How about training sessions on how to search food/nutrition-related databases? We subscribe to FSTA and FROSTI through STN, but I'm sure there are ways of maximizing efficiency of searching that I'm not aware of. Also, workshops on food/nutrition patent searching in the major databases (Derwent, IFIPAT, EPO, etc.) would be very helpful to me.
10. Bioinformatics career counseling for new librarians and the those going through mid-life crisis.

Question 5. This annual conference (2003) marks the first year of a FAN Contributed Papers session where our members can present their research projects. Do you have suggestions for other new services that FAN can offer its members during the annual conference? (6 respondents)

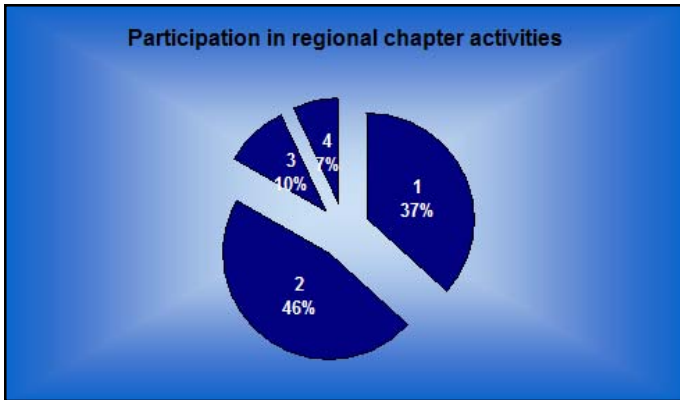
1. Copy of the presented papers available online at an archive (stable) site.
2. We may need to do this every other year if not enough members are interested in presenting every year – I believe it is a good idea, but does not need to occur every year.
3. Scholarships.
4. New research topics Bridging the gap between service and professionalism Grantsmanship Alternative resources.
5. Additional collaboration with the other science divisions.
6. Keep doing contributed papers. Great idea.



<http://www.sla.org/nashville2004>

SECTION 3: FAN Membership Information (33 respondents)

Question 6. Please rate the following as they relate to your interests and activities



Aspect 1: Participation in regional chapter activities

- 1=Important=37% (11 respondents)
- 2=Neutral=47% (14 respondents)
- 3=Not Important=10% (3 respondents)
- 4=N/A=7% (2 respondents)

Average Response = 1.71

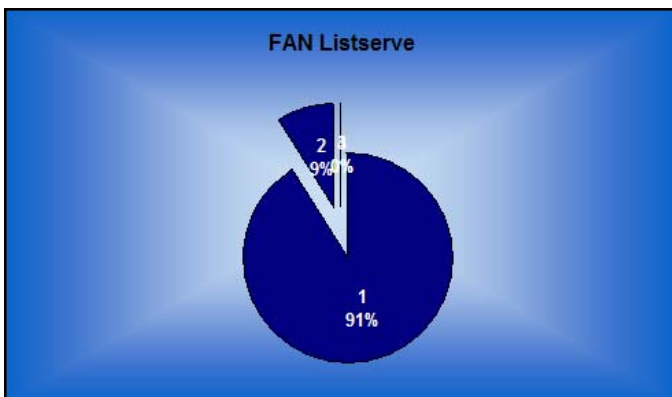
(Chart shows 46% rating "2" because the charting software rounds data)



Aspect 2: FAN Newsletter

- 1=Important=79% (26 respondents)
- 2=Neutral=21% (7 respondents)
- 3=Not Important=0 (0 respondents)
- 4=N/A=0 (0 respondents)

Average Response = 1.21



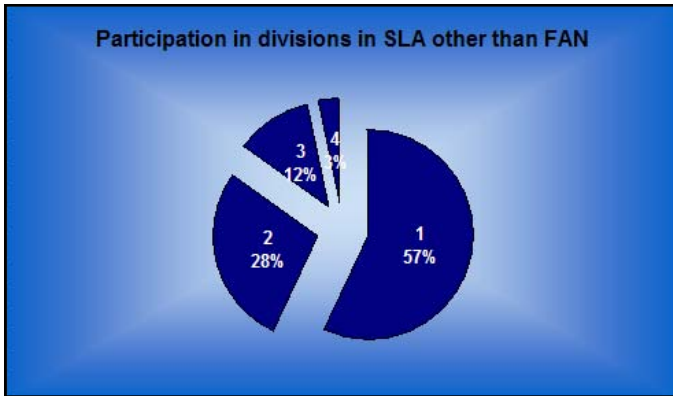
Aspect 3: FAN Listserve

- 1=Important=91% (30 respondents)
- 2=Neutral=9% (3 respondents)
- 3=Not Important=0 (0 respondents)
- 4=N/A=0 (0 respondents)

Average Response = 1.09

<http://www.sla.org/nashville2004>





Aspect 4: Participation in a division in SLA other than FAN

- 1=Important=56% (18 respondents)
- 2=Neutral=28% (9 respondents)
- 3=Not Important=12% (4 respondents)
- 4=N/A=3% (1 respondent)

Average Response = 1.55

(Chart shows 57% rating "1" because the charting software rounds data)



Aspect 5: Participation in organization other than SLA

- 1=Important=49% (15 respondents)
- 2=Neutral=45% (14 respondents)
- 3=Not Important=3% (1 respondent)
- 4=N/A=3% (0 respondents)

Average Response = 1.53

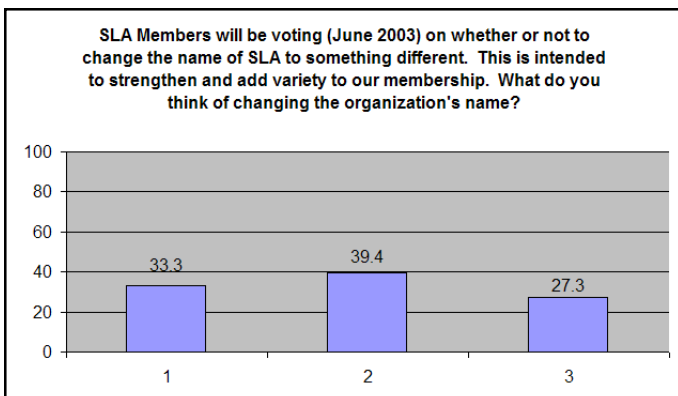


Aspect 6: Information Outlook Monthly Magazine

- 1=Important=31% (10 respondents)
- 2=Neutral=38% (12 respondents)
- 3=Not Important=31% (10 respondents)
- 4=N/A=0 (0 respondents)

Average Response = 2.00

7. SLA members will be voting (June 2003) on whether to change the name of SLA to something different. This is intended to strengthen and add variety to our membership. What do you think of changing the organization's name?



1. I like the idea of changing the name. (11 respondents)

2. I think our current name is just fine. (13 respondents)

3. I do not have a strong opinion either way. (9 respondents)

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