



Food for Thought

Bulletin of the Food, Agriculture and Nutrition Division

VOLUME 37, ISSUE 1

POST CONFERENCE 2006

From the Executive Chef

Amy Paster
alp4@psu.edu

Greetings from your new Executive Chef, and Happy Anniversary! FAN was established in 1972, and we will be celebrating our 35th anniversary next year in Denver. Watch for special events and announcements. It is hard to believe that the summer is almost over and soon it will be fall. I would like to take a few minutes to introduce myself to you and then fill you in on some of what is happening in FAN. I have been a member of SLA and FAN for over twenty years. In those years I have served – sometimes more than once - as FAN Secretary, Public Relations Chair, and Director. I have also been the FAN Archivist ever since the archives moved to Penn State in 1999. I have also served a couple of terms on the SLA Cataloging Committee. In 1997 I was honored to be the first academic librarian to be the recipient of the FAN Distinguished Member Award. For the past eleven years I have been the head of the Life Sciences Library at The Pennsylvania State University. Previous to that I was a science reference librarian/science cataloger also at Penn State. The subject areas covered by the Life Sciences Library include agriculture, biology, and health. I am responsible for general science, entomology, mycology, and turfgrass, which explains the John Deere bandana I wore to the FAN business meeting in Baltimore last month.

My goals as executive chef are to:

- Finish the corrections to the Practices Manual, and move it to the website
- Create, conduct, and analyze the results of the membership survey
- Have a successful program in Denver
- Increase FAN membership by 10 members, or at least not lose anyone else

These goals can be reached with your help.

FAN is one of the smaller SLA Divisions, so everyone needs to pitch in to help. You may have noticed that Pat Arnold is taking a second turn as chair-elect. There are a number of opportunities available to you with a variety of responsibility levels. We need people to serve

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on the nominating committee. For those of you who enjoy a good party we can use some help planning a 35th anniversary reception in Denver. A membership survey will be conducted this year, so if that is your thing please contact me.

Those of you who were able to attend the conference in Baltimore know what a great job Jennifer and the others did. The Science of Chocolate session was a huge success. That was the first time I can remember attending a session where people stayed until the very end even though we were running a few minutes late. True, a number of people were waiting for the raffle drawing to see if they won some fabulous chocolate. Congratulations to Anita Ezzo – this year's winner of the FAN Distinguished Member Award. Some members volunteered to write brief reports on programs that they attended. Look for them in this issue of the newsletter.

For those of you who like to plan ahead here is the tentative Denver schedule:

Saturday, June 2, 2007

6:30-8:00 Informal no-host
dinner

Sunday, June 3, 2007

2:00-2:00 FAN Board Meeting
8:00-9:30 FAN 35th Anniversary
Reception

Monday, June 4, 2007

7:00-8:30 Breakfast Business
Meeting – yes that is 7:00 A.M.
1:30-3:00 New Trends in Food,
Agriculture, and
Nutrition aka Ag Update
4:00-5:30 Science of Beer - co-
sponsoring with Sci-Tech

Tuesday, June 5, 2007

9:00-12:30 Federated Searching -
co-sponsoring with Sci- Tech
2:30-4:00 FAN Contributed
Papers Session
7:00-9:00 All Science Reception

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Wednesday, June 6, 2007

11:00-12:30 FAN Lunch, with
speaker to be announced
1:00-2:30 Vendor Update Session

I am looking forward to serving as your FAN Executive Chef, or Farmer in my case. I will try and keep you all informed by sending out occasional updates on the FAN list. Pat Arnold and I will be attending the SLA Leadership Summit in

January and we will report back to you when we return – unless of course we strike it rich on a slot machine. Please feel free to contact me or any other member of the Board if you have questions, suggestions, or would like to help out.



Take care, be well
Amy Paster

WHO'S WHO IN FAN: A DIRECTORY OF OFFICERS

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A **Big Thank You** to all of FAN's Sponsors at our 2006 SLA Conference in Baltimore!

Your support makes our programs possible!

ACS Publications <http://www.acs.org>

CABI <http://www.cabi.org>

CAS <http://www.cas.org>

Elsevier <http://www.elsevier.com/>

IFIS [International Food Information Service] <http://www.foodsciencecentral.com/>

Mintel Group <http://www.mintel.com/frontpage/>

Nerac <http://www.nerac.com/>

Research for Libraries <http://www.researchforlibraries.com/>

SnapData International Group <http://www.snapdata.com/>

Springer <http://www.springeronline.com/>

Thomson Scientific <http://scientific.thomson.com/>

Wiley <http://www.wiley.com/>

Thank you also to **Haworth Press** [<http://www.haworthpress.com/>] for supporting the Travel Grant Award and the Distinguished Member Award!

Thanks again,
The officers & membership of FAN



ST. LOUIS: Millard S. Cohen Executive, food and wine expert, civic leader

Tuesday, Oct. 24 2006

Millard S. Cohen, president of Nixdorff-Krein Industries and an active figure in St. Louis food-and-wine circles, died Monday (Oct. 23, 2006) at his home in Creve Coeur after an illness. He was 67.

Mr. Cohen was born in Chicago and received a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Purdue University and an MBA from the University of Chicago. He moved to St. Louis in 1966 to join Nixdorff-Krein, a business founded by his family in 1854 to make hardware for wagon trains. Nixdorff-Krein produced hardware and metal chains until 1984, when it sold the business and went into the manufacture of sporting equipment.

Mr. Cohen served as president of the St. Louis chapter of Les Amis du Vin and was on the board of governors of the International Wine & Food Society. He participated in the Chaine des Rotisseurs, Commanderie de Bordeaux, James Beard Society and other gourmet organizations.

In 1969, he persuaded U.S. Rep. Thomas B. Curtis of Webster Groves to introduce a bill allowing single adults to make wine at home for their own consumption.

Mr. Cohen ran Grape Expectations, a wine restaurant in Chesterfield Mall, and served as co-editor of past editions of the Zagat Survey of St. Louis restaurants. He also served on the boards of KWMU radio, Temple Israel and other community organizations.

In 1970, Mr. Cohen married the former Judy Mitchell; she died in 1995.

Survivors include his mother, Myra Littmann Cohen of Chicago; a brother, Alden Cohen of Chicago; two daughters, Amy Rose Cohen and Michele Cohen Steinberg, both of St. Louis County; and two grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 4 p.m. Wednesday at Temple Israel, 1 Rabbi Alvan D. Rubin Drive in Creve Coeur. Memorial Donations may be made to 90.7 KWMU Radio, One University Boulevard, St. Louis, MO. 63121 or to the Millard S. Cohen Caring Community Trust Fund at Temple Israel.

From STLTtoday.com, internet home of St. Louis Post-Dispatch, <http://www.stltoday.com/>, October 24, 2006.

EPA SCRUBBING LIBRARY WEBSITE TO MAKE REPORTS UNAVAILABLE — Agency Sells \$40,000 Worth of Furniture and Equipment for \$350

Washington, DC — In defiance of Congressional requests to immediately halt closures of library collections, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is purging records from its library websites, making them unavailable to both agency scientists and outside researchers, according to documents released today by Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER). At the same time, EPA is taking steps to prevent the re-opening of its shuttered libraries, including the hurried auctioning off of expensive bookcases, cabinets, microfiche readers and other equipment for less than a penny on the dollar.

In a letter dated November 30, 2006, four incoming House Democratic committee chairs demanded that EPA Administrator Stephen Johnson assure them "that the destruction or disposition of all library holdings immediately ceased upon the Agency's receipt of this letter and that all records of library holdings and dispersed materials are being maintained." On the very next day, December 1st, EPA de-linked thousands of documents from the website for the Office of Prevention, Pollution and Toxic Substances (OPPTS) Library, in EPA's Washington D.C. Headquarters.

Last month without notice to its scientists or the public, EPA abruptly closed the OPPTS Library, the agency's only specialized research repository on health effects and properties of toxic chemicals and pesticides. The

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web purge follows reports that library staffers were ordered to destroy its holdings by throwing collections into recycling bins.

“EPA’s leadership appears to have gone feral, defying all appeals to reason or consultation,” stated PEER Executive Director Jeff Ruch, noting that Congress has yet to review, let alone approve, the library closures. “The new Congress convening in January will finally have a chance to decide whether EPA will continue to pillage its library network.”

Meanwhile, in what appears to be an effort to limit Congressional options, EPA is taking steps to prevent the re-opening of the several libraries that it has already completely shuttered. In its Chicago office, which formerly hosted one of the largest regional libraries, EPA ordered that all furniture and furnishings (down to the staplers and pencil sharpeners) be sold immediately. Despite an acquisition cost of \$40,000 for the furniture and equipment, a woman bought the entire lot for \$350. The buyer also estimates that she will re-sell the merchandise for \$80,000.

“One big irony is that EPA claimed the reason it needed to close libraries was to save money but in the process they are spending and wasting money like drunken sailors,” Ruch added, noting EPA refuses to say how much it plans to spend digitizing the mountains of documents that it has removed from library shelves. “While the Pentagon had its \$600 toilet seat and \$434 hammer, EPA has its 29 cent book case and file cabinets for a nickel.”

In spite of its pleas of poverty, EPA is spending millions on a public relations campaign to improve the image of its research program, as well as a \$2.7 million program (more than its estimated savings from library closures) to digitize all employee personnel files, in a program called “eOPF.”

“No one believes that EPA is closing libraries and crating up irreplaceable collections for fiscal reasons,” Ruch concluded. “Instead, the

real agenda appears to be controlling access by its own specialists and outside researchers to key technical information.”

PEER: Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility http://www.peer.org/news/news_id.php?row_id=791
December 7, 2006.

Books to be Reviewed

The following books have been donated by Haworth Press to be reviewed. In exchange for the review you may keep the book. Please send requests to jo.staggs-neel@uky.edu

- Babu, S. C. and A. Gulati (2005). Economic reforms and food security : the impact of trade and technology in South Asia. New York, Food Products Press.
- Baldwin, V. A. (2003). Online ecological and environmental data. Binghamton, NY, Haworth Information Press.
- Basra, A. S. (2006). Handbook of seed science and technology. New York, Food Products Press.
- Brazin, L. R. (2006). Internet guide to medical diets and nutrition. New York, Haworth Information Press.
- Cassells, A. C. and P. B. Gahan (2006). Dictionary of plant tissue culture. New York, Food Products Press.
- Chopra, V. L. and K. V. Peter (2005). Handbook of industrial crops. New York, Food Products Press : Haworth Reference Press.
- Clements, D. and A. Shrestha (2004). New dimensions in agroecology. Binghamton, NY, Food Products Press.
- Francis, C. A., R. P. Poincelot, et al. (2006). Developing and extending sustainable agriculture : a new social contract. New York, Haworth Food & Agricultural Products Press.

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Fromartz, S. (2006). Organic, inc. : natural foods and how they grew. Orlando, Harcourt.

Gopal, J. and S. M. P. Khurana (2006). Handbook of potato production, improvement, and postharvest management. New York, Food Products Press.

Goyal, S. S., R. Tischner, et al. (2005). Enhancing the efficiency of nitrogen utilization in plants. New York, Food Products Press.

Islam, N. (2006). Reducing Rural Poverty in Asia : challenges and opportunities for microenterprises and public employment schemes. New York, Food Products Press.

Kang, M. S. (2005). Genetic and production innovations in field crop technology: new developments in theory and practice. Binghamton, NY, Food Products Press.

Lal, R. (2006). Carbon sequestration in soils of Latin America. New York, Food Products Press.

Narayanasamy, P. (2005). Immunology in plant health and its impact on food safety. New York, Food Products Press.

Palaniswamy, U. R. and K. M. Palaniswamy (2006). Handbook of statistics for teaching and research in plant and crop science. New York, Food Products Press : Haworth Reference Press.

Pandey, A. and NetLibrary Inc. (2004). "Concise encyclopedia of bioresource technology." New York, Food Products Press: Haworth Reference Press.

Pritchard, S. G. and J. S. Amthor (2005). Crops and environmental change : an introduction to effects of global warming, increasing atmospheric CO₂ and O₃ concentrations, and soil salinization on crop physiology and yield. New York, Food Products Press.

Punja, Z. K. (2004). Fungal disease resistance in plants : biochemistry, molecular biology, and genetic engineering. New York, Food Products Press.

Rai, M. K. (2006). Handbook of microbial biofertilizers. New York, Food Products Press.

Rama, R. (2005). Multinational agribusinesses. Binghamton New York, Food Products Press.

Raman, S. (2006). Agricultural sustainability : principles, processes, and prospects. New York, Food Products Press.

Ribaut, J.-M. (2006). Drought adaptation in cereals. New York, Food Products Press.

Rieger, M. (2006). Introduction to fruit crops. New York, Food Products Press.

Royo, C. (2005). Durum wheat breeding : current approaches and future strategies / Conxita Royo ... [et al.], editors. Binghamton, NY, Food Products Press.

Singh, H. P., D. Batish, et al. (2006). Handbook of sustainable weed management. New York, Food Products Press.

Srinivasan, A. (2006). Handbook of precision agriculture : principles and applications. New York, Food Products Press.

Suttie, J. M., S. G. Reynolds, et al. (2004). Fodder oats : a world overview. Rome ; Great Britain, FAO.

Tuba, Z. (2005). Ecological responses and adaptations of crops to rising atmospheric carbon dioxide. Binghamton, NY, Food Products Press.

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Unger, P. W. (2006). Soil and water conservation handbook : policies, practices, conditions, and terms. New York, Haworth Food & Agricultural Products Press.

Wojtkowski, P. A. (2006). Introduction to agroecology : principles and practices. New York, Food Products Press.

In the Next Issue

Biotechnology Column

Food Safety Column

Book Reviews

New Members

Agricultural Vendors Update

And more...



SLA-FAN Discussion Group

To subscribe send an email message to:

listserv@lsv.uky.edu

Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message type "SUB SLA-FAN [your name]." When you receive a response, just follow the instructions.

Moderator: Pat Wilson,
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FOOD, AGRICULTURE & NUTRITION DIVISION

Treasurer's Report



FAN Mid-Year Financial Statement
 1/1/06 Through 6/9/06



| <u>Category Description</u> | <u>1/1/06 - 6/9/06</u> |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| INCOME | |
| Dues Allotment | 2,240.00 |
| Interest Income | 37.97 |
| Sponsorships | |
| 06 Conference | 10,880.00 |
| | ----- |
| TOTAL Sponsorships | 10,880.00 |
| | ----- |
| TOTAL INCOME | 13,157.97 |
| EXPENSES | |
| Bank Charges | 20.00 |
| Miscellaneous Expense | |
| Leadership Conf | 438.75 |
| | ----- |
| TOTAL Miscellaneous Expense | 438.75 |
| | ----- |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | 458.75 |
| | ----- |
| OVERALL TOTAL | 12,699.22 |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| <u>FAN Current Balance (6/9/2006)</u> | |
| Checking | 16,854.07 |
| Savings | 30,163.08 |
| | |
| Total | 47,017.15 |

2006 Business Meeting Minutes Monday, June 12, 2006 Baltimore

Call to order – Jennifer Cessna

The meeting was called to order at 7:45 a.m. Jennifer welcomes Robyn Frank as our Board Liaison and CAB and IFIS as our sponsors.

Secretary's Report- Marcia Stoklosa

Minutes were distributed on each table and were approved as distributed.

Treasurer's Report- Cindy Acton

Copies were provided to each table. The beginning balance on June 9, 2006 was \$47,017.15. The report was approved.

Chair's Remarks-Jennifer Cessna

Jennifer thanked those who were so helpful to her in this past year and recognized all the friendships she has made.

Committee Reports

Archives- Amy Paster

The FAN archives are still housed at Penn State. Amy mentioned that next year we will be celebrating our 35th Anniversary. For those seeking archival materials they need to give her a heads up so the materials can be retrieved as needed.

Bulletin-Heather Moberly

Heather announced that there has been a change in personnel. Heather will remain as editor but Jo Staggs-Neel will be in charge of content. Three issues of the bulletin were put out this year.

Awards-Ann Hurst

Jo Staggs-Neel received the travel award this past year.

Membership- Joe Zumalt

Joe reported that our membership stands at 215

Nominating Committee-Linda Hanrath

The committee recommended terms extend for each person along with SLA changing to calendar year

Slate: Chair-Elect- Patricia Arnold

Secretary – Sue Schultz

Director- Carolyn Speakman

Jan Chindlund

Procedures Manual- Pat Wilson Practices Manual

Pat reported both were up-to-date

Strategic Planning-Regina Cannon

The plan was distributed on each table. Regina noted that there was a change on the mission statement to reflect procedures manual changes.

Vendor Relations-Joe Zumalt

Joe reported that a couple of new vendors were added this year and we had 13 in total. Total received was \$11,300.

Web Page- no report given.

Certificates of Appreciation-Jennifer Cessna
Jennifer passed out certificates to those who helped with division responsibilities for the past year. They included: Amy Paster, Cindy Acton, Marcia Stoklosa, Catherine Jeanjean, Regina Cannon, Karen Rausert, Ann Hurst, Joe Zumalt, Dan Cherubin, Pat Wilson, Carolyn Speakman, Abby Thorne, Heather Moberly, Jo Staggs-Neel, Luti Salisbury, Anita Ezzo, Valerie Perry and Linda Hanrath. Jennifer made a special presentation of the past-chair plaque to Ann Hurst.

Distinguished Member Award- Ann Hurst
award was sponsored by Haworth. The winner was Anita Ezzo. Anita was unable to attend the meeting this year but her note of acceptance was read to those in attendance.

Unfinished Business- none.

New Business- Board voted to extend director terms and Secretary term staggered with treasurer for 2 year terms.

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Election of New Officers- Linda Hanrath presented the slate of new officers and it was approved as presented.

Installation of Officers- Jennifer presented the ceremonial mortar and pestle and chef's torque to Amy Paster.

New Chairs Remarks- Amy made some remarks about Denver meeting. Sessions will be starting at 7:00 in many cases. Science of Beer is a possible session that will be presented.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Schultz for Catherine Jeanjean
July 29, 2006

Call for Papers for 2007 Conference

The Contributed Papers Committee of The Food, Agriculture and Nutrition Division (FAN) of the Special Libraries Association invites submissions for its session at the 2007 SLA Annual Conference to be held in Denver, Tuesday, June 5, 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

The theme of the contributed papers session is: Increasing access to Agriculture, Food and Life Sciences Information. Papers should discuss original research, innovative projects, or other professional activities of interest relevant to the theme.

Presenters do not need to be a member of FAN or of SLA to submit a proposal for consideration.

Presentations are 20 minutes followed by a 5 minute question and answer period.

An LCD projector will be provided.

Deadline: January 8, 2007.

Notification of Acceptance: January 30, 2007
Submitting a proposal indicates a commitment to attend the conference as a presenter at this session.

To Submit a Proposal:

Proposals may be submitted by e-mail, mail, or fax. Proposals must include the following:

- Author's name
- Author's Affiliation
- Full mailing address
- E-Mail address
- Phone and fax numbers
- Presentation title
- Abstract (at least 300-500 words clearly describing the paper to be presented). Proposals and questions should be directed to:

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BIOTECHNOLOGY COLUMN

Kevin Adams Kevin.Adams@esr.cri.nz

Greetings again everyone. Good to have seen some of you at the conference in Baltimore. I hope you enjoyed both the conference and the city; I certainly did. Well, it's been a couple of issues since I wrote a column, and there has been a large amount of information published by various organisations on the web. So, again, what I am writing about here is only a small portion of what is released and is in no particular chronological order, since I tend to print out items as they appear in my inbox. Many of the organisations that are mentioned seem to crop up time and again. This is, of course, because they are the main governmental agencies that produce information. If you have anything of interest outside these usual suspects please do not hesitate to e-mail me.

The United Kingdom's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has appeared many times in this column, and this issue is no exception. Very recently they published a document entitled, "Consultation on Proposals for Managing the Coexistence of GM and Non-GM Crops in England," <http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/gmnongm-coexist/index.htm>. On this webpage there is a link to the complete document in PDF format along with a brief explanation of the document. This subject, the coexistence of GM (genetically modified) and non-GM crops, is one that is sure to gain much more attention as time goes on. This is not the first document produced by a governmental agency or organisation on this subject, and it will not be the last.

While there is a great deal of work being done in Western Europe in the area of biotechnology and GM issues, there is also work being done in Eastern Europe. The problem, of course, is that not a lot of it is being published in English. One organisation that seems to be trying to rectify this, at least in one particular instance, is the Black Sea Biotechnology Association, <http://www.bsbanet.org/home.php?ln=en>. This association has made available, via its publications link, a number of English publications by Eastern European scientists. On the association's home-

page there is a link to the presentations and abstracts from the symposium, "Biosafety Issues in Implementation of GMO's: New Research Approaches, Regulation, and Public Perception," Yalta, Ukraine 10-14 May 2006. The presentations are in PowerPoint and are mostly in English, although there are a few which have slides in an Eastern European language. You can also link to the Yalta Declaration, which the association has put together as a statement of principles on the uses of biotechnology in agriculture.

The European Union (EU) has also been mentioned on more than one occasion, and again they have produced a useful document, this one entitled "100 Technology Offers Stemming from EU Biotechnology RTD Results" ftp://ftp.cordis.lu/pub/lifescihealth/docs/booklet_100_off.pdf. This is a catalogue of biotechnology developments arising from EU funded research projects in the past ten years. The EU has a number of ways that it funds research. This document provides some brief outlines of the projects; information about the current status of each project; possible applications; and contact information. The catalogue is divided into six categories covering a range of biotechnology/GM issues.

The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) has recently published a book on its website, entitled "The Role of Biotechnology in Exploring and Protecting Agricultural Genetic Resources" <http://www.fao.org/icatalog/inter-e.htm>. It brings together papers from an international workshop held on 5-7 March 2005 in Turin, Italy which looked at the "role of biotechnology for the characterization and conservation of crop, forest, animal and fishery genetic resources." The page where you can find a link to this document, <http://www.fao.org/Biotech/index.asp?lang=en>, is a great resource for new documents from the FAO in this area.

I have mentioned before the legislative resource from the Pew Initiative on Food and Biotechnology at <http://pewagbiotech.org/newsroom/releases/062106.php3>. This has been updated recently to take into

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account the legislative activity that occurred in 2005 in the various states of the U.S. On this page there is a link to a fact sheet entitled "State Legislative Activity Related to Agricultural Biotechnology Continued in 2005" and also a link to the Legislation Tracker database, which is particularly useful, with its links to both current and archival legislation tabled or passed in the various states. It is very unique and well worth another look.

The latest edition of the US Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Global Agriculture Information Network report entitled, "Annual Agricultural Biotechnology Report" has been published, with a focus on the EU <http://www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200605/146187745.pdf>. The report looks at the state of biotechnology in the EU and notes that the EU has, since 1998, approved what it calls "seven biotech" events, in the face of considerable member state resistance. It also notes that "about 30 events are in the pipeline still awaiting approval." The report also covers regulatory factors, political factors in the EU, and a number of other issues. This is not the only area or country that this section of the USDA covers. There are a number of countries that have similar types of reports. You can search for these at <http://www.fas.usda.gov/scripts/AttacheRep/default.asp>, by commodities, countries or with a subject search.

Another annual report recently published by the EU is "Europeans and Biotechnology in 2005: Patterns and Trends" http://www.ec.europa.eu/research/press/2006/pr1906_en.cfm. This is part of the Eurobarometer Survey Series on biotechnology, which is one of a regular series of attitudinal surveys on biotechnology issued since 1991. This year's report seems to show that most Europeans are in favour of medical applications of biotechnology, when there are clear benefits for human health, and industrial applications, but they are still mostly sceptical about agricultural biotech and will continue to be so unless new crops and products are seen to have consumer benefits. According to the report "confidence has increased in the European Union's regulation of

biotechnology but there is no evidence that this has influenced the public's reported purchasing intentions, especially for GM foods." The survey examines a number of issues surrounding biotechnology, including stem cell research and the use of personal genetic data. A copy of the complete survey can be downloaded from the link at the top of the press release.

AgBioForum has published an interesting article on information sources used by media professionals. The article, "National Agricultural and Texas Journalists' Attitudes Toward and Information Sources for Biotechnology Issues" <http://www.agbioforum.org/v9n1/v9n1a05-wingenbach.htm> covers a range of responses from fifty Texas and forty national agriculture journalists on various issues within the biotechnology area. The article also talks about the "media being a key partner in developing public perceptions of biotechnology practices." The article is quite detailed in its description of methodology and, given that bias is a charge that is levelled at various media outlets over this issue, it makes for interesting reading.

The International Council for Science (ICSU) has published a report entitled "New Genetics, Food and Agriculture: Scientific Discoveries – Societal Dilemmas" http://www.icsu.org/2_resourcecentre/Resource.php4?rub=8&id=40. The report, which is "a synthesis of more than 50 science based reviews", looks at the risks and benefits of applying new genetic discoveries to food and agriculture. A companion website provides links to further useful information published by ISCU and other organisations.

Jumping to my side of the world for a moment, Agrifood Awareness Australia Limited <http://www.afa.com.au/default.asp> has a wealth of information on biotechnology/GM issues from both Australia and the rest of the world. On the homepage there are links to the latest news stories from the various regions of the world with Australian stories given a prominent place on the webpage. There are links to other sources of information, such as Agbiotech Resources as well as a link to the three major partners in the initiative, CropLife Australia, Grains Research and

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Development Corporation, and National Farmers' Federation. One such link that may be of interest is one on industry policies of farm associations, commodity bodies and other agricultural participants. The information is Australian specific, but if you are looking for what other bodies in your industry have said on the biotechnology issue, it is a good place to find this sort of information.

In addition to an earlier resource on the co-existence of GM and non-GM crops there is another website that explores this further. The Co-Extra Website <http://www.coextra.org/> has been set up to develop methodologies and tools aimed at enabling co-existence of GM and non-GM crops, to help trace GM organisms and material and to anticipate the future expansion of genetically modified organisms (GMOs). The project, run by the EU through its Sixth Framework Programme, is charged with a number of projects under this co-existence mission. The web page has a number of links related to EU research programmes on co-existence and traceability.

I have mentioned the FAO Biotech news e-mail newsletter before, but it is worth doing so again. You can subscribe to this newsletter at its website

<http://www.fao.org/biotech/>. In the latest edition there are a couple of very useful documents. First of all, the FAO has been carrying out a global survey to "assess plant breeding and related biotechnology capacity." and has begun publishing a number of draft reports, many for developing countries, at <http://apps3.fao.org/wiews/wiews.jsp>. This website is full of information on events being planned and the reports mentioned earlier. It also has a number of relational databases from member countries of an organisation called World Information and Early Warning System (WIEWS) on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA).

Another useful document is the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) brief on "Strategic Environmental Assessment: Accessing the Environmental Impact of Biotechnology"

<http://www.ifpri.org/pubs/ib/ib41.pdf>. The IFPRI is also a valuable resource for GMO and biotechnology information. Much of it is focused on Africa and the developing world, but this is a region that is becoming important in these areas, so well informed websites are worth having. For more reports such as those mentioned check the FAO Biotech newsletter website mentioned above.

The USDA's Economic Research Service has produced a number of very useful publications on the state of GM crops in the U.S. Recently it has produced a publication looking at the history of these crops in the U.S. "The First Decade of Genetically Engineered Crops in the United States"

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/EIB11/> focuses on genetically engineered (GE) crops and their adoption in the United States over the past ten years. It goes on to examine the three major stakeholders in agricultural biotechnology and finds that "(1) the pace of R&D activity by producers of GE seed (the seed firms and technology providers) has been rapid, (2) farmers have adopted some GE varieties widely and at a rapid rate and benefited from such adoption, and (3) the level of consumer concerns about foods that contain GE ingredients varies by country, with European consumers being most concerned." The historical information makes this a very important publication.

In an earlier issue I talked about the World Trade Organization (WTO) decision handed down concerning the European Union's ban on GM food and crops. At that time all that was available was a summary from the WTO website. Since then the Friends of the Earth have released a number of documents backing up the EU case in the dispute. These can be downloaded (be warned they are quite large) at

http://www.foeeurope.org/biteback/EC_case.htm. There are three documents available at the website that comprise the comments by the European Communities on Scientific and Technical Advice to the WTO Panel. At this time the decision handed down by the WTO is not available, but I hope to have a site for you in a later column.

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The European Commission is a font of information on GM and biotechnology issues. This is to be expected since it is such a highly contentious issue in the EU. A very useful site to look at what crops have been authorised is http://ec.europa.eu/food/food/biotechnology/authorisation/index_en.htm). Here you will find links to a large amount of information on how the authorisation process proceeds as well as a link to the Community Register of GM Food and Feed. This is a list of products that have been approved recently and those that have been approved for a while. Here you will find the name of the product, the authorisation holder, date of notification, and the transformation event. At the far right hand side of the table is a link to further information, and if you click on this you find a wealth of information on the product itself.

Well that's it for another column. I hope you find the resources listed useful. Again while I try to be as comprehensive as possible I know there is far more out there than I can track, so if you have any favourite resources or any new publications you think would be worth including in the column please do not hesitate to e-mail, and I will include them in the next column.

2006 FAN Conference Reports:

DEVELOPING LEADERS

Reported by: Pat Wilson and Jennifer Cessna

Presented by: Business & Finance; Pharmaceutical and Health Technology; Solo Librarians; Advertising and Marketing; Food, Agriculture and Nutrition; Social Science; and Engineering Divisions.

Sponsored by: LexisNexis & Snapdata

Speaker: Ken Haycock, Professor and Director of the School of Library and Information Science, San Jose State University

How do you define leadership? Research shows that there are more than 300 definitions. The definition offered by Dr. Haycock, "great leaders rally people to a better future" couldn't have defined leadership any better.

Not only did Dr. Haycock entertain us for an hour and a half with his and others' thoughts on leaders, but he also made us think about ourselves as leaders - how we relate to those who lead us and our relationships to those we lead. He made the point that our profession has a reluctance to step up to the plate and lead. When a call goes out for leaders, we tend to step back. Consequently people outside our profession are stepping in and doing the job. He emphasized that leaders need a high tolerance for ambiguity, and they need to facilitate and collaborate; they hire people better than they are and they focus or manage the person to whom they report. Leadership is more than supervision.

Four leadership competencies were reviewed at the beginning of the session, all four of which need to be in place for you to be a good leader. The attributes include:

1. **Managing attention.** Keep your eye on the ball, & stay focused. If a department and staff are your responsibility, then at the end of the day you need to know what has gone on with those you lead. [Someone should have mentioned this to the "leaders" at Enron!]
2. **Managing meaning.** The focus here is on an organization's culture. Often overlooked, culture will impact an employee's attitude toward their job and ultimately their success within the company.
3. **Managing trust.** Trust. It would seem that you should automatically be able to trust your superiors and co-workers, but this is often not the case. Show both your employer and employees that you can be trusted; do what you say you will do; be honest with those around you; don't share what others have confided in you. Be trustworthy, and those around you will want to be trustworthy as well.
4. **Managing oneself.** Dr. Haycock couldn't have said it better when he said "self improvement is not mandatory, but neither is survival." We always have room for improvement!

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Also during the session, Dr. Haycock discussed leadership tasks, skills and attributes. A condensed list is below along with a few insights.

- **Leadership tasks:**
 - Envisioning goals
 - Managing
 - Achieving workable unity
 - Explaining - Articulate what you are doing and WHY you are doing it whenever possible.
 - Serving as a symbol - Represent what you want your co-workers, management and sub-ordinates to reflect back to you.
 - No victimization - Do not complain about an issue unless you are willing to put it before someone who can do something about it.
 - Representing the group
 - Renewing - This covers succession management. You will not be in your position forever. Recruit people with a variety of skills, and train them for future positions.

- **Leadership skills:**
 - Agreement building – Does not necessarily mean harmony
 - Networking
 - Institution building – We promote what we permit; avoiding conflict means you permit.
 - Politics, art and science of allocating resources
 - Communication – It is important to have communication skills. DO NOT forget to use them!

- **Attributes of leadership:**
 - Willingness, eagerness even, to accept responsibility
 - Task competence
 - An understanding of your followers/constituents and their needs
 - Skill in dealing with people
 - Capacity to motivate
 - Courage, resolution, steadiness

- Capacity to win and hold trust. Trust was emphasized throughout this presentation.
- Capacity to manage, decide and set priorities
- Confidence
- Ascendance, dominance, assertiveness - an inner need to leave one's mark
- Adaptability, flexibility of approach - the capacity to reprogram

Dr. Haycock asked “Are leaders born, or can they be developed?” Mentoring is significant to the development of leaders and can be formal or informal. The best mentors will not necessarily know that they are such. The important point is that they are available. Networking is also important. It should be noted that one cannot depend on others for this, but needs to make/plan their own progress.

Dr. Haycock emphasized several points including our need for security, community, clarity, authority and respect. It's important here to emphasize clarity. We need to know our strengths and build on them, today and everyday. To make the greatest possible impact over the long term we need to know what we don't like doing and stop doing it. Always build on your strengths and expand your horizons.

In ending he stressed that we need to be flexible, be focused, know how to have fun (it's never good to take yourself too seriously!), and be able to monitor and adjust. In planning for leadership we need to know ourselves, select a mentor, and jump at opportunities. We can all be great leaders; it takes making the right choices and having the discipline to follow through.

THE SCIENCE OF CHOCOLATE

Reported by: Katie Newman
florador@uiuc.edu

Moderated by: Jennifer Cessna

Sponsored by: Royal Society of Chemistry, Elsevier, Chemical Abstracts Service, CABI, American Chemical Society Publications

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Speakers: Debra Miller, Dave Stuart

Despite being held on the last day of the conference, this session was undoubtedly the “hottest” session sponsored by FAN, with over 250 attendees. In addition to FAN, it was co-sponsored by the divisions of Chemistry; Science & Technology; and Biomedical & Life Sciences, with corporate sponsorship from ACS Publications, CABI, Elsevier, and the Royal Society of Chemistry. FAN’s 2005-06 Chair, Jennifer Cessna, Lead Information Research Specialist at Hershey Foods Company, invited two scientists from Hershey, Dave Stuart, Ph.D. & Debra Miller, Ph.D., to give a presentation on the science of chocolate.

Dr. Dave Stuart’s presentation, “Cocoa Production from Bean to Bar, and Beyond,” was appropriately titled, as he told us about its production, history, chemistry and manufacture. He informed us that although the origin of cocoa was the upper Amazon, today most of the cocoa we consume is produced in Africa on small farms where the pods are raised and harvested. The beans are removed from the pods to be fermented and dried. Our consumption of cocoa shows no signs of slowing. Since 1900, cocoa consumption has increased at an annual rate of about 3% per year. And, lest you think we’re consuming too much of an import, for every \$1 imported, we use \$1-2 of U.S. products such as sugar, milk, almonds, and peanuts (Hershey is the largest consumer of almonds in the U.S.!).

Cocoa beans were used as currency by the ancient Mayans and Aztecs, with 10 beans the price of a rabbit and 100 beans the price of a slave. The ancients mixed ground cocoa beans with cornmeal and spices to make a drink, believing the froth was an aphrodisiac; Montezuma was said to drink the froth of 100 cups before embarking on a night of lovemaking. Cadbury marketed the first chocolate bars in the 1820’s; prior to this time cocoa had been solely a drink, mostly for the well-to-do. Hershey got into the business in 1896, and 2007 will mark the 100th anniversary of the Hershey kiss!



Dr. Stuart explained the processing steps that are involved in producing the three main cocoa products: powder, cocoa butter, and cocoa liquor.

Dr. Debra Miller’s talk, “Cocoa, Chocolate, and Cardiovascular Benefits”, was interrupted several times with laughter and applause, as the audience enjoyed the research results she discussed. (See for example the recent review article, “The emerging role of flavonoid-rich cocoa and chocolate in cardiovascular health and disease” by Mary B. Engler and Marguerite M. Engler (*Nutrition Reviews*, Mar 2006, Vol. 64, Issue 3, p109-118).

Dr. Miller reported that in large part, the beneficial effects of chocolate stem from the antioxidant flavonoids they contain, i.e., quercetin, proanthocyanidins, and others. These antioxidants appear to work by protecting us from the damaging effects of oxygen and its free radicals. She reported that two tablespoons of Hershey powder has the same antioxidant potential as 6.25 cups of black tea, 4 cups of green tea, 1.5 servings of red wine, 2 cups of coffee, or 196 grams of blueberries. The key to reaping the benefits of chocolate consumption is to consume chocolate with the highest concentration of flavonoids; in general, this means consuming dark chocolate rather than milk chocolate. (Dr. Miller reported that Hershey will be coming out with several new, premium chocolates in the fall that have been formulated to contain high concentrations of flavonoids without the bitter taste usually associated with flavonoids.) Studies have linked cocoa consumption to a decrease in low-density cholesterol (the lousy cholesterol, LDL), a decrease in platelet aggregation (as good as baby aspirin, or a synergistic effect if one takes cocoa and baby aspirin together), an increased blood flow through the arteries (better than vitamin C), lowered blood pressure, and improved endothelial functioning. So, overall, chocolate can improve one’s cardiovascular health.

More good news from the program is that the fat in cocoa butter is not the “bad” kind of fat — though of course consuming milk chocolate that is high in sugar and milk fat is not beneficial.

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After the presentations the audience was invited to participate in a chocolate tasting. Using small samples of chocolate that were given to the audience as they entered the session, FAN's Chair, Jennifer Cessna, the Planning & Information Analysis librarian at Hershey Foods Company and the moderator of the session, guided us in discovering the taste sensations of sweet, bitter, acidic, astringent, earthy, spicy, smoky. At the conclusion of the session, 22 "prizes" were awarded including several copies of the Royal Society of Chemistry's book, *The Science of Chocolate*, several cocoa pods, and lots and lots of chocolate!

Read more:

The Heart-Health Benefits of Chocolate Unveiled
<http://www.clevelandclinic.org/heartcenter/pub/guide/prevention/nutrition/chocolate.htm>

Related articles from PubMed:

<http://tinyurl.com/qfwqu/>

AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION UPDATE

Reported by: Jennifer Cessna
jrcessna@hersheys.com

Moderated by: Regina Cannon

Sponsored by: ACS & Nerac

Speakers: Maria-Josee Boisvenue, Melanie Gardener, Heather K. Moberly

(1) Canadian Agricultural Library - Presented by Maria-Josee Boisvenue
http://www.agr.gc.ca/cal/calweb_e.html

The Canadian Agricultural Library (CAL) provides a wide range of information services to the Canadian Department of Agriculture, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, the research and academic community, the agri-food industry and the Canadian rural sector. The CAL continues to partner with Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information (CISTI) to serve non-governmental and business clients. The CAL is staffed by 32 librarians and 35 support staff with resources that include 1 million books and 1700 current journal subscriptions.

(2) NAL: United States National Agriculture Library - Presented by Melanie Gardener
<http://www.nal.usda.gov/>

NAL

- Check out the NAL's newly designed website. It now has enhanced search functionality.
- NAL Digital Repository (NAL-DR) has been launched at <http://naldr.nal.usda.gov> and currently contains 154,726 pages from *USDA Yearbooks, Agricultural Information Bulletin* and *Rural Development Perspectives*.
- The NAL has gone through a strategic assessment, including a brand re-design and a customer needs survey conducted by Outsell.
- The NAL is hoping for an appropriations increase for fiscal year 2007. Call your representative in congress to show your support for increased NAL funding!
- The Abraham Lincoln Building brick repairs have been completed.
- The NAL partnered with Artifex Equipment, Inc, to develop Zorbix to treat water-affected paper.

NDLA

- The National Digital Library for Agriculture (NDLA) is envisioned to be a comprehensive digital collection accessed by a robust search engine, and is linked to analytical tools vital to finding solutions for problems faced by the food and agriculture enterprise. It is built on a network of partnerships to share collections and provide services and is coordinated by the USDA's National Agricultural Library (NAL).
- The NAL is beginning a process to identify the engineering requirements or blue print for creating a "road map" to a future national agricultural information system that is long-term, integrated, collaborative and compelling.
- NDLA Characteristics
 - Collections will include access to: commercial content, non-commercial content; digitally

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- reformatted print content, long-lived digital data collections providing the cyber infrastructure needed to conduct digital science
- Will draw on innovative technologies to directly link users to: quality content (abstracts, full-text, data, and information packages); a complementary mix of services; a greatly enhanced AGRICOLA database; comprehensive and topical Web sites; document delivery services; discovery tools

(3) AgNIC: Agriculture Network Information Center - Presented by Melanie Gardener
<http://www.agnic.org/>

AgNIC is a voluntary alliance and partnership of 59 international institutions and organizations working to offer quick and reliable access to quality agricultural information and sources.

- Six new partners joined AgNIC in 2005.
- Just a few of the subjects covered by Agnic include: farmland preservation, range management, animal welfare, bees and pollination, aquaculture, home gardening, tree fruits and sub-tropical horticulture.
- Website usage goes up each year.
- Must see: The calendar feature of the AgNIC website is a comprehensive listing of international events in agriculture happening over the next year.

(4) USAIN: United States Agricultural Information Network - Presented by Heather K. Moberly
<http://www.usain.org/>

USAIN, now with approximately 100 members, provides a forum for discussion of agricultural issues; takes a leadership role in the formation of a national information policy as related to agriculture; makes recommendations to the National Agricultural Library on agricultural information

matters; and promotes cooperation and communication among its members.

- USAIN's 10th national conference is being held in Ithaca, New York, October 9-11, 2006. Hosted by Cornell University's Albert R. Mann Library, the theme is "Delivering Information for the New Life Sciences." Conference interest tracks will include bioinformatics & genetics, new information systems & services, and agriculture and its link with the environmental sciences. Additional information can be found at <http://usain.mannlib.cornell.edu/>.



FAN DIVISION CONTRIBUTED PAPERS SESSION

Reported by: Lutishoor Salisbury
Moderated by : Lutishoor Salisbury
Sponsored by: CAS, Mentel Group

Speakers: Valrie Davis, Janice Schneider, Becky Smith, and Susan McCarthy

Valrie Davis (University of Florida, Gainesville)
vdavis@uflib.ufl.edu

Challenges of Connecting Off-Campus Agricultural Science Users with Library Services.

In 2005, the University of Florida hired the Outreach Librarian for Agricultural Sciences, a newly created position whose primary purpose is to enhance library services for the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) off-campus community. As of Spring 2006, IFAS included more than 995 faculty and staff located at thirteen Research and Education Centers (REC) and 67 County Extension offices throughout Florida, as well as more than 240 distance learning students located around the world.

Davis identified complicating factors including IFAS' physical distance from the main campus, the various levels of research it supports, the wide range of subject matter required by the users, and the Institute's separation into the three

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distinct functions of research, education and extension. In recent years many of the University of Florida's services and resources important to off-campus users, such as interlibrary loan, virtual reference, instruction services, and electronic resources, have dramatically improved, but the lack of awareness of these improvements is a continuing problem. Residual negativity from past service failures also exists.. This, coupled with competition from search engines like Google Scholar, made building awareness of library services a top priority.

Davis enumerated the steps taken to develop a marketing program, including identification of user groups and the library services of particular importance to specific off-campus user groups. A marketing strategy was developed, incorporating a variety of old and new promotion techniques such as Web pages, brochures, RSS feeds, event programming, and email newsletters. The last, and ongoing, step was to establish a method of review and evaluation for the future using surveys and feedback forms.

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Janice Schneider (WIC Works Resource System, Food and Information Center, USDA jschneid@nal.usda.gov)

Development and Implementation of an Online Learning Course for the Staff of a Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC).

The Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Works Resource System (WWRS) began in January 2000 with the mission "to serve as an encompassing resource for WIC nutritionists and other WIC professionals nationwide." Since that time, the WWRS has grown to become an informative and thorough online resource for health and nutrition professionals serving in the WIC Program.

WIC Works is a joint project of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service, the National Agricultural Library's Food and Nutrition Information Center, the University of Maryland, and Howard University.

In 2001, the WIC Works Resource System developed twelve online learning modules which became four lessons in the WIC Learning Online Course released in April of 2004. These modules, available freely, were developed to meet the training needs of all levels of staff in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children.

Developing content for the online learning modules included soliciting end users input, involving all stakeholders from the beginning, reaching early consensus on the tone and focus of the modules, and starting small. Schneider stressed the importance of completing a module as a prototype to allow for review by all stakeholders.

Schneider explained the benefit of a Learning Management System and its ability to: restrict use to registered users, manage course catalogs, record data from learners and provide reports to management.

Positive outcomes from this project include 5,500 registered users, over 1,000 course completions and positive response from funding agencies and potential users. They now provide continuing education units for registered dietitians and nurses. They also provide extensive support and training materials. The completed evaluations show the need and desire for more modules.

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Becky Smith (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Champaign, IL becky@uiuc.edu)
Market Research Databases: an Overlooked Resource for Agribusiness.

Market research is defined by LearnDirect for Business as "the collection and analysis of information about consumers, competitors and the effectiveness of marketing programs used to determine the feasibility of a new business, test levels of interest in new products, and develop strategies to improve customer service and distribution channels" [.http://www.learndirect-business.co.uk/campaigns/finances05/glossary/](http://www.learndirect-business.co.uk/campaigns/finances05/glossary/).

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Vendors that provide market research information include Mintel International Group whose strengths are food and beverage related products and lifestyle trends; Datamonitor; MarketLine, which covers many countries; Euromonitor, which focuses on consumer products provides time series data and lengthy reports; MarketResearch.com, a report aggregator; First Research which covers over 200 industries; Freedonia that publishes over 100 industry research studies each year; and Gale Group's Investext which produces investment analyst reports from an investor's perspective.

Smith described a case study by students at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and the approach she took to help them. She concluded that there is no one stop shopping for market research reports, although MarketResearch.com is the most relevant source. Her students used most of the vendors mentioned above to find information for the project.

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Susan McCarthy (National Agricultural Library/USDA smccarth@nal.usda.gov) **National Digital Library for Agriculture**

The Report on the National Agricultural Library in 2001 provided a vision for the National Digital Library for Agriculture (NDLA) as becoming "the main focus and long-term organizing principle for National Agricultural Library and the national network of university and industrial libraries." In 2002, the recommendation was endorsed by the National Agricultural Research, Education, Extension, and Economics Advisory Board, following a period of public comment.

McCarthy stated that the NDLA is envisioned to be a comprehensive digital collection, accessed by a robust search engine linked to analytical tools vital in finding solutions for problems faced by food and agriculture enterprises. The NDLA is built on a network of partnerships sharing collections and providing services, and is coordinated by the USDA's National Agricultural Library.

McCarthy identified the components of the Digital Library to include tools (database systems, robust search engines, and Web based interoperable systems); knowledge assets (technical experts, indexing and metadata for retrieval, and extensive digitized collections) and partnerships (shared resources, planned redundancy for preservation, and extended services across time zones and audiences).

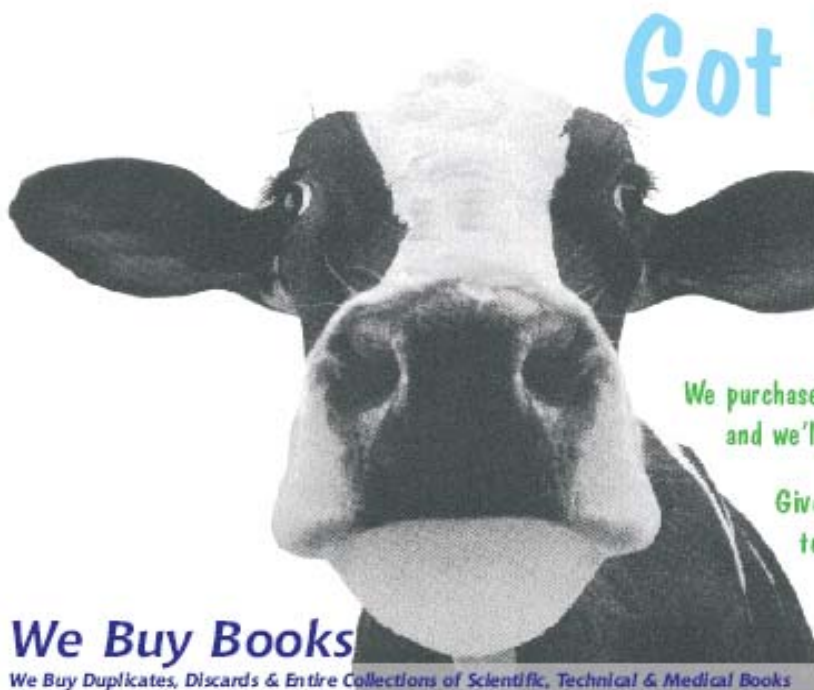
Although several elements of NDLA now exist, elements still needed are the ability to leverage existing programs, collections and services; system-wide coordination; funds to develop the infrastructure needed to store, preserve and provide access to the collections, and funds for advanced tool development to effectively use the knowledge held within the collections.

Over the next 12 months, the National Agricultural Library will work with stakeholders in a variety of communities to further develop this plan and to identify partners, who are expected to include libraries, researchers, extension specialists, and others from around the country and the world.

About SLA:

Headquartered in Washington, D.C., USA, SLA is the international association representing the interests of thousands of information professionals in sixty countries.

Special librarians are information resource experts who collect, analyze, evaluate, package, and disseminate information to facilitate accurate decision-making in corporate, academic, and government settings. The Association offers a variety of programs and services designed to help its members serve their customers more effectively and succeed in an increasingly challenging environment of information management and technology. SLA is committed to the professional growth and success of its membership.



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Committee Reports

AWARDS COMMITTEE 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

Committee Members: Anne Hurst (Chair),
Regina Cannon, Karin Raussert

Announcement

There were two calls for nominations for the Distinguished Member Award, one in early November and the second in early January. There were two calls for applications for the FAN Travel Grant, one in early November and the second in early January. Both these awards along with deadlines were also posted on the FAN Web Page.

Distinguished Member Award

After the April 15 deadline, the committee reviewed the nomination and unanimously selected the recipient of the Award. As the FAN Board decided in June 2005, the nominee was informed in advance of the 2006 conference of their selection for the Award. This was done to

ensure that the Distinguished Member could be present at the ceremony.

FAN Travel Grant

After the February 15 deadline, the committee reviewed the three applications and selected the applicant deemed most deserving of the award.

Submitted by Anne S. Hurst
June 5, 2006

FOOD FOR THOUGHT 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

Advertisers: IFIS (International Food Information Service); ACS Publications (American Chemical Society); We Buy Books; MITS (Michigan Information Transfer Source)

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 of 221 subscribers. FFT paper subscriptions are available at no cost

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to current individual FAN members. Paper copies of each issue were sent to three subscribers.

Issues: Three issues of FFT were published in 2006: Post-conference 2005 (V36 N1); Mid-Winter 2006 (V36 N2); and Pre-conference 2006 (V36 N3).

Production Methods and Costs: FFT is produced using Microsoft Publisher and Adobe Acrobat. Ongoing production costs are minimal and are currently absorbed by the Oklahoma State University; the University of Kentucky; McGill University, and Cargill Inc.

Accomplishments, Innovations, Problems, Recommendations: FFT Committee gained two new members, a Content Editor and a Layout Editor, with former Editor repositioned as Editor-in-Chief., and Ad Manager unchanged. Post-conference 2005 issue was published and distributed in April of 2006; in the future hard publication deadlines will be set by committee at

time of Annual Conference. New editors will attend Newsletter Editors workshop at 2006 Annual Conference.

Submitted by Jo Staggs-Neel
June 5, 2006

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

From: Joe Zumalt, Membership Chair

Date: June 10, 2006

An interesting development in the last year has been the switchover to electronic information for SLA Headquarters. In the past, information regarding membership has come in a paper format. Lists of new members, deactivated members, and reinstated members have come to the membership chairs along with mailing labels to facilitate contacting members. This year, these have been transmitted electronically, with announcement of their availability on the SLA Web site. They are found in on the SLA site in an

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| 12/2003 | 6/2005 | 5/2006 | |
|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| 352 | 301 | 299 | Advertising & Marketing |
| 738 | 739 | 788 | Biomedical & Life Sciences |
| 2591 | 2289 | 2141 | Business & Finance |
| 340 | 303 | 358 | Chemistry |
| | 471 | 622 | Competitive Intelligence |
| 239 | 259 | 270 | Education |
| 438 | 402 | 402 | Engineering |
| 316 | 281 | 260 | Environment & Resource Management |
| 241 | 219 | 215 | Food, Agriculture & Nutrition |
| | 95 | 217 | Government Information |
| 1859 | 1672 | 1550 | Information Technology |
| 267 | 239 | 218 | Insurance & Employee Benefits |
| 1627 | 1425 | 1307 | Leadership and Management |
| 1322 | 1361 | 1344 | Legal |
| 86 | 69 | 33 | Materials Research and Manufacturing |
| 339 | 329 | 363 | Military Librarians |
| 593 | 611 | 638 | Museums, Arts & Humanities |
| 730 | 710 | 661 | News |
| 191 | 175 | 174 | Petroleum & Energy Resources |
| 734 | 731 | 723 | Pharmaceutical & Health Technology |
| 239 | 241 | 231 | Physics, Astronomy & Math |
| 688 | 618 | 589 | Science Technology |
| 486 | 448 | 426 | Social Science |
| 799 | 747 | 691 | Solo Librarians |
| 183 | 161 | 155 | Transportation |
| 21119 | 11284 | 11148 | Total SLA Membership |

(Continued from page 23)

area called "Communities of Practice." This has saved SLA a great deal of money I am sure and saved quite a bit of wasted paper. Most members prefer to get their correspondence by email anyway, so the mailing labels in particular were largely unnecessary.

The Food, Agriculture and Nutrition Division of SLA lost members in the 2005-2006 time period. Updated figures from the SLA Web site current as of June 01, 2006, show our membership had declined to 215 members from 219 members at this time last year. This decline appears to be fairly consistent with the experience of other divisions, as the table below indicates. As I did last year, I have taken a look at divisional membership across SLA. I have listed membership totals as of early May 2006. I have retained the membership totals for each division as of December 31, 2003. I have included the early June 2005 numbers for comparison. Divisions with membership losses are highlighted in red. As you can see, this was again a tough year for SLA as a whole, with a decline in all but 8 divisions, with one of those just maintaining the same membership.

I have enjoyed serving as your membership chair for the last three years and I look forward to working with the incoming chair, Regina Cannon.

Submitted by Joe Zumalt
June 5, 2006

NOMINATING COMMITTEE 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

Committee Members: Anita Ezzo, Linda Hanrath and Valerie Perry [Chair]

Responsibilities:

- Call for Nominations was posted to the FAN discussion list on January 11, 2006.
- Two expressions of interest were received.
- Committee contacted additional possible candidates throughout January and early February 2006.
- Self-nominees not chosen were contacted by the committee chair.

- Written acceptances from candidates were emailed to Amy Paster, FAN Chair-Elect, by early March.
- Slate was not published within required 150 days prior to Annual Business meeting [January 13, 2006] as outlined in current Bylaws. It was submitted for publication in *Food for Thought* on March 15, 2006. The slate appeared in Volume 36, issue 2, Mid-Winter 2006.
- Slate will be distributed during the FAN Board Meeting on June 10th and the FAN Annual Business Meeting on June 12th.
- The election of officers will occur during the business meeting.

Future Recommendations:

- FAN Executive Board may wish to explore changing all terms of office for Secretary and Directors to two years rather than one year to parallel other SLA units. One important benefit would be continuity of board membership if each year only three new officers were elected [Chair-Elect, a Director and either Secretary or Treasurer]. This option would stagger the Director terms and stagger the Secretary and Treasurer terms. In addition each officer would be better able to take on additional responsibilities as delegated by the Chair.
- FAN Executive Board may wish to consider preparing members for elected division leadership. The Nominating Committee members this year decided to select candidates with demonstrated leadership in one or more SLA units. The committee felt that new FAN members are important to our organization and should be mentored and offered opportunities to develop their leadership skills through committee work and other FAN activities that might familiarize them with the elected Executive Board before being considered as candidate for an elected office.
- Future Nominating Committees should seek information about possible candidates for office such as curriculum vitae

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(Continued from page 24)

- or resumes, member recommendations and other supporting documentation before making final decisions.
- FAN Executive Board will need to examine the deadlines for the Nominating Committee and adjust to best meet the new SLA Calendar and terms for elected FAN officers. In addition, Executive Board or Nominating Committee may wish to review expected practices – deadline for notification of members about Slate, approved method(s) for notification and strategies for enforcing compliance.

Handout:

- 2006 FAN Slate of Candidates with Bios

Submitted by Valerie Perry
June 5, 2006

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Food for Thought Vol 37 Issue 1

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Membership in the Food, Agriculture and Nutrition division is approximately 300 individuals.

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