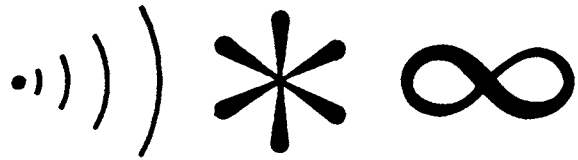


p·a·m

physics astronomy math



Volume 15 No. 1

August 1987

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR Camille Wanat

It always strikes me as ironic that "information overload" is the dominant impression one comes away with from an SLA Annual Conference. We spend our professional lives trying to provide information to others in usable form and then go to a conference where the information is shot at us in rapid and almost random packets! (It's probably a test.) The Anaheim Conference was no exception: the programs were packed with information, the exhibitors were diverse, and meetings (both formal and informal) with our SLA colleagues provided incredible amounts of useful information sharing. The real challenge comes when we return to our jobs, organize and assimilate what we've learned, and utilize the valuable portion.

Mary Ann Southern deserves heartfelt thanks for planning a very successful meeting for the Division. Thought-provoking (and well attended!) sessions were provided by the workshop leaders and their speakers: Karen Croneis (Physics), Marlene Cummins (Astronomy), Heidi Mercado (Mathematics), and Mim Pierce (Computer Science). (Reports of some of these workshops may be found elsewhere in this issue.) Pinch-hitting at the last minute, Jack Weigel moderated a very successful vendor update in which representatives from INSPEC, ISI, the American Mathematical Society, and the American Institute of Physics provided information on new features and/or products and fielded some very tough questions from the attendees. Helen Knudsen moderated the Division's joint program with the Chemistry Division on nonbibliographic databases and also arranged the very popular field trip to the Palomar Observatory.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank last year's officers for guiding the Division through another year: Mary Ann Southern (outgoing Chair), Bonnie Hilditch (outgoing Secretary), and Bruce Pelz (continuing

Treasurer). Thanks also are due to the members of our three standing committees: Nominating, Awards, and Membership, for jobs well done. In addition, I would like to welcome our new officers: Helen Knudsen, Chair-Elect, and Karen Croneis, Secretary.

Although the minutes of the Annual Business Meeting are included elsewhere in this issue, I want to highlight one point: it was decided to include electronic mail addresses for Division members in the P-A-M Directory. Those of you who could not attend the Annual Conference received a letter from Dorothy McGarry (Membership Chair) along with your copy of the 1986-1987 Membership Directory, requesting your e-mail address(es) for inclusion in the next edition. I want to urge all members to provide this information; e-mail is making communication easier for a geographically dispersed group such as our Division, but only if we know where to send our messages!

Plans are moving along for the 1988 Denver Conference. The overall theme will be "Expanding Horizons: Strategies for Information Managers." P-A-M will have its usual four workshops (round table discussions). Since the vendor update was so successful this last year, it will be continued. If you have any ideas for vendors other than the four this year (AIP, INSPEC, AMS, and ISI), please let me know and we will try to include them. Joint programs with other divisions are also in planning stages: another one on nonbibliographic databases with Metals/Materials and CHEM and possibly one on plateauing. A field trip to the National Center for Atmospheric Research is also being planned. I hope that many of you will be able to attend the Denver Conference: it should be a good program!

Please let me know of your concerns and suggestions for P-A-M. In particular, I would like appreciate any ideas on how the Division can better meet the needs of members unable to attend the annual conference.

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COPY DEADLINE: 1 November 1987 (For November Issue) ~

CLARIFICATION

After contacting Marge Voelker for clarification of information regarding a company which would reproduce an o.p. book, including writing for permissions, provide binding, etc., I learned that the company works only with a ten copy minimum order. The Engineering Library at Minnesota had been interested in this service, but finally determined that it was not worth it. ----- Carol Hutchins, Indiana University

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

RICHARD L. FUNKHOUSER, science librarian and associate professor of library science at Purdue University, has been named the 1987 recipient of the John H. Moriarty Award for Excellence in Library Service to Purdue University faculty and students. The award was presented by Purdue's president at the annual awards convocation on April 27, 1987. Funkhouser has also been selected as the 1987 recipient of the John H. Moriarty Award of the SLA Indiana Chapter. The award, given for his outstanding service to the Indiana Chapter and to the Association, was presented at the Indiana Chapter meeting on May 14, 1987.

Margie L. Voelker, Mathematics Librarian at the University of Minnesota for the past 20 years, has announced her retirement effective this June. A long-time P-A-M member, and former Division Secretary, Margie says her only retirement plans so far are to take it easy, and "polish up my bridge game." %%%%%%%%%%

The meeting started at 1:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet was circulated to record the attendees. Approximately 45 people were present.

Minutes for the June 1986 business meeting were approved as they appeared in the P-A-M Bulletin (Aug. 1986 issue).

VICE-CHAIR'S REPORT- CAMILLE WANAT

\$1450 in donations to the Division for this year's conference were received. Thanks are due to: American Institute of Physics, Elsevier, Faxon, Inspec, ISI, Pergamon, Plenum, and Springer-Verlag for their support of our hospitality activities.

The program format for the general sessions of the 1988 conference will be different, in that there will be speakers as usual, but roundtables or interaction sessions will follow the presentations to promote discussion. Moderators for the followup sessions are needed. A proposed list of possible roundtable topics for these general discussion sessions was circulated and meeting attendees were asked to rank the topics and/or add suggestions to the list.

The Division has been asked if there is any interest in cosponsorship of a program in career plateauing. Discussion followed, with several members expressing interest in the subject. Camille will pursue this further, and investigate the possible dollar amount we would be expected to contribute toward speaker fees.

A show of hands was requested to indicate if the Division should continue to have non-meal business meetings. Members present preferred the non-meal format.

The mathematics, physics, and astronomy workshops will be held again in next year's program; they will be

called roundtables in order to better describe the session format. Since we cosponsor the computer science workshop/roundtable with the Sci-Tech Division on an alternate year basis, we are not responsible for this session's organization for the 1988 program.

The Division's first vendor update session will be held on 9 June 1987. Feedback on this session is requested; please comment at the open houses so the Division can decide whether or not to continue this type of session.

The idea of an instructional materials clearinghouse session was raised: meeting attendees expressed interest in the subject matter. Camille will pursue this for the 1988 program.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Treasurer: Bruce Pelz submitted the 1987 report, which was approved by the members present. The revised report is printed elsewhere.

Nominating: Dorothy McGarry reported on behalf of Brenda Corbin (chair) and Carol Hutchins. New officers are Helen Knudsen, chair-elect, and Karen Cronels, secretary.

Membership: Nancy Anderson (chair) announced that the American Mathematical Society had again produced the P-A-M Directory, and thanked them for their continued support to the Division in this effort. On 4 May 1987 the Division had 132 members. Dorothy McGarry will be the new chair for this committee for 1987-1988. It was suggested that the new directory include e-mail addresses for members if they were available. Members present supported this idea. The AMS indicated that they will be happy to include the Division by-laws as part of the directory, so they will be included in the next edition. The five new members present at the business meeting were introduced.

Discussion on whether the Division

should embark on a membership drive followed. Since the number of Division members has a direct impact on our assets/budget, this is a topic of continuing interest to the Division. Didi Pancake described targeted membership recruitment at the national level. The Division would provide mailing labels and a division-specific blurb. The association would then mail out the materials. Other attendees suggested that a reduced first-year membership rate might be effective in this effort. Personal approaches were described.

Awards: Jack Weigel (chair) reported that no award will be presented this year. Nominations for next year's award recipient were solicited. Written guidelines for the awards committee are needed to describe the committee responsibilities and criteria for award recipients.

Bulletin: Judy Bausch submitted a report in writing, since she could not attend this year's meeting. It was moved and seconded that Bulletin subscriptions be increased from \$8/year to \$9/year. The meeting membership approved this motion. Another motion to change the deadline for the Bulletin issue after the SLA Winter Meeting to 15 February was approved.

Fundraising: David Stern (chair) reported. Other bulletin/newsletter editors were contacted since the last business meeting. Fees charged for advertisements ranged from \$50 to \$200 per issue for a wide selection of advertisement sizes. No editor contacted addressed the topic of advertisement content.

A letter has been produced to solicit corporate sponsorship for the bulletin. It was read at the meeting. Various candidates have already been contacted, but so far no response has been received.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Stickers: Bruce Pelz reported. The 1987 stickers were donated. Criteria used for

their selection were: small, recognizable, and appropriate to the Division. While butterflies are not usually connected to our subject affiliations, they fit two of the three criteria, so the butterflies were it for this year. Bruce suggested that future stickers should be the P-A-M logo and that costs could be minimized by producing stickers in quantity. The membership encouraged him to pursue this matter.

NEW BUSINESS

The division has been asked to review our scope note for the association by-laws and other association publications. The Social Science Division scope note was read as an example of a revised item. Discussion followed. Our scope note will not be changed. More discussion followed on the subject of members interested in computer science. There is at least a three division overlap for this subject orientation.

Dorothy McGarry has contacted OCLC on the possibility of adding records from the P-A-M Union List for online access; there seems to be some interest. Discussion followed on how arrangements might be made to get records added and what possible pitfalls might occur. It may be possible to get authorization to add records for serials held by libraries which are not OCLC participants. Since general interest was expressed on this topic, Dorothy will pursue it and report back.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The P-A-M suite location was announced. The Computer Science Workshop has moved to a new location. Members should sign the distribution list for the new directory.

Meeting adjourned at 2:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Hilditch
Secretary, 1986-1987

Before I get onto my regular report, I would like to make a special plea. There has been much discussion as to how we can help Third World librarians attend the IAU colloquium next year in Baltimore. If we could somehow assure them that their "room and board" needs would be taken care of once they are here, perhaps more of them could come. To that end a special fund has been set up to handle donations. I intend to make a small personal donation AND to get my observatory to make a more substantial one too! If, like me, you need extensive documentation to get money out of your bureaucracy, that can be arranged. Or you might be able to get your institution to pay for one of their hotel bills as well as your own. And if you, personally, can "buy a librarian a meal" - or two - send along a check to Brenda made payable to "SLA-PAM-Workshop." And the sooner the better of course, so that we know where we stand! It will be very much appreciated.

After we all introduced ourselves, a special attendee was called forward. After her movie-talk "gooday" which drew a hearty laugh, Robyn Shobbrook from the Anglo-Australian Observatory gave an account of the astronomy thesaurus project that is now underway. Her separate report follows in a later issue.

Brenda Corbin, usually an active participant of the astronomy workshop, was unable to attend this year because she was in Paris (Poor Brenda!). She did, however, pass along some notes of interest.

1. The 1988 Astronomical Almanac was distributed the week of May 11 and you should have your copy by now.

2. The Almanac for Computers for 1988 will be distributed in early July.

3. The Floppy Almanac for 1988 is now available and is still priced at \$20.00. Suggestions, comments, and constructive criticism are welcome concerning the Floppy Almanac. Please write directly to the Nautical Almanac Office.

If Brenda had been there, she would have discussed the IAU Commission No. 5 colloquium on library and information services in astronomy to be held in Baltimore in 1988. Sarah Stevens-Rayburn, however, filled us in on the latest details. She noted that lots of interest had been expressed in the colloquium by a "fascinating cross-section of observatories and astronomical institutions" and that several exciting ideas were developing such as reporting to the IAU Commission No. 5 at the General Assembly and possibly publishing the proceedings. Altogether it is "turning into big-time stuff!" If you would like to contribute to such development in the form of potential topics or other ideas, please drop a note to Brenda who will be glad to hear from you. A quick survey of the workshop

August 1987 participants promised a very strong showing of P-A-M members at the colloquium and about half indicated their intention to attend both it and the SLA conference in 1988.

Sarah also mentioned that Janet Dudley had left Herstonceux and was currently at Royal Signals and Radar Establishment, Worcs.

Joyce Rey-Watson next started off a discussion on a topic of vital interest to astronomy librarians -- the mounting online of the Astronomy and Astrophysics Abstracts. We were glad to welcome Annamarie Cerrera from AIP who joined the discussion. It seems that the A and A Abstracts are being loaded into STN's Physics Briefs database, starting with the current year (1986). Objects and coordinates are going into the title field. It appears to be a messy situation, "wrapped in mystery and politics." Sarah had a second-hand report from Roland Wieland, the new director of Astronomisches Rechen-Institut. He indicated that there would be no loading of retrospective data. Furthermore, the Abstracts will be going to 2 volumes per half-year and there will be a substantial price increase to offset automation costs, an increased volume of literature, and reduced subsidies from the German government.

Joyce then told us about her project with the Wolbach Image Processing Laboratory to develop a collection of scientific software in the SAO library. This material is available for ILL and donations of software or information are welcome.

Joyce also spoke about SIMBAD and several members contributed comments about how wonderful it is (about half a dozen of us have used it so far). But how awful wrangling with Telenet is! Liz Bryson from CFHT had a few words to say on THAT unpleasant subject and suggested enlisting a techie to help if possible. But I warned members not to be too intimidated by the difficulties of access or of complex searches using the "french-fried" manual (as Helen Knudsen put it). (Joyce is going to Strasbourg to help revise the manual and/or devise a "cookbook." Wayne Warren of NASA has his finger in that pie, too.) Simple searches are very easy and very effective. The indexing is quite different in SIMBAD than in other databases. It is object-oriented and very comprehensive, including even items in a table, for instance. INSPEC, by way of contrast, uses only keywords for objects or topics forming a significant part of the subject of an article as a whole.

Joyce confessed to having a "flag to wave." She had demonstrated SIMBAD at the AAS meeting in January (my astronomers came back crying for SIMBAD!) and she deplored the situation in which we find ourselves whereby astronomers are astonished at such things as SIMBAD and ignorant of even such things as regular, long-established online searching! Her plea was to

"draw the blinds" and to increase interaction with astronomers as well as discussions among ourselves. She encouraged us to follow her example of attending such things as the AAS meeting.

In this context, Robyn Shobbrook also stressed the importance of more interaction with astronomers and the mutual benefit (perhaps even financial funding for some P-A-M projects) to be derived from librarians' involvement with IAU Commission No. 5. She noted that there were a large number of topics discussed at the 1985 IAU General Assembly that were of relevance to librarians.

I trust that the upcoming IAU colloquium will further this end and I encourage you all to attend and enhance our relationship with the astronomers through our professionalism, solidarity, and diversity.

More general discussion then ensued with the usual complaints about publishers' "better ideas" and higher prices. Several members had handouts. A list of these handouts follows. If you wish a copy of any of them write to the individual named.

In spite of a busy conference schedule, most of us agreed to meet again to pursue some of the many topics which there is never enough time to cover. Astronomy librarians are a lively, enthusiastic, and knowledgeable group!

The following items came out in the general discussion and at the second meeting:

Most librarians did not pay the photocopying surcharge to Gordon and Breach.

Reidel has cancelled volume indexes. Formal protest and negotiation, relating especially to two titles without contents listings, are being carried out by Ellen Bouton and others. Write to Ellen or Reidel if you would like to jump onto the bandwagon!

NASA may be mounting a bulleting board for (supernova) SN 1987A. (Sarah Stevens-Rayburn may have more info on that by now.)

Preprints are taking longer to appear in print, especially Ap.J.'s. A longer holding policy is probably warranted (> 18 months). [My impression is the opposite regarding Ap.J.; next issue will contain some data. --ed.]

The last item of the agenda was a presentation by Stephen Easton of Archival Facsimiles. Information regarding this topic will be passed on to you in another note.

HANDOUTS

- Sarah Stevens-Rayburn Meetings Noted in Preprints
- IAU Colloquia Listing
- STScI Journal Prices (1983-87)
- Ellen Bouton Library of Congress QB Classification (i.e., with notes, updates integrated)

- Joyce Rey-Watson Details about SAO's software collection
- SIMBAD factsheet

Fran Waranius Network interconnections

RESULTS of the salary survey (note that there were 18 responses):

- < 15,000 (1) 15-20,000 (1) 20-25,000 (3)
- 25-30,000 (6) 30-35,000 (1) > 35,000 (6)

EE

Communique from Cambridge -- Joyce Rey-Watson

1. Repetition of my soap-box speech! I learned an interesting lesson in January, 1987, when I attended the American Astronomical Society meeting in Pasadena, CA. I denomstrated the PHYS database, and helped with the SIMBAD demonstration, in a poster session that ran the whole period of the meeting. It was a very interesting experience.

SIMBAD is new, so not many people had seen it. But PHYS, INSPEC, SCISEARCH, etc., aren't new, and were still greeted with amazement and joy by a series of very impressed astronomers. I ran searches for people, and the requests were so simple that I barely used a single Boolean operator. I told these people "Why don't you ask your librarian to do this for you?" because most of us have been performing these miracles for years.

What's wrong here? Do these folks really not know whence much of their information comes because they don't actually visit their libraries, or what? My message is: Please try to get out and attend meetings frequented by your users. Encourage your Powers-That-Be to send you to meetings of professional institutions, prefeferably with access to a terminal. It is fine that we have so much communication on these matters between ourselves, but we obviously need to get out and do more selling to our patrons on their own territory. It would also be good for us professionally -- I felt very

PROJECTS ACCOUNT

Balance as of May 31, 1986 \$ 112.91

Income

Sales of Union List \$185.00

Balance as of May 31, 1987 \$297.91

RESERVE ACCOUNT

Balance as of May 31, 1986 \$ 0.00

Income:

Donation: Olivetree Associates \$700.00

Balance as of May 31, 1987 \$700.00

SUMMARY

Operating account	\$2,452.06
Projects account	\$ 297.91
Reserve account	\$ 700.00
Total	<u>\$3,449.97</u>

Change, 1986/87 +\$1,072.52

Bruce E. Pelz
Treasurer
4 June 1987

CATALOGING SURVEY

A cataloging survey has been prepared by Dorothy McGarry, Chair of the SLA Committee on Cataloging. The primary reason for the survey is to create a directory of cataloging people. It is hoped that, as a result of the directory, some networking can be done by these people as problems arise. People in small or one-person libraries are often isolated and cannot consult with colleagues when they need to. The Committee is hoping that the directory will give them opportunities to connect with others who are doing their type of work. The survey is available from: Dorothy McGarry, Box 117, 308 Westwood Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90024-1647.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

The Physics-Astronomy-Mathematics Division thanks the following organizations for their financial contributions to the Division's activities at the Anaheim Annual Conference. Their continued support and interest are greatly appreciated by all P-A-M members.

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ELSEVIER SCIENCE PUBLISHING CO., INC.
FAXON CO., INC.
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INSTITUTE FOR SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION
PERGAMON PRESS, INC.
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WE WISH TO THANK THE AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY FOR ONCE AGAIN PRINTING THE P-A-M MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY.

REPORT FROM THE MATHEMATICS WORKSHOP, JUNE 10, 1987--HEIDI MERCADO

The workshop was well-attended - 32 of you signed the attendance sheet - and there was a lot of discussion of the topics listed on the agenda. Unfortunately we ran out of time while discussing the third agenda item.

Weeding - Several libraries prefer to maintain primarily current material, and have discarded the older editions. Martha Austin (U. of Washington) reported that their library considered editions of the same title and tried to retain only the last one. Most weeding consisted of sending material to some sort of storage facility. Mim Pierce (Pennsylvania State U.) said that their material was sent to storage for preservation reasons and because of low usage. For monographs they used the "paperclip" (they clip machine-generated date due slips into books) and the "dust" criteria. Other criteria mentioned were journals in some foreign languages or dated before 1960, and materials not used for at least 10 years. The consensus was that it is very difficult to move little used mathematical material away from the library, without having very strong objections from the faculty. Some libraries have used dots on volumes every time they circulate. After several years, it becomes visually apparent which journals should not be in storage, or for those still in the library, which ones don't circulate and should be considered for storage or cancellation.

Russian books -- Nancy Anderson (U. of Illinois) suggested that some of us who have had success in getting Russian books share our information by having a list of what Russian institutions each of our libraries are using as exchange partners and what we are getting from them. She would also like a list of commercial vendors we use to obtain Russian publications. Nancy's library has a blanket order with Les Livres Etrangers in France for all Russian research material in mathematics and mathematical physics. In addition, she will send requests directly to the authors, who are usually very nice about sending their publications to her. Some libraries rarely receive the Russian books they order after publication, since they have to be reserved ahead of time. The Russian weekly book announcement, Novye Knigi SSSR, is used by the Ohio State University mathematics library to select mathematics books, which eventually arrive 2-3 years later.

Journal costs - Nancy Anderson suggested that the librarians notify the head of their institutions of the high journal prices. The Chancellor of the University of Illinois felt that it is now up to administrators on his level to express strong objections to these prices, since libraries and library associations have done what they could without accomplishing much. Lawyers at several institutions have looked at the surcharges, declared them illegal, and libraries did not pay them. Nancy Anderson .10

recommended that when we wish to cancel an obscure title, we put a note in the P-A-M Bulletin first, to hopefully prevent all libraries from cancelling the same title.

Libraries have used various methods to obtain new serial subscriptions or the articles in them. Some of those mentioned were to use a broker to provide document delivery, to use DIALORDER to get articles -- they arrive quickly and are cheaper than many subscriptions, and to have members of professional societies donate their society serial publications to their libraries. The Library Friends program at the University of Illinois has donors take on the payment for a \$50-\$100 journal title for a year. They are enthusiastic about this type of "adopt a journal" concept and 2 titles have been "adopted" for the mathematics library.

Online searching - Most libraries do ready/quick reference searching as part of the reference process. Some libraries that do searching only search 1-2 times per month. Patrons lose interest as soon as cost is mentioned.

When we began to run out of time, Kathleen Robertson (U. of Calgary) announced that she had prepared a handout on how her library had used INMAGIC to prepare a database for a special recreational mathematics collection. If anyone would like more information on this, she can be contacted at the following address: Kathleen Robertson, University of Calgary, Environmental-Science-Technology Library, 2500 University Dr. NW, Calgary, Alberta Canada T2N 1N4 (403) 220-3734.

Taissa Kusma, American Mathematical Society, wanted to know how we felt about having Mathematical Reviews on CD ROMs. AMS is considering having the MathSci database available on CD ROM within a year. It would consist of more than one disk, a current one - 1980+ for example, and an older one going back to 1959. If there is interest, ASM may also consider converting 1940-1959 to a disk. Taissa would like input from us mathematics librarians on several topics related to this: whether we would first prefer the current years on disk or the older ones back to 1959, and what actual interest is there in a CD ROM? Would we like them instead of or in addition to the printed version, and what interest is there in a combination subscription? Would we prefer a 50-year cumulative index in a CD-ROM or paper copy, and would we like our present printed Mathematical Reviews Cumulative Index volumes replaced by CD-ROMs? She needs to know what we expect from AMS in the future.

CD-ROMs last about 10 years and are no problem to replace. They will have search capacity such as Boolean logic and adjacency operators. Updates can be either

annually or quarterly. Let Taissa know which you prefer. In a future P-A-M Bulletin she will have a questionnaire/survey based on your comments to her and any additional questions you would like to see on such a survey. Anyone with comments should address them to: Taissa Kusma, American Mathematical Society, P.O. Box 6248, Providence, RI 02940

In addition, Taissa announced the mathematics, computer science, and statistics these from Dissertations Abstracts will be available on the MathSci database starting next year. 1959-1972 will be added to MathSci by November 1987, and automatic SDI searching will be available on DIALOG in the fall. The Stanford Technical Reports database in computer science and mathematics may be added to MathSci next year. She would also like to know what we think of a fixed annual price for online searching such as an academic program. The new "Mathsci User Guide" is now available for \$56 for institutional members and for \$70 for the rest.

TeX software is available for online search output in Math Reviews typeset. Its primary purpose though is for desk top publishing.

REPORT FROM THE PHYSICS WORKSHOP, JUNE 10, 1987 -- KAREN CRONEIS

Thirty-five physics librarians met to discuss common problems and concerns. The following is a summary of the first part of the discussions.

I. SERIALS

As part of a survey to gather information and input from users to make cancellation decisions, Argonne is attaching a sheet of paper to the cover of each issue for the last two months. Users are being asked to write their name, indicate how frequently they use the title, and whether it's needed for their research. Gary Davidoff said that a separate sheet at the desk is available for more specific comments.

Derek Kozikowski at DEC suggested using reshelving information based on titles left at copying machines.

At the University of Nevada-Reno all pickups (both books and journals) were stamped "USED (date)" during a two-month study. Since journals do not circulate, this provides some record of use. (Slips were put in the back of journals and a student worker stamped them during reshelving.) The same idea was used for monographs as part of a collection development study.

Rita Lerner said that some AIP titles will not increase in price while she expects others to increase from 3% to 13%.

Wally Pegram (UCLA) did two surveys of tenured faculty - one for duplicate titles and one for unique titles. For duplicate titles, the survey asked if the faculty member was familiar with the title, should it be

in the Physics Library, and would it be OK for the title to be housed in another library on campus. Wally stressed the importance of communicating with other branch librarians on campus.

Barbara Magnuson (California State, Northridge) urged that we get and keep data on use and cost and share it regularly with our physical scientists (who understand and use numbers all the time). While data can't be the sole criteria, they can be very useful. They (Cal State, Northridge) have put information from user studies in the serials database for the past 4-5 years. In addition, they have a printout showing usage patterns for different time periods.

Alice Primack said Florida also considers the SCI impact factors and where the titles are indexed. If the library doesn't own that particular index, the demand for the title will probably be small. Science faculty at Michigan wrote to Pergamon, Elsevier, and "anyone in Holland" saying that they would neither write articles nor subscribe if prices weren't reduced.

Mary Ann Southern reported that Duke has gone through a number of years of cancellations. The first 2-3 years were healthy (they got rid of Russian original language in physics and many duplicates) but it became painful after that. In order to get a new serial title at Duke the science libraries must cancel 120% of the price of the new title. Currently 87% of the budget for physics is spent on serials.

Mary Ann also mentioned the tremendous problems of cancelling a title only to have to reinstate it a few years later (when faculty interest is high). Case in point is Hyperfine Interactions which drastically increased its publication schedule from single to multiple volumes per year (e.g., 1 volume/year in 1981, 10 volumes/year in 1986). Attempts to get backfiles if they're available then destroy monograph budgets for many years due to exorbitant prices.

Many present were distressed that the sciences seem to get "picked on" because those in science branches are more likely to have title/price information. It is also easier for collection development officers to pull out cost figures for science titles in subject-specific branch locations than for humanities/social science journals housed in multidisciplinary main libraries.

In addition, a much higher percent of the science materials budgets is spent on serials. In an informal survey of those present, serials account for 75% - 90% of physics budgets. (Unfortunately, no one from an academic institution said that the library system had good cost information on serials and serials expenditures.)

The effect of this high serials outlay on monograph budgets is significant. Illinois last year had to use 95% of its physics budget to cover serials. The 5% that remained for books spelled disaster as most titles will be out-of-print by the time there is money to purchase

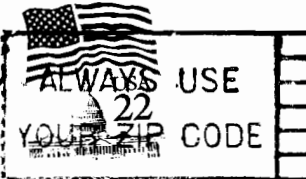
Continued on page 1:

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