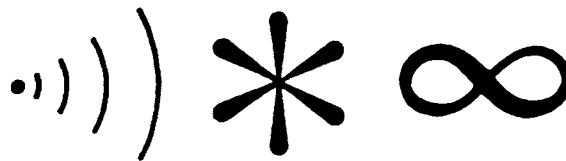


p·a·m

physics astronomy math



VOLUME 15 NO. 3

FEBRUARY 1988

Message from the Chair --

Camille Wamat

All SLA Division chairs attend the SLA Winter Meeting and I came away from the most recent one -- held in Williamsburg, VA, from January 27-29 -- quite proud of the PAM Division. First of all, it occurred to me that quite a few of our members are sufficiently involved in the Association to have been at that meeting: Helen Knudsen and I attended representing PAM, Dorothy McGarry was there as Chair of the Cataloging Committee, Dick Funkhouser attended as a member of the 1989 New York Conference Planning Committee, and Marlene Tebo represented the Sierra Nevada Chapter. [My apologies to any other PAM members attending who I may have missed.] Not bad for a small division! Next, the Division itself was singled out for notice: Ruth Seidman, Division Cabinet Chair, in her report about Division activities only highlighted projects of two divisions -- and PAM was noted for its efforts in support of the International Colloquium on Library and Information Services in Astronomy. Lastly, one of PAM's members, Dorothy McGarry, was commended by Emily Mobley (SLA President) and applauded for "her fine work on cataloging on behalf of SLA." Any division is only as strong as the efforts of its members -- and it is clear that PAM is quite healthy!

At the SLA Winter Meeting, Division chairs observe the Board of Directors meetings, attend Division Cabinet and Joint Cabinet meetings, and attend DACOLT (Division & Cabinet Officers Leadership Training) sessions. Since most of the general activity at the Winter Meeting will be reported in the next Specialist, I will mention only highlights, new information about the Denver conference, and Division matters.

The Board of Directors funded a project to form a Task Force on the Image of the Librarian and agreed to withdraw from its contract with the city of Cleveland as site of the 1990 conference due to a lack of adequate facilities (a new site will be announced as soon as determined). The past year's discussions on possible changes in Association structure culminated in approval of "caucuses" -- a new flexible type of group within SLA "to act as a focus for members with common interests, particularly where such interests may not be suitable to the Division or Chapter structures." Lest you think that the Winter Meeting is too deadly serious, a group shortly thereafter petitioned the Board (carefully following all the guidelines for these new caucuses) for formation of the "Raucous Caucus." Hope to hear more of this caucus later!

Regarding a matter which is all too much on our minds, the Division Cabinet heard a report on action following its request, made last June, that the Board of Directors make a statement regarding the escalating cost of journals. The Board had responded by referring the matter to the Publisher Relations Committee. This committee proposes to survey both librarians and publishers in an effort to both document the problem and establish productive dialogue with publishers. The report of this committee is due in June.

The Denver Conference is pretty well set; keep an eye out for your preliminary program in March. The PAM program hasn't changed from what I outlined in the last Bulletin, but we now know more about some of the general activities. The SLA Fundraising event will be a chuckwagon supper at the Flying W Ranch on Sunday evening. The featured speakers at the general sessions will be Michael Annison (The Westrends Group) on the impact of future trends on our profession and Roger Von Oech (CreativeThink) of "whack on the side of the head" fame.

Lastly and VERY IMPORTANTLY, I want all of you who can to respond to the letter which you received from Wally Pegram. In response to interest expressed at the Division meeting last June, Wally is coordinating a display of orientation materials relevant to physics, astronomy, and mathematics libraries. He tells me that so far he has received copies of acquisitions lists and newsletters, bibliographies, instructional materials, and a user's manual for a library automation system. The word I've received is that those who have already responded have also noted what a great idea it is to share these items. Often the best way to get our creative juices flowing in developing orientational materials (or in injecting new life into some existing materials) is to see the efforts of our colleagues. Here's your chance to do this rather painlessly -- but it will take your cooperation in order to succeed.

Report of the Membership Committee--Dorothy McGarry, Chair

Please send in any information on changes in work and/or mailing addresses, telephone numbers, e-mail addresses, and changes in fields of interest. We want to have the next membership directory as up-to-date as possible. Thanks.

NEW MEMBERS:

Julie A. Kreunen
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Physics, Optics, Astronomy Library
Rochester, NY 14627
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e-mail: julie@urhep, or: julie@uorhep

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goode@ms.uky.csnet

Cathy Pasterczyk
Milnet: cpaster@sandia-2.arpa. This can be reached
from Bitnet using the gateway wiscvm.wisc.edu

Dave Stern
Bitnet: stern@UIUCVMD

Reinstate:
Cornelius J. McKown

Change of Address:
Alice Hall
273 Upland Rd.
Cambridge, MA 02140

Dorothy McGarry
change mailing address to:
8033 Sunset Blvd. #4040
Los Angeles, CA 90046

Jack Weigel
(until August 31, 1988)
205 Graduate Library
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1205
(313) 936-3814
September 1, 1988, address will revert to
Physics-Astronomy Library
and telephone number in the directory.

Report of the Nominating Committee

Richard Funkhouser
Joyce Rey-Watson
Carol Hutchins, Chair
The following slate of officers will be presented for approval of the membership at the Division annual business meeting in Denver.

BRUCE PELZ, Chair-Elect

Bruce is Reference-Collection Development Librarian at the UCLA Engineering and Math Sciences Library. He has been a member of P-A-M since 1979, served on the Awards Committee, and is completing a term as treasurer.

CATHALEEN VAN ATTA, Treasurer

Cathy is Librarian at Kitt Peak National Observatory. She has previously served on the Awards and Membership Committees of the Division.

Further nominations, accompanied by written acceptance of the nominee, may be entered by a petition of at least 10 members, and filing it with the Nominating Committee at least 60 days prior to the annual business meeting.

Great news has arrived from Brenda Corbin regarding the housing fund for librarians attending IAU Colloquium 110. Not only have we collected \$1400 in corporate donations and \$600 in personal donations, but an anonymous publisher has guaranteed to match all personal donations collected before mid-July. This is generous and makes our donations twice as valuable! She has also received several requests for aid.

The power of collective persuasion can be potent. In response to our letters of complaint Reidel has reinstated contents lists to Astrophysics and Space Science and to Solar Physics. They are also considering annual indexes. In his letter, Patrick Wharton, Journal Manager at Reidel, continues "I hope too that you will inform me of any other ways in which you feel we could improve what we do." Ellen suggested that a mass writing campaign might even induce them to lower their prices! I'm not convinced of that but I do know that AIP has just responded to an "overwhelming response by the scientific/technical community" by halving the price for their new journal, Computers in Physics. They don't say what kind of response they got, but my own was a letter of complaint!

The astronomy thesaurus is progressing swimmingly -- all sections have been received from the collaborators and are being proofread and revised by astronomers. A first draft should be ready for the Washington meeting. The thesaurus has an official Scientific Editorial Board comprised of:

1. Dr. George Wilkins, President of Commission 5 of the IAU and Senior Research Scientist at RGO
2. Dr. Russell Cannon, Director, AAO
3. Dr. Robert Shobbrook, Senior Lecturer, Sidney University
4. Dr. Robert Allen, Principal Research Scientist, AAO
5. Dr. Wayne Warren, Jr., Astronomical Data Center, NASA
6. Dr. Gosta Lynga, Senior Research Scientist, Lund University

Some contacts and possibilities for publication have been established as well.

[The following are excerpts from a talk I gave at a joint meeting of the Florida Chapters of SLA and ACRL held in December in Tallahassee. The conference, "Serials Management for the 1980s/90s," was moderated by P-A-M's own Alice Primack from the University of Florida at Gainesville. Kudos to Alice and the Florida SLA Chapter for an informative, timely meeting! I presented an update on the University of Texas at Austin's experience using commercial document delivery as an alternative to owning infrequently used journals.]

The original commercial document delivery project ran from February through April of 1987 and was funded by cancelling \$2000 in sci/tech serials titles, that is, \$2000 over and above the 10% cancellation goal. Details can be found in an article by Ardis and Cronels in the November 1987 issue of C&RL News. Then in May, 1987, the General Libraries administration allocated an additional \$2000 to continue the project through the end of the fiscal year. While the first \$2000 was spent in only three months (Spring Term: February-April), the second \$2,000 lasted for five months (Summer Term: May-September). Other comparisons between the two time periods, Spring '87 and Summer '87, are presented in Table I.

Table I. Commercial Document Delivery Project
Report Summary: February -September 1987

	Spring 87	Summer 87	Total
Requests	153	234	387
Filled	148	227	375(97%)
Cost	\$1937.75	\$1992.50	\$3930.25
Ave. Cost	\$13.09	\$8.78	\$10.48

Cost range: \$7-\$22

Turnaround time average: 10.1 calendar days

Range: 3-25 calendar days

The average cost decreased significantly during Summer '87 because we became much better informed consumers and were able to take advantage of special provisions made by vendors to reduce costs. We were delighted with the 97% fill rate. While the average turnaround time was just over 10 days, 71% of the orders were received in 8 days or less and 93% were received in 12 days or less. Of the 7% that took more than 12 days to arrive, all items were more than 10 years old. Journal articles accounted for 90% of the

requests.

The real eye-opening information about commercial document delivery occurs when librarians look at cost-effectiveness performance measures, summarized in Table II.

Table II. Cost Effectiveness Performance Measures Spring '87 (Total Amount = \$2000)

	J. Titles	Articles	Cost/Use (Article)
Commercial			
Doc. Delivery	125	148	\$14
Subscription	10	12	\$167
(@\$200 each)			

During the three-month period in Spring '87, UT Austin received a total of 148 articles from 125 different journals at a cost of approximately \$2000. (Although the actual cost was \$1937.75, I am using \$2000 to simplify calculations.) The cost per use (article) was \$2000/48, or about \$14 per use.

If UT Austin had chosen to use that same \$2000 to buy journal subscriptions (at an average cost of \$200 per title), the library could have received \$2000/\$200 or 10 journal titles for one year. If each of those journals were used 1.2 times (assuming the same rate as the articles received on demand, 148 articles/125 titles - 1.8, or about 1.2 articles per title), the library would have been able to supply 12 articles (i.e., 10 titles times 1.2 articles /title). The average cost per use (article) for this alternative would have been \$2000/12, or about \$167 per use.

Although many in the library world are reluctant to use such measures and to make decisions based on them, it is imperative that we look at what we are doing and how much it is costing us. Information and knowledge are the keys to effective serials management.

PAM PROGRAMS, CONTINUED

THURSDAY, JUNE 16:

8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Field trip to the National Bureau of Standards and the National Center for Atmospheric Research (Boulder, CO).

TO GIVE AWAY:

Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. Hydrographisches amt. Erdmagnetische reisebeobachtungen...
 Holdings: v.1-4, 1887-1907.

Cambridge University. Observatory.
 Report of the Observatory syndicate.
 Holdings: 1910/11-1914/15, 1916/17, 1919/20-1934/35, 1936/37, 1940/41, 1943/44, 1946/47-1949/50, 1951/52-1955/56, 1957/58-1969/70.

Canton, China. Sun-Yatsen University. Observatoire.
 Revue bimensuelle.
 Holdings: v.1 (1930)-v.4 (1933), v. 5 no. 1-4 (1934), v. 6 no. 4-6 (1935), v. 7 (1936); no more published.

Mizusawa, Japan. International Latitude Observatory.
 Report of the meteorological and the seismological observations.
 Holdings: 1915, 1920-27, 1929-39

Sydney (N.S.W). Observatory.
 Results of meteorological observations in New South Wales.
 Holdings: 1871-1890, 1899-1902.

Universite de Strasbourg. Faculte des sciences. Institut de physique du globe.
 Annales ... Meteorologie.
 Holdings: 1919-1935; new ser. 1936.

Contact Jean L. Cooper, Technical Services Librarian, University of Virginia Libraries, Clark Hall, Charlottesville, VA 22903-3188; (804) 924-6734.

MATHEMATICS LIBRARIAN, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA LIBRARIES, TWIN CITIES

Due to retirement, the University of Minnesota Institute of Technology Libraries seeks qualified candidates to develop and manage research collections in mathematics and statistics, and to serve as liason to users with information needs in these subjects. The Mathematics Library is a branch operation consisting of approximately 30,000 volumes, 358 serial subscriptions, with an acquisitions budget of over \$100,000. Staff include 1 professional, 1 library assistant, plus student support. The Mathematics Library serves primarily faculty and students of the School of Mathematics, the School of Statistics, and the Institute of

Mathematics and Its Applications, all located in the same building as the library.

Qualifications: MLS or equivalent; experience in an academic mathematics or other science library; collection development experience in mathematics, science, or engineering; familiarity with current trends in information services and automated systems; experience with online searching (BRS or DIALOG or SDC).

This is a 12-month academic/professional position with probationary appointment at Assistant Librarian rank with a minimum salary of \$22,000.

Application deadline: March 15, 1988. For complete job description and more information write to Barbara Doyle, Personnel Officer, University of Minnesota Libraries - Twin Cities Campus, 453 Wilson Library, Minneapolis, MN 55455.

B. I. and Orientation Material Needed

As mentioned in a letter to all P-A-M members, dated December 17, 1987, Camille Wanat has asked me to organize a clearinghouse or display session of bibliographic instruction and orientation materials used by our members. The display session will be held in the P-A-M Hospitality Suite at the SLA Conference in Denver, June 1988.

As you may recall (or not), the idea of this project is to share with others the various kinds of materials which you may use in orienting and promoting services in your particular library. These materials could be your library guides, syllabus or bibliographic materials used in a classroom situation, acquisition lists, or any other innovative materials geared along these lines which you may wish to share with your colleagues.

I have already received a few responses from conscientious members who have enclosed a variety of samples from the above list, all of which are very much on target. But we still need contributions.

Now that the holidays are over and you have recovered and geared up for another year, won't you sort through your files and send helpful BI and orientation items you'd like to share with your colleagues? The deadline for receipt has been extended until Friday, April 1. This deadline allows time to organize and arrange for display for the best possible presentation at the Conference.

Please forward your materials to:

J. Wally Pegram, Head
Physics Library
213 Kinsey Hall
University of California, Los Angeles
405 Hilgard Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90024-1500

PAM PROGRAMS AT THE 1988 SLA CONFERENCE
(DENVER, CO)

SUNDAY, JUNE 12:

4:00 -5:00 p.m. Executive Board Meeting

MONDAY, JUNE 13:

1:00-2:00 p.m. Annual PAM Business Meeting

2:00-3:30 p.m. Astronomy Workshop; Moderator, Ellen Bouton, NRAO

4:00-6:00 p.m. P-A-M Vendor Update; Moderator, D. Scott Brandt (Purdue); Speakers: Jeff Howitt (AIP), Linda Sacks (ISI), Jim Ashling (INSPEC), William Leveque and Taissa Kusma (AMS)

9:00-11:30 p.m. PAM Open House and Instructional Materials Clearinghouse: A Display of library instructional and orientation materials from PAM libraries. Coordinator: Wally Pegram, UCLA

TUESDAY, JUNE 14:

10:30 a.m. -12:00 Computer Science Workshop (Joint with S-T) [This will be a program on collecting computer software.]

1:00-3:00 p.m. Career Plateauing. Speaker: Dr. Judith Bardwick, author of The Plateauing Trap. (Program is joint with M/M, PAM, PHM, PUT, S-T, and SOC.)

3:00-4:30 p.m. Mathematics Workshop; Moderator, Joanne Goode, U. of Kentucky

9:00-11:30 p.m. PAM Division Open House; Hospitality Chair, Bruce Pelz, UCLA

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15:

11:00 a.m.-12:00 PAM Executive Board Meeting (Incoming board)

1:00-3:00 p.m. Nonbibliographic Databases in the Sciences (joint program with M/M, CHEM, PAM). Moderator: Ferne Allan, Sandia; Speakers: John Rumble (NBS), Jim Ashling (INSPEC), Gil Kaufman (National Materials Property Data Network)

3:00-4:30 p.m. Physics Workshop; Moderator, Gary Davidoff, Argonne.

9:00-11:30 p.m. PAM Open House; Hospitality Chair, Bruce Pelz, UCLA

(Continued on page 27)

INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION
COLLOQUIUM 110

LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES IN ASTRONOMY

Good News --- we now have \$2600 in our housing fund for LISA. Now for even better news -- a publisher who wishes to remain anonymous has agreed to match all personal contributions to the housing fund!!! The breakdown thus far is as follows:

Contributions from Corporate Sources	\$1400
Personal contributions	\$ 600
Matching funds from anonymous publisher	\$ 600
TOTAL	\$2600

From now until the middle of July, this publisher will match all personal contributions, no matter how large or small. So please be as generous as you can.

We have thus far received financial aid requests for librarians from Hungary, Poland, Czechoslovakia, India, China, Argentina and Chile. Most of these people are librarians at well known observatories who want very much to attend this meeting, but cannot do so without some kind of assistance. These are just the kind of people I am hoping we can help so that they can join us at this first of its kind meeting. If we receive enough contributions, we may be able to even help some librarians with travel expenses as well as housing expenses. Travel expenses seem to be what many of them must have in order to be able to attend. I am also looking into other sources for travel funds and have some very promising leads. If any of you have suggestions for any sources I might try, please let me know.

Please make your check to SLA/PAM/LISA and mail it to the address below. REMEMBER, THE AMOUNT WILL BE DOUBLED. Again, many thanks to those of you who have already made generous contributions.

BRENDA G. CORBIN, LIBRARIAN
U. S. NAVAL OBSERVATORY
34TH & MASSACHUSETTS AVE., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20392-5100

Library and Information Services in
Astronomy -- IAU Colloquium 110; Brenda
Corbin, USNO Library

Survey of SLA Software Users Is Available

The Local Organizing Committee met in February, and plans are beginning to come together. The program is full of important topics, and although it seems that 4 days is plenty of time for a conference of this kind, there just aren't enough hours to fully explore everything. The Program Committee has suggested names for each panel, roundtable discussion, contributed paper, etc., and Dr. George Wilkins, Chairman of the Program Committee, will be sending letters soon to all those people mentioned, asking for your official participation. We have tried to keep the program truly international, so we cannot use all the wonderful talent of all the P-A-M astronomy librarians. However, we expect lively discussions and contributions by all attendees during the conference. We are also trying very hard to keep the meeting in a workshop format rather than having a series of presented papers.

Please remember that the deadline for the registration form and fee is May 15. The registration fee goes to \$90 after that date.

Volunteers will be needed during the conference for many different things. I will try to map out a schedule and have people sign up for "duty" during the Astronomy Workshop in Denver. Thanks in advance for your help, and I look forward to seeing many of you in Denver and later in Washington.

Special Libraries Association has just published a member-based survey which lists library software applications that SLA members are currently using. It is a shared body of experience for those members interested in making contact with other members using a particular software package. Entries include application type, program name, vendor name, equipment type, length of time in operation, and number of records online.

This is the first in a series of staff-generated research projects. Recently the SLA Board of Directors approved a research committee, from which further staff research will be generated and published.

Copies of the survey are available for \$15. Send your order to Box F1, Order Department, Special Libraries Association, 1700 Eighteenth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20009.

CONTENTS:

Message from the Chair.....	Camille Wanat	23
Colophon		24
Beware!.....		24
Physics Workshop.....		24
Membership Report.....	Dorothy McGarry.....	25
Nominating Committee	Carol Hutchins.....	25
Astronomy News	Marlene Cummins	26
Physics News	Karen Croneis.....	26
To Give Away		27
Job Listing.....		27
B.I. & Orientation Material.....	J. Wally Pegram	28
Conference Program.....	Camille Wanat	28
LISA Housing Fund.....	Brenda Corbin.....	29
LISA	Brenda Corbin.....	30
Software Survey		30

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475142
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Univ Michigan
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290 Dennison Bldg
Ann Arbor MI

48109