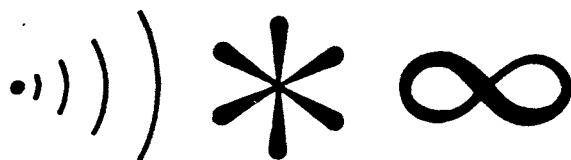


p·a·m

physics astronomy math



VOLUME 16 NO. 4

MAY 1989

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

HELEN Z KNUDSEN

ANNUAL REPORT 1988/1989

MEMBERSHIP

As of 16 April 1989, the Physics/Astronomy/Mathematics Division (PAM) had 96 primary members and 54 secondary members for a total of 150. While this appears to be an increase from last year, we must guard against the numbers game, and strive to build a strong feeling of membership: open communications, inclusiveness, utility, cohesiveness and mutual assistance. Only in this way can we keep the division qualitatively vital, regardless of the numerical quantity of its membership.

SLA's membership has remained essentially constant over the last 5 years. This appears less attractive when one considers the increasing numbers of library and information professionals. By comparison, SLA is actually losing its effectiveness.

The SLA Chapter and Division Recruitment Awards are an attempt to encourage growth. Many methods are offered to encourage new members to sign up, but no studies have yet been made to determine why members drop out. The Addendum is a listing of reasons given to a 1989 survey of the members who dropped during the last two years.

FINANCES

The financial state of the PAM Division, while not flush, appears to be reasonably secure. PAM consistently receives contributions from publishers and vendors who deal with the disciplines of interest to our division. These contributions help defray the cost of providing the Hospitality Suite for division members at the Annual Conference. The amount received for the 1989 Annual Conference Hospitality Suite is \$1300.00 (as of May 2nd). The PAM Bulletin brought in \$27.00 so far this year.

The PAM Directory is a result of the generosity of the American Mathematical Society. The AMS has long been a staunch backer of our

Division, and the publication of the Membership Directory, year after year, is a deeply appreciated contribution to our operations. We extend thanks to Dr. William Jaco, the Executive Director of the American Mathematical Society, for his very practical and generous support.

OFFICERS

During 1988/1989, the officers, committee chairs, and committee members have all contributed to the work of the Division, as well as to the work of the Association. These members deserve recognition and thanks from all of us:

Past Chair Camille Wanat
Chair-Elect Bruce Pelz
Secretary Karen Croneis
Treasurer Cathy Van Atta
Bulletin Editor Judith Bausch
Nominating Committee Joyce Rey-Watson,
Chair, Mary Ann Southern, Wally Pegram
Membership Committee Dorothy McGarry,
Chair, Marilyn Steinberg, Carol Hutchins,
Kimiyo Hom, Betty Holmstrom, Donna Cromer,
Jayashri Nagaraja, Pam Enrice
Awards Committee Nancy Anderson,
Chair, Cathy Greene, Martha Austin, Cathy
Pasterczyk
Hospitality (1989) April Love
Archives Jack Wetzel
Government Relations Adelaide Del Frate
SLA Committee on Cataloging ... Dorothy McGarry
PAM Division Liaison Mary Ann
Southern
Candidates for officers for 1989/90 are:
Chair-Elect Marlene Cummins
Secretary Ellen Bouton
Treasurer Cathy Van Atta
(continues)

1988 SLA ANNUAL CONFERENCE,
DENVER

Actions taken at the annual Division business meeting included: funding for the second (possibly expanded to world-wide holdings) edition
(continued on page 25)

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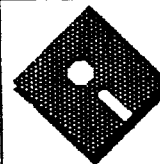
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**Deadline for next issue: 1989
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 MCGARRY)**



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**MEMBERSHIP REPORT
 Dorothy McGarry, Chair**

New members:

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Dorothy H. Manderscheid, Michigan State
 University, Mathematics Library, 101-D Wells
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Barbara A. List, 85 First Pl., Brooklyn, NY 11231
 (212) 930-0573

Pennsylvania State University, Pattee Library,
 Attn. Serials Record Librarian, University
 Park, PA 16802 (814) 865-0401

Robin D. Perera, 43 Milford St., Boston, MA 02118
 (617) 876-1111

Laurie E. Stackpole, Chief Librarian, Ruth H. Hooker Technical Library, Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, DC 20375-5000 (202) 767-2357 (or Autovon 297-2357); Mailing Address: 11 Battersea La, Ft. Washington, MD 20744, Area of interest: Physics

Dimitri R. Stein, Science Information Svc. Inc., 7 Woodland Ave., Larchmont, NY 10538 (914) 834-8865

Julla H. Triplehorn, PO Box 80826, College, AK 99708

John J. Wanserski, 1960 W. Keating #338, Mesa, AZ 85202 (602) 965-7609

Change of e-mail address:

Ellen Chu: ellen@nihdcrtl
Barbara Luszczyński: C31801BL@WUVMD

Changes:

Beverlee A. French--add telephone number (916) 752-2110

Joseph C. Lin--change address to: Indiana University, Library/Cataloging Dept., Bloomington, IN 47405

Larry Markworth--change to Hughes Research Laboratories

Heldi Mercado--change to: PO Box 1317, Dexter, MI 48130 (313) 487-3191

Berle G. Reiter--delete telephone number

@@

ANNUAL REPORT (CONTINUED)

of the Union List of Astronomy Serials; the IAU Colloquium 110 (LISA) was announced, and contributions solicited for housing fund for astronomy librarians coming from third world countries; commendation to Dr. William LeVeque for longterm support from AMS to PAM; Karen Cronels won the drawing for the Division's copy of Bardwick: The Plateauing Trap; the FBI Library Awareness Program was discussed at length, with three resolutions being adopted (details in PAM Bulletin v.16:1, p.5). The 1988 PAM Division programs at the Conference included four subject workshops, a vendor update session, and an unusual but highly successful display of library collection education materials (at the Division Open House sessions), and a very well-attended field trip.

I.A.U. COLLOQUIUM No.110: LIBRARY INFORMATION SERVICES IN ASTRONOMY, WASHINGTON, D.C.

The high degree of participation by PAM members in this colloquium deserves acknowledgement in our official PAM documents. Nearly 25% of the attendees were PAM members, and fully 50% of the LISA speakers were PAM members.

The last time an international collection of astronomy librarians got together was in 1968, in Hamburg. This time there were about 129 attendees from 26 foreign countries. The programs were most carefully planned and carried out, with excellent speakers on each topic and ample discussion from the entire audience. Poster papers were shown in an adjoining room. Field trips to the Library of Congress, the U.S. Naval Observatory (the local and splendid host!) and NASA/Goddard Space Flight Center were thoroughly enjoyed by all.

PAM members attending included: Martha Austin, Adelaide DelFrate, Julie Kreunen, David Stern, Judy Bausch, Janet Dudley, Janardan Kulkarni, Sarah Stevens-Rayburn, Olga Boemeke, Joan Gantz, April Love, Kathryn Strand, Ellen Bouton, Mary Jo Hendricks, Dorothy McGarry, Cathy Van Atta, Liz Bryson, Betty Holmstrom, Pat Moholt, Rosalind Walcott, Brenda Corbin, Carol Hutchins, Alice Primack, Jack Weigel, Karen Cronels, Bruce Pelz, Joyce Rey-Watson, Allen Wynne, Marlene Cummins, Sandra Kitt, Robyn Shobbrook.

The Scientific Organizing Committee included PAM members Ellen Bouton, Brenda Corbin, Robyn Shobbrook, and Sarah Stevens-Rayburn. The Local Organizing Committee included PAM members Brenda Corbin, Ellen Bouton, Adelaide DelFrate, and Sarah Stevens-Rayburn.

Poster papers included those presented by PAM members: "Identifying Academic Physical Science Research in Progress" Alice Primack; "Conversion of the AAO Library Card Catalogue Using PC Software" Robyn Shobbrook; Sessions in which PAM members participated: "Problems of International Acquisitions" moderated by Helen Knudsen with panel member Jack Weigel; "IAU Thesaurus" presented by Robyn Shobbrook; "Indexing and Abstracting Services" included panel member Helen Knudsen; "Online Bibliographic Databases" included panel member Joyce Rey-Watson; "Union List of Astronomy Serials" presented by Judy Bausch; "Support of Remote Observatory Libraries" with co-chair Ellen Bouton; "Online Retrieval Demonstrations" featured SIMBAD with Joyce Rey-Watson; "Handling and Use of Special Format Materials" chaired by Carol Hutchins; "Preprints and Reprints" with panel members Ellen Bouton and Sarah Stevens-Rayburn; "Non-printed Materials" with panel

member Cathy Van Atta; "Observatory Publications" moderated by Marlene Cummins with panel member Joan Gantz; "Conservation of Historical Materials" chaired by Brenda Corbin; "Conservation from the Perspective of the Astronomy Librarian" presented by Janet Dudley; "Library Administration" chaired by Jack Weigel; "Use of Computers" presented by Sarah Stevens-Rayburn; "Archiving of Correspondence and Unpublished Documents" with panel member Janet Dudley; "Management of Astronomical Peculiarities" presented by Carol Hutchins; "Maintaining the Historical Record" presented by Brenda Corbin; "Organization of Activities" presented by Jack Weigel; "A Look at the Future of Astronomical Libraries" presented by Pat Moholt. Brenda Corbin, member of the Local Organizing Committee, gives an insider's report on this colloquium in PAM Bulletin v.16:1, p.6. The full proceedings are due to be published in the very near future co-edited by Sarah Stevens-Rayburn and George Wilkins.

1989 SLA WINTER MEETING, SAN FRANCISCO

Details of the Mid-Winter Meeting are available in the PAM Bulletin v.16:3. On-going discussion is suggested on: the Chapter and Division Recruitment Awards, change in the SLA By-Laws; image of librarians; SLA (non)-membership in the Association of American Publishers.

Bruce Pelz and the Chair attended the DACOLT sessions and the Board of Directors meetings and participated (actively!) in the Division Cabinet and Joint Cabinet sessions. The Joint Cabinet session included a plea from several Chapter and Division representatives that SLA headquarters desist from the practice of advertising professional librarian positions which offer only sub-standard salaries.

1989 SLA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, NEW YORK

PAM Division plans for the New York Conference are now complete. PAM will continue its tradition of workshops in the areas of physics, astronomy, mathematics, and computer science. (Future conferences may include workshops in computer science co-hosted with the Sci-Tech Division.) Another repeat performance is the soon-to-become-traditional vendors' update. The subject of journal prices increases has become so important that there will be a two-part session (Sunday 1:30 and Wednesday 3:00) co-hosted by no fewer than nine divisions, including PAM. The field trip for 1989 will include a tour of the incomparable Forbes Gallery, and some time in Chinatown and the Soho area.

OTHER PROJECTS

Marlene Cummins has initiated a library adoption program to facilitate exchanges and provide other support. Further details are given in the PAM Bulletin v.16:2, p.11.

The once Ad Hoc Committee on Fund-Raising has accumulated information on advertising charges as found by some division editors. It was decided to forego the inclusion of advertising in our Bulletin since the income from such advertising would not offset the higher postage such a change would require.

The participation of PAM members in the (now) I.A.U. Thesaurus (known to us as Thesaurus Rex) warrants official mention in our annual reportage. Robyn Shobbrook collected the nearly year-long efforts from eight astronomy librarians in five countries: Australia, England, India, Canada, and the US. Five librarians are PAM members: Ellen Bouton, Liz Bryson, Marlene Cummins, Helen Knudsen, and Robyn Shobbrook. The initial term selection and classification has been completed and is now in the most capable hands of Robyn Shobbrook, who is cross-referencing all the terms. There has been some interest evidenced by representatives of the I.A.U. to make this an official publication of that organization. It is hoped that further details on this as well as on the maintenance of the thesaurus will be forthcoming in the not-too-distant future. Literally dozens of sources were combed and merged to create a nearly comprehensive compilation of astronomical terms within a hierarchical structure. This will be a long-awaited and much-needed reference tool for all astronomical libraries.

"An SLA Division Bibliography of Best Reference Works" is now published and includes the work of PAM members Karen Croneis and David Stern in the physics and astronomy sections. Their contributions are appreciated.

COMMENTS

The Chair has found these last two years to be the busiest in living memory. It has been a richly rewarding experience to be entitled to (to have to!) get in touch with so many well-known librarians, scientists, administrators, speakers, writers, computer wizards, publishers, dealers, and others who would never have come into my experience had it not been a part of PAM duties. Hard work, late hours, myriad details, much writing and hours upon hours of calls....all add up to a time I would not exchange for anything and would not prolong for a minute longer than necessary. I am grateful for the experience, and glad to relinquish it all to my successor. PAM Division is certainly an active division, working hard to provide highly useful services. Numerically we are the third smallest of SLA's 28 divisions, but one would be hard-pressed to find a more dedicated, involved group!

Respectfully submitted, Helen Knudsen May
3 1989

ASTRONOMY NEWS

LIBRARY TWINNING AND DUPLICATES PROJECTS

The response to these two projects has been disappointing so far. I have heard from 7 "western" librarians, one third world librarian and one eastern European librarian. Ellen Bouton reports even less response to her offer to distribute names of librarians wanting and offering duplicate lists. We won't abandon these projects and can only hope that more advertising and word of mouth may improve results.

ASTRONOMY THESAURUS

Robyn Shobbrook reports that she is still waiting for a report from Astronomisches Rechen-Institut as to the progress they have made doing the referencing. She will soon be submitting a formal report and plan for testing etc., to IAU commission no. 5. Brenda Corbin (USNO) and Ethleen Lastovica (South Africa) have been added to the working group. FROM MARLENE CUMMINS, UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

The PAM Vendor Update session at the June meeting features representatives from Kluwer and from Gordon & Breach, neither of whom have appeared at SLA meetings before. Please be prepared to ask questions and present your concerns to these (and the other) participating vendors.

As of this writing (mid-April) there is no word on the status of Palomar Survey II. July 1, 1989 is the due date for the initial payment, so one would expect some word by that time.

Someone from IPAC will be at SLA to tell us about progress and changes in the NED database.

NRAO Workshop Proceedings no. 21 (1988 Synthesis imaging summer school) will be published by ASP as part of their conference series. FROM ELLEN BOUTON, NRAO

 Karen Croneis, University of Texas at Austin, recommends an article in the February 1989 College and Research News.(vol. 50, no. 2, pages 145-150) by Katherine E. Clark and William R. Kinyon "The Interdisciplinary Use of Physics Journals." The authors identify 36 physics journals and compare the number of articles published with the number indexed in eight different online databases. They conclude that "a large percentage of the articles published in these journals are also critically important to

researchers in other fields." Based on their study, a separate physics reading room was not established at Texas A & M. The article provides another way in which online searching can be used in collection development.

Books Wanted: The Third World Academy of Sciences seeks donations of scientific books, particularly those on mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, engineering, and Earth science, as well as professional journals and science magazines. The academy redistributes these publications to about 500 institutions in some 90 developing countries. Contact Prof. R. Dalafi, Third World Academy of Sciences, c/p International Center for Theoretical Physics, P.O. Box 586, 34100 Trieste, Italy.



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