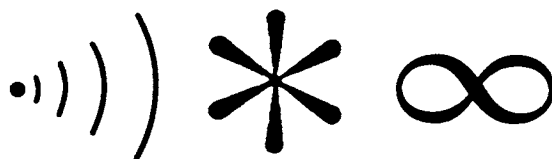


p·a·m

physics astronomy math



## P-A-M BULLETIN

Vol. 22, No. 3

February 1995

ISSN 1063-9136

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

David Stern  
David.Stern@qm.cis.yale.edu

Having just returned from the Winter planning meeting in Raleigh, North Carolina, it appears that we will have another full slate of interesting programs and business issues in Montréal. Our traditional programs will be supplemented by topics such as using the Internet and copyright considerations. Our PAM activities will include a 20th Anniversary Party in our Open House on Tuesday night. We have much to be proud of when one looks at the past and recent groundbreaking accomplishments of PAM — a new Home Page for resources, the first SLA Listserver, the ULAS II project, our cooperation with the Library & Information Services in Astronomy conference(s), and our strong contacts with PAM-related publishers and vendors. Our toughest challenge will be to remain on the cutting edge of information science. A call by headquarters for strategic planning by Divisions will undoubtedly help us formalize our goals and activities in the coming years. Head-

quarters has two glossy brochures available for members: *Edges, Information Resource Experts*; and *Power, Achieving Organizational Goals*. They are for convincing your organizational leaders of the value of librarians. Fax your requests today.

Montréal will be fantastic, and there are a few things that you should know already: ask for two receipts (one for the

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Canadian tax refund, and one for your company refund), and bring a passport or both your birth certificate and a photo ID — a driver's license is not enough. There is a Listserv for Montréal questions and answers: send an email message to [listserv@sifon.cc.mcgill.ca](mailto:listserv@sifon.cc.mcgill.ca) with the text SUBSCRIBE sla95-L (your name) Do not enter a subject and turn off your automatic signature.

Send your ideas for the Anniversary Party to Peggy Dominy ... and keep creating memorable contributions. ✍

### Middle Management Institute

*Management Skills*  
Washington, DC  
May 18-19, 1995

For details, contact  
SLA's Professional Development  
Department at  
(202) 234-4700, ext. 649

## PAM BULLETIN

The *PAM Bulletin* is published by the Physics-Astronomy-Mathematics Division of the Special Libraries Association. The *Bulletin* is issued four times a year: August, November, February, and May. Articles should be submitted in ascii format if possible to the bulletin editor:

Thurston Miller  
University of Notre Dame  
Chemistry-Physics Library  
Notre Dame, IN 46556  
(219) 631-4549  
[miller.115@nd.edu](mailto:miller.115@nd.edu)

### DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE April 15, 1995

Subscriptions are free to PAM members and retired PAM members. Non-member subscriptions cost \$9.00 per year. Checks should be made payable to PAM-SLA and sent to the assistant editor:

Irene Laursen  
Wellesley College  
Science Library  
Wellesley, MA 02181-8289  
(617) 283-3082  
[ilaursen@wellesley.edu](mailto:ilaursen@wellesley.edu)

### PAM DIVISION AWARD

Please submit your suggestions for the 1995 PAM award! To date, the Committee has received **NO** nominations. The deadline for nominations will be March 15th. Please contact one of the committee members with any questions or suggestions:  
Mary Ann Southern (Chair), Peggy Dominy, and Jack Weigel. Thanks.

Mary Ann Southern  
[mplib@phy.duke.edu](mailto:mplib@phy.duke.edu)

**MATHEMATICS NEWS**

Compiled by  
Molly White  
mwhite@mail.utexas.edu

**Bulletin vs PAMnet**

Are there any MathNews readers who cannot/do not subscribe to PAMnet? I'm curious to know if there are any members who rely solely on the printed *PAM Bulletin* for their essential math news. If so, please let me or the editor (see pg 2) know. E-mail: (see above) or surface mail: Molly White, PMA Library, Univ. of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX 78713.

**Joint Mathematical Meetings**

The Joint Mathematical Meetings (including the American Mathematical Society (AMS) and the Mathematical Association of America, etc.) were held in San Francisco from January 4-7, 1995. Librarian attendees were Dorothy McGarry, Mary Ann Southern (AMS Library Committee members), Carol Hutchins, Martha Tucker, Rebecca Lasher, and Bert TePaske-King.

The Library Committee sponsored a panel discussion entitled "Access and Archiving in the Electronic Age." Panelists were Richard A. Askey, University of Wisconsin; Donald G. Babbitt, Publisher, American Mathematical Society; David J. Lerner, Kluwer Academic Publishers; Herbert S. Wilf, University of Pennsylvania; and Carol Hutchins, New York University, Courant Institute. (Notes from this discussion will appear in the next issue of the *PAM Bulletin*.)

Also of interest, the Math Reviews office held a demonstration of MathSciNet, the WWW version of *Mathematical Reviews* which, hopefully, will be

available next year. (Note that the AMS has a MathSciNet section on its WWW homepage. It includes a sample search screen and a document discussing the design of the service. The URL is: <http://e-math.ams.org/web/mathscinet/mathscinet.html>)

The Library Committee discussed the revision of the 1990 Mathematics Libraries Survey. The new survey will be distributed in 1996.

Submitted by:  
Mary Ann Southern

**Committee Appointment**

Carol Hutchins of the Courant Institute has been appointed to the AMS Electronic Products and Services Committee for a three-year term. Her service begins Feb. 1, 1995. It will be good to have a librarian's voice on the committee.

**Math Reviews Innovations**

*Math Reviews* (MR) will introduce a new category of review in 1995 to be called Featured Reviews. These reviews will cover some of the best published papers as determined by MR editors and distinguished mathematicians. The reviewers are asked to "set the paper in context, perhaps with some historical background, state the main results of the paper, outline the main new ideas in the paper, and include their evaluation of the paper. The reviews will be highlighted in the MR issue and flagged in MathSci for easy identification." For further information see *Notices of the AMS*, v.41, no. 9, Nov/Dec 1994, p.1171-1172.

**Math Communications Conference**

Much has been said about the Future of Mathematics Communication confer-

*continued on page 4*

ence that was sponsored by Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (MSRI) in Berkeley, Nov.30 - Dec. 3, 1994. Several PAM members attended, as well as many important speakers from the AMS, Ann Okerson from Association of Research Libraries (ARL), Paul Ginsparg from Los Alamos, Andrew Odlyzko from Bell Labs (?), Neil Calkin, Steve Wolfram, and even William Randolph Hearst III. It sounds like it was an exciting conference, judging from the PAMnet traffic it has generated.

The extensive notes of two librarians have been compiled into two lengthy e-mail messages. To receive them electronically send an e-mail request to: [mwhite@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:mwhite@mail.utexas.edu). MSRI has a WWW site with background papers, agendas, and other information. The URL is: <http://www.msri.org/fmc/fmc.html>. A grad student who attended has a WWW site with his thoughts on the conference. The URL is: <http://alfred1.u.washington.edu:8080/~anomaly/docs/fmc-report.html>.

### Exhibits and Displays

The following is a summary of the responses received to a PAMnet request for ideas for displays and exhibits in mathematics libraries. Thanks to all who contributed such creative ideas!

Janice M. Jaguszewski  
[janice@math.umn.edu](mailto:janice@math.umn.edu)

1. At the Courant Institute we have a bulletin board about 4.5 feet long that always has miscellaneous newspaper clippings, cartoons, etc., posted. In the elevator lobby I have at the moment some computer generated pictures related to the Kelvin conjecture that Silvio Levy sent me. There's some explanatory text with it.

Carol Hutchins  
Courant Institute  
[hutchins@acf3.nyu.edu](mailto:hutchins@acf3.nyu.edu)

2. I would like to do a Future of Mathematics Communications bulletin board and include information about MathSciNet, some math e-journals, recent articles in *Science* about electronic communications and science, etc. MathSciNet can be found at <http://msn.mr.ams.org/demo/>

Martha Tucker  
University of Washington  
[mtucker@u.washington.edu](mailto:mtucker@u.washington.edu)

3. We once did a "Bestsellers" list of all the books in the Science Library that had at one time been popular (*Surely You're Joking; Godel, Escher, Bach*; etc). The idea could be applied to any subject area.

Carlin Sappenfield  
[vusl@math.vanderbilt.edu](mailto:vusl@math.vanderbilt.edu)

4. Here are a few ideas. I have a copy of the Fibonacci Numbers in Nature poster from Dale Seymour Publications. I have used this a couple of times along with references to books in the library - I usually get one or two requests for information on ordering the poster. Dale Seymour Catalog has lots of colorful interesting posters. I hope to order some more if I can find a way to pay for them.

I got some ideas from the engineering librarian at SUNY at Buffalo - they did a display of slide rules collected from faculty - annotated with comments from the owners as to when they got it or how they used it. I have not done this one yet but plan to and will tie it to the history of calculation.

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Another idea from SUNY was "Science through the ages on stamps." The *Mathematical Intelligencer* usually has a page on stamps.

Currently I have a display on exploring the internet via our online catalog to OhioLINK (the state wide system) that acts as a gopher to about 140 math sites on the internet.

I am working on a display about our CD-ROM network. We have just added MathSci, Inspec and Metadex. I sure wish database producers would supply posters.

Another thing I try to do is watch for volume 100 of journals. I did a display on the 100th anniversary of the *American Mathematical Monthly* and had volume 1 in the display case along with photocopies of articles by or about Ohio mathematicians from that volume.

Another display in the works is about the tile patterns in the new math tower. Each of the seven floors has a different tiling pattern in the elevator lobby. Do you have someone who does origami or string models? Even a quilt is a mathematical pattern.

Also, I usually reserve part of a display case with the heading "In The News..." where I post articles from the Campus Paper that mention someone or something going on in the libraries or one of the engineering or science departments. I also post articles that others see in the *Wall Street Journal*, *New York Times*, the *Columbus Dispatch* or a magazine that might interest our people.

Another idea is a "Day in the life of \_\_\_\_\_ Library" (fill in your library name.) Take all your statistics and calculate out one day of serial receipts, books returned, books checked out, people in the library, reference questions, books

reshelved, etc. You might add miles of shelving, number of books, bound serials, and other statistics. We plan to do one with number of light bulbs, acres of carpeting, etc., to highlight the work of the cleaning staff.

Mary Scott  
Mathematical Sciences Librarian  
Ohio State U. Science & Engineering  
Library  
Scott.36@OSU.EDU

5. We had a very successful and popular exhibit at the University at Buffalo a couple of years ago. It was called "In Aid of Calculation" and focused on antique calculating devices, including all kinds of slide rules, which we solicited from faculty, who were delighted to be involved. We also featured early hand calculators, mechanical calculators, an abacus, logarithmic charts, Napier's bones, finger counting, calculator watches, tie clasps, you name it. We still have the six-foot slide rule hanging in our reference area. We wrote up little paragraphs on the provenance of each item (for example, Used by Professor Jones When a Graduate Student at MIT) and everyone enjoyed seeing one another's possessions exhibited. Some faculty even wrote the blurbs themselves. This is fun to do and great for faculty relations. Catch them before they retire!

Maiken Naylor  
Science & Engineering Library  
sfcmaikn@ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu

6. If you can get hold of a catalog called Knowledge Unlimited (PO Box 52 Madison, WI 53707-0052), it contains at least five posters on Mathematics pertain-

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ing to countries or cultures. There is one for China, Japan, Mexico, Africa, and the Navajo. They only cost \$9.95 each and are very pleasing to see with wonderful bright colors. I bought them and had them dry mounted (cheapest way to go) and am using them for a display. Later I will disperse them on the walls in the library.

Nancy Carter  
University of Colorado  
Lester Library of Math & Physics  
nancy.carter@colorado.edu

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## **PAMNET NEWS**

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Compiled by  
Alice Primack  
ALIPRIM@nervm.nerdc.ufl.edu

### **QUOTE**

"The library is not a shrine for the worship of books, it is not a temple where literary incense must be burned or where one's devotion to the bound book is expressed in ritual. A library, to modify the famous metaphor of Socrates, should be the delivery room for the birth of ideas — a place where history comes to life."

Norman Cousins

### **STANDARDS**

Rebecca Lasher did a survey regarding national and international standards and electronic format. She reports that the clear—and only choice is IHS. Information Handling Services(IHS) may be reached at 1-800-241-7824.

### **Montréal Math Roundtable**

It's not too early to begin thinking about what you would like to discuss at our annual Mathematics Roundtable at the SLA Conference in Montréal. What topics are on your mind? Do you have questions for your colleagues or information to share? Would you like a specific person, publisher, or organization to give a short, informational presentation?

I am beginning to develop an agenda and would appreciate any and all ideas you may have. Please send them via e-mail to [janice@math.umn.edu](mailto:janice@math.umn.edu) or call me at (612) 624-9395. Thank you!

Janice Jaguszewski  
Moderator, Math Roundtable



### **ARTICLES ABOUT ELECTRONIC RESOURCES**

Marlene Cummins suggests we might be interested in two articles on electronic journals that appear on pages 1 and 18 of the December *AAS newsletter*. There is also a good overview of online services available to astronomers in the November issue of *Publications of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific*.

### **INTERNET ACCESS TO MATH DATABASE**

Martha Tucker reports there is limited access to *Zentralblatt für Mathematik's* CompactMath database at <http://www.zblmath.fiz-karlsruhe.de/zbl/cdrom-gw.html>

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### NEW RESOURCES FROM LUNAR & PLANETARY INSTITUTE

David Bigwood announces two new resources in the Lunar and Planetary Institute online system: The Antarctic Meteorite Location and Mapping Program (AMLAMP), and the Venus Craters Database by Robert Herrick. These resources may be reached by

FTP at [cass.jsc.nasa.gov](http://cass.jsc.nasa.gov);  
Gopher at [cass.jsc.nasa.gov:70](http://cass.jsc.nasa.gov:70); or  
WWW at [http://cass.jsc.nasa.gov/  
CASS\\_home.html](http://cass.jsc.nasa.gov/CASS_home.html).

David Bigwood also announced a new homepage for the Lunar & Planetary Institute, which provides access to all their public information. The URL is: <http://cass.jsc.nasa.gov/lpi/html>.

### ADDRESS CHANGE FOR PAMNET

Joanne Goode has resumed her role as owner of PAMNET, and can be reached at [goodejm@lib.muchio.edu](mailto:goodejm@lib.muchio.edu) or phone 513-529-7205. The new address for PAMNET is [sla-pam@listserver.lib.muchio.edu](mailto:sla-pam@listserver.lib.muchio.edu).

### SLA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

A new listserv created for SLA's 86th Annual Conference has been created by Sharon Rankin and others on the Hospitality Committee to disseminate information and answer questions about Montréal. To subscribe, send e-mail to [listserv@sifon.cc.mcgill.ca](mailto:listserv@sifon.cc.mcgill.ca) with the following text: SUBSCRIBE SLA95-L <your name>

### PAM WWW RESOURCES HOMEPAGE

Kathleen Robertson reports creation of a listing of World Wide Web resources from the physics, mathematics, astronomy, and computer science fields. This is being called the PAMNET

homepage, and is available at URL <http://galileo.ifa.hawaii.edu/pamnet/pamnet.html>. Kathleen would like feedback and ideas for resources, sent to her on e-mail at [roberts@uhifa.ifa.hawaii.edu](mailto:roberts@uhifa.ifa.hawaii.edu) or at the regular mail address at the Institute for Astronomy Library.

### WWW GENERAL SCIENCE RESOURCE

Jim Pearce announces an electronic journal, the *Oak Ridge National Laboratory Review*, which offers a wide range of articles in the area of science and technology that are written for folks who are interested in science but who may or may not be scientists. To make it easier to find what you're looking for, the *Review* now supports text searches and an e-mail feature that lets you send in your questions. The *Review* is also available in hard copy and is distributed without charge. The electronic version is located at URL [http://www.ornl.gov/ORNLReview/  
rev26-2/text/home.html](http://www.ornl.gov/ORNLReview/rev26-2/text/home.html).

### BOB KURUCZ'S DATA ONLINE

Bob Kurucz's data — 500,000 lines with known energy levels and (mostly) semi empirical f-values — has been made available online. Robert Kelly's data should be available soon. The URL for the database page is: [http://cfa-www.harvard.edu/~esmond/  
amdata.html](http://cfa-www.harvard.edu/~esmond/amdata.html). Contact Peter Smith at Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics for more information: phone (617)495-4984 or e-mail [plsmith@cfa.harvard.edu](mailto:plsmith@cfa.harvard.edu).

### MATHSCINET


The American Mathematical Society is developing a system named MathSciNet to deliver *Mathematical Reviews* and *Cur-*

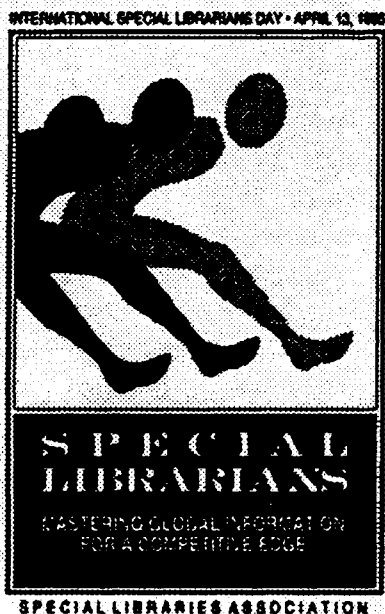
continued on page 8

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rent *Mathematical Publications* over the Internet. The goal of this project is to give unparalleled access to the database and all the flexibility in working with and retrieving the data that is possible in an electronic publishing system today. The database will be updated daily, giving MathSciNet a currency not available from the other vendors of MR. A prototype of MathSciNet is available for demonstration at URL: <http://msn.mr.ams.org/demo/>. For more information contact Bert TePaske-King at Mathematical Reviews; e-mail [btk@math.ams.org](mailto:btk@math.ams.org)

### LISA

Current information on LISA-II, Library and Information Services in Astronomy, is available on the LISA-II Web page at URL: <http://hppt.hq.eso.org/lisa-ii.html> or from Uta Michold, ESO Library, Karl-Schwarzschild-Str. 2, D-85748 Garching, Germany. A draft program has been created. 



## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Mary DeCarlo  
[mmdecarl@hawk.syr.edu](mailto:mmdecarl@hawk.syr.edu)

### New Members

Charles Early  
 Library, Code 252  
 Goddard Space Flight Center  
 Greenbelt, MD 20771  
 phone: (301) 286-4394  
 internet: [charles.early@ccmail.gsfc.nasa.gov](mailto:charles.early@ccmail.gsfc.nasa.gov)  
 or [cearly@capaccess.org](mailto:cearly@capaccess.org)

### Dropped Members

Bauer, Benjamin F.  
 Beall, Deborah S,  
 Chatfield, Carol Fey  
 Crawford, Virginia S.  
 Downing, Jeff G.  
 Pasterczyk, Catherine E.  
 Rankin, Samuel M.  
 Stone, Karen A.  
 Testi, Andrea R.  
 Zelinka, Mark

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**Address/Name Updates**

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or ndanders@uiuc.edu

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Bouton, Ellen

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Funkhouser, Richard L.

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Hardy, Shaun

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Love, April M.

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University of California

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(714) 824-7237

Fax: (714) 824-3114

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University of California, Los Angeles

Science & Engineering Library

Los Angeles, CA \*\*90095-1598\*\*

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Reichardt, Randy

internet: randy.reichardt@ualberta.ca

Robertson, Kathleen

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Shelton, Gregory

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Stern, David

David.Stern@qm.cis.yale.edu

(ie. period after David)

Yorks, Pamela F.

Physics-Astronomy Library \*NK-15\*

phone: (206) 616-2750

(206) 543-2988

FAX: (206) 685-0635

Updates to the PAM Membership Directory may be sent

to Mary DeCarlo

Membership Chair

mmdecarl@hawk.syr.edu

✉

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**ASTRONOMY NEWS**

Compiled by  
Jane Holmquist  
jane@astro.princeton.edu

**WAIS TO SEARCH THE  
ASTROWEB DATABASE**

1. Open URL <http://www.vilspa.esa.es/astroweb/astronomy.html>

A copy of the AstroWeb information is also available at the following centres: CDS, CERN (La Plata), MSSSO, NRAO, ST-ECF and STScI.

2. Note classification by Subjects.

**Observations**

Telescopes  
Astronomical survey projects  
Telescope observing schedules  
Metereological information

**Data**

Data and Archive Centers  
Astronomy Information Systems

**Publications**

Astronomy & astrophysics preprints & abstracts  
Abstracts of Astronomical Publications  
Full-texts of Astronomical Publications  
Astronomical Bibliographical Services  
Astronomy-related Libraries  
Other library resources

**People**

People  
Personal Web pages  
Jobs  
Conferences and Meetings  
Newsgroups  
Mailing lists

**Organizations**

Astronomy Departments  
Astronomical Societies  
Space Agencies

**Software**

Astronomy software servers  
Document Preparation Tools (TeX,etc)

**Research Areas of Astronomy**

Radio Astronomy  
Optical Astronomy  
Space Astronomy  
Solar Astronomy  
Planetary Astronomy

**Various Lists of Astronomy**

Primary Lists of Astronomy Resources  
Other lists of astronomy resources

**Astronomical Imagery**

Pictures

**Miscellaneous**

Overviews & technical notes for protocols  
Miscellaneous Resources  
Atmosphere, Ocean, Geophys., Space Sci.  
Physics-related resources  
Computer Science-related resources

3. Search the AstroWeb database:

(enter keywords in box)

- a) lisa
- b) weaving
- c) bologna and preprints
- d) WebStars
- e) gong
- f) nasa and subjects
- g) american and astronomical

Many thanks to Marina Zuccoli for telling me about the Bologna Astronomical Observatory preprints. Thanks also to Sandi Kitt, Astronomy Librarian at the American Museum of Natural History, for spending the afternoon browsing the AstroWeb with me! Please continue to send suggestions for "WAIS" to search the AstroWeb to [jane@astro.princeton.edu](mailto:jane@astro.princeton.edu) (also "WAIS" NOT to search it!)

**EAPJL DEMO AVAILABLE  
ON THE WEB**

Once you have found the homepage of the American Astronomical Society (AAS) (URL <http://aas.org/AAS-homepage.html>, or g) above), click on *Electronic Astro-Physical Journal Letters* (EApJL) to

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browse through the 1 Nov 94 HST Special Issue! Send your comments about what is good and what could be improved to the AAS Publications Board. This is your chance!

The EApJL made its debut at the AAS meeting held in January in Tucson, Arizona (attended by PAM members Cathy van Atta, Antoinette Beiser and Joyce Watson).

The December 1994 issue of the AAS *Newsletter* includes an excellent article on this prototypical electronic journal, as well as a summary of AAS progress in electronic publishing (p.18-19) by Peter Boyce and Heather Dalterio. September 1995 is the AAS deadline for having a full online version of the electronic ApJ Letters.

## LISA II

LISA-II, Library & Information Services in Astronomy II, an IAU Technical Workshop, will be held at the European Southern Observatory, Garching bei Munich, Germany, on 10-12 May 1995. (Astronomy librarians should have received a LISA-II poster by now...it's an intriguing double image of the Mona Lisa, one holding a "LIBRIS" and one holding a "floppy disk"!)

The tentative program is as follows:

Tutorials, Wednesday May 10, 9a - 5p  
 Internet overview (Uta Michold, ESO)  
 World-Wide Web (Liz Bryson, CFHT)  
 Astronomical databases (Daniel Egret, Strasbourg Observatory)  
 Simbad (Robyn Shobbrook, AAO)  
 Starcat, previewing data (Miguel Albrecht, Benoit Pirenne, ESO)  
 Abstract and preprint services (Sarah Stevens-Rayburn, Ellen Bouton, STScI, NRAO)

Theme talk, Thursday May 11

Changing role of librarians (José-Marie Griffiths, U. of Tennessee)

Invited talks, Thursday May 11 and Friday May 12

Astronomical databases (Daniel Egret, Strasbourg Observatory)

ADS bibliographic services (Guenther Eichhorn, CfA, Harvard)

Networked information retrieval (Jim Fullton, CNIDR)

Information discovery/retrieval (Fionn Murtagh, Hans-Martin Adorf, ST-ECF, ESO)

Session on Electronic Publishing, Thursday May 11 including:

André Heck (Strasbourg Observatory)  
 Peter Boyce (American Astronomical Society)

Simon Mitton (Cambridge U. Press)

Evan Owens (The U. of Chicago Press)

Panel Discussion on Astronomy Libraries in Economically Less-Favored Countries, Thursday May 11 Chair: Susanne Laloe" (IAP)

Reception, ESO, Thursday May 11

Birds of a Feather Session, Friday May 12

Digitalization of the library (Robyn Shobbrook, AAO; Uta Michold, ESO)

Current information on LISA-II is available on the LISA-II Web page (see URL: <http://http.hq.eso.org/lisa-ii.html>) or from Uta Michold, ESO Library, Karl-Schwarzschild-Str. 2, D-85748 Garching (Germany). Tel: +49 89 32006-280, Fax: +49 89 3202362, Email: [lisaii@eso.org](mailto:lisaii@eso.org)

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### TO APPLY FOR FUNDS TO ATTEND LISA-II

For further information on financial support to attend LISA-II, please contact the Friends of LISA-II Committee, Attn: Brenda G. Corbin, U.S. Naval Observatory Library, 3450 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20392-5420. Email: lib@sicon.usno.navy.mil Fax: +1 202 653-1497. The deadline for financial support applications is 28 February 1995; decisions will be made by 31 March 1995.

### WEAVING THE ASTRONOMY WEB

"Weaving the Astronomy Web", a conference organized at Strasbourg Astronomical Observatory in France, to be held 6-7 April 1995, is intended to be a forum for astronomical data providers, webmasters, astronomers and space scientists interested in the current and future developments of the World Wide Web, and more generally of electronic on-line information handling in an astronomy and space sciences context. Uta Michold from ESO Garching and Jane Holmquist from Princeton Astrophysics Library are planning to attend, and will report on this meeting at LISA-II in May. (See Liz Bryson's Upcoming Meetings (on the Web) for more details.)

### SERC EJ EQUATORIAL FILMS


Sue Tritton at the Royal Observatory Edinburgh (ukstu@astarlink.roe.ac.uk) has announced that shipment 4 of the SERC EJ Film Atlas is due in April 1995.

Sarah Stevens-Rayburn and Ellen Bouton

### ASTRONOMY ROUNDTABLE

Antoinette Beiser, Librarian at the Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Arizona,

will be leading the Astronomy Roundtable discussion at SLA'95 in Montreal in June. Please send topics you would like to discuss to her at:

Lowell Observatory Library  
1400 W. Mars Hill Road  
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### ASTRONOMY JOURNALS

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### PROPOSAL for a CENTRALIZED UNION LIST of DUPLICATE ASTRONOMY JOURNALS

I have been considering for some time the problem of duplicate journal issues and how to make lists of these and potential discards accessible to the astronomical library community. It always seems that when someone needs to fill in a missing issue, it isn't possible to know where a duplicate might be located. When lists of available journal issues appear on PAMnet, their appearance almost never coincides with the time missing issues are discovered. This problem was exacerbated recently when a colleague discarded large runs of ApJ, MNRAS, JRASC, QJRAS, Observatory, etc. Being a naturalized archivist and amateur librarian, I can never let journals go to the dumpster; thus, whenever such journals are discovered, I end up boxing them and they land in my basement, much to the chagrin of other family members. I have recently taken many boxes of duplicate journals, even old Harvard Observatory Annals, to the USNO library and dumped

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them on Brenda Corbin because I know that she can't stand to see journals that may be needed by some library somewhere be discarded.

A possible solution to this dilemma is to establish a Union List of duplicate and discard journal issues, store the list at a site accessible via Internet, and keep the list up to date as libraries or individuals submit new issues or claim old ones.

The structure of such a Union List could be similar to that of journal tables of retrievable data in the CDS archives. Each journal title would have a sub-directory containing an ordered list of issues available and a site where that issue could be obtained. Any librarian requiring a single or small number of "missing" issues could simply consult the Union List, retrieve the identifier of one or more sites having those issues, then contact a selected site directly. Of course, arrangements for transferring journals would be left to the respective donors and recipients. A recipient would normally be required to pay postage or to make arrangements for a trade of other materials.

I would be willing to compile such a Union List if there is enough interest in the user community to make this kind of facility worthwhile. Naturally, such a facility would only work if donors and recipients alert the central facility when materials are interchanged or change their status in any other way.

Please send your comments and suggestions to me at the address above. ✉

## **ASTRONOMY THESAURUS**

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### **REPORT ON THE ASTRONOMY THESAURUS AND MULTI-LINGUAL SUPPLEMENT**

It was reported at the IAU General Assembly in the Hague in August 1994 that the Astronomy Thesaurus, funded by the International Astronomical Union (IAU), the Australian government department DITAC and the University of Sydney was published late 1993. It was progress as far as standardisation of terminology in this field is concerned. The collaborators for this project are grateful for the support received in order to provide this resource, not only to librarians but also to scientists. It is envisaged that a new edition of the thesaurus will be required in perhaps two to three years. It is important that this reference resource reflect the changes in the terminology in this field and so must be updated at regular intervals. It is hoped that the IAU will continue to support this project.

Some copies were made available to the delegates of the IAU commission 5 meeting - additional copies can be obtained by sending a request to the Anglo-Australian Observatory (AAO) librarian. Alternatively an ftp version is available from the thesaurus sub-directory from the Anglo-Australian Observatory anonymous ftp account. Please contact the librarian if you need assistance.

A multi-lingual supplement to the main English thesaurus is nearing completion. The supplement is a translation of the primary terms in the main thesaurus into French, German, Italian and Spanish by a number of European

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librarians, proof-read and corrected by astronomers at a number of institutions. Once again Shobbrook & Shobbrook have been responsible for compilation and will soon be releasing the preliminary draft version in hard copy on a limited distribution basis to institutions for appraisal.

Most European astronomy librarians have their library databases largely in their own language. Although the results of current research is largely reported in English, there is a great deal of literature, both current and historical which must be included into our libraries. Most librarians in other countries like the United States, the United Kingdom and Australia do not have the multi-lingual talents of our European colleagues and the multi-lingual supplement is likely to be an important reference resource particularly as an online reference file.

Library users should have access to library materials and services which will meet their needs, regardless of their language, cultural background, or country of origin. We would like to think that this multi-lingual supplement is just the beginning for the translation of the main English thesaurus into many languages; once again this aids in the standardisation of the terminology and improves recall from online database services.

It has been said that classification schemes could provide us with an independent means for bypassing the language barrier in the access to information from computer databases in our libraries. However there are not many of us who would like to rely on that as a point of access, given how broadly sub-divided they are e.g. Library of Congress and how out-dated many are e.g. Universal Decimal Classification, last expanded version updated in 1977.

In any case library users are not generally familiar with library classification

systems, they are thought to be more for the use of librarians and providing notation for filing books on shelves! However revision of the classification schedules \*is\* urgently required.

As far as the future distribution of the multi-lingual thesaurus is concerned: I would like to think everyone could be provided with a hard copy but given the expense of publishing the main English thesaurus I am not confident of obtaining funding for the supplement. It is more likely that initially files will be made available via ftp from the AAO ftp thesaurus sub-directory as we have done for main thesaurus. Users will have to apply character codings to the terminology as determined by their own hardware because as yet we do not have internationally accepted standards. The lists will therefore be released as ASCII files, most of the terms are without the diacritics.

The development of the multi-lingual thesaurus will facilitate cooperation among institutions which are part of the international network of astronomy librarians. Computer driven expert systems using the multi-lingual approach will provide an enhancement for the opportunity to retrieve documents not only in English but in a variety of languages, thus facilitating the exchange of scientific data and in document delivery as we move closer to the "global library".

In conclusion I would like to express my thanks to all my colleagues involved in the building of the main Astronomy Thesaurus. Their practical and moral support was invaluable to the success of the project; the same applies to the multi-lingual supplement about to be released. I would also like to thank again the International Astronomical Union for the financial assistance given, I think they will agree the end product is not only of high professional standard but very attractive in its presentation. ☛

## **PHYSICS NEWS**

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### **More on the E-Print Workshop**

The American Physical Society (APS) e-print workshop last October attracted considerable interest outside the USA - physics and physics publishing being after all an international activity. Amongst the participants and contributors were representatives of Institute of Physics Publishing, the British society publisher for physics.

### **IOP Home Pages**

Another Home Page you might be interested in exploring the Institute of Physics Publishing pages on <http://www.ioppublishing.com> or alternatively <http://www.iop.org>. These include details of our first electronic journal, *Classical and Quantum Gravity On-line*.

### **WWW Virtual Library: Physics**

Just in case you have not seen the Physics Home page of the World Wide Web Virtual Library, the address is <http://info.cern.ch/hypertext/DataSources/bySubject/Physics/Overview.html>. This page is divided into five sections. They are What's New; Virtual Library Specialized Fields; Other Specialized Connections; University Physics Departments; and Electronic Preprint Archives. In addition to the Physics Home page there are Home pages from High Energy Physics and Astrophysics.

### **Physics Resources Web Site**

Announcing a renewed collection of physics and physics related resources:

<http://frodo.physics.mcgill.ca:80/physics-services/>

In Europe, this is mirrored at TU Vienna:

[http://tph.tuwien.ac.at/physics-services/physics\\_services.html](http://tph.tuwien.ac.at/physics-services/physics_services.html)

The server includes:

- \* Links to preprint servers, journals, books & publishers
- \* Links to physics departments and institutions around the world (also non-university labs): geographical & topical lists
- \* List of servers containing information about available JOBS, also other than physics
- \* Conferences and meetings
- \* Scientific visualization & computation, program archives, linux etc.
- \* Government & funding offices & scholarships/fellowships
- \* Physics news -listings
- \* Physical Societies & Space Agencies Around the World
- \* Links to other physics resource lists, W3 Virtual Libraries & Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- \* Search engine also available

### **Montreal Physics Roundtable**

Greetings everyone! As moderator of the Physics Roundtable for this year's conference in Montréal, I really want to hear from you all on what you want to talk about. After all, it's NOT MY roundtable, but OUR roundtable discussion.

Please send suggestions to:

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## PAM Calendar of upcoming events:

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February 28, 1995	Financial Support Deadline to attend LISA II
March 15, 1995	PAM Division Award Nominations Due
April 15, 1995	Deadline for May Issue of the PAM Bulletin
May 10-12, 1995	LISA II (Munich-Garching, Germany)
June 10-15, 1995	SLA Annual Conference (Montreal, PQ)

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