



P-A-M BULLETIN

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Message from the Chair

Michael Fosmire

fosmire@purdue.edu

The Annual Conference is inching its way closer and closer to our consciousnesses, as hard as that is to believe as I sit here with three inches of snow freshly fallen on the ground. Thinking about a nice, warm summer conference certainly helps keep me motivated through an especially cold winter here in Indiana. I just returned from the Winter Conference where we discussed some governance issues that impact the Division and put the finishing touches on the schedule for Nashville.

As part of the Association Bylaws vote two years ago, the Divisions (and Chapters) will now be run by Governing Documents and Recommended Procedures, rather than Bylaws and the PAM Manual. At the Winter Meeting, the Board of Directors approved some model Governing Documents for the Divisions to use, which will take effect February 1 (see <http://www.sla.org/division/dpam/governingdocs/> for details). We are encouraged to modify the documents as we see fit and then ratify the changes like any Bylaws change. For the interim period, our PAM Manual will serve as our Recommended Practices, but that, too, will need to be updated in light of the new Governing Documents.

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Special Libraries Association

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Physics-Astronomy-Mathematics Division

The basic idea behind Governing Documents is that they should be minimally restrictive, to allow the organization the maximum amount of flexibility in doing new things and working in new ways. Thus, the model Governing Documents are brief, covering only the basic requirements of a Division to operate. The Recommended Practices are supposed to contain the details of how the Division actually works. Since Recommended Practices do not need to undergo votes (and vetting by the association Bylaws Committee) to be changed, shifting some of the organizing principles from Governing Documents to Recommended Practices will give a unit more flexibility to change things as the environment changes.

To that end, **I am looking for some volunteers**

to work on revising the Governing Documents and Recommended Practices. Let me know if you have an interest in working on this endeavor. Hopefully, we will have something in place to vote on by the Annual Conference.

The final schedule for Nashville looks to be packed, as usual. Thanks to all the moderators for agreeing to work on these programs, and I'm sure they will be as impressive and informative as they always are. The schedule of PAM activities looks like this:

Saturday, June 5 through Wednesday June 9th, see detailed schedule on page 3.

Treasurer's Report

Alison Verbeck
alison@wuphys.wustl.edu

PAM Division Year-End Financial Statement 1/01/03 through 12/31/03

1/01/03 - 12/31/03

Income		12/31/02	12/31/03
		Balance	Balance
Dues Allotment	\$2,200.00		
Interest Income	\$ 767.74		
Meeting Income			
Early Bird Dinner	\$1,218.00		
TOTAL Mtg Inc.	\$1,218.00		
Misc. Income	\$0		
Sponsorship	\$26,250.00		
Total Income	\$30,435.74		
Expenses			
Bank Charges	\$83.95		
Bulletin-Non-Ad	\$1,765.50		
Contribution Exp.	\$8,908.33		
Meeting Exp.	\$22,674.84		
Early Bird Dinner	\$1,260.25		
TOTAL Mtg Exp.	\$23,935.09		
Misc. Exp.	\$330.45		
Postage & Supply	\$1,226.54		
Total Expenses	\$36,249.86		
Total Income-Expenses	(\$5,814.12)		
Assets			
Cash and Bank Accounts			
PAM Checking #1	\$0	\$10,250.83	
PAM Checking #2	\$13,850.82	\$0	
PAM Checking #3	\$0	\$0	
PAM Savings (Pooled Fund)	\$21,827.34	\$19,613.21	
Total Cash and Bank Accounts	\$35,678.16	\$29,864.04	
Total Assets	\$35,678.16	\$29,864.04	
Liabilities & Equity			
Liabilities	\$0	\$0	
Equity	\$35,678.16	\$29,864.04	
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$35,678.16	\$29,864.04	

Saturday, June 5

CE Course: Mathematics, Computer
Science, and General Science Refer-
ence Fundamentals for Non-Scientists

6:30-9:00 pm
PAM Early Bird Dinner

Sunday, June 6

8:00-9:30 am
PAM Division Outgoing Board
Meeting

10:00-11:30 am
PAMWide Roundtable

11:30-1:00 pm
PAM Newcomer's Lunch

1:30-3:00 pm
Publisher/Librarian Archiving
Initiatives

4:00-6:00 pm
Exhibits: No Conflict Time

7:00-11:00 pm
PAM Division Open House

Monday, June 7

7:30-8:45 am
PAM Networking Breakfast

9:00-11:00 am
SLA Conference Keynote Speaker

12:15-1:30 pm
Nanoengineering

2:00-3:15 pm
Physics Roundtable

3:45-5:00 pm
PAM Vendor Update

7:00-11:00 pm
PAM Division Open House

Tuesday, June 8

7:30-8:45 am
PAM Division Business Meeting

9:00-10:15 am
Library Organizations in Developing
Countries

10:30-Noon
Exhibits: No Conflict Time

12:15-1:30 pm
Mathematics Roundtable

2:00-5:00 pm
Astronomy Roundtable (double session)

Wednesday, June 9

7:30-8:45 am
PAM Division New Board Meeting

9:00-11:00 am
SLA Business Meeting

1:15-2:30 pm
Where's the Librarian? (Ruth Kneale)

3:00-4:15 pm
Computer Science Roundtable

Good fortune in your activities this spring,
and remember, if you want to work on By-
laws, let me know.

PAM Slate of Officers for 2004/2005

Diane Fortner
dfortner@library.berkeley.edu

The PAM Nominating Committee (Debra
Bailey, Diane Fortner, Chair) is pleased to
announce the following slate of officers for
the 2004/ 2005 year:

Chair-Elect: Laurel Kristick, Oregon State University

Treasurer: Zahra (Zari) Kamarei, University of North Carolina

The slate will be voted on at the PAM annual business meeting at the June 2004 SLA Conference in Nashville. PAM bylaws state "Further nominations accompanied by written acceptance of the nominee may be entered by petition of not less than 20 Division members and shall be filed with the Nominating Committee at least 60 days before the annual business meeting. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be presented for approval by the membership at the Division's annual business meeting."

Call for PAM Awards' Nominations

Bert TePaske-King
btk@ams.org

As a reminder, nominations for PAM awards may be sent to any of the PAM Awards Committee members until March 1. The PAM Division Award is given for a significant contribution to the literature of physics, astronomy, or mathematics, or to honor work which demonstrably improves the exchange of information in these subjects. The PAM Achievement Award is given to those PAM members who have made outstanding contributions to the Division. More details are on the PAM web site at <http://www.sla.org/division/dpam/manual/awards/>.

Winner of PAM International Membership Award

Zahra Kamarei
zkamarei@email.unc.edu

I am delighted to announce that Mrs. Marie Antoinette Villaflor has been chosen as the winner of the 2004 PAM International Membership Award! Marie is currently serving as the head of the reference department at the College of Science Library, University of the

Philippines in Quezon City, Philippines. You are encouraged to visit College of Science Library's website at:
<http://www.cslib.upd.edu.ph/>.

Marie has a Master of Library Science (1999) from University of the Philippines. She has worked in various capacities at UP since 1982. In her current position, she answers science (Physics, Astronomy and Mathematics) reference questions. She is involved in collection development, maintenance of PC-based databases, supervision of the department and much more.

As part of the award, Marie will be a member of the International Relations Committee and will join us for the annual conference in Nashville, Tennessee in June, where she will speak about library organizations in her country.

Please join me in welcoming Marie (e-mail: ma_antoinette.villaflor@up.edu.ph) as our newest PAM member.

Membership News

Jennifer Edelman
jedelman@mit.edu

There is no new Membership News.

PAMnet News

Debra Bailey
debrae@rice.edu

More threads from the past quarter can be found in the PAMnet Discussion Archive at <http://listserv.nd.edu/archives/pamnet.html>.

AIP's virtual journals

George S. Porter resumed a thread that arose in April 2000 under the subject GENERAL: virtual journals and linking AIP & IoP. Porter cautions that although the virtual journals contain links to articles from 54 primary publications, see <http://ojps.aip.org/jhtml/vjs/>

partpub.jsp, the list does not include IEEE, IEE, American Chemical Society, Materials Research Society or Institute of Physics journals or conferences. Tim Ingoldsby, AIP, commented positively on work being done by AIP and reports real progress has been made in discussions with many of the publishers on George's list. Marc H. Brodsky, AIP, comments, "a major purpose of the AIP/APS Virtual Journals series is to help libraries by precluding the need for new niche journals in hot new fields of research. Working towards this end is the reason we try excluding journals whose cover to cover coverage would match a particular VJ's scope of coverage. This is a difficult balancing act, but we are working so that libraries are not bombarded with a bunch of new, costly titles for niche subjects that can better be served by a VJ that gathers info from highly reputable existing titles already in their collection."

Question about number of papers per discipline

Silvio Levy posted a query from the MSRI Director (who is also the president of the American Mathematical Society) who is looking for studies comparing the number of research publications PER RESEARCHER according to discipline. Levy specified, "What would be needed is a study taking not the aggregate data from databases on each discipline (which employ quite different criteria and overlapping boundaries), but, ideally, the number of papers per researcher (perhaps restricted to a certain well-defined universe of researchers—say all full and associate professors working at a given set of specified universities." Peter B. Boyce recommended the work of Don King and Carol Tenopir. He states, "their book, *Towards Electronic Journals* published in 2000 by SLA, has a great deal of information about differences in various fields in which math is split out." Douglas LaFrenier directed Levy to Michael Mabe's, *The Growth and Number of Journals*. Lafrenier states, "While it doesn't explicitly answer your question about the number of publications per researcher per

discipline, it has a lot of useful context." Levy summarized for the list the following websites recommended by PAM members:

- <http://www.oakland.edu/~grossman>
- <http://www.ingentaselect.com/uksg/09530460/v16n2/contp1-1.htm> (Mabe article starting on p.191)
- ISI's Essential Science Indicators
<http://www.isinet.com/isi/products/rsg/products/esi/>.

Your opinion on an undergraduate series in mathematics

Matthew R. Marsteller posted a query concerning the list's opinion on the Springer Undergraduate Mathematics Series. Molly White responded that at the University of Texas, "we have 35 books from this series, and 19 of them are checked out at the moment. That represents a very good rate of use. I can tell by the due dates that 3 of the charges are to undergrads, and the rest are charged to graduate students (or faculty)." Marsteller summarized for the list, "In general, our colleagues mentioned that the SUMS - Springer Undergraduate Mathematics Series - titles circulate very well. In addition to undergraduate use, one might also find heavy usage among graduate students and even faculty. Many of the titles were into double digit circulation numbers (some as many as 20 or 30 times) since receipt (publication dates range from 1998 to 2003)." Other series recommended by PAM members for undergraduate mathematics students were: Springer Undergraduate Texts in Mathematics, Student Mathematical Library (AMS), and London Mathematical Society Student Texts.

News Tidbits:

APS Announces Free Email Alerting Service

Barbara Hicks, APS, posted, "The American Physical Society (APS) announced today (Wed, 17 Dec 2003) that it will offer free table of contents (TOC) notification service for each Journal published by APS."

<http://listserv.nd.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind0312&L=pamnet&F=&S=&P=6472>

Project Euclid News

Terry Ehling announced an updated Access Terms page that includes 2004 prices for the Euclid Prime aggregation and four newly added titles: Bulletin of Symbolic Logic, Journal of Symbolic Logic, International Statistical Review, and Bernoulli.

<http://listserv.nd.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind0311&L=pamnet&F=&S=&P=4380>

CORE List of Astronomy Books now updated

The Core List of Astronomy Books, posted Liz Bryson, (Project Coordinator), has been updated and is now online at:

<http://ads.harvard.edu/books/>. The most notable change is the removal of all of the OP titles. Also, the survey that was distributed by Madeleine Needles at last year's astronomy roundtable in New York City is available online.

<http://listserv.nd.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind0311&L=pamnet&F=&S=&P=1126>

FW: Google update

Dana L. Roth forwarded information about Google's new operator, the tilde (~) for searching synonyms. Place the tilde before the term (no space) for best results.

<http://listserv.nd.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind0311&L=pamnet&P=R127>

Blog Alert:

Randy Reichardt and his colleague, Geoff Harder, extend a welcome to "read and participate in our humble weblog, The SciTech Library Question: <http://stlq.info/>." The site features postings of interest to librarians working in libraries covering science, engineering, technology, and agriculture.

<http://listserv.nd.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind0311&L=pamnet&F=&S=&P=3942>

Summary of links:

AIP's virtual journals

<http://listserv.nd.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind0310&L=pamnet&F=&S=&P=2540>

<http://listserv.nd.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind0310&L=pamnet&F=&S=&P=2646>

<http://listserv.nd.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind0310&L=pamnet&F=&S=&P=2866>

<http://listserv.nd.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind0310&L=pamnet&F=&S=&P=2976>

<http://listserv.nd.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind0310&L=pamnet&F=&S=&P=8643>

Question about number of papers per discipline

<http://listserv.nd.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind0310&L=pamnet&F=&S=&P=8756>

<http://listserv.nd.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind0310&L=pamnet&F=&S=&P=9118>

<http://listserv.nd.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind0310&L=pamnet&F=&S=&P=9747>

<http://listserv.nd.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind0310&L=pamnet&F=&S=&P=9885>

<http://listserv.nd.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind0310&L=pamnet&F=&S=&P=10031>

<http://listserv.nd.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind0310&L=pamnet&F=&S=&P=10372>

<http://listserv.nd.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind0310&L=pamnet&F=&S=&P=10372>

Your opinion on an undergraduate series in mathematics

<http://listserv.nd.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind0310&L=pamnet&F=&S=&P=3197>

<http://listserv.nd.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind0310&L=pamnet&F=&S=&P=3443>

<http://listserv.nd.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind0310&L=pamnet&F=&S=&P=3731>

<http://listserv.nd.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind0310&L=pamnet&F=&S=&P=10608>

Physics News

Pat Van Zandt prvanz@mail.wm.edu

Jennifer Edelman jedelman@mit.edu

Physics Roundtable in Nashville:

It's getting to be the time of year when PAM committees begin to prepare for the annual meeting in June. David Stern will be moderating the Physics Roundtable this year. If you have ideas for particular topics you would like to see discussed send them to him at david.e.stern@yale.edu.

AIP News:

AIP Publishing Services has announced a new name for its online hosting platform. The new name, "Scitation[SM]," will replace Online Journal Publishing Service (OJPS), as the service has been known since 1996. Scitation will launch in January 2004. Researchers will be able to personalize Scitation by:

- Creating, storing, and managing individual collections of articles through a virtual filing cabinet
- Easily sharing article collections with colleagues;
- Downloading properly formatted reference citations into popular reference management programs
- Viewing a list of publications to which they have access, whether through their institutional or personal subscriptions
- Adding favorite publications to a personal start page, which includes dynamic links to the current issues and publication archives
- Quickly finding relevant articles through better search features

In April, AIP intends to add an Alerts feature, powered by Inspec, to the Scitation package. Scientists will be able to receive weekly email alerts of research published in the Inspec database in designated subject areas.

And on a lighter note...

The 2003 Ig Nobel Prize in Physics was

awarded to Jack Harvey, John Culvenor, Warren Payne, Steve Cowley, Michael Lawrance, David Stuart, and Robyn Williams of Australia, for their report "An Analysis of the Forces Required to Drag Sheep over Various Surfaces." [Applied Ergonomics, vol. 33, no. 6, November 2002, pp. 523-31] The Ig Nobel prizes (<http://www.improb.com/ig/ig-top.html>), sponsored by The Annals of Improbable Research, are awarded annually for "achievements that cannot or should not be reproduced". Prize winners in ten categories are invited to Cambridge, MA to accept their prizes and to "attempt to explain what they did and how they did it".

Previous winners include:

Arnd Leike of the University of Munich, "for demonstrating that beer froth obeys the mathematical Law of Exponential Decay".

Dr. Len Fisher of Bath, England and Sydney, Australia, "for calculating the optimal way to dunk a biscuit".

Robert Matthews of Aston University, England, "for his studies of Murphy's Law, and especially for demonstrating that toast often falls on the buttered side".

Astronomy News

Melissa Hilbert

mhilbert@cfa.harvard.edu

Astronomy

On December 18, 2003, the Space Infrared Telescope Facility (SIRTF) was formally renamed the Spitzer Space Telescope, in honor of the late Dr. Lyman Spitzer Jr. Spitzer was responsible for the development of the first space telescope, thanks to his scientific vision of images undistorted by the Earth's atmosphere, and his successful efforts to lobby NASA and the US Congress for funding. On the same day as the announced name change, the first Spitzer Space Telescope images were released, showing spectacular sights.

For more information see the Spitzer Space Telescope website at <http://sirtf.caltech.edu>.

Publishing

In her role as PAM Liaison to the American Astronomical Society, Sarah Stevens-Rayburn attended the AAS Publications Board meeting in Tucson, AZ, November 3-4, 2003. She reported that the *Astrophysical Journal* will be implementing data linking, providing connectivity to the original data on which a paper is based, early in 2004. Hyperlinks will be to the authors' datasets and to related data in Simbad, NED, or other data repositories. Since this data is not standardized, the implementation will be gradual. AAS journals continue to contain increasing amounts of content. Papers are longer, and there are more of them. Publication times have decreased approximately 35% since 1998-1999; the refereeing process continues to be the most time consuming step in the publication process.

The price of 2004 institutional subscriptions to AAS journals will reflect an increase of approximately 5%. The primary causes of this increase are financial losses as a result of the RoweCom bankruptcy, and a 4.7% decrease in institutional subscriptions. The AAS is considering implementing tier-pricing, and has promised to involve PAM in discussions about this possibility.

Sarah also shared with the PAMnet discussion list other interesting details of her meeting with AAS, and may be reached at library@stsci.edu for more information.

David Bigwood, of the Lunar and Planetary Institute, announced that the Lunar and Planetary Information Bulletin will no longer be distributed in print after the current issue.

The online version of this publication is available at:

<http://www.lpi.usra.edu/publications/newsletters/lpib/current.pdf>.

Sharice Collins, of the Institute of Physics, announced that IOP's new journal, *Journal of Cosmology and Astroparticle Physics*

(*JCAP*), which was freely available during 2003, will be available to institutional subscribers for \$790 for 2004. More information about JCAP is available at:

<http://www.iop.org/Journals/jcap>

Resources

Two important resources for astronomy librarians, the Core List of Astronomy Books and the Astronomical Newsletters list, have been recently updated. These resources are available as follows:

- *Core List of Astronomy Books*:
<http://ads.harvard.edu/books/clab/>.
(Updates may be sent to Liz Bryson, bryson@cfht.hawaii.edu.)
- *Astronomical Newsletters*:
<http://sesame.stsci.edu/lib/NEWSLETTE R.htm>. (Updates may be sent to Sarah Stevens-Rayburn, library@stsci.edu.)

Searching tips

In the last PAM Bulletin (v.31, n.2), it was reported that ISI databases include varying titles for the journal *Astronomy and Astrophysics* (*Astronomy and Astrophysics* until 2001 and *Astronomy & Astrophysics* from 2001 on). This reflects an actual change in the presentation of the journal, but was problematic since ISI databases are not configured to recognize the equivalence of "and" and "&". For smooth retrieval of A&A articles around the time of this title change, it is necessary to search for Source Title (*Astronomy and Astrophysics*) or (*Astronomy & Astrophysics*). After this was reported by Dana Roth, a representative from ISI stated that the issue of recognizing the equivalence of "&" and "and" in a search has been forwarded to developers as an enhancement request.

Guenter Eichhorn announced a new full text search system in the ADS, allowing users to search the text of about 2.5 million pages in the ADS that have been scanned using optical character recognition (OCR). The ADS also introduced myADS, a tool that allows users to save multiple queries and

automatically receive the search results from the latest ADS updates weekly. These services are available at:
<http://adswww.harvard.edu>

Announcements

A history of Mt. Stromlo Observatory has been published by the Australian publisher Allen and Unwin:

Stromlo : An Australian Observatory / by Tom Frame and Don Faulkner. Allen and Unwin, 2003. (ISBN 1865086592)

Online ordering at:

<http://www.allenunwin.com.au/shopping/product.asp?ISBN=1865086592&string%3Dstromlo>.

Liz Bryson's CFHT oral history project, entitled: He Mo'olelo O Ka Hale Kilo : CFHT's Oral History Initiative, now has a website:
<http://cfht.hawaii.edu/Reference/Library/oralhist.html>

Liz spoke about this interesting project at the 2003 SLA annual conference in New York City, and her new website enables us to follow along as she unfolds the legacy of CFHT and the people who made it all happen.

Editors' note:

Jessica Bryant, librarian at the National Optical Astronomy Observatory (NOAO) in Tucson, reported that over 3,200 pounds of books were sent to the Mount Stromlo Observatory. The books were collected as part of a project organized by the AAS to help the Mount Stromlo Observatory rebuild its library after it was destroyed by fires in 2003.

The NOAO Library collected donations from libraries and personal donors across the United States. See the PAM Bulletin Archive for Jessica's message at
<http://listserv.nd.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind0401&L=pamnet&F=&S=&P=11083>.

Mathematics News

Fred Yuengling
feyuengl@ucsc.edu

Here's news through early January. Thanks to all of you for allowing me to moderate last year's roundtable and to compile the mathematics news section of the *PAM Bulletin*. Cindy Mader will begin writing the column in May. See you in Nashville.

American Mathematical Society News

From "What's New in Mathematics" on the AMS site, <http://www.ams.org/new-in-math>:

Prizes and Awards at the 2004 Joint Mathematics Meetings

Several people were honored at the recent Joint Mathematics Meetings in Phoenix.. Read news releases about AMS winners (<http://www.ams.org/new-in-math/press/home.html>) and see the Prizes and Awards booklet which lists all the prizes and awards given at the Meetings by the AMS, AWM, MAA, and SIAM, with citations and biographical notes at <http://www.ams.org/ams/2004-prizebook.pdf>.

From the AMS News 2003 Archive

Prime Number Record Extended

Michael Shafer, a 26-year-old graduate student in chemical engineering, has discovered the largest known prime number. The number is $2^{20,996,011} - 1$, and is 6,320,430 digits long. The discovery was part of the Great Internet Mersenne Prime Search (GIMPS) project, in which over 60,000 volunteers from around the world take part. The news of this 40th known Mersenne prime is posted on the GIMPS website at
<http://www.mersenne.org/prime.htm>.

James G. Arthur New AMS President Elect
 James G. Arthur, of the University of Toronto, is the new President Elect of the AMS. His term as President Elect officially begins on February 1, 2004. All election results are now online at <http://www.ams.org/secretary/ams-election-results.html>.

2003 Clay Research Awards announced
Richard Hamilton (Columbia University) and Terence Tao (UCLA) have been awarded the 2003 Clay Research Awards, which recognize extraordinary achievement in mathematics. Hamilton was recognized for his introduction of the Ricci flow equation and his development of it into one of the most powerful tools in geometry and topology. Tao was recognized for his groundbreaking work in analysis, notably his optimal restriction theorems in Fourier analysis, his work on the wave map equation, and his global existence theorems for KdV type equations. See the Clay Mathematics Institute website for more information on the award winners, their research, and the Institute, <http://www.claymath.org/>.

SIAM

While on the subject of prizes, I came across this "Prizes, Awards, and Lectures" page on the SIAM site, <http://www.siam.org/prizes/> that lists and describes the various prizes administered by SIAM and partner organizations...its worth a look.

Project Euclid

Of note was a posting to the PAM listserv on January 5, 2004, announcing the forthcoming addition in early 2004 of 8 new journals to the Euclid Prime collection. The new titles are:

- Advances in Theoretical and Mathematical Physics
- Asian Journal of Mathematics
- Communications in Information and Systems
- Communications in Mathematical Sciences
- Current Developments in Mathematics
- Homology, Homotopy and Applications
- Journal of Symplectic Geometry
- Methods and Applications of Analysis

The complete list of mathematics and statistics journals available through Project Euclid can be found at:

<http://projecteuclid.org/Dienst/UI/1.0/TitleShort>.

Scout Report

From the 12/5/03 issue of the NSDL Scout Report for Mathematics Engineering and Technology, <http://scout.cs.wisc.edu/>, I found the following entry particularly interesting.

- Swede Helps Crack Historic Math Problem at <http://www.aftenposten.no/english/world/article.jhtml?articleID=678371>
- Hilbert's Mathematical Problems [pdf, postscript, zip, dvi] <http://www.mathematik.uni-bielefeld.de/~kersten/hilbert/problems.html>

In 1900, mathematician David Hilbert outlined 23 problems "as challenges for the 20th century." Now in the 21st century, three of the problems remain unsolved. However, the problems are one step closer to being resolved. As described in a November 27, 2003 new article, a Swedish mathematics student has developed a partial solution to one of them. The article discusses the achievement and provides links to the student's homepage and the text of Hilbert's original problems. A website from Bielefeld University in Germany lists all 23 problems and provides links to research papers devoted to their analysis and solution.

SLA Conference

Finally, to get ready for Nashville, here are the web sites of the Vanderbilt University Department of Mathematics, <http://sitemason.vanderbilt.edu/math> and Library, <http://www.library.vanderbilt.edu/>.

Members' Corner

Molly White
mwhite@mail.utexas.edu

PAM member Jeanette Regan has accepted the position of Resource Centre Manager/

Knowledge Management Project Manager, at the Australian Electoral Commission. "The position comes with the challenge that many PAM librarians faced over 10-15 years ago - of making resources available to clients via a web interface. I also manage the intranet redevelopment and the introduction knowledge management to the Commission. The years of experience of working with PAM makes this challenge do-able! I continue to keep up with PAMnet and hope you all keep in touch." Jeanette's e-mail is jeanette.regan@alianet.alia.org.au.

Our fearless leader, Michael Fosmire, has a new position as Head, Physical Sciences, Engineering and Technology Division at the Purdue University Libraries.

Greg Youngen is leaving his Physics Astronomy Library post to head the Veterinary Medicine Library at the University of Illinois as of January 1, 2004.

Brenda Corbin presented a paper at the January 2004 meeting of the American Astronomical Society. The paper, *Leslie Peltier: Amateur Astronomer and Observer Extraordinaire* was presented at a session of the Historical Astronomy Division. The abstract may be found at <http://www.aas.org/publications/baas/v35n5/aas203/890.htm>

She has also written the entry on Peltier

which will appear in the upcoming *Bibliographical Encyclopedia of Astronomers* to be published by Kluwer. Earlier, she was appointed as Chair of the Working Group on Archives for the International Astronomical Union's Commission 41 (History of Astronomy) and will serve in this position through 2006.

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