

# Division newsletter



American Society for Engineering Education

**DIVISION:** ENGINEERING LIBRARIES

**EDITOR:** Jim Fries

**DATE:** Summer 1983

The Summer 1983 ELD Newsletter includes:

- a report from our annual business meeting
- summaries from sessions that would interest  
ELD members
- announcements of interest to members

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If you have anything to share with ELD members, please send  
your news to me:

JIM FRIES  
FELDBERG LIBRARY  
DARTMOUTH COLLEGE  
HANOVER NH 03755 603-646-2191

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Planning is underway for the 1984 Annual Meeting to be held  
in Salt Lake City. If you have ideas for meeting sessions,  
contact Susan Ardis, our program chair.

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Nominations Committee (Joe Kopycinski, chair, Hugh Franklin,  
Bob Havlik) is accepting nominations for Director and Program  
Chair. Send your suggestions to Joe or committee members!!

Engineering Libraries Division  
American Society for Engineering Education  
June 20, 1983

The annual business meeting for the Engineering Libraries Division of ASEE was called to order at 6:10 p.m. on Monday, June 20, 1983 at the Rochester Institute of Technology by Chairperson Zanier Vivian. The minutes of the 1982 meeting were read and approved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The Society allocation for the Division was \$360 for 1982/83; there was no activity in the BASS Account. Expenses to date, all for printing or postage, were:

Newsletter	\$81.53	(Autumn)
	73.24	(Winter)
	94.85	(Spring)
ELD Brochure	95.01	
Directory	102.95	
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TOTAL	\$440.58	

Patty Koen, Chair of PIC IV, has been contacted and expects to make an additional appropriation available to cover the overage. The budget request for 1983/84 was \$450.

Susan Ardis suggested that mailings of Newsletters be done from her office since the University of Texas would pay the postage.

**NEWSLETTER:** Jim Fries announced that the next Newsletter headline would be July 15 and that the issue would include a summary of conference sessions.

**MEMBERSHIP BROCHURE:** The Division expressed appreciation to Don Richardson for the membership brochure. Zanier Vivian reported that ASEE Headquarters required response to our brochure go directly to them so and that we had no list yet of those who responded.

**ELD MEMBER DIRECTORY:** All present had received the directory and were pleased with it. Dorothy Byers suggested that the directory be enhanced to include note of special hard-to-find collections such as patents, standards and ASME technical papers. It was suggested that the next Newsletter include a request for this information and any other enhancements the members would like to see.

The members also agreed that an annual listing was highly desirable.

**PUBLICATIONS:** Karen Andrews, chair of the Publications Committee, stated that two questions which frequently come to our

Division are those on how to evaluate a collection and what a core list of titles should contain. After general discussion, it was agreed that Karen would compile a list of resources for evaluation/core collections to include the ALA SPEC Kit and Collection Policy Statements from various member libraries. Karen will collect ideas and poll the membership through the Newsletter

Kathy Jackson, Chair of the Publications Subcommittee on Resource Lists, presented a proposal to produce a series of selected information resource lists/guides. Under the plan, Texas A&M would edit/print/bill/mail the completed guides and the Division would reimburse A&M as the guides were sold. Member volunteers would produce the text. The publications would require approval of ASEE Board. Kathy set October 1 as the deadline for the first set of guides to be in the hands of her committee for editing. Volunteers for the first set: Karen Andrews (robotics); Dorothy Byers (Environmental Law); Jim Fries (Engineering Management); Susan Ardis (Petroleum Engineering); Margaret Bean and Maurita Holland (Computer Software and Nuclear Engineering). Kathy will coordinate this project at TAMU.

NOMINATIONS: Barbara Begg reported that Nominating Committee of Carmen Brown, Barbara Begg and Sharon Balius (Chair) presented Don Richardson for Secretary/Treasurer 1983/85 and Chair 1985/86, and Mary Jo Arnold, Director, 1983/85. The slate was approved unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS: Jim Kyed reported that Accreditation Committee was inactive. Dorothy Byers suggested that the year each member's institution was accredited might be added to the membership directory.

NEW BUSINESS: Kathy Jackson proposed division dues of \$1 be collected so that some discretionary money would be available to pay for speakers, lunches, etc. Many divisions in ASEE now charge dues, and are encouraged to do so by Headquarters. Vote was unanimous to charge dues, and Maurita was instructed to carry the vote to Headquarters.

Kathy Jackson proposed an "outstanding member" award. Problems with administering the award were noted, and no vote was taken.

Electronic mail was discussed again, but most members indicated difficulty in accessing terminals or supporting the cost; no action was taken.

CONFERENCE PLANNING: Suggestions for next year's conference program in Salt Lake City included 1) demonstration of BRS After Dark or ISI Search Mate, or another video disc presentation, 2) updates on members' activities -- who has GEAC etc., how training on new systems is handled, new buildings in progress, etc., 3) a presentation on the Mormon genealogical records facility.

After observing a moment of silence in memory of Homer Bernhardt who died last July, the meeting was adjourned at 7.35 pm by Zanier Vivian, Chair.

Respectfully submitted

Maurita Holland, Secretary/Treasurer

I. SESSION: "How to Write for Publication"

SPONSOR: Continuing Professional Development Division

SPEAKER: Harriet G. Friedstein, Project Director for the Energy Education and Training Division of the RIT College of Continuing Education and a feature editor for Journal of Chemical Education.

Ms. Friedstein gave an interesting talk on how to go about getting your first paper published. She suggested that prospective writers get experience in writing for publication by publishing book reviews or sending letters to the editor. She also presented 17 steps on how to write a paper from finding ideas to the final proofreading. She also gave some humorous examples of what not to do when trying to get published like not following the instructions to authors.

II. SESSION: "The Impact of Computers on the Educational Process"

SPONSORS: Computers in Education Division and Agricultural Engineering Division.

SPEAKERS: A.L. Riemenschneider and M.J. Batchelder from the South Dakota School of Mines - "Development of a Campus-Wide Program for Microprocessor Education."

Herman L. Shulman, Clarkson College of Technology - "A Personal Computer for Every Student."

Jack Hollingsworth, RIT - "The Grading of Student Computer Homework."

Robert L. Burke, Barry University - "Computer-Assisted Instruction..."

The discussions in this session were designed to show different ways in which various institutions are using computers in education. In the first talk, Professors Batchelder and Riemenschneider discussed how they developed their microprocessor program, how they decided what levels of students needed what levels of expertise in dealing with microprocessors and the success of their project. They determined that every student needed to know the basics of microprocessors and thus instituted a program requiring all incoming freshmen to build their own microprocessors from a kit. They also instituted microprocessors into as many classes as possible to be used as "useful tools" or "instruments." They felt that they had had good responses from

both students and faculty from their project.

Clarkson's project to provide every freshman with a microcomputer evolved when they realized that many faculty and students already had their own microcomputers but that there was no standardization among the computers. They bought 4000 computers. Each entering student puts down a \$200.00 deposit for a Zenith Z100 microcomputer which they can purchase after graduation for the cost of the deposit.

Jack Hollingsworth discussed a program he had designed to make grading student computer homework grading more efficient and to provide more feedback for the student.

The final talk emphasized the need to create more computer assisted instruction software programs and that creating such programs is difficult.

III. SESSION: "Database Management Systems for Microcomputers"

SPONSOR: Information Systems Division

SPEAKERS: Representatives from CONDOR, MDBSIII, a faculty member who discussed dBASEII and the moderator.

The moderator presented an overview of what Database Management Systems are and then discussed the three step process to implement such a system: (1) Database design (2) Data entry and (3) Retrieval. The representatives from CONDOR and MDBSIII discussed their products. The representative from dBASEII was not able to come but a faculty member presented his views on dBASEII. The last talk was the most interesting because he discussed his experiences with dBASEII rather than giving a sales pitch. Both CONDOR and dBASEII are relational databases while MDBSIII is an extended network database designed to eliminate duplicate records. It works with records having "set relationships." dBASEII is more powerful and flexible than CONDOR. CONDOR, which is menu driven, is more user-friendly than dBASEII.

Session 1240: VIDEO DISC APPLICATION FOR THE ACADEMIC SETTING  
Maurita Holland hosted this session. A representative from Online Systems, Inc. discussed video disc technology and described how to create a disc. He noted that a good director who can conceptualize the final product is key to successfully creating a video disc. Online Systems Inc. designed and produced VIDEO PATSEARCH, and has been working with National Library of Medicine on NLM's integrated library system. Their address, in case you want more details on their services or video disc production:

Online Computer Systems, Inc.  
20010 Century Blvd.  
Suite 101  
Germantown, MD 20874 301-428-3700

Session 2239: MANAGING ENGINEERING LIBRARIES IN THE 80s

I invited two speakers, Dr. Bev Rawles from Battelle, and Dean Carl Long from Dartmouth's Thayer School of Engineering. Carl and Bev examined the librarian's task of managing people, resources and technology in the 1980s. 'Managing decline' was a theme that both speakers discussed -- budgets are static or declining, yet demand for services and the volume of new literature continues to grow. Although the two speakers had not met before the meeting, their remarks were very similar, and complemented each other nicely.

Session 2539 covered the production of textbooks. It was presented by Susan Trowbridge, Vice-President of Production for Addison-Wesley. Ms. Trowbridge first explained the details of the type itself and the terminology used (picas, points, etc.). There is a very large number of possible typefaces, and each typeface can vary considerably in its legibility and readability, depending on how it is proportioned on the type height. The book designer must make many decisions involving type and many other factors. Math books require extra effort to handle the formulae. Also, it is very important that every effort be made to finalize the design as soon as possible. Fast-changing fields can make a book obsolete almost as soon as it is published. Finally, students require more motivational features than they used to, and this is reflected in increased design costs.

Session 3250: LIBRARY RESOURCES AND INSTRUCTION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING STUDENTS

Dorothy Byers discussed her experiences with teaching engineering students at the University of Cincinnati. Maurita Holland called for 'value-added' information resources for students and other library users, and moving beyond bibliographic resources to other information sources and media, and Linda Tafel led a good discussion on librarians' experiences with library instruction. This session was a good chance to compare experiences and learn about other librarians' approaches to library instruction.

1983-84 Officers and Committee Chairs

Maurita Peterson Holland, Chair  
Susan Ardis, Program Chair  
Don Richardson, Secretary/Treasurer  
Zanier Vivian, Immediate Past Chair

Nominating Committee: Joe Kopycinski, chair, with Hugh Franklin and Robert Havlik

Membership and Hospitality: Hazel Wetts, chair, with Margaret Bean and Linda Tafel

Accreditation: Dorothy Byers, chair, with Lucille Wert and a member yet to be named

Publications: Karen Andrews, chair, with Hazel Wetts and Marjorie Rhoades

Publications Subcommittee for Literature Guides: Kathy Jackson, chair, with Jim Kyed, Hugh Franklin, Hal Wiren and Russell Powell

Newsletter Editor: Jim Fries

Member Directory: Sharon Balius, chair, with Margaret Bean

Directors: Hazel Wetts and Mary Jo Arnold

FROM THE CHAIR: Thank you to all the members who attended this year's meeting in Rochester. It is so good to get together and have time for both the formal program and informal conversations (and meals) we have come to enjoy.

We are already making plans for next year and solicit program ideas and volunteers to moderate or plan. The Board will be actively planning during July and August. Some of the suggestions being pursued from member ideas at the Conference are: state-of-the-art information technology (full text data bases, down-loading files, etc); high-tech applications in information services to industry; tour of the outstanding genealogical library facilities of the Mormon Church.

Our Division has so many value member resources and this year we want to put as many of you to work as possible increasing our membership, writing literature guides, planning programs and sharing projects or soliciting information via our Newsletter. When someone calls to ask your help, please say "Yes".

FINALLY....

Learned Information Inc. will be publishing a trade newspaper beginning in October 1983. LI, Inc. sponsor the National Online Meeting every year. According to the press release, " the newspaper will focus on news and developments concerning the electronic delivery of information, with particular emphasis on the area of online database retrieval services."

This newspaper may interest ELD members. For more information, contact LI at: 609-654-6266, 143 Old Marlton Pike, Medford, NJ, 08055.