

Engineering Libraries

Division Newsletter



American Society for Engineering Education

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December 1994

Message from the Chair

Consider this message a paid political advertisement for raising ELD dues to \$5/yr. Enclosed in this issue of the ELD Newsletter is a ballot asking you to vote on raising our dues to this nominal amount.

Why raise dues?

For all the years I have been involved with ASEE our division has had an extremely tight budget. We are allocated two separate budgets by ASEE. One is the operational account which is awarded each year by the ASEE Board of Directors for the purpose of "furthering field unit functions." These functions are defined as "newsletters, duplicating, postage, telephone and corresponding expenses." Our operating budget this year is approximately \$800. This budget is usually expended 100% each year due to the production of quarterly newsletters, the publication of our annual *Directory of Members and Resource Guide*, and the administration of ELDNET-L. ASEE regulations explicitly state that operating account funds cannot be used for travel, awards, personal expenses of any kind, or expenses related to the annual conference.

Our second account is called the BASS account. Unlike the operating account, the BASS account

collects interest and the year-end balance of the account is carried over to the subsequent year. The BASS account can be used for any expense authorized by the appropriate division officers and also serves as a backup to the operating account should that account be insufficient. Income for our BASS account is generated from three sources: 1) membership dues, 2) publication sales, and 3) donations. Donations are infrequent, but we were fortunate enough to receive a \$500 donation from Engineering Information, Inc. this past year. Our publications do provide a modest amount of income. The deal we have struck with ASEE is that they handle the printing and sales of our publications and we receive 10% of the gross sales. Last year we sold 442 copies of reports (227 of those were the *Union List of Technical Reports*). This was

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ELD Newsletter Schedule

<i>Submissions due</i>	<i>Issue</i>
Feb. 13, 1995	March 1995
April 17, 1995	May 1995
August 14, 1995	Sept. 1995

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an all-time high for our publications sales and generated approximately \$500 in income for our division. However, it is unrealistic to think that our sales will continue to be at that level from year to year. Membership dues are our steadiest source of income for the BASS account. But since we are such a small division (less than 200 members) our income due to membership has been less than \$200/yr. Our BASS account balance is currently \$1300 due to last year's EI donation and the success of our publications sales. This is the highest level our BASS account has reached in recent memory. Prior to these two fortuitous events, the account was usually hovering at only a few hundred dollars.

This has meant that ELD officers have been extremely limited in planning for programs and other events at the annual conference which might incur expenses. We have not been able to offer honoraria to speakers outside our division who could provide us with useful and interesting perspectives on the world of information delivery. We have been prevented from renting computers and other audiovisual aids in support of programs due to lack of money. To give you an idea of the costs associated with equipment rentals, here are some of the prices being quoted for rentals at next summer's conference in Anaheim: \$250 for an LCD panel and \$250 for a 486 type computer. All it takes is two programs requiring this type of equipment to virtually wipe out our BASS account. Because of this we have been forced to set our sights low instead of high when it comes to presenting innovative and interesting programs.

What can we do about it? We are trying a number of different approaches to raise more money for our division. We have diligently documented our operating expenses to the ASEE Board in order to get more money allocated each year for our operating account. We negotiated our publications deal with ASEE so we get 10% of the proceeds of our publications sales. We are about to present a proposal to the ASEE Board that might generate additional money to our division through the sale of our membership list. And finally, we are suggesting that our division dues be increased.

At last summer's annual business meeting a motion was passed unanimously by the 38 people in attendance to raise our dues from \$1/yr to \$5/yr. Division dues can only be raised by first getting a majority of the division members who vote to approve the new amount for dues. Then it must be approved by the ASEE Board of Directors. I urge you to support this increase in dues. It will guarantee a modest but healthy annual income to our BASS account. This will help your future division leaders present quality programs and develop new initiatives for ELD in the years to come. Be sure to mark your ballot and return it to me by January 10. Thank you.

Steve Gass, ELD Chair
Head, Engineering Library
Terman Engineering Center
Stanford, CA 94305-4029

New Directory

By the time you receive this newsletter you should also have received the new *Membership Directory and Resource Guide*. Kudos to Jim Van Fleet, our industrious membership directory editor! The directory is also available online from our Listserv Moderator; instructions are in the Sept. '94 newsletter.

Conference Program Highlights the Internet and Interpersonal Networking

If you have never attended the ASEE annual conference, you are missing a great deal. Scheduled for Anaheim, California, June 25-28, 1995, this is an excellent opportunity to get to know your high-spirited colleagues from the field of engineering librarianship. You will make valuable contacts and find out how others in the profession tackle problems similar to yours. That alone is worth the trip. However, this is also a chance to get to learn more about a variety of issues affecting engineering librarianship-- a subdiscipline often neglected by the large library societies. This is a group that goes out of its way to make newcomers feel welcome. You are! So, if you are an ELD member, but haven't attended the meetings, mark your calendar today!

This year's conference continues to expand upon popular themes and offers a few new changes. Sessions were selected from a large list of possible topics with the input from last year's attendees.

ELD Get Acquainted Session

Monday June 26, 8:30-10:15

Chair: Jim Ottaviani

We will be returning to a more traditional format for this session. Members will describe a few of the major issues facing them and their libraries in a round-robin session.

ELD Poster Session

Monday June 26, 12:30-2:15

Chair: Dena Thomas

The poster session allows participants to view the results of library projects and discuss the results with the presenter. The proximity to the "Get Acquainted" session is intended to help develop themes for further discussion.

Serials: What Does the Future Hold?

Tuesday June 27, 8:30-10:15

Chair: Karen Andrews

There is tremendous interest in the whole question of future developments in serials. From budget constraints and consortia to new high-tech image networking projects, we all are wondering what the future holds.

The Internet in Engineering Education

Tuesday June 27, 2:30-4:15

Chair: Sheila Curl

ELD has received society-wide interest for our series of programs on the Internet. This session brings that message home with presentations on resources and issues affecting engineering education.

ELD Annual Business Meeting

Tuesday June 27, 4:30-6:00

Chair: Steve Gass

Long?... hardly. Boring?... never! The annual business meeting is our one chance at direct democracy each year and members take full advantage of it for stimulating and spirited (but never nasty) debate of issues affecting the division.

ELD Annual Dinner

Tuesday June 27, 6:30-??

Host: Bob Schwarzwaldner

For a while I thought we would be dining at Arby's; however, I have found a place with an elegant setting and very good food within a 5 minute drive of the conference center. While I can't promise yet, I am working on a reception with open bar before dinner.

Electronic Publishing

Wednesday June 28, 8:30-10:15

Chair: Jay Waddell

Is this the dawn of the virtual library? If so, what will fill the virtual shelves? This session will consider the trends and innovations in electronic publications of the engineering literature.

The Future of the Engineering Library

Wednesday June 28, 8:30-10:15

Chair: Mel DeSart

I asked Mel to pick speakers who will challenge, excite, and perhaps inflame us with their ideas of the directions our field will take. What will engineering librarians face in the coming years? Will engineering libraries even continue to exist? Come and find out!

Wrap-Up Session

Wednesday June 28, 4:30-6

Chair: Jean Whelan

Last year we started off with a discussion of topics, but many attendees felt they needed a springboard for dialogue. Well, if the opening rap session doesn't do it, I feel sure this session will ensure some interesting discussion.

As you can see, we have tailored this meeting to take advantage of the two greatest strengths of ELD: the range of our expertise and our ability to gain new insights through discussion. The session chairs and I have designed a program that we hope will provide you with facts, overviews of important issues, and a real fun time. We look forward to seeing YOU in Anaheim June 25-28 of 1995.

Bob Schwarzwald

1995 ELD Program Chair
Ford Motor Company

New Member Bios

Louise Thibaudeau joins us from the Ecole de Technologie Superieure (Universite du Quebec) where she has been the Director of the Library since December 1993. She is currently involved in the move of their School of Engineering, to be completed by September 1996.

Prior to her current job, Louise worked in many different public services positions at Ecole Polytechnique de Montreal Library from

1978-1993. She received her BA from Universite de Montreal and her MLS from McGill University. Louise graciously offers to show visiting ELD members around during SLA next June, and will show people the best places to enjoy delicious French cuisine, affordable with the favorable exchange rate!

Sara Ryan joins us from the University of Michigan, where she is an Engineering Library Associate. She recently received her BA in Medieval and Renaissance Studies from the University of Michigan and will be receiving her MLS from Michigan in 1995.

As a library associate, Sara provides reference service, instruction, and training. She helped to design and develop the Engineering Library's World Wide Web Home Page. Sara's professional interests include government information in an engineering library context and information technology and its implications for the library profession. She would like to be involved in any ELD committees involving women and minorities in engineering or information technology.

Gretchen Sneff, Membership Committee

Accolades. . .

And special congratulations to **Ruth Seidman**, Head of Engineering and Science Libraries at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She is the new editor of the prestigious quarterly, *Science & Technology Libraries*. Ruth intends to broaden the awareness of information professionals by looking at sci-tech libraries worldwide. Other areas of emphasis will be the changing nature of scientific communication and developments in electronic publishing and information policy. *Science & Technology Libraries* is known for high quality articles on the literature of specific disciplines and on developments affecting science and technology libraries.

People and Places

During the 1994-95 school year the **Devereaux Library** at the **South Dakota School of Mines and Technology** dramatically increased the number of electronic resources available to its patrons. New electronic resources were made possible by a Technology Fee that students voted to assess themselves. Beginning with basic access to the South Dakota Library Network online catalog and one CD-ROM workstation, Devereaux added:

- a CD-ROM workstation devoted to business information and journals;
- a new CD-ROM workstation to support four Wilson bibliographic databases;
- UMI ProQuest full-text IEE/IEEE;
- UMI Research II full-text workstation.

FirstSearch and New Titles Online (Blackwell) are now available through the campus LAN. Electronic ILL and reference assistance are also offered. The newly developed library gopher provides a gateway and guidance to information sources on the Internet and at SDSM&T. The first multimedia installation in the library features an interactive library orientation program.

SDSM&T students' decision to support electronic resources in the library through their adoption of the Technology Fee last spring was a major factor in quickly adding these electronic resources.

Dennis A. Norlin, South Dakota School of Mines & Technology

After a ten year process, the UMass Dartmouth Electrical and Computer Engineering Department will be enrolling Ph.D. candidates in the fall of 1995. The emphasis will be on underwater navigation.

This is the first doctoral program for this campus. The department gave Page Gibbs a poster, "Congratulations, it's a PH.D. Program" - complete with a fish wearing a mortarboard and bearing a scrolled diploma.

Paige Gibbs, UMass Dartmouth

Congratulations

Glee Willis, ELD Membership Chair and engineering librarian at the University of Nevada, Reno, wrote a guest column for the November 1994 issue of *Online*, entitled, "Navigating Gopherspace via E-mail." The citation is *Online* 18(6): 32-35. The article is intended as an in-depth lay user's guide to navigating the Internet for those with e-mail-only access.

"Selective Guide to Literature on Integrated Circuits" is new in the ASEE series of Selective Guides. Cheers to **Nestor L. Osorio** at Northern Illinois University for the guide, which reviews the printed and electronic resources available to researchers and students in this important field.

A new reference in electronics, telecommunications, and technology is "Spectrum Guide: Radio Frequency Allocations in the United States, 30 MHz - 300GHz," by **Bennett Z. Kobb**. Bennett is a writer and consultant and former editor of *Personal Communications* magazine, *Cellular Radio News* and *Federal Communications Technews*. He co-founded the Wireless Information Networks Forum.

"Radioactivity in Books and Journals," *College & Research Libraries News*, v. 55 (10): 628, November 1994, is the latest publication by **Tom Conkling**. Tom works at the Penn State Engineering Library and is the ELD Publications Committee Chair.

BALLOT**BALLOT****BALLOT****BALLOT**

In accordance with a motion passed unanimously at the ASEE's Engineering Libraries Division Annual Business Meeting held in Edmonton on June 28, 1994, all current ELD members are asked to vote on whether to approve an increase in Division dues from the current \$1/yr to a proposed \$5/yr. The purpose of this dues increase is to provide ELD with additional income to 1) offset increasing costs of paper and electronic services to the membership (e.g. newsletter, membership directory, ELDNET-L) and 2) provide support for growing annual conference costs (e.g. renting audiovisual equipment, computers, and telecommunication lines; honoraria for outside speakers.)

According to the ASEE By-Laws, a simple majority of those members voting is required to approve a dues increase. A ballot is being sent to all current ELD members. It is also being sent electronically via ELDNET-L to all members with e-mail addresses. Please return only one ballot.

Please indicate your vote and return this ballot to Steven Gass, Head, Engineering Library, Terman Engineering Center, Stanford, CA 94305-4029, (415) 725-1096 FAX, sgass@forsythe.stanford.edu, **by January 10, 1995.**

Ballots received unsigned will be disallowed.

____ Yes, I approve an ELD dues increase to \$5/yr.

____ No, I do not approve an ELD dues increase to \$5/yr.

Name _____