



Engineering Libraries

Division Newsletter

March 2002

Chair's Message

Hi all. I'm keying this in on March 1, exactly a year and a day after the Nisqually Earthquake caused things in this neck of the woods to shake, rattle, and roll rather violently (and in the case of most of our shelving, do some serious leaning). In the weeks after the quake, many of you stepped up and made offers of access to your collections and services that were WAY beyond the norm and allowed us to continue to offer our users as close to a normal level of service as was possible given the circumstances. For that you have our gratitude and thanks.

Then in Albuquerque, after the three of us ELDers from the University of Washington found out that a colleague and coworker had been killed in a weekend accident, many of you again stepped forward with kind offers to talk, listen, or help in other ways.

I use the above as only the most personal examples that illustrate some things I like and admire most about ELD and that are part of the reason why I consider ASEE/ELD membership to be far and away my most important society membership. Here's a somewhat more complete list:

1. ELDerS communicate with each other. In both the episodes above, we at UW communicated our situations to you, which led directly to quick responses from many of you. That same kind of communication seems to happen pretty routinely among many ELD members, and on an almost daily basis. Some of it is person to person; some of it is via the two e-lists. The important thing is that it *happens*.
2. ELDerS help each other out. In the case of the earthquake, we communicated what had happened in the Seattle area on various e-lists and through a number of other channels. But the people who responded with offers of assistance were first and foremost ELDers. Many ELD members routinely provide that same kind of assistance via responses to postings on ELDNET-L and ELD-L.
3. ELD members are our peers. There's a breadth and depth of common ground I've found with my colleagues in ELD that I've not found in other library-related organizations. Most ELDers are academic engineering librarians and understand the kinds of problems that we all face at one time or another. They often offer solutions that were devised at their institutions to solve similar problems.
4. ELDerS know their stuff. We've got some of the best and brightest from engineering library-land in ELD and we should collectively strive to see this continues to be the case. The result is high quality sessions at each year's conference, and constructive work and output from various ELD committees and task forces. Newcomers to the field and to ELD have a rich resource to plumb for information.
5. ELD is a close-knit group. Sure, we've grown some over the last few years and added a number of new faces, but we're still small enough that I think most people find participating in ELD and in our activities at the annual conference to be a very comfortable experience, as well as an enriching one. And, even if ELD *does* continue to grow and we reach the point that it becomes more difficult to remember names and faces, perhaps the following is what all of us should try to remember and emulate: ". . . I realized it didn't matter if I remembered everyone's names -- I just needed to greet everyone warmly and demonstrate that I was happy to be there with all of the rest of them!" That quote wasn't describing someone's attendance at a conference. It came in an e-mail to me this morning from an ELDer who was describing her situation after walking into a high school reunion, but the sentiment seems equally appropriate to our situations each year at the ASEE conference, especially as our membership continues to grow.
6. ELD is active. For our size, we have far more technical and discussion sessions at the ASEE annual conference than do most other subject-based library groups, many of whom have memberships far larger than ELD's. We also have more sessions per number of people in the Division than do most other Divisions within ASEE. We are involved to varying degrees in publishing, accreditation and standards, mentoring, scholarly communication issues,

preservation e-archiving (J-STOR), and forming working relationships with nine other related organizations. We may also soon be investigating 24x7 engineering reference (ssshhh, it's a secret – no one's supposed to know about it yet). And we do all of this with less than 200 members, who all have professional responsibilities first and foremost to their respective institutions. Kind of amazing, if you stop to think about it. But even given all of that, I've heard from a number of new members who are looking for ways to get (more) involved in the Division.

7. ELD is fun. Heck, how many other professional organizations do you know of that work as hard as ELD does to make not only the intellectual portion of your conference experience fulfilling, but the personal and social portions as well?

I guess the point of all this (and yeah, I did have one in mind when I started typing) is that I firmly believe ELD can continue to grow - to do more and bigger and better things - while still maintaining the ideals and values that have made ELD what it is today. We simply need to always keep those ideals and values at the forefront of who we are and what we do as we move forward. Bigger is not necessarily better, but it's not necessarily worse either. It's simply what we in ELD make of it.

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A Letter from the Program Chair Montreal June 16 - 19, 2002

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank ELD moderators, presenters, authors, reviewers and division officers who have worked hard over the past few months to pull together the 2002 Annual Conference. People have volunteered a lot of energy and effort to design sessions and obtain speakers, and we have a great group of sessions to show for it. Thanks to the group of 2002 moderators: Jay Bhatt (Drexel), Mel DeSart (U Washington), Godlind Johnson (SUNY Stony Brook), Sandy Lewis (UCSB), Linda Martinez (Duke), Bill Mischo (U Illinois, U-C), Jill Powell (Cornell), John Saylor (Cornell), Andy Shimp (Yale), Larry Thompson, and Kate Thomes (U Pittsburgh).

We had a number of papers submitted for inclusion in the Conference Proceedings this year. Special thanks go out to Andy Shimp, Chair of the Literature Committee, and his group of anonymous reviewers for their work reviewing and editing the submissions. You know who you are!

And no small thanks to our authors and presenters who will be listed in the May newsletter!

Conference Tidbits:

* Conference information is now available online at <http://www.asee.org/conferences/annual2002>. See the website for registration rates and deadlines, conference hotels and housing rates, program sessions, workshops and tours.

* Early bird registration rates are available if you register for the conference by April 15th. Registration opens March 15th. HQ notes that ASEE registration must be paid in US dollars, so plan on using a credit card or paying in US dollars if you register on site.

* To view and generate a printable list of ELD technical sessions, select Webmat from the main conference page or go directly to <http://www.asee.org/webmat/>.

* Extended Executive Committee members! A meeting is scheduled for Sunday morning, June 16th, at 10:30AM, so plan to arrive in town in time for that session! If you are not sure if you are a member of the committee, please contact Mel DeSart, desart@u.washington.edu.

* Sunday afternoon ELD is sponsoring a \$25 workshop on EndNote, led by Andy Shimp. This workshop is designed to be useful both to librarians as well as faculty and students.

* Committee chairs! Plan to meet at lunchtime on Tuesday! We've scheduled an ELD committee meeting session time. We have one conference center room that could be shared, or committees can plan to use the time slot to meet over lunch at a local eatery.

* Sunday night 6pm is the annual picnic, being held at Windsor Station, an historic 1889 railway station in the city.

Continue to monitor the listserv for conference news, and check out the May newsletter for a detailed list of the ELD sessions and for a list of the social events, including opportunities to get together with colleagues Saturday and Wednesday evenings.

I look forward to seeing you all in June!

Gretchen Sneff
ELD Program Chair 2001-02
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Nominations Sought

The Nominating Committee is accepting nominations for the positions of Director and Secretary/Treasurer. If you would like to nominate someone for these positions, please check with that person, then contact **Linda Musser** at Lrm4@psu.edu with your nomination. The incoming Director will serve for two years, from 2002-2004. The incoming Secretary/Treasurer will serve a four-year term, phasing to Program Chair for 2003/2004, Chair in 2004/2005, and Past Chair for 2005/2006.

An Electronic Future for the Literature Guides

As you may recall from our business meeting in Albuquerque, the ASEE Publications Department will no longer support print production of the ELD Literature Guides series. However, the guides continue to serve a purpose by disseminating peer-reviewed information, promoting ELD, and providing a venue for division members to publish. We will now produce the literature guides online and make them available at no cost. Future guides will be Web-based, since HTML format introduces enhanced functionality and increased visibility (i.e., via potential links from the WWW Virtual Library and other meta-sites). The authors will have the option of also making available a printable PDF version of the guide. We are working with the ASEE Publications Department to convert existing guides to PDF format.

The last guide to be produced in a print-based format will be the *Selected Guide to the Literature on Industrial Ergonomics* compiled by Nestor Osorio of Northern Illinois University. ASEE will release this guide in PDF format in the near future. We will make an announcement once it becomes available.

If you have an idea for a new literature guide or would like to revise an existing guide, please contact Ann Morgan. A current list of available print guides is available from the ASEE Publication page at <http://www.asee.org/publications/cataloglist.cfm> and the ELD site at <http://www.englib.cornell.edu/eld/publications.html>.

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Union List of Technical Reports, Standards, and Patents in Engineering Libraries, 5th edition

The subcommittee of the Union List of Technical Reports, Standards, and Patents in Engineering Libraries will begin working soon on the 5th edition. If you are a new member of ASEE and would like to contribute your library's holdings and/or would like more information about the Union List, please contact **Mary Schlembach** at schlemba@uiuc.edu.

If your library has contributed holdings information in the past, please be aware that the subcommittee will be contacting you for revisions and corrections in the near future.

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People & Places

Tom De Petro reports that **Texas A&M University Libraries** recently hosted a visit by Jane Burke, President & CEO of Endeavor Information Systems, Inc., a subsidiary of Elsevier Science. Ms. Burke presented "ENCompass", the new Endeavor product providing multiple information source simultaneous searching. The prospective applications of ENCompass in engineering libraries seem good and it does not require that customers have the Endeavor Voyager ILS (integrated library system) or OPAC working onsite. It can run with any ILS and other databases in a "federated" manner. ASEE ELD member sites include Cornell University and Kansas State University.

New Members

Linda Ackerson is the Assistant Engineering Librarian at the Grainger Engineering Library and Information Center, University of Illinois. She does primarily acquisitions and collection management but also provides reference services and instruction. She has been in this position since 1998. From 1990-1998, she was the Science and Engineering Reference Librarian at the University of Alabama.

Elizabeth Mengel is Resource Services Librarian for Science and Engineering at Johns Hopkins University. Her subject areas at JHU are Civil Engineering, Earth and Planetary Sciences, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Mathematical Sciences, and Mechanical Engineering. Liz has a BA in Art History from the University of Houston. Her MLS is from the University of North Texas. Liz spent many, many years at Shell Oil in Houston, Texas,

primarily as a business and engineering librarian and she also spent one short year in the development office of Rice University before starting at Hopkins in May 2001. This fall Liz plans to begin the MBA program at JHU.

John Napp holds the title of Assistant Professor of Library Administration and Reference Librarian at Carlson Library, University of Toledo. He has been at the University of Toledo for 8 months. Prior to this new position, John was the Librarian at Jones & Henry Engineers, Toledo for 6.5 years. John earned his BA at the University of Toledo and his MLS at the University of Michigan.

Charles Wenger is the Head of the Science and Engineering Library at Marriott Library, University of Utah. In addition to his responsibilities as Head of the Library, he also does collection development, promotion and outreach, instruction, consultation and reference, and website management. Charles has been in this position for four months. Prior to coming to Utah, he served as Associate Dean for Public Services at the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago for 4.5 years. Charles also worked as a chemist for Marathon Oil for 5 years and authored 14 patent proposals and 8 patents. Charles has a BA in chemistry and an MLS from the University of Denver. He has done graduate work at the University of Miami and the University of Kansas in molecular biology and medicine.

ALA STS/ELD Liaison Report

I attended ALA Midwinter for the first time in many years. New Orleans in January is not a terrible hardship for those of us from the "Frozen North". In my capacity as liaison to the ACRL-STS I talked to JoAnn Devries, chair of STS, about ways STS and ELD might cooperate. She suggested information literacy as an area where our groups might collaborate. Dr. Virginia Baldwin from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln is chair of the new STS Information Literacy Task Force. I plan on attending ALA in Atlanta in June and hope to further our discussion. In the mean time I hope to get those folks in ELD interested in information literacy in touch with Dr. Baldwin.

As chair of the Michigan ACRL chapter I also attend the ACRL chapter council meeting. It is interesting to note that one of their main concerns is also membership. They are looking for ways to increase membership in ACRL and recruiting new people into the profession. There is concern about the number of ACRL members who will be retiring in the next 10 years.

Tom Volkening
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ELD/SPARC Liaison Report

As you may have read on the ELD listservs, the ELD liaison program made its first official contact with SPARC at ALA mid-winter in New Orleans last January. I met with Rick Johnson, SPARC Enterprise Director, following the SPARC/ACRL forum. Rick and I discussed ideas raised in the forum and what bearing they may have on engineering faculty. Speakers in the forum talked about subject/discipline repositories for scholarly information, institution based repositories for the creative output of a school's faculty, and new opportunities for faculty to self-publish their research. Rick and I raised more questions than we answered about how engineers get and use scholarly information.

Following up on this conversation I have asked ELD members for assistance in gathering information from their faculty about how engineers engage in scholarly communication, about how they get their research information. By compiling brief reports on these conversations from ELD members I hope to begin to get a picture of engineering research trends. I plan to summarize the information for the next newsletter or for the summer annual conference in Montreal.

My little pocket dictionary defines "liaison" as "contact to ensure cooperation". Rest assured - we are in full "liaison-mode". ELD already has a history of informal liaison with SPARC that has been productive, and now we have a commitment from Rick Johnson to provide assistance and expertise to ELD in the future.

Our next step is to clarify what is needed. As ELD members think about issues related to scholarly publication and communication and how they impact the field of engineering, please send me your ideas on what works, what's broken, what we need to know and what we need to do. We can discuss these ideas within ELD and see what emerges.

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LINDA HALL LIBRARY CELEBRATES THE ASCE'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY!

The Linda Hall Library of Science, Engineering, and Technology is celebrating civil engineering, and more specifically, the American Society of Civil Engineer's (ASCE) 150th anniversary, with an exhibition at the Library. "**Centuries of Civil Engineering: An Exhibition Celebrating the Heritage of Civil Engineering**", featuring books from the Linda Hall

Library's collections, will be on display in the Library's Exhibition Hall through July 31, 2002.

Linda Hall Library is pleased to host this exhibition recognizing the outstanding achievements of civil engineers throughout history and underscoring the relationship between the Library and ASCE. In 1995, Linda Hall became the library for the American Society of Civil Engineers when the Engineering Societies Library in New York was transferred to the Linda Hall Library in Kansas City.

In 1852, twelve engineers met in New York to form the nation's oldest engineering society--the American Society of Civil Engineers. Since that time the society has grown to 123,000 members who work to ensure safer buildings, water systems and other civil engineering works through the ASCE-developed technical codes and standards often adopted by federal, state, and local governments.

Civil engineers have played a major role in shaping the world since the earliest of times. Although engineering as a profession was not defined until many years later, the concepts of civil engineering were known when the Egyptian pyramids were built and when the Romans built the great aqueducts, bridges, and roads that are still visible today. It is hard to imagine what our lives would be like without civil engineers. From the great web of highways spanning the country, to the bridges that cross the waters, and the dams that help conserve water and soil, from structurally sound buildings, to the water and sanitation systems that support those buildings, civil engineering is an integral part of our lives.

"Centuries of Civil Engineering," is an exhibition of rare books from the Linda Hall Library that celebrates the historical accomplishments of civil engineers both in the United States and abroad. More than half of the 36 books in the exhibition were received from the Engineering Societies Library. The exhibition is divided into several areas of engineering work including canals, specifically the Panama Canal; water supply; monuments; bridges, including bridges of the British Isles and Missouri bridges; lighthouses; and viaducts and aqueducts.

Of particular note is a unique set on the Panama Canal by A. B. Nichols who was the Office Engineer at the Panama Canal until 1914 when the Panama Canal was completed. His two collections, titled *Panama Canal Notebooks: Manuscripts, typescripts, maps, blueprints, and printed material*, circa 1906-1920, and *Panama Canal Notebooks: Albums of photographs*, circa 1882-1920, total 97 volumes and provide a firsthand account of the building of the Panama Canal.

Residents of the Kansas City area will be interested in seeing *The Kansas City Bridge, With an Account of the Regimen of the Missouri River, and a Description of Methods Used for Founding in That River*, by Octave

Chanute and George Morison, 1870. This bridge, later to be known as the Hannibal Bridge, was the first bridge across the Missouri River and contributed to the development of the city as a launching point for westward expansion and as a railroad center.

The Linda Hall Library and ASCE are committed to providing information to researchers, engineers, scholars and students throughout the world. All current ASCE publications are deposited at the Library where archival copies of all past ASCE publications are also located. Library users may check the Library's holdings of material, request copies of articles, or find more information about the Library and its services in person, by phone, or through the Web at <http://www.lindahall.org>.

The Linda Hall Library of Science, Engineering, and Technology is free and open to the public. It is located at 5109 Cherry Street, Kansas City, MO. Library hours are Monday, 9:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.; Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. For more information please call 816-363-4600.

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Engineering Library Reopens at University of Cincinnati

After 18 months and an estimated \$16 million, Baldwin Hall re-opened at the beginning of January in time to welcome students back for winter quarter. An important part of the extensive project was the renovation of the Engineering Library located on the 8th floor of the historic building. Since the building's construction in 1911, there had been only one true renovation of the library space in 1980.

In addition to the books and journals that comprise the traditional library, the new space offers an Info Commons area, a collaborative effort by University Libraries and the Engineering College's Office of College Computing. It is staffed by library and college personnel, who help students with research and assignments as well as technology issues. In the Info Commons and throughout the college, students can also take advantage of an entirely wireless atmosphere, which adds flexibility to the work environment.

Beyond the Info Commons, the library features a wireless classroom with 24 laptops. The laptops come out only when needed, preventing students from hiding behind monitors during class. Additional staff space has also been an added bonus of the project. Everyone finally has a place to hang a coat!

The original 1911 library room, with high ceilings and reading lamps, creates a hushed atmosphere for quiet study. The “new” Quiet Reading Room is the crown jewel of the library with its newly conserved 1917 murals by renowned Cincinnati artist Frances Faig. The murals depict major feats of engineering such as naval ships, wireless telegraph, skyscrapers, railroads, suspension bridges, etc. Jim Morand, a UC alumnus and professor emeritus of Civil Engineering, and his wife Diane, also an alum of UC, contributed funds for the mural conservation. Originally a gift from the Civil Engineering class of 1916, the murals took Mike Ruzga and Helen Mar Parkin, the conservators for the project, nearly two years to restore. Students now use the Quiet Reading Room as a haven from the bustle of the College.



Mural Conservation Completed:

Jim and Diane Morand donated the funds for the Frances Faig mural conservation project. The murals adorn the walls of the Engineering Library Reading Room, a haven for studying students.

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Engineering Library Staff:

The staff of the Engineering Library is enjoying a newly renovated home on the 8th floor of Baldwin Hall. From left: Jim Clasper, Dorothy Beyers, Vikram Vaidyanathan, Brad Beda, June Taylor, and Greg Borkenhagen.



Info Commons:

The Info Commons area of the Engineering Library brings technology and the library together. Open 24 hours a day with key card access after the library closes, and equipped with wireless technology, the space is on the cutting-edge of library service.