

**Engineering Libraries**

# Division Newsletter



**American Society for Engineering Education**

**Editor: Dena Thomas**  
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**March 1996**

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## Message from the Chair

Lately I have been engaged in planning for the new year...in my job, for ELD, and personally. This is a time of great challenge and opportunity for us as librarians. Suddenly, information is cool and information professionals are being sought out for their insight, experience, and opinions! Interest in the subject matter of our professional discussions is on the upswing. I am working with a group of librarians on a session for the Society of Automotive Engineers Congress in Detroit later this month. We have a room that holds 600-800, the largest technical session of the congress! Attendance has grown from less than 30 only six years ago. Our concerns are at the forefront of teaching and research as our Division's mini-plenary session on Electronic Publishing illustrates. (Thanks to the work and imagination of our Program Chair, Andy Stewart.)

We must seize opportunities to work directly with our clients and to leverage the new technologies to expand the nature of our jobs and our profession. While technology is only a tool, it is a powerful tool. To ignore the options available to us would be short-sighted. But managing to innovate in a time of "rightsizing" is far from easy. It seems there is always a serials cut, a staffing vacancy or a space shortage to contend with, and somehow innovation gets deferred to another day. If we can overcome the demands of the hour and get involved with information

technologies, we run the additional risk of being so enamored with the tool that we forget the task. Our strength is the values that we have forged as a profession. They provide substance and focus to the systems that we help develop.

ELD keeps growing because we combine the values of librarianship with the innovation of information science. Our 1996 annual conference in Washington D.C. promises to continue our tradition: practical examples on keeping your library running while incorporating new technologies for greater efficiency and outreach. I highly recommend attending the annual conference. If funding or time limitations prevent you from attending, I urge you to get involved with the engineering library community through the listserv,

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## ELD Newsletter Schedule

The only remaining issue for this academic year is the May issue. Please send all submissions to me by April 1. Please send to my Irish e-mail address: dthomas@tcd.ie Thanks to all who contributed this year for your articles, features, news, and encouragement!

Dena Thomas, Editor

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### **Message** continued from p.1

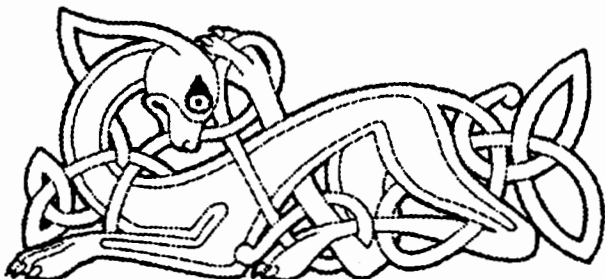
IELDNET-L or through one of our Division committees. As engineering librarians we tend to be somewhat isolated. It is important that, one way or another, we continue to share questions, ideas, and solutions. In this manner we can help each other to survive the here and now while we build for the future.

Bob Schwarzwald, Chair  
Engineering Libraries Division  
Ford Motor Company

### **Call for Posters**

There are still a few vacancies for the poster session at the annual conference. To be sure you are included among this exclusive group soon to be world renowned, please contact Kevin Lindstrom ASAP. He will get you into this cadre of the info-elite, and well on your way to that Nobel Prize!

Kevin can be reached as follows:  
klindstro@unixg.ubc.ca  
(604) 822-4363 voice  
(604) 822-9532 fax



## Conference Reminder

The American Society for Engineering Education Annual Conference, '*Capitol*' Gains in Engineering Education, is scheduled for June 23-26, 1996 in Washington, D.C. This year's Engineering Libraries Division program by Andy Stewart and his gang of co-conspirators, I mean, session moderators, promise to provide us with innovative solutions for the present and glimpses of possible futures as we sail further from Information Terra Firma. Grab a slicker and bring your digital astrolabe, and join us in the Capitol! Registration information appears in the February issue of *Prism*. There will be limited campus housing, so register early if that is your interest.

For a complete preview of ELD sessions, consult the December issue of the newsletter.

### **Where can I buy an Edgar Allan Poe T-shirt?**

Who designed the Smithsonian "Castle"? How can I write to someone who has hiked the Appalachian Trail? What is the best grass to use on my art car? All these questions and doubtless even others can be answered at the Web site that Fred O'Bryant, our Membership Directory Editor, has compiled for our virtual sightseeing of the Washington, D.C. and surrounding areas. If you are going to attend Conference and would like to start planning ahead for recreational opportunities to combine with your professional activities, please have a look. The URL is <http://poe.virginia.edu/~jfo/eldmeet.html> Thanks, Fred, for your time and effort in creating and making this available for us!

(The answer to the last question is Manhattan perennial rye #2. And if you are not familiar with art cars, you need to be!)

## People and Places

Vladimir Borovansky at Arizona State University reports that the Noble Science and Engineering Library is in the first phase of remodelling and the University Libraries are working on the five-year strategic plan UL 2000 which will be submitted to the provost on March 1, 1996.

Tom de Petro is chair of the Faculty Senate-appointed Scholarship and Student Aid Committee at Wichita State University in Kansas. He is also on the WSU Alumni and Faculty Club Board of Directors which is overseeing a \$280,000 renovation. On a recent trip to Europe Tom flew round-trip on the new Boeing 777 aircraft, which was partially designed and constructed in Wichita. His article entitled, "The 'Technische Informationsbibliothek': Germany's National Library for Science, Technology, and Engineering" was published in the latest issue of *Science and Technology Libraries*, which is edited by Ruth Seidman at MIT.

Bob Schwarzwaldner was promoted to the position of Head of Ford's Research Library & Information Services (RLIS), filling the position opened by the retirement of Donna Estry. RLIS serves the needs of Ford's research facility, as well as Ford divisions worldwide. RLIS is actively engaged in exploring practical options for using information technologies to bring the power of information to a global corporate audience.

## New Publications

The latest guide published in the ELD Literature Guide Series is the *Selective Guide to Literature on Civil Engineering* by Paul Anthony, Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, ISBN 0-87823-152-8, 37 pp. The guide is priced at \$15.00 (ASEE members) and \$17.00 (non-members) plus \$3 per copy shipping and handling. Send orders to:

American Society for Engineering Education  
1818 N Street, N.W., Suite 600  
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Other guides published include (Selective Guide to *Engineering Geology*, 1995, 14 pp.; *Circuits*, 1994, 23 pp.; *Materials Eng.*, 1994, 12 pp.; *Composites*, 1993, 15 pp.; *Telecommunications*, 1993, 15 pp.; *Advanced Ceramics*, 1993, 21 pp. These guides may be ordered from ASEE and are \$12/14 plus \$3 s/h.

The new edition of the *Union List of Technical Reports, Standards and Patents in Engineering Libraries* is in the final phase of compilation and should be available by late spring.

Beth Brin, Publications Committee Chair  
bbrin@bsu.idbsu.edu

## Publications of Interest

"The Three Mile Island Unit 2 Decontamination and Recovery Collection," Bonnie Anne Osif and Thomas W. Conkling. *Journal of Government Information* v. 22 (5): 413-420.

"The Defense Technical Information Center: Expanding Its Horizons," Kurt N. Moilholm. *Government Information Quarterly* v. 12(3): 331-344.

submitted by Linda Musser, Penn State

## Membership Directory Correction

Late-breaking release from Fred O'Bryant--This is the correct entry for Joseph Kraus. Please make a note in your new directory.

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