
NCLA Conference: Report of Meetings

Terrant Addresses RTSS

Dr. Seldon Terrant, head of research and development of the Books and Journals Division of the American Chemical Society, addressed the joint meeting of the Serials Interest Group and the Resources and Technical Services Section on the topic of electronic publishing.

Dr. Terrant defined several types of electronic publishing: publication of an electronic version, publication of an electronic and a printed version, videotex, teletext, and electronic mail. He noted that publication of an electronic version only does not allow for a review process prior to publication or for abstracting or indexing. The American Chemical Society believes that publication of an electronic version only will not achieve acceptance and that both electronic and printed versions of texts will be available for the foreseeable future.

Dr. Terrant described an experiment done with electronic publishing at the American Chemical Society. Beginning in 1980, the American Chemical Society provided a number of articles from their journals on-line with keyword indexing. Twelve ACS chemists were given free access to the file and then asked to evaluate it. A similar experiment was done later on a file of thirty thousand articles updated biweekly, with academic, governmental and industrial chemists, and librarians as users. An additional 250 people were tested in 1982. The user evaluations identified as advantages of using electronic journals their currency and displayability and the ability to use contemporary language and jargon in searching the file. Disadvantages were the limitations in publication dates of the test file, the limitation to ACS journals, and the lack of graphics in the text (graphics cannot be displayed on-line at this time).

Some questions identified by Dr. Terrant as needing answers are (1) Who will train users? (2) How can user-friendly systems be designed without losing the present sophistication of the on-line file? (3) Who will pay for the searching? (4) How are authors and publishers to be compensated for their contributions to an on-line

database? (5) How do home computers fit in? (6) How will libraries alert patrons to the availability of on-line journals?

Dr. Terrant stressed that publishers are interested in learning what librarians want and urged us to make our wishes known, in regard to electronic publishing or other publishing matters.

McGilvray Speaks to Documents Section

As the Government Printing Office's marketing efforts get underway, the public will soon be bombarded with television and radio commercials proclaiming the wonders of depository libraries. Information packets that include brochures promoting the use of federal documents and a list of depository libraries will be distributed to all public libraries in the country. Dan McGilvray's message from the Government Printing Office: "Be prepared. The world is about to beat a path to your door, so dust off your doorstep." He predicted that by the end of 1984, depository libraries would experience a surge in demand for federal documents, including increased use of interlibrary loan. Since documents are increasingly being issued in microfiche, librarians should be aware of the need to make more portable fiche readers available. McGilvray added that GPO marketing librarian, Mary Lee O'Brien, welcomes suggestions and feedback about the program.

For other reasons, 1984 will be a transitional year for the Depository Library Program. The depository operation will probably move to the main GPO facility in Washington, D.C. Sarah Kadec, director of the Depository Library Program, has resigned to return to work for the Environmental Protection Agency. She had been a prime force behind the automation of the Depository Library Program. Her successor has not been chosen.

Barbara Appel and Philip Ziegler, of the Acquisitions Unit of the Depository Library Program, are constantly on the lookout for federal agency publications to include in the program. Since the Acquisitions Unit staff is limited, librar-

ians can help out by notifying Barbara Appel and Philip Ziegler if they are aware of a publication that is not a depository item. This will ensure that sufficient quantities of documents are made available for distribution and make the Depository Program more comprehensive.

RTSS Cataloging Interest Group Meeting

The first meeting of the Cataloging Interest Group of RTSS was held during the NCLA Biennial Conference, with 180 persons in attendance. A panel of nine persons addressed the topic, "The Card Catalog: Arrangement, Access, and Maintenance."

Mary Hamil introduced the panel and told why the topic was chosen for the meeting. Rebecca Floyd explained why North Carolina A&T had decided to continue filing its card catalog by the 1968 ALA rules even though the 1980 ALA rules had positive points. The reasons that East Carolina University decided to refile its card catalog to comply with the 1980 Library of Congress rules were discussed by Elizabeth Smith. Joyce Farris described the Catalog Information Desk at Duke University; the desk began with the implementation of AACR2 in order to assist catalog users.

Mary Holloway explained the competency goals and performance indicators for students in the public schools who receive instruction in the use of the card catalog. The Health Sciences Library at East Carolina University, as described by Sherry Anderson, retained a consultant to help determine the impact of AACR2 on its author catalog and to suggest an approach for changes in the catalog. Jinnie Davis described the traditional types of authority maintenance in the card catalog and the on-line editing system for TRLN as it is done at North Carolina State University.

Elizabeth Smith

RTSS Collection Development Interest Group Meeting

The RTSS Collection Development Interest Group held its organizational meeting at the RTSS breakfast on Thursday, October 27, during the NCLA Biennial Conference. It was decided to set up a resource center for the acquisition and dissemination of surveys related to collection development and the needs and interests of library patrons. Librarians who would like copies of pre-existing surveys or who have surveys of their own to contribute to the center are urged to contact Harry Tuchmayer, New Hanover County Public

Library, Wilmington, NC 28401.

Plans are being made for future group activities. Anyone interested in becoming involved with the Collection Development Interest Group is invited to contact Harry Tuchmayer at the above address.

Gene Leonardi

Documents Section Business Meeting

Following the program, a business meeting was called to order by chairperson Dawn Hubbs. Cheryl McLean, of the North Carolina State Library, announced that the *Classification Scheme for North Carolina State Publications* is available for distribution. She should be contacted for copies of the *Scheme*. Janet Miller, of the Forsyth County Public Library, has been named as the new *Docket* editor.

Elections were held for the offices of vice-chairperson and secretary/treasurer. Nominees for the vice-chair office were Stuart Basefsky, Duke University, and Patricia Hammond, Western Carolina University. Stuart Basefsky was elected by a majority vote. Dawn Hubbs was elected to the position of secretary/treasurer; she ran unopposed.

Carolyn Jamison reported for the Committee on the State Documents Depository System. The committee met in Raleigh on October 7, 1983. At this meeting, the committee discussed the composition of the State Agency Task Force. The task force will be charged with developing a plan for the distribution of state documents in North Carolina. The committee hopes to have a report from the task force by late summer or early fall 1984 in anticipation of presenting legislative changes to the 1985 General Assembly. The task force, a subcommittee of the main committee, will be composed of state agency librarians and librarians from the Committee on State Documents Depository System; several names for members were suggested at the October 7 meeting. The full membership will be announced in the next issue of the *Docket*. Cheryl McLean, of the State Library, will chair the task force.

Ridley Kessler reported on the State Documents Plan. The second draft of the plan was distributed to depository librarians. The committee will meet soon to discuss the few comments received. Pat Hammond recommended that librarians contact Senator Mark Hatfield with their concerns for the retrospective Department of Energy microfilm collection. The meeting was then adjourned by Dawn Hubbs.

Pat Langelier