



Biofeedback

*Biological Sciences Division
Special Libraries Association*

Volume 14, Number 3
Winter 1989

Report from the Division Chair

by Eleanor MacLean

This report is a very short one - for a change. Mostly, I'd like to give a brief summary of the Winter Meeting and remind you to follow up on an item which appeared in the last issue of *Biofeedback*. Please fill out and return to Rita Fisher, our Membership Chair, the questionnaire for the division directory.

I would like to apologize for an error I made in my last report. Our potential speaker for the American Museum of Natural History talk is Dr. Ian (not David) Tattersall.

Several Chapters in the Great Lakes area are putting together a regional conference for next October on "The Information Crunch." One of the sessions will be on a topic specifically of interest to biology librarians. Patricia Yokum of Ann Arbor, Michigan, is representing the Division on the planning for this session and we are currently in the process of designating two other members to work with Patricia. If you have any suggestions as to the focus of this program, please let me know.

The Winter Meeting was held in San Francisco January 25-27. I attended all the Board, Division, and New York Conference planning meetings. Since Division Chair-Elect Anna McGowan and Secretary/Treasurer Jean Crampon were also there, I even managed to bring them up-to-date on the plans of some of the committees.

Our Chapter and Division leadership training session was in three parts. President-Elect Muriel Regan spoke on who does what in SLA and at Headquarters, Didi Pancake reviewed proper parliamentary procedure (and if you come to the Biological Sciences Division Annual Business Meeting on Tuesday, June 13, at 3:30 p.m., you can decide how well I learned it), and David Malinak, SLA's Director of Communications, conducted a brainstorming session with about 140 of us in preparation for developing a new marketing prototype. Among other things we learned during this part of the program is that brainstorming is a lot easier (and maybe even more productive) with a smaller group! The Division Cabinet discussed the types of membership data we need and/or can get from Headquarters, such as Division membership broken down by geographical location or company, and whether or not this can be provided on different sizes of disc. Margaret Miller reported on the very successful process of merging the Natural Resources and Environment Information Divisions into the new Environment and Resource Management Division. We also had a lengthy discussion on setting up a system of Chapter and Division awards for recruiting and retaining members. This matter will come up again at

Continued on page 2

Continued from page 1

the Annual Conference in June after both Headquarters and a Chapter committee have done some further research on the issue. The big problem seems to be the retention of members. If any of you has any suggestions as to why turnover seems so high and what we might do to reverse the trend, I would be delighted to receive your ideas.

I attended a meeting of the New York Conference Planners. I hope you are all busy saving your money so you can join us; New York is a very expensive city. Fortunately, it is also a fascinating one which will (of course) be greatly enhanced by the conference program. Details will appear in the next issue of *Biofeedback*.

Anna McGowan attended two sessions of the 1990 Pittsburgh Conference planners and will gladly consider any program ideas you might suggest. Jean Crampon attended the Chapter Cabinet and workshop sessions.

The Board of Directors' meeting will be reported on in *Special Libraries* and the *Specialist* so I will restrict myself to just a few comments. Caucuses have been established for Retired Librarians and Solo Librarians. SLA is a co-sponsor of Library Day on April 11. If you'd like information on how to participate, please contact our Government Relations Liaison, Cami Loucks. Thanks to the efforts of the Student Group liaisons, this year we had a pool of 94 candidates for SLA's library school scholarships. The 1988 budget surplus will be divided: \$10,000 for special programs, \$10,000 for research (along with the proceeds of the art auction being held as the Conference fund-raising event), and the remaining \$55,000-60,000 for general reserves. Considerable restrictions have apparently been placed on the FBI Library Awareness Program, but SLA will continue to monitor the situation. A fellowship was approved for the Executive Development Academy, as was a discount CE course fee for students. ALA has apparently

switched the site of its 1992 Conference to San Francisco where we are scheduled to meet. Headquarters is looking into alternate dates and sites for our Conference that year as a result. The Newspaper Division asked that Headquarters look into holding our Annual Conference on different dates as they currently conflict with the meeting of the American Newspaper Publishers Association and with what is graduation week in many schools. There was a prolonged discussion on whether SLA should accept ads for jobs with salaries below a minimally acceptable level and a policy statement is to be presented in June. The Positive Action Committee was renamed the Affirmative Action Committee and SLA adopted a policy supporting affirmative action programs. Too few of our members voted in November on the bylaws amendments for them to pass. Those who did vote approved the recommended changes on Board voting procedures and percentage of membership required to vote for bylaws changes to be approved. We will try again next year and this time the Chapters and Divisions will make a greater effort to get out the vote.



Don't forget to vote for Bylaws Amendments in November.

Deadline for return is November 2.

Biofeedback

Biological Sciences Division
Special Libraries Association

Vol. 14, No. 3

Winter 1989

Special Libraries Association assumes no responsibility for the statements and opinions advanced by contributors to the Association's publications. Editorial views do not necessarily represent the official position of the Special Libraries Association. Acceptance of an advertisement does not imply endorsement of the product by Special Libraries Association.

Review Sources in Veterinary Medicine and Zoology for Zoo Libraries

by Adam L. Schiff

The following is an annotated list of valuable sources of book reviews that may be of particular use to zoo librarians and to others charged with building collections on the biology and husbandry of captive animals. I would expect that most of the journals cited below are already found in most zoo library collections. Consulting these titles for book reviews and announcements of newly published monographs should help librarians maintain current and relevant collections in this field.

Veterinary Bulletin. Slough, U.K.: Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux. Monthly.

The **Veterinary Bulletin** is primarily an abstracting tool to the worldwide veterinary literature, but each issue contains a section of anywhere from 6-20 signed book reviews and citations for books received for review. This is probably the most inclusive source of books, proceedings, and reports on veterinary and related topics from all over the world. Books published in non-English languages and from third world countries are frequently reviewed or listed, so this tool is an excellent way to keep abreast of the publishing from around the globe. The reviews are one-paragraph in length, models of conciseness. Some are merely descriptive, while others provide critical evaluations of works. Both exotic and domestic animals are included, making this a superb source for any veterinary or zoo library.

Journal of Wildlife Diseases. Ames, IA: Wildlife Disease Association. Quarterly.

This journal is an excellent way to keep a-

breast of the field. It contains lengthy, signed book reviews (1-5 per issue) of a critical nature, but the time lag is generally from 1 to 2 years behind the publication date of the work being reviewed. Most of the books reviewed favorably would be selected for zoo libraries. This source is a good way to make sure that key works on wildlife diseases are acquired for the library, but its lack of timeliness makes it less helpful for selecting recently published material.

Journal of Zoo Animal Medicine. Lawrence, KS: Allen Press for the American Association of Zoo Veterinarians. Quarterly.

This journal is likely to be found in every zoo library and publishes from one to four book reviews in each issue. The signed reviews are both descriptive and critical, and most are a half- to full-page length. Currency is sometimes a problem, as some recent reviews discussed books published 2-3 years prior. A number of foreign-language books (German) have recently been reviewed, making this a useful source of information about such works. Most zoo libraries will want to acquire the favorably reviewed books.

Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association. Schaumburg, IL: American Veterinary Medical Association. Semimonthly.

Each issue of this important journal usually contains 1-2 short, signed book reviews of recently published works. In some issues there is a list of books received. This journal is of

Continued on page 4

Continued from page 3

obvious importance for keeping up with trends in the veterinary world, but is not as useful as the two sources discussed above. The reviews deal mainly with books published on domestic animals, some of which will be wanted by zoo libraries.

The Veterinary Record. London: British Veterinary Association. Weekly.

Only some issues of this journal have book reviews. These are usually short but critically evaluative tools for selection of British and other works. Most books reviewed deal with domestic animals, but many of these will still be of interest to exotic animal veterinarians. Books received are also listed.

Zoo Biology. New York: Alan R. Liss. Quarterly.

Unlike most journals, the lengthy 1-3 page reviews in this journal are given titles of their own, and often contain citations to other works discussed in the review. Almost every book reviewed by this journal will be wanted by a zoo library. Books reviewed include not only works dealing with veterinary medicine, but also works on species conservation and natural history, park management, and other issues related to the biology of captive animals. The time lag is often significant (1-2 years after a book was published), so this source is not particularly useful for selecting newly published materials. There are generally 2-3 reviews per issue.

The Journal of Wildlife Management. Bethesda, MD: The Wildlife Society. Quarterly.

This is an excellent source for selecting fairly recently published material (within the past year). The well-written, signed, detailed critical reviews (about 5-6 per issue) deal with a

variety of topics of interest to zoo libraries, including field guides and geographic treatises on various faunas, conservation biology, ecology, management, and systems analysis and modelling of wildlife populations. References cited in the body of the review are listed at the end of each review, and may alert the librarian to other works the library should acquire.

Conservation Biology: the Journal of the Society for Conservation Biology. Boston: Blackwell Scientific Publications. Quarterly.

This is a recent high-quality journal that includes several book reviews per issue. These well-written, critical evaluations of recent publications will help a selector keep up with the literature in this field. The books selected for review will be of great interest to zoos and to anyone working with endangered or rare species.

Journal of Animal Ecology. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. Triennial.

This is one of the premier journals on animal ecology, and can be used to keep abreast of developments in the field. Each issue contains approximately 11 signed reviews of books and proceedings, some with cited references to other works. Reviews are relatively succinct, but critical, and not all books selected are favorably reviewed. Following the regular reviews, there is a "Short Notices" section which lists and briefly describes the contents of other books, proceedings, and published reports. These notices are an excellent way to select more ephemeral titles that may never be reviewed in depth.

African Journal of Ecology. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications. Quarterly.

Continued on page 5

Continued from page 4

No zoo library can afford to do without this journal, which describes field studies of many of the animals most likely to be found in zoos. Each issue contains 1-5 very detailed, critical one- to three-page reviews, with cited references to other works, of publications of great interest to zoo libraries. Many of the titles reviewed are published in Europe or Africa, so this source is an excellent tool for selecting overseas imprints that libraries may not know about otherwise.

Animal Behaviour. London: Baillière Tindall. Bimonthly.

One of the premier journals on animal behavior, this source will be particularly useful for selecting materials not likely to be reviewed or listed anywhere else. Each issue contains about 10 signed descriptive and critical reviews, often with cited references. Books reviewed are generally from the current or previous year. There is also a list, with descriptions but no evaluations, of books received.

Ethology, formerly Zeitschrift für Tierpsychologie. Berlin: Paul Parey. Monthly.

This is a particularly good source of German-language works or of works published in Germany in English. Book reviews, often in German, can be as long as 5-6 pages, and the English of some of the native German-speaking reviewers can sometimes be quite idiosyncratic, but this is still a very useful tool for selecting European literature in ethology and animal behavior.

Quarterly Review of Biology. Stony Brook, NY: Stony Brook Foundation, Inc., State University of New York. Quarterly.

No list of book review sources in biology can be complete without the **Quarterly Review of**

Biology. Each issue contains about 150 concise, critical, signed reviews or brief bibliographic notices to monographs, proceedings, and reports covering the whole spectrum of biology, including sections on zoological sciences, environmental sciences, animal behavior, and biomedical sciences. Most of these are English-language publications, and there is a 1-2 year time lag between a book's publication and its appearance in the **Review**. Nevertheless, no selector in the biological sciences can do without this outstanding source.

There are a number of other vital sources for reviews and lists of new publications that should be mentioned briefly. Journals devoted to particularly animal groups are superb sources of information on books about those groups. The most important ones are:

Journal of Mammalogy. Provo, UT: Dept. of Zoology, Brigham Young University. Quarterly.

The Auk. Washington, D.C.: The American Ornithologists' Union. Quarterly.

The Wilson Bulletin. Columbus, OH: Wilson Ornithological Society. Quarterly.

The Condor. Columbus, OH: Cooper Ornithological Society. Quarterly.

Ibis. London: British Ornithologists' Union. Quarterly.

Herpetologica. Elmhurst, IL: The Herpetologists' League. Quarterly.

Copeia. Gainesville, FL: American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, Florida State Museum, University of Florida. Quarterly.

Adam L. Schiff is Assistant Editor of Biofeedback. Look for more articles by Adam on collection development in future issues.

Federal Information Policy in the 1990's

by Steven Carter-Lovejoy

The Coalition on Government Information (COGI) was founded in the mid-1980's to help stem the pattern of loss of access to government information. Members include library and information organizations like the Special Libraries Association and the American Library Association and a variety of consumer and public advocacy groups. Operating out of ALA's Washington Office, COGI identifies and calls attention to all efforts to limit access to government information, lobbies for government action to improve (or not lose) access, and acts as a clearinghouse for information, people, and organizations.

On January 9, 1989, COGI held a meeting entitled "Access to Government Information: Strategies and Actions for the Next Administration." Held in Washington, D.C. at a time when ALA Midwinter brought lots of librarians to the city, the meeting was designed to call the incoming Bush administration's attention to an agenda on government information policy. After introductory presentations the gathering of 200-300 people divided into small groups to discuss goals and strategies for one of 14 broad problem areas. The groups reported back to the reconvened gathering, and several Congressional aides then responded to the ideas and issues presented.

Despite considerable overlap, the 14 themes demonstrate a frighteningly broad scope of government limitation to public information. Following are just four of the topics:

Contracting out federal libraries. Despite librarian uproar, the privatization of federal libraries continued throughout the Reagan administration. Major libraries turned over to

contractor operation include the Departments of Energy, HUD, and Labor; the Bureau of the Census; the National Atmospheric and Oceanographic Administration; and most of NASA. Unfortunately, a contractor environment is unlikely to provide staff with the longitudinal knowledge of the missions, programs, and functions of the parent agency which are necessary for effective information support to policy officials and for maintenance of specialized information collections. Since federal contracting regulations forbid federal employees from directly supervising contractor employees, effective monitoring of contractor performance is difficult.

National Security classification. Since World War II the government's classification of information based on national security considerations has continuously expanded. The huge number of classified items, roughly 15 million per year during the 1980's, creates enormous administrative burdens. Problems facing the federal government include the backlog of security clearance investigations for officials who need to use the information, costly systems for maintenance and control of the materials, and inhibited flow of information for decision making (see the Iran-Contra affair, for example). Ironically, espionage and leaks are made easier. Justice Potter Stewart was quoted as saying, "When everything is classified, then nothing is classified. ...secrecy can best be preserved only when credibility is truly maintained."

Toxics Right To Know legislation. The Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know

Continued on page 7

Continued from page 6

Act, passed as Title III of the reauthorized Superfund program in 1986, gives citizens the right to know about hazardous and toxic chemicals used and released in their communities. The legislation requires each governor to establish a state emergency response commission, which must in turn designate local emergency planning districts and committees. Facilities required under OSHA regulations to prepare material safety data sheets - which provide information about toxic materials used in the facilities, including their hazards and emergency treatment - must also submit them to the SERC, LEPC, and local fire department. Facilities are also required to report an "emergency and hazardous chemical inventory form," which will be made available to the public. Information about routine chemical releases will also be made available to the public through print and electronic means. Also, EPA must set up an online database to facilitate public access to the inventory of toxics it collects; this is now expected to be available this spring. Though this legislation provides sweeping, precedent-setting protection for public health and safety, it has gone virtually unnoticed by the public. It provides an encouraging counterpoint to most of the issues followed by COGI, but its implementation must be closely watched.

Science and technology policy. Since 1979, strategic export controls have included restrictions on the export of "sensitive but unclassified" technical information, and with growing concern over trade deficits there is movement toward expanding this category to include information that is "commercially valuable" as well. Inevitably, however, attempts to prevent information from being transferred abroad result in measures which also prevent its disclosure at home. Librarians are increasingly having to choose between being an accomplice in withholding information or denying informa-

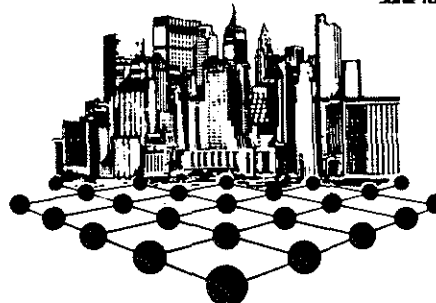
tion to everyone, citizen and alien alike. Considerable evidence indicates that the restriction of information flow is strangling our own research endeavors, and that the increased productivity in research resulting from easing restrictions would more than offset whatever advantage our competitors might gain.

One of the introductory speakers, John Shattuck, pointed out that most federal information policy issues can be most productively approached from an economic rather than a civil libertarian perspective -- a heartening strategy in times of tight budgets and Republican administrations. Especially encouraging was the response of several of the Congressional aides to the meeting convener, who had engaged in some almost rote Bush-bashing under the presumption that more Bush would be the same as more Reagan. Insiders then, and now, think that the Bush administration may bring some new attitudes to federal information policy. More years of Republicans may not mean more years of information strangulation.

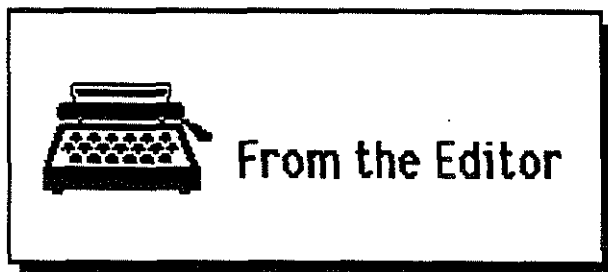
Steven Carter-Lovejoy is at Virginia Commonwealth University Libraries, VCU Box 2033, Richmond, VA 23284-2033

Special
Libraries
Association
80th Annual Conference

New York City
June 10-15, 1989



**User and Information Dynamics:
Managing Change**



by Steven L. Sowell

In this issue of *Biofeedback* you will find two substantial articles by Steven Carter-Lovejoy and Adam Schiff, Assistant Editor. Both are good examples of the type of material I hope to include more often. Adam is working on several other pieces on collection development that will be of strong interest to members of the Division. Steven provided his excellent report on the COGI meeting unsolicited. I hope that more of you are willing to do the same. In order to make *Biofeedback* an effective communication tool among the members of the Biological Sciences Division, we must let each other know what we are doing, what we find interesting and useful, and what kinds of information we need. Send me your ideas!

Please note a correction for an error I made in the last issue: Adam Schiff was an SLA Scholarship winner, not the recipient of BSD's student stipend award.

This issue was composed with WordPerfect 5.0 and printed on a HP LaserJet Series II printer. What do you think?

One of the goals I set this year for *Biofeedback* was to include advertising to recover up to 25% of the cost of each issue. Despite several requests for information about advertising rates, I have not had much success. Perhaps members can assist me in this effort by suggesting *Biofeedback* to potential advertisers. If you have names and addresses of businesses to suggest, please send them to me. I have

included the current rates for your information:

Full page: \$60.00

Half page: \$40.00

Quarter page: \$30.00

Advertisers must provide camera ready copy.

Reminder: be sure to complete and return the two questionnaires included in this issue. Your opinions are needed by the Professional Development Committee and you will want to be included in BSD's Directory.

In the next issue there will be information about the Division's plans for the Annual Conference in New York. Watch for it!

Student Tickets for Annual Conference

The Executive Board of the Biological Sciences Division voted at its meeting in Denver to provide additional support for students attending the Annual Conference. In addition to the student selected in the Division's SLA Student Conference Award, the Biological Sciences Division will make two free tickets available for students for each of the ticketed events the Division sponsors at the Annual Conference. These tickets may be applied for during the Conference pre-registration period. For more information, write Elisabeth Davis, University of Illinois, Biology Library, 101 Burrill Hall, 407 S. Goodwin, Urbana, IL 61801.

Upcoming SLA Conferences

80th Annual Conference

June 10-15, 1989, New York, NY

Winter Meeting

January 24-27, 1990, St. Louis, MO

81st Annual Conference

June 9-14, 1990, Pittsburgh, PA

Winter Meeting

January 24-26, 1991, Washington, DC

BSD PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT NEEDS SURVEY

The SLA annual meeting concludes with one day devoted to Division-specific professional development programs. The Biological Sciences Division (BSD) Professional Development Committee was asked by the Executive Board to survey BSD members about their needs or desires for BSD sponsored programs. Please complete and return this form by April 15, 1989 to:

Ann Campbell, Professional Development Committee Chair
Health Sciences Library
East Carolina University
Greenville, North Carolina 27834

1. Name:
2. Business Address:
3. Do you want BSD to sponsor a professional development program at the SLA annual meeting? _____yes_____no
4. If you answered "yes" to Question 3, please rank (#1 being "most important") those programs that would be of interest to you. Your suggestions of specific topics are especially welcome.

_____ Searching the database _____
(Please name the base. Ex: Toxline, IPAB, BIOSIS)

_____ Searching on the vendor _____
(Please name vendor. Ex: NLM, STN, Dialog, etc.)

_____ Medical topics, specifically _____

_____ Biological topics, specifically _____

_____ Agricultural topics, specifically _____

(continued on next page)

_____ Library science topics, specifically _____

_____ Others, specifically _____

5. I want Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for this program. _____ yes _____ no.

6. I want this program to meet:
MLA certification _____ yes _____ no.

Other certification _____ yes _____ no. Name _____

7. This program should be _____ half _____ full day in length.

8. I /my organization would be willing to pay for this program:

_____ \$25 or less _____ \$26-\$50 _____ \$51-\$75

_____ \$76-\$100 _____ \$101-\$125 _____ over \$125

9. Attendance at the SLA annual meeting.

_____ I attend every year.

_____ I frequently attend.

_____ I would consider attending if an attractive BSD professional development program is offered.

_____ I rarely attend.

_____ I never attend.

10. Comments:

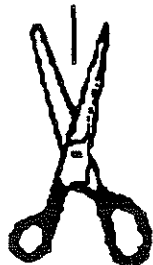
Biological Sciences Division Membership Directory

The Biological Sciences Division Executive Board has asked the Membership Committee to produce a Directory of BSD members which will provide more information than *Who's Who in Special Libraries*. Please complete this form and return it before April 7, 1989, to:

Rita Fisher, Membership Committee Chair
Washington State University
Owen Science and Engineering Library
Pullman, WA 99164-3200

Please type or print.

1. Name:
2. Business address:
3. Business telephone:
4. Home address:
5. Home telephone:
6. E-Mail addresses:
7. Telefacsimile telephone number:
8. Library/information center name:
9. Community served:
10. Major subject areas of collections:
11. External loan policies:
12. Network membership(s) and library symbol(s):



Publication Schedule

Biofeedback is published four times a year. Issues will be mailed on the fifteenth of February, May, August, and November.

Deadlines for submitting materials:

February issue: January 15

May issue: April 15

August issue: July 15

November issue: October 15

Send all material to the Editor.

Editor: Steven L. Sowell, Biology Library, Indiana University, JH A304, Bloomington, IN 47405; 812/855-9792; BITNET: SOWELL@IUBACS; FAX: 812/855-6612.

Assistant Editor: Adam Schiff, Science Library, Campus Box 184, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309-0184; 303/492-1859



Chair's Report	1
Review Sources for Zoo Libraries	3
Federal Information Policy	6
From the Editor	8
Student Conference Tickets	8
Directory Questionnaire	9

Biofeedback accepts sponsorship of mailing, printing, and other services. Inquiries regarding *Biofeedback* sponsorship or advertising should be sent to the Editor.

Biological Sciences Division
Special Libraries Association
c/o Steven L. Sowell, Editor
Biofeedback
1810 Southdowns Drive
Bloomington, IN 47401

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Bloomington, IN
Permit No. 274