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# Biofeedback

*Biological Sciences Division  
Special Libraries Association*

Volume 22, Number 1  
Summer 1996

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## REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Kay Collins

As I attempt to write this, there have already been two false fire alarms set off by someone in the building. The second summer session is just beginning so it can't be an attempt to avoid studying for a final exam. It does break up one's concentration. Now to the important information.

During the past year under the able leadership of Lucy Rowland, the Biological Sciences Division embarked upon many new initiatives. This year, it is the work of the members of the Division to consolidate those initiatives into on-going activities while continuing on with the regular division business.

### NEW SECTION:

At the annual Conference in Boston, the issue of whether to form a new division of SLA to represent the health sciences was debated in Division Cabinet at great length. There were numerous issues concerning procedure and whether or not a new division would fill a unique niche in SLA. By a very close vote, it was decided not to create a new division. Whereupon the petition presented to Division Cabinet by the Biological Sciences Division to form a new Medical Section within the Division was granted.

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Many people worked very hard on this project and Nancy Bryant will lead its formative activities. I have asked our Chair-elect, Fred Roper to be the Board's liaison with this section. With his many years of activity within the medical field, he will provide outstanding assistance to this group. Joanne Boorkman, former Chair of this Division, will be our liaison with the Medical Libraries Association.

This new section will work with the next program planning committee to coordinate programming that meets the needs of these Division members and those members of SLA who expressed a need for programming in the medical area. We look forward to hearing from them in forthcoming issues of Biofeedback and through the activities they plan for the coming years.

#### NEW NAME AND SCOPE NOTE?:

One of the outcomes of the many discussions surrounding the new section was the possible need to change the name of the Biological Sciences Division and its scope note to be more reflective of the subject content of the Division. Other divisions are doing likewise to avoid confusion in the future and to better delineate the various subjects of divisions and attempt to avoid unnecessary overlaps.

#### SEATTLE PROGRAM PLANS:

The planning for the content of annual program in Seattle is almost complete. The committee, under Chair Pat Murphy, has worked hard to provide a program we know you will find valuable and interesting. We will keep you up to date through the year.

Geeth Rao has also arranged an outstanding CE course for you in creative intelligence. And a tour is set to the botanic gardens.

Many of you have already seen the call for Contributed Papers issued for the coming year. This part of the program just keeps getting better. The focus on research by colleagues lends a very unique aspect to the annual conference.

#### NEW COMMITTEE:

In light of the importance of programming to the Division, the rising costs of providing outstanding presentations and speakers, the relationship of the Division to its supporting vendors has grown in importance. Requests from members for updates on vendor products which they use in their libraries has prompted the Board to discuss the formation of a new Vendor Relations

Committee. This group will work closely with both the Fund Development and Program Committees to provide these updates at future annual conferences.

#### BY-LAWS CHANGES PROPOSED:

At the most recent Board of Directors meetings, it was proposed that the Division split the position of Secretary/Treasurer into two. The growth in responsibilities for both activities is helping to create such a proposed change. The By-Laws Committee is formulating these changes and will present them to the membership for a vote.

#### COMMITTEE STRUCTURES:

For the last few years it has been the aim of the Board to try to develop Division positions and committee structures so that all the work did not fall upon a few people. This also allows more members to be truly active and willing to serve. The Contributed Papers Committee has for the last few years worked under a system whereby the members help select their Chair and

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a Chair-select. I personally have worked under a similar structure in another organization and have found it to be very supportive of a mentoring relationship. It provides continuity to the committee and its activities while fostering new member activity.

Fred Roper and I will be working with other committees, where appropriate, to develop this concept further.

#### PERSONAL CHANGES:

Things certainly have changed since I agreed to run for election as Chair of this Division. When I agreed, work was very busy and budgets adequate. In the last couple of years, like everyone else, we have been losing staff, going through reorganization, changing what we do and how we do it. Keeping up with this very busy Division created some real challenges for me. Finally, I found time to take some vacation and have spent that time working on developing methods for keeping up with such an active group of people.

Fred Roper and I are setting regular times to talk over the activities and see what needs to be done. His active support will benefit not only me but will prepare him for his term as chair. Hopefully, I can support him as much as he is supporting me. I am trying to develop the same working relationship with Fred that I hope the committees develop with their own members.

In addition to my regular, growing work assignments, I have been working with faculty here to assist Russian epidemiologists in their task of studying the various health issues with which their country must cope.

During part of the month of September, I will be in Russia providing training to Russian epidemiologists, jurists and scholars. The University of California, Irvine in conjunction with Russian scholars, is developing what we call a Cyberlibrary project. Through various means, including cooperative Home

Pages, education, communication and publication will be jointly fostered. Though extra work, this type of creative effort and the opportunity to work with these individuals has been exciting. As this develops, I will be give reports to members on working in an international environment.

During September while I am gone, Fred Roper has agreed to be available to provide leadership to the Division.

### 1996 BSD ELECTION RESULTS

Chair Elect: Fred Roper, Dean of the College of Library and Information Science, University of South Carolina

Secretary/Treasurer: Janet Chisman, Public Services Librarian for Owen Science & Engineering Library, Washington State University

The Nominations and Elections Committee again wishes to thanks all four candidates who agreed to run, and congratulates the Division's newly elected officers.

Barry Brown, Nominations and Elections Committee Chair

#### CORRECTIONS

**Biofeedback: v.21, no.4 Spring 1996 page 3.** In "SLA and the Health Sciences: A Reprise" the founding date of the Biological Sciences Division should have been given as 62 (not 66) years.

**Biofeedback: v.21, no.4 Spring 1996 page 16.** The reviewer, Kirsten Shelstad works in the University of New Mexico Family & Community Medicine Department

### LOOKING FOR AN ASSISTANT EDITOR

The Editor of Biofeedback is looking to an Assistant Editor to help in the production and distribution of Biofeedback. The duties of the Assistant Editor include arranging for the printing of Biofeedback and mailing the issues to the membership via U.S. Postal Service Bulk Mail. If you are interested in working for the Division in a meaningful way by becoming the Assistant Editor of Biofeedback, please contact John Tebo at [John.Tebo@uc.edu](mailto:John.Tebo@uc.edu).

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## ANNUAL REPORT PRESENTED AT THE BIO BUSINESS MEETING ON JUNE 11, 1996

Lucy Rowland  
Past-Chair

If there is a word that describes the biological sciences division for this past year it is "teamwork."

**TEAMWORK** in program planning. The 1996 Conference Program Committee ably headed by Anna McGowan, has brought together a series of programs that can only be described as fantastic. This afternoon's program on Biodiversity, featuring Father of Ecology Dr. Eugene Odum, the Smithsonian's Director of Biodiversity Don Wilson, and Gladys Cotter from the National Biological Service is an example of the high quality of work that Anna and her committee have delivered.

**TEAMWORK** in fundraising. Larry Kelland and his committee raised a record amount this year from fourteen generous vendors. Please be sure to thank those who are here today and also to stop by their exhibits as well.

**TEAMWORK** in recognition of members. David Duggar and the Membership Committee have expended a great deal of effort in continuing to study the make-up of our membership, what they are interested in, and how long they have belonged to our division. In concert with the Awards Committee, we now honor our Landmark Members who are listed in your program today. These are people who have contributed to the division SLA and the profession for many, many years and it is now our turn to recognize and applaud those contributions. This is also the first year we will honor an outstanding individual with that distinguished Member Award.

**TEAMWORK** in supporting the division's activities. In spite of the disappointing recommendation of the Division Cabinet Committee to form a provisional Health Sciences Division, and the Division Cabinet Chair's decision to deny establishing a Medical Section within our division at this time, we have seen numerous individuals work to strengthen and support us throughout the year. Nancy Bryant coordinated the medical section petition with Sue Kaczor and obtained over 50 signatures of medical librarians in support. The Health Sciences Division petition by contrast was signed mostly by librarians with no interest in medicine. Our CE course on Saturday was full, as are our field trips on Thursday. There is no dearth of leaders, contributors, and participants in the Biological Sciences Division.

**TEAMWORK** in inter-divisional activities. I am very proud of our continued record of collaboration with other Divisions. We are cosponsoring programs this year with Environment and Resource Management ( 2 sessions and field trip); Geography & Map ( 1 session); Social Sciences ( 2 sessions); Pharmaceutical ( 1 session); Natural History Caucus ( 1 session and field trip); Women's Issues Caucus ( 1 session); and Gay & Lesbian Caucus ( 2 sessions). We are co-sponsoring networking events with Aerospace, Chemistry, ERM, Military, Nuclear Sciences, and Science and Technology. Cosponsoring signals a commitment to all of SLA and shows that are programs are of interest to a broad audience.

This has not been an easy year, but it has been one where I have seen officers, past officers, committees and their chairs, and individual members give their all, and then redouble it when asked again. The Biological Sciences Division is viable and strong, and its legacy is its members who have shown immense loyalty and hard work in the face of adversity and great challenge. I am proud to have had the honor to have been the Chair of such a dedicated group of true professionals who have shown integrity, honesty and grit under the most difficult conditions.

Thank you for all of the support you have given to me and to your Division.

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## MEDICAL SECTION FORMED IN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES DIVISION

Lucy Rowland, Past-Chair

The petition for a Medical Section was first discussed in Spring, 1995 and was submitted in April, 1996 to the BIO Executive Board. Fifty-two members of the Division, including past and present officers and active SLA members with interests in medicine and medical librarianship, affirmed their desire to establish and support the new section. After examining the petition and determining that it conformed to Division Guidelines, the Board endorsed the request and forwarded the petition to Barb Spiegelman, Division Cabinet Chair, in mid-April.

By mid-May, per Division Guidelines, Barb replied that she was unable to approve the Section at that time. There were two reasons given: The Division Cabinet Advisory Committee's report regarding formation of a unit to address health sciences needed to be reviewed, and priority was given to Division Cabinet's need to respond to the report. Thus, BIO's petition for a Medical Section remained on Barb's desk: valid, still eligible for approval, but awaiting the outcome of the Advisory Committee's report and how Division Cabinet acted upon it.

Everyone anticipated that the Division Cabinet meeting would be a difficult one. To ease some of the tension and clarify issues, Barb held a special meeting with the identified stakeholders from selected Divisions, plus representatives from the group that had put forward the petition for a Health Sciences Division. Jim Tchobanoff, SLA Bylaws Committee Chair, was available to explain the technical issues. For those in the room who had limited or no experience operating under parliamentary procedure, these issues were intricate and difficult to understand. The same held true in the Division Cabinet meeting.

The Advisory Committee recommended that a Health Sciences Division be formed, but stipulated provisional, rather than full, status for three years. The recommendation went on to read: "Full divisional status may be approved upon achievement of 100 members (under the May 1996 Guidelines), demonstrated ability to work cooperatively within the SLA community, and a revised scope note." While compromise was undoubtedly the Committee's intent, the Board could not act upon it as written because the SLA Bylaws do not provide that body with the power to do so. Most importantly, the Board cannot create a new division without an acceptable scope note, or with the promise that an unacceptable one is to be rewritten, so as not to overlap with that of existing divisions. This was indeed the situation with the proposed division's scope note as originally submitted.

Before the Board of Directors could consider the matter, the next step in the process was for Division Cabinet to act upon the Advisory Committee's report and recommendations. In reality, Cabinet's choices were limited to accepting the report (acknowledging it had been submitted, but not endorsing any part of it), or not approving it. A vote to approve the report and send the recommendations to the Board, while appearing to be an option, was not technically acceptable and the Board would not act on it. Therefore, for the proposed division petitioners, the options were to 1. write and submit a new scope note for the Cabinet meeting in Boston, or 2. request that Cabinet delay its decision on the matter until Winter Meeting, 1997, allowing them time to address the problems associated with the scope note.

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Division Cabinet convened on Tuesday, June 11 at 5:30 pm and after voting unanimously to accept the report, voted not to delay consideration of the question until January, but to settle the matter that evening. A motion was then made for Cabinet to approve the report and forward it to the SLA Board. The ensuing discussion was long and arduous, but quite orderly. Much credit is due Barb Spiegelman, Division Cabinet Chair, who conducted deliberations according to parliamentary procedure while also clarifying options at each step. Even after hearing why the Advisory Committee's recommendations were technically unacceptable to the Board, Cabinet remained sharply divided on the issue of endorsing them. Many members voiced skepticism as to why the recommendations could not go forward and be approved by the Board as written. Such speakers indicated that if the Committee's recommendations seemed reasonable to them, SLA Bylaws should accommodate what the Committee had stipulated. Throughout the discussion, Jim Tchobanoff and DiDi Pancake, serving as parliamentarian, attempted to address questions and concerns in terms of what SLA Bylaws and Procedures allow and do not allow.

Finally, a motion was made to send forward a recommendation to the Board to establish a Health Sciences Division using the original, broad scope note. Barb Spiegelman announced before the vote was taken that the Cabinet would "own the outcome of the vote," thereby directly informing individual members that it was time for disagreements over the issue to come to an end. The vote was taken with Cabinet members standing, 21 for the motion and 22 against it. Thus the motion failed and along with it, the proposal to establish a new division.

In her last official act as Division Cabinet Chair, Barb Spiegelman reiterated that she had a petition from the Biological Sciences Division to establish a Medical Section. This petition conformed to Division Guidelines and all requirements had been satisfied, with all names having been validated. Noting that its scope did not overlap that of any other existing SLA unit, as per Division Guidelines, she established the Medical Section of the Biological Sciences Division.

This meeting brought to closure the issue of establishing a unit within SLA to accommodate members with interest in the health sciences. The Medical Section will provide a formal architecture for what we as a Division have done for decades in being the organizational home of choice for health sciences library professionals. It is inclusionary, not exclusionary.

The much broader impact of the two year long debate is that the Special Committee on Formation of Units, chaired by Charlene Baldwin, has established needed and prescribed structure to the Guidelines for Formation of New Divisions that emphasizes communication, oversight, and responsibilities of petitioners, temporary officers, and SLA leadership. These guidelines will serve to stabilize the present SLA Division structure. A report of the Bylaws Committee, submitted at the same time, clarifies the correct placement of processes and rules between Bylaws and Procedures. These are important and sweeping changes.

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The Medical Section is a viable alternative with a core of members who have long been active in SLA, in Divisions or Chapters, or both. Anyone who feels a need for a "place" knows that she or he can join the Medical Section to fulfill that. The Section's first Chair, Nancy Bryant of Morehouse School of Medicine, is working on details for establishing a structure for activities, including programs and leadership development, with BIO leaders and committees and with SLA staff. The Section's annual business meeting will take place in Seattle, at some time prior to the BIO annual business meeting on Tuesday, June 10. These are critical first steps.

The Biological Sciences Division is a division with long history, and we will continue to move forward with our usual programs and activities. We look forward to a future with less controversy and where we can concentrate our efforts on productive, career-enhancing activities, in a cooperative and collegial atmosphere. The new Medical Section will be active in program planning at annual meetings and will report its activities in Biofeedback. I anticipate exciting years ahead as it develops, and I look forward to seeing it grow and prosper as part of the Division, and to the benefit of SLA.

## MEDICAL SECTION REPORT

Nancy Bryant,  
Medical Section Organizing Chair

I am pleased to announce that health sciences librarians and all other members who are interested now have an authorized "niche" in the Special Libraries Association, within the Biological Sciences Division--the Medical Section.

The Medical Section of the Biological Sciences Division was established at the Division Cabinet Meeting on Tuesday, June 11, 1996 in Boston. Nancy Bryant (nbryant@msm.edu) is the first Section Chair. The list of BIO members who are signatories of the Medical Section petition, and who are in the January renewal cycle or are in the July cycle and have paid dues in June, will automatically be listed in Who's Who as Section members. Any BIO member who would like to join the Medical Section may do so for free by writing the information on his/her invoice, or by calling Taunya Ferguson (202-265-9317 ext. 656) or e-mail taunya@sla.org. Membership in the Section is at no cost, but you must be a member of BIO to join.

The Medical Section's purpose, as stated in our petition scope note, is to "serve as a forum for those BSD members who are engaged or interested in the exchange of information in the biomedical and health sciences, and the acquisition, organization, dissemination and use of such information in all formats."

The new Medical Section, under the umbrella of the Biological Sciences Division, draws on the strength of this

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firmly established unit of SLA with over 650 members, and benefits from its smooth functioning structure, committed team resources, and efficient communications avenues, including Biofeedback and BSDNET-L, the division listserv on the Internet. While the division, in my opinion, has consistently given weight to medical/health sciences issues in conference program planning, the new section will provide interested librarians an official vehicle for input, productivity and participation.

Members of the Medical Section include those BSD members who signed the petition that was submitted to SLA this Spring. Any BSD member may join the section at no extra cost, by designating "Medical Section" on your membership form, or by contacting Taunya Ferguson at SLA headquarters. As organizing chair, I invite all others to choose our new section as well.

Please let me know if you may be willing to volunteer to assist the Medical Section in its inaugural year, during which we will be formulating directions and focus. I am excited about the prospects for our new endeavor, and look forward to hearing from you.

Nancy Bryant, Medical Section Organizing Chair  
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## GOVERNMENT RELATIONS UPDATE

Susan C. Curtis  
Government Relations Liaison

The future of the Government Printing Office became more uncertain recently with a Department of Justice opinion. Walter Dellinger, of the DoJ Office of Legal Counsel, states that the current statute requiring "all Executive Branch agencies' printing and duplicating to be procured by or through the GPO" violates the constitutional principles of separation of powers. In his memorandum dated May 31st, Mr. Dellinger appears to support President Clinton when the President expressed concerns in July 1994 requiring the Executive Branch agencies to secure certification from the Public Printer before initiating the production of federal publications.

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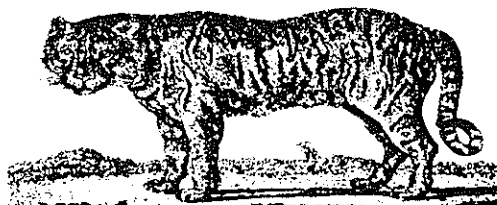
In another move designed to limit the power of the GPO, the House of Representatives approved a plan to institute a Document Management System that would decrease the members' reliance on printed documents and increase their use of electronic information. The system will be developed by the Office of the Clerk. NTIS continues to circle in the shadows. The Office of Management and Budget is proposing that Executive Branch agencies become the central storage and dissemination point for Executive Branch information rather than the Government Printing Office. The OMB supports the scheme whereby agencies make distribution arrangements with depositories directly. Wayne P. Kelly, Superintendent of Documents, recently pointed out that "Vital and valuable Federal information is being transferred from the public domain to organizations with exclusive distribution rights at an alarming rate." He cited the U.S. Industrial Outlook, which the Commerce Department formerly issued, as an example of a title for which NTIS now claims copyright ownership. NTIS is issuing the title in conjunction with McGraw Hill.

The Census Bureau has also entered into a printing agreement with a nongovernmental entity, a trade association. It recently issued a book, *Hispanics-Latinos: Diverse People in a Multicultural Society*, through the auspices of the National Association of Hispanic Publications. The volume contains the Current Population Reports on the Hispanic community. Publication was funded, in part, by Phillip Morris Companies. Copyright is held by the association.

In May the Senate Judiciary Committee conducted hearings on S. 1284, the NII Copyright Protection Act of 1995. Robert Oakley, Professor of Law at Georgetown Law Center and Director of the Georgetown Law Library, presented seven amendments to the bill that he argued would maintain balance in the Copyright Act. Professor Oakley testified as a representative of the Digital Future Coalition, a group of major technology and telecommunication corporations, scholarly societies, consumer groups, schools and libraries.

The Joint Committee on the Library of Congress is reviewing the Library's management and operations. It commissioned the consulting firm of Booz-Allen & Hamilton to evaluate the Library's mission, operations and resources. In the firm's estimation, the Library of Congress could be an independent archive/knowledge developer and continue developing and maintaining cataloging and preservation. Alternatively, the Library could focus on access to information. The report pointed out that the latter direction may entail dispersing the collections among many libraries.

By now most of you know that the Medline crisis stemming from a General Accounting Office edict is over. Indexing has resumed and once again our researchers can find the bibliographic records for recent medical and bioscience literature in the database. Many thanks to Karen Patrias for giving us the good news.



## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS FOR BOSTON MEETING

Lucy Rowland, Jeanne LaRocco, and Douglas MacBeth

The Biological Sciences Division arranged or co-sponsored six programs at the SLA Conference in Boston. This proved to be a very successful conference with great attendance at our sessions!

**ENDOCRINE DISRUPTORS IN THE ENVIRONMENT: OUR STOLEN FUTURE?** was arranged by ERM with BIO as a co-sponsor, with Dr. Theo Colborn of the World Wildlife Fund and Dr. Ana Soto from Tufts University. They discussed how commonly used pesticides are concentrated in animal tissues and mimic estrogens and anti-androgens, lowering fertility and irreversibly damaging endocrine function. Dr. Colborn is author of *OUR STOLEN FUTURE: ARE WE THREATENING OUR FERTILITY, INTELLIGENCE, AND SURVIVAL?* (New York : Dutton, 1996). Corporate Sponsors: Knight Ridder, CRC Press, Institute for Scientific Information

**TRACKING AND EVOLVING SYSTEM : THE CHANGING HEALTH CARE ENVIRONMENT** was moderated by BIO member Lorri Zipperer. Dr. Eleftheria Maratos-Flier, a practicing physician/researcher with Harvard School of Medicine and Joslin Diabetes Center, discussed how managed care and traditional fee for service affects patients and quality of care. Dr. Loren Lomasky, a philosopher and libertarian at Bowling Green State University, provided a lively argument about the obligations of society and the state do not extend to distributing health care equally to every-one. This discussion was by no means typical of an SLA program! Corporate sponsors: Majors Scientific Books and University Microfilms International.

**AIDS INFORMATION NETWORKS AND EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS: COMMUNITY AND NATIONAL RESOURCES FOR THE '90s** was Co-sponsored by the Biological Sciences Division, Social Sciences Division, and the Gay & Lesbian Caucus. Panelists included: Sara McLanahan, Information Specialist, CDC National AIDS Clearinghouse; Pat Shotton, Director, Canadian Public Health Association, National AIDS Clearinghouse; Eileen D'Andrea, Information Specialist, Academy for Educational Development, AIDS Communication Support Project, and Michelle Hunter, Research Coordinator, Multicultural AIDS Coalition.

The panelists provided four differing point of views on HIV/AIDS Information and Resources. From a governmental agency, a non-government organization (NGO), and a community-based organization (CBO), and an organization supporting all three, each panelist covered the types of information services they provide, the primary audience for these services, and the vast amount of gray literature in this area. Corporate sponsors: EBSCO, Wiley, and Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information (CISTI).

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## **BIOINFORMATICS: DIRECTING THE FLOW OF GENETIC INFORMATION**

Janan T. Eppig, Ph.D. and Martin Ringwald, Ph.D. of the Jackson Laboratory's Mouse Genome Informatics Project described and demonstrated their work on the Mouse Genome Database (MGD) and the Gene Expression Database (GXD), respectively. It is envisioned that with the integration of these two databases, one being a comprehensive source of information on the experimental genetics of the laboratory mouse (MGD), the other providing a graphical interface for examining patterns of gene expression during mouse embryonic development, (GXD), that the scientific community will have available to it a valuable tool in their work on the mouse as a model of disease research.

Mouse Genome Database <http://www.informatics.jax.org/mgd.html>

Gene Expression Database <http://www.informatics.jax.org/gxd.html>

Corporate sponsors: Chemical Abstracts Service.

## **BIODIVERSITY : THE LIBRARY OF LIFE. IS IT GOING THE WAY OF THE CARD CATALOG?**

The Division was fortunate to have 3 outstanding and well known speakers: Dr. Eugene P. Odum, Director Emeritus of the Institute of Ecology, University of Georgia and widely regarded as the Father of Ecology; Dr. Don E. Wilson, Director of Biodiversity, Smithsonian Institution; and Gladys Cotter, Assistant Director for Information and Technology Services at the National Biological Survey. They spoke about sustainable environmental issues and the need for governmental support of programs that encourage biodiversity in a global sense. Ms. Cotter spoke about the National Biological Information Infrastructure, the exchange of biological information. Corporate Sponsors: Natural History Book Service Ltd, Elsevier Science, SilverPlatter, Springer-Verlag.

**LOCALLY MOUNTED ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS IN BIOMEDICAL AND LIFE SCIENCES LIBRARIES: BIO DIVISION CONTRIBUTED PAPERS SESSION.** We had an unprecedented five papers presented, from a very strong field of submissions. These papers considered web-based information, user education, multimedia resources, and biotechnology patent control. Speakers were Barrie Hayes and Diane McKenzie, UNC-Chapel Hill; Cathy Norton and David Remsen, MBL, Woods Hole; Elizabeth Eaton, Susan Albright, and Elaine Almeida, Tufts; Ann Koopman, Thomas Jefferson University; and Meredith Beckhardt, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Corporate Sponsor: Cambridge Scientific Abstracts.

The **BIO Annual Business Meeting** was sponsored by BIOSIS. The 1996/97 Executive Board Meeting was sponsored by Readmore. We are especially grateful to UMI and H.W. Wilson for their generous sponsorship of our first Sunday conference-opening breakfast with ERM and CHE Divisions. Readmore also provided a free lunch for the 40+ attendees at the Woods Hole tour on Thursday, which was a complete and pleasant surprise! We certainly have a wonderful and generous group of corporate sponsors.

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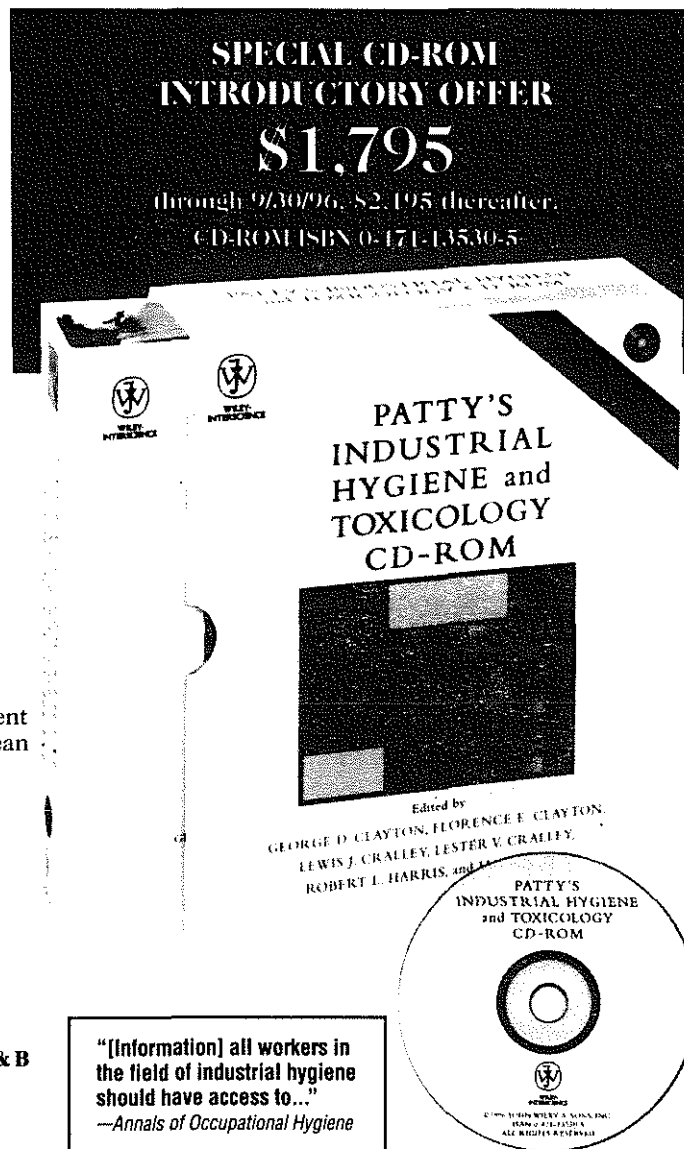
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**ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING  
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES DIVISION  
JUNE 12, 1995  
MONTREAL CANADA**

**Call to order**

Patricia Yocum, chair, called the meeting to order at 7:50 a.m. She welcomed the members and introduced the Executive Board of the division. Forty-seven members signed the meeting attendance list. Ms. Billie Connor was the SLA Board Proctor.

**Minutes**

The Annual Business Meeting minutes of the June 14, 1994, were approved and adopted.

**Treasurer's Report**

Nancy Kozlowski reported that the budget is quite slender and Ms. Yocum noted that the need to budget is critical.

**BIO's 60th Anniversary**

Patricia Yocum read the names of the eighteen charter members of the Biological Sciences Division. She noted the preponderance of health sciences librarians among our members. She also listed people who have been BIO members for more than 50 years, including two who have been members for 58 years.

**Election Results --**

Kay Collins was elected Chair-elect and Toni Powell was elected Director.

**Brief Committee Reports**

**Professional Development**

Karen Kriezman reported on the three programs for the annual conference this year. A CE course selection was based on member survey at the last annual meeting.

Since the BioDome staff are on strike, the planned Field Trip has been changed to the Botanical Garden, lunch and the Insectarium.

A Field Trip to CISTI in Ottawa is scheduled for Thursday.

She submitted revisions to the Professional Development portion of the Procedures Manual.

**Archives**

Dottie Reimenschneider announced that six boxes of materials were sorted as a library school practicum. She needs materials from the 1980's and 1990's and urged former officers and committee chairs to send material to her.

*Continued on page 16*

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#### Awards Committee Report

Ms. Yocum introduced Peggy Jones, the student award winner.

Ms. Patricia Morris, chair of the committee, recused herself from the judging because of a prior business relationship with Ms. Jones.

#### Bulletin Editor

Mr. Adam Schiff thanked Mr. John Tebo and Mr. Larry Kelland. He reported on the non-profit status of the SLA Bulletins with the postal service. SLA headquarters retained a consultant who suggested one change to preserve the non-profit third class status. We may have 75% advertising and retain this non-profit status. He announced that a time lag for mailing will continue with the current postal status of third class.

Mr. Schiff asked for book review volunteers. He also asked publishers to provide review copies.

He announced a new feature with the next issue, Library Profiles, and called for contributions. This is Mr. Schiff's last year as editor.

#### Fund Development

Ms. Rowland, committee chair, introduced the other members of the Fund Development Committee. She reported that there had been 14 contributors this year, seven of whom are new contributors to the BSD. She did a study last summer, at the request of Ms. Yocum, which included approaching 53 instead of 20 vendors with a new brochure to ask for contributions. The bulletin acquired new advertisers as a result of this. Ms. Rowland read the names of the contributors and asked members to thank them at the exhibits.

Ms. Yocum noted that the average contribution is \$280, the highest was \$500. She discussed the competition for contributions among the divisions. Many divisions approach the same vendors for the same pot of money.

#### Membership Committee

David Duggar summarized the results of the 91 surveys that were returned. He will send the survey results to new committee chairs. Condensed results will be published in Biofeedback.. The new brochure publicizes the Division's services to new members. Patricia Yocum discussed the survey the committee conducted.

Publications -- no report

#### BSDNET-L

Liese Tajiri reported that there are 73 members, 10% of the division, on the BSDNET-L. Lisa McManus of NCSU will become co-owner, thus allowing the list to remain on NCSU's computer. The new member brochure contains instructions on "How to Subscribe." Only BSD members are permitted access to the BSDNET-L.

*Continued on page 17*

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#### By-Laws

JoAnne Boorkman reported that the committee has been wrestling with a revision of the Nominations and Elections process. They need to allow the winners sufficient time following the election to travel to the annual meeting. The schedule does not now allow time to give the winners sufficient notice. A draft of the new procedures will go to the SLA by-laws' Committee to ensure compliance with the model By-Laws. The revision will be presented to the membership for vote next year.

Ms. Yocum reported on a proposed change in the Association's By-Laws. The change concerns the executive director of SLA. It is on the agenda of the annual SLA business meeting.

Another change in the SLA By-Laws is also in the works. The BSD Executive Board requested the Board of Directors of the SLA to change the process for petitioning to begin a new division within SLA. The current process has not been updated for 33 years. At this time the Medical Library Division petition may endanger BSD because of the competition for contributions, members and programming.

The intent of the signers of the petition to join the new division is not clear. Those who have already signed it may withdraw their support by writing to Laurie Fournes. Please send a copy of the letter withdrawing support to SLA Headquarters as well. The petition was presented without any background information on the rationale for a new division. Ms. Yocum noted that BSD has had no rump caucuses and no malcontents. The petition leaders have not been members of the BSD, nor have they approached BSD at all. This is odd in the history of SLA. The rationale for this division is presented differently as time passes. It has gone from being a medical division to being a hospital division. The organizer expresses discontent with the Medical Library Association. Ms. Yocum noted that the Medical Division petition has occupied much her time.

Ms. Yocum announced the new Nominating Committee, Barry Brown, Rene Bush, and Judy Wojjick.

Ms. Yocum, now past chair, turned the meeting over to Ms. Rowland, now incumbent chair.

Ms. Rowland reported on issues that will require work in the coming year, including the following:

The proposed Medical division will continue to take up valuable time. She appealed to BSD members to take information back to other members who are not at this meeting. We will use Biofeedback and BSDNET to communicate. She noted that articles on the Medical division and rebuttals were published in the PeachNet and the Sierra Nevada Chapter Newsletters.

We will encourage student recruitment and retention. Try to get students on committees early on in their involvement with SLA.

She thanked Ms. Yocum for her work and gave her a gift on behalf of the Division.  
Ms. Rowland also thanked Eleanor McLean for her work.

She asked for volunteers for committees. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy G. Kozlowski  
Secretary/Treasurer

---

## BYLAWS UPDATE

Lucy M. Rowland  
ByLaws Committee, Chair

The Bylaws Committee (David Duggar; Virginia Lingle; Adam Schiff; Patricia Yocum; Lucy Rowland, Chair) has begun its work for 1996-97.

This group will be examining issues that include rewriting the Division's Scope Note, something which has not been done in a long time.

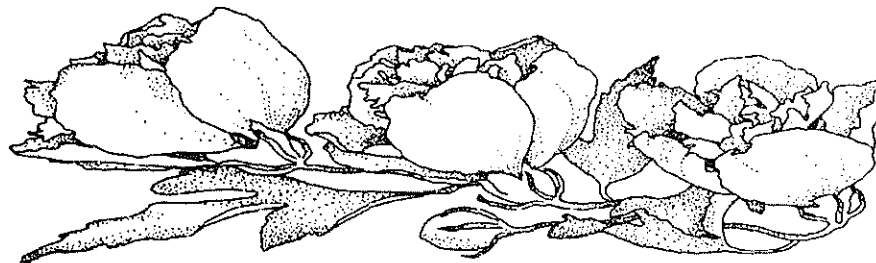
Most SLA members belong to just one or two Divisions and tend to gravitate to their choices intuitively. There are, at this writing, 27 Divisions in SLA, with the loss of two in the last year--Public Utilities and Nuclear Science. Each Division, of course, has a Scope Note that is supposed to describe accurately the interests of its membership. With so many Divisions, this is quite a job.

Divisions come in two forms: subject oriented (by far the most numerous) and issues or situation oriented. Care must be taken in writing a Scope Note not to overlap significantly with another Division's scope, which is most likely to occur with subject oriented Divisions where there are similar interests. The nuances involved can be quite difficult to articulate.

The Committee is attempting to identify the important concepts that help to define our Division and our membership's interests. We are fortunate that there have been several surveys and self-studies performed in the last few years. Once we have a draft in place, we will also be contacting Divisions that have natural overlap, in order to eliminate or minimize possible problems there. This is, as you can see, a convoluted process.

Because a Scope Note change is also a Bylaws change, the rewritten Scope Note will be forwarded to the SLA Bylaws Committee for review, prior to being submitted to the Division membership for a vote. If all goes well, this may be as early as next spring.

This is a very experienced committee. I appreciate that they are willing to serve in such an important endeavor.



## BYLAWS CHANGES

Patricia B. Yocum  
Bylaws Committee

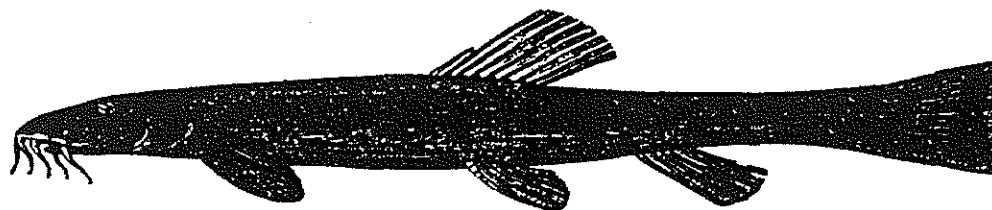
Bylaws are the rules by which a unit operates. They indicate purpose, provide structure, and designate powers and responsibilities. As a type of contract among members bylaws signify group intentions and are fundamental to the orderly conduct of business. From time-to-time bylaws need to be reviewed and, if necessary, revised to reflect changes in intentions and operating conditions.

The Bylaws of the Biological Sciences Division were last revised in 1990. Since then the need to consider changing several parts have presented themselves. Further, recent developments, particularly the creation of a Medical Section and the drive (though failed) to create a separate Health Sciences Division, urge additional review of BIO Bylaws.

The potential changes can be separated broadly into two groups. The first consists of changes recommended by the 1995-96 Bylaws Committee and approved by the Division Executive Board in Boston. The next step is to send this group to the SLA Bylaws Committee for review. Pending approval by that Committee the proposed changes could be presented to the BIO membership for vote early in 1997. If membership approves, the revisions would go into effect by Annual Conference in June 1997. The second group of potential changes is just entering the consideration phase, a period which requires careful thought and broad discussion.

It is possible to yoke the two groups of changes but that would involve deferring action on the first group for at least a year. It would also make a very large package of revisions. A more manageable approach is to divide revision work into two phases and pursue it over two years. The Executive Board of the Division has opted for this course. Patricia Yocum, who served as 1995-96 Bylaws Chair, will continue to oversee movement of the first group. Lucy Rowland, as 1996-97 Bylaws Chair, will oversee handling of the second group. Articles dealing with each group will appear in subsequent issues of Biofeedback, so there will be both time and opportunity for discussion. It is hoped this arrangement to the work will aid understanding and informed voting.

Both Past Chairs will serve on the 1996-97 Division Bylaws. Additional members include David Duggar, Virginia Lingle and Adam Schiff. All members will welcome comments and answer questions. Feel free to discuss your ideas with any (or all!) of them.



## NEW MEMBER PROFILE

**Jerry Schnell** was appointed Director of the Toxicology Information Center (TIC) in May of 1995. TIC is the library for the Center for Research on Occupational and Environmental Toxicology at the Oregon Health Sciences University in Portland. TIC is being developed to respond to inquiries about toxic materials by fielding phone calls from Oregon citizens, workers, and business and health professionals. Jerry has a Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of Nebraska and extensive teaching and research experience in health disciplines.

**Cathy Norton** has been the Director of Libraries for the Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL) and the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) MBL/WHOI Library 1994. Prior to this appointment, Ms. Norton served as the MBL's Director for Information Systems, a position she still holds.

Since 1980, Ms. Norton has held a variety of positions in the MBL/WHOI Library: Library Assistant (1980-82), Assistant Librarian (1982-88), and Director of Library Planning (1989-91). Ms. Norton is also the principal investigator on a number of educational projects at the MBL, including a grant from the National Science Foundation for the MBL's Young Scholars Program and a grant from the National Library of Medicine for the MBL's Medical Informatics course. She also serves as the director of a grant from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute for the MBL/WHOI Library.

Ms. Norton holds a B.S. in Psychology/Biology from Regis College and a Masters of Library Science from Simmons College. She is a member of numerous professional library and computing organizations, including the American Library Association, the International Association of Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers, the American Society of Information Specialists, the Southeastern Massachusetts Medical Consortium, and the Cape and Islands Interlibrary Association. She has served as the Treasurer of the Cape Libraries and Automation Materials Sharing Consortium, and Trustee of NERCOMP and serve as Conference Chair of the New England Computing Center Program. Ms. Norton is the President elect of the Boston Library Consortium which includes MIT, Brown University, Boston University, Boston College, Boston Public Library, Brandeis, University of Massachusetts Libraries, Northeastern University State Library of Massachusetts and Wellesley College.

The MBL/WHOI Library is a national scientific information resource that serves America's biologists and oceanographers. The collection includes 5,000 journal titles in biology and the ocean sciences and a total of 230,000 volumes. The library is linked by the Internet with the world's major universities and has its catalog online and on the WWW (<http://www.mbl.edu>). The MBL/WHOI Library serves five major institutions based in Woods Hole: The Marine Biological Laboratory, The Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, The National Marine Fisheries Service, The United States Geological Survey, and the Sea Education Association.

**Leah H. Anderson** is the new solo librarian for the biotech company DNAX Research Institute of Molecular and Cellular Biology in Palo Alto, CA. Prior to moving to California in February 1996, she worked in the Washington, DC area at a public health library affiliated with Georgetown University. She also participated in the associate program at the National Library of Medicine. She has an MLS from the University of Toronto.

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## **WINIFRED SEWELL, A 50 YEAR LANDMARK MEMBER OF THE BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES DIVISION**

Lucy M. Rowland, Past-Chair

Miss Sewell is a graduate of Washington State University and Columbia University. She received an honorary Doctor of Science degree from the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science in 1979.

From 1946 until 1961, she was Senior Librarian at Squibb Institute of Medical Research in New Jersey. In 1961, Miss Sewell went to the National Library of Medicine, where she was instrumental in the development of MEDLARS, as Medical Subject Headings Specialist, and later as Deputy Chief of the Bibliographic Services Division and Head of the Drug Literature Program.

Miss Sewell has consulted for numerous organizations, including the American Medical Association, Winthrop Laboratories, National Academy of Sciences-National Research Council, National Library of Medicine, National Health Planning Information Center, U.S. Pharmacopeia, and others. She has served as an adjunct faculty member at University of Maryland, College Park, College Library and Information Services and the University of Maryland at Baltimore City, Health Sciences Center.

Miss Sewell was Editor of Unlisted Drugs for 15 years and served as Editor of the Health Affairs Series of the Gale Information Guides. She is a well respected researcher, author, consultant, and teacher.

Miss Sewell served as President of the Special Libraries Association from 1960-61 and was President of the Drug Information Association from 1970-71. She is a Fellow of the Medical Library Association and recipient of MLA's Eliot Prize in 1977 for her book Guide to Drug Information.

Miss Sewell has been a member of the Biological Sciences Division since 1946 and on June 11, 1996, the Division has designated her as a Fifty Year Landmark Member.

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## **MEMBERSHIP HONORED**

Nancy R. Curtis  
Membership Committee, Chair

At the 1996 annual BSD Business Meeting, we honored our members who are celebrating their thirtieth, thirty-fifth, fortieth, and fiftieth years as members of the Division. Two of our members, June Mitchell and Winifred Sewell, were designated Fifty Year Landmark Members. Miss Sewell, a Past President of SLA and Fellow of MLA, attended the business meeting and received a standing ovation from the more than eighty members and friends present. On June 12 at the 1996 SLA Annual Business Meeting, President Jane Dysart presented Winifred Sewell with a "Golden Anniversary Division Membership Award" for her fifty years as a member of our Division.

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## DISTINGUISHED MEMBER AWARD

Lucy Rowland, Chair, 1995-96

When Patricia Yocum assumed the office of Chair of the Biological Sciences Division in 1994 at the Atlanta SLA Conference, I'm sure she never dreamed what lay ahead. Since then, she has faced innumerable challenges to the Division, including the well-documented effort to start a new division that clearly overlaps in the scope and substance of BSD. This was in addition to programming for the Montreal conference and serving in leadership roles for the Division, first as Chair and this year as Past Chair.

For the last two years, Patricia has consistently supported BSD's stance that SLA must abide by its own guidelines and bylaws. She has done this with professionalism and grace, never forgetting that integrity and credibility are far from important to maintaining one's reputation than winning by any means necessary. She has represented us well, and she has set the tone for the Division's conduct within SLA. This has not gone unnoticed. SLA would be well served to have more who subscribe to Patricia's values.

Patricia has, through service to BSD, the Michigan Chapter as Past President, and her home institution, been an inspiration to other librarians. She is an active mentor to students in the library program at Michigan, and she maintains ties with them over time and space. She radiates those qualities that have made her reputation: integrity, hard work, consistency, level-headedness, leadership, compassion. I am honored to present her with this well-deserved award.

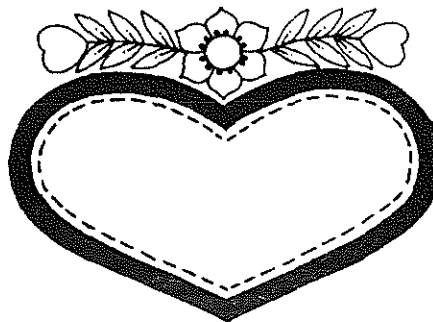
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## WITH HEARTFELT THANKS

Dear Colleagues,

It is a great honor to receive the Division's Distinguished Member Award and especially the first one given. It has been an equally great honor to have worked on your behalf. BIO is a successful division because of the caliber of our members, the consistently high quality of our efforts, and our commitment to helping each other professionally. Thank you very much for your recognition. I look forward warmly to our continued collaboration.

Patricia B. Yocum



## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

Nancy R. Curtis  
Membership Committee, Chair

As of June 30, the Biological Sciences Division has a total of 651 members.

Members on the July-June membership cycle, remember that this is the time to renew your membership. If you have done so recently, thank you!

If you have been waiting to renew your membership, keep in mind that in mid-August, SLA Headquarters will "deactivate" all members on the July-June membership cycle who have not paid their membership dues.

Renewing your membership ensures that you will continue to have access to this listserv, to receive Biofeedback, and to enjoy the other benefits of membership in the Biological Sciences Division of SLA.

Please send your renewal payments to:

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## BSD AWARDS

Barbara Schader  
Awards Committee, Chair

The Biological Sciences Division Annual Business meeting provided another opportunity to recognize some of our outstanding members.

June Mitchell and Winifred Sewell were both honored as Landmark Members for their 50 years of service to and membership with the Biological Sciences Division. We were all disappointed that June was unable to attend this year's meeting. However, we were all quite thrilled that Winifred was able to attend. Lucy Rowland, chair of Biological Sciences Division and a former student of Winifred's made the presentation of the Landmark Members certificate.

Patricia Yokum was the first recipient of the Biological Sciences Division Distinguished Member Award. Patricia has the distinction of being nominated by 3 Biological Science Division Members. Patricia received a certificate which stated "for demonstrating intelligent and resourceful leadership and professionalism." Patricia also received an engraved Revere Bowl as a token of esteem from the membership.

As chair of the Awards Committee, I would like to thank the many members of our division who nominated colleagues for the first Distinguished Member Award. Everyone nominated was very deserving of the honor and I hope that members will continue to submit such high caliber names again next year.

I also would like to thank my committee members, Jack Cooper, Joan DeFato and Gail Yokote.

---

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## File Formats on the INTERNET: A Guide for PC Users

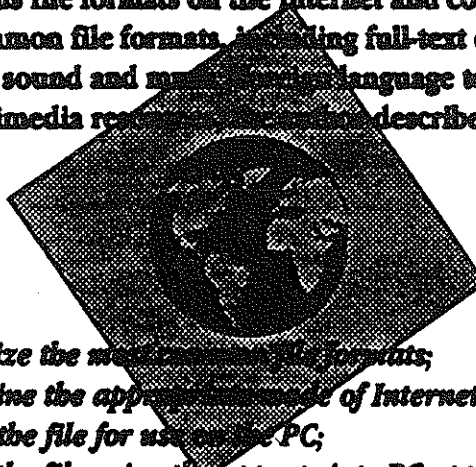
Allison B. Zhang

Experienced Internet users will find this guide a valuable resource! Addressing the techniques needed to successfully use various file formats on the Internet and covering the most common file formats, including full-text documents, graphics, sound and music, foreign language texts, software, and multimedia resources, the author describes how to:

- Recognize the most common file formats;
- Determine the appropriate mode of Internet file transfer;
- Process the file for use on the PC;
- Render the file using the appropriate PC application.

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