

WASHINGTON HOTLINE



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NTIS privatization study. About 100 persons participated in the workshop held July 30 by the National Technical Information Service to discuss privatization alternatives. ALA was well represented, including documents librarians from several academic libraries. The great preponderance of comments were from the library community on the usefulness of NTIS which, as a part of the Commerce Department, provides for the centralized collection, announcement, and dissemination of U.S. government-sponsored research and development reports and translations of foreign technical literature.

Librarians questioned the motives of the Office of Management and Budget in requesting the privatization study, since NTIS already leases its database to commercial firms, and covers its direct costs through such leasing and the selling of reports. Other questions raised were whether agencies and foreign governments would continue to provide reports to a privatized operation, and whether NTIS, if privatized, would continue to archive and make available specialized reports which sell only a few copies.

The Information Industry Association said that NTIS should continue to provide a curtailed, minimal service, but specific value-added services such as newsletters and special searches on the NTIS database should be left to the private sector. More specific explanations of what services would be curtailed and what was meant by "value-added" were requested at the meeting but not provided.

The Commerce Department privatization task force will evaluate comments and make recommendations. The option of a government corporation is being considered seriously by the task force; apparently NTIS feels that the status quo is not an acceptable option to OMB. The eventual decision on privatization will be incorporated into the President's budget to be submitted next January.

A workshop transcript will be available at a later date. A compilation of the comments NTIS received in response to the April 28 FEDERAL REGISTER inquiry is available for \$10 plus a \$3 service charge from Joseph Clark, NTIS Deputy Director, Rm. 4824, Dept. of Commerce, Washington, DC 20230.

ALA commented in a June 6 letter opposing any privatization action which would impair the mission of NTIS. That position was also expressed in a resolution passed by the ALA Council on July 2.

Government information coalition. A July 29 organizational meeting in Washington, D.C., of a Coalition on Government Information attracted 30 individuals representing 20 organizations with a wide range of interests--

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tainly eligible) and can address a wide range of subject categories including: achievement and motivation, character education, classroom behavior and processes, early childhood education, guidance and counseling, individual differences, instructional leadership, learning resources, parental involvement, school management and organization, special education, special populations, subject matter learning, and teacher quality and effectiveness.

4) The finding must have a clear relationship to practice, so that thoughtful readers can readily grasp its significance for their children, family, students, school, or community.

All findings statements should be less than 50 words, with comment or discussion less than 300 words. Each should cite five to eight references that support the finding and provide additional background. Each submission must be accompanied by one copy of each of the cited references.

For more information on the project, for copies of the earlier *What Works* volume, and to request cover sheets to attach to your submission, contact: Ann Swift, Outreach, 304E, Office of Educational Research and Improvement, 555 New Jersey Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20208; (202) 357-6560, 357-6570. ■■

New ACRL/PLA humanities workshops

The Association of College and Research Libraries and the Public Library Association (PLA) have been awarded a grant of \$152,906 to conduct a second series of four workshops, sponsored and funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Applications are now being accepted for these 2-day workshops.

Each application for the workshop must be submitted by a librarian/humanist team. Preference will be given to teams composed of one academic librarian, one public librarian, and one humanities scholar. The workshops will be held in four regions of the United States. Fifteen teams will be accepted for each workshop.

This second series of workshops will be presented in the same format as the seven highly successful workshops conducted in 1984–86. Half of the teams attending the workshops have subsequently applied for grants, and of those applications, two-thirds were awarded funds.

The primary goal of this project is to initiate communication between public and academic librarians and humanities scholars for the purpose of working together on cooperative humanities programming projects and to stimulate them to seek funds for appropriate humanities activities.

Major objectives of the workshops are:

- to assist librarians from public and academic library environments in understanding the constraints and opportunities that affect cooperative planning efforts;
- to assist librarians and humanists in working together cooperatively to program in the humanities, utilizing the complementary resources each can bring to the programming effort;
- to acquaint librarians and humanists with the value and potential impact of humanities programs on the library's program of service;
- to demonstrate how innovative public pro-

grams are designed and produced;

- to encourage librarians to make an assessment of their humanities holdings with a view to developing program themes;
- to assist librarians in preliminary proposal preparation, with particular emphasis on the solicitation of cost-sharing from either local funding or private philanthropy; and
- to explain the particular goals and objectives of the NEH and the work funded by each of the other NEH divisions.

Team applications will be selected based on the following criteria:

- demonstrated philosophical interest in public programming;
- ability to assess the resources and structures of the academic institutions and public librarians in terms of joint programming efforts;
- interest in learning how to develop innovative methods of programming to stimulate interest in the humanities in the general adult public by using the resources of public and academic libraries; and
- potential to work cooperatively.

The major presenter is Julie Virgo, vice-president of the Carroll Group and former executive director of ACRL. Some individual consulting time will be available with Virgo, Thomas Phelps of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and Joseph Parisi, editor of *Poetry* magazine.

The first workshop in Orlando, Florida, November 19–21, 1986, has been filled. Applications for the next three workshops are still being accepted: February 25–27, 1987, in Oracle, Arizona (outside Tucson); April 22–24, 1987, in Boys' Town, Nebraska; and October 14–16, 1987, in the Northeast.

Contact Sandy Donnelly, ACRL, 50 E. Huron, Chicago, IL 60611; (312) 944-6780, for an application form. The application deadline is seven weeks prior to each workshop. ■■

International agricultural database

The University of Missouri-Columbia Libraries have completed the first phase of an extensive database on international agricultural systems.

From 1979 through January 1985 the UMC Small Farms Study Library was located in and administered by the Department of Agricultural Economics. In January 1985 it was moved to the Ellis Library under the administrative guidance of the social science librarian. In October 1985 a computerized database was begun and the name of the collection was changed to the International Agricultural Systems Collection.

The goal of the collection is to store and disseminate information on international agriculture in general, and specifically on small farming systems in developing countries. Two important sub-objectives of the project are: 1) to develop a computerized database of the library's holdings; and 2) to identify fugitive materials in other locations that may be of interest to farming systems researchers both on the UMC campus and on-site in foreign countries.

Resources are also collected from such related fields as agronomy, animal husbandry, communications, economics, engineering, health and nutrition, rural sociology, soil science, and technology. There is also a strong emphasis on materials pertinent to women in development. A printout file is maintained of several active search topics.

The current database was created using the *Revelation* database applications software on an IBM-AT microcomputer. As of August 1986 there were over 3,300 records in the system containing over 20,000 keywords. The system's indexing capabilities permit searching for any combination of characters from any field or from any combination of fields. The structure of the database system permits all of the data entry and searching tasks to be completely menu-driven.

The system also supports case-sensitive help screens, a number of which have been incorporated into this application. Each citation is restricted in length to 64K bytes (about 32 pages); the number of records in the database is limited only by the available disk space. The *Revelation* database package can transfer records or other data in either dBASE II, ASCII, Lotus 1-2-3, or WordPerfect formats.

UMC is willing to lend or photocopy items from the collection through normal interlibrary loan channels to academic, public, or corporate libraries. They encourage the use of the materials either on campus or through lending.

For further information, contact: June L. DeWeese, Social Science Librarian, 2D32 Ellis Library, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65201; (314) 882-6661. ■■

Fulbright librarian exchange, United Kingdom

The U.S.-U.K. Educational Commission in London is now accepting applications for an exchange of professional university and research library staff. The competitive award has been made available under the Fulbright program to provide an opportunity for librarians to broaden their perspectives and enhance cross-cultural skills and insights.

Applications will be accepted from librarians, library administrators, or archivists at four-year colleges and universities or research libraries outside of higher education. Each applicant is responsible for arranging affiliation with a university library, research library, or national library in the United Kingdom. A list of British libraries eligible for participation in the program may be requested from the Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES) in Washington.

Applicants must hold U.S. citizenship and a full-time library post at an academic or major research library. A minimum of five years continuous professional experience is also required. The program

is designed for mid-career professionals who hold positions appropriate to implementing new ideas and insights gained from the exchange experience.

The grant is for a minimum of three months. The grantee may begin the award in September 1987; completion is required before July 31, 1988. Travel expenses are to be deducted from a fixed sum, paid in pounds sterling, designed to be a supplement to the salary maintenance provided by the home institution. The Fulbright Commission in London has established the fixed sum grant for 1987-88 at £3,250. It is expected that the grantee will be on approved leave with full or partial compensation from the home institution.

CIES, which administers the American selection of grantees for the Fulbright Scholar Program, will appoint a review panel to screen and nominate candidates for the award. Final selection is made by the Board of Foreign Scholarships and the U.S.-U.K. Educational Commission in London. Applicants should prepare a project statement describing the nature of the proposed exchange and its

significance to the applicant's professional development.

At the time of application, candidates must submit evidence that arrangements have been worked out with a British university, research library, or national library to host the grantee.

All applications, including references, must be received by CIES before January 2, 1987. For further information, contact: Steven A. Blodgett, Council for International Exchange of Scholars, 11 Dupont Circle, N.W., Washington, DC 20036; (202) 939-5416. ■■

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News from the Field

Acquisitions

• Iowa State University, Ames, has acquired the papers of Dr. Norman Borlaug (1914-), known as the father of the "Green Revolution." Awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970, Borlaug developed a disease-resistant, high-yield hybrid wheat strain that has contributed enormously to lessening severe malnutrition and starvation around the world. Borlaug's papers span more than forty years of scientific research and humanitarian service and include extensive correspondence, reports, speeches, clippings and other materials. They will be housed in the library's Archives of American Agriculture.

• Mississippi State University's Mitchell Memorial Library has received the papers of journalist William Turner Catledge (1901-1983), who served as managing editor (1951-1964) and executive editor (1964-1968) of the *New York Times*. The collection includes 12 cubic feet of correspondence, reports, notes, and memorabilia documenting Catledge's professional and personal life. The Society of Professional Journalists, Sigma Delta Chi, has designated the collection a national historic site in journalism.

• The Queens College Library of the City University of New York, Flushing, has received an extensive collection of early childrens' literature illustrations. The gift was presented by Professor Gabriel Laderman, former chairman of the College's Art Department. About one-quarter of the more than 200 items, which date predominantly from the 18th and 19th centuries, are not listed in NUC or the OCLC database. The collection will be featured at the inaugural exhibit of the Benjamin Rosenthal Memorial Library, scheduled for completion in late 1987.

• The University of Texas at Austin has acquired a major bequest of 287 classical texts printed in Venice between 1494 and 1588 by the Aldine Press. The collection is the gift of the estate of the late Giorgio Uzielli, an Italian-American stockbroker and book collector. The Aldine Press was founded in 1494 by Aldus Mantius, known as the first

scholar-printer, whose dolphin-and-anchor logo became a familiar mark in the printing world at the turn of the 16th century when three-quarters of all the classics made their first modern appearance under that imprint. The Uzielli collection contains the most famous of all Aldine editions, a five-volume set of Aristotle's works published between 1495 and 1498, the first major Greek text to be reintroduced in the original to the Western world by the invention of the printing press. Other volumes include *Erotemata*, a 1495 Greek grammar by Constantine Lascaris, the first major book printed by Aldus; the *Hypnerotomachia Poliphili* by Francesco Colonna; a 1501 edition of Virgil's writings printed entirely in italic type, which Aldus is credited with inventing; two 1513 volumes of Plato, the first in the original Greek; and other unusual and rare items. The collection will be housed at the University's Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center.

Texas has also acquired a collection of between 7,000 and 9,000 photographs and negatives donated by photographer Russell Lee shortly before his death August 28. The collection will be housed at the Barker Texas History Center at the University. Best known for his depression-era images of rural America as a photographer for the Farm Security Administration, Lee also worked for private corporations and national magazines during his 40-year career. The bulk of the collection dates from the past 30 years, when Lee worked as an independent photographer primarily in the Southwest. Images range from 1950s political rallies in hot, dusty Texas towns to a reunion of wizened cowboys and a 1977 trip on a Mississippi riverboat. A resident of Austin since 1947, Lee taught in the University's Art Department from 1965 to 1973.

Grants

• Haverford College, Haverford, Pennsylvania, and Swarthmore College, Philadelphia, recently received \$20,000 from the Pitcairn-Crabbe Foundation to organize and publish information on