



Polar Libraries

BULLETIN

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16th POLAR LIBRARIES COLLOQUY TO BE HELD IN ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

JUNE 16-21, 1996

THEME: CREATIVITY, LIGHTING THE POLES

PROGRAM: Panels and poster sessions to be emphasized. In order to allow for more discussion time we intend to have posters up all week and time for poster sessions everyday. Posters will be published. Because there will be limited time for formal papers, please consider a poster session, if it is appropriate for your subject.

HOUSING: University of Alaska Anchorage dormitories.
Check-in June 15; check-out June 23.

POST COLLOQUY TRIP: June 22-24. Scenic trip to Fairbanks. Travel from Anchorage to Whittier by train, board boat for trip past Columbia Glacier to Valdez. Stay overnight. Second day, bus to Fairbanks through Keystone Canyon, over Thompson and Isabel Passes. On Monday, plan to visit the University of Alaska Fairbanks, Rasmuson Library, and the Geophysical Institute Library.

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WATCH FOR REGISTRATION PACKETS COMING EARLY FALL 1995

Addresses to obtain Alaska travel information: (for those who want to include

additional sightseeing).

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15TH POLAR LIBRARIES COLLOQUY IN CAMBRIDGE

A brief report for those unable to attend 15 PLC. The Colloquy was held in the late Victorian splendor of Girton College, Cambridge, and hosted jointly by the British Antarctic Survey and the Scott Polar Research Institute. You missed meeting - again or for the first time - 96 delegates from a record 17 countries including Canada (10), China (1), Denmark (1), Finland (7), France (1), Germany (1), Great Britain (24), Greenland (1), Iceland (1), Italy (1), New Zealand (2), Norway (4), South Africa (1), the former Soviet Union (6), Sweden (3), Switzerland (1), and the United States (25). Such a mix of nationalities made for a highly stimulating atmosphere and

much was learned concerning the best information practices in many libraries, either in or with collections about the polar regions. In addition to the many interesting topics covered by formal papers, the poster session was particularly successful with 15 excellent presentations. Social events included a day trip to the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich, several receptions and a banquet. At the latter we were hugely entertained at a Circumpolar Auction, organized by Ron Inuoye, by the expert salesmanship practiced by Sharon West, Ron Inuoye, by the expert salesmanship practiced by Sharon West, Eric Tull, John Cooper and Pippa Hogg - all of whom have surely missed their vocations! Profits from the auction will assist attendance at future colloquies by delegates from countries where travel to foreign conferences is otherwise difficult.

Copies of the proceedings are available from William Mills, Scott Polar Research Institute, Lensfield Road, Cambridge CB2 1ER, United Kingdom. The price is \$30.00 (U.S.) or 20 pounds. Please send checks made out to: "Polar Libraries Colloquy".

COLLOQUY AUCTION -- A SUCCESS!

Thanks to the generosity of Cambridge Polar Colloquy participants, the first fund-raising auction brought many unique circumpolar items to Girton College. Reindeer hides, Russian lacquerware, new and seasoned t-shirts, rare books, a tastefully decorated cake—many, many items were contributed. Upon conclusion of the Colloquy banquet in the grand dining hall, an international cast of auctioneers sold more than 100 items to raise over \$1,000 U.S. to help fund participation in a future Colloquy for a delegate from a polar country not currently represented. Thanks to the dynamic auctioneers, the auction helpers, and the willing (and sometimes too eager) bidders who made the event both enjoyable and memorable!



U.S. POLAR INFORMATION WORKING GROUP MEETINGS - A BRIEF REPORT

The U.S. Polar Information Working Group held their 1994 annual general meeting at Girton College, University of Cambridge, July 5, 1994, and their 1995 meeting at the Library of Congress, Washington, DC, April 23-25, 1995. Martha Andrews chaired both meetings. The aim of the USPIWG is to provide information related services to U.S. institutions or organizations conducting educational, research, and policy activities in the polar regions. The group's major project for 1995 is to update "Arctic information and data: a guide to selected resources," first published by ARCUS in September, 1992. This guide will be ready for distribution at the 1996 Polar Libraries Colloquy. The present edition is now available online through the Polar Information Sources Gopher on Internet. The cooperative indexing project between COLD and SPRI was discussed at both meetings. Stuart Hibben (COLD) and William Mills (SPRI), met in Washington DC and in Cambridge and have formulated a strategy whereby key journals would be indexed only by one or the other organization, not both, thereby making better use of resources. Polar Information Systems of all types were discussed at the Washington meeting, with extended discussion of the polar information sources Gopher. Future directions for meeting user needs were discussed and it was agreed that the Gopher will be a major development for the user community. Information on several networking activities and on a variety of data and information initiatives were shared. Both meetings, which were open to anyone interested, were very well attended. The next meeting will be in conjunction with the 16th Polar Libraries Colloquy in Anchorage in June, 1996.



Constitution of the Polar Libraries Colloquy

Approved July 7, 1994

Chapter One

Name of the Association

Article 1

The name of the association is the Polar Libraries Colloquy.

Chapter Two

Aim and purpose of the association

Article 2

The Polar Libraries Colloquy (hereafter called the PLC) provides a forum through which librarians and others evidencing an abiding interest in the collection, preservation, and dissemination of polar information discuss issues of mutual concern and promote initiatives leading to improved collections and services.

Article 3

In order to implement its aims, the PLC:

- (i) holds an international conference every two years, or at an interval agreed upon by the membership;
- (ii) exchanges information by appropriate means;
- (iii) co-operates with other national and international organizations whose aims are complementary to those of the PLC.

Chapter Three

Membership

Article 4

Membership of the PLC is open to all persons and institutions evidencing an abiding interest in the collection, preservation, and dissemination of polar information. There will be three categories of membership: individual, honorary,

and institutional. The rights and privileges of each category shall be as defined in the bylaws. Applications for membership must be directed to the PLC Steering Committee.

Article 5

Individual and institutional members must pay an annual membership fee. Honorary members shall pay no fees. Such fees will be as approved in the business meeting of the preceding Colloquy. The Steering Committee may agree to waive membership fees for a pre-determined period upon application.

Article 6

The status of Honorary Member may only be conferred by a proposal agreed to at the business meeting. Honorary members will enjoy all the rights and privileges of individual membership.

Chapter Four

Organization and administration

Article 7

Decisions regarding the aims, purposes and functioning of the PLC are approved in the business meeting held during the international conference (hereafter called the business meeting).

Article 8

The PLC's activities are directed and planned by the PLC Steering Committee which is elected at the business meeting to serve until the next business meeting. The PLC Steering Committee must have at least three and not more than ten members. These members shall, as far as possible, be chosen so as to be representative of the different regions and types of libraries comprising the PLC membership in general. The PLC Steering Committee shall elect officers from among themselves, one of whom shall be Chair, and one of whom shall be Secretary-Treasurer.

Chapter Five

Meetings

Article 9

An international conference is held every two years, or other agreed interval. The venue and host organization are decided upon according to procedures stipulated in the Bylaws. An institution or site wishing to host the next PLC conference should inform the PLC Steering Committee at least sixty days prior to the business meeting.

Article 10

The organization and financial arrangements of the international conference are the responsibility of the host organization, which shall also be responsible for the preparation, publication and distribution of the conference proceedings. Organizations hosting the international conference should budget to cover costs but not make a profit. Arrangements for the international conference should be made by the conference host in consultation with a conference organizing committee, the latter being selected at the preceding PLC business meeting. The role of the conference organizing committee is essentially consultative and supportive of the conference host, who retains primary responsibility for the making of conference arrangements.

Chapter Six

Entry into effect of the Constitution

Article 11

This constitution will come into force at the close of the business meeting at which it is approved by a two-thirds majority of the members voting.

Chapter Seven

Changes to the Constitution of the Colloquy

Article 12

Amendments to the Constitution may be proposed by any member. Such amendments must be submitted in writing to the PLC Steering Committee in time for dissemination prior to the business meeting.

Article 13

Adoption of an amendment requires an affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members present at the business meeting.

Chapter Eight

Changes to the Bylaws of the Colloquy.

Article 14

Amendments to the Bylaws may be proposed by any member. Such amendments must be submitted in writing to the PLC Steering Committee in time for dissemination prior to the business meeting.

Article 15

Adoption of an amendment requires an affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of

the members present at the business meeting.

Bylaws

1. For the purposes of the business meeting at which the adoption of this constitution will first be mooted (15th PLC, Cambridge), all delegates attending the business meeting will be considered as members with full voting rights.

2. The selection of the venue for the PLC conference will be recommended by the PLC Steering Committee for approval by the general membership at the business meeting. The tradition of alternating between the European and North American continents will be considered in venue selection with due consideration given to other regions as evidence of interest becomes apparent.

The PLC Steering Committee will reach their decision taking into account the following factors: The prospective host should offer:

- i. a demonstrated, on-going commitment to the aims of the PLC;
- ii. the ability to provide a suitable venue including appropriate accommodation and meeting facilities, and relevant and interesting sites to visit;
- iii. a significant polar collection;
- iv. a record of successfully hosting international conferences;
- v. a letter of invitation from the director of the institution;
- vi. evidence of institutional commitment, both financial and physical;
- vii. a suitable theme for the conference;
- viii. a commitment to publish the proceedings.

Consideration shall be given to appropriate sites which have yet to host the PLC conference.

3. Only individuals and honorary members may hold office. Members, whether individual, honorary, or institutional, all have only one vote.

4. Dues for individual and institutional members shall be five pounds sterling.

LETTER FROM THE NEW EDITORS

Dear PLC Members:

We wish to thank Nancy Lesh and Kay Shelton for the many years they have worked on the Polar Libraries Colloquy Bulletin. It will be difficult to match their expertise and accomplishments!

This is our first issue as the new editors and as such this issue is experimental - we are just getting our feet wet! The next issue will be the regular eight pages with the regular columns you are used to seeing, plus perhaps extras we haven't even thought of yet. We need to rely on you, our readers, to supply us with news items. Also, any other comments or suggestions are always welcome.

Lynn Lay and William Mills

Polar Libraries Bulletin Issue 44, Summer 1995

Formerly entitled Northern Libraries Bulletin, this issue reflects the name change of the Northern Libraries Colloquy to Polar Libraries Colloquy which was approved at the June 1988 biennial meeting.

Editors: William Mills and Lynn Lay

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