



Polar Libraries

BULLETIN

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17TH POLAR LIBRARIES COLLOQUY TO BE HELD IN REYKJAVIK, ICELAND

SEPTEMBER 20-25, 1998

JOINT MEETING OF THE POLAR LIBRARIES COLLOQUY (PLC) AND THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AQUATIC AND MARINE SCIENCES LIBRARIES AND INFORMATION CENTERS (IAMSLIC)

The 24th annual conference of the International Association of Aquatic and Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers (IAMSLIC) and the 17th Polar Libraries Colloquy will be held jointly in Reykjavik, Iceland on September 20-25, 1998.

Hosts: Palina Hedinsdottir (Icelandic Institute of Natural History) [PLC contact];

Eirikur Einarsson (The Fisheries Library, Marine Research Institute) [IAMSLIC contact];

Pauline Simpson (National Oceanographic Library, Southampton, UK) [IAMSLIC President-Elect 1998-99, is Conference Convenor for IAMSLIC].

The theme of the conference is "*Electronic Information and Publications*"

Subtheme: "Looking to the Electronic Future, Let's Not Forget the Archive Past."

The Program Committee has tried to come up with several themes that will allow all of us to contribute to the meeting. One of our joint themes is to discuss electronic information/publications and archives. In the future all of us will be addressing the challenges of electronic format. How will we catalog, store and disseminate this information? What value added services will publishers offer and how

will secondary services change because there are no duplicates with electronic subscriptions? Will developing countries suffer or is this their opportunity to make a quantum leap? What about electronic archives? We must not forget the vast amount of information stored in our collective traditional archives. Is technology assisting the archival process? Will it be possible to share these resources, and are we transferring the excellent professional practices of the past to our new electronic environment? How can the marine and polar information communities work together to face these old and new challenges?

Rooms have been reserved at the Hotel Saga, but other less expensive hotels will be made available to participants. The conference organizer is the Iceland Tourist Bureau.

The registration fee has not been determined yet, however the fee will be approximately \$300. This fee will include a regional field trip.

We have two or three choices in mind for our regional field trip on Wednesday, September 23, 1998. The Local Organizing Committee is considering the "Golden Circle" trip. This trip takes 6-8 hours by bus along the south coast where people will see hot springs (geysers), waterfalls and some interesting geological formations where our old Parliament

was held, starting in the year 930.

A pre-conference workshop is planned in Akureyri, the largest town in North-Iceland. Akureyri is approximately seven hours by coach from Reykjavik. The new Vilhjalmur Stefansson Institute in Iceland will be located in Akureyri and the University of Akureyri opened a new library last September. This pre-conference workshop is a separate cost and is not included in the registration fee.

Other Local Field Trips: The National and University Library of Iceland; The Library of the Central Bank of Iceland and some smaller research libraries for smaller groups.

The Organizing Committee is currently outlining a preliminary program for the meeting. Joint and concurrent sessions are planned as well as business meetings for both the PLC and IAMSLIC, workshops, social events, and field trips. **The first call for papers will be sent out in January 1998.** Information about the conference will be added to the conference web site at URL: <http://www.hafro.is/hafro/Joint/conf.html>.

This information was submitted by Palina Hedinsdottir. E-mail address: palina@nattsfs.is

PLC ACCORDED STANDING ADVISORY GROUP STATUS BY IASC

Submitted by William Mills, Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge

At its most recent Business Meeting, the PLC agreed to seek Standing Advisory Status with the International Arctic Science Committee in the belief that some more formal relationship between the two bodies would benefit both. IASC offers several forms of affiliation but Standing Advisory Group status was felt to be most appropriate. Following our resolution, I am pleased to announce that the IASC Executive Committee approved our application last January and invited a PLC representative to attend the IASC AGM in St. Petersburg. I was able to act as the PLC's representative thanks to funding generously provided by the Scott Polar Research Institute and University of Cambridge.

The text approved at the IASC Executive Committee reads thus:

Relationship to the Polar Libraries Colloquy

The Polar Libraries Colloquy organizes polar librarians and information specialists. They have previously inquired about various options for a relationship to IASC. At their last meeting, they had decided to seek Standing Advisory Group status with IASC.

The Executive Committee agreed that the application should be granted. Further, the Executive Committee assumed that this relationship could be an active interaction where some key librarians could engage in working out bibliographies, etc. for the IASC science projects. Our UV project group has expressed such a need.

The IASC AGM was held at the Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute and attended by approximately 50 senior Arctic scientists and administrators. There were three sections to the meeting: one for Regional Board members, one for Council members, and the AGM. I was invited to attend the latter's sessions only. The PLC and Northern Forum Academy were both allowed 15 minute presentations in which to describe the nature of their organization and outline the potential benefits of closer association with IASC. My talk met with an encouraging response and the PLC's aims and objectives were viewed as being particularly complementary to those of IASC. In my talk I focused on the importance of institutes encouraging (and enabling) their librarians to participate in international collaboration with those of other institutes, as well as the need for IASC members to make use of the network of polar libraries to disseminate information particularly through the deposit of publications. Given the exact wording of the IASC text, I welcomed on the PLC's behalf the desire that our relationship with IASC should be active and suggested that IASC be represented at the next PLC meeting. With regard to bibliographies, I compiled a UV bibliography from SPRI's holdings and used its evident inadequacies to point out that IASC members could improve the quality of the bibliographies that PLC could produce: a. by supplying more information about upcoming information needs and b. by ensuring that relevant publications were deposited in appropriate libraries. We shall need to discuss this matter of bibliography provision at the next Colloquy. The Working Group on Inter-Library-Loan provision should note that IASC showed particular interest in this subject.

CANMAR LIBRARY DONATED TO AINA LIBRARY

Submitted by: Ross Goodwin, Arctic Institute of North America and Eric Tull, University of Calgary Library

During the past 24 years Canadian Marine Drilling Ltd. (Canmar) drilled about 40 offshore oil wells in the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas, accounting for about 75% of all offshore wells in the Canadian and U.S. Arctic. In doing this work Canmar developed innovative technologies in ice-breakers, drillships and cold-weather drilling.

Canmar has recently closed down, and its ships have been sold to other companies. Thanks to the efforts of many people at Canmar, the Arctic Institute of North America and the University of Calgary Library it has been possible to preserve most of Canmar's large collection of internal research reports. Out of Canmar's library of approximately 5000 reports, over 4400 have been donated to the AINA Library, a part of the University of Calgary Library. The reports that were not donated were primarily operating manuals which were kept by the new owners of Canmar's ships.

The Canmar reports will be added to the Arctic Science and Technology Information System (ASTIS) and the U. of C. Library catalogue over the next two or three years. Indexing, abstracting and cataloguing of the reports will be paid for by the ongoing Arctic Technology Preservation Project funded by industry and the Canadian government. This project is working to preserve the northern research and development done by the Canadian petroleum and pipeline industry over the past thirty years.

NEW BOOK ON THE GEOLOGY OF SVALBARD

CASP is pleased to announce the book, the "Geology of Svalbard." The author, Brian Harland of the University of Cambridge, first visited Svalbard in 1938 and renewed field work in 1948 with what became annual Spitsbergen expeditions. This led to the Cambridge Svalbard Exploration (CSE) until 1975 when other areas were included in the Cambridge Arctic Shelf Programme. CASP became incorporated with charitable status in 1988. Field work in Svalbard continues.

Following on this experience, the book attempts a comprehensive synthesis of the geology of Svalbard with both regional descriptions and interpretative evolution of Svalbard

within its Arctic context in successive time slices, Proterozoic through Holocene, with contemporary work on glaciers and climate. The book is based on a balanced review of the international literature (over 2600 references); 1600 place names are indexed to the map on which they appear; a lexicon of 950 stratigraphic units; and there is a general index.

For further information, contact Eda Lesk at: el10006@cam.ac.uk.

SCOTT POLAR RESEARCH INSTITUTE: SHACKLETON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Submitted by William Mills, Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge

Those who attended 15th PLC in Cambridge will not recognize our library just now. We have pneumatic drills sounding out above our heads and, when I went upstairs to admire the progress, I was able to look from above straight into that central part of the library normally occupied by our Antarctic, biographical, whaling and other collections. It is quite a sight. All the pain is necessary before the Shackleton Memorial Library can be built. This major extension to existing facilities will provide space to accommodate the next 25 years of growth. It will also offer greatly improved facilities to the expanding numbers of visiting scholars we wish to attract here from all over the world. Building work started in September and is due for completion next June. In the meantime, the library remains open but anyone planning to visit might prefer to come next year unless they find noise enhances their concentration! Those wishing to use the archives should write well in advance since there will be periods when these collections are closed.

16th PLC GROUP PHOTOGRAPH IS STILL AVAILABLE

Extra copies of the group photograph taken at the 16th Polar Libraries Colloquy are still available. Please contact Winnie Treitline at the Consortium Library (3211 Providence Drive, Anchorage, AK 99508) if you would like one.

NERC ARCTIC ENVIRONMENTAL METADATA CENTRE

Submitted by Oliver Merrington, Manager, NERC Arctic Environmental Metadata Centre, Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge

The Scott Polar Research Institute, in Cambridge, has received two-year SEEDCORN funding from the UK Natural Environment Research Council to set up the above centre, managed in conjunction with the Antarctic Environmental Data Centre at the British Antarctic Survey (BAS).

My initial task, as half-time Manager, is to list all NERC grants made to UK universities since 1965 for research in the Arctic. (For this project the arctic is defined as Iceland and Greenland; Scandinavia north of the Arctic Circle; Canada, Alaska and Russia north of the treeline; and adjacent seas north of 60.)

Associated metadata will then be sought and loaded into a web/Oracle MetaData Management System developed by BAS, and made available to the scientific community via the World-Wide Web.

A two-page item about SEEDCORN (Stewardship and Exploration of Environmental Data) was published in *NERC News*, 1997, (Autumn), pp. 20-21.

Broadly, NERC's remit is geology, glaciology, marine and terrestrial biology, oceanography, hydrology, climatology and meteorology.

It is hoped that this initiative will lead to full UK involvement in the UNEP Arctic Environmental Data Directory (ADD).

PUBLICATION OF POLARPAC5

Submitted by Sharon M. West, Director of Library Services, WLN, Inc.

WLN, Inc. announces the publication of PolarPac5 in January, 1998. PolarPac5, a continuation of the PolarPac series of CD-ROMs, will include all information contained on PolarPac4 and will also include bibliographic data from numerous polar libraries. Among these libraries are the Arctic-related records from McGill University, Groenlandica, the Danish Polar Center, the Canadian Circumpolar Library, the National Library of Norway, the Museum Library of the University of Tromsø, the Swedish Polar Research Secretariat, the Magadan Regional Library, the National Library of Sakha, the library of Yakut State University, updated records from Lapponica,

Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Ancestors, and the Bibliography of Alaska and Polar Regions.

With the addition of records from libraries throughout the circumpolar north, PolarPac5 will be the premier international Arctic database. Published on one CD-ROM, the price for PolarPac5 is \$525. There is a volume discount for multiple copies ordered at one time.

For further information, contact Sharon West at WLN. Email: sharonw@wln.com; voice is 1-360-923-4027; fax is 1-360-923-4009.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 16TH POLAR LIBRARIES COLLOQUY

The proceedings for the 16th Polar Libraries Colloquy has been sent to the printers. Those of you who attended the meeting should be receiving your copy in January, 1998. The complete citation for the publication is:

Creativity, Lighting the Poles: Collaborative Solutions to Common Problems: Proceedings of the 16th Polar Libraries Colloquy, June 17-22, 1996, Consortium Library, University of Alaska Anchorage and Partial Proceedings of the 6th Northern Libraries Colloquy, July 12-15, 1976, Elmer E. Rasmuson Library, University of Alaska, Fairbanks. Edited by Juli Braund-Allen and Cathie Innes Taylor. Consortium Library, University of Alaska Anchorage, 1997.

If you did not attend the Colloquy and are interested in obtaining the proceedings volume, please contact Cathie Innes Taylor at The Consortium Library, University of Alaska Anchorage (3211 Providence Drive, Anchorage, AK 99508; Telephone: 1-907-786-1825; Fax: 1-907-786-6050; email: ancei@uaa.alaska.edu).

BYRD POLAR RESEARCH CENTER LIBRARY IS ALMOST ONLINE

The Goldthwait Polar Library of the Byrd Polar Research Center at the Ohio State University is in the process of adding its bibliographic holdings to the Ohio State University Libraries' online catalog, OSCAR. When the project is completed, the library's holdings will be accessible via the World Wide Web through the OSU Libraries' homepage. The project will include monographs and serial holdings. It is one step toward making the library more accessible to patrons outside of the Center.

U.S. POLAR INFORMATION WORKING GROUP (USPIWG) COMMITTEE MEETING

Members of the USPIWG Committee on Database Collaboration met on July 8, 1997 at the National Science Foundation in Arlington, Virginia. This committee is chaired by Martha Andrews and includes Nancy Liston, Lynn Lay, Ann Brennan Thomas, and Roberta Goldblatt. The purpose of the meeting was to explore ways in which information centers could contribute their local existing bibliographic files or records to databases, specifically, the Cold Regions Bibliography Project (CRBP) at the Library of Congress. Several ideas were discussed with representatives from the National Science Foundation and several cooperative projects were agreed upon. The Byrd Polar Research Center at The Ohio State University, and the NSIDC/WDC-A for Glaciology and Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research, both in Boulder, Colorado agreed to provide lists of materials which are not currently in the COLD database and also lend the CRBP any materials needed for microfiche copying. WDC-A is also willing to work with the CRBP and submit any files directly for input into the COLD database. In the next fiscal year the CRBP will review current technology to determine if input from WDC-A can be simplified and if a pilot project of adding records to COLD from WDC-A can be established. The target for all collaborators is to add 500 records to CRBP in the next two years.

CONSTITUTION OF THE POLAR LIBRARIES COLLOQUY

(Approved July 7, 1994; amended June 21, 1996)

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 predetermined 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. 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.

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 this 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 purpose 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 accommodations 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.

5. There shall be a PLC Steering Committee, herein referred to as the "PLCSC", that shall direct and plan the activities of the PLC and take such actions as it considers necessary to carry out the objectives of the PLC and perform such other functions as the membership may direct.

The PLC Steering Committee shall consist of at least three and not more than seven members elected by the membership. Additional ex officio members shall consist, at least, of the bulletin editor(s) and the chair of the next colloquy. Nominations for, and election of, PLCSC members shall be made at the PLC business meeting.

PLCSC members shall elect PLCSC officers from among their elected members as follows: the chair, the vice-chair/chair-elect, and the secretary-treasurer. All members of the PLCSC shall be members of the PLC.

The PLCSC shall hold at least one meeting biennially in association with the PLC and may hold additional meetings. Fifty percent shall constitute a quorum.

A vacancy among the officers of the PLCSC, except in the office of chair, shall be filled by majority vote of the remaining members of the PLCSC, this PLCSC-elected officer to serve until the next biennial election. A vacancy in the office of chair shall be filled by the vice-chair/chair-elect.

The term of office of all PLCSC members shall be at least one cycle (usually two years) between meetings of the PLC. The chair shall normally serve one cycle. The vice-chair/chair-elect and the secretary-treasurer shall serve two cycles without standing for re-election. With the exception of the offices of chair and vice-chair/chair-elect, any officer shall be eligible for re-election. The chair and vice-chair/chair-elect shall be eligible for election to any other PLCSC office. All members of the PLCSC shall serve until their successors are elected and assume their duties. The term of office shall commence at the adjournment of the PLC Business Meeting.

The chair shall be chief executive officer of the PLC and, subject to the PLCSC, shall: preside at all meetings of the PLCSC and represent the PLC and/or the PLCSC as needed.

The vice-chair/chair-elect shall: assist the chair in the performance of the duties of the chair and assume all the duties and obligations of the chair in the event of absence or withdrawal

of the chair.

The secretary-treasurer shall: keep a record of all meetings of the PLC and of the PLCSC; prepare this record for publication in the PLC Bulletin and/or the PLC Proceedings; collect all dues from the PLC; have custody of the PLC funds; sign all cheques drawn upon PLC funds; and furnish such financial statements as may be required by the PLC or the PLCSC.

BERENICE CENTRE - BARENTS LIBRARY NETWORK FOR EUROPEAN DIMENSIONS

Submitted by Susanna Liinamaa-Parikka, Head coordinator of Berenice-Project Arctic Centre, University of Lapland

Co-operation between libraries in the Barents Region has now stepped into a new era. The Berenice Centre has initiated its activities. Funding from the European Union Interreg II-programme together with national funding from Sweden and Finland has made this cooperation possible. The cost of the project is about 3,5 million Finnish marks and the project will last until the end of June 1999.

The Berenice Centre will be working on the project at the beginning of next year and hopefully five other coordinators will be also involved with this project. One coordinator will work for Sapmi in Jokkmokk, Sweden, while the other coordinators will work in their own countries (Norway, Sweden, Finland and Russia). The whole idea of the project is to create a network consisting of library people who will be working together in cooperation everywhere in the Barents Region.

The Barents Region's library system is distinctive in Europe in that it is a comprehensive network providing universal access to information and culture. This library system includes all types of libraries from the very smallest village libraries to university libraries, from specialty libraries to central national libraries. Every person regardless of social, economic or educational status may use all the services free of charge in any library. Each library functions as a node in the open information network.

The Berenice Centre was founded in the Barents Region to study differing attitudes toward information, how library status and practices differ and how the perception of an informed society and its implementation differ in countries of European Union and its neighbors.

What will be done?

The research focus will be concentrated on libraries and information services, with particular emphasis on the application of multimedia and telematic resources. Experimental projects will be designed to enhance library and information services. The emphasis of the activities is on four different themes: 1) education and research related with libraries, including the Barents Library School; 2) Sapmi and other cultural minorities (e.g. a common bibliography); 3) North Calotte in sound and picture; and 4) boarder-crossing co-operation within IT.

The Berenice Centre is the umbrella organization for these four themes which are divided into many different projects. The Barents Library School will have special courses designed around the European Dimension of Berenice. It is planned that these courses would be open to all interested librarians in Europe.

MINUTES - PLC STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING JUNE 21, 1996

1. Martha Andrews was asked to act as liaison between PLC and IAMSLIC in relation to the joint meeting to be held in Iceland in 1998.

2. Secretary / Treasurer. William Mills was re-elected to this position.

3. Chair. Liisa Kurppa was elected to this position.

4. Vice-Chair / Chair-elect. Phil Cronenwett was elected to this position.

MEMBERS OF THE PLC STEERING COMMITTEE:

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POLAR LIBRARIES BULLETIN

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Please send news items to: Polar Libraries Bulletin, c/o Goldthwait Polar Library, Byrd Polar Research Center, The Ohio State University, 1090 Carmack Road, Columbus, OH 43210-1002.