

The International Association of Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers (IAMSLIC)

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Ms. Metzger, IAMSLIC president.

In October 1975 at the invitation of the Research Librarian, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, forty-nine librarians and information specialists from the United States and Canada convened at Woods Hole, Massachusetts, U.S.A. to discuss their common interests and concerns in providing library and information services to the scientists, administrators, engineers, educators and students in the discipline of marine science.

The "East Coast Marine Science Librarians" group, as it was known then, was restructured as a formal, non-profit organization. Because individuals from the Gulf and Pacific coasts of North America began showing an interest in the organization, the name was changed to "Marine Science Libraries Association". Bylaws were approved in 1979, as was the present name "International Association of Marine Science Libraries and Information Centers" (IAMSLIC).

IAMSLIC now has approximately 100 members, representing 16 countries. All types of libraries and information centers participate, including research and policy institutions, government agencies, colleges, universities, non-profit and profit-making institutions.

The organization will celebrate its tenth anniversary this year by reconvening for the annual three-day conference at Woods Hole, Massachusetts, which has been the conference site three times in the past. Many other cities have served as conference sites—Washington, D.C.; Charleston, South Carolina; Halifax, Nova Scotia; San Diego, California; Beaufort, North Carolina; and Port Aransas, Texas. Hosted by one of the member libraries, the conference is

usually held in the month of October. The Institut Oceanographique in Monaco generously offered to serve as conference host, but the offer had to be turned down in the interest of keeping the number of attendees high. Travel budgets would not permit many to travel such a distance and since 75% of the membership is from the United States and Canada it was decided to continue to hold meetings in the United States or Canada for the time being.

Members have been very enthusiastic about the annual meetings where the schedule always includes informative speakers, workshops, vendors' exhibits, business meetings and social events. The conference provides a forum for the exchange of ideas among members as well as the presentation of new concepts in information science by allied professionals. Making contact and exchanging ideas with other information professionals have always been the main purpose of the conference.

The business meeting which takes place at the conference and the pre- and post-conference executive board

meetings don't allow sufficient time for the handling of all IAMSLIC projects and problems, so the executive board meets in the spring via a lengthy pre-planned conference call. Current members of the executive board include:

Kristen L. Metzger, President
Librarian

Harbor Branch Foundation, Inc.
Ft. Pierce, Florida, U.S.A.

Ruth Grundy, Vice-President/President-Elect
Librarian

Port Aransas Marine Laboratory
University of Texas at Austin
Port Aransas, Texas, U.S.A.

Carolyn P. Winn, Past-President
Research Librarian

Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
Woods Hole, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

Judy G. Reade, Secretary
Librarian

Dalhousie Ocean Studies Programme
Dalhousie University
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

Ilene Zaleski, Treasurer
Associate Editor

Oceanographic Literature Review
Falmouth, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

Successfully completed projects include compilation of an interlibrary loan information handbook, preparation of a bibliography entitled *Selected Readings about the Oceans*, and a recommendation to the editorial board of *Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts* (ASFA) that new marine science translations produced by the National Marine Fisheries Service and Canada Fisheries and Oceans be indexed in their database (a recommendation ASFA accepted in 1982).

A Union List of Atlases and an Electronic Mail Network are projects which are still in process.

United States Department of Commerce Sea Grant funds have been secured three times to finance IAMSLIC projects. A proposal was submitted in 1976 by Carolyn Winn, Research Librarian, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. Funding was granted to cover the cost of background research for a Union List of Atlases and the printing of the first *Directory of East Coast Marine Science Libraries*. The second annual conference was also supported in part by this Sea Grant.

Funding was secured a second time based on a proposal submitted by Susan Barrick and Janice Meadows, Librarians, Virginia Institute of Marine Science. The Office of Sea Grant agreed to fund a Union List of Serials, a compilation of the serial holdings of IAMSLIC mem-



Past presidents—top row—Frances Swim, Carolyn Winn, Elizabeth Fueseler; bottom row—Betty Sutherland, Kimberly Douglas.

ber libraries. This publication is currently being produced on microfiche and should be distributed in the very near future.

The third grant was again secured by Carolyn Winn. The Office of Sea Grant supported a portion of the cost of printing the most recent *Directory of Marine*

Science Libraries and Information Centers. This publication covers over 125 marine science libraries and provides information such as name, address, personnel, user policies, publications and a description of the collection.

IAMSLIC continues to grow as more librarians and information specialists around the world express an interest in having the opportunity to cooperate in the sharing of information resources and to exchange ideas and explore issues of mutual concern.

For More Information

Questions and comments concerning IAMSLIC and its publications should be directed to the author.



Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution and Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Massachusetts, U.S.A., site of the next conference. Photo by Dann Blackwood.

IAMSLIC's ninth annual conference was held at the Port Aransas Marine Laboratory, University of Texas at Austin, on 4-7 October 1983. The presentations made are shown here. No proceedings were published but summaries of three of the presentations are given in the following pages for the interest of Newsletter readers.

People Searching — Barbara Quint
The New NOAA Regional Ocean Service Centers: Improving Access to Ocean Data — Richard J. Abram
Grants Information for Marine Science Libraries — Mary Parks

The Challenge of the Challenger "Reports" and Other Marine Expeditionary Reports — Kenneth T. Morse

Training in Fisheries/Marine Science Information Management: A Training Program for Personnel from Developing Countries — Mary Jane Beardsley

Constructing a Thesaurus — Judy Henderson

Electronic Mail — Robert C. Williams
Preliminary Findings of a Study on Salvage of Salt Water Damaged Material — Constance B. Cook

The Rare Book Collection at the Hancock Library of Biology and Oceanography; Longstanding Problems and Current Approaches to Solutions — Kimberly Douglas
Bibliographic Control of Maps and Charts in a Special Library; Some

Automation Alternatives — Mary Sullivan

Factors That Enhance Information Interchange in Machine Readable Format — Norman Howden

Changes in Data Entry Through Automation — Donna Fontenot
SGNET: Sea Grant Electronic Information Network — Nancy Huang
Document Delivery — Antoinette Walton Colbert

On-Line Data Base vs. Library Searching for Region Specific Environmental Information System Studies: a Case History — M. John Thompson

The tenth annual conference will take place at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Massachusetts on 3-5 October 1984.