It doesn't seem possible that 1993 is here already (and with it a new Chair -- me!) It will be difficult to follow in Marcia's footsteps. I want to extend a special thanks to her for her leadership and endless energy over the past two years. And thanks in advance for future guidance in the year to come as past-Chair sage. (Marcia, you can safely bet huge sums of money that you will be called upon frequently for your pearls of wisdom.)

When I accepted the nomination of Chair of our staff section, I was promised that this job would by made easy by enthusiastic staff members and this is already proving true. Brenda Olds had a great idea for a staff project and has volunteered to work on it. The subject: How does one do a legislative history in each state? Texas has a brochure which takes the individual step by step through the compilation of a legislative history in Texas. It covers such questions as (1) Where do you start? (2) Who collects and keeps information on specific legislation? (3) Are different parts kept by different agencies? As Brenda puts it, she would like to see our staff section compile "a book with a small section on each state that explains in detail how to do a legislative history for that state." Perhaps some agency in your state has already compiled all this information and publishes in some form. If so, we are interested in seeing it. Debbie Tavenner has begun a collection of these and would welcome more. Please send them to her at Ohio Legislative Service Commission, Vern Riffe Center, 77 S. High St., Ninth Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43266-0342.

Several staff members expressed interest in this project at the 1992 Professional Seminar. Now we'd like input from others -- any ideas? Please send your ideas on this project to me or to Chris Pattarozzi at NCSL either through the mail or via the Bulletin Board.

Speaking of the Bulletin Board, I want to encourage all staff section members to give it a try. The more use it gets the more helpful it becomes for everyone. Here are some helpful hints to increase usage:
1. Log on routinely. Write a note to yourself on the bottom of your calendar every other day (once a week is probably more realistic for most of us!). Log on at the same time. Marcia Hoak logs on at the end of her workday when the lines are more likely to be free.

2. Read all new mail.
3. Use it, use it, use it. Send messages to colleagues, request answers to those reference questions that have you stumped.

NCSL ANNUAL MEETING

Plans are under way for this year's LRL Staff Section programs at Annual Meeting in San Diego. The meeting will be held July 25-29 at the San Diego Convention and Performing Arts Center.

Meeting topics we are currently working on include online document delivery systems, data base searching and access to information, assistance to newly democratized nations' libraries, Internet, and a vendor fair. Touring the library at the University of California at San Diego is also a possibility. More details will be available as the meeting nears.

Aside from our stimulating and informative meetings, this is a beautiful area to visit and the weather should be wonderful in late July. If you have ideas for programs or activities in San Diego, we encourage you to call any of the staff section officers, or Chris Patarozzi at NCSL.

LRL STAFF SECTION
1993 ANNUAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR

This year's professional development seminar will be held in Austin, Texas on the 4th, 5th and 6th of November. The meeting is in preliminary planning stages, but Sally Reynolds, Director of the Legislative Research Library, promises good weather (70's!) and a wealth of learning opportunities. A Lexis demonstration is probable and the Texas State Library and the Law Library are both within walking distance of the Legislative Research Library. We may also tour and/or lunch at the LBJ Library.

More detail will be available on specific programs to be offered. If you have questions or suggestions for topics to be covered, contact Marilyn Cathcart, Program Chair, at (612) 296-7661; Sally Reynolds (512)463-1252; or Chris Patarozzi at NCSL (303) 830-2200.

1992-93 STAFF SECTION OFFICERS LIST

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Jo Budler
Coordinator of Library Services
Legislative Reference Library
Lincoln, Nebraska

Chair-Elect
Marilyn Cathcart
Director
Legislative Reference Library
St. Paul, Minnesota

Secretary
Debbie Tavenner
Assistant Librarian
Legislative Service Commission
Columbus, Ohio

Immediate Past Chair
Marcia Hoak
Librarian
Legislative Library
Salem, Oregon

NCSL Staff Contact
Chris Patarozzi
NCSL
Denver, Colorado

NEW LRL STAFF AT NCSL
by Chris Patarozzi, NCSL

Most of you are by now aware that NCSL staff to LRL has changed. Debbie Bernau, after a very long and happy association with the staff section, has left NCSL to work at the Colorado Department of Education. I can't hope to know all that Debbie did after some 13 years on the job, but I am delighted to be working with and for the librarians!
I received my master's in library science from the University of Denver in 1981 and have worked in the Omaha Public Library System and for special libraries at Mobil Oil and Marathon Oil. I managed the NCSL library for about two years and assisted with the staff section during that time; I have been four years in NCSL's State Issues and Policy Analysis program. During my seven years at NCSL, I have researched questions in a multitude of areas but now concentrate mostly on transportation issues.

I would like to touch base with each of you in legislative libraries at some point about your libraries and library experience as well as your ideas for the staff section. Let me encourage those of you who have not been active to take part in the staff section. We are open to participation by librarians or information specialists from any library servicing the information needs of the legislatures. To those of you who have been active over the years -- THANKS for your support and efforts to make the staff section a real service to its members.

Please feel free to call on me at any time. I look forward to meeting many of you at NCSL's Annual Meeting and the fall Professional Development seminar.

MAILING LIST CHANGE

For those of you mailing current awareness lists or other library materials to NCSL, please change the addressee on your mailing labels to "Chris Pattarozzi." The address remains the same.

UPDATED STAFF SECTION DIRECTORY

The 1993 edition of the Legislative Research Librarians Directory will be mailed out in March to every library listed in it. The purpose of the directory is to improve communication between the libraries dealing with legislative matters, so if you need an extra copy in your library, please contact Chris Pattarozzi at NCSL, 303/830-2200. As usual, we will continue to list changes to the directory in each issue of Newsline, so call changes in to Chris as they occur.

UPDATE ON THE BBS SYSTEM

The BBS system continues to serve its target groups and claims a fair number of regular users. However, we would like to help the regular users develop more expertise and assist new users in becoming familiar with the system. Additional users provide a broader base for responding to on-line inquiries and serve to strengthen the communication system.

Think of using the BBS particularly when you need to communicate with someone more than one time zone away and when phone access is burdensome. Instead of making several separate calls, one message can be copied, sent to all users or, for narrow targeting, forwarded to numerous people with only one call to the BBS.

Remember that if you are responding to a message you should use the reply function to attach your reply to that particular message instead of entering a separate new message. By attaching your response, the initial message and the reply are "threaded" together and the "thread" of the conversation can be followed forward or backward when reading messages by using the thread option.

For those of you ready to expand your capabilities on the system, try using the off-line mail reader to compose and read your mail. This will save on-line costs for you and free up access to the system for others. There is also a way to compress files so things like new acquisitions lists or other documents you might like to share can be uploaded and downloaded much more rapidly.

For instructions on either the off-line mail reader or compression of files, leave a message on the LRL Open Forum or call Doug Sacarto or Chris at NCSL (303) 830-2200. We welcome any messages regarding the BBS and are particularly interested in what you like or don't like, what makes the bulletin board useful to you or what obstacles you feel need to be overcome.

NEWS FROM THE STATES

Submitted by Regional Coordinators and Members of the Staff Section
CALIFORNIA--Marguerite Beveridge, librarian at the Office of the Legislative Counsel Bureau, relates the good news that, after a year in temporary quarters, the library has recently moved to a permanent location with ample space. They now have compact shelving and also computers for library staff. Within the next few months, they will have an on-line program for library and session-generated information management. Please note the new address: 925 L Street, Lower Level.

CONNECTICUT--Barbara Karp replaces Claris Cahan as Principal Legislative Librarian at the Connecticut Legislative Library. Previously Barbara was Librarian at the Connecticut Office of the Attorney General. She shares duties with Susan Southworth, also a Principal Legislative Librarian.

MASSACHUSETTS--From April 1991 to January 25, 1992, the Massachusetts State Library, including the Legislative Reference Section stayed open from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. With improved funding the MSL will be open two hours earlier, at 9:00 a.m.

NEVADA--Nan Bowers, Legislative Librarian, reports that the Nevada legislative library is feeling the crunch of more demands and limited staffing responding to public requests. They will cut back on compiling legislative bill histories, and will refer the public to qualified freelance legal assistants who are registered with the library. The library staff will provide assistance in using the legislative materials and a pathfinder for gathering the information comprising the history. The library will continue providing the bill histories to legislative staff and government agencies.

Photocopying, faxing, packet mailing and newspaper clipping functions have also been removed from the library. A library assistant was transferred to a new technical support unit to handle various non-library tasks for the division. This will free up the librarians to supply extra help to the research, fiscal and legal staff of the bureau.

NEW MEXICO--The legislative session is in full swing, with the chief emphasis being on DWI, ethics, health care and education legislation. Late in January, a bill which was vetoed last year creating full-time chief clerks quickly sailed through both houses and was as quickly signed into law.

NEW YORK--The New York State Library Network Services Planning Task Force submitted its final report in November 1992. The report defines the services, roles, and relationships of the State Library as information provider, broker, publishing switch and catalyst in a networked environment. Members represented state government, government publishers, non-government publishers and the public. Copies of the report may be requested from Mary Redmond, Principal Librarian, Legislative and Governmental Services, New York State Library, Cultural Education Center, Albany, NY 12230.

Document Depository Legislation--Assembly No. 1742, a bill to amend the New York State Printing and Public Documents Act, was introduced on January 20, 1993. The bill would give statutory authorization to the New York State Document Depository Program administered by the State Library. Under the program, legislative and agency publications are deposited in the State Library and in turn disseminated to a network of depository libraries for public access. It is hoped that legislative authorization will strengthen compliance and improve access to New York State government information.

OHIO--The Ohio Legislative Service Commission Library was fortunate to be able to purchase IN MAGIC and SearchMAGIC software last spring for use with automating library operations. This is one of the products demonstrated and discussed at the fall 1990 Professional Development Seminar held in Columbus.

After training in August, Debbie Tavenner assumed the role of project manager and coordinated limited retrospective indexing of the LSC research memos file that includes access by author, date, General Assembly number, keyword, statute, constitution, and rule section in addition to the subject access that has always been provided in the card file. With proofing of these on-line materials almost completed, we look forward to introducing LSC research staff to SearchMAGIC, the user-friendly search-only component. Research memos will be indexed entirely on-line during the 1993-94 General Assembly session. We look forward to sending one unsightly card file to the state salvage department!

Debbie also coordinated serials check-in using the serials management capabilities of IN MAGIC. That project is essentially complete and we were thrilled to be able to circulate to all members of the General Assembly as they began the new session.
complete alphabetical list of all periodicals currently received in the LSC Library. Future possible projects include downloading our book catalog from OCLC Tapes and additional indexing projects.

VERMONT--During the Fall of 1992 the Vermont Department of Libraries added materials from the Vermont State Archives to its on-line catalog database. Now manuscript records are available to the public in all legislative districts throughout the state.

NCSL PUBLICATIONS
Copies of all NCSL publications listed below are available from the Marketing Department, (303)830-2200, unless otherwise noted.

BOOKS
Family Support and Education Item 3118
Voters and School Finance Item 3120
Investment Across the Atlantic Item 3911
Energy Management and Conservation Item 4115
Legislative Authority Over the Enacted Budget Item 5319
1992 State Legislative Summary: CYF Item 6128
Guarding Against Drug and Alcohol Abuse Item 6635
Recreational Boating Safety Item 9348
Issues Outlook 1993 Item 9350
State Budget Actions 1992 (LFP) Item 5106-82
State Tax Actions 1992 (LFP) Item 5106-83
State Fiscal Outlook for 1993 (LFP) Item 5105-84

NEW NCSL VIDEOTAPE
Legislative Role in Solid Waste Management Item 9126-3270
Aging Population: U.S. and Japan Item 9127-3270

Workers' Compensation Item 9128-3270
A Briefing for International Government Item 9129-3270
What Legislators Need to Know About State Information Policy Item 9130-3270

RECENT VIDEOTAPE RELEASES:
Information Policy: The State's Role

Workers' Compensation: Working Toward a State Legislative Solution
Aging Societies - East and West: Japan's Lessons for Legislators
NCSL Services
The NCSL Connection - The Bridge between the States and the American Federal System

STATE LEGISLATIVE REPORTS
"Federal Assistance for the Transportation of Spent Fuel" (Vol. 17, No. 10)
"Constitutional Amendment to Require a Balanced Federal Budget" (Vol. 17, No. 11)
"Risk Assessment and Communication: Techniques for Managing the Transport of Nuclear Spent Fuel and High Level Radioactive Waste" (Vol. 17, No. 12)
"Legislative Television Programming in the States" (Vol. 17, No. 13)
"Getting to the Point: HIV Drug Abuse and Syringe Exchange in the United States" (Vol. 17, No. 14)
"Strategies for State Reciprocity in Asbestos Accreditation" (Vol. 17, No. 15)
"States and the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act" (Vol. 17, No. 16)
"Project 2061: Education for a Changing Future" (Vol. 17, No. 17)
"HIV Infected Health Care Workers: Debating the Issues" (Vol. 17, No. 18)

"Stalking Laws" (Vol. 17, No. 19)

"Financing Water Quality Infrastructure: An Update on State Revolving Funds" (Vol. 17, No. 20)

"New Member Orientation Programs" (Vol. 17, No. 21)

"Public Information and Media Relations in State Legislatures" (Vol. 17, No. 22)


STATE-FEDERAL ISSUE BRIEFS

"Summary of the 102nd Congress: First Session" (Vol. 5, No. 1)

"Insurance Company Insolvencies: State-Federal Issues" (Vol. 5, No. 2)

"Low Income Housing: Overview of State-Federal Issues" (Vol. 5, No. 3)

"Mandate Relief Legislation: January 1991 to August 1992" (Vol. 5, No. 4)

"Summary of the 102nd Congress: Second Session" (Vol. 5, No. 5)

NEW DIVISION OF PARLIAMENTARY SERVICES IN PANAMA
by Barbara Laughon, Ohio

The head of the new division of Parliamentary Services is Estela Koyner, formerly assistant to the Chief Clerk of the Assembly of Panama. She oversees library operations, research, bill drafting, and other functions connected with law making. She has been studying at the Center for Legislative Development at the State University of New York in Albany, where she received her certificate on legislative administration. Before studying in Albany she traveled with a group of people observing legislative agencies in action in Florida, New York and Washington, D.C.

Ms. Koyner uses her copy of the Legislative Research Librarians Directory to assist in making contacts with other experienced legislative librarians.

The purpose of the Center for Legislative Development at SUNY-Albany is to work with legislatures around the world, especially those in emerging democracies, to help them develop as strong democratic institutions. The Center receives funding from the U.S. Department of State through the Agency for International Development.

STAFF SECTION REGIONAL COORDINATORS for 1993

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LRL Newslne, Winter 1993
Clare Cholik (South Dakota)
Contact for:
  Illinois    Minnesota
  Indiana     North Dakota
  Iowa        South Dakota
  Michigan    Wisconsin

NEXT ISSUE OF NEWSLINE

The deadline for the Spring 1993 edition of NEWSLINE is APRIL 15. But please don't wait for April. Send any news about your library, your legislature, or your state to your regional coordinator or to Chris Pattarozzi at NCSL, Denver.

Thanks to the many staff section members who submitted information for this issue.

NEWSLINE is published four times a year by the Legislative Research Librarians Staff Section of NCSL. NEWSLINE is edited by Chris Pattarozzi (NCSL Denver).