

 THE FINITE STRING 

NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR COMPUTATIONAL LINGUISTICS

VOLUME 13 - NUMBER 1

FEBRUARY 1976

A combined alphabetic list of members of the Association and persons mentioned in the 1974 and 1975 sets of AJCL, both contributors and authors of abstracted papers, is in preparation. A new scheme of topical categories is being prepared by cluster analysis of responses from members, and will be used as headings on a set of index guide cards which will list articles, abstracts and members by topic. The whole package will be distributed about a month after this issue.

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF COMPUTATIONAL LINGUISTICS is published by the Center for Applied Linguistics for the Association for Computational Linguistics.

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

S T A N L E Y R . P E T R I C K

1976 PRESIDENT OF A C L

Dr. Petrick works on syntactic and semantic analysis for transformational grammars; he has been employed in this field since 1967 as a member of the Theoretical and Computational Linguistics Group at the IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Center. His doctoral dissertation (Linguistics, MIT, 1965) was *A Recognition Procedure for Transformational Grammars*; it was one of the original systems to go beyond phrase structure.

Dr. Petrick programmed the Ordvac Computer in 1953 and went on to study digital computation at MIT as a student officer in the Air Force. From 1958 to 1967, he was a research mathematician in the Applied Mathematics Branch of the Air Force Cambridge Research Laboratory. His research was on truth function minimization, speech recognition, and formal language theory.

He was chairman of the ACM Special Interest Group on Symbolic and Algebraic Manipulation, 1969-1971, program chairman of the 1968 ACL meeting, and vice president of ACL in 1975.

P E R S O N A L N O T E S

BRUDERER HERBERT To Finkenweg 3, 3110 Munsingen/Berne,
from Haslerstrasse 12, Berne.

DE MEY, MARC T. M. To Department of Psychology, University of
Tilburg, Hogeschoollaan 225, Tilburg, Netherlands, from
Gent, Belgium.

DOBREE, NICK To Rose Cottage, Hindon, Wiltshire, England, from
Beirut, pending the cessation of hostilities.

RAMEH, CLEA To School of Languages and Linguistics, George-
town University, from a year in Brazil. Rameh is chairman
of the 1976 Round Table on Languages and Linguistics.

REDDY, D. RAJ Guggenheim fellowship for studies in the com-
puter processing of speech.

WALTER, JOHN PAUL To 1746 Curtis Avenue, Manhattan Beach,
California 90266

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY ROUND TABLE
ON
LANGUAGES AND LINGUISTICS 1976
“Semantics: Theory and Application”

March 11, 12, 13, 1976

The theme of the Georgetown University Round Table on Languages and Linguistics 1976 is semantics. There will be two types of meetings: (1) fourteen Interest Group Sessions on Thursday afternoon, March 11; and (2) four Plenary Sessions

on Thursday evening, on Friday morning and afternoon, and on Saturday morning, March 11-13. On Friday evening, Georgetown University will host a buffet reception for those attending the Round Table.



The Interest Group Sessions will provide an opportunity for informal discussion of various related topics. These sessions will be chaired and their topics will be introduced by scholars in the various fields. A limit of 25 participants for each Group should provide a manageable interchange of ideas. Acceptance for each group will depend on early preregistration. On the form below participants should indicate their preferred Interest Group and list any specific topic they desire discussed. Those not registering

until the Round Table itself cannot be guaranteed participation in an Interest Group.

The Plenary Sessions will explore the relationship of semantics to various theoretical viewpoints in linguistics, to problems in applied linguistics and to problems in language teaching. The Plenary Sessions will also discuss the relationships of semantics to anthropology, computer science, philosophy, and psychology.

Interest Group Sessions / March 11, 1976

2:30—5:30 p.m.

TOPICS AND CHAIRMEN

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 <i>TEFL: English for Special Purposes</i>
James Alatis, Georgetown University | 7 <i>Linguistics and Early Reading</i>
Robert Lado, Georgetown University |
| 2 <i>Communication Strategies and Modern Language Teaching</i>
Francisco Bosco, Georgetown University | 8 <i>Semantics and Computer Science</i>
R. Ross Macdonald, Georgetown University |
| 3 <i>The Semantics of Tense and Aspect in English</i>
Walter A. Cook, S.J., Georgetown University | 9 <i>Literature for Basic Language Skills</i>
Marzieh Samii, Ferdowsi (Meshed) University |
| 4 <i>Semantics, Cognition, and the Brain</i>
William Orr Dingwall, University of Maryland | 10 <i>Acquiring Meaning in a Second Culture</i>
Muriel Saville-Troike, Georgetown University |
| 5 <i>Linguistics, Psychoanalysis, and Dynamics of Language in Groups</i>
Robert DiPietro, Georgetown University | 11 <i>Historical Semantics</i>
Shaligram Shukla, Georgetown University |
| 6 <i>Semantics and the Teaching of English to Speakers of Other Dialects</i>
Ralph Fasold, Georgetown University | 12 <i>Sign Language, Semantics, Semiotics</i>
William C. Stokoe, Gallaudet College |
| | 13 <i>Bilingual Education</i>
F. LeRoy Walser, Office of Bilingual Education, USOE |
| | 14 <i>Comprehension in Reading</i>
Rose Marie Weber, Cornell University |

Plenary Sessions / March 11-13, 1976

HALL OF NATIONS, WALSH BUILDING, 36TH AND N STREETS, N.W.

March 11, 7:30—10:00 p.m.

Semantics: Some Synchronic and Diachronic Aspects

Dwight Bolinger, Palo Alto, California
 Winfred P. Lehmann, University of Texas, Austin

March 12, 2:00—5:00 p.m.

Semantics and Other Disciplines

Oswald Werner, Northwestern University
 Charles Rieger, University of Maryland
 Gilbert Harman, Princeton University
 Alfonso Caramazza, Johns Hopkins University and
 Concordia University

March 12, 9:00—12:00 noon

Semantics and Linguistics

Jorge E. Hankamer, Harvard University
 Ray S. Jackendoff, Brandeis University
 Geoffrey Leech, University of Lancaster
 Barbara Hall Partee, University of Massachusetts

March 13, 9:00—12:00 noon

Semantics and Language Pedagogy

Frances M. Aid, Florida International University
 Milton M. Azevedo, University of Colorado
 Christopher N. Candlin, University of Lancaster
 Ragnhild Soderberg, University of Stockholm

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES AND LINGUISTICS

Preregistration for the Round Table will close March 8. The preregistration fee is \$6.00; the registration fee is \$8.00. Early preregistration should guarantee participation in the Interest Group desired, but since participation is limited, preregistrants should indicate the order of their preference and list any specific topic they desire discussed.

Make checks payable to GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY.

MAIL TO: Clea Rameh, *Chairman*
 Georgetown University Round Table
 on Languages and Linguistics 1976
 GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20057
 Telephone: (202) 625-3021

NAME: _____
 LAST (please print or type) FIRST MIDDLE INITIAL

ADDRESS: _____

 _____ (zip code)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATION: _____

INTEREST GROUP
 PREFERENCE: (1) _____, (2) _____, (3) _____, (4) _____

SUGGESTIONS FOR TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:



Science and Our Expectations:
The Reach and the Grasp

Annual Meeting

Boston

18-24 February 1976

*American Association
for the Advancement of Science*

PROGRAM EXCERPTS

EXTRATERRESTRIAL INTELLIGENCE

Extrasolar systems, origins of life, Ozma search, beacons,
Soviet searches, extragalactic systems, long-range strategies.

CARL E. SAGAN, FRANK D. DRAKE, GEORGE D. GATEWOOD, LESLIE E.
ORTEL, PATRICK PALMER, BEN M. ZUCKERMAN, ALAN H. BRIDLE, P. A.
FELDMAN, N. S. KARDASHEV, PHILIP MORRISON

THE INTEGRATION OF THE NATURAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Philosophy, humanism, normative factors

EDGAR TASCHDJIAN, ERVIN LAZLO, ALFRED KUHN

TELECOMMUNICATION, TRANSPORTATION, AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Substitutions for travel, urban growth, alternatives.

JACK M. NILLES, RICHARD C. HARKNESS, JERRY D. WARD, A. QUINCY
JONES

MAN-COMPUTER RELATIONS: WHAT WILL THEY BE?

Automatic speech, computer programming, offices, home terminals, brain-computer hookups.

JOHN D. GOULD, WILLIAM A. WOODS, PATRICIA GOLDBERG, JERRY I. ELKIND, JOHN MCCARTHY, ADAM REED

THE PERISHING PUBLISHING PROSPECT FOR SCIENTIFIC AUTHORS

Economics and a resourceful technology are eroding the comfortable system by which post-World War II scientists have gained credit for results of their research. Existing arrangements for citation and indexing for reference and retrieval are similarly threatened. This Symposium will attempt to alert scientific authors to trends, opportunities, and dangers they must face in the next decade, as foreseen by knowledgeable communicators with expertise and occupational mandates to define and predict the future. Emphasis in all presentations will be on the impact of imminent changes on individual authors rather than on specialized problems in technical and scientific information transfer.

ARRANGED BY HAROLD F. OSBORNE, ASSISTANT FOR INFORMATION, DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY, VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS: AN ENDANGERED SPECIES

Robert A. Day, Managing Editor, American Society for Microbiology

THE PUBLISHING OUTLOOK FOR 1985 AND BEYOND

Robert A. Harte, Executive Officer, American Society of Biological Chemists

THE CITATION OUTLOOK FOR 1985 AND BEYOND

Ben H. Weil, President, National Federation of Abstracting and Indexing Services

TRENDS IN TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION FOR SCIENTIFIC COMMUNICATION

Seldon W. Terrant, Head, R&D, Books and Journals Division, American Chemical Society

ELECTRONIC ALTERNATIVES TO PAPER-BASED COMMUNICATION

H. E. Bamford, Program Director for Access Improvement, Office of Science Information Service, National Science Foundation

AMERICA: THE FIRST INFORMATION SOCIETY?

Information sector, information as a commodity, location decisions, productivity, international trade, market aspects, mass production

PAUL POLISHUK, EDWIN B. PARKER, MARC U. PORAT, ANTHONY G. OETTINGER, YALE BRAUNSTEIN, HERBERT DORDICK, FRANK BERNSTEIN, VINCENT GIULIANO, LAWRENCE DARBY, ROBERT FANO

SCIENTIFIC COMMUNICATIONS AND THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

Information is both the input of raw material and the output of scientific and engineering activities. Communications services are the means by which scientists and engineers are able to build upon the results of prior work even though that work may have been done at a distant place or in a different discipline. Many prestigious committees and study groups have analyzed the information problems of scientists and engineers and offered a broad range of recommendations for improvement. But very little has changed. This symposium will review the problems with, and needs for, communications services by the scientific community and suggest new approaches to the problem of maintaining an economically viable and user responsive scientific and technical communications enterprise in the U.S. Speakers will deal with a variety of specific questions including: What is the role of information in science and engineering? How much progress have we made in improving information services during the last 10 years? What are the current problems in financial support, organization, and management of the scientific communication enterprise? What can be done to improve the existing situation and enhance the value of scientific and technical information services to users engaged in scientific research?

ARRANGED BY RUTH M. DAVIS, DIRECTOR, INSTITUTE FOR COMPUTER SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY, NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS, AND JOEL D. GOLDHAR, PROGRAM DIRECTOR FOR USER REQUIREMENTS, OFFICE OF SCIENCE INFORMATION SERVICE, NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

PROGRESS IN IMPROVING COMMUNICATIONS AMONG SCIENTISTS

Alvin M. Weinberg, Director, Institute for Energy Analysis

THE ECONOMIC CONDITION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNICATIONS ENTERPRISE

Fritz Machlup, Professor of Economics, New York University

THE ROLE AND IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNICATIONS IN THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE

J. Herbert Hollomon, Director, Center for Policy Alternatives, MIT

COMMUNICATING ABOUT SCIENCE TO THE PUBLIC

Edwin D. Canham, Editor Emeritus, Christian Science Monitor

NEXT STEPS--A PLAN OF ACTION FOR IMPROVING COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

Lewis M. Branscomb, Chief Scientist, IBM Corporation

COMPUTERS AND MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE: EXTENDING THE AVAILABILITY AND USE OF KNOWLEDGE IN MEDICINE

The symposium explores new directions of development extending the use of medical knowledge via computer-based systems. In one category of such systems, knowledge is extracted automatically from the aggregate of patient records (medical data banks); another category encapsulates and makes available decision making rules of human experts. The program describes the current state of the art in the development of these systems; reviews research in the modeling of clinical decision processes; examines the implications of computer-aided consulting on medical practice and education; and surveys Federal programs which support the training of manpower for biomedical information processing

ARRANGED BY VLADIMIR SLAMECKA, DIRECTOR, SCHOOL OF INFORMATION AND COMPUTER SCIENCE, GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

USE OF COMPUTERIZED DATA BASES TO AID IN PATIENT MANAGEMENT DECISIONS

R. A. Rosati, Assistant Professor, Duke University Medical Center

A PERSPECTIVE ON KNOWLEDGE BASED DECISION SUPPORT SYSTEMS FOR CLINICAL MEDICINE

Harry Pople, Co-Director, Medical Information System Lab., Pitt.

METHODOLOGIES OF RESEARCH IN CLINICAL PROBLEM SOLVING

Albert N. Badre, Information and Computer Science, Georgia Tech.

IMPLICATIONS OF COMPUTER-AIDED MEDICAL CONSULTING

Ralph L. Engle, Jr., Medicine and Public Health, Cornell University

THE EDUCATION OF BIOMEDICAL INFORMATION/COMPUTER SCIENTISTS AND PROFESSIONALS: FEDERAL TRAINING PROGRAM

Roger W. Dahlen, Chief, Division of Biomedical Medicine, NIH

APPLICATION DEADLINES

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

MARCH -- OCTOBER, 1976

- MARCH 1 FELLOWSHIPS
Summer Seminars for College Teachers, 1976
- MARCH 8 RESEARCH GRANTS
Centers of Research, beginning after December 1, 1976
- MARCH 15 EDUCATION PROGRAMS
Education Project Grants, beginning after December 1
- APRIL 1 EDUCATION PROGRAMS
Consultants Grants (beg. 6/15); Planning Grants (12/1)
- APRIL 15 YOUTHGRANTS
Projects beginning after October 1, 1976
- MAY 3 RESEARCH GRANTS
Research Tools and Editing, beginning after Jan. 1, 1977
- MAY 17 PUBLIC PROGRAMS
Projects beginning after October 1, 1976
- JUNE 1 FELLOWSHIPS
Fellowships for Independent Study and Research, 1977-78
- RESEARCH GRANTS
General Research, beginning after January 1, 1977
- JULY 1 EDUCATION PROGRAMS
Program Grants (1/1/77); Consultants Grants (9/15/76)
- AUGUST 1 EDUCATION PROGRAMS
Development Grants, beginning after May 1, 1977
- AUGUST 2 PUBLIC PROGRAMS
Projects beginning after January 1, 1977
- OCTOBER 1 EDUCATION PROGRAMS
Consultants Grants, beginning after December 15, 1976
- OCTOBER 6 RESEARCH GRANTS
Centers of Research, beginning after July 1, 1977

'76 NCC...
Landmarks
in Data Pr
1976 National Computer Conference,
76 NCC, c o AFIPS, 210 Summit Ave

SCIENCE AND GOVERNMENT: RALSTON TO SPEAK

The scientist has prerogatives, duties, and obligations in government, and so do professional societies. Anthony Ralston, president of AFIPS and past president of ACM, will speak on this theme at a plenary session of the 1976 NCC.

Federal commissions on privacy and electronic fund-transfer systems are among the developments he cites that raise questions of professionalism, codes of ethics, good conduct, measures of proficiency, public protection, and social and political awareness.

Dr. Ralston is professor and chairman of Computer Science in the State University of New York at Buffalo.



SECOND WORKSHOP ON COMPUTER ARCHITECTURE
FOR NON-NUMERIC PROCESSING

GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA, JANUARY 22-23, 1976
SPONSORED BY ACM SIGIR, SIGMOD, SIGARCH

Stanley Y. W. Su and G. Jack Lipovski, Co-Chairmen

PROGRAM

FILE OPERATIONS IN A STREAMING PROCESSOR
B. W. Jordan, Jr., Northwestern University
K. J. King, Digital Equipment Corporation
G. D. Miller, Bell Telephone Laboratories

ARCHITECTURE OF A NONNUMERICAL ACCUMULATOR
Yaohan Chu, University of Maryland

HIERARCHICAL MICROPROCESSOR ORGANIZATION
David R. Smith, SUNY, Stony Brook

A GENERAL APPROACH TO FUNCTIONALLY DISTRIBUTED COMPUTER ARCHITECTURE
A. Reszka, Teletype Corporation
M. J. Gonzalez, Jr., Northwestern University

A STUDY OF MACHINE ARCHITECTURES FOR SPECIALIZED INFORMATION
RETRIEVAL COMPUTERS
B. J. Hurley and Duncan Lawrie, University of Illinois, Urbana

A SPECIALIZED COMPUTER ARCHITECTURE FOR HIGH-SPEED TEXT SEARCHING
David C. Roberts, Central Intelligence Agency

AN ARCHITECTURE FOR THE EFFICIENT COMBINING OF LINEARLY ORDERED
LISTS
Lee A. Hollaar, University of Illinois, Urbana

A MULTIPLE ASSOCIATIVE MEMORY ORGANIZATION FOR PIPELINING A
DIRECTORY TO A VERY LARGE DATA BASE
P. Bruce Berra and Ashok K. Singhanian, Syracuse University

A TWO-LEVEL ARCHITECTURE FOR A LARGE DATA BASE

Tomas Lang, University of California, Los Angeles
Ezatollah Nahouraii, IBM

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF A RELATIONAL ASSOCIATIVE PROCESSOR

E. A. Ozkarahan, S. A. Shuster, and K. C. Sevcik
University of Toronto

A VIRTUAL MEMORY SYSTEM FOR A RELATIONAL ASSOCIATIVE PROCESSOR

S. A. Schuster, E. A. Ozkarahan, and K. C. Smith
University of Toronto

IMPLEMENTATION OF A CONTEXT-ADDRESSED PIPELINE³ SIMD ARCHITECTURE

S. J. Ackerman, A. Eman, G. J. Lipovski, and S. W. Su
University of Florida

SOFTWARE ASPECT OF THE CASSM SYSTEM

Ahmed Eman, Stanley Y. W. Su, and G. J. Lipovski
University of Florida

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR INFORMATION SCIENCE

PRESIDENT 1976

MELVIN S. DAY

The deputy director of the National Library of Medicine was formerly head of the Office of Science Information Service, National Science Foundation.

He was chairman of the White House Committee on Scientific and Technical Information; is chairman of the Federal Library Committee's executive committee, a member of the UNISIST advisory committee, and chairman of the Panel on Environmental Quality Information of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR

L I T E R A R Y & L I N G U I S T I C C O M P U T I N G

UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM

DECEMBER 13, 1975

Computer-controlled sampling for bilanguage dictionary compilation
R. D. BATHURST, UNITED KINGDOM

Les activites du Lexique Intellectuel Europeen - traitement
electronique des textes d'auteurs
T. GREGORY, ITALY

On lexicographical computing - some aspects of the work for a
Mexican Spanish dictionary
L. F. LARA, MEXICO

The recognition of finite verbs in French texts
BENTE MAEGAARD, DENMARK

Address

1976 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING SOCIETIES

CHRISTOPHER INN COLUMBUS, OHIO, MARCH 9-10

WEDNESDAY MARCH 10, 1976

INFORMATION

Dilemmas, Decisions, Directions

30 A.M. 2:00 P.M. – REGISTRATION

TUESDAY MARCH 9, 1976

8:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. – REGISTRATION

**THEME SESSION I: Current Research Projects
Related to Abstracting and Indexing**

9:00 A.M. – 11:45 A.M.

Chairman Lee G. Burchinal (NSF OSIS)

Session Note: The development of new technologies has created the potential for improvements in information systems. The NSF OSIS has taken a leading role in supporting research to contribute to increased national productivity through the use of scientific and technical information. Reports of some current basic research projects related to abstracting and indexing will be presented.

LUNCH

(Attendees to make own arrangements)

**THEME SESSION II: Changing Patterns of Primary
Sources 2:30 P.M. 5:00 P.M.**

Chairman A. Hood Roberts (CAL)

Session Note: Not only is the quantity of primary literature requiring indexing and abstracting increasing, but also the format of the primary sources is changing. These new formats include the review journal, the synoptic journal, microforms and videotape. These new directions have a definite impact on the abstracting and indexing community.

**5:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.
FEDERATION ASSEMBLY
BUSINESS MEETING**

**6:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.
CONFERENCE-WIDE RECEPTION**

at

**The Center of Science and Industry
Sponsored by Chemical Abstracts Service**

THEME SESSION III: Indexing in Interactive

Systems – 9:00 A.M. 11:45 A.M.

Chairman Marvin Wilson (NTIS)

Session Note: Information dissemination centers utilize both data bases created by the abstracting and indexing community and software created by the center. This combination of resources creates both problems and enrichment in the transfer of information in the interactive mode. The identification of these dilemmas will promote new discussion and directions for improved dissemination of information.

MILES CONRAD MEMORIAL LECTURE
Presented by Frederick G. Kilgour (OCLC)

CONFERENCE LUNCHEON

12:30 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.

THEME SESSION IV: New Directions in User

Education – 2:00 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.

Chairman Roger K. Summit (Lockheed Aircraft Corp.)

Session Note: User education involves many segments of the information community and often leads to fragmentation of the knowledge needed to utilize the resources and services available. Real needs must be identified and content provided in new modes that enable the multiple users in the information chain to maximize their understanding of materials provided.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

ISTITUTO PER GLI STUDI SEMANTICI E COGNITIVI

FONDAZIONE DALLE MOLLE

17 RUE DE CANDOLLE

1205 GENEVE, SWITZERLAND

The new address is in effect since January 1, 1976.

A list of reports was printed on Microfiche 22:46. Abstracts can be located through the index.

18. Semantics, preference, and inference. A full description of a system and a program. To appear.
19. Frames, planes, and nets. Greg Scragg. SF40 HC, SF5 MF.
20. A structure for actions. Greg Scragg. SF40 HC, SF5 MF.
21. On understanding German noun clusters. Wolfgang Samlowski
SF 20 HC, SF2.50 MF.
22. A brief on case. Eugene Charniak. SF 30 HC, SF 4 MF.
23. A process to implement some word-sense disambiguations.
Philip Hayes. February 1976.
24. On the referential attributive distinction. Eugene Charniak.
February 1976.

25. Several ways to be suggestive. Margaret King. February 1976.

26. Pragmatic aspects of noun cluster understanding in German.

SF20 HC, SF2.50 MF.

Prices of older reports in Swiss Francs:

No	HC	MF
1	5.00	
3		2.50
4		10.00
5		4.00
6.	2.50	
7.	5.00	2.50
8.	5.00	2.00
9.	5.00	2.00
10.	5.00	4.00
11.		4.00
12.	5.00	
13.	2.50	
14.	2.50	
	25.00	

Proceedings of the Tutorial on Computational
Semantics

Petrarch Translated by Computer

SUNY Binghamton linguist finds computer a major time-saver in work on Petrarch's early letters

A work some consider to be essential to a firm grasp of Humanism and the Renaissance, the cultural movements that mark the beginning of modern times, has been translated with the assistance of the computer by *Dr. Aldo S. Bernardo* professor of

Italian and comparative literature at SUNY Binghamton. The project was made possible through funding from the SUNY/Research Foundation Awards Program, and with the cooperation of Binghamton's Computer Center.



COMPUTER PRINTOUTS were a constant reference source as Dr. Aldo S. Bernardo of SUNY Binghamton dictated his translation of Petrarch's "Rerum Familiarium Libri," a collection of some 350 letters written by the famous Renaissance poet to a variety of correspondents. The work has been published by the SUNY Press.

*From Chronica, Published by the Research
Foundation of the State University of
New York*

The *Rerum Familiarium Libri* comprises about 350 Latin prose letters written by Francesco Petrarch to a number of correspondents: classical, contemporary, and some even fictitious. Dr. Bernardo's translation was recently published by State University of New York Press.

The translation began in early 1969 when the definitive edition of the Latin prose letters by Rossi and Bosco was keypunched with pagination and paragraphing into Binghamton's computer. By that summer an alphabetical word list of unique forms was ready to be translated into English.

With a team of five Latinists, Dr. Bernardo entered as many as seven meanings for each form on special printout sheets. The alphabetical listing was then converted into a chronological ordering of the forms, starting with the first word of the first letter. Using these he then translated the first eight books, or 124 letters, which this volume includes.

A concordance of the entire collection was produced as a sort of by-product. This is to be published by SUNY Press shortly, according to Dr. Bernardo.

Dr. Bernardo believes the computer is a great time-saver in translations of this kind. "Never have we had individual Renaissance Latin forms in so much context, with five or six Latin words before and after each key word. The very meter of Renaissance Latin can be studied now because of the huge context these printouts offer," he says.

A major undertaking in humanistic research the translation is the first attempt in English to make available all of Petrarch's earliest and perhaps most important collection of prose letters.

The SUNY Research Foundation Awards granted Dr. Bernardo included a \$15,300 Joint Awards Council Award in 1967 (under a special program lasting for only one year) and a \$3200 combination grant-in-aid and fellowship awarded in 1969.

Bebe Landry
Public Information Office
SUNY Binghamton

COMPUTER-AIDED TRANSCRIPTION OF
STENOTYPE

Stentran Systems, Inc , located at 380 Maple Avenue, West, in Vienna, Virginia 22180, has "developed a program for the computer translation of stenotype into English," according to Michael E. LaBorde, Director of Linguistics. Experience with their system was described in two 1975 issues of the publication of the National Shorthand Reporters Association by Gilbert Frank Halasz. The Association has a Committee on Computer-Aided Transcription; their chairman is Doris O. Wong, 30 Milk Street, Boston 02109.

A news release from Stentran, dated 1975, states that their system can provide, besides the transcription, "an overview of the information arranged in conceptual fashion"

"After analysis of the semantic or legal road map which has been prepared for him," the release goes on, "the attorney is then in a position to demand additional litigation support from Stentran in the form of key words, phrases, dates, conjunctive recall of concepts or ideas, or any verbal patterns which he feels can assist him in reaching legal conclusions."

DREXEL LIBRARY QUARTERLY COVERS CURRENT ISSUES IN SERIALS LIBRARIANSHIP

PHILADELPHIA--The Drexel Library Quarterly, Volume 11, no.3, examines "Current Issues in Serials Librarianship." Serials librarians often have difficulty identifying up-to-date sources of information directly related to their work. The upcoming issue deals with these difficulties which are affecting on-the-job librarians.

The articles, selected for their timeliness, often emphasize the manner in which serials librarians can have impact upon the issues under discussion.

Benita M. Weber, Serials Librarian of Montgomery County (Pa.) Community College, and Toni Carbo Bearman, Executive Director of the National Federation of Abstracting and Indexing Services, are guest editors for the issue.

Articles included in the issue are: "The Serials Librarian As Activist" by David C. Taylor; "Main Entry for Serials" by Joseph J. Howard, "ISBD(S) and Title Main Entry for Serials" by C. Sumner Spalding; "International Cooperation in Serials" by Joseph W. Price; "National Serials Data Program" by Mary Sauer; "The CONSER Project" by Paul Vassallo; "CONSER Inter-Relationships" by Lawrence G. Livingston; "Serials: Costs and Budget Projections" by F.F. Clasquin; and "Education of Serials Librarians" by Benita M. Weber.

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