
NEWS AND NOTES

Under the revised format of the Newsletter this section will include notices on a wide variety of topics. First, of course, will be organizational information dealing with IASSIST. Other standard features will consist of upcoming conferences and meetings; reports of organizations of interest to IASSIST members; and educational and/or research opportunities. The editor would welcome any additional suggestions concerning this section and will include information members would like to have available or make available to others.

IASSIST NEWS

Chairperson's Report, February 8-11, 1978

The second North American IASSIST Conference took place on February 8-11, 1978, at the Carson Inn, Itasca, Illinois. "State of the art: Perspectives" was the theme of the conference. The members of the program committee, Tony Falsetto, Public Archives of Canada; Sheldon Laube, C. M. Leinwand Associates; Richard Roistacher, University of Illinois; and Patrick Bova, National Opinion Research Center, are to be commended for their efforts which made this meeting a success. Richard Roistacher, with the assistance of Barbara Noble, University of Illinois, did an exceptionally fine job of handling the local arrangements. James Davis, Harvard University sociologist, was the guest speaker at the banquet.

The conference was organized around seven formal panels and sessions of IASSIST Action Groups. Panel topics included the following: Documentation; Privacy versus Freedom of Information; Software and Analysis Techniques for Non-rectangular Files; Alternative Organizational Arrangements for Data Access; Network Environments; Acquisition and Preservation; and Networking Products and Services. The papers presented during the panels will be made available in the form of published proceedings and a selection of the papers will be featured in the IASSIST Newsletter, now under the editorship of Thomas Wm. Madron, Western Kentucky University. Seventy-five individuals attended the meeting. A list of participants is available through Judith Rowe, U. S. Secretariat.

One of the developments at the Itasca Conference was some discussion concerning the role of the Action Groups, which in turn is stimulating further review. Originally the action groups developed with "products" as the objectives, but the absolute has not been realized. The current format allows new members of IASSIST to belong to an Action Group immediately upon entry into the organization. This format does not readily facilitate progress on the designated products. Sharon Henry, Canadian Secretariat, has been asked to review the action group format and provide some alternative approaches. Individuals interested in this activity should address comments to her.

During the business meeting in Itasca a motion was made and passed to create the position of Archivist/Recorder for IASSIST. This position would be responsible for the preservation of the records of IASSIST including all reports, papers, and other designated documents. An appointment to this position will be made in the near future.

Perhaps of greatest immediate organizational significance of all the actions taken in Itasca was the creation of a Nominations and Elections Committee to handle the election procedures for members of the IASSIST Steering Committee. The Committee is composed of Elliott Avedon, University of Waterloo; Nancy Carmichael, U. S. Social Science Research Council; and Ekkhard Mochmann, University of Cologne. The Committee met several times during the Itasca Conference and through those meetings it became clear that some revisions to the constitution were necessary. The appropriate revisions and election procedures are presented in a separate insert to this Newsletter. Special attention was given to geographical distribution of the membership to assure adequate representation.

Carolyn Geda, Chairperson

1979 North American IASSIST Conference

The 1979 North American IASSIST Conference is scheduled for Ottawa, Canada, during May, 1979. As plans for the meeting are developed further information will be published
in the Newsletter. In the meantime, Sharon Henry, Canadian Secretariat, can furnish material concerning the planning of the conference.

IAASSIST Europe

The IASSIST Conference to be held in conjunction with the International Sociological Association Congress at Uppsala, Sweden, will take place on Wednesday and Thursday, August 16-17, 1978. Action Group meetings are scheduled for the afternoons and the panels are scheduled for the evenings, 8:30-11:00 p.m.

Three panels are scheduled and include the following: "Issues in Comparative Data and Research," Elliott Avedon, Department of Recreation, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Canada, Chair; "Research Problems Associated with Complex Data Bases," John DeVries, Department of Sociology, Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1S 5B6, Chair; and "Privacy versus Freedom of Information," Guido Martinotti, Archivio dati e programmi per le scienze sociali, via S. Cantoni 4, 20144 Milan, Italy, Chair. Individuals interested in presenting a paper should contact the appropriate chairperson. Papers may also be presented at action group meetings. Abstracts for Action Group papers should be submitted to the appropriate Action Group Coordinator or Regional Secretariat.

The European IASSIST conference is being held in conjunction with the meeting of the International Sociological Association and in order to attend the World Congress of Sociology, the registration/reservation form found elsewhere in this Newsletter must be completed and include advance payment of registration fees. The fee before April 30, 1978, is $65 (U.S.) for ISA members and $80 for non-members. Fees cover access to all Congress sessions and exhibits, the printed Congress Program, the printed book of abstracts of Congress papers, and a list of participants.

All accommodations in Uppsala will be reserved for ISA participants. Therefore, in order to secure reservations, the accommodation section of the reservation form must be completed. A copy of this form should also be sent to your regional IASSIST Secretariat. ISA is not organizing any charters to Uppsala but is leaving this to the national sociological associations. U. S. delegates should contact:

Group Travel Unlimited, Inc.
1025 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, D. C. 20036
Telephone: (202) 639-9555

Canadian delegates should contact:

Ms. Jan Buchanan, Manager
Convention Services
P. Lawson Travel
Suite 1415-2
Carlton Street
Toronto, Ontario M5B 1K2

A special mailing to IASSIST members is scheduled concerning the conference.

ORGANIZATIONAL REPORTS

UNISIST/Social Science Information

The following report was received from Fred Riggs, a member of IASSIST and UNISIST, describing the November, 1977 Paris meeting (see Newsletter, 1, 4, 41-42, for further information concerning UNISIST) of the Ad Hoc Committee on Social Science Information.

The purpose of the Ad Hoc Committee is to advise the UNESCO Division and UNISIST on how best to link the interests of the social science community with those of the natural science and engineering communities for whom UNISIST was originally designed. Two North Americans were invited to attend this meeting: Professor Jerome Clubb, executive director of the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (Ann Arbor) and executive secretary of the Social Science History Association; and Ms. Sharon Henry, executive director of the Canadian Clearinghouse for Social Science Data and Secretary for the Canadian chapter of IASSIST.

Regional Databases for Automated Cartography

A number of European research workers active in the analysis of regional problems met in Bergen, Norway, November 7-8, 1977, with the representatives of data services and centers of cartography to discuss the possibility for joint European action to link databases and facilities for computer mapping. The meeting was organized by the Norwegian Social Science Data Services, financed by the Norwegian Research Council and sponsored by
There was broad agreement on goals and objectives thought important by the group and the attendees agreed to seek support for the organization of two pilot projects during 1978-79. Papers on the pilot projects will be circulated before the next meeting of the Group, possibly in the summer of 1978.

EDUCATIONAL AND RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

Micro Data Collection Methods in Economics

An introductory course in library management of numerical machine readable data files designed to meet the interests and present and future needs of librarians, information specialists, and social scientists, will be held May 30-June 16, 1978, at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Course objectives are to increase awareness and knowledge of machine readable data through exposure to professionals working with large data bases, data base management, social science research, and data library and archive organization and management; to instruct in the latest techniques for dealing with this medium; and to provide practical experience within a real data library and computer environment.

Advance registration is required and should be completed prior to April 15, 1978. Additional information and application forms may be acquired from:

Alice Robbin or Al Schubert
Data & Computation Center
4452 Social Science Building
UN-Madison
Madison, WI 53706
Phone: (608) 262-7962

ICPSR Summer Program

The 1978 Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research has announced its summer program. At least three sessions should be of special interest to IASSIST members:

1. Workshop on Management, Library Control and Use of Computer Readable Information.

2. Small Computer System Hardware and Software.

3. Database Management for Complex Social and Historical Data.

In addition, there will be two special workshops dealing with criminal justice data, one of which will be directed toward data processing and data management problems in the field. For further information contact:

ICPSR
P. O. Box 1248
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106
Telephone: (313) 764-2570

SSRC (Britain) Visiting Fellowship, 1978-79

The Survey Archive invites applications to its Visiting Fellowship program for 1978-79, from social scientists interested in undertaking either substantive or methodological research based on the Archive's holdings. While direct monetary compensation is limited, computer resources and office space are provided by the fellowship. Applications, with a deadline of March 31, 1978, and a curriculum vitae should be addressed to:

The Director
SSRC Survey Archive
University of Essex
Wivenhoe Park
Colchester, Essex

Norwegian Social Science Data Services

The Norwegian Social Science Data Services will organize a training course to test a set of teaching materials based on survey data. The course will be held from June 18 through the 24th, 1978. The course will be based on a cross-national data package developed within the program of the International Social Science Council, as well as a set of Norwegian survey data prepared within the national program of electoral research. The training session is directed toward graduate students and junior faculty. Those interested in attending should apply before May 1, 1978 to:

Bjorn Henrichsen
Executive Director
NSD
Christiesgate 15-19
N-5014 BERGEN-UNIV.
Bergen, Norway
**POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Programmer/Analyst**

The Roper Center at Yale University has announced an opening for a computer programmer/analyst. A degree is preferred but not required. The position requires a person with several years of experience. A resume along with a letter of intent should be sent as soon as possible to:

Donald R. DeLuca  
P. O. Box 1732, Yale Station  
Yale University  
New Haven, Connecticut 06520

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