



USAIN

United States

Agricultural

Information

Network

**UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION NETWORK
NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**Hubert Humphrey Conference Center
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis, Minnesota
October 14-16, 1991**

**PRECONFERENCE-NATIONAL PRESERVATION
PLANNING IN AGRICULTURE**

October 12-13, 1991

**Preliminary Program
and
Registration Information**

AN INVITATION:

The theme of the second national conference of the United States Agricultural Information Network (USAIN) is "Electronic Information in the Agricultural Sciences." Building on the success of last year's inaugural meeting, this conference will bring together experts in information technology, extension, librarianship, agribusiness, research, and information policy. The program will provide opportunities for learning, debate, collegial networking, discussing recent accomplishments, and sharing a vision for the future of agricultural information.

Program Summary:

Day 1: Defining the Electronic Library for Agriculture

- what is the electronic library?
- how do the worlds of extension and libraries intersect in the electronic environment?
- how are colleagues meeting the challenges of the electronic library?

Day 2: Understanding Our Environment and Preserving Our Heritage

- what are the political and social trends affecting land-grant institutions?
- how will we preserve our agricultural information heritage?

Day 3: Access to Electronic Information from Government Sources

- how are major commercial vendors providing access to information from the government?
- what are the trends in federal information policy?
- how can librarians insure the availability of electronic information from government sources?

The program will provide opportunities to discuss issues with national experts, review and learn from project accomplishments, and investigate new products. The membership will also have the opportunity this year to participate in setting directions for national preservation efforts in agriculture and related subjects. In addition, committees formed last year will meet again this year to continue their work.

We invite those of you who were with us last year, and newcomers, to join us at our second national conference. The registration fee includes attendance at the program, tours of local libraries, and a reception at the University of Minnesota Arboretum.

On the following pages, you will find more details about the conference, information about housing, and a registration form.



**UNITED STATES AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION NETWORK
NATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**Minneapolis, Minnesota
October 14-16, 1991**

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1991: DEFINING THE
ELECTRONIC LIBRARY**

**Registration and Coffee
8am-9am**

Plenary Session 1 Welcome to the Second National USAIN
9-10:00am Conference
Julia Peterson, President
United States Agricultural Information Network

Keynote Address
An Electronic Library for the Agricultural Sciences

Speaker: Jan Olsen, Director
Albert R. Mann Library, Cornell University

An electronic library comprises a number of information genre provided at computer workstations in the workplace, wherever that may be. Ms Olsen will present this vision, discuss its significance to agriculture, and describe a model being implemented at Cornell.

Exhibit Opening and Break

10-10:30am

Exhibits are open 10am-4pm Monday and 10:30am-4:30pm Tuesday.

Products from SilverPlatter and a number of other vendors important to the agricultural information community will be on display during the USAIN meeting.

Plenary Session 2 Extension in the Electronic Environment

10:30am-noon

A presentation and discussion regarding plans for the use of information technology in extension and their relationship to electronic libraries

Information Technology and Extension

Speaker: Janet Poley, Director
 Communication Information and Technology
 Extension Services, U.S. Department of
 Agriculture

Ms Poley will describe the potentials of computing and networking technologies for the extension community, including recommendations presented in Future Application of Information Technology Across the Cooperative Extension System. Libraries' roles in working with extension to provide electronic information to the agricultural community will also be discussed.

National Networks: Present and Future

Speaker: Paul Evan Peters, Director
 Coalition for Networked Information

Mr. Peters will present an overview of the national networks, discussing important developments to be anticipated and crucial challenges to be faced by the information community, including agricultural information specialists.

Lunch & Speaker Electronic Information and the Farmer **noon-2:00pm**

Speaker: Newell Searle, PhD
 Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for the
 State of Minnesota

Session 4
Focus Groups
2-3:30pm

Building the Electronic Library

Meeting attendees can choose between three concurrent sessions. Presentations will be followed by opportunities for discussion. Please indicate on the meeting registration form your first and second choices of blocks.

Block 1: Organizing and storing Electronic Information

The Cargill Technical Network

Kathi Kohli, Senior Reference Librarian
Cargill Information Center

Ornamental Horticulture on a Multimedia CD-ROM

Pamela Mason, Automation Librarian
National Agricultural Library

The Role of the National Agricultural Library in the
USDA Plant Genome Research Program

Pamela Q. J. Andre, Associate Director for Automation, NAL

Keith W. Russell, Associate Director for Public Services, NAL

Sarah E. Thomas, Associate Director for Technical Services, NAL

Block 2: Transmitting Information via Electronic Networks

The Pennsylvania Extension Network: PENPages and More

Helen Smith, Agriculture Librarian
Penn State University

Document Transmission Project

Susan Nutter, Director
North Carolina State University Library

Block 3: Cooperating in the Electronic World

The Core Agricultural Literature Project

Wallace C. Olsen, Director
Core Agricultural Literature Project
Mann Library, Cornell University

Provision of Information

Services to Agriculture Research Libraries at Remote Laboratories

Peggy J. Beavers, Coordinator of Library Services to the Agricultural Research Service, NAL

Keith W. Russell, Associate Director for Public Services, NAL

Ted S. Sibia, Head, Bio/Ag Department, Shields Library, University of California, Davis

Break

3:30-4pm Exhibits remain open until 4pm.

Plenary Session 5 1991 in Review

4-5pm

User Perceptions of Agricola:

Report of a National Survey

Mike Fassino, Managing Director, Fassino Associates

Updates:

National Agricultural Library

Joe Howard, Director, National Agricultural Library

IAALD

Joe Howard, President IAALD

United States Agricultural Information Network

(USAIN)

Julia Peterson, President, USAIN

Committee and Interest Group Meetings

5-6:30pm

Committees and interest groups established last year will meet to review their accomplishments and plan the next year's activities. Those who are not members, but who are interested in joining and participating, are welcome to attend. Committees and interest groups include:

Telecommunications and Networking	Nancy Eaton, Chair
Membership	Rita Fisher, Chair
Document Delivery	Carol Armstrong, Chair
Collection Management	Brice Hobrock, Chair
Agricola	Shirley Edwards, Chair
Rural Information	Elizabeth Fuseler-McDowell, Chair
Legislation and Government	Elaine Albright, Chair

Hospitality Room

7pm-9pm

An opportunity to network, to catch up with old friends, to share news, and to enjoy refreshments in an informal drop-in atmosphere.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1991: UNDERSTANDING OUR ENVIRONMENT AND PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE

Plenary Session 4 The 1860 Land Grant Institutions **9-10:30am**

Speaker: G. Edward Schuh
 Dean, Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of
 Public Affairs
 University of Minnesota

Political and social trends effecting land grant institutions will be discussed in order to provide information specialists with enhanced knowledge of a component of the environment in which agricultural information is generated.

The 1980 Land Grant Institutions

Break **10:30-11am Exhibits Open at 10:30**

Plenary Session 5 Agricultural Research Initiative **11-noon**

Speaker: John Patrick Jordan, Administrator
 Cooperative State Research Service
 U.S. Department of Agriculture

Research is another component of the agricultural information environment. Mr. Jordan administers the office responsible for grant programs agricultural stations and land grant colleges.

Lunch Reports from Committee and Interest Group Chairs **Business** **Meeting** **noon-1:30pm**

Plenary Session 6 Steps Toward a National Preservation Plan for
Agriculture
1:30-3pm

Moderator: Brice Hobrock, Director,
Farrell Library, Kansas State University

A preconference on national preservation planning for agriculture will be held on Saturday and Sunday, October 12 and 13, 1991. The results of this preconference will be presented by a panel of preconference discussion group leaders. This will be followed by a discussion of the feasibility of continuing work within USAIN towards a national preservation plan for agricultural sciences literature.

Break

3-3:30pm Exhibits remain open until 4:30pm

Plenary Session 7 Reports from the Field
3:30-4:30pm

In contributed papers, USAIN members present issues and projects involved in electronic library development.

Reception in the University of Minnesota Arboretum
4:30-8:00pm

The day's activities conclude with a gathering of the conference attendees at the beautiful arboretum of the University of Minnesota. A tour of the arboretum will be followed by a reception. Bus transportation will be provided.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1991: ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

Plenary Session 8 Access to Economic Information from the Federal Government—A Vendor Perspective **9-10:15am**

Representatives of commercial information vendors will describe their roles in providing access to electronic information generated by the government. Presentors include Martin Marietta, Agridata, and others.

Break **10:15-10:45am**

Plenary Session 9 Trends in Federal Information Policy **10:45-11:30am**

Speaker: Gary Bass, Executive Director
 OMB Watch

OMB Watch is a nonprofit research, educational, and advocacy organization that monitors Executive Branch activities and encourages broad public participation in government decision-making to promote a more open and accountable federal government.

11:30-12:15pm The Role of Agricultural Libraries in Access to Federal Information

Agricultural information specialists must take an active role to insure that information issued by the government in electronic form is available in a timely and usable fashion. Key issues for agricultural information, and strategies that may be employed, will be discussed.

Lunch
12:15-2pm Included in the registraion fee, the final full gathering of conference attendees will take place in the lovely atmosphere of the University of Minnesota's Raptor Center. Tour to follow lunch.

Tours of Agricultural Libraries and Demonstration of Text Transmission

2-4pm Visits to several of the libraries at the University of Minnesota are being planned, including the libraries of Agriculture, Plant Pathology, Forestry, and Biotechnology. A demonstration of transmitting full-texts of documents via the Internet will be given at the Agriculture Library during the afternoon.

CONFERENCE ENDS

**A PRECONFERENCE TO
THE USAIN ANNUAL MEETING**

COLLECTION MANAGEMENT INTEREST GROUP

**NATIONAL PRESERVATION PLANNING
IN AGRICULTURE**

**A WORKING MEETING
TO EXPLORE THE IDEA
OF A NATIONAL PRESERVATION PLAN
FOR THE AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES**

**OCTOBER 12 & 13, 1991
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
THE HUMPHREY INSTITUTE CONFERENCE CENTER**

Saturday, October 12

12:30 - 1:30 - Registration

1:30 - 3:00

Background Presentations

1:30 - 1:45 - Welcome and overview

1:45 - 2:15 - Nature of the agricultural sciences literature and status of preservation efforts. Samuel Demas, Head, Collection Development & Preservation, Mann Library, Cornell University

2:15 - 2:45 - Review of existing national preservation models. George Farr, Director, Division of Preservation and Access, National Endowment for the Humanities

2:45 - 3:15 - Preservation technologies and cooperative preservation: the state of the art. Margaret Byrne, Preservation Officer, National Library of Medicine

3:15 - 3:45 - Break

3:45 - 4:30

The Core Historical Literature Project
Introduction - Joe Howard, National Agricultural Library
Project overview - Wallace C. Olsen, Project Director,
Core Literature Project, Mann Library, Cornell University.

4:30 - 6:00

Case study on models and issues: breakout session
Organizer: Brice Hobrock, Director, Farrell Library,
Kansas State University, assisted by 6 group leaders.
Topic: Can we use the identification of core literature as
part of a national plan for the preservation of agricultural
literature? Assigned group leaders will facilitate small
group discussions designed to: 1. develop possible
model(s) and 2. identify the related questions and issues
which would be faced in implementing these models.

6:00 - 7:15

Wine and cheese reception

Sunday, October 13

10:00 - 12:30

Case study results & Focus Groups

10:00 - 10:45 - Results of case study: Group leaders will present the models/approaches which emerged and the related issues and questions identified in breakout sessions.

10:45 - 12:30 - Focus group sessions: addressing related questions/issues. Facilitated by assigned group leaders, the specific questions and issues which would have to be addressed in implementing a national preservation plan will be discussed in detail. Participants will be assigned to specific focus groups according to expertise and experience.

12:30 - 2:30 Lunch

2:30 - 4:00

Focus group summary and Next Steps

2:30 - 3:15 - Results of focus groups: Group leaders will summarize the key issues, strategies and suggestions on implementation of a national preservation plan for agricultural sciences literature.

3:15 - 4:00 - Next Steps - Brice Hobrock

Where do we go from here? Discussion of the most likely approaches and strategies for moving towards a national preservation plan. The results of the preconference discussions will be presented to the USAIN annual meeting in a Tuesday afternoon session.

END OF PRE-CONFERENCE

PRESERVATION PRECONFERENCE

Purpose and objectives: Developing national strategies for preservation is a major challenge to libraries in the 1990's. The focus of preservation must go beyond individual titles and collections to address systematic, coordinated preservation of the literature of disciplines, i.e. to preserve a "national collection". The purpose of this meeting is to explore the feasibility of a national preservation plan for the agricultural sciences.

U.S. agricultural libraries are ideally positioned for a coordinated approach to preservation. With the leadership of USAIN and the National Agricultural Library, with experience in cooperative preservation projects, and with the mandate of land grant legislation, a unique commonality of interests and unity of purpose exist. A potential building block in a national preservation plan is the Cornell project to identify the core historical literature of 7 disciplines comprising the agricultural sciences. One purpose of this preconference program is to explore the possibility of using this work as part of a national preservation plan for agricultural sciences literature.

This will be a working meeting. Attendees will be expected to participate actively through small group discussions. The objectives of the discussion groups are to formulate possible models for coordinated preservation and to identify and explore the issues and questions which have to be addressed in implementing these ideas.

Speakers, group leaders and the preconference planning committee will meet after each discussion session to synthesize the results, which will then be presented to inform the next set of discussions. Through this process the preconference will develop strategies for pursuing the concept of a national preservation plan for the agricultural sciences. These will be presented to the USAIN membership. USAIN will decide whether to pursue further the idea of a national preservation plan for agricultural sciences literature.

Audience: Decision-makers in agricultural libraries, including: administrators, collection development and preservation officers, and those in public services, technical services and information technology with an interest in preservation.

Location: The Humphrey Institute Conference Center of Minnesota.

Fees, Housing and Meals: There is no registration fee. Active participation in discussions and contribution of expertise are the price of admission. Registrants are invited to attend a free reception Saturday evening. Meals are not included in the preconference program. Housing may be arranged through the regular USAIN conference registration process.

Registration: To ensure an atmosphere conducive to close interaction among participants, registration will be limited to 50 persons. In case of over-enrollment, priority will be given to ensure representation of geographic regions & types of libraries and an appropriate balance of expertise. To register, mark box on registration form and mail before September 30, 1991.

Preconference Planning Committee: Sam Demas, Cornell Univ., Chairperson; Pam Andre, NAL; Richard Bradberry, Delaware State College; Bob Butler, NAL; Brice Hobrock, Kansas State Univ.; Peggy Johnson, Univ. of Minnesota; Paul Metz, Virginia Polytechnic Institute; Jan Olsen, Cornell Univ.

For further information contact: Samuel Demas, Mann Library, Cornell University, Ithaca N.Y., 14853. Voice: (607) 255-6919; FAX (607) 255-0850; e-mail: ekzy@cornella.bitnet. or Peggy Johnson, St. Paul Campus Libraries, University of Minnesota Twin Cities, 309 19th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55455. Voice: (612) 624-1720; FAX (612) 624-9245; e-mail: m-john@uminni.bitnet.

1991
USAIN CONFERENCE
SCHOLARSHIP

**\$500.00 and waived
Registration Fee to attend
the 1991 USAIN Conference**

**Available to any librarian
recently entering the field
of Agricultural Information**

**Please send a letter of
explanation and interest to
Julia Peterson - President of USAIN
Cargill Information Center
P.O. Box 5670
Minneapolis, MN 55440**

Deadline is September 30, 1991

