Designed to facilitate the understanding of the way scholars work in the context of new organizational and technical capabilities, this annotated bibliography includes 167 sources related to topics such as research methods and communication practice in the disciplines of the humanities and social sciences; computer applications in social sciences and humanities research; communication technologies; bibliographic information retrieval systems; and computers and society. The bibliographic citation and a brief description of the contents are included for each source. Following a prefatory discussion of the purpose and contents of the bibliography, sources are listed under the following headings: (1) Computers and Society; (2) Characteristics of Scholarly Research and Communication--General, Humanities, and Social Sciences; and (3) New Technologies in Scholarly Research and Communication--General, Bibliographic Information Retrieval, Data Organization and Analysis, and Electronic Publishing and Telecommunications. Author and title indices are also provided. (KM)
SCHOLARSHIP IN THE ELECTRONIC AGE

A Selected Bibliography on Research and Communication in the Humanities and Social Sciences

compiled by
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FOREWORD

Technological innovations in information storage, processing, and transmission have visibly affected many aspects of academic life, but surprisingly little is known about the results of those changes, whether measured in intellectual, social, or economic terms. Because we are still in the early stages of the information revolution, it seems important to understand and assess the direction in which technology is taking us. In scientific disciplines and in ongoing operations such as the bibliographic services provided by libraries, the influence of technology is clear and even relatively easy to measure. The task is more difficult in the humanities and social sciences, in part because technology has been, as yet, less of a factor in these branches of scholarship and in part because this work is largely an enterprise of individuals, each going his or her own way.

But there are signs that electronics is affecting both the methods and the substance of scholarship. If libraries and universities are to shape their own futures wisely and responsibly, a better understanding is needed of the way scholars work (or would like to work) in the context of new organizational and technical capabilities. This bibliography is an instructive and even pioneering contribution to that objective.

The authors, Anita Lowry and Junko Stuveras, are both members of the distinguished Reference Department of the Columbia University Libraries. They accepted a difficult and imprecise assignment and shaped it in a sensible and constructive way. Those who are responsible for long-range planning in universities and libraries or who have an interest in any aspect of scholarly communication will find the bibliography a useful and cohesive introduction to an important subject.

Warren J. Haas
February 1987
Preface

When we began working on this project, its title was "The Impact of the Information Revolution on Scholarly Research and Communication in the Humanities and Social Sciences, a Selected Bibliography." For the final bibliography we are submitting we have chosen a new title -- "Scholarship in the Electronic Age: a Selected Bibliography on Research and Communication in the Humanities and Social Sciences." This title change results from several factors, of which the desire for a 'catchier' title was only the least important. First of all, in our attempts to define exactly what we meant by the "information revolution" and what kinds of "impact" we would be looking for, we were guided to a large extent by the Council's stated research interests, drawn from its pamphlet "Research Grants," especially the sections on "Information Characteristics" and "User Requirements." These interests encompass a wide range of complex issues relating to scholarly resources and methods within the context of new developments in information technology. Secondly, we soon discovered that while many people are talking about the "impact of the information and/or technological revolution" (often in vague or general terms) very few people are actually defining, investigating, or measuring that impact in a focused, rigorous way. Therefore, our review has cut a somewhat wider swath through the literature of technology and scholarship than we had originally anticipated. In doing so, it has reaped a number of interesting questions, comments, and studies on such topics as:

1. Research methods and communication practices in the disciplines of the humanities and social sciences. While there is a huge and varied body of literature investigating the nature of scientific research and communication, there is significantly less on the social sciences and less still for the humanities. We consider an understanding of the characteristics of scholarship to be essential to attempts to project or investigate the ways that social scientists and humanists will accept, reject, use, develop, and be affected by new information technology and to efforts to design new information systems for scholars. For the humanities, several good reviews of this literature exist; therefore, we have cited these reviews and, for the most part, only those additional items too recent to be included in the reviews. For the purposes of this bibliography we included the discipline of history among the social sciences; however, in the literature, history is frequently considered a humanistic discipline and thus covered in works relating to the humanities.

2. Computer applications in social sciences and humanities research. Reports abound, usually in conference papers and journal articles, of specific uses of computers for research and analysis, especially for projects in quantitative linguistics, economic and social history and historical demography, simulation and modeling in political science, literary stylistics and the production of concordances, dictionaries, and critical editions, and data organization and analysis in archaeology. With a few
exceptions, these accounts of computer-aided research focus either on the particular computer resources or techniques being used or on the intellectual subject of the author's analysis; rarely do they explicitly address larger issues of impact on the discipline or even on the individual scholar's work, except in passing. In the aggregate, however, these accounts provide the 'raw data' from which librarians and researchers can begin to derive a picture of the methods, resources, etc., that characterize computer-aided research, both now and in the future. A representative sample of these reports has been included.

3. Communication technologies. "Electronic publishing," variously defined, has engendered a sizable, repetitive body of literature, reflecting in part the economic difficulties faced by scholarly publishers and the seemingly widespread dissatisfaction among authors with the prices of scholarly publications, time lags in the publishing process, etc. Optimistic projections that the advent of word processing and computerized photo-composition heralds a new age in book and journal publishing alternate with pessimistic assessments of the technological and non-technological barriers; and so far, the research and commentary on the "electronic journal" appears inconclusive and contradictory. We have been fairly selective on the topic of electronic publishing. We have also included reports of the research being conducted to determine the conditions, characteristics of use, and implications of new telecommunications technologies, such as computer conferencing and electronic mail.

4. Bibliographic information retrieval systems. From the vast arena of studies of computerized information retrieval we have selected those that focus on the scholarly user in the humanities or social sciences, including evaluations of data bases according to the criteria of scholarly information needs and investigations of computerized retrieval systems from the point of view of the scholarly retriever. Literature on these specific topics seems to be surprisingly scarce and of very mixed quality, though we have not done an exhaustive search of the information science, human factors, or systems theory literature. For studies of the use of online catalogs and the new retrieval capabilities they may provide to scholars, we cite only a couple of recent works that provide a good overview of research to date.

5. "Computers and society". For background reading, the very selective sample of titles from this mega-topic provides a less applications-oriented and more theoretical or philosophical overview of issues and problems that have potential implications for the academic world.

A disappointingly high proportion of the literature we reviewed consisted of unoriginal "think pieces," general commentaries, empirical or anecdotal accounts, and survey research based on small or ill-defined populations. We have tried to be selective and thus have not included a great many items that, while they fell within the scope of the bibliography, failed to qualify as sufficiently new, interesting,
comprehensive, or well-supported. However, the rigorous standards of research design, etc., originally proposed as a basis for inclusion in the bibliography have, to a large extent, been abrogated, partly because so few items would have met those standards and partly because many of the more interesting and thought-provoking comments and analyses have appeared in non-research publications. Many items have been included because they pose questions or make assertions that may be appropriate for further research or may help inform the assumptions and design of future research projects.

The computer as a defining technology: changing mentality from the pursuit of the infinite to the acceptance of the finite and recognition of the limits of one's working environment. There will be "a great transfer of knowledge from one medium to another." Calls for an intelligent division of labor between man and computer. Has a good bibliography.


Nine essays and discussions by noted scholars from a symposium held at Siena College in 1981, treating such subjects as expert systems, artificial intelligence, problem of natural language, social design (models, simulation and systems dynamics), communications in the corporate setting, armaments and stability, privacy and regulations. Especially interesting are: "The Problem of Natural Language" by Roger C. Schank, "Models, Simulation and System Dynamics" by David F. Andersen on simulation models of public issues which link "human thought and computer capabilities" to deal with a complex problem with numerous factors, and "Computers and Communication" by Berton D. Moldow on electronic information exchange systems.


Papers from a Symposium on Technology and Social Priorities (October 1984, National Academy of Engineering) that "brought scholars of technology and society together with technologists, social scientists, and representatives from the industrial, legal, and public sectors to discuss the interaction of information technology with social institutions. The topics addressed included a review of recent developments and likely futures in information technology, a comparison of information technology to historical developments in other technologies, and discussion of the interaction of information technology with business, homes, property rights in information, and various hierarchies of social organization" (p. v).


This is "an examination of what seems possible and likely to occur in the next twenty years and a description of several new uses of computers which most of us will live to see. (Intro.)" Topics discussed are: time sharing, division of labor, computers in
education, the library of the future, business and home uses of computers, and the computer systems to help solve social problems. Based on a lecture at the Museum of Natural History, New York, in 1971.


Essays on information technologies (pp. 97-144) and the information revolution in general (social forecasting, information technologies and learning, telecommunication and the city, and information in the health care system).


English translation of the summary of the very extensive investigation on the social, economic and political impact of computerization, originally published in 1976 with four-volume supporting documents.

Collection of essays and a bibliography: "Ownership is Not Always Availability--Borrowing May Not Satisfy Access Needs" (Herbert S. White); "The Role of the Building in the Delivery of Library Service" (David Kaser); "Challenge or Dilemma: The Impact of Collection Development, Reference Services, and Preservation on Access to Library Resources" (Kenneth G. Peterson); "Recent Developments in Technical Services and Their Implications for Access to Scholarly Information" (Helen S. Spalding); "Conjuring in the Academic Library: The Illusion of Access" (Carolyn Bucknall); "Reduction in Access and Rights" (Donald E. Riggs); "Electronic Publishing and the Scholar's Workshop" (Robin Downes); "Issues in Access to Scholarly Information: A Bibliography" (Robert A. Seal).


This paper attempts "to present the perceptions held within the research library community about changes taking place in the scholarly communication system" [p. i]; it identifies issues and questions for further research.


Survey investigating "the relationship between how a book is discovered [i.e., from references in a publication, browsing in the library, a colleague, the library catalogs, memory, other source] and its subsequent value to the user" [as rated by the borrower on a scale ranging from "essential" to "of no value"].


Review of the literature.


"The place of foreign language material in the research activity of a university community was studied in depth...The importance
of the various factors influencing the use of material is discussed and recommendations are made to promote their use for the general benefit of research." (author's abstract)


Report of a survey "to determine the current state of document delivery among the libraries and non-library document services of the United States and to ascertain what improvements need to be made." It investigated current usage of interlibrary loan systems, document delivery services, and electronic document delivery and made some observations regarding their future.


A review of some 170 publications on literature use and obsolescence. Covers a wide range of topics relating to the "useful life" of literature: the concept of 'obsolescence', relationship of reference/citation and use, studies of obsolescence, citation analyses, a model of the use of literature over time, and theories of 'obsolescence'.


Comprehensive statistical compilation and analysis of the economics of scholarly book publishing (v. 1), journal publishing (v. 2), libraries (v. 3), and bibliographic services (v. 4); v. 2 also includes a study of journal use in economics.


Annotated bibliography of 627 items dealing with all aspects of the dissemination of scholarly research, considering the scholar, the publisher, and the product. Detailed classed arrangement with index of academic disciplines.

Metz, Paul. The Landscape of Literatures: Use of Subject Collections in a University Library. Chicago: American Library Association, 1983. (ACRL Publications in Librarianship, no. 43)

A library use study based on data from a "snapshot" of records of
books in circulation for the purpose of identifying "the subject literatures of interest to faculty and students in various academic disciplines. The study will treat these reading patterns as data that reveal the orientations of disciplines in fundamental ways, but it will also seek to discover to what extent reading patterns may be an outcome of basic library policies" (p. 1). Includes review of the methods and literatures of citation analyses and of use studies.


Preliminary report on the results of a survey of scholars in classics, history, linguistics, literature, philosophy, political science, and sociology. Purpose of the survey was "(1) to gather data about scholars...as producers and users of books, journals, and other materials for teaching and research and (2) to obtain their views on a wide range of issues such as peer review, library services, and the usefulness of new technology" (p. 1).


Detailed investigation of the components and processes of scholarly communication: journals, books and presses, research libraries, and other forms of scholarly communication. Consideration of the impact, both actual and projected, of the "explosion of knowledge" and of new technologies, with recommendations for national action to deal with these changes.


A report on "a study of the characteristics of personal collections of a sample of authors drawn from the general fields of the sciences, social sciences, and humanities, and the relationship between the size and composition of their collections and the location of works referred to in certain of their recent papers...The reasons why respondents built up and maintained personal collections were also studied." (author's abstract)


Collection of essays, with emphasis on unusual or non-book resources used by scholars in different fields of the social sciences and humanities: "Scholarly Use of Renaissance Printed Books" (Howard W. Winger); "Bibliographers and the Library" (G.
Thomas Tanselle); "The Research Uses of Visual Information" (Estelle Jussim); "The Wayward Scholar: Resources and Research in Popular Culture" (Gordon Stevenson); "Maps and Scholars" (David A. Cobb); "Musicology and the Music Library" (Harold E. Samuel); "The Historian and the Social Science Data Archives in the United States" (Allan G. Bogue); "Observations of a Research Library Administrator" (Robert W. Oram).


Reports from two meetings sponsored by CLR: Toward the 21st Century: an Agenda for Research Libraries and Their Users (1982); National and Regional Aspects of Collecting and Preserving Library Materials (1983). Overview of major issues relating to libraries "as part of the system that begins and ends with research and scholarship and includes, along with libraries, book and journal publishing, the obligations and concerns of university administrations, the needs of the scholarly disciplines, and the supportive guidance of private and public foundations" (p. 3).
Bibliographic essay surveying the literature on humanists as information users; includes useful tabulations of information drawn from various user studies: Table 1: Citation Studies in the Humanities, Table 2: Findings of Citation Studies in the Humanities, Table 3: Humanities Journals Sampled by Price, Table 4: Generalized Profile of Information-Seeking Behavior (compares characteristics of scientists, social scientists, and humanists).


Report on the results of a questionnaire survey of faculty, College of Humanities, University of Utah "to obtain information which would help planners of the online catalog design a catalog which would be relevant to the needs of university faculty." (author's abstract)


A citation study "to determine how scholars use the monographic literature in British and American literary studies and to compare these findings to those of studies involving the journal literature of the humanities." (author's abstract)


An essay discussing the "profound changes" that have occurred over the past 20-30 years in the quantity and nature of humanistic scholarship and in the ability of libraries to cope with the needs of scholars. Makes specific suggestions regarding the support of "humanities research, which is library-centred and predominantly text-centred, [and] requires [library structures and services that allow] the scholar to bring together highly complex configurations of texts." (author's abstract)

Annotated guide to reference materials in the humanities: "Introduction" (pp. 1-8) surveys the literature of humanities research methods, library use, etc.; Chapter 13: "The Computer and the Humanities" (pp. 268-283) surveys the nature and literature of computer applications in the humanities disciplines.


A response to the information explosion, new technologies, and other new developments and pressures on the scholarly societies that make up the Council on the Study of Religion and on their members. Detailed review and discussion of all aspects of scholarly communication and publishing: "The Changing Role of Learned Societies; Axioms and Arenas of the Academic Association; The Super-Society as Publisher; Scholarly Publishing: Introductory Remarks, The Learned Journal, Book Reviewing, The Dissertation, The 'Book' of the Future; Economics of Minipublishing; Access to the Exploding Data: Bibliographic Access, Physical Access, Machine-Oriented Research, Information Services." Includes numerous recommendations for action by the Council and its member societies.


"This study describes the present working habits of persons in the field of art history. It identifies patterns of behavior common to all art historians, and those variations corresponding to a particular kind of institutional setting or to distance from New York City. Finally, it compares information-seeking practices of art historians with those of scholars in other disciplines...Five aspects of information-seeking are explored...1) channels of communication, 2) formats, 3) the 'invisible college,' and 4) 'gatekeepers.' A fifth topic, drawn from psychology and political theory rather than from information science, is the quest for authority in humanistic disciplines." (pp. 6-8)


Bibliometric study using the 1976-1980 volumes of the Arts and Humanities Citation Index "to determine how researchers use the literature that constitutes literary scholarship...[by analysing articles about] three creative writers and three literary move-
The references cited by the authors of the articles, along with the form analysis of the articles themselves, constituted the substance on which the results of the study were based. (author's abstract) Variables for source articles included type (article, book review); variables for cited reference included type (primary or secondary source; books, articles, other) and age distribution. Problems with using the AHCI for bibliometric studies are noted.


Literature review emphasizing "material published from 1970 onwards. The areas covered include definitions of humanities, the way humanities scholars work and the materials of their research; secondary services; computers and new technology; the role of libraries and library services and comparisons between humanities and other disciplines. The review ends with a brief assessment of the state of the art; an outline of some unanswered questions and some consideration of the future of [the] humanities." (author's abstract) Updated by Stone, A Review of User Related Research in Humanities Information (1985).

Stone, Sue. A Review of User Related Research in Humanities Information. Sheffield, Eng.: Consultancy and Research Unit, Dept. of Information Studies, University of Sheffield, 1985. (CRUS Working Paper, no. 1)

Not seen. Reviewed in Journal of Documentation, 42.2, June 1986, 130-132: "...this working paper builds on a literature review [Sue Stone, "Humanities Scholars: Information Needs and Uses," Journal of Documentation, 38.4 (December 1982): 292-313] extending it by updating and by altering the slant more towards the views of scholars rather than librarians...[In addition] a small number of qualitative interviews were carried out with scholars and librarians...The text [also] attempts to summarise what has emerged from the study about the humanities researcher and his/her interface with conventional libraries and the new technology...[and] to identify possible areas for further research."


"This article seeks to address some of the implications of humanistic modes of scholarship for recent library developments. An attempt is made to characterize some of the essential habits of mind and scholarly needs of humanists as these affect issues in acquisition, allocation of funds, book preservation, computerization, problems of access to and use of collections. Some attention is paid to the changed and changing nature of humanistic research...some questions are posed about the implications for the library profession and library users deriving from the close

"Most commentators agree that subject access in the humanities is very difficult because the vocabulary or natural language of the humanities is imprecise and often used uniquely by different humanists. This article tests that view by studying the entry terms in leading encyclopedias and dictionaries in the humanities...the article [also] suggests implications [of its results] for classification, cataloging, and design of information retrieval systems." (author's abstract)

Report on an information officer system at the City University, London which was started in 1970. To meet a distinct pattern of information-seeking in the social sciences, the program promoted instruction in sources of information and process of communication, current awareness, referral and enquiry service.


Papers from the SCONUL Exchange of Experience on Information Services in University Libraries, December 1973. Note especially: Sue Evans: "Information Services for Social Scientists" (pp. 84-92), on personalized services by information officers at Bath and Surrey universities and characteristics of information needs of social scientists; Michael Rush: "The Information Requirements of a University Social Scientist" (pp. 93-103), by a political scientist; I. M. Stuart: "Subject Specialists as Information Officers at the University of Lancaster" (pp. 17-32) another example of a liaison system between departments and the university library; P. Leggate: "The Future of Computer-Based Information Services in Universities and Polytechnics" (pp. 107-122).


The author contends that social sciences were wrong in striving to model themselves after physical sciences. The clinical-engineering model would be more appropriate. Multi-disciplinary approach, linked to action-oriented goals, is needed. Systematic comparative research of case studies and surveys is recommended as the basis for theories. To facilitate such large-scale comparative research, the infrastructure of research must be built: a system of information storage and retrieval, archives and social statistics and handbooks of standard research practices which would give technical aids to researchers, somewhat like handbooks used by engineers and scientists.


Quantification since the survey by Aydelotte (1971). Achievements of the past twenty years were examined. The impact of quantita-
tive methods on research agenda, training of students and general orientation of historical scholarship was discussed. See especially the section on the "Research Environment", pp. 171-173, which spells out the needs of researchers.


Overview of quantitative research since the 1950's in social history: general trends, problems of financing research and training students.


Based on the book use data obtained from the University of Pittsburgh automated circulation system in 1974-1976. A study of the "basic matching of categories between the mind of the user and the organization of the [library] collection," through the comparison of the LC classification subclasses and the use of books by economists, geographers, anthropologist, sociologists and political scientists.


Collection of essays on historiography by French historians, Furet et al. Shows the recent trends in European historiography.


A literature review covering the impact of technology and other topics of scholarly communication.


The introductory volume for the series, "Quantitative studies in history." Includes contributions from fourteen British and American historians in the fields of French, British and U.S. history. The purpose of this collection of essays is "to show by some examples the way in which quantitative methods can be used and have recently been used in historical research" and "to
demonstrate the advantages and limitations of these methods for historical purposes."


Analysis of the structure and growth of the literature of economics in all formats over the period of 40 years since 1928. Used as the basis of the investigation were: Citations in the London Bibliography of the Social Sciences, economics theses listed in the American Economic Review and Aslib Index to Theses and a large collection of working papers in the Warwick University Library. The citation analysis drew data from nine economics journals (all issues of 1950, 1960 and 1968) and the reading lists of the economics honour courses at Oxford, Cambridge and Warwick Universities.


Part one: "History Today," Chapter 2, "Quantitative History" (pp. 40-53) discusses the "simultaneous and interconnected revolution in methodology and technique;" originally published in English in Daedalus (Winter, 1971, pp. 151-167) and in French in the Annales (Jan./Feb. 1971, pp. 63-75). Essential for understanding the information needs of current historical scholarship.


The Vancouver Island Project prepares a computerized tool for the local public archives. An interdisciplinary approach is strongly advocated: archival and library science methods, historians' and archivists' methodologies. A machine-readable union list of regional holdings, the Automated Archivist, would help researchers to locate necessary sources and facilitate comparison of findings across time and space while the decentralized depositories would preserve collections' original integrity, therefore the "evidential value of provenance for historians."


An investigation into the "social structure" in scientific development through the analysis of patterns in bibliographic references, using co-citation analysis and the Social Sciences Citation Index. The authors draw a number of conclusions regarding the characteristics of social science literature and its uses.

A survey history of quantitative research in European history and the future of the field. See also Brogue's article on quantification in U.S. history.


Summary of their report "Information needs of economists: a study of availability, cost escalation and utilisation of foreign journals in economics in India" (Jawaharlal Nehru University, 1982). Study on the uses of foreign journals by economists in six Indian universities and an analysis of 1093 citations in the leading Indian periodicals in the field.


A comprehensive study, based on research conducted from 1967 to 1970, of information needs of academics and practitioners of applied social sciences. Research report no. 1: Information Requirements of Researchers in the Social Sciences (2 vols.); no.2: Information Requirements of Social Scientists in Government Departments (March 1971); no.3: Information Requirements of College of Education Lecturers and Schoolteachers; no.4: The Information Needs of Social Workers (Feb. 1971).


A demography of social science journals from 1820 to 1970. Perhaps the most comprehensive survey and analysis of social science periodicals and monographs; based on the data collected for the Design of Information System for the Social Sciences.


A report on a survey of 226 faculty members in the social sciences at the University of Illinois to determine their needs and patterns of use of non-English language serials.

Discussions on potential use of administrative data for social research, preservation of electronic data and the issues of privacy vs. the historical values of information.


A comprehensive survey of American historians' research activities in all areas of history. See especially, J. Morgan Kousser: "Quantitative Social-Scientific History" (pp. 433-456); Peter N. Stearns: "Toward a Wider Vision: Trends in Social History" (pp. 205-230) on quantitative and qualitative approaches; and Notes 34-37 of Michael Kammen's introduction (pp. 32-33) which cite works on the computer and historical research.


Survey of the use of sources in various formats, from manuscripts to microforms, but not including electronic materials. The results were compared with the Bath study and some interesting differences between British and American scholars' research habits were observed.


Reappraisal of how the current information and documentation systems meet the needs and demands of the research community in their size and the characteristics of supply.


On "the basic characteristics of resources available" in social sciences. Selected serials and monographs were studied for size, growth, mortality, characteristics of publications (type, form, frequency, content, language etc.), and changes over time in characteristics. See an article by Line and Roberts which drew data from this study.

Citation analysis based on the data collected in 1972 of citations to 140 journals (the 1970 issues); concentration and scatter, distribution, and the characteristics of journal uses in comparison to monographs were examined. The study aimed to show the interrelationship of subjects, countries, languages, and forms of literature. See also the article by Line and Roberts which drew data from this study.
NEW TECHNOLOGIES IN SCHOLARLY RESEARCH AND COMMUNICATION

A journal publishing articles, book reviews, software reviews, and technical notes on all aspects of computer applications in the humanities, including history and the arts.


Essay on humanities scholars’ use of and attitudes toward computer technologies; gives examples of different types of data bases being developed to support individual scholarly projects, discusses the proliferation of these private data bases and the need for information about them, the potential uses and implications of online catalogs, qualitative evaluation of online bibliographic data bases, the potential value of electronic mail and national and international networks. Includes suggestions for ways to make these new tools work better for humanists.


Wide-ranging and detailed discussion of the implications for academic institutions of the "revolution" in computing (for personal productivity, information, instruction) and the new expectations (on the part of faculty and students), economic questions, and institutional 'political' issues it raises. Proposes pragmatic goals for the academic computing infrastructure and specific actions to be taken by colleges/universities and by the computer industry to realize those goals. (Reprinted from Change: The Magazine of Higher Learning, May/June 1986.)


Thirteen articles on various aspects of social science data libraries: the collections at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, University of British Columbia and the University of Florida, bibliographic control of machine-readable data, development and management of data archives, services, staff training, citation analysis of data file use, etc. A comprehensive treatment of the new type of information center.
The Impact of Computerisation on Social Science Research, Data Services and Technological Developments.... Paris: CNRS, 1982.


An overview of applications of the computer in social science and historical research: SPSS, simulation models, machine-readable historical data, computerized database design and management, network based computer communities, computerized library catalogs and impact of computerized information sources on library services. Papers in French or English; some French papers have English summaries.


Proceedings of a biennial conference on data bases of all kinds--bibliographic, textual, numeric, alphanumeric--and their uses for scholarly research and teaching in the humanities and social sciences. (Proceedings of 1985 conference in press.)


Proceedings of a biennial conference on computer applications for research, communication, and teaching in all fields of the humanities.


A collection of reports, most notably: 1) "Communication in the Humanities," a summary of discussions at the Anglo-American conference held at Cawthorpe House, Lincolnshire, May 1982 (pp. 5-24); 2) "Recent Developments in Communication in the Humanities in the USA: Report by Dr. M. Katzen on a Study Visit to the USA, October-November 1982" (pp. 25-52); 3) "Scholarly Communication and Technology: A Proposal [for establishing an Office of Scholarly Communication and Technology] by Dr. Herbert C. Morton" (pp. 57-99); 4) "Select Bibliography of Recent Publications on Research Communication in the Humanities" (pp. 104-113).

A journal publishing articles, reviews, news and notes on computer applications in literature and linguistics.


Social, economic and cultural implications of new technologies which would affect scholars, universities and nations; discusses the new information structure defined by information needs, technology and public policy. Makes recommendations for actions and policies to preserve equity of access to information.


Preliminary report on the results of a survey of scholars in classics, history, linguistics, literature, philosophy, political science, and sociology. Purpose of the survey was "(1) to gather data about scholars...as producers and users of books, journals, and other materials for teaching and research and (2) to obtain their views on a wide range of issues such as peer review, library services, and the usefulness of new technology" (p. 1).


Report on the new OSC and its mandate in the areas of: bibliographic control and bibliographic utilities, online databases and catalogs, technological innovations in printing and publishing, digital and optical technology applications, classroom use of computers, feasibility and acceptance of new media, and the traditional concerns about management, government policies, and copyright issues.


A bibliography of published and unpublished sources "that deal with computers and writing," broadly interpreted; authors assume that "the contexts for written language will be radically different as communications systems change the ways we produce and exchange information" (pp. vii-viii).

A study commissioned by the National Enquiry into Scholarly Communication focusing on "the information requirements of humanistic scholars, and on their ability to accommodate themselves to technology," (p. 237) in such areas as original research, publishing, and information retrieval; makes recommendations for national and local action to aid humanistic scholarship and communication.


A response to the information explosion, new technologies, and other new developments and pressures on the scholarly societies that make up the Council on the Study of Religion and on their members. Detailed review and discussion of all aspects of scholarly communication and publishing: "The Changing Role of Learned Societies; Axioms and Arenas of the Academic Association; The Super-Society as Publisher; Scholarly Publishing: Introductory Remarks, The Learned Journal, Book Reviewing, The Dissertation, The 'Book' of the Future; Economics of Minipublishing; Access to the Exploding Data: Bibliographic Access, Physical Access, Machine-Oriented Research, Information Services." Includes numerous recommendations for action by the Council and its member societies.


Essays on planning for information technology in higher education, with emphasis on administration. Note especially: Manfred Koch: "Longterm alternatives suggested by information technology" (pp. 73-88), useful as a literature survey; Howard L. Resnikoff: "Developments and trends in information technology" (pp. 5-23), dealing with such diverse topics as human factors, image processing, storage technologies, telecommunications and input/output devices.


Contains articles on methods and practical applications of microcomputers in all fields of the social sciences, including history.

Commentary on the use of computers in humanistic research and communication and on the potential of computers "to change the face of scholarship" (p. 472)
Bibliographic Information Retrieval


Essay on "the implications of the computer for the storage, manipulation, and transfer of information associated with the traditional scholarly disciplines." The author argues the necessity of machine-readable bibliography for managing the "flood of information" and the importance of understanding the methods of scholarly research for designing computerized bibliographic databases that will fully meet those needs and "will assist us in the revelation of the past." Illustrated with examples drawn from descriptive and historical bibliography and the Eighteenth Century Short Title Catalogue data base.


Report on "a study of academic faculty use of databases for research, their need for evaluative guides to databases, and the appropriateness of currently-available guides." (authors' abstract)


Report on a six-year, ongoing project to "design an intelligent automated system interface [for searching online bibliographic databases]. The specifications for this interface have been derived from a study of real life human user-human intermediary information interactions. A variety of methods has been employed, particularly functional discourse analysis, and results are: the specification for a distributed expert system architecture; identification and specification of the necessary functions; and proposals for a problem-structure driven human-computer dialogue." (authors' abstract)


Essay by a scholar describing the ways scholars use the annual bibliography appearing in Shakespeare Quarterly and speculating on the methods and advantages of using a computerized "cumulative
data bank consisting of all titles and abstracts of Shakespearean scholarship," complete with transparent links to the catalog, circulation records, and interlibrary loan facilities of the researcher's institutional library. Includes discussion of the features desired for subject retrieval from this database and "the merits and disadvantages of existing methods for creating an automated subject index" (p. 37).


"Recent technological developments are changing the context, and may change the content and form, of personal information systems. These developments raise economic questions for the user, will affect efforts to standardize system interfaces, and may bring basic changes in the ways an individual develops and uses his personal information system." (author's abstract)


"This article examines the development and current status of research on personal information systems, i.e., those systems where an individual collects, annotates, and stores bibliographic information according to his own (idiosyncratic) needs and preferences. Effects of computer-based dissemination services on the growth and management of these systems are discussed. Recently announced and more traditional computerized services to support such systems are reviewed and the benefits to be gained from effectively supporting personal systems are enumerated." (author's abstract)


Analysis of the 'information content' of journal article titles in chemistry, botany, physics, medicine, history and the social sciences, and philosophy by counting the percentage of substantive or key words in titles from periodicals from the years 1947, 1962, and 1973. The purpose was to determine the suitability of KWIC indexes and of keyword-in-title retrieval methods in machine-readable databases for the different disciplines. "Some difficulties of searching by title due to the vocabularies of non-scientific subjects are discussed." (author's abstract)

"The literature on the information needs and uses of social scientists and humanists tends to ignore the stage of research in which the scholar collects and organizes written information, i.e., the period between locating information and using it. This article reviews literature on information storage in the humanities and social sciences and describes an exploratory study of the content and organization of personal files... [it also] identifies ways in which such research could be used to develop superior information products and services and a better understanding of the process of scholarship." (author's abstract)


Five articles, including annotated lists of databases and data archives, report of the computer-assisted literature search project at University of California at Berkeley, and evaluation of the advantages and disadvantages of the computer-assisted reference service. Useful as an overview of computerized resources for history, although some of the information is now dated.


Review and bibliography of books, articles, and ERIC reports on end-user searching of bibliographic data bases, including studies relating to system features and design.


The authors of this article "argued that database search can be usefully conceptualized as an imperfect decision-making task,...adapted tools from behavioral decision theory to the database context,...[and] exploited these tools to characterize the performance of individuals using two different entry-level menus for a particular database, the Statistical Abstract of the United States. Fortuitously, performance with these two menus differed sufficiently to illustrate some of the descriptive potential of these methods for evaluating competing designs, and suggesting some tentative design implications" (p. 231).

Study of 462 university faculty search request forms processed at Northern Illinois University Library during the five year period, 1979-1984. Includes a brief survey of similar research. Points out the importance of use behavior research for further development of new technological applications.


Report on the results of an experiment at the library of the University of Rhode Island to promote searching of online bibliographic databases to humanities faculty by soliciting searches and subsidizing their cost.


An evaluation of 6 online bibliographic databases in the humanities and history according to how well they meet the needs of scholars for information on topics involving personal names, time periods, geographic areas, and complex, multivariant, often metaphorical language--"essential elements in the ways humanities scholars look at the world and in the ways they ask questions and write about it" (p. 2).


Detailed explanation of "specific searching problems associated with a multi-language data base whose historical period divisions are not uniform and whose level of indexing is not specific enough to allow for the most relevant retrieval" for typical search topics in the humanities; also includes brief description of changes in the indexing structure of the MLA Bibliography data base, implemented with the 1981 records, to address some of these problems.


Surveys the literature of card and online catalog use and reports on recent research studying the nature and requirements of users.
of online catalogs, especially for subject searching. Includes discussion of implications for the design of online catalog systems.


Report on "the third in a series of experiments utilizing a simulated online bibliographic information seeking environment called DBASE... Variables considered in the study are computer aiding, availability of citation lists, data base structure, and type of search task. Effects of these variables on six performance measures are examined using analysis of variance. Linear discriminant analysis is utilized to provide a more fine-grained analysis of important problem features and to form a basis for investigating differences among individual searchers and the dynamic nature of information seeking tasks." (authors' abstract)

Includes references to relevant earlier work by same authors.


"Psychological studies on memory and learning are examined for what they might reveal about human categorizing processes and the organizing principles and limitations of human memory. Particular attention is given to evidence for a model which represents the organization of knowledge in memory in terms of a hierarchical type of structure. The experimental findings suggest several considerations for the design of library systems of organization and access that would take into account characteristics of the conceptual organization of knowledge." (author's abstract)


"The literature of psychology, library science, management, computer science, and systems engineering is reviewed and integrated into an overall perspective of human information seeking and design of information systems. The nature of information seeking is considered in terms of its role in decision making and problem solving, the dynamics of the process, and the value of information. Discussions of human information seeking focus on basic psychological studies, effects of cognitive style, and models of human behavior. Design issues considered [for computerized information systems] include attributes of information systems, analysis of information needs, aids for information seeking, and evaluation of information systems." (authors' abstract)

Investigation through transaction logs, questionnaires and follow up interviews of the use of NLM online database by pathologists and pharmacists during 1967-1984. Although not in the humanities and social sciences, included as an example of recent studies with a sufficiently large scope of investigation.


Starting from the assumption that "the great quantity of published literature on any topic makes compelling a need for better methods of selecting what to read" (p. 128), the author examines the criteria of "relevance" as it is applied and tested in information retrieval systems and suggests theoretical and practical alternatives. "Specific examples of how one might improve document retrieval, library use, and citation indexing are offered." (author's abstract)

Computer applications in data analysis, for example the life table in demography. Claims to be "the first monograph-length treatment of these methods." Lists computer programs (Appendix C).


Review of the literature.


Proposes a new concept of "text" for 19th century works (with their complex and unstable textual histories) incorporating all existing versions and preserved in machine-readable form in "the library of the future." Outlines the potentially "revolutionary" implications of such electronic texts for literary scholarship.


Fourth annual conference of the Council of Social Science Data Archives. A survey of various aspects of computerized data management systems in the social sciences and their impact on research. See the chapter by Karl W. Deutsch: "Impact of Complex Databases on the Social Sciences" (pp. 19-41), and Part IV: "Computer Systems for Managing Complex Data Structures." The book is oriented towards theories and conceptual frameworks on a wide range of issues relating to data archives which are still relevant after 15 years of technological development.


Linkage of variety of records over a long time span for historical social research, using computerized "preprocessor" of archival texts.

Based on the book use data obtained from the University of Pittsburgh automated circulation system in 1974-1976. A study of the "basic matching of categories between the mind of the user and the organization of the [library] collection," through the comparison of the LC classification subclasses and the use of books by economists, geographers, anthropologist, sociologists and political scientists.


Results of a survey of 60 Stanford University professors from 32 different departments about "their use of microcomputers in research and writing and about their scholarly methods." (author's abstract)


The Public Record Office, London, has experimented with the New Castle File Handling System. Problems and future development needs are identified.


An interdisciplinary field of historical studies using the methods of sociology and the quantitative approach, such as census and other administrative statistics, collective life histories, computer-aided document analysis and network analysis. The last three chapters (VII-IX) deal with the organization, storage and access to machine-readable "social bookkeeping sources."

A clear explanation of methods and terminology of computer modelling. Useful for understanding the purpose and potentials of computer models in "explaining or predicting social phenomena." With a good bibliography and a glossary of terms.


Discussion of the use of mathematical analysis and new statistical methods in sociological research, along with the evaluation of the advantages and disadvantages of using microcomputers.


Proceedings of a conference at Pennsylvania State University, June 12-14, 1972, to discuss simulation methods and technique and present some of the substantive results. Simulation methodology in anthropology, social systems, genetics and demography.


Papers arising from the 8th Conference on Techniques of Archaeological Excavation (University of Birmingham, Eng., December 1984) addressing "general theoretical and methodological issues of why [archaeologists] were using computers, and not just...particular details of how they were doing it" (p. 1), as well as the actual and potential impact on the work of individual archaeologists and on archaeology as a discipline.


A literature review covering the impact of technology and other topics of scholarly communication.


The introductory volume for the series, "Quantitative studies in history." Includes contributions from fourteen British and American historians in the fields of French, British and U.S.
history, "to show by some examples the way in which quantitative methods can be used and have recently been used in historical research" and "to demonstrate the advantages and limitations of these methods for historical purposes."


Synopses of 6 papers presenting different aspects of research being done by the Language of Data Project, including: "How Data Hurt Research" (William R. Rogers) on the problems associated with using data from large computerized numeric data bases and with analyzing it via computer statistical programs; "Problems of Data Gathering" (Thomas Whitmore) on problems inherent in using data files originally created and constructed for a purpose other than the research or analysis at hand; "A Table Manipulation System" (W. Henson Graves) describing a prototype software system capable of manipulating not only numeric data in a data base but also the "symbolic" descriptive information that gives the data its meaning; "Implications for Online Retrieval" (Martha W. West).


An excellent survey of the interactions between the computer science and humanistic scholarship, especially the tradition of logic. Covers computing in historical research and teaching, the programming language PROLOG, intelligent knowledge-based systems, fifth-generation computer research, modelling and simulation, expert systems, etc. With a bibliography (pp. 157-169).


The Vancouver Island Project prepares a computerized tool for the local public archives. An interdisciplinary approach is strongly advocated, incorporating archival and library science methods, historians' and archivists' methodologies. A machine-readable union list of regional holdings, the Automated Archivist, would help researchers to locate necessary sources and facilitate comparison of findings across time and space while the decentralized depositories would preserve collections' original integrity, therefore the "evidential value of provenance for historians."


A survey of microcomputer graphics programs.

Overview of topics and methods in literary and linguistic computing: "Input and Output; Word Indexes, Concordances and Dictionaries; Vocabulary Studies, Collocations and Dialectology; Morphological and Syntactic Analysis, Machine Translation; Stylistic Analysis and Authorship Studies; Textual Criticism; Sound Patterns; Indexing, Cataloguing and Information Retrieval; How to Start a Project."


Intended as a textbook for an introductory research course: "to introduce the main components of a computer, the principal statistical packages used by social scientists and some elementary techniques employed in the writing of a research report."


The reorganization of extensive data into computer-readable databanks has facilitated research which requires sources covering wider time span and geographic area. Demographic patterns since 1780 were examined through parish records of families which were converted into a machine-readable database.


Papers from a conference to re-appraise "both immediate difficulties and...fundamental attitudes to how we handle information in archaeology,"...[especially] how best to apply the new tool of information technology, and by how much it will, or ought to, change the organization of the current 'information system'" (pp. 7-8).


Proceedings of a biennial conference on data bases of all kinds--bibliographic, textual, numeric, alphanumeric--and their uses for scholarly research and teaching in the humanities and social sciences. (Proceedings of 1985 conference in press.)

Part one on the computer and the "quantitative revolution" in historiography surveys historical studies in France from 1932 to 1968, notably the works of the 6th section of the Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes in economic history and historical demography. The book is a collection of essays, including a speech at an AHA annual meeting, literature review and articles in socio-demographic history, previously published from 1967 to 1972.


Review of the literature.


Reports of an international round table held in Paris in 1978 surveying computer applications and databases for socio-economic history in 13th-century Catalonia, Patristic studies, collective biographies, etc. With a directory of organizations, conferences, periodicals and bibliographic sources relevant to computing in medieval studies and a list of 57 works.


Review of the ARTFL Project, a data base of over 1500 French literary, philosophical, technical, and scientific texts from the 18th-20th centuries; discusses potential uses for research in many humanistic fields, along with specific examples of the computer-assisted analysis possible using this data base and its special retrieval/analytical software. [ARTFL now contains some 1600 text databases of all genres of French literature since the 17th century.]


Examination of various media from paper to semiconductor memories for archival storage purposes, by a twelve-member committee composed of chemists, engineers, and one historian. See Chapters 6 and 7 for magnetic and optical disk storage and Chapter 8: Discussion of findings.

Introduction to the "Fundamentals of Literary Computing" (how to do it) and overview of "Computers in Literary Research" ("Concordances, Information Retrieval: Historical Dictionaries and Scholarly Bibliographies, Textual Editing with a Computer, Stylistic Analysis, Further Considerations: Archives, Packages, Future Prospects"), with a "Selected Bibliography for Literary Computing."


A comprehensive survey of American historians' research activities in all areas of history. See especially, J. Morgan Kousser: "Quantitative Social-Scientific History" (pp. 433-456); Peter N. Stearns: "Toward a Wider Vision: Trends in Social History" (pp. 205-230) on quantitative and qualitative approaches; and Notes 34-37 of Michael Kammen's introduction (pp. 32-33) which cite works on the computer and historical research.


Recent overview of the kinds of machine-readable resources available to scholars in the humanities and their applications.


Review of the literature.


A survey of computerized resources for French historical studies in the U.S. and the French databank, B.D.S.P. Indicates the extent and types of resources currently available.


Philosophies or conceptual framework for developing software truly suitable for historical research. The role of QUANTUM as a clearinghouse for quantitative research in Germany.

Annotated guide to reference materials in the humanities: "Introduction" (pp. 1-8) surveys the literature of humanities research methods, library use, etc.; Chapter 13: "The Computer and the Humanities" (pp. 268-283) surveys the nature and literature of computer applications in the humanities disciplines.


Social science applications of digital technologies such as real-time measurement of physiological responses, voice recognition and speech synthesis, computer-assisted telephone interviewing, graphic or image processing, and barcode readers.


The author addresses "three major issues: the cognitive perspective of the text and its meanings inherent in computational analyses, the relation between this perspective and major schools of Formalist and Structuralist criticisms, and, finally, the identification of this perspective as an emerging school in its own right," (p. 350) with implications for the future resources, methods, and critical concerns of literary scholars.


The effects of the spreading of CATI systems in survey research methodology; all the stages of a survey are discussed: survey organization, sampling, interviewer selection and training, questionnaire design, interviewing, data processing, measurement of variances, response effects and sample bias.


A historical survey of computer-aided research in history, reviewing the literature of the 1960's. Analyzes the extent of quantitative methods employed in doctoral dissertations, subject coverage and the influence of quantitative approaches, methods, and directions of historical research.

Use of computers for formal modelling of rationalist theories, using LOGSLIP, a combined program of LOGIC, "a set of programming algorithms employing the unification principle to produce deductions," and LISP, a language for list processing to handle recursive attributes and symbol manipulation.


Survey of the "new political history" such as "studies of mass voting behavior, legislative roll-call analyses and collective biographies."


Methodological discussion relating to the author's anthropological research of the "rural exodus" in Swiss Alpine villages. Emphasizes the "use of algorithmic thinking through an operational analysis." An example of the influence of "computer thinking" in a research project "focusing on the problem at hand with precision, rather than grandeur." See also Bolter's work under "The Computer and Society" on the influence of the computer on human thinking process.


APL, a programming language, for use in historical applications. Two sample programs. A language accessible by laymen and more amenable to research needs of historians who wish to "regain personal and intellectual control over their data and responsibility for it."

Essay on the characteristics and uses of electronic mail; identifies potential scholarly uses for information exchange, collaborative writing, and instruction and discusses implications for scholars, archives, and the preservation of the historical record.


This article reviews recent research and literature on the uses of computer technology for journal publishing and presents the scholar's personal computer as a key element in the development and evolution of electronic journal publishing.


Collection of papers based on a symposium held at the AAAS national annual meeting (1979). It "examines the current and expected states of [electronic communications] technology and considers the societal impact and policy issues arising from new technological developments. Particular attention is paid to evaluation of computerized conferencing for enhanced communication among researchers in specialized and interdisciplinary fields..." [p. v].


Brief reports from a research forum held by The Washington Program in Communications Policy Studies, an extension of The Annenberg...
Schools of Communications at the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Southern California; 39 essays on various aspects of electronic publishing and communications: the technologies, industry, users, questions of economics, intellectual property, public regulation, and public interest, with emphasis on non-academic applications.


Comparison of the cost of typesetting monographs from authors' manuscripts and from micromachine disks.


Study commissioned by the National Enquiry into Scholarly Communication; evaluates and makes recommendations regarding the system of scholarly publishing and the dissemination of scholarly writings.


A review of recent research on text design, especially research on "a) helping the reader by means of the typographical layout of the text; b) making the text itself more accessible, and c) making the text easier to understand" (p. 355). Briefly reviews the implications for and research on "the arrangement of text in electronic displays" (p. 363).


The author describes EIES and its use for a survey. Because of limited number of machine sites, sampling is not yet sufficient, but computerized polling has some advantages over the traditional methods such as telephone and face-to-face interview: convenience for respondents; ease of validity check, branching in questionnaires, tabulation and distribution of the results to the respondents; possibility of additional explanation of a question if needed; any length of space for writing in comments; and possibly more truthful accounts through neutral media such as a computer. Such a system would also contribute to discussion of issues and creation of opinion.

Case study of the users of a computerized conferencing system, EIES, in four scientific communities which have been using the system since 1977-78; the five groups were working in the areas of futures research methodology, social networks, general systems theory, devices for the disabled, and mental workload.


Review and analysis of the nature, applications, and impacts of computer conferencing systems, including EIES: Electronic Information Exchange System designed by Turoff. Note especially Chapter 7: "Science and Technology" (pp. 214-254) dealing with the use of computer conferencing in scientific communication, and Chapter 8: "Research Imperatives and Opportunities" (pp. 258-281) which is "an overview of high-priority research areas relating to computer communication systems," including identification of potential applications in disciplines other than science. With extensive bibliography on computerized conferencing (pp. 505-516).


Report on work in the Documentation Services group at the Software Engineering Institute at Carnegie-Mellon University to develop computer-assisted tools to support and make more efficient the information gathering activities of the professional staff. Describes the use of a computer program to aid in the collection and organization of information that must be submitted by individual members of an organization or research group for the centralized preparation of a document or research report; other potential applications for retrieving and organizing "information from other people into a useful form" (p. 69) are noted.


Overview of developments in scholarly electronic publishing.


Methodological discussions on how to determine the basic characteristics of readability, effectiveness of pictures as a means of communication, and scientists' uses of journals; has
implicit implications for considerations of journals in electronic format.


Summary and analysis of data on 9 computerized communications systems (including EIES) and on 10 studies of projects (primarily in the sciences and social sciences) making use of one of these systems; emphasis is on the characteristics of this use and its impacts on individuals and on group processes.


Essay arguing the virtues of the synopsis--"a concise first publication...in a primary journal...based on a simultaneously available full paper [reporting] on completed work" (p. 293). Includes suggestions for restructuring and synopsizing articles in the humanities and social sciences and comments about electronic publishing and document delivery of the full text. Reports on the results of a survey of attitudes toward synopsis publishing.


Collection of essays from the Primary Communications Research Centre, Leicester University, providing an overview of topics and issues relating to electronic communication, notably electronic publishing and electronic document delivery systems.


Essay on the advantages, disadvantages, and potential dangers of machine-readable data and paperless information systems for scholarship; especially concerned about the long-term survival of and access to information which does "not exist in tangible form outside the memories of central computers" and which may be exclusively under the control of the commercial sector. Raises a number of important issues and questions about the implications of electronic records and electronic publishing for scholars and libraries.

Collection of essays "providing state-of-the-art summaries of recent research in [computer-based communication media],...linking this research to applied situations,...and extending current theoretical concerns to these situations" (p. 9); emphasis is on organizational settings. Especially relevant are Chapter 5 (David M. Dozier and Ronald E. Rice): "Rival Theories of Electronic Newsreading" which "explores theories of newsreading in the context of electronic newspapers with respect to system design, adoption, and use" (pp. 103-127); Chapter 6 (Ronald E. Rice): "Mediated Group Communication" on the acceptance and use of computer conferencing (pp. 129-154); and Chapter 10 (W. David Penniman and Mary Ellen Jacob): "Libraries as Communicators of Information" which surveys library information systems and technologies and their users (pp. 251-268); extensive bibliography.


Report on the results of a four-year British experiment "to explore and evaluate forms of user communication through an "electronic journal" and information network, and to assess the cost, efficiency and subjective impact of such a system," one of the key features being that it would be concerned not only with technological feasibility but with human and economic constraints" (p. 26).


Wide-ranging collection of essays on books, readers, reading, and literary criticism (all but one originally appeared in the winter 1983 issue of Daedalus). Especially noteworthy here is "The Electronic Reader" (pp. 143-156) by Paul Starr, a sociologist at Harvard, surveying and speculating on the effects of technology not only on the production of the printed word but also on the conditions and nature of reading; he considers positive and negative implications of such developments as "electronic integration of writer and publisher," "on-demand publishing," "on-line publishing," and "electronic editions."


Review and summary of the literature of legibility research, with emphasis on its relevance for new media such as microforms and CRTs, whose "visual limitations [make it] all the more important.
that the legibility and ease of use of the information should be
taken into account." (author's abstract) Includes suggestions for
further research.

Rice, Ronald E. and Donald Case. "Electronic Message Systems in the
University: A Description of Use and Utility." Journal of
Communication. 33.1 (Winter 1983): 131-152.

Report on a detailed study of the reception, use, and impact of a
computer-based message system "designed to facilitate communica-
tion within the university's administration and eventually to
provide other management aids" (p. 132).

Schnucker, Robert V. "The Road to Survival for Journals in the

Discussion of the three hazards which are threatening the exis-
tance of humanities and history journals: costs, new technology,
and management; based on a 1984 survey of 150 history journals and
50 journals in other humanities fields. Makes recommendations for
possible solutions.

1-1979-.

A wide range of topics relating to scholarly publishing are
covered from various angles: case studies, reports of specific
computer applications, general surveys, discussions of economic,
social, and political issues, etc. A fair number of papers relate
to technology and/or to the humanities and social sciences.

Standera, O. L. "Electronic Publishing: Some Notes on Reader Response

Report on the results of an experiment at the University of
Calgary in which "a journal was produced in five forms--on paper
in three formats [line-printer copy, letter-quality copy, and
conventional journal], in microfiche, and as a 'pure' electronic
journal--which were ranked for reader acceptance, cost, and cost-
benefit." (author's abstract)

Trends in Information Transfer. Edited by Philip J. Hills. Westport, CT:

Collection of essays and bibliography on various topics relating
to information technology, primarily by British authors. Two
essays are relevant here: "Redesigning Journal Articles for On-
Line Viewing" (pp. 31-46) by Maurice B. Line makes the case for
electronic journals and presents a detailed proposal for how to
make online journal articles more readable and more 'useable' for scholars; "Microforms in Publishing: Applications and Future Involvement with Other Technologies" (pp. 87-110) by Peter Ashby surveys the "important part ...[microforms will play] in the information technology of the future."
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