

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The European IASSIST Action Group Workshop was held at the Danish Data Archive in Copenhagen, June 26-29, 1977, under the direction of IASSIST West European Secretary, Per Nielsen. A major product from this meeting was a data organization registration form (DORF) which is reproduced in this Newsletter. Copies of the DORF can be obtained by writing to Elliott Avedon, Department of Recreation, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Canada. The completed form should be returned to him. A study description questionnaire form developed by the Zentralarchiv at Cologne was reviewed and discussed. Several archives are now testing this instrument. Individuals interested in examining or testing the instrument should contact Elliott Avedon for copies. The Workshop also addressed levels of documentation for machine-readable files. The results of this discussion are reported in this Newsletter.

The program for the February 8-11, 1978, IASSIST Conference at Nordic Hills, Itasca, Illinois has been revised on the basis of membership feedback. The following panels have been scheduled: Documentation, Alternative Structures for Data Access, Problems and Potentials of Networking, Privacy versus Freedom of Information, Acquisition and Preservation, and Software Analysis of Non-Rectangular Files. In addition, workshops will be offered and action group meetings will be held. Although panelists have been designated for each session, the sessions have not been closed. Individuals interested in presenting a paper at any of the sessions should send the proposed title with a 100 word abstract to Carolyn Geda. Please note that individuals who were following the original program theme and who anticipated doing a formal presentation within an Action Group should submit their paper to the Chairperson. The schedule for the panels, workshops and action group meetings will be sent to IASSIST members with conference registration forms during November. Please note that the conference will terminate on Saturday, February 11, 1978. Additional information on the February meetings is contained in the IASSIST Newsletter section on "Upcoming Meetings."

The panels for the IASSIST sessions at the International Sociological Association World Congress are Privacy versus Freedom of Information (chairperson Guido Martinotti), Issues in Comparative Data and Research (chairperson Elliott Avedon), and Research Problems Associated with Complex Data Bases (chairperson John De Vries). Individuals interested in presenting a paper should contact the chairperson as soon as possible. Information on the availability of charter flights will be sent to IASSIST members in the near future.

This issue of the Newsletter completes the first volume and also contains an index for the four issues in this volume. The first volume has been edited and produced by Alice Robbin, University of Wisconsin-Madison. The effort she has devoted to the Newsletter has been widely recognized and appreciated. She will remain affiliated with the Newsletter in an ex officio capacity. Articles and notices to be included in the Newsletter should continue to be sent to her. The IASSIST Newsletter will move to Western Kentucky University where Thomas Madron, Academic Computing and Research Services, will assume the role of editor.

A nominating committee will be appointed shortly to prepare a slate for the election of the Steering Committee members. If you are interested in serving on this committee or on the Steering Committee or wish to recommend other individuals or nominations, please forward the names to Carolyn Geda.