

This would focus on short surveys of important issues within the technical areas of the SIGs which would be of general interest to all ACM members. She is soliciting material and suggests that SIGMOD "send in some papers, e.g., "The Important Issues in Database", "Definition of a Database Management System"? These papers are to be survey in nature but not as detailed and long as those formed in Computing Surveys.

Statistics & Trivia (Good for Chairman's annual report)

SIGMOD Sponsored	Chairman	Attendance
Large Data Files	J.P. Fry	250
Case Studies on the Implementation & Use of Database Management Systems	J.A. Senn	300
Distributed Databases	A. Shoshani	350
The National Software Works	W. Carlson	100
Relational Databases	P. Cull	---
Database Standardization	J. Tyler	---
Database Integrity	P. Griffiths	---

Bouquets to Diane Smith for her organization of these sessions.

From the Past Secretary Treasurer (John D. Joyce)  
(Edited by the SIGMOD RECORD editor.)

#### I. SECRETARY-TREASURER'S ACM SIGMOD REPORT (July 1977)

##### Introduction.

This is a follow-on report to the October 1976 report and contains information on membership, finances, and other relevant SIGMOD material. The October 1976 report contained information up to the end of the fiscal year 1976, which ended June 30, 1976. This particular report will contain financial membership information for the first three quarters of fiscal year 1977, that is, until and including the quarter ending March 31, 1977. Data from the final quarter of fiscal year 1977 are not yet available.

This report is being prepared for SIGMOD members and the attendees at the SIGMOD 1977 Conference. Copies of this report are available to interested persons upon request.

##### Membership Report

SIGMOD membership has been sustaining a very healthy growth rate. Compared to one year earlier combined SIGMOD membership and subscriber totals have increased 28%. During the last quarter SIGMOD totals have

increased approximately 5.75%. Total membership and subscribers as of the end of March stood at a total of 3,241. Figure 1 in the Appendix gives a detailed listing of the membership totals in all categories since 1972. Figure 2 shows that the membership totals, particularly the regular members, are still climbing at a rather steep rate. Figure 3 gives a pictorial view of the annual and quarterly percentage growth rates in SIGMOD membership and subscribers.

I expect that SIGMOD membership will continue to increase quite rapidly for the next several quarters. This reflects the growing importance of data bases both in the business world and as an increasingly popular topic for academic research.

#### SIGMOD Finances

Beginning with fiscal year 1977 all financial reports are being reported on an accrual basis. The accrual retained earnings as of March 31, 1977, are \$25,328. This compares with an accrual retained earnings of \$16,934 on June 30, 1976. Thus, SIGMOD is currently in a financially healthy position.

When the 1977 Budget was prepared over 1 1/2 years ago a deficit was predicted for 1977. This has not occurred. The incomes have been higher and the expenses have been less than were predicted. The reasons for this can be summarized as follows. Income is somewhat higher because the income from sale of back issues of proceedings was conservatively estimated. Expenses are lower primarily for two reasons. First, a large expense was estimated for printing many copies of the SIGMOD '76 Conference Proceedings to mail out to all members and for an additional large inventory to sell later. Much of this expense was absorbed in the SIGMOD '76 Conference. Secondly, fewer newsletter printings and mailings have been charged to the fiscal year '77 Budget to date than were expected. Thus, this combination of factors has given us a profit for the first three quarters rather than a deficit.

Figures 4 and 5 delineate various categories of income and expenses both for the fiscal year and on a quarterly basis. Figure 6 gives a summation of income and expenses for each of the last several fiscal years. Note that for fiscal year 1977 only three of the quarters are included. Figure 7 gives the average value per member in terms of income and expenses for the various groupings. Figures 8 and 9 give a somewhat more consolidated view of average incomes and expenses on a per member basis. Figure 10 gives a graphical view of these average member income and expenses.

#### Membership Services

Last year the Secretary-Treasurer initiated a plan to make back issues of SIGMOD proceedings more readily available. A quantity of proceedings were shipped to the SIGMOD '76 Conference and put on sale at special prices. The feedback received from this program was that the attendees appreciated having the opportunity to get the information easily and a considerable amount of profit was generated by turning some of the SIGMOD inventory into cash. As a follow-up to this program, a similar program has been instituted for the SIGMOD 1977 Conference. This year back issues of SIGMOD proceedings are on sale during the Conference, although with a slightly different twist. Orders will be taken during the conference for these proceedings.

The 1971 proceedings are out of stock and have been so for some time. This issue will not be reprinted. The 1975 inventory of proceedings is beginning to run low. This issue will probably be reprinted since there seems to be a continuing demand for these proceedings.

The terms of a number of the board of directors of SIGMOD have expired. The new SIGMOD executive committee will be making new appointments to the board of directors in the near future. Your suggestions will be welcomed and considered.

For a review of the status of SIGMOD prior to this report, members should refer to several reports documented in the SIGMOD Record recently issued in June, 1977 covering topics such as general reports, the budget for 1978 and a proposal for increased dues which was eventually deferred for further consideration by the next executive committee in SIGMOD.

An update to this report will be issued as soon as the membership and financial data are completed for the remainder of fiscal year 1977.

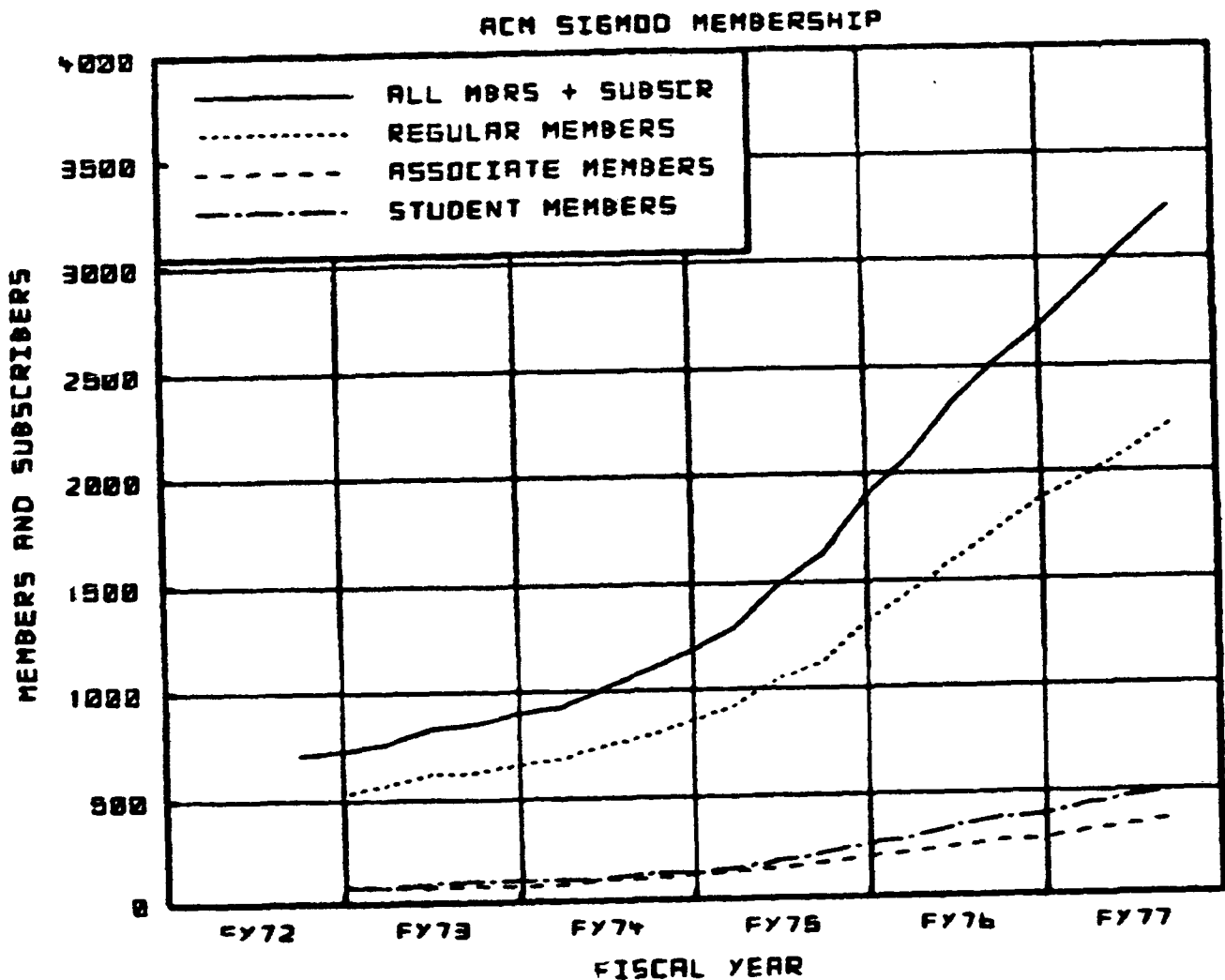


FIGURE 2

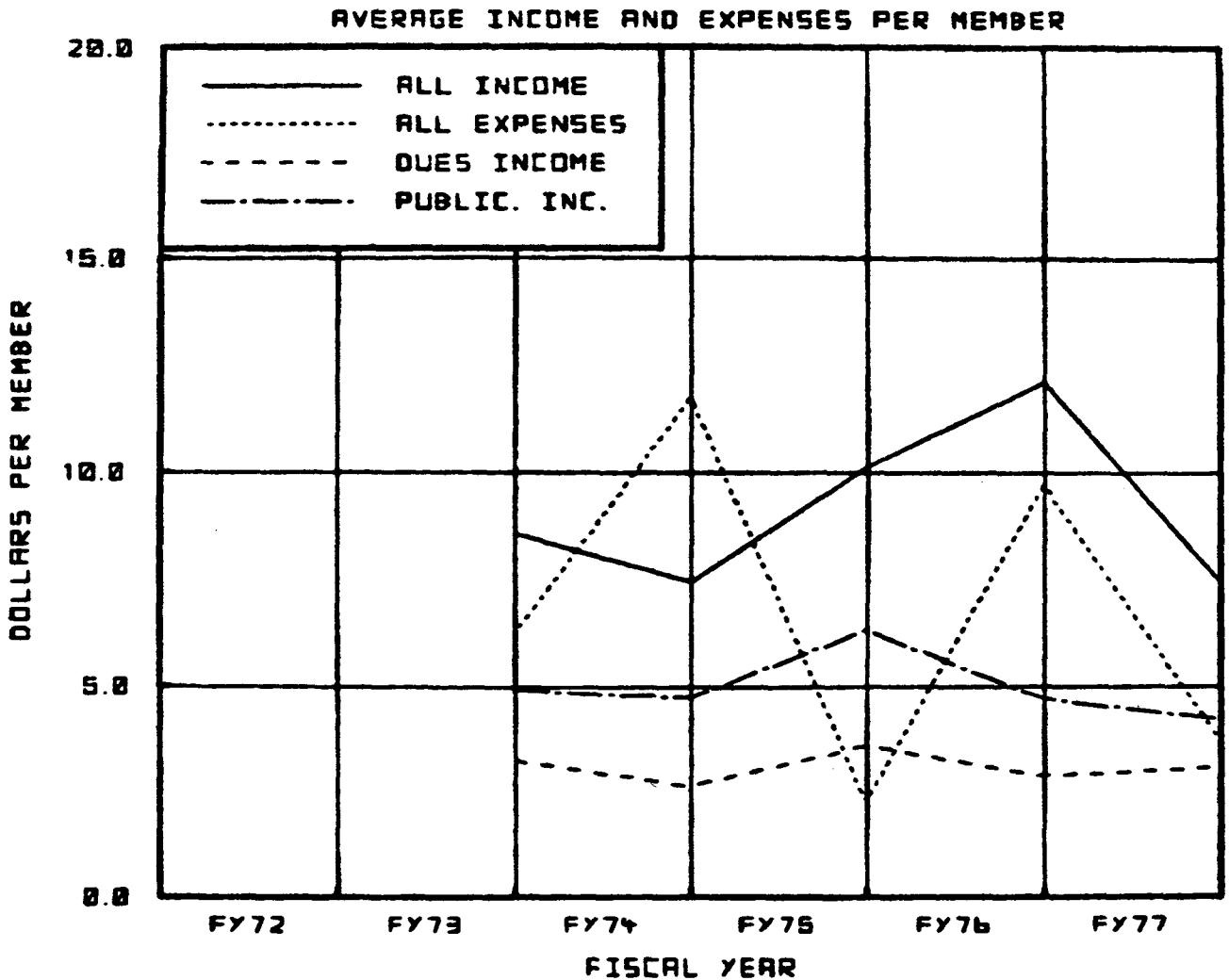


FIGURE 10

II. MINUTES OF SIGMOD BUSINESS MEETING, AUGUST 1977

Introduction

A combined breakfast/business meeting convened at 7:30 a.m. on Friday, August 5, 1977 at the facilities of the University of Toronto. Approximately 60 people attended the business meeting. Among the Board of Directors present at this meeting, were Jim Fry, Chairman; Diane Smith, Vice-Chairman; John Joyce, Secretary-Treasurer; Doug Kerr, Newsletter Editor; David Hsiao. Among Board of Directors known to be present at the conference, and presumed present at the business meeting were Ann Bandurksi, Susan Brewer, Richard Godlove, Bernard Plagman, Ed Sibley.

Jim Fry, Chairman

The formal part of the meeting began at 8:15 a.m. Jim Fry reviewed some of the goals that he had set out at the beginning of his term as Chairman. He reviewed some of the progress that has been made toward these goals in terms of membership services, extra proceedings mailed to members and increased cooperative activities with other SIG's.

Diane Smith, Vice-Chairman

Diane Smith reviewed some of the inter SIG Conferences, specifically the SIGPLAN-SIGMOD Conference held in Utah, the Workshop on Computer Architecture and Non-Numeric Processing, and the contributions of SIGMOD towards the Very Large Data Base Conference held last year and the next one being held in Japan this year. Diane, who is also program-Chairman of the SIGMOD '77 took this opportunity to give plaudits to the SIGMOD '77 program committee for carrying out all the necessary functions to put on a successful SIGMOD Conference.

Doug Kerr, Newsletter Editor

Doug reported on the progress of publications in SIGMOD Record. He announced that he has a backlog of material ready to issue several SIGMOD Records to bring the schedule up to date. Doug also mentioned the difficulty of planning quarterly SIGMOD Record publications in as much as some of the publications are reprints of extra Conference Proceedings which are deemed to be of interest to the SIGMOD membership. These come along at irregular intervals, thus making the publication schedule of SIGMOD Record also somewhat irregular.

Dave Hsiao, TODS, Editor-in-Chief

Dave reported that ACM Transactions On Database Systems (TODS) is second only to ACM Computing Surveys in the number of subscribers. Dave also announced that two new editors have been appointed; Rudy Bayer in Europe and Dave Kuck from University of Illinois. Currently, there is a backlog of material sufficient for one and a half issues of TODS. Special issues will be planned on particular data base topics.

John Joyce, Secretary-Treasurer

The Secretary-Treasurer reported that SIGMOD membership has been still sustaining a very healthy growth rate. Compared to one year earlier combined SIGMOD membership and subscriber totals have increased 28%. Total membership and subscribers as of the end of March stood at a total of 3,241.

Financial status of SIGMOD was reported as being very healthy. The accrual retained earnings as of March 31, 1977 are \$25,328. In June 1976 the accrual retained earnings were \$16,934.00. The incomes during the first nine months were higher than predicted and the expenses were less than predicted. The reasons are as follows: income was higher because the income from sale of back-issues of Proceedings was conservatively estimated. Expenses are lower primarily for two reasons. A large expense was estimated for printing many copies of

the SIGMOD '76 Proceedings to mail out to all members and to maintain a large inventory for later sale. This expense was absorbed in the '76 SIGMOD Conference. Secondly, fewer Newsletter printings and mailings have been charged to fiscal year 1977 budget than expected. A back-log of SIGMOD Records is ready to be shipped out. These expenses will simply occur in the '78 budget instead of the '77 budget.

A report was made on the experiment to sell back issues of Proceedings at the '76 and the '77 SIGMOD Conference. The project was considered to be successful.

The Secretary-Treasurer also took this opportunity to thank the other SIGMOD executives and Board of Directors for the fine working relationship he had with them during the past two years as Secretary-Treasurer.

#### Jim Fry

Jim Fry commented that the SIG bylaws were currently being revised and this would necessitate the revision of SIGMOD bylaws subsequent to the ACM changes. Jim also commented that procedures were being set up such that special interest committees could be set up within each SIG. There are a number of candidate committees for SIGMOD.

Next Jim Fry announced the results of the SIGMOD elections for officers for the 1977-1979 period. Jim introduced John Lyon as the next Chairman of SIGMOD.

#### Miscellaneous

Allen Reiter requested permission to publicize a conference on data bases which will emphasize the technical and usage aspects of data bases to be held in Jerusalem in 1978.

Allen Merten proposed a resolution of thanks to Jim Fry for his efforts and accomplishments as SIGMOD Chairman during the past two years.

Jim Fry responded proposing a resolution of thanks to the other members of the SIGMOD executive board for their achievements during the past two years.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 a.m.