A quarterly publication of the Special Interest Group on Business Data Processing of the Association for Computing Machinery

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Members, how about a challenge? What would you recommend and then support to make SIGBDP better? We are in a good financial position. DATA BASE is known as one of, if not the best, SIG publication. The current DATA BASE staff has agreed to continue that outstanding work.

Your new officers that you elected are ready and willing to respond to appropriate recommendations to improve SIG activities and publications. We will need your active support and participation to continue to improve SIGBDP. Jim, Barbara and I are looking forward to the next two years with SIGBDP.

In accordance with ACM guidelines, the following budget summary was submitted by Eric Carlson and approved by ACM National on June 10, 1981. It is provided for your information:

**INCOME**
- SIG member dues ..................................... 40,720
- Newsletter Back Issue Sales ............................. 360
- Proceedings Sales ........................................ 2,000
- Conference Net Income .................................. 500

**EXPENSES**
- Travel and Subsistence .................................. 2,000
- Temporary Help .......................................... 2,400
- Telephone .................................................. 0
- Office Mailing and Handling ............................. 0
- Stationery/Supplies ...................................... 300
- Forms, Announcements & Brochures ................... 1,500
- Copying and Duplicating ................................ 40
- Pub. Printing (production) ............................ 15,800
- Wrapping, Mailing, Handling ........................... 2,520
- Shipping and Freight ..................................... 2,130
- Publication Postage ..................................... 4,620
- Data Processing .......................................... 2,900
- Advertising & Promotion ................................ 0
- Local Chapter Subsidies ................................ 0
- Meeting Expenses ........................................ 1,200
- Other Misc. Expenses ................................... 0
- HDQTRS Direct Allocation ............................... 575
- Contingency Funds ..................................... 3,300
- Total Expenses (B) ..................................... 47,365

**Net FY’82 (A-B) (C)** ................................... (2,085)

**Accrual Retained Earnings**
- From FY’81 (Note 26) (F) .............................. 40,868
- Accrual Retained Earnings
  - FY’82 (F + E) (Note 27) ............................. 38,783

The new officers of SIGBDP are Roy Cottrell, Missouri Pacific Railroad, chairman; Jim Sutton, Hewlett Packard, vice chairman, and Barbara McNurlin, Canning Publications, Inc., secretary-treasurer.
This joint issue of *DATA BASE* and *SIGMOD RECORD* is an edited report on the second Data Base Directions Workshop held at Fort Lauderdale, Florida, November 1–3, 1977. Although four years have since passed, the conclusions reached by the participants address problems which are still of major import to data base users.

The Data Base Directions Workshops (there have now been three) are among the few forums at which people from academia and people from industry, as well as everyone in between, actually sit down and work together. Whatever this report may lack in state-of-the-art insight, it can be viewed as a valuable attempt at standardizing the language of data base problems.

**ROY COTTRELL**
Chairman, SIGBDP

**MICHAEL STONEBRAKER**
Chairperson, SIGMOD

**B. L. TRIPPETT**
Chairman, Editorial Board

**TOM COOK**
Editor

**DATA BASE**

**SIGMOD RECORD**

The introduction which follows was compiled from a preface to the original by Seymour Jeffery, director of the Mr. Berg is now manager of computing information and technology for Standard Oil Co. (Indiana). His mailing address is Box 5910-A, Chicago, Illinois 60680. His phone is 312-856-4896.

Center for Programming Science and Technology in the NBS Institute for Computer Sciences and Technology, and from an introduction written by Daniel B. Magraw, assistant commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Administration who was the keynote speaker at the first Data Base Directions Workshop and general chairman of the second one.

Jointly sponsored by the NBS and ACM, the first Data Base Directions Workshop, billed as “The Next Steps,” was held in late October 1975 at Fort Lauderdale, Florida. It resulted from a proposal made to Seymour Jeffery at the NBS by Richard-G. Canning, president of Canning Publications, Inc., and Jack Minker, chairman of the Department of Computer Science at the University of Maryland.

The proceedings were issued in 1976 as NBS Special Publication 451. They were also published jointly by *DATA BASE* and *SIGMOD RECORD* and by the British Computer Society in Europe. Excerpts were published by IEEE and Auerbach.

 Responding to suggestions made as early as December 1975, NBS and ACM decided to hold a second workshop. In February 1977, Mr. Magraw was asked to serve as general chairman. He served on the planning group, along with Mr. Canning and Mr. Minker as representatives of ACM and Mr. Berg as the representative of the NBS.

Four panel subjects were selected: establishing management objectives, actual conversion experiences, standards and conversion technology, an assessment. After their recruitment, the panel chairmen became members of the planning group and selected the participants. As for the 1975 workshop, attendance was by invitation, and each panel did advance work.

The mix of participants with their differing perspectives, experiences and technical expertise provides a base of knowledge in data base systems that may be unparalleled. The output should be of material value, especially to those decision-makers across the country carrying responsibility for data base futures.