

[View this email in your browser](#)



Autumn 2023 Newsletter

In this issue:

- TRAIL Mid-year Update Meeting - Dec. 6 - Hold the Date
- TRAIL Steering Call For Nominations!
- Volunteer Position Open - Marketing Coordinator
- TRAIL Series Gap Fill Project
- Annual Meeting - Hold the Date
- Processing Update
- Tech Report Highlight - Comparison of five levels of motion sickness severity as the basis for grading susceptibility
- Get to Know TRAIL Member: Scott Curtis

TRAIL Mid-year Update Meeting - Dec. 6 - Hold the Date

Howdy from the Chair. I would like to thank everyone who answered our survey this fall. We are currently reviewing the results. We will share what came out of the survey at our virtual update meeting on December 6th at 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (central time). This meeting will also have our regular updates and a Q&A session for members.

TRAIL Steering Call For Nominations!

The TRAIL Steering Committee will soon conduct elections for the positions of Secretary and Treasurer. These elections will take place in winter 2024. This notice is to inform TRAIL members that the period for nomination is open.

The duties of the Secretary are to keep all minutes and records of meetings of the Steering Committee (or arrange for the minutes to be recorded if unavailable), be custodian of the Bylaws and manage the process of amending the Bylaws if needed, and to exercise all other duties incident to the office of Secretary.

The duties of the Treasurer are to keep the records of all TRAIL financial obligations and transactions and to report, upon request, on the financial status of TRAIL. In consultation with the CRL liaison, the Treasurer reconciles TRAIL financial records with the TRAIL budget held by CRL. Each spring, the Treasurer consults with the Chair on a proposed budget for the coming year and prepares a budget presentation to the Steering Committee at the TRAIL Annual Meeting. The Treasurer works with the Chair to suggest ongoing adjustments to the current year's operations and wages budget.

Both positions will serve a term of 2024-2026, beginning during the May 2024 Annual Meeting at Harvard University, and ending during the 2026 Annual Meeting. To be eligible, candidates must be actively affiliated with a TRAIL Institutional Member organization.

Please submit all questions about the process and nominations of candidates, which may include self-nominations, to TRAIL Vice-Chair Zac Painter (zp5928@princeton.edu).

Volunteer Position Open - Marketing Coordinator

We are looking for a TRAIL Marketing Coordinator. This is not an elected position but does serve on the TRAIL Steering Committee. The Marketing Coordinator organizes marketing activities for TRAIL as a whole, meaning they ensure the activities of each Working Group is promoted to TRAIL members, as well as making sure TRAIL reaches a broader audience outside of TRAIL members, including outreach efforts. This is a one-year commitment but can be extended. Please contact Laura Sare if you are interested or have questions lsare@tamu.edu.

TRAIL Series Gap Fill Project

After a brief summer hiatus, the TRAIL Gap Fills project is back in gear. After completing our series of three calls for U.S. Bureau of Mines materials, resulting in the addition of over 700 reports to TRAIL, we have now moved on to the National Bureau of Standards (NBS). These reports predate the agency name change to the National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST). The first call for NBS materials gap fills (in 15 series) went out in mid-October with a reply deadline of Friday, December 1st. If you did not receive that email, please contact Mel DeSart desart@uw.edu and he will provide the information. A reminder about the December 1st deadline for replies will go out sometime closer to the release of this newsletter.

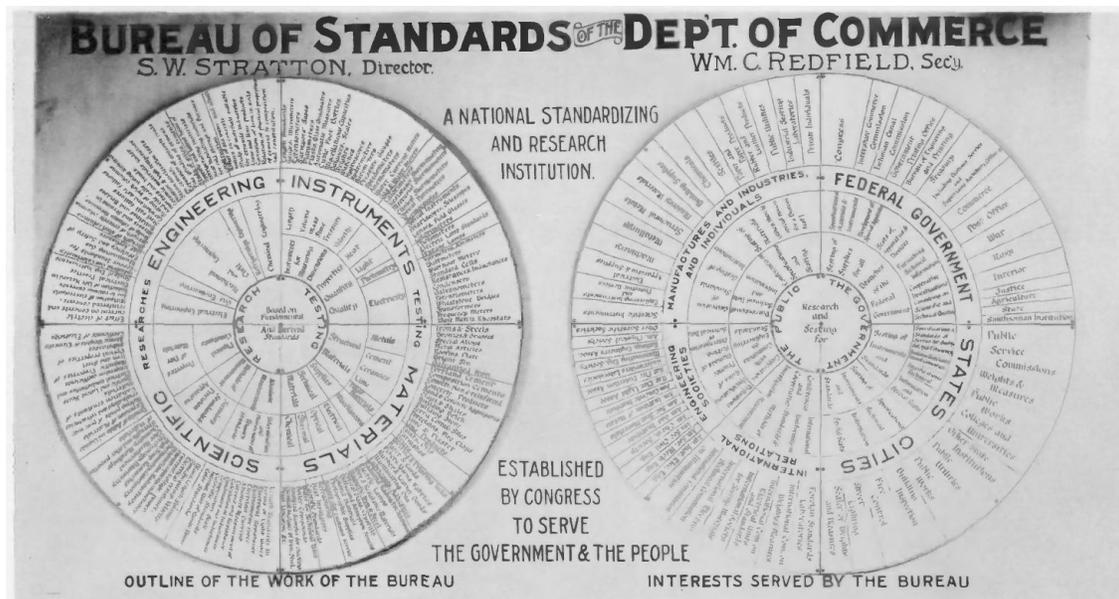


Chart of NBS activities, 1915

Annual Meeting - Hold the Date

Harvard will host the 2024 TRAIL Annual Meeting, Wed.-Thurs. May 15-16. The meeting will be scheduled from 9-5 during the day for in person attendees. The plan is to record morning sessions that will focus on content and update reports and we will have synchronous hybrid discussions in the afternoon.



Widener Library at Harvard University

Processing Update

The University of Arizona Libraries (otherwise known as Central) has been busy, as usual, this fall. Highlights include:

- 80 boxes of cataloged reports were picked up from Central and are now at Google's scanning center in Michigan awaiting digitization and eventual ingestion into HathiTrust, with the associated MARC records ingested into WorldCat
- The University of California Santa Barbara is planning on donating a substantial number of physical technical reports to TRAIL. Central is in

the process of reviewing lists of about 20,000 total reports, based on TRAIL's normal review and acceptance criteria. We estimate that we'll accept about 75% of what UCSB is offering. The content being reviewed is about 75% Atomic Energy Commission and 25% Air Force.

- We continue to diligently describe the digitized microcard AEC reports within the University of North Texas Digital Library repository.

Tech Report Highlight

Selection of capable military aircraft pilots and astronauts requires an assessment of how easily a person gets nauseated, dizzy, or clammy and sweaty due to motion sickness. If someone became debilitated by motion sickness when operating a jet fighter or crewing a spacecraft, catastrophic results could occur. Until the 1970s, the preferred test endpoint with a subject was to induce them into a state of "vomiting or retching and nausea," a most-uncomfortable test for the person under evaluation!

This technical report, "[Comparison of five levels of motion sickness severity as the basis for grading susceptibility](#)," (NAMI-1098) from the Naval Aerospace Medical Institute and NASA sought to determine the statistical feasibility of obtaining adequate assessments by testing individuals into less extreme states of motion sickness. In all, 275 men (aviators, aviation officers, enlisted men and civilians) were blindfolded and submitted to various levels of Coriolis acceleration while performing a set of scripted head movements. The researchers then noted and captured the severity of the motion sickness experienced by the men. The report established that reliable and useful results could be obtained by testing a person to "only" the M IIA (moderate malaise) endpoint of the frank motion sickness criteria.

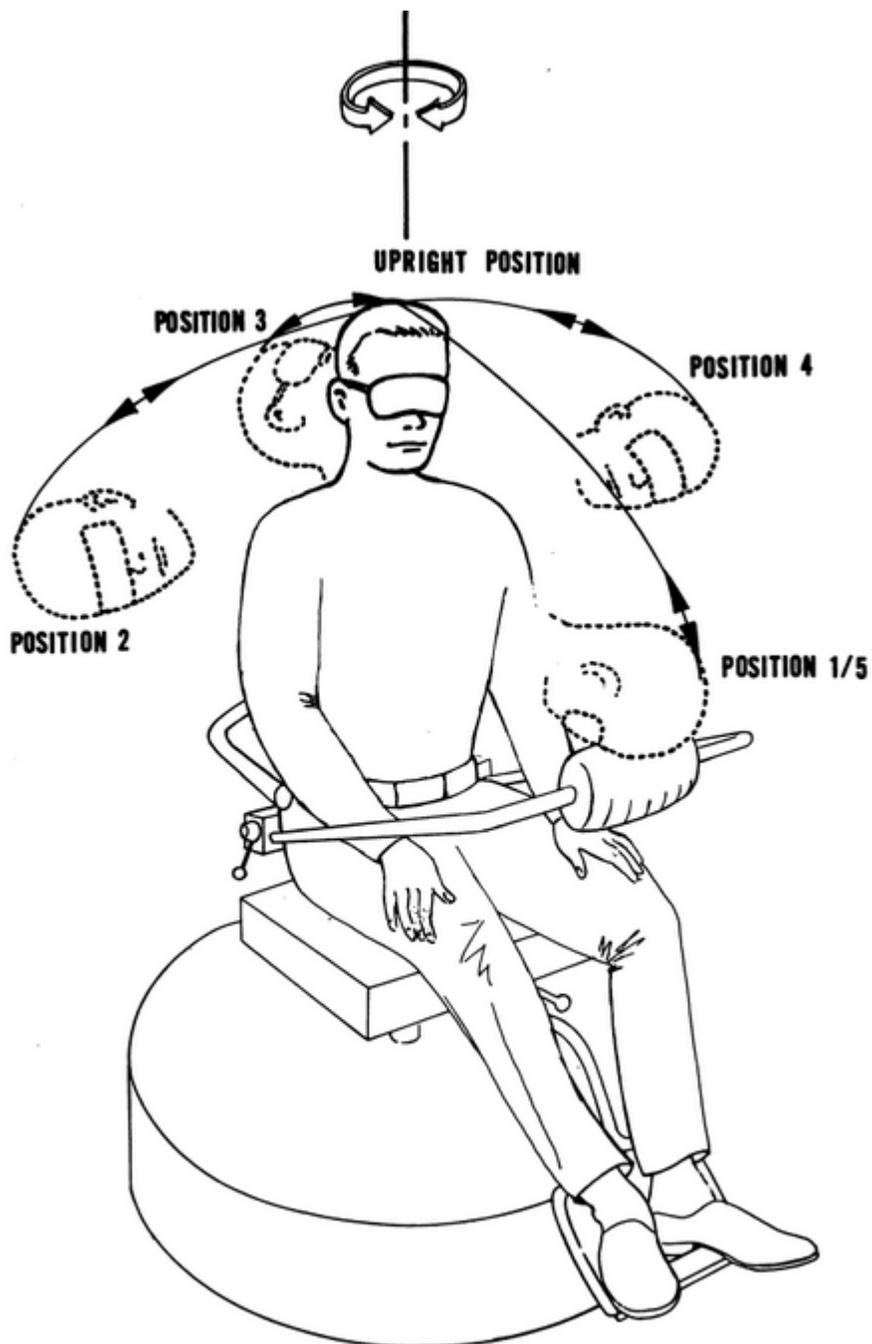
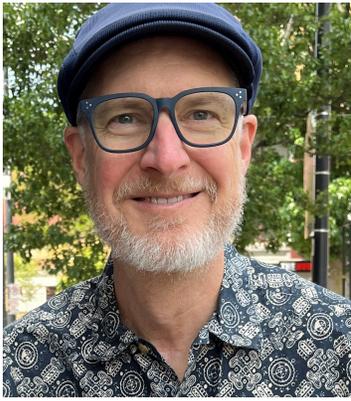


Figure 1

Diagram of Standardized Procedure for Making Each Sequence of Head Movements To and From Tilt Position 1 through 5 During Chair Rotation

Figure 1 - Diagram of standard procedure for making each sequence of head movements to and from tilt position 1 through 5 during chair rotation

Get to Know TRAIL Member: Scott Curtis



Scott Curtis

Teaching & Learning Librarian, Liaison to the School of Science and Engineering University of Missouri - Kansas City

How are you involved in TRAIL? I have been involved with the TRAIL Communications Working Group since becoming an individual member of TRAIL in 2016. My first contribution was a blog posting on the Office of Saline Waters Progress Reports digitization in the CRL Blog in October 2016. I wrote a TRAIL Spotlight that appeared in *DttP: Documents to the People* in 2021, and since 2022 I've been writing the Tech Report Highlight column that appears in the TRAIL quarterly newsletter.

Favorite TRAIL moment? I attended the annual meeting in person for the first time this summer in Iowa City! I learned a lot more about TRAIL activities and improved my connections to some wonderful colleagues who share my interest in government technical report access and use.

Favorite Technical Report? I tend to like reports that precipitated profound innovations in our currently-lived world, developments in danger of being taken for granted by many folks. A great example would be the 1985 "Environmental Research Paper" by the Atmospheric Sciences Division of the Air Force Geophysical Laboratory on BAND, the Boston Area NEXRAD Demonstration of 1983-1984. The successful BAND project demonstrated the use of algorithms to analyze Doppler radar signals for monitoring weather systems and improve forecasting and warning of potentially dangerous storms. These algorithms contributed to the completion of the national NEXRAD Doppler

weather radar network in 1997, a tool so familiar from radio and TV broadcasts that we might think it had always existed!

What is your favorite part of your job? I enjoy having in-depth conversations with students and faculty about what gets them "jazzed up" about their studies and research. When they find out that I have an academic background in physics and engineering management, and that I worked in manufacturing for 12 years before becoming a librarian, they realize that they have a friend they can talk to in their librarian. I can easily share their curiosity and excitement about a highly specialized and technical topic, for example.

What is your "typical" work week like? Every week I'm reaching out to the School of Science Engineering in some capacity, through teaching information literacy topics and research in their courses, or conducting individual consultations. I'm an active selector of materials for our collection for this audience, so some time is spent in that area. I also participate in general reference library activities for all UMKC students, and serve on several active faculty governance and advisory committees. A cool thing I started this Fall is a "Tea Time with a Librarian" that I conduct in one of the atrium open spaces at the School of Science and Engineering from 2:00-4:00 every Thursday. Students and faculty have just walked up to say hi and to thank me for being there - as well as to ask pertinent questions about research projects or resources they would like for us to make accessible through UMKC Libraries.

What are you reading now? I'm reading *American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer* by Kai Bird

and Martin J. Sherwin. With all the publicity about the Oppenheimer movie, I was curious to learn more about his background, and this well-written book is delivering in that regard. I also am reading about 4 chapters a week of *The Three Musketeers* by Alexander Dumas - I'm making a small project of reading (or re-reading) selected literature. I find it a lot more fun than when I had an essay assignment due back in the day!

What are your favorite non-work activities? I

enjoy learning to play guitar, growing hydroponic vegetables and greens, and outdoor activities like bird watching, hiking, and fishing. Oh, and I enjoy reading. A lot!



November 21, 2023

Web address:

technicalreports.org



Center for Research Libraries
.....
GLOBAL RESOURCES NETWORK