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The financial health of The \TeX\ Users Group as of June 30, 1989 is good, but somewhat short of excellent. Financial reports are presented here which describe (1) the Balance Sheet of the organization as prepared by Michael D. Aaronson and Associates, C.P.A. as of the close of the calendar years 1987 and 1988; and (2) Revenue and Expense statements covering (a) 1988 actual data; (b) 1989 Budget; (c) actual first half of 1989; (d) projected actual 1989; and (e) 1990 budget (first draft). Perhaps a few comments are in order.

While we hold cash (and equivalents) of about $250,000 with relatively limited real liabilities, this is a 'cushion' of only 4–5 months of income. We would like to move this up somewhat over the forthcoming year, eventually to a point that is at least 6–8 months worth of revenues.

We project that 1989 Revenues and 1989 Expenses will each be up from their 1988 values by just about 20%. We had a small deficit in 1988 (about $6,000 or 1.1% of expenses) and project a slightly smaller deficit this year.

Two aspects of this are probably worth commenting on. First, our current projected deficit results from two discretionary expenditures made by the Executive/Finance Committees. We would have closed the year with a small surplus had we not decided to support the \BiBiTeX\ project (at the request of Prof. Knuth) and had we not provided some funds to support T\TeX\hax. Your Executive/Finance Committees felt that these expenditures were very important to the membership, and were willing to incur the small projected deficit that results.

Second, by far the greatest increases on the expense side are a result of the increases in size and frequency in publication of TUGboat. Here we see the 'triple' effect of increased membership and circulation, increased number of issues and pages, and increased costs of printing and mailing.

We prepare, with the aid of our accountant, a number of other financial statements such as cash flows and statement of changes in fund balances. Members of TUG are welcome to request these from TUG headquarters. Members are also encouraged to forward any questions about financial statements to me via TUG headquarters. While I can’t guarantee that the response will always be prompt, I can promise that it will be thoughtful and eventually forthcoming.

Respectfully submitted,

David Ness
Treasurer
Philadelphia PA, 6 September 1989