Greetings ERMD members. I’d like to start by welcoming Eric Tans as our new Chair Elect, and thanking our returning board members Chris Clotworthy (Secretary), Amy Schuler (Treasurer), Brendan Thompson (Director), and Abbey Lewis (Immediate Past Chair). I also want to encourage anyone thinking about running for a board position for next year to reach out.

SLA 2016 is just around the corner, so I wanted to let you know about all of our upcoming meetings and sessions. The Conference will be held in Philadelphia, PA June 11th – 14th.

ERMD will be holding the Division Business Meeting Saturday, June 11th 5:00pm – 6:00pm and the Division Board Meeting Saturday, June 11th 6:00pm - 7:00pm. Please consider attending these meetings to help us plan for future ERMD activities and to meet other ERMD members.

First up, ERMD will be co-hosting a session with the Food, Agriculture, & Nutrition Division on “Understanding Food-related Research and Activism” Sunday, June 12th 1:30-3:00 pm. Dr. Garrett Broad, Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication and Media Studies at Fordham University, will present on his research on the impacts of globalization, storytelling and communication technology in shaping contemporary communities and networked movements for social change.

Next, I’m excited to tell you about our lead session, “Citizen Science: How Communities, Scientists, and Libraries Can Engage Together in Scientific Discovery.” This session will take place Tuesday, June 14th 8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Participants will learn about current citizen science projects, how libraries and librarians are engaging in citizen science, and hopefully be inspired to figure out how their libraries can be involved. Speakers include Darlene Cavalier, founder of Science Cheerleader and SciStarter, Patricia Dawson, Associate Professor/Librarian at Rider University, and Lara Roman, Research Ecologist with the US Forest Service. The Biomedical & Life Sciences Division and Science-Technology Division will be co-hosting this session.

Please help us get the word out and encourage your colleagues and friends, who will be at the conference, to attend these sessions.

As Philadelphia approaches, it’s also time to start thinking about SLA 2017. Our Chair-Elect, Eric Tans, will be acting as our division’s lead planner and would appreciate input from ERMD membership on ideas for session topics and division meetings. As always, please feel free to contact me or our other board members with your questions and ideas for our division. Contact information for all ERMD’s board members is available on the ERMD website.

Thanks for all your support and interest in ERMD, and I hope to see you all next month in Philadelphia!
My Spring 2016 has been rather hectic. I taught two classes at the law school in addition to my regular reference work, and I just completed a demanding 5-credit class in Spanish. SLA 2016 is sneaking up on us, so I wanted to get this issue published in advance of the conference.

In this issue, we are celebrating the retirement of ERMD member, Carol Ayer, after her many years of service to the profession. Sadly, this issue also notes the unexpected passing of ERMD Alice Solyma.

I am looking forward to SLA 2016 in Philadelphia. I was raised in the area and lived in Center City while attending Temple Law School. It will be great to reminisce in my old stomping grounds and visit my family and friends in the area after the conference.

Special thanks to contributors in this issue:

- Julie Jo Blankenburg
- Sabrina Holley-Williams
- Eric Tans
- Bobbi Weaver

Please send copy and ideas for our next issue to me at baw@cwsl.edu.

¡Nos vemos!
Carol Ayer, Director of the National Forest Service Library, retired at the end of April 2016.

She started work for the U.S. Forest Service in 1974 doing fire dispatch. After getting her Master’s degree in Library Science in 1977, she continued in fire dispatch until 1980.

She briefly worked for the U.S. Railroad Retirement Board before she was hired by the U.S. Forest Service as a Librarian in Juneau, Alaska where she worked from 1980-1987. She then moved to the Forest Service Intermountain Station as Librarian and Library Director in Ogden, Utah.

The Forest Service libraries were unified into one national library in Oct. 2006. This replaced piecemeal access to library services where some employees had library access and some did not.

When Carol was selected as the Director of the national program she moved to the Fort Collin’s Library in Colorado where she continued her work to consolidate the library collections of the Forest Service.

Her vision of a one stop shop library came to fruition with access to library services for all Forest Service employees through use of the World Wide Web. Her success in this endeavor was by hard work and perseverance. After more than 40 years with the U.S. Forest Service she will be greatly missed.

Congratulations and best wishes for a long and happy retirement!
This past March, we lost a dedicated professional and a dear friend with the unexpected passing of Alice Solyma. Alice was an active member of the ERMD, and was active in the local arrangements during the SLA 2014 Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia. A memorial from the *Times Colonist* is available online at [http://alturl.com/yhwmp](http://alturl.com/yhwmp). There is a guest book to leave your memories and condolences.
We need your ideas for SLA 2017 in Phoenix!

Even though Philadelphia is just around the corner, it is not too early to start planning for the SLA 2017 Annual Conference in Phoenix. I am very excited about pursuing a session on water management in the southwest states, and I am currently working with other divisions and chapters to develop cosponsors. But I also want to hear from you! Do you have a great idea for a session, or have you ever wished for a session on a specific topic? Now is your opportunity to shape your SLA 2017 Annual Conference experience.

SLA has created different streams to utilize in organizing the sessions. The streams are:

* Intellectual Property
* Big Ideas
* Knowledge Management
* Data Management
* Metrics, Analytics and Assessment

While SLA encourages sessions that fit within one of these overarching streams, feel free to share any and all ideas with me regardless of how they might (or might not) fit. Please email me at tans@msu.edu to share your suggestions before the planning meeting on June 11.

Hope to hear from you!

Eric Tans, SLA ERMD Chair-Elect
Environmental Science Librarian
Michigan State University Libraries
The Earth-Friendly Way to Enjoy a Philly Favorite

By Bobbi Weaver, baw@cws.edu

Before you stand in line to experience a greasy, cholesterol-filled Philly cheesesteak, keep in mind that a UN study found that cattle rearing—where both the steak and the cheese originate—produces more greenhouse gases than driving cars (UN News Centre at http://alturl.com/ccatn). But, do not despair. There are alternatives that are better for the environment and both kinder to the animals and your heart health.

Last year, Philadelphia Voice published a listing of establishments in Philadelphia that offer vegan versions of this Philly favorite. The article is online at http://www.phillyvoice.com/6-restaurants-serving-great-vegan-cheesesteaks/.

The first restaurant on the list is Blackbird Pizzeria at 507 S. 6th St. (http://www.blackbirdpizzeria.com/). I sampled this cheesesteak in 2011, and it was rather tasty. I grew up in the Philadelphia area, so I know what the “real thing” tastes like. To visit this restaurant using public transportation, walk to 8th & Market Sts. from the Convention Center and take Bus 47 going in the direction of Whitman Plaza. Debus at 8th & Pine and walk to the restaurant.

Another restaurant offering a vegan Philly Cheesesteak is Hip City Veg (http://hipcityveg.com/). The closest location of this restaurant to the Convention Center is its Rittenhouse Square location at 127 S. 18th St. To visit this restaurant, go to Market & 11th St. and take the Bus 17 going in the direction of 20th & Johnston. Debus at 19th & Chestnut Sts. and walk to the restaurant.

The locations to the other restaurants are noted in the article. You can use the SEPTA trip planner (http://www.septa.org) to find public transit from the Convention Center area.

Of course, my favorite vegan Philly cheesesteak is my own, but I don’t plan on bringing cooking utensils with me on this trip. However, I will share my recipe.

Bobbi’s Vegan Philly Cheesesteak

Ingredients:
- 2 packages of Tofurky Roast Beef or Peppered style Deli Slices
- 1 package of Daiya Mozzarella Style Shreds
- Italian style hoagie (sub) rolls (check your ingredients). Alternatively, French bread cut into sandwich-size portions works too.
- 1 medium onion, sliced thinly (you can add green peppers if you’d like. I’m just not a fan.)
- Olive oil as needed

Saute sliced onions in olive oil over medium heat until they are transparent. Take them out of the pan and set them aside in a bowl. I don’t drain them because I like my sandwich nice and greasy.

Next, saute the deli slices over the medium heat until they are slightly brown. You might need more olive oil. You want them to be flexible, so don’t overcook them. Arrange the slices into portions. Do not lay them flat. You want the slices to be wavy in the portions so that the cheese can melt into the crevices.

Sprinkle the shreds of Daiya on the portions, lower the heat, and cover for about a minute. The cheese will not melt completely on the stove top. Put your portions into the sub rolls and heat in the microwave, 2 at a time, for about 30-45 seconds or until the Daiya melts. Put your grilled onions on top of the sandwiches and press them inside the filling. I like to add ketchup to mine. Hot sauce will work too, if you want a little heat. Enjoy!
A former resident’s guide to Center City Philly

By Bobbi Weaver, baw@cws1.edu

Getting Around

Center City is relatively flat and is quite walkable. Public transportation is also good in the city. For information on public transit, visit SEPTA’s web site at www.septa.org. The site has a trip planner that you can use to plan your adventures.

Groceries

Reading Terminal Market
Reading Terminal Market (http://www.readingterminalmarket.org/) is near the Convention Center and features a lot of vendors of fresh produce and homemade goodies—a lot of it from Pennsylvania German (aka “Pennsylvania Dutch”) communities in the state. (Sorry, part of my family is descended from the Pennsylvania Germans, so I cringe a little when people say “Pennsylvania Dutch.”) Hold off on buying Tasty Kakes there as they can be found cheaper in other nearby locations.

Rite Aid, CVS & Walgreens Drugstores
I am now living in California. If I return without Tasty Kakes, my co-workers will cry. Chain drugstores will often have them for sale at times. You can also find various other packaged foods and toiletries at reasonable prices. You can find most of them on Market or Chestnut street near the Convention Center.

Whole Foods Market
Whole Foods Market on South Street (http://www.wholefoodsmarket.com/stores/southstreet) is a healthy walk or a quick bus ride from the Convention Center. Walk to 8th & Market Sts. and take the Bus #47 going in the direction of Whitman Plaza. Debus at 8th & South Sts. While you’re in the neighborhood, take a look at some of the unique stores and restaurants on South St. It is safest to stay in the area between the store and the Penn’s Landing area.

Booze to Go

Here’s where things get interesting. Pennsylvania has somewhat restrictive laws when it comes to purchasing alcohol. For the most part, liquor and wine are only available in state-run liquor stores (For some wine vendors, check this article at http://alturl.com/33ufa.) State stores are located at 1218 Chestnut St., 1111 Locust St. and 326 S. 5th St. (See http://alturl.com/t9mwz for more locations.)

The craft beer craze has made it a little easier to buy beer in Philadelphia. When I lived in Philly, my choices were to schlep a case from a suburban beer distributor or pay a premium price from a packaged goods store for a six-pack of not-so-premium beer. Bottle shops featuring craft beers are now opening in Philadelphia. The Foodery is one located at 10th and Pine Sts. in Center City (www.fooderybeer.com). Some additional bottle shops are discussed in this article at http://alturl.com/owhhd.

Cheap Eats

Chinatown is near the Convention Center and offers a lot of reasonably-priced restaurants offering Asian cuisine. There are even some all vegetarian restaurants there as well. Philadelphia has a lot of great street food vendors. There are a variety of ethnic cuisines offered at reasonable prices. I lived off of the stuff while I was in law school. Not too great for the scale, but I lived to tell.

For healthier dining, VegPhilly (http://www.vegphilly.com/) has links to vegan restaurants in the area. There are also some listed in the article on p. 6.
Help put books in the hands of Philadelphia’s school children.

Volunteer Wed. June 15,
10:30 am-1 pm
Book-sorting project

Philadelphia Reads operates a book bank to provide books to schools and child care centers throughout the city (http://www.philareads.org/book-bank/). Volunteers are needed to sort book donations by age-group and genre so that educators are able to easily select the books they need for their classroom libraries.

The book bank is located in the Martin Luther King, Jr. High School at 6100 Stenton Ave. and is accessible by public transit. We can meet at a designated spot in the Convention Center at 9:15 am and travel together. Please email Bobbi Weaver at baw@cwsrl.edu if you are interested, including your email & cell phone number so that you can be contacted with the meeting spot. Due to space concerns, participation will be limited to 10 volunteers. If you have room in your suitcase, please consider bringing a new or gently-used children’s book to donate.

Thank you!
SLA 2016 Annual Conference Programs of Interest to ERMD Members
By Bobbi Weaver, baw@cwsl.edu

Sat., June 11, 2016
5:00-6:00 pm: ERMD Business Meeting
6:00-7:00 pm: ERMD Board Meeting

Sun., June 12, 2016
1:30-3:00 p.m. Understanding Food-Related Research & Activism (co-presenting with DFAN)

Mon., June 13, 2016
5:00-7:00 pm: All Sciences Poster Session & Reception

ERMD Members: Tell us your news!


Email Bobbi Weaver at baw@cwsl.edu with your announcements. Thank you.
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