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July 29, 2010 Categories: What’s New
2012 Annual Conference will be in Chicago, 15–18 July!

March 18, 2012 Categories: What’s New Tags: Conferences

Check out what the 2012 Program Planner, Kan Kin has planned for you in Chicago!
Thank You to our Business Partners!!

Hot Off the Press: b/ITe Volume 29, Number 1-2


You can view or download the issue from the bITe page.
Volume 29, Number 3

August 27, 2012

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by Leslie Reynolds

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From the IT Division Chair

August 31, 2012

by Leslie Reynolds, Information Technology Division Chair (Published September 1, 2012)

Did you have as wonderful a conference as I did in the windy city?

If you missed out on the Annual Conference in Chicago, you deprived yourself of a plethora of amazing programs and social events! The IT programs went tremendously well – from cloud computing to social media and the impact of standards on metadata. Kan Kin, our program planner for Chicago and his assistant Jason Keinsley (program planner for San Diego), and other member-volunteers did a fantastic job; many of our board members have captured the essence of the IT sessions for this issue of b/IT.

Did you keep up with the twitter feed of what was going on through #slachicago and @slait?

The highlight of my networking opportunities was the IT Dow Jones Dance Party – Gangsters and Flappers. As luck would have it, the grand ballroom in the Hilton was the perfect 1920’s setting. This event just gets bigger and better every year! I hope you took the opportunity to dance and, if you arrived early enough, you are now the proud owner of a gangster hat, flapper feather headband, long white beads, a whistle on a string or a pocketful of faux money. If you saw Mr. Big Gangster and wondered who that was, it was our very own Jason Keinsely playing the mobster extraordinaire!

I would be remiss if I did not take a moment to thank our business partners who helped us provide this amazing conference experience for you: Platinum Partner Dow Jones, and Silver Partners Elsevier, IEEE, Proquest, ReprintsDesk and Springer.

Now that annual conference has come to a close, we are already well on our way for planning for yet another amazing conference in San Diego. Speakers are being recruited; continuing education workshops are arranged; and another amazing Dance Party is being planned (if you have a suggestion for a theme, Adrienne Smith would love to hear your ideas).

The IT Division website has been undergoing renovations as it moves to the WordPress platform. Several volunteers stepped up to help with the final touches and document transfer. I’d like to take this opportunity to thank them assisting our webmaster Christine Geluk with what has been a daunting task: Henry Mensch, John DiGillio, Ruth Kneale, and Catherine Lavallée-Welch.

The IT Business meeting was the perfect opportunity to let members, like you, know about the Divisions activities from the last year. We celebrated award winners! The Outstanding Chapter Technology Programming Award recognized the Rocky Mountain Chapter. The Joe Ann Clifton Student Award for outstanding paper regarding the use of information technology went to Wayne Pender, who’s paper “Metadata for Video: Too Much Content, Not Enough Information” appears in this issue. It was also my pleasure to award the Grieg Aspnes Outstanding Member Award to Jill Hurst-Walt. An excellent slate of board candidates for 2013 was presented and approved, thanks to the efforts of the Nominating Committee, headed by our Past-Chair Michael Kim. Congratulations to Libby Trudell and Leoma Dunn who will become Chair-Elect and Treasurer respectively. Adrienne Smith has been named the Program Planner for 2014.

Speaking of elections, remember to vote in the upcoming SLA elections, voting opens September 5 online.

We continue to seek volunteers and suggestions on how we can provide you with the services and programming you’d like to see from your IT Division. Please remember that I am always happy to hear from you at leslier@tamu.edu or @leslier or @slait.
The New Knowledge Services: Next Steps for Career Professionals

August 31, 2012

by Adrienne Smith, Virtual Event Co-Chair (Published September 1, 2012)

Spotlight Session: The New Knowledge Services – Next Steps for Career Professionals

Speaker: Guy St. Clair, President and Consulting Specialist at SMR Strategic Learning Consultant for Columbia University’s M.S. in Information and Knowledge Strategy

Presenters: SLA’s IT and KM Divisions

Sponsor: Dow Jones & Company

Guy St. Clair has a new job title for us – knowledge strategist. During his session covering next steps in the information profession, St. Clair argued that special librarians are uniquely positioned to take on the role of aligning organizational strategy with information and knowledge strategies, thus driving

If you’ve been paying attention to the SLA’s previous “Future Ready” and current “Future Now” themes, you’ve heard a lot about adapting your role and marketing yourself to stay ahead of the massive changes both the technological and economic times have brought to our profession. St. Clair believes that we have an advantage as information professionals to fully inhabit this increasingly important role.

Why are special librarians well-positioned to become knowledge strategists?

- we are thought leaders
- our professional allegiances are to the organization or company that employs us
- we care about making sure that knowledge management (plus knowledge development and sharing) is happening at the highest standards
- we understand our organization’s management structure because we work within it
- we understand how leadership impacts results

Knowledge strategy (KStrat) is emerging as a new and in-demand management discipline. According to St. Clair, embracing it is an effective way to adapt your job and take it to a new level, simultaneously enhancing your value as a professional and the value derived by your organization.

KStrat is a key driver of organizational efficiency. It is in essence an alignment of information/knowledge strategy with business strategy; from this alignment, a company can more easily succeed.

St. Clair’s engaging speaking style and unique twist on what has become a common theme made this session a thought-provoking kickoff to SLA Chicago. In his dual roles as practitioner and academic, St. Clair’s perspective allows theory to be informed by practice, and vice versa, ensuring always valuable insights.
Web-scale Discovery Implementation with the End User in Mind

August 31, 2012

by Michael Kim, Past Chair (Published September 1, 2012)

Program: Web-scale Discovery Implementation with the End User in Mind
Moderator: Rafal Kasprowski, Rice University

Speakers: Rafal Kasprowski, Rice University; Debra Kolah, Rice University; Harry Kaplanian, EBSCO Publishing

Harry Kaplanian, the first speaker, began his presentation from a brief history of library information discovery services. By and large, machine-based library catalog services started in 1980s. He argues that 1982 was a landmark year when people began to see that the library card catalogs might disappear. He identifies the 1990s as the time period that electronic databases began to appear for libraries, which is not a part of the library physical collection. Due to introduction of the electronic databases, patrons, Kaplanian argues, don’t know anymore where they should find electronic information easily. In order to help the patron, federated search became very popular after 2000. However, federated search services have many drawbacks, such as slow speed, incomplete result sets, and conflict of multiple ranking algorithms between multiple electronic databases. After federated search services, a newer generation of cataloging layers services became very popular. The cataloging layers services provide a single index for all local content fast and provides complete result sets. However, the downside would be difficulty with setup and not tightly integrated with Library Information Systems (LIS).

Web-scale discovery service is a more recent development that has become a “buzz word” past three-to-four years. Basically, the services provide indexing services by which the single compassing index of all e-contents can be placed with single search box. There is no worry about relevancy ranking because vendors can adjust complex ranking criteria for customers. The search will be “super-fast.” The downside is that the services may not be tightly integrated with LIS. This generation of services may eventually be replaced by the next generation LIS, called “Web-Scale Management” systems.

The next speaker, Debora Kolah, continued the discussion of web-scale discovery by focusing on its implantation at Rice University. She was a part of Resource Discovery Tools Working Group, a task force consisting of 8 members representing Cataloging, Institutional Repository, Information Technology, Office of User Experience, and Electronic Resource Management teams, that in December 2010 was charged with the task of finding a new discovery layer. Their interim report was submitted in March 2011 to select three products for trials. Their final report was generated in late July 2011. In the end, EBSCO’s EDS product went live in January 2012.

During the investigation, she consulted “Web Scale Discovery Services,”[1] a report that included very detailed analyses. In addition, she reviewed a few user studies written by Nancy Foster, Andrew Asher, and a team from Rice University.

Rafal Kasprowski followed with a third presentation that focused on the web-scale discovery product selection process at Rice University and made recommendations on what to look for in selecting a web-scale discovery product.

The advantage of web-scale discovery systems over federated search products is that it makes records from content providers available from a single index. Additionally, search results are combined and their relevance ranked as if they came from a single source following the same metadata organization. Hence, it is crucial to check if the web-scale discovery vendor provides this service.

Also, it is important to verify a vendor’s claims to find out: 1. Combining the search results and its relevance rankings are independent from each separate database scheme; 2. Providing complementary federated searching in addition to true unified index. 3. Using a grand unified index of all records and presenting a library’s individual holdings as a subset of the larger index.

Kasprowski explained that the web-scale discovery systems can be hosted either by vendor or by library. In the vendor-host model, the service will sit external vendor server as SaaS (Software as a Service). The local library-host model, however, may provide an opportunity for the library to have extensive and unique customizations and some code-level access to the service.

He also covered relevant issues, such as content coverage, handling of institutional records, application of local practices. Kasprowski pointed to other points of consideration, including the quality of customer service technical support, the number of customers with similar LIS and Institutional Repository software, the degree of integration with vendor’s other services, and compatibility with other remote access software (proxy, VPN, etc.).

Kaprowski acknowledged that it is difficult to ask all the right questions when dealing with unknown. He suggested asking detailed questions, assuming as little as possible, and checking what you understand by asking. He also stressed that it is equally important to resist the urge to find the ultimate product. All solutions are imperfect and libraries may have to repeat a new product search every two to three years.

The session was sponsored by ProQuest & Dialog. The PowerPoint slides are available at http://www.slideshare.net/rkaspro

International Information Exchange (IIE) Breakfast

August 31, 2012

by Barbie Keiser, Past KIIE Convener (Published September 1, 2012)

Program: International Information Exchange (IIE) Breakfast

Date: Tuesday, July 17

Speaker: Jack O’Donnell, Chicago Coordinator for World Computer Exchange (WCE)

Presenters: SLA’s IT and ERM Divisions

A small group gathered in Chicago for the International Information Exchange Caucus breakfast on Wednesday, July 18. The featured speaker was Jack O’Donnell, Chicago Coordinator for World Computer Exchange (WCE). World Computer Exchange’s mission is “To reduce the digital divide for youth in developing countries; to use our global network of partnerships to enhance communities in these countries; and to promote the reuse of electronic equipment and its ultimate disposal in an environmentally responsible manner.” Jack’s presentation described:

- How WCE operates with partners, sponsors, and strategic allies, of which SLA is one
- The work of the Chicago Chapter, as an example of WCE’s 20 chapters throughout the United States and Canada
- The eWaste project for Latin America to which SLA members contributed
- The Content Project
- eCorps Volunteers
- Computers-for-Girls Project

To date, WCE has provided 31,009 computers, placing them in 2,839 schools and youth centers in 43 developing countries, connecting over 3.5 million youth to information resources via the Internet and World Wide Web. This grassroots effort involves 250 volunteer Development Officers who help with logistics, planning, fund raising, and tech support for computer shipments; teams of eCorps tech and teacher training professional volunteers; and 500 chapter volunteers in 20 cities who collect, upgrade, and prepare computers for shipment abroad.

The organization helps local groups in developing nations collaborate and work toward a common goal of bringing computers to local schools and youth centers, primarily in rural areas. These partner organizations are responsible for raising a portion of the funding required (shipping costs). (The idea behind this is to make these partners stronger for their next community improvement project.)

Donated computers are refurbished to support their education purposes

Donated computers are tested, inventoried, and tagged. (WCE accepts computer donations of Pentium 4 and above; Macs are less supported in these destinations.) Hard drives are wiped clean and Linux operating system, software, and content installed. Twenty PCs are placed on pallets, along with tested monitors, keyboards, mice, printers, LAN cables, and parts; ten pallets are shipped to a single country, for a total of 200 computers per container. Representatives from international or local Non-Governmental Agencies (NGOs) walk the computers through customs and distribute them to their final destinations around the country; sometimes the US Embassy or Peace Corps Director does this for WCE.

WCE relies on Linux (Ubuntu) because of cost, language compatibility, virus solutions, stability, Firefox and Libre Office, ease of use, and compatibility with older PCs. Once the computers arrive at their destination, they must be installed. WCE eCorps volunteers make trips to these nations, train local people how to troubleshoot, network, and use the Internet for educational purposes.

How WCE supports education: The Content Project

WCE wants their computers to be useful in areas where connectivity (to the Internet) is limited. To accomplish this, the organization relies on Edubuntu and loads relevant content (depending upon the ultimate location of installation) on computer hard drives. (The organization is considering a shift to sending a server with each shipment.) Edubuntu consists of 34 open source tools and games for K–12. Open source content that WCE frequently loads on hard drives, some of which was identified through the help of SLA members, can be found at: http://www.contentarchives.org/content_archives_v4/EN/index.html

Similar projects are underway in Spanish, French, and Arabic, so if you know of any similar resources in these languages that should be tapped, please share them with Jack.

Gender gaps in terms of education exist throughout the world. WCE has targeted 13 countries for its Computers–for–Girls Project—Cameroon, Ghana, Honduras, Kenya, Liberia, Mali, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe—to connect 91,000 girls by 2015. In each country, WCE is working with five partner organizations to build capacity, providing 200 refurbished computers to connect 7000 girls, train 30 technology teachers in two-day iLearn workshops, and send six volunteer eCorps tech professionals to spend two weeks with these teachers and partners.

SLA has worked with WCE in the past, but there are ways in which our skills complement the work of this organization. First, in terms of structure: SLA has chapters in 17 of the cities with WCE chapters, so joint meetings or projects are a distinct possibility for local program planners. Individuals (or international chapters) could help to identify and vet suitable partners for WCE in developing nations. An SLA member might even wish to volunteer as a Development Officer for a specific nation. Then there is always the opportunity to take a working vacation and join an eCorps trip, applying information skills to benefit a community. Finally, SLA Divisions might work to identify content to complement the growing set of resources loaded on computers shipped abroad.

The breakfast was generously sponsored by EMIS. You may know them as ISI Emerging Markets, a Euromoney Institutional Investor company, delivering hard-to-get information on more than 80 emerging markets. For more information about Jack and WCE’s Chicago Chapter, go to http://abclocal.go.com/wls/story/?section=news/local&id=8329190.
Metadata for Video: Too Much Content, Not Enough Information

August 31, 2012
by Wayne Pender, McGill University, 2012 Joe Ann Clifton Student Award Winner (Published September 1, 2012)

Abstract

Television news libraries have struggled with cataloguing, organizing and storing visual materials for efficient search and retrieval for years. This task has been complicated by the emergence of digital video and the exponential growth in the holdings of television news libraries. In parallel, the ability for non-professionals to shoot, edit and publish videos of increasing production value and complexity on the web has flooded the Internet with videos that appeal to a wide audience and subject interest. The present search looks at the metadata protocols and practices in place for an internal audience in professional operations and on display for the general public on the Internet. The study finds that the lack of a common metadata schema can make much of the material inaccessible. Literature pertaining to this area is reviewed and future direction is discussed.

Keywords: metadata, video, XML, RDF, MXF, television, news, YouTube

Paper

Searching and retrieving visual content is problematic. The search for specific moving images on film and video has long been a task for television news professionals, but now with wide spread availability of video resources on the Internet it has become a task for anyone. One of the problems of searching for video is the complexity of the medium. Where the description of a single photo may take many lines of metadata script, the description of a minute of video contains hundreds of photos that will require an exponential amount of metadata. Within a second of video there are thirty individual image frames and each second may contain important actions, scenes and distinct characteristics that news producers and information seekers need to retrieve.

The complexity of moving images in terms of description has always made finding video content difficult for television news librarians or producers. In the days of film and analogue video on tape, the basic metadata generation, storage and retrieval of video for educational, communication and individual expression has exploded because of the increased usage of mobile phones with video recording capability. Today, the availability of these tools has resulted in vast numbers of videos being made available on such websites as YouTube and on individual blogs, social networking sites and personal websites. The importance of metadata in searching and retrieving materials for professionals and the public will only intensify as the medium becomes more popular as an information sharing tool.

The consumer side of video production in terms of metadata is an important consideration for two reasons. First, because the enormity of online content presents a magnification of the search and retrieval problem that television news operations have to deal with. Second, increasingly, the Internet is replacing traditional means of transmission and storage of video content for users. The Internet has caused considerable overlap in access between professional and amateur video. Television news regularly solicits video from the public and people share links to video professional content through social networks. Metadata is the key to finding video content of any kind on the Internet. Television news operations now must be prepared to live stream coverage over the Internet, while producing and packaging specialized versions to be available for the traditional newscast as well as providing video highlights for on demand viewing online.

If the case has been made that metadata is crucial for search and retrieval of video materials, it then must be decided what metadata schema and structure to use. The factors that make it difficult to determine the type of metadata to use for video are in some ways the same considerations that make choosing metadata schemes for textual content problematic. One of the key considerations is interoperability. Interoperability is the ability for one metadata system to be compatible with others and operate with a common, well-known interface. If the goal of interoperability is realized, it will ultimately mean that availability and access will be maximized. In the current context of online video repositories and archives, interoperable technical and semantic metadata would mean that search and retrieval of material placed on the Internet would not be restricted by the lack of accessible metadata.

Another key consideration is the provision of metadata elements that allow the encoder to adequately describe moving images. Often, visual information is independent of any kind of textual reference. For example, video recording tracks are designed with at least two accompanying audio tracks; however, it may be the case that there has been no discernable audio recorded that can be transcribed and used as a textual reference. In this case, it is necessary that encoders have the latitude to create detailed descriptions of the visual content on its own without any reference to words. The semantic must be able to convey the meaning of the images in the most accessible way.

Identifying and implementing an interoperable, extensible and effective metadata schema is problematic given the number of metadata schemes available and the offsetting positive and negative aspects of each of them. The advantages and disadvantages of various potential metadata schemas for video archiving will be discussed in this paper following a brief review of the literature that was consulted.

Literature review

Public broadcasting in the United States has undertaken an effort to create a repository to preserve digital media assets and to take the lead in promoting common technical and content metadata across the broadcast industry. A variation of DC was used to create "PB Core", which was contained within a Metadata Encoding and Transmission Standard (METS) rights wrapper and ultimately a Material Exchange Format (MXF) wrapper (that works well with XML) to promote interoperability. The Public Broadcasting working group made efforts to reach out for collaboration with commercial television networks and concessions that at their support it proves that the Internet is an important entity that can be used for video.

The Internet has increased the pressure on commercial broadcasters to make their productions as accessible as non-professional entities. According to Kallinikos and Mariátegui (2011), interoperability and access are issues that media organizations have been forced to deal with. “Findability and accessibility are key prerequisites for operating and competing in the digital marketplace” (p. 282). In an empirical study of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) and the corporate effort to streamline operations and accessibility to its productions, Kallinikos and Mariátegui found that metadata is like a “passport” that allows performance of different “tasks and operations” by how it is “produced, delivered and ultimately consumed” (p. 289).

The nature of video content sometimes makes it difficult to describe in syntactically. If a video clip is accompanied by an audio track that helps describe the visual elements the task of encoding metadata may be made easier by utilizing the transcript of the material. However, the strength of visual material is the emotion or deep meaning that can be conveyed. The saying of ‘a picture is worth a thousand words’ is thought of as a cliché; however, in the context of metadata where semantics are important signifiers for searchers, relevant semantics are necessary content that convey the degree of meaning of the visual element.

The encoding of semantics requires good metadata tools and a skilled professional to interpret video content. The quality of the human input and the technical capability of the metadata schema are important factors in consideration of problems with metadata for video (p. 290–291). Efficiencies can be achieved when the metadata schema used for internal use to search and retrieve video matches the metadata that is used to search and retrieve on the Internet. In this way the professional and the public spheres align and highlight the need for an integrated approach for preserving and accessing video material universally.

Trade journals raise the issue of the lack of a universal metadata schema and the negative consequences it can have for search and retrieval of video. Miller writes that searching for video is handicapped by the lack of text–based content for keyword searching and it means that users are relying on the keywords used in metadata, if there is any, to find visual items. Many organizations have realized the need for Digital Asset Management (DAM), but often there is not the time, budget or expertise.
A comparison of metadata schemas for video by Hunter and Armstrong looks at various schemas including Dublin Core (DC), Resource Description Framework (RDF) and variations of Extensible Markup Language (XML) that all satisfy Moving Picture Experts Group (MPEG-7) Description Definition Language (DDL) requirements. First, a proposed schema that utilizes the basic fifteen DC elements as an upper level and qualifiers at a lower level to provide granularity is considered. However, the loss of “semantic interoperability” by using element qualifiers is pointed out as a disadvantage to the schema (Hunter & Armstrong, 1999, p. 354). Next, metadata schema requirements are listed and compared (p. 356). Post comparison, the authors find that none of the schemas are well suited to metadata for video and posit that a “hybrid” solution consisting of XML, supported by RDF and Schema for Object Oriented (SOX) XML is necessary. This solution would provide “object-oriented, semantical concepts of RDF but express them in an easily understood, human-readable XML schema” (p. 372).

Where the Hunter & Armstrong article provides a foundational survey of the issues surrounding metadata solutions for video, it is dated. A current study and presentation of metadata solutions is offered by Sikos (2011), in which he proposes that the implementing organization of (X)HTML-5 will provide better conditions for search and retrieval by using a form of metadata called “microdata” in combination with RDF, DC and other specific metadata schemes. Sikos posits that (X)HTML-5 support of virtually all metadata schemes, its own embedded data and the fact that Google, Yahoo! and YouTube all index RDF means that this Internet encoding will go a long way to making video more accessible online. However, he then goes on to call for standardization of metadata for video and suggests that social media and video sharing portals will have to drop the embedded metadata upload so that it does not conflict with (X)HTML so that the full potential of metadata through (X)HTML will be realized.

The use of an XML based MEG-7 schema is touted by Carreras, Tous, Rodriguez, Delgado, Cordara, Francini & Gibellino (2010) for its “interoperability and platform independence” and its “flexible language” that helps “narrow the semantic gap” by extracting spatial and temporal elements through use of “video analysis algorithms” (p. 48–52). The MPEG Group outlines the objectives of MPEG-7 as a “Multimedia Content Description Interface” that “supports some degree of interpretation of the information meaning”. Lower levels of description render basic descriptors such as colour, size and shape; whereas, higher levels of description allow for semantic meaning to be recorded for greater granularity, thereby enhancing search and retrieval functionality (MPEG Group, 1.2 MPEG-7 Objectives, 2004). As acting as a framework, MPEG-21 [defines] the technology needed to support Users to exchange, access, consume, trade and otherwise manipulate Digital Items in an efficient, transparent and interoperable way (Bormans & Hill, 2002).

Material Exchange Format (MXF) metadata standard and accompanying Descriptive Metadata Scheme (DMS-1) are the subject of a Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) – Radio-Canada publication that explains how these tools can be used to create metadata that can aid in the search and retrieval of news video in an operational context to reduce the need for expending resources on re-shooting material that is already available in the library. Integration with a news writing software package can help librarians to efficiently manage contents of various contexts. The tool can be used as a metadata assistant to derive appropriate metadata for the MXF material (Ferreira, 2010).

Other sources regarding the technical and functional capabilities of MXF as a metadata solution help to explicate the specifics of this format. “The ultimate goal of MXF is to interchange Essence (picture, sound and data).” The use of “essence containers” to encode basic information is supplemented by other packages of metadata that combine to render a complete metadata solution (Ferreira, 2010).

The convergence of professional and amateur video metadata is indicated by the common reference to use of MXF as a standard tool for internal use among the professional side that already has the technology in place (Dijsselhof, 2009). Yet, there is opinion that Z39.50 can work with other schema and standards to be an effective search and retrieval tool for finding moving image materials. According to Poul Henrik Jorgensen of the Danish Bibliographic Centre, Z39.50 can support XML syntax and names and navigate RDF structures (Jorgensen, 2006, PowerPoint presentation). Despite the promise of Z39.50 it does not seem to be a current concern. The author of the present paper could not find any current information regarding the development of new profiles. The most recent listed profile on the Z39.50 website is 2004. This indicates that the protocol is not currently being maintained and developed, which leads to an assumption that the standard is being overtaken by others, perhaps XML standards.

The dichotomy between the professional and non-professional is still a reality in the world of dealing with video libraries and archives. And it does not appear that these two will come together anytime soon in terms of a universal metadata scheme. The professional side is working with the MXF format, in large part because of its compatibility with newsroom and production content management and video editing systems, which widely used in the television and film industries. On the non-professional side there is an overwhelming drive to follow the lead of Google/YouTube in the use of XML schemas with PHP (Hypertext Preprocessor) language. Having said that, there are clearly a number of metadata schemes being used to post videos on personal and professional websites and there are no clear standards or regulation.

Discussion

The problem of search and retrieval is complicated by the inability of many of these heterogeneous schemas to talk to each other. And not all of the possible schemas and standards have been mentioned here; notably, Categories for the Description of Works of Art (CDWA), Cataloguing Cultural Objects (CCO), Visual Resources Association Core Categories (VRA Core), Metadata Encoding Transmission Standard (METS) and Metadata Object Description Schema (MODS). Also, it should be mentioned that Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting (OAI-PMH) is important in the XML context as a search and retrieval convention.

A key tool that can be used to achieve interoperability and hence successful search for video material is Z39.50, which can help deal with the heterogeneity of metadata schemas. Although Z39.50 holds promise to be the binding and common standard to improve searches for video material there are some misgivings about it. “Current digital library query representations and protocols, such as Z39.50 [12], deal entirely with textual metadata. This is not sufficient for multimedia digital libraries…” (Bakker, Huang, Lew, Sebe & Zhou, 2003, p. 94).

Yet, there is opinion that Z39.50 can work with other schema and standards to be an effective search and retrieval tool for finding moving image materials. According to Poul Henrik Jorgensen of the Danish Bibliographic Centre, Z39.50 can support XML syntax and names and navigate RDF structures (Jorgensen, 2006, PowerPoint presentation). Despite the promise of Z39.50 it does not seem to be a current concern. The author of the present paper could not find any current information regarding the development of new profiles. The most recent listed profile on the Z39.50 website is 2004. This indicates that the protocol is not currently being maintained and developed, which leads to an assumption that the standard is being overtaken by others, perhaps XML standards.

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Conclusion

While it is unlikely that television news or production websites will open up their servers for searching by the public any time soon, it can be seen in the future that if granting access to these resources can become a revenue stream it is possible that the public will be willing to pay a premium for the ability to download videos for a fee. YouTube has succeeded in ad revenues by offering to become partners with people who post videos (Bloomberg, 2011). Vendors of products referred to in videos pay the creator and YouTube to flash ads under the video thereby creating a revenue stream for the service provider and the producer. This in turn, encourages the production of more material.

Television operations are doing this to a certain extent but they are using services like Apple’s iTunes to deliver the service. If the broadcasters streamlined their delivery system with the help of a commonly used metadata strategy they could not only offer finished productions, but they could also offer portions of exclusive non-broadcast material of news and entertainment material that can be aimed at a specific target audience. For example, longer portions of breaking news events that were not significant to be broadcast live, a hostage taking or a rescue at a fire scene for instance.

The exponential growth of video content on the web will not abate anytime soon. Search and retrieval of this material will become more complex and problematic. Increasingly metadata will play a larger role in the maintenance and management of these resources, and universal standards and schemas will be necessary.

References


http://it.sla1.org/?post_type=post&show_title=1&show_date=1&show_categories=1&show_featured_image=1&show_content=1&show_divider=1&printout-meta=on&post-page-break=on&columns=...


NISO's IOTA Initiative: Fixing OpenURL Links Using Data Analysis

September 1, 2012

by Michael Kim, Past Chair (Published September 1, 2012)

Program: NISO's IOTA Initiative: Fixing OpenURL Links Using Data Analysis

Moderator: Rafal Kasprzowski, Rice University

Speakers: Rafal Kasprzowski, Rice University; Susan Marcin, Columbia University; Oliver Pesch, EBSCO Information Services

Rafal Kasprzowski, the first speaker, started his presentation with a definition of IOTA (Improving OpenURLs Through Analytics).

IOTA is an initiative that measures the relative importance of the elements that make up OpenURL links to help vendors improve their OpenURL strings so that the maximum number of OpenURL request resolve to a correct record. It includes many elements, such as journal/book titles, ISBN/ISSN, DOI (Digital Object Identifier), volumes, authors, etc. OpenURL is an open standard generating dynamic that links a time of information inquiry from the patron to an online information database. Vendors maintain the central holdings knowledge base. Based on the knowledge bases, OpenURL resolver will translate each information inquiry and send out target URL and allow patrons to obtain full-text information from the online information database. While the advantage of this approach is that knowledge base vendors taken care of most of linking setup, the disadvantage is that this kind of dynamic linking tends to be less predictable than static linking.

In order to address this issue, NISO created two groups complementary working groups: IOTA & KBART in January 2010. While KBART (Knowledge Bases And Related Tools) deals with data issues at the knowledge base level, IOTA deals with issues specific to OpenURL linking and seeks to improve the OpenURL elements used by OpenURL providers. The desired outcome of the IOTA group is to provide qualitative reports that will help OpenURL providers quickly compare their OpenURL quality to that of their peers and to develop community-recognized indexes for measuring the quality of OpenURL links that are generated by content providers. The IOTA group created an OpenURL Quality Index and will continue with further investigation.

Susan Marcin, the second speaker, presented on usefulness of IOTA's OpenURL reports in terms of improving OpenURL links for e-books. During her presentation, "E-Books & OpenURL Linking," she described the collaborative study by the 2CUL E-Book Task Force," which is a partnership between the Columbia University Libraries and the Cornell University Library that is based on a broad integration of resources, collections, services, and expertise.

According to Marcin, the improvement of OpenURL linking would provide a better user experience and increased user satisfaction. The Task Force looked at IOTA data in order to assess the quality of E-Book OpenURLs. Their findings conclude that:

1. Sending only a title in an OpenURL string is not always sufficient to find a match;
2. If there is an ISBN associated with a book, then the OpenURL provider should include the ISBN in the OpenURL request for better results;
3. The inclusion of certain criteria, such as ISBN, DOI, and title, do appear to promote OpenURL linking success;
4. If additional data, such as an author’s last name with the title, is included, the precision of the results should improve.

Oliver Pesch, the third speaker, discussed the improvements to and limitations of IOTA’s OpenURL Quality Index. The Completeness Score measures the “completeness” of a single OpenURL and can be calculated by weighing the elements provided in the OpenURL based on their importance in target links. Some elements are more important than others and will have a higher weight. The Completeness Index is attributed to the content provider as an overall measure of the completeness of their OpenURLs. This is a mechanism that individual link resolver vendors can use to provide metrics that improve their service quality. He showed the test results based on LinkSource and 360-Link as a test system. The results indicated that:

1. The step-wise regression approach to element weights works;
2. Completeness index scores can be correlated to actual OpenURL “success”;
3. Knowledge base and resolver technology influence results and prevent a universal set of element weights.

In conclusion, he described the future plans for IOTA. The group will publish a technical report on their work to date and recommend practices for the calculation and use of completeness scores by link resolver vendors for link quality assessment. The group will continue work as a NISO standing committee for at least one more year.

This session was presented by Information Technology. PowerPoint slides are available from http://www.slideshare.net/rkaspro.
Training for the Systems Librarians

September 1, 2012

by Nicole Engard, Information Systems Section Chair (Published September 1, 2012)

Tech Training for Libraries from the Colorado State Library offers ideas and materials for training on technology topics in libraries. This is a great resource for library trainers and systems librarians! Be sure to check it out and watch for The Accidental Systems Librarian 2nd edition coming in September from Information Today Inc. for more resources both on training and other aspects of systems librarianship.
Responsive Web Design and Web Management Survey

September 1, 2012

by Berika Williams, Web Management Section Chair (Published September 1, 2012)

Web Management Survey

The web management section recently underwent a name and scope change in the past year. We need additional feedback from Web Management section members on ways to further improve this section.

Please take the time to answer this 5 question survey. Survey closes September 30, 2012.

Responsive Web Design

Recently, a colleague introduced me to a different approach for web design, independent of browser or device called “Responsive Design”. Content “responds” to the user’s device to fit on any screen, regardless of how small or large it is. This quickly drew my interest. It goes beyond expandable width websites. It uses a dose of CSS and JavaScript to work its magic and deliver a less painful approach than building a separate mobile and desktop site.

An example of such a site is Texas A&M Writing Center’s website. Try resizing the width and see responsive design in action. Also, check out the website on your mobile device and see how content is displayed to fit on your screen compared to the full version on your PC or Mac.

There are advantages to this approach versus designing a separate mobile website. The obvious benefits are less time managing two different websites and having all content available at your fingertips. This does mean that more time has to be spent developing the site, to allow for the content to be organized so that it can be reshaped when resized. What this may mean for the future of mobile development is that apps and mobile websites designed for specific platforms will become less attractive as users focus on applications that are compatible with any device.

For more information about responsive web design, visit Google’s developer’s page to read their brief explanation on ways JavaScript is incorporated in this approach. To learn more about how to implement responsive design visit this page: http://www.html5rocks.com/en/mobile/responsivedesign.

I’m interested in hearing about IT division or web management section members’ encounters with responsive web design. Continue the discussion by posting a message to the SITW discussion list. To post to the list, send messages to SLA-SITW@lists.sla.org.

To subscribe, send an email to lyris@lists.sla.org with the following command in the body of the message:

subscribe sla-sitw
listname (your email address)
(your first and last name)
e.g. subscribe sla-sitw jdoe@email.com Jane Doe
Member Kudos and Awards

September 1, 2012

SLA’s Information Technology Division presented the following awards at the annual SLA conference in Chicago:

- **Grieg Aspnes Outstanding Member Award**: Jill Hurst-Wahl
- **Joe Ann Clifton Student Award**: Wayne Pender, “Metadata for Video: Too Much Content, Not Enough Information”
- **Outstanding Chapter Technology Programming Award**: Rocky Mountain Chapter

The following IT Division members were recognized at the annual SLA conference in Chicago:

- **SLA Hall of Fame**: Sharon Lenius
- **2012 SLA Fellows**:
  - Scott Brown
  - Ruth Kneale
  - Chris Olson
- **ProQuest & Dialog Member Achievement Award**: Daniel Lee
- **Pharmaceutical and Health Technology (PHT) Division Distinguished Member Award**: Christine Geluk

The following slate of 2013 IT Division board candidates was also presented and approved at the annual SLA conference in Chicago:

- **Chair-Elect**: Libby Trudell
- **Treasurer**: Leoma Dunn
- **2014 Program Planner**: Adrienne Smith
Impact of Technical Standards on Metadata and Controlled Vocabulary Projects

September 1, 2012

by Stephanie Tolson, Business Partners Liaison (Published September 1, 2012)

Program: Impact of Technical Standards on Metadata and Controlled Vocabulary Projects

Date: Wednesday, July 18

Moderator: Janel Kinlaw, NPR

Speakers: Paulette Hasier, ARTI; Hannah Sommers, NPR; Marcie Zaharee, The MITRE Corporation

First, I must admit that I am no taxonomy expert. Second, I want to say I think it is important for our profession to continue to learn about taxonomies so that we can help enhance information retrieval within our organizations. Taxonomies provide structure and information professional can help provide structure to information than often is not in the library. The following summaries information I gleamed from the panel for this session. Read on to expand your knowledge.

Marie Zaharee from the non-profit Mitre Corporation described their taxonomy strategy and her experiences with metadata harmonization. Mitre operates five federally funded agencies. Mitre serves the Department of Defense, which requires the development of metadata based on visibility, manageability, accessibility, and understandability. Metadata is applied to images, reports, orders, etc. It is important to understand the context, format, and standards that govern the format of data sources. While Marie and her team identify attributes of metadata and communicate usage instructions, they face several challenges such as:

- Implementation does not insure usage,
- Cleaning up legacy data,
- Long term storage;
- Emerging standards and cost associated with adoption.

Paulette Hasien from the Department of Defense spoke about the creation of a knowledge map. She stressed the importance of asking questions before creating metadata. What are the goals? What are we going to do with the data? Paulette used a modified version of the Dublin Core metadata standard. She and her team moved from mining towards knowledge (standardization, customization of Dublin Core, validation – creating taxonomies and validating). She provided practical information such as:

- Methodology – she had permission to data mined research that was in the researcher’s shared folder,
- Process – she created an index, reported on progress, and made connections across research offices which created an additional discovery layer (made it possible to know who was working on like projects for future collaboration),
- Time – it took one staff member six months to complete this project;
- ROI – uncovered and exploited duplicate research and discoveries enhanced collection development.

Hannah Sommers from NPR said that her organization had a good thesaurus and decided to make it better. She described her project in acts.

- Act I – The scene is NPR, which broadcasts 24/7 and serves the entire country. NPR’s library builds and distributes transcription to their reporters. They must capture information about the program’s topic, speakers, music, and date. The library has been more likely to implement a standard that affects distribution of data. The use of standards must be justified with business case and support NPR’s mission.
- Act II – Vocabulary – Who assigns this? The librarians, the digital media specialist and the content editor assign the terms. NPR had been using a current events thesaurus, but they found that the vocabulary was not the best.
- Act III – The Project (To make the taxonomy more usable) – the staff looked at term frequency counts within a two week time frame and adopted a standard that imposed a hierarchical structure.
- Act IV – What We Learned – Consult the community of users (it is the interpretation of the word that counts), the standard is not a substitute– we must have a plan, think big (do the least amount possible before getting stakeholder feedback); create.

Slides from the presentation are available here: http://www.sla.org/pdfs/sla2012/ImpactTechStandMetaContVocabProjHasier.pdf
The Cloud Above the Clouds: Ensuring End User Happiness

September 1, 2012

by Alex Grigg, Treasurer (Published September 1, 2012)

Program: Updates from the World of Cloud Computing

Date: Monday, July 16

Speaker: Peter Derycz, Reprints Desk

Presenters: Food Agriculture & Nutrition Division and Information Technology Division

At the annual conference in Chicago Peter Derycz from Reprints Desk presented a session for the IT Division entitled “Cloud above the Clouds: Ensuring End User Happiness.” Peter started his talk by pointing out that the cloud has integrated itself into every part of software, platform, and infrastructure delivery. It is now possible to buy all of these things and more as a cloud based service, rather than relying on your own internal IT or other departments to provide them using homegrown and internal resources. However, the expansion of the availability of cloud based services is something that started decades ago with the introduction of the internet. At that point we could suddenly look to services like Dialog to provide access to resources that we might not always own and keep in hard copy on our desks or on our library shelves.

A narrower definition of the cloud might limit it to virtual servers located in someone else’s buildings and that are maintained by some external company, but the cloud is more often now used as a marketing term. Marketing teams are in a frenzy to slap the term “cloud” on any service that might be accessed partly or wholly through the internet. The cloud is one of the hot, new things and everyone thinks they need to be out there in the cloud with all of the other new companies, however the cloud isn’t free and it is not without its own perils. Cloud based hosting and services can still fail as some Amazon customers recently discovered. Also, while those cloud based services can be more scalable and flexible, they are not necessarily cheaper. That scalability often comes at a higher cost than internal services would.

Those were the main points of Peter’s talk, but he went on to talk about how focusing on what’s more important than whether or not something is cloud based or not is whether or not it meets the end user’s needs. The cloud allows for improvements in customer service which Peter believes Reprints Desk has made through a variety of improvements in their delivery services. He points out that having things in the cloud alone is less important than leveraging the advantages of the cloud to improve the user experience.

Slides from the presentation are available here: http://www.slideshare.net/reprintsdesk/the-cloud-above-the-clouds-ensuring-end-user-happiness-a-document-delivery-case-study
IT Division and Dow Jones Dance Party

September 1, 2012

Submitted by Jill Hurst-Wahl and Leslie Reynolds (Published September 1, 2012)

IT Division and Dow Jones Dance Party at the Hilton Ballroom

Stacey Greenwell, Leoma Dunn and Leslie Reynolds at the 2012 IT Division Dance Party
IT Division and Dow Jones Dance Party

More photos are available on Flickr.
Hot Off the Press: b/ITe Volume 29, Number 3


A review of the recent annual conference in Chicago is the theme of Volume 29, Number 3, the latest issue of b/ITe, the bulletin of SLA's Information Technology Division. Also included is the Jo Ann Clifton Student Award winning paper, "Metadata for Video: Too Much Content, Not Enough Information," by Wayne Pender of McGill University.

This is the first issue to be presented in a new streamlined HTML format that includes a hyperlinked table of contents and loads quickly on the new WordPress website. However, if you prefer, you may download and read the entire issue as a PDF.

I'm happy to announce that Henry Mensch, who has been assisting with the migration of old archival content to the new WP platform, will be taking over as b/ITe editor. He and I will work together on the next issue and he will take the reigns in 2013. Please join me in welcoming Henry!

Virginia Mattingly
b/ITe Editor
Volume 29, Number 4

December 4, 2012

From the IT Division Chair
by Leslie Reynolds

Committee Reports

Discussion List Subscription Tips
Judy Mathews, Division List Owner

The Accidental Systems Librarian and KOHA
by Nicole Engard, Information Systems Section Chair

To What Extent will the Windows 8 Touch Screen Platform Transform Websites and Web Design?
by Berika Williams, Web Management Section Chair

Announcements

- Welcome Henry Mensch, incoming b/ITe editor
- Welcome Kathy Jordan-Baker, new Business Liaison
- Call for 2013 Contributed Papers Session
- Call for Volunteers

Events

SLA Leadership Summit: February 6–9, 2013

*Print the entire newsletter (PDF).
From the IT Division Chair

December 4, 2012

by Leslie Reynolds, Information Technology Division Chair (Published December 4, 2012)

As the time approaches for another chorus of *Auld Lang Syne*, I’m reflecting on how much the IT Division has accomplished and excited about the activities already planned for 2013. Thanksgiving-time in the U.S. and the need to do holiday shopping always seem to sneak up on me; as a girl brought up in the Midwest, it never quite feels like autumn (or winter really) in Texas. But regardless of the warm weather I’m experiencing, it really is the end of November and my time as your Chair is drawing to a close.

We enjoyed a variety of programming in Chicago, from data mapping to social media to next steps for career professionals. I hope you have enjoyed the division’s newsletter, *b/ITe*, which moved away from a print-based design to full integration with our new website, to get the latest information about what your division is doing for you. This is the last issue for Virginia Mattingly to serve as our editor and I want to publicly thank her for doing a wonderful job and making this format transition happen smoothly.

Alex Grigg, your exuberant Chair-Elect (who is also a talented tweeter), will soon take the reigns and I wish him every success in the coming year. I know he and our enthusiastic 2013 program planner, Jason Keinsley, have an innovative line-up of programs to engage, enlighten and entertain you in San Diego. A change to expect is the Dance Party will move to Monday night, in recognition that the Annual Conference is one day shorter (SLA HQ’s effort to help save you money, while providing a conference chock full of innovative programming). We are still looking for a business partner to help sponsor the dance party, so if you have a recommendation, please contact our new Business Partner Liaison Kathy Jordan Baker.

I’d like to thank the entire 2012 IT Executive and Advisory Board for all their hard work this year. They are dedicated individuals who share their time and expertise to keep our division running smoothly. Please join me in a virtual standing ovation for each and every one; they deserve our appreciation!

I’m looking forward to being your Past Chair in 2013. Where my main duty will be to serve as your Nominating Committee Chair. If you have any thoughts about who your elected officers should be (especially if it is you!), be sure to contact me. There are opportunities to get involved at many different levels in our division, so if you are interested let me know.

In closing, I want to thank you for permitting me to serve as your Chair this past year. This has been such a fantastic experience, and I hope to continue serving the division in the future!
The Accidental Systems Librarian & KOHA

December 4, 2012

by Nicole Engard, Information Systems Section Chair (Published December 4, 2012)

Announcing the 2nd Edition of The Accidental Systems Librarian

The Accidental Systems Librarian, Second Edition, is now available in print from Information Today Inc., as an ebook from Amazon. You can also find it on OverDrive, MyiLibrary, ebrary, and Blio. Other vendors will follow in the next few weeks, so stay tuned!

KOHA

It seems like just yesterday I was giving demos of Koha 3.8, but just recently Koha 3.10 was released and so it's time to start showing you what's new! I'll be giving free Koha 3.10 demo webinars and you're all welcome to join me. As documentation manager I had the pleasure of trying out every new feature (it's the only way to learn what it does for the manual) and I'd like to share with you all what I learned.

Date: Wednesday, December 19, 2012
Time: 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM EST
Register: https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/674224670

Date: Thursday, January 10, 2013
Time: 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM EST
Register: https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/616892390

Date: Tuesday, January 22, 2013
Time: 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM EST
Register: https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/188146022
To What Extent Will the Windows 8 Touch Screen Platform Transform Websites and Web Design?

December 4, 2012
by Berika Williams, Web Management Section Chair (Published December 4, 2012)

It’s not a question of how much websites will change: the changes come in how you approach it. Windows 8 uses an innovative “Metro” application design that mirrors how many apps on smart phone devices behave. Brent Schooley of .net magazine lists 10 points to keep in mind while developing a Metro friendly website, with touch screen being one of them. He mentions that “elements need to provide ample room for touch targeting and provide immediate feedback when pressed. Content on the screen should also be laid out in ergonomically friendly location”. ¹

The Microsoft Developer’s Network, states that they hope web developers can think of websites developed for the Windows 8 platforms as “Window Store Apps”.² The same web standards and tools apply such as JavaScript, HTML5, and CSS3.

Microsoft is offering a free eBook, “Programming Windows 8 Apps with HTML, CSS, and JavaScript”.

MSDN also has an article titled “Create your first Windows Store app using JavaScript” to help you get started.

¹Brent Schooley, 10 things you should know about designing for Windows 8, October 12, 2012, http://www.netmagazine.com/features/10-things-you-should-know-about-designing-windows-8

Discussion List Management Tips

December 4, 2012

by Judy Mathews, Division List Owner (Published December 4, 2012)

Here’s a quick 101 course in using our main discussion list:

1) To post a message to our division’s main general discussion list:
Send your message to:
SLA-DITE@lists.sla.org

2) If you want to know which lists you are subscribed to (and this means “any” SLA lists), do this:
   - send a message to Lyris@lists.sla.org
   - put the word WHICH in the BODY of the message (not the subject line, leave that blank)
   - you will receive a reply which tells you to which listservs you are subscribed

3) If you ever want to check on which lists you are subscribed to, just send a message to:
Lyris@lists.sla.org
   - and type WHICH in the body of the message.
Call for Contributed Papers Session

December 4, 2012

by Ruth Kneale, 2013 Contributed Papers Committee Chair (Published December 4, 2012)

Got Research? Now’s the time to share it! The December 10th deadline for proposals for the 2013 Contributed Papers Session is approaching. Applicants should submit their proposals in abstract form as single-spaced Word documents (or plain text) between 250 and 300 words in length, or roughly one page in 12-point type. Please submit proposals to Ruth Kneale.

More details are available online.

We look forward to reading your submissions!
Welcome Henry Mensch

December 4, 2012

by Virginia Mattingly, b/ITe Editor (Published December 4, 2012)

Please join me in welcoming Henry Mensch, who will replace me as the b/ITe editor in 2013!

Here’s a little info about Henry:

I’m a second-year student at the Syracuse University iSchool working toward my MSLIS. My work includes concentrations in Digital Libraries and Data Science. I live in San Francisco and, in having a full spring semester up ahead, am starting to shop for a virtual internship to start late in the Spring/Summer/Autumn in any of the broad areas identified above. During the day I’m the Systems and Storage Manager for a MRI lab where we study brain imaging with the latest techniques in order to investigate the cause, progression, and effects of neurodegenerative disease, and to develop early diagnoses, treatments, and methods for early detection. Here are some interesting images from our work. I am owned by four cats and am a licensed amateur radio operator. I’m always open to correspondence.

Click here to contact Henry Mensch.
New Business Partner Liaison

December 4, 2012

Please welcome the newest member of the IT Division’s Advisory Board, Kathy Jordan-Baker! She is taking on our Business Partner Liaison role.

Kathy has already secured a $500 commitment from EBSCO and a $1,000/silver commitment from IEEE. Webmaster Christine Geluk, is creating a business partners opportunity page on our website, which she will announce soon.

Here is Kathy’s contact information:
Kathy Jordan-Baker | SharePoint Consultant | BridgePoint Technologies, LLC
1111 W. 22nd Street | Suite 245 | Oak Brook, IL 60523
kjordanbaker@mybridgepoint.com | www.mybridgepoint.com | phone 630.368.2981
Hot Off the Press: b/ITe Volume 29, Number 4

December 4, 2012 Categories: What's New

Outgoing IT Division Chair, Leslie Reynolds, bids adieu in Volume 29, Number 4, the latest issue of b/ITe, the bulletin of SLA's Information Technology Division. We also welcome a few new officers and continue to solicit more volunteers.

This is the second issue to be presented in a new streamlined HTML format that includes a hyperlinked table of contents and loads quickly on the new WordPress website. However, if you prefer, you may download and read the entire issue as a PDF file.

This is my last issue. It's been a pleasure serving you as editor. Many thanks to Leslie Reynolds who offered me the opportunity and also to Henry Mensch for taking on the role of b/ITe editor in 2013. Please join me in welcoming Henry!

Virginia Mattingly
b/ITe Editor
Call for IT Awards Nominations


The IT Division is currently seeking nominations for three awards. A quick description of the awards and the due dates for submission follow. Make sure to click through the links to get to the full submission details.

Let IT recognize your achievements and you can get a little programming or travel money too!

Jo Ann Clifton Student Award

This award is intended to promote participation in the SLA Annual Conference by an exceptional library science student. The award recipient will receive a 1-year student membership in SLA and expenses to attend the annual conference in San Diego! Submission are due Thursday, February 28.  


Grieg Aspnes Outstanding IT Member Award

Do you know someone whose contributions to IT should be recognized? Please consider nominating an outstanding SLA IT Division member for the 2013 Grieg Aspnes Outstanding IT Member Award. The award will be presented at the 2013 Annual Conference in San Diego. Submissions are due Friday, March 15.  


Outstanding Chapter Technology Programming Award

SLA’s IT Division is again looking for the most inspired, cutting edge, and innovative chapter technology programming of the 2012–2013 programming year! The Outstanding Chapter Technology Programming Award will be presented at the 2013 Annual Conference in San Diego. The award will consist of an electronic certificate for display on your web page as well as $500 in seed money to develop further technology programming. Submissions are due Friday, March 15.  

http://bit.ly/ITprogramSLA
Winter b/ITe Submissions Due 2/15

February 12, 2013 Categories: What's New

Please submit any news items, announcements, or IT stories for the winter issue of b/ITe by this Friday, 2/15. Send all submissions to our editor, Henry Mensch, at henry+bite@henare.org.

b/ITe is the IT Division newsletter which keeps us informed of division activities and other IT topics throughout the year. Submissions are accepted from all writers and are not limited to IT Division members.
Volume 30, Number 1
April 2, 2013

Want a printable copy? Click here!

Photo: Dealey Plaza, Dallas TX
By Jill Hurst-Wahl

From the IT Division Chair
By Alex Crigg

Open Board Meeting Update
By Leslie Reynolds

Committee Reports

Web Management Section Report
By Berika Williams, Web Management Section Chair

Leadership Summit Through the Edge of the Twittersphere
By Virginia M. Smith

Information Architecture: Design vs. Functionality
By Berika Williams, Web Management Section Chair

Announcements
#SLAtalk: What would you tell your past MLIS-student self? Find out on April 9th!

ProQuest Roger K. Summit Scholarship applications due 30th April.

Call for Speed Geek participants at SLA 2013

Follow @sla2013tips on Twitter for tips and info on SLA events

Events

SLA Annual Conference and INFO-EXPO, 9-11 June 2013, San Diego

In Closing...
From the IT Division Chair

April 2, 2013

Dealey Plaza; Dallas TX, by Jill Hurst-Wahl

2013, A Year of Revitalization

by Alex Grigg, IT Division Chair

Hello IT, and welcome to 2013!

I am pleased to be taking over the reins of the IT Division this year from a long line of excellent leaders and I intend to do my best to continue to follow in their impressively large footsteps. I hope to serve as even half as capable of a chair as our recent past chairs Leslie Reynolds and Michael Kim.

For those of you who do not know me well already, I have been a member of the IT Division of SLA since graduating library school in 2004 and starting my first professional job as the Manager of the Lexmark Library. Over the years I have served in a variety of positions at the chapter and division level, including Webmaster Section Chair and Program Planner for our division. The Lexmark Library, which I run, is a small, almost solo, corporate library that gives me a chance to keep my fingers in a wide variety of library activities, including reference services, instruction, integrated library system management, web design, and some of the more mundane things like making sure the bills are paid on time. All of this tends to make me a bit of a jack of many trades, master of none. My favorite job tasks, however, have always been on the IT side of things and this is why I have always felt that the IT Division is my natural home within SLA.

Although I am still a relative newcomer to SLA and librarianship in general, I have seen enormous changes to our organization and to librarianship as a whole during the past eight or nine years. For example, a handful of years ago a webinar was a luxury that only the big corporations and vendors could afford to set up, while today SLA has an account with GoToMeeting that can be used by every chapter and division for webinars and conference call broadcasts. In fact, at the Leadership Summit in Dallas this year the IT Division held its first online meeting and for the past several years we have had officers devoted to online and virtual programming for the division. At the same time, SLA’s headquarters staff has gotten leaner and meaner (in a good way) as organizational income has decreased and they have attempted to provide the same member services with far less people to do the work involved. My hat is off to everyone at headquarters for those efforts. Over my few years in SLA we have also had waves of social media services come and go as various platforms and communication methods have fallen into and out of favor, from MySpace and LiveJournal and wikis and blogging to Twitter and Pinterest and the current dominance of Facebook. Change is nothing new to librarians, but the rate of that change has definitely picked up in recent years.

In order to keep up with that change, as division Chair, I will be trying to keep the IT Division at the forefront of technological innovation by communicating changes to our members and giving us all a voice in how we would like the division to respond and adapt to them. As the start of that process we have begun updating our written Practices Manual which has remained static, even while our actual practices had been changing year to year for as long as I have been a member of the division. We are looking to redefine our board position descriptions and practices so that they make sense for our current place in time and also accurately represent the current state of the division. This will hopefully make it easier to see and understand exactly what all of our board members and committees are doing and what they are responsible for.

One of my other areas of focus this year will be on the communication channels of the division. I want to encourage all of us to see the IT website, blogs, listserv, and social media channels not only as a conduit of information from division leaders to you, but also as a way for you to make your vision for the division known to us. These communication channels are two way streets and the more conversations we have among ourselves, the more valuable and useful these streets become. So if you haven’t stopped by our Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn pages, or new website in a while, take this chance to add us as a friend and let us all know when you have something to say. I am currently in the process of creating a new Social Media Committee to make sure those pages stay active and up to date. We will also be monitoring those places for any feedback on how the division is doing and what you would like to see from us, so feel free to drop us a line through any of those sites or email me directly at agrigg@lexmark.com with suggestions. Of course, if you have suggestions do be prepared to help us put them into practice when we take you up on them. As a volunteer organization we depend on the time and goodwill of our members to keep us running on the right path as an organization.

I wish all of you the best in 2013 and I will strive to make the IT Division an integral part of our successes. We are going to have a year to remember!
Open Board Meeting Update

April 2, 2013
by Leslie Reynolds

If you have never attended the SLA Leadership Summit (#SLAleads), then you haven’t taken advantage of seeing how some of the association governance is conducted (yes, similar to making sausage). One of the events you can attend is the open board meeting, which was held on Wednesday, February 6.

President Deb Hunt reported on the strategic agenda for the coming year, which includes retooling the annual conference, building partnerships and opening new markets through collaboration, growing through diversity (in how we define who should be a member of SLA, e.g. digital asset managers, software trainers), broadening opportunities for professional development and continuous learning, and creating a richer volunteer experience.

Would you like to have a drink with president-elect Kate Arnold? This event is an opportunity to chat informally with Association leadership and network with colleagues in leadership roles from around the world. If you are interested in becoming more involved in SLA, then making time to attend the next Leadership Summit will get you connected with the movers and shakers. The Summit is focused on division and chapter leaders, but all members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

You can review presentation slides from the entire Leadership Summit at http://www.sla.org/content/resources/leadcenter/LeadershipSummit/13leadsummit/slides.cfm

I hope to see you at Leadership Summit 2014!
Web Management Section Report

April 2, 2013

by Berika Williams, Web Management Section Chair

Last fall, the Web Management Section surveyed its members following the name and scope change from the previous year. We appreciate all who responded to the survey. Of those who responded, we have generated many ideas on ways to further improve and sustain this section. Please stay posted.

To share developments and tips with fellow Web Management Section members please send your message to SLA-SITW@lists.sla.org.

To subscribe to the Web Management Section Listserv, send an email to lyris@lists.sla.org with the following command in the body of the message:

subscribe sla-sitw yourEmailAddress yourFirstName yourLastName

Make sure to substitute your email address for yourEmailAddress, your first name for yourFirstName and your last name for yourLastName.
Leadership Summit through the Lens of the Twittersphere

April 2, 2013

By Virginia Mattingly

I first realized the value of Twitter while attending SLA’s annual conference in Washington, DC in 2009 and have since become a Twitter evangelist who now has five Twitter profiles and have published a few articles proselytizing its merits. If you’re curious, you can read about that “aha” moment in my blog post, “SLA, Part 3: Onions and Embassies,” at https://www.law.louisville.edu/node/3297.

At the recent Leadership Summit in Dallas, I noticed that several of my SLA colleagues engaged heavily in the Twittersphere using the #SLALeads hashtag to share insights from the summit, to network with those present and afar, and to engage in good natured camaraderie. #SLA2013 is another hashtag that was frequently tweeted at the Summit and will still be used to relay information about the upcoming annual conference in San Diego this summer. The #wishiknew hashtag was coined during the “What I Wish I Had Known When I Got Started” session presented by 2013 SLA Chapter Cabinet Chair-Elect Kama Siegel @kama_sue and 2013 SLA Division Cabinet Chair-Elect Tara Murray @diylibrarian. #theKYphilosophyiseverywhere hash tag, which was popular with the Kentucky Chapter, was coined during SLA Fellow Stacey Greenwell’s report as part of the “Investing in Ourselves” panel.

In SLA’s Leadership Summit exit survey, they asked if participants would be willing to pay an additional fee of up $100 for Wi-Fi at its conferences. I answered that I’d be willing to pay a small fee and mentioned that I chose to stay at the Crowne Plaza Dallas Downtown Hotel, the official conference hotel, in part because it offered free Wi-Fi to its guests. I encourage SLA to do whatever it can within its means to facilitate affordable and unobstructed wireless connectivity as not only a service to its members and registered conference attendees, but also as a promotion and recruitment tool. I noticed our Twitter streams were being followed and commented on by not only SLA members that couldn’t attend, but also by other professionals that are not SLA members. For example, Naomi House @needalibraryjob tweeted on February 7, “Check out #slaleads for volunteering conversation.” Such positive tweets can only help demonstrate the benefits of joining SLA.

You too can join the conversation by following @SLAIT.
Information Architecture: Design vs. Functionality

April 2, 2013

By Berika Williams, Web Management Section Chair

Website design. Is it about cool, snazzy looking websites or functional easy-to-navigate websites? Information Architecture is a concept that answers this question. It’s about the organization of the content on a website that takes into account the usability and findability of information.

According to Morville and Rosenfeld’s book, “Information Architecture for the World Wide Web”, the Information Architecture process is composed of five stages: research, strategy, design, implementation, and administration. Notice that design is influenced by research and strategy.

During research, a website is scrutinized based on several distinct structures: organization, navigation, search, and labeling systems. These structures respectively address how a site is laid out, how a user travels through the site, how easy it is to find information, and how meaningful links and page titles are in representing the content. Information Architects can focus on research through surveys, card sorting, interviews, focus groups, and other methodology that test the usability of each of these structures.

Pinpointing areas of improvement or features that simply are not functional can make way for a well prepared strategy on how to address these concerns. These strategies give birth to blueprints, wire frames, and other tools used to guide design.

Information Architecture is a burgeoning field with promising growth in the information age we are presently living in. Design alone will simply not be enough for users to keep returning to websites.

For more information on Information Architecture, visit iainstitute.org and read “Information Architecture for the World Wide Web” by Peter Morville and Louis Rosenfeld. Also, Jakob Nielsen’s site, useit.com has great benchmarks to determine usability during the research stage.

Continue the discussion by sending your experiences to SLA-SITW@lists.sla.org on the Web Management Sections listserv using the subject line: Information Architecture.
Announcements

April 2, 2013

#SLAtalk: What would you tell your past MLIS-student self? Find out on April 9th!

The second #SLAtalk will happen at two different times on April 9th (in order to engage interested librarians from many time zones). #SLAtalk is an occasional Twitter-based chat session with a theme. You can read more about the upcoming #SLAtalk on the SLA blog.

ProQuest Roger K. Summit Scholarship applications due 30th April

The Roger K. Summit Scholarship, awarded annually by ProQuest, was established to honor Dr. Roger K. Summit, the founder of Dialog, a ProQuest business, for his outstanding contributions to the field of information science.

The scholarship is open to all LIS students worldwide. The award is the equivalent of US $5,000 and is presented at the Special Libraries Association (SLA) Annual Conference. Applicants must be students who are currently enrolled in an accredited library or information science program. The scholarship recipient, who must have demonstrated outstanding interest or performance in electronic information services, is selected based upon the following criteria:

- Academic achievement
- Demonstrated interest in electronic information services, based on course work, research, and experience
- Faculty recommendations

Applications are currently being accepted until April 30, 2013. Download an application here:

http://www.proquest.com/assets/downloads/services/application_summitscholarship.doc

Call for Speed Geek Participants

Planning to attend SLA 2013 in San Diego? Want to be part of something different? See http://bit.ly/GeekSubmit to submit a proposal to participate in the IT Division’s Speed Geek. Presenters will have table space for a laptop and handouts. Like a poster session, presenters stay put while attendees go from table to table to see what you have to show. You can demo a new service or project, show how your library uses social media, or let visitors try out an unusual product. Be creative! The idea is to provide interaction, personal connection, and exposure to a large number of different projects in a short amount of time. Oh, and it’s fun! Proposal submission will be open until spots fill up, so act fast. Contact kraemer@email.uky.edu if you have questions.

Follow @sla2013tips on Twitter for tips and info on SLA events

Even if you cannot attend events you should follow @sla2013tips on Twitter to follow the happenings at SLA events throughout the year. If you are not yet using Twitter you can follow along by browsing to http://twitter.com/sla2013tips — this is an easy, noncommittal way to check out Twitter.
EVENTS

April 2, 2013

SLA Conference and INFO-EXPO, San Diego
9–11 June 2013, San Diego

It’s not too late to register for the SLA Annual Conference in San Diego. Early bird registration is available through 12th April at a savings of $270 off the walk-up registration cost. Browse to the SLA website here http://www.sla.org/content/Events/conference/ac13/ to learn more!

I look forward to seeing you there!
In closing ...

April 2, 2013

This was my first issue of the newsletter, and I hope it worked for you. Please drop me a line at henry-bite at henare dot org with suggestions, announcements, photos to be included for the next time around, etc. You can also find me on Twitter at @henare.
Accepting Speed Geek Proposals

May 7, 2013 Categories: What's New

Planning to attend SLA 2013 in San Diego? Want to be part of something different? See http://bit.ly/GeekSubmit to submit a proposal to participate in the IT Division’s Speed Geek. Presenters will have table space for a laptop and handouts. Like a poster session, presenters stay put while attendees go from table to table to see what you have to show. You can demo a new service or project, show how your library uses social media, or let visitors try out an unusual product. Be creative! The idea is to provide interaction, personal connection, and exposure to a large number of different projects in a short amount of time. Oh, and it’s fun!

Proposal submission will be open until spots fill up, so act fast. Contact kraemer@email.uky.edu if you have questions. No need to be an IT Division member to present.
2013 IT Dance Party: California Dreamin’

May 29, 2013 Categories: What’s New

Let the countdown begin! With the 2013 Annual Conference around the corner, it’s officially time to dust off your dancing shoes for this year’s edition of the IT Dance Party.

Our theme: California Dreamin’ – bring your shades, bell bottoms, and grooviest moves for a 60s style beach party.

Information
Date: Monday June 10
Time: 9:00 pm
Place: Marriott Hotel, San Diego Ballroom Salons A&B

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Thanks to Springer and the Academic Division for their sponsorship.

To set the scene, request your favorite songs using the online music planner tool: http://www.memoriesandmusicentertainment.com/music-planner.html

1) Search for and select songs to add to your list using the plus signs at right
2) Click ‘Save My List’ and enter your name, email address and the event date (June 10 2013). You can save and come back to your list at any time
4) When finished, click ‘Submit My List’

Need help? Check out the music planner guide here: http://www.memoriesandmusic.djintelligence.com/music/help.asp

Addendum 5/31/13: Dance Party now comes complete with costume contest: http://it.sla1.org/?p=1420
Dance Party Costume Contest

May 31, 2013 Categories: What's New

With just over a week to go until Annual Conference, hope you’re thinking about packing the essentials for San Diego. To reward the best-dressed at the IT dance party, we’ll be holding a costume contest for the best 60s style attire to go with our theme: California Dreamin’.

Janis Joplin lookalike? Jimi Hendrix doppelganger? Whatever the case, stop by the party for the chance to show off your duds and win some great gift cards. See you there!

Information
Date: Monday June 10
Time: 9:00 pm
Place: Marriott Hotel, San Diego Ballroom Salons A&B

Thanks to Springer and the SLA Academic Division for their sponsorship.
Dance Party 2013 Photos & Costume Contest Voting

June 20, 2013 Categories: What’s New
Now that the dust has settled from the 2013 Annual Conference, it’s time to submit your votes for the best dressed California Dreamin’ dance party contest participants.


Winners will receive gift cards, so be sure to cast your vote today! Voting is open until Friday, July 5.

Also, photos of anyone posed with our beach cutout at the party are available on our Facebook Page: [http://is.gd/LRoTj0](http://is.gd/LRoTj0).

Thanks for coming!
SLA Information Technology Division 2013 Award Winners

June 27, 2013 Categories: What’s New

Outstanding Chapter Technology Programming Award

Congratulations to the Silicon Valley Chapter for winning the Outstanding Chapter Technology Programming Award!

The purpose of this award is to encourage chapters to continue striving for the most useful, cutting-edge technology programming. The IT Division provides this award not only to recognize the chapter across the entire association, but also to provide a financial gift of $500 to encourage future programs within the chapter.

The Silicon Valley Chapter was given this award due to the number and diversity of their technology programs; the reach of their programming beyond chapter boundaries, through distance learning technology and partnership with other chapters; impact on attendees; and bold experimentation and creativity in programming.

Examples of past technology programs by the Silicon Valley Chapter include:

- A jointly sponsored presentation with the IT division that gave librarians a good grounding on the basics of Cloud Computing technologies that they could use to evaluate cloud-based products. For this event the chapter developed a hybrid event format that includes a local venue where chapter members can meet, together with a webinar that enabled nearly a hundred participants to view the event and ask questions from far away as Europe, Australia, and South America.
- A presentation from the head of the San Jose State Library School which described how their program is pioneering the use of distance education to set up a world-wide “virtual campus” using distance learning software for both their MS program, and their joint PhD program with a university in Australia.
- A presentation on a new generation of Disruptive Research Tools. These software tools enable teams of researchers to collaborate and organize files and articles and content from the web, and to use a new type of social media-based metrics to identify relevant research much more quickly than traditional published citations.
- A jointly sponsored program with the San Jose State University Library School on the use of new digital preservation tools that enable libraries to preserve their e-journals, e-books and other digital assets, integrate them with the existing library IT infrastructure, and make the preserved content available to library users. This event was presented as a webinar using SJSU’s distance learning software, and was the most highly attended event in the history of the series.
- An event at the University of California Santa Cruz (UCSC) Greatful Dead Archive that included a tour of the physical archive, and a presentation by Susan Perry, Head of Digital Initiatives on the use of a variety of open-source software to create an online version of the archives that helped foster a worldwide community around the collection.

The Silicon Valley Chapter will use the award to purchase an additional video camera, storage, and video editing software, and create tutorials on how other units can create their own YouTube channels and videos.

Joe Ann Clifton Student Award

Congratulations to Allana Mayer for winning the Joe Ann Clifton Student Award for Outstanding Technology Related Paper for her paper, “Access and Context of Digital Photography Collections.”

This award is presented to a library science student who has submitted an outstanding paper regarding the use of information technology. The award includes student membership in SLA for one year, a travel stipend to attend the SLA Annual Conference, and publication of their article in the Division’s bulletin, b/ITe.

Allana received her undergraduate degree in Fine Arts Cultural Studies from York University in Toronto. The program was a mix of art theory and criticism, aesthetic philosophy, and studio courses that explored digital art and interactivity. Allana has completed her first year of the Masters of Library and Information Studies program at McGill University in Montreal, with a specialization in Archiving. She plans to work in art and media archiving, and focus on digitization, born-digital content, and the maintenance of archival context for artistic works in digital environments. Public art experiences are often complemented with reviews and discussion, references to other works, and user documentation — all things that must be actively collected in order to preserve and represent history. Allana is also interested in methods of information retrieval — the ways verbal and non-verbal searching and browsing can occur. Image-searching by colour, audio similarity retrieval, and natural language processing are examples of areas which will markedly improve with new technologies, changing the ways people intuitively look for materials.
Volume 30, Number 2

July 8, 2013

2013 Joe Ann Clifton Student Award Presented

Allana Mayer of McGill University in Montreal PQ Canada received the 2013 Joe Ann Clifton Student award at the IT Division business meeting in San Diego this year. Learn more about Allana and read her paper here.

SLA 2013: Computer Science Round Table, by Ruth Kneale

This year the CSRT was well attended, with 24 participants. We decided to approach it in a classic roundtable style combined with an unconference approach; on an easel at the front of the room, we wrote down topic ideas suggested by the audience at the beginning of the session. Then, the person who suggested the topic led the discussion for a while. See a photo of the topic ideas and a summary of discussions here.

SLA 2013: Review of What Hard Core Technologies do Librarians Need to Know?, by Adrienne Smith

Sponsored by the IT Division, this session was lucky enough to be scheduled at 8:00 am after the IT Dance Party. Despite the early morning wake up call, presenters Amy Buckland (McGill University) and Kendra Levine (UC Berkeley Institute of Transportation Studies) managed to fill the room with attendees eager to get the latest on new (and not-so-new) technologies for a variety of applications. Read more.

SLA 2013: Big Data, Mike Walsh, and Libraries, by Jill Hurst-Wahl

Jill Hurst-Wahl draws from Mike Walsh’s keynote and shows how Big Data can be relevant for your library. Read more.

SLA 2013: Speed Geek – The Posterless Poster Session, by Alex Grigg, IT Chair

This year in San Diego the IT Division tried out a new session format which we titled Speed Geek. This effort was spearheaded by Beth Kraemer from the University of Kentucky who had seen the format used successfully at other national conferences and had her own successes with it at several Kentucky library conferences. Read more.

SLA 2013: Report on Division and Joint Cabinet meetings, by Libby Trudell, IT Chair–elect

The Division Cabinet and Joint Cabinet meetings occur during the annual conference, and are in the nature of parliament meetings, where current unit leaders can share information of interest to other units, submit items for comment or vote by all the units, and officially forward recommendations to the SLA Board. Alex Grigg (IT Chair) and Libby Trudell (IT Chair–elect) attended as voting members at both meetings in San Diego. Read more about discussions related to virtual member meetings and a name change proposal for the Association here.

Announcements: A short video overview of INFO–EXPO, a new Twitter handle for use relating to future Annual Conferences, the SLA 2012 Treasurer’s Report, and a series of webinars featuring the candidates in the upcoming election can be found here.

Closing words
2013 Joe Ann Clifton Student Award presented

July 8, 2013

Allana Mayer of McGill University in Montreal PQ Canada received the 2013 Joe Ann Clifton Student award at the IT Division business meeting in San Diego this year. A bit about Allana:

Allana Mayer received her undergraduate degree in Fine Arts Cultural Studies from York University in Toronto. The program was a mix of art theory and criticism, aesthetic philosophy, and studio courses that explored digital art and interactivity. Allana has completed her first year of the Masters of Library and Information Studies program at McGill University in Montreal, with a specialization in Archiving. She plans to work in art and media archiving, and focus on digitization, born-digital content, and the maintenance of archival context for artistic works in digital environments. Public art experiences are often complemented with reviews and discussion, references to other works, and user documentation — all things that must be actively collected in order to preserve and represent history. Allana is also interested in methods of information retrieval — the ways verbal and non-verbal searching and browsing can occur. Image-searching by colour, audio similarity retrieval, and natural language processing are examples of areas which will markedly improve with new technologies, changing the ways people intuitively look for materials.

You can read Allana’s award-winning paper by clicking here to view the PDF.
SLA 2013: Review of What Hard Core Technologies do Librarians Need to Know?, by Adrienne Smith

July 8, 2013

Review of What Hard Core Technologies do Librarians Need to Know?, by Adrienne Smith

Sponsored by the IT Division, this session was lucky enough to be scheduled at 8:00 am after the IT Dance Party. Despite the early morning wake up call, presenters Amy Buckland (McGill University) and Kendra Levine (UC Berkeley Institute of Transportation Studies) managed to fill the room with attendees eager to get the latest on new (and not-so-new) technologies for a variety of applications.

Following an nontraditional presentation approach, the speakers provided a rough outline and encouraged attendee participation via a Google Doc updated in real time (https://docs.google.com/document/d/1idp7z__cBJpAZ0z1YrEFIT4eQVZJs1iFkVO9-nm3i8/edit) and a dedicated Twitter hashtag (#hardtech) for sharing ideas.

Some technology highlights currently on the radar include:

Project Management software
- Asana (free for 15 users)
- Basecamp (paid application for bug tracking, with notifications)
- Jira
- Trello

Data analysis and visualization tools
- R + D3 (R is free version of SPSS or SAS)
- Many Eyes (get inspired by these visualizations to see what other people have done with their data)
- Voyant (digital humanities text analysis, or Wordle on steroids)
- Starlight

Attendees were reminded not to forget about wetware, or using people as a resource. Think of your mentors or professional associations as bodies of knowledge waiting for you to tap into (essentially, a shared brain). Also, don’t underestimate yourself as a hard core technology – after all, you work with information every day and you know what you need...plus, librarians are pro sleuths who, when confronted with a question, take pride in searching to find answers.

Presenters also offered some overlooked tips for leveraging social networking tools. Use these tools for professional reasons to find out what your users actually need and don’t forget the rule of reciprocity: be genuine and engaged, as you’ll only get out what you put in.

The presenters have made their slides and notes available on their blog.
SLA 2013: Big Data, Mike Walsh, and Libraries, by Jill Hurst-Wahl

July 8, 2013

Big Data, Mike Walsh & Libraries
by Jill Hurst-Wahl

At the SLA Annual Conference, our keynote speaker, Mike Walsh, suggested:

Build a virtual data war room. Use a whiteboard and draw a map of the relevant data in your business – from internal resources, to unstructured public information and premium databases. Now from the perspective of your top management, imagine what an ideal dashboard would look like.

Later in the conference, I spoke with someone about the keynote and the person thought it was good, but wasn’t quite sure how it related to libraries. However, like a business, we have suppliers, clients, demands from upper management, and a need to remain relevant. While we don’t have sales, we have products that are used and we want their use to increase.

Also like a business, we are awash in data. Our integrated library system contains massive amounts of data that likely we do nothing with. Every database that we license can provide usage data. Our doors and other devices in our facilities, as well as web pages, can generate data. (And if they don’t now, we can quickly make them do so.) Even the devices used by our users/patrons/clients/members could be generating data for us. Could all of that data tell us when people are really using our services and where they are physically when they do? Could that data tell us what they did immediately before or after, and would that information make us better able to understand their needs? Could that data help us anticipate future needs? Could we use that data to better advocate for our budgets, our staff, and our position in our organizations? Yes. Yes. Yes. Yes.

Using the data that we have doesn’t happen at the snap of a finger. It requires understanding what data we have, what data we need to have created, what data we need to negotiate for, and then gaining access and doing the analysis. Then it requires presenting the results of our analysis to our management and our users. Walsh suggested that we consider what the ideal dashboard would be from our management’s perspective. Like the dashboard of your car, this data dashboard is easy to read and understand. It provides key indicators that are updated frequently. It helps us ‘steer’ our organizations.

Unlike your car, there are no standard dashboards. In addition, every organization must make its own decisions about what data to collect and how to analyze it. Some may even want staff to get involved in creating the tools for analysis and getting involved in generating visualizations, which can be the best way of communicating a succinct view of the data.

If the idea of using data to advocate for your library intrigues you and you’d like to know more about data science, consider reading:


Stanton, Jeffrey. Introduction to Data Science (free ebook). http://jsresearch.net/wiki/projects/teachdatascience/Teach_Data_Science.html
2013 Dance Party Costume Contest Winners

July 8, 2013 Categories: What's New

The winners, by popular demand, of our Dance Party Costume Contest are Phil and Kathe Gust! Congratulations! Your gift cards will be arriving shortly.
SLA 2013: Speed Geek–The Posterless Poster Session, by Alex Grigg
July 15, 2013

This year in San Diego the IT Division tried out a new session format which we titled Speed Geek. This effort was spearheaded by Beth Kraemer from the University of Kentucky who had seen the format used successfully at other national conferences and had her own successes with it at the state level at several Kentucky library conferences.

The Speed Geek session is basically a poster session without the posters. Presenters bring laptops, tablets, handouts, or other portable materials and interact directly with the session attendees to show them what they’ve been working on. This sort of format is ideal for showing off web tools and apps or other online resources that our presenters were either using or creating. In this first year we had 10 brave souls willing to try out this new format. Their names and presentation abstracts are listed below and their contact info and other presentation material will soon be available on the IT Division web blog here: [http://it.sla1.org/category/new/](http://it.sla1.org/category/new/).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Presenter(s)</th>
<th>Title and Description</th>
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| Barbara Fullerton, Independent Information Professional | **Web Whacking…Preserving Website for Your Research Projects**  
Need to perceive or capture a website with live links for litigation or business research projects? These tools go beyond the static PDFs! Learn about the inexpensive tools, how they work and why you need them. We will look at WebWhacker, Smarsh, and Web Preserver. |
| Michael F. Moore, The MITRE Corporation           | **SE Expertise: MITRE’s Systems Engineering Guide**  
Ask how www.mitre.org/seg inspired hundreds of systems engineers to create valuable content!                                                                                                                        |
| Dennie Heye, SLA Europe                           | **Effective podcasting on a shoe string for SLA Europe**  
Podcasts are an excellent way to distribute your interviews, ideas and updates via audio which can be streamed and downloaded from your website. I started to create podcasts for SLA Europe in 2009, using Skype and some other (free) software. I can show how you need very little technical knowledge to create your own podcasts. |
| Martin Kesselman, Laura Bolton Palumbo, and Connie Wu, Rutgers University Libraries | **A digital “library in a box” using open source resources**  
Rutgers University Libraries created EAKO, Engineering Access to Knowledge Offline, as a prototype digital library of engineering and scientific information for the University of Liberia. XTF open source software from California Digital Library, and open source journal articles and e-books were used. The prototype can be easily adapted to other applications and run on a laptop offline, or used online when the internet becomes available in Liberia. This project was funded by grants from the Engineering Information Foundation and USAID, and was modeled on TEEAL by Cornell University Libraries. |
| James King, National Institutes of Health Library | **Custom Information Solutions**  
I will walk through my efforts to be ‘geek squad’ for the NIH Library informationists (embedded librarians), which includes building custom Drupal-based information portals (http://bit.ly/12c8qV3), working with NLM on a digital repository of digitized public access works, helping to create a researcher profiles system for internal scientific (exploring VIVO and other related tools), and helping to create disease space research portfolio analysis collections. |
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Presenter</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mary-Michelle Moore, University of California Irvine</td>
<td>Create your own infographic: Crash course of 3 free infographic making tools: Picktochart, Easel.ly and Infogr.am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elaine H. Dean, Penn State Hershey Harrell Health Sciences Library</td>
<td>Unlock Your Reference Statistics: Collecting Better Data Using Entry Terms and Barcodes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beth Northcutt of Maslon, Edelman, Borman &amp; Brand, LLP</td>
<td>Finding Zen with Library Metrics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michele James, UCLA</td>
<td>Social Media Analytics: Using Free Tools to Measure Engagement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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The Speed Geek turned out to be enormously popular with nearly one hundred attendees. Presenters were engaged in conversation with attendees for most of the two hour period. We noticed that one of the advantages over a more traditional poster session was that having presenters seated at tables with plenty of chairs around for attendees to make themselves more comfortable led to longer conversations. Part of this was certainly due to the quality of our presenters, but having chairs available certainly didn’t hurt. In any case, the success of this session is almost certain to make this a yearly event so if you missed out on presenting this year, it’s never too early to start thinking of what you might want to bring for the next time around. We hope to see you then!
SLA 2013: Report on Division and Joint Cabinet meetings, by Libby Trudell

July 15, 2013

The Division Cabinet and Joint Cabinet meetings occur during the annual conference, and are in the nature of parliament meetings, where current unit leaders can share information of interest to other units, submit items for comment or vote by all the units, and officially forward recommendations to the SLA Board. Alex Grigg (IT Chair) and Libby Trudell (IT Chair–elect) attended as voting members at both meetings in San Diego.

At the Division Cabinet meeting, one of the interesting reports was by the Chair of the Solo Division, who reported that they had held their annual business meeting virtually prior to conference, rather than while in San Diego. This is an option for the IT division to consider, as the business meeting is at the same time as many other programs when held during the annual conference and it can be difficult to draw a quorum. A web meeting held at another time might enable more members to participate. We will bring this concept to the IT Board for further discussion and are very interested in hearing any thoughts from members on this idea as well.

The Joint Cabinet meeting is held immediately after the separate Division and Chapter Cabinet meetings, and includes representatives of both division and chapter leadership. Highlights of the joint meeting included:

- A report by Sandy Hirsch on work by the recently established Membership Committee to help units recognize member achievement and recruit new members, and to work with a cross-organization team to build awareness and gain members from MLIS and i-School programs.
- A final report by James King on the Loyalty Project, which involved 6 chapters over a 2 year period and developed a toolkit for building member loyalty which is now available to unit leaders.
- A report by Karen Reczek on a proposal from the PR Committee to survey the membership to determine the level of interest in choosing a new name for SLA. There was insufficient time at the meeting for Karen to fully discuss the PR considerations which led to the proposal, or for members to comment, so a follow–up Joint Cabinet meeting will be held via a web meeting on July 18th. The text of the proposal is included for reference in this newsletter, and is also being discussed on the IT discussion list. Any additional background material from the PR Committee sent prior to the meeting will also be forwarded on to the list. You are encouraged to comment on the list or to send your thoughts about the proposal to Alex and Libby, so that we can have your input in hand when voting on this proposal.

**Text of PR Committee Recommendation re Survey on Member Driven “Name Change Discussion”**

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Joint Cabinet pass a motion that: Recommends to the SLA Board of Directors, to send a short survey within 60 days, to the SLA membership, as to whether or not they are in favor of a change in the Association name (yes; no; not sure but willing to discuss), with no specific name being proposed at this time.

**BACKGROUND:**

SLA is in the process of implementing a new strategic agenda that includes re-envisioning many aspects of the Association, and aims to be more inclusive and representative of members changing roles.

As SLA defines what needs to change, how it wishes to evolve and whom it wants to engage, it is essential that branding and positioning be clearly defined. PRAC recognizes that we all work in different industries in which different words (library, information, knowledge) convey very different meanings.

It is unclear how the current SLA membership feels on a name change. SLA does not have any data as to whether people are in favor, or not, just data on members’ preference for specific names. The results of the proposed survey of the SLA membership will provide a litmus test of where the majority of the membership falls, and whether or not the membership wishes to begin a new discussion. The outcome will help to determine if a name change should be incorporated in SLA’s strategic agenda goals.

A short presentation will be made at Joint Cabinet identifying some of the branding and PR issues with which the Association is challenged which have led us to make this recommendation.

This recommendation, if adopted, helps to document the intentions and interest of members and serves to support a bottom–up approach to discussing what is the best name for this organization, as it moves into the future.
Announcements

July 15, 2013

A fifteen-minute overview (originally presented as a webinar) of the events of the Annual Conference can be viewed here.

There is a new Twitter handle for future Annual Conferences. Please follow @SLAConf for information on future SLA Annual Conferences. This replaces @SLA_2014 as the Twitter handle to follow for information on next year’s conference.

The FY2012 SLA Treasurer’s Report, as presented at this year's Annual Business Meeting in San Diego, has been uploaded to the Association’s website. In it, I make a call to action on behalf of our beloved SLA. SLA has been balancing its budgets and its units have been key to making that happen. But the time has come to reverse the trends of declining membership and decreasing revenues. Yes, these have been tough economic times. Yes, other associations are experiencing the same pinch. But as I state in my speech, SLA is not other organizations. It is OUR organization. Working together as one SLA, we can make sure that it is here and vital for another hundred years! What can your units do to help? What do all SLA members need to know about our 2012 performance? Read the report and see the slides here.

Sustaining Digital Content: Planning for Its Future is planned for Friday, October 4th from 9:45 – 3:15 at the Albuquerque Museum of Art and History. This meeting is Presented by the Rio Grande Chapter of the Special Libraries Association with the support of the SLA Military Librarians Division. The complete agenda for the meeting can be seen here. Registration fees are $100 for SLA and ARMA members and $150 for non-members, with a $25 additional fee for late registration. You can register for this event here.

SLA elections are coming up in September. Mark your calendars and register now to participate in the live program, or plan to listen to the recording before you vote. Audience questions will be taken during the events, or you may send your questions in advance to Richard Huffine (richardhuffine@yahoo.com), the moderator for the series.

Meet the Candidates for Director:
Tony Landolt, Moy McIntosh, Valerie Perry, and Bethan Ruddock
Tuesday, August 6th, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Eastern time
Registration link: https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/276316248

Meet the Candidates for Cabinet:
James King and Valerie Ryder (Chapter Cabinet Chair-Elect);
Pamela Enrici and Juliane Schneider (Division Cabinet Chair-Elect)
Tuesday, August 13th, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Eastern time
Registration link: https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/513577217

Meet the Candidates for President-Elect:
Leslie Reynolds and Jill Strand
Tuesday, August 20th, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Eastern time
Registration link: https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/166180872

Want to know more about them now? Visit http://www.sla.org/governance/board-of-directors/board-candidate-election, and click on the image of any candidate – you’ll see their bios. They’ve also been answering a series of questions in the SLA Blog.

This Meet the Candidates series is sponsored by your Cabinet officers.
Closing Words, by Henry Mensch

July 15, 2013

It was so nice to meet so many of you in San Diego. I’ve made a few changes based on feedback I received after the last issue, and I look forward to your feedback about this issue. Feel free to drop me a note with suggestions, articles or photos for the next issue.
SLA 2013: Computer Science Round Table, by Ruth Kneale

July 15, 2013

Computer Science Round Table 2013

Presented by IT, PAM, and Sci-Tech Divisions

Sponsored by ACM and World Scientific Publishing Co.

Moderated by Helen Josephine and Ruth Kneale

This year the CSRT was well attended, with 24 participants. We decided to approach it in a classic roundtable style combined with an unconference approach; on an easel at the front of the room, we wrote down topic ideas suggested by the audience at the beginning of the session. (see photo). Then, the person who suggested the topic led the discussion for a while.

We spent a good chunk of time talking about responsive design for displays, and how that was affecting web site design, especially for mobile and touch capabilities. One item noted was that drop-down menus and radio buttons are incompatible with touch interfaces. This led to a discussion about e-books, both on mobile devices and in the library in general. That topic segued directly into lending devices (laptops, iPads, Kindles, Nooks, etc.) and lessons learned (such as what programs were being used to reset the devices to baseline on return). A brief amount of time was spent on ACM developments, but since there were no ACM representatives present, we weren't able to have a useful discussion on that topic. Bibliometrics and author disambiguations were touched on, and after Medvane (Harvard), Silver Blacklight (UVa), and UPenn's internally-developed OPAC were mentioned, we moved on. The roundtable wrapped up with ideas and suggestions about infographics, tag clouds or charts, adding/changing the provision of some university-provided resources on the library web site, and other ways to bump up the "unseen collection" (this topic had wide-ranging effects). One enthusiastically-agreed suggestion was to ensure that departments link to the library from their web pages – not just to the main library page, but also to resources dedicated to their departments.
Slate of 2014 Executive Board Officers

September 25, 2013 Categories: What's New

We are finally ready to announce the slate of candidates for the IT Division Executive Board. I’d like to thank them all for agreeing to run for office and I look forward to serving with them on the Executive Board next year.

They are as follows:

**Chair-Elect: Kan Kin**

After receiving his master’s degree at Drexel, Kan started his career as Technical Services Librarian in New York. With guidance from his mentors, SLA veterans Andrew Berner and Guy St Clair, Kan began his volunteer positions at the SLA local chapter. Later relocating to California, Kan changed his career from Systems librarian/Manager in New York to become a legal researcher in Los Angeles. Having moved from coast to coast and settled down in Washington DC, Kan returns to the legal research world after years with the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco.

Coming from a technical background, Kan finds it is quite comfortable to apply his skill sets to a research position for diverse corporate clients. For example, one minute Kan is on a U.S. Ninth Circuit Court pro bono case and in communication with a client from China to seek asylum in the U.S., and the next, he is translating court documents for patent cases in a time sensitive manner. Applying social media and other web tools to research help him assemble and dissemble information to clients easily and ultimately save time.

Kan, as the soon to be IT Chair-Elect, is excited to work with an exceptional group of volunteers who continue to make the IT Division and SLA thrive for information specialists.

**Secretary: Terry Buckner**

My name is Terry Buckner and I am the Public Services Librarian for Bluegrass Community and Technical College in Lexington, KY. I have been a librarian for 11 years. I am honored to be on the slate for Secretary of the IT Division, and would be pleased to serve the organization in this capacity. I am currently President-Elect of the Kentucky Chapter, and have served as Ethics Ambassador and Awards Chair for the Chapter. I am the Chair of the Social Media Committee for the IT Division, and am the Listserv Manager for the Academic Division. I have served as President, President-Elect, Secretary and Past President for the Kentucky Library Association and I have also held numerous other positions on KLA’s board, on other boards, and within my college. I believe these experiences would make me a good candidate for the position of secretary, and I look forward to working with all of you if elected.

**2015 Program Planner: Nancy Kellett**

Nancy is a systems and science librarian at Florida State University. She has been an SLA member since 1997 and a librarian since 2003. She served as the Florida and Caribbean Chapter President in 2011 and is now the Chapter Secretary. She is a member of the IT, Academic, and Science and Technology Divisions of SLA.

If you would like to run against any of our slate of candidates, or want someone else to do so, please let Alex Grigg (agrigg@lexmark.com) and the Nominating Chair, Leslie Reynolds (leslie.reynolds@colorado.edu) know. We will need a petition signed by 10 IT Division members and the written consent of any additional candidates by October 10, if you would like to add a candidate from outside of this slate.

All IT Division members will be getting an electronic ballot shortly after October 10 so be on the look out for that.

Thanks again to all of our candidates for agreeing to run!
Metrics 101 Webinar

September 25, 2013

Categories: Virtual Events

Tags: technical-services-webinar, virtual-events

SLA's IT and Legal Divisions present the following Webinar.

Metrics 101: Proving your Value

Date: Wednesday, October 30, 2013
Time: 12 pm – 1 pm EDT
(Could you translate this to local time where I am? [http://time.is/compare](http://time.is/compare))

Cost: Free to SLA Members

Register Now:

Please register online via: [https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/906316032](https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/906316032)

Please note that we have a maximum of 500 seats for this rescheduled session.

It will be recorded and presentations will be posted at some point after the end of the webinar. You will be notified via e-mail when those are ready.

System Requirements

PC-based attendees

Required: Windows® 8, 7, Vista, XP or 2003 Server

Macintosh®-based attendees

Required: Mac OS® X 10.6 or newer

Mobile attendees

Required: iPhone®, iPad®, Android™ phone or Android tablet

Description:

We often hear how important it is to quantify the return on investment (ROI) of our library, information center, or research services. But how do we start to measure our value beyond just visitor count or number of research questions answered? SLA members tackled these questions in a recent #SLATalk ([http://www.sla.org/slatalk-smorgasbord](http://www.sla.org/slatalk-smorgasbord)). Due to the overwhelming interest this topic generated, SLA members participating in the Twitter Talk have put together an exciting and informative webinar for the benefit of all SLA members!

In this session our speakers will explore

- Why it is important to collect metrics
- Understanding your organizational audience
- Tools and approaches to collecting metrics
- Obstacles to implementing metrics
- Proving your value through metrics
- ...and more!

Speakers:

**Eve Ross:** Assistant Librarian/Research Specialist at McNair Law Firm in Columbia, South Carolina. Eve holds a law degree from the University of South Carolina School of Law, and is a member of the South Carolina Bar, having practiced public finance law for three years. In addition to her work in the McNair Law Firm library, she is currently pursuing an MLIS at the University of South Carolina. She is a member of SLA's Legal Division and South Carolina chapter. Her Twitter handle is @eveross ([https://twitter.com/eveross](https://twitter.com/eveross)) and you can connect with her on LinkedIn at: [http://www.linkedin.com/in/eveross](http://www.linkedin.com/in/eveross)

**Bess Reynolds:** Technical Services Manager in the Library & Knowledge Management Department of Debevoise & Plimpton, LLP, where she has worked for eight years. Bess is the author of “The Challenges of e-Books in Law Firm Libraries,” published in The New Librarian, an AALL-ILTA Digital White Paper, October 2012. She has spoken at the annual meetings of AALL, CALL, and LLNE and for LLAGNY. Bess holds an MS in Information and Library Science from Pratt Institute, as well as an MBA in finance from the Stern School of Business at New York University. She is a member of the Board of Directors of LLAGNY, past chair of the AALLNET Committee for AALL, past chair of the New York Law Librarians Technical Services Roundtable, and a member of SLA. Her Twitter handle is @bibliobess ([https://twitter.com/bibliobess](https://twitter.com/bibliobess)) and you can connect with her on LinkedIn at: [http://www.linkedin.com/in/bessreynolds](http://www.linkedin.com/in/bessreynolds)

Questions? Contact Adrienne Smith at adsmith@blg.com.

View the presentation slides (PDF)
Congratulations to Our New Executive Officers!

November 26, 2013 Categories: What's New

Please join me in welcoming our new Executive Officers to the IT Board. They are:

Kan Kin, Chair-Elect
Terry Buckner, Secretary
Nancy Kellett, 2015 Program Planner

Thank you all for agreeing to serve and welcome to the Board!
Changes to b/ITe for 2014

February 1, 2014 Categories: b/ITe, What's New
by Henry Mensch, b/ITe newsletter editor

Based on member feedback and usability, I’ve recommended to our board some changes to the b/ITe newsletter. These changes include moving b/ITe content to our blog, and to publish that content on a rolling schedule instead of bundling the content to make quarterly issues. The board has accepted these recommendations, and these recommendations will be implemented immediately.

This means several things for the IT division:

Content will be more relevant because it will be fresher. On the quarterly schedule information was often made available for publication that wouldn’t make sense to publish because the information would have been outdated by publication time.

- You will be able to easily follow the content two ways: by navigating directly to the IT division website http://it.sla1.org/category/bite or by pointing your RSS reader to this URL http://it.sla1.org/category/bite/feed/
- Going forward, all b/ITe items will be announced to the mailing list so that if you choose to follow on the website you will have a URL and some description (so you’ll have an idea of whether you want to read it right away or not).
- All blog items for b/ITe will be tagged with a volume and issue tag which will correspond to the original numbering of volumes and issues for the newsletter (approximately one issue per quarter). This will allow issues to be viewed and catalogued in the same number sequence.

I know from some feedback I’ve received that some people like to print items from b/ITe and you can navigate directly to the item in question with the URL published with the email message announcing the new content.

I have content that would have been published in the last issue that I will publish starting today (you’ll see another email from me later today). I look forward to hearing from you (click here to send me a message) about these changes.
Charting a Course for the Future of the Division

February 1, 2014 Categories: b/ITE, v31n1

by Libby Trudell, IT Division Chair

The Information Technology division is one of the largest and most diverse units within SLA, with more than 800 members. Given the division’s focus on technology and the rapid pace of change associated with technology the IT Board decided to survey members to gather information about interest in current and emerging technologies and also about how members view the division. The goal was to help the division to plan programs and communications, and also to sharpen focus on the objectives for the division, in order to shape the strategic plan for the future.

There were 189 members who participated in the survey, for a 24% response rate. As a response rate over 10% is considered strong, there is a solid level of engagement among the membership.

Technology and System Trends

Per Chart 1, Mobile Apps and Visualization/analytics are currently of top interest to members. Additional technologies suggested included cloud infrastructure, GIS databases, tools for the semantic web and auto-categorization.

Chart 1

Chart 2 indicates the types of information systems that members manage or use. Other types of systems mentioned included discovery, news aggregation, institutional repositories and systems for managing and preserving digital assets.

Chart 2
In addition, there were many good suggestions for workshop or program topics including:

- Privacy in an age of social media
- How to apply emerging technologies
- Bing vs. Google "fly-off"
- User-centered design
- Managing open-source implementations

— and much more!

**Division Communications**

In response to questions about how to enhance Division communications, there was strong support for changing the format of DITE to include real time updates integrated with and driven from the division blog. There was overwhelming preference for using the division listserv as the primary communication device, although LinkedIn emerged as the top choice for social media interaction with other members. Suggestions for improving communications included:

- Local DITE meet-ups (by city or region)
- A DITE book discussion group
- Mechanism to connect with others to try out or share knowledge about new technologies

**Looking Forward**

A number of members indicated an interest in participating on a committee or on the board, which will be a wonderful resource as we seek to fill open positions. There were also many thoughtful suggestions about strengths and about areas needing improvement, which the board will review and act on in the coming months. After we have had a chance to discuss together, we will update you on these ideas. IT has benefited from strong leadership and engaged members for many years. We look forward to building on that legacy, helping members learn from each other and make the best use of new information systems and technologies as they emerge.
Three IT Division Awards now open for nominees ... Deadline is 28 Feb 2014!

February 4, 2014 Categories: b/ITe, v31n1
by Beth Kraemer

The nomination period is now open for three awards from SLA's IT Division!

Joe Ann Clifton Student Award

This award is intended to promote participation in the SLA Annual Conference by an exceptional library science student. The award recipient will receive a 1-year student membership in SLA and expenses to attend the annual conference in Vancouver!

Grieg Aspnes Outstanding IT Member Award

Do you know someone whose contributions to IT should be recognized? Please consider nominating an outstanding SLA IT Division member for the 2014 Grieg Aspnes Outstanding IT Member Award. The award will be announced at the 2014 Annual Conference in Vancouver.

Outstanding Chapter Technology Programming Award

http://bit.ly/ITprogramSLA
SLA's IT Division is again looking for the most inspired, cutting edge, and innovative chapter technology programming of the 2013-2014 programming year! The Outstanding Chapter Technology Programming Award will be announced at the 2014 Annual Conference in Vancouver. The award will consist of an electronic certificate for display on your web page as well as $500 in seed money to develop further technology programming.

The deadline for submission for all awards is Friday, February 28, 2014. Click here to send an email to Beth Kraemer with questions about these awards.
Get Ready for Vancouver!

February 7, 2014 Categories: b/iTe, v31n1

by Libby Trudell/Chair

February is upon us, and that means that the SLA annual conference is only four months away. Get a head start on planning your time at Vancouver 2014, and make the most of the IT Division’s slate of programming by following this handy day-by-day guide:

**Saturday**, you’ll have your choice of three scintillating CE sessions:

- Future-Oriented Analytical Models
- Presenting Information in Visual Formats: Tools for Adding Insights and Value to Your Deliverables
- Digitization on a Shoestring

Wind down your first night with a bit of friendly competition – the IT and Academic Divisions are reprising their popular collaboration for what is sure to be a cut-throat Trivia Night.

**Sunday** the Division is proud to present a SPOTLIGHT SESSION as part of the line-up:

- It’s a Brave MOOC World: Challenges & Opportunities for Librarians (Spotlight Session).
- I Don’t Have Time for Metadata! Adding Automated Categorization to your Workflow (co-host; Lead Taxonomy Division)

Enjoy the fun while networking at the evening Karaoke Party, jointly sponsored by the IT and Academic Divisions.

**Monday** the programs will not disappoint!

- Computer Science Roundtable – proudly sponsored by IEEE
- Show All the Metrics: Uncovering and Rewarding the Broad Impact of Research (co-host; Lead Academic Division) – proudly sponsored by IEEE
- “More Education, Less Time”: Implementing Learning Management Systems for Legal Professionals (co-host; Lead Legal Division)

Dance the night away at the event everyone loves – the IT Dance Party! Stay tuned for this year’s anxiously-awaited theme…

**Tuesday** wraps up the conference with more great topics:

- Social Media for Everyone & Every Library: How to Use New Apps and Tools in Innovative Ways
- Speed Geek – “Speed date” with other info pros and ask questions one-on-one – hosted by a group of librarians working on creative digital endeavors.

Haven’t registered yet? Early Bird discounted registration is available until April 11th—click here for details.

Start making your plans for Vancouver now, and pass the word!
Do Not Forget to Add Yourself to the IT Email Discussion List

February 10, 2014 Categories: b/ITe, v31n1
by Alex Grigg, past IT Division chair

The Board of the IT Division has noticed a recent drop off in members adding themselves to our email discussion list. If you have not seen and IT Division emails in a while, it is fairly likely that you are not currently subscribed. We have not been adding members manually, although that policy may change. At this point we rely on you to add yourself to our email list.

You can add yourself by sending an email to lyris@sla.lyris.net with no subject and this as the message text with the appropriate substitutions:

Subscribe SLA-DITE@sla.lyris.net your_email_address "FirstName LastName"
(For example my email message would read: subscribe SLA-DITE@sla.lyris.net agrigg@lexmark.com "Alex Grigg")

You can also check to see what SLA lists your email is currently subscribed to by going to this site and entering your email address in the space provided. If "sla-dite" is listed under My Forums on that site, then you are already subscribed.

More information on managing your discussion list settings can be found here.
World Computer Exchange

February 10, 2014 Categories: b/ITe, v31n1

By Virginia Mattingly, Cybrarian, University of Louisville Law School (also, past b/ITe Newsletter Editor)

Peter with the students at iEarn. Photo credit Bryan Barton

This past August, I spent two weeks in Monrovia, Liberia volunteering with the World Computer Exchange. The non-profit entity refurbishes computers that might otherwise end up in landfills and delivers them to its partners in 77 developing nations. As a member of the eCorps Liberia team, my goal was also to help establish the Computers for Girls program. Its mission is to provide better educational and professional opportunities for women and girls by improving their computer literacy skills. While there, I met with representatives from USAID, the Peace Corps, and the University of Liberia. I also provided technical and instructional support to prisons, schools, and NGO’s. One of the highlights was a visit to an impressive technology start-up called iLabLiberia that provides Ubuntu training and created a crowdsourcing app to monitor the recent elections. My involvement was a direct result of an announcement Barbie Keiser posted on the Information Technology Division’s listserv. If you’d like to become a member of the “Green Geek Squad”, feel free to contact me or visit WCE’s Volunteer page. <http://www.worldcomputerexchange.org/volunteer>.
10 Feb 2014: Some announcements

February 10, 2014

Categories: b/ITe, v31n1

Brief announcements are welcome at any time and will be published in the newsletter once each week. –Henry

by Steven P. Johnson

Final Project Report


https://irma.nps.gov/App/Reference/Profile/2206495

Best Practices


https://irma.nps.gov/App/Reference/Profile/2206496

by Amy Buckland

Join us for the first LTG (Leadership Technology Gender) Summit, March 20–21, 2014, in Austin, TX, where we will meet to discuss “What can we do to combat gender inequality and sexism in library technology?”

As libraries grow increasingly digital and technically complex, how will the gender inequities that are also prevalent in the information technology field impact librarianship? The field of librarianship is largely made up of women, and yet women are significantly underrepresented in leadership positions.

This summit will convene a group of dynamic, invested, and creative people from varied backgrounds and types of libraries to discuss these issues and examine how we might build a future for libraries and librarianship free from gender bias. We hope to inspire practical, actionable approaches for a brighter future. What is the library community doing right? Where can we improve?

The LTG Summit will provide the opportunity for focused attention on a big challenge for our profession. It is the organizers’ intent to include thoughtful library professionals at all levels of the field and regardless of gender who wish to participate in a dynamic set of conversations about leadership, technology and gender in libraries and related fields.

For more information, see ltgsummit.org
Monthly Update to IT Division Members

February 12, 2014 Categories: b/ITe, v31n1

by Libby Trudell, Chair

The IT Board of Directors held its January meeting in Memphis. We had a lot of committee activities to review, and we also discussed next steps for creating a plan to prioritize our initiatives for the coming 2–3 years. A core team composed of Alex Griggs, Kan Kin, Leslie Reynolds and myself will draft an initial outline of initiatives to evolve our services, meet member needs and attract new members. The executive and advisory boards will then work to further refine and implement these ideas. We will share information with you at each phase and want to hear your ideas and opinions as we go. Please send a note to me at ltrudell@netbox.com if you would like to make any suggestions to guide the future of the IT Division.

The program planning for CE courses and conference events in Vancouver is completed and it’s a terrific line-up. Kudos to Adrienne Smith, 2014 Program Planner and Ruth Kneale, Professional Development Chair for their hard work and creativity. A summary of all the 2014 events went out on the IT Blog a few days ago and has also been sent to the Leadership list to be disseminated to other SLA units. Please take advantage of your social media contacts to spread the word about IT programs in Vancouver!

The 2014 and 2015 conference will continue the consolidated schedule used in 2013. As a result, the annual conference schedule is so busy that it’s very difficult for members to attend the annual business meeting. To enable more members to participate, the IT annual business meeting will be held virtually shortly after the annual conference. The meeting is scheduled for 12–1 pm ET on Thursday June, 26th, 2014. Please mark your calendars now, and details on agenda, and access information for joining the meeting will be forthcoming.

The 2015 conference program planners held their kickoff meeting at the Leadership Summit in Memphis. The theme for the 2015 conference in Boston is “Be Revolutionary!” Nancy Kellett, who joined the IT Executive Committee at the end of last year as IT’s 2015 program planner, attended the program planning meeting along with Chair Elect Kan Kin. Nancy will be drawing on the input from the member survey as one source for planning outstanding IT Division programs for Boston. If you have ideas for topics or programs, please send them to Nancy at nkellett@fsu.edu.
Vancouver 2014

March 14, 2014

The 2014 SLA Annual Conference was held in lovely Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

The IT Division offered marvelous events for Vancouver 2014. See all the details of these events by downloading this PDF version of Vancouver 2014 IT Events or by accessing the Online Planner.

Interested in the sponsors for the IT Division sessions in 2014? Click Here to launch the Vancouver 2014 Sponsor Information page!

IT Events

Saturday June 7, you had your choice of three scintillating CE sessions:

- **Future-Oriented Analytical Models** - CANCELLED
- **Presenting Information in Visual Formats: Tools for Adding Insights and Value to Your Deliverables**
- **Digitization on a Shoestring** - CANCELLED

Wind down your first night with a bit of friendly competition – the IT and Academic Divisions reprised their popular collaboration for what was sure to be a cut-throat Trivia Night.

Sunday June 8, the Division is proud to present a SPOTLIGHT SESSION as part of the line-up:

- It’s a Brave MOOC World: Challenges & Opportunities for Librarians (download Kevin Leyton-Brown’s presentation) - proudly sponsored by Springer.

Enjoy the fun while networking at the evening Karaoke Party, jointly sponsored by the IT and Academic Divisions.

Monday June 9, the programs will not disappoint!

- **Computer Science Roundtable** - proudly sponsored by IEEE

Dance the night away at the event everyone loves – the IT Dance Party! Stay tuned for this year’s anxiously-awaited theme...

Tuesday June 10, Valuable networking! Great topics!

- Social Media for Everyone: How to Use New Apps and Tools in Innovative Ways (download Cheryl Yanek’s presentation) - proudly sponsored by ProQuest Dialog
- **Speed Geek** – “Speed date” with other info pros and ask questions one-on-one – hosted by a group of librarians working on creative digital endeavors (download Debra Kolah’s presentation)

IT is pleased to co-sponsor these great programs:

- Show all the metrics: uncovering and rewarding the broad impact of research (Academic Division) - proudly sponsored by IEEE
- I Don’t have Time for Metadata – Adding Automated Categorization to your Workflow (Taxonomy Division)
- More Education, Less Time: Implementing Learning Management Systems for Legal Professionals (Legal Division) - download Choyce and McCashin’s presentation

Many thanks to Springer, ProQuest Dialog, IEEE and Elsevier for the generous sponsorship of IT and the Vancouver conference!
Vancouver 2014 Sponsor

March 18, 2014

Vancouver Skyline photo by Road Fun on Flickr

With nearly 800 members and a focus on managing information systems and exploring leading edge technology, the IT Division offers great opportunities for sponsorship. If your organization would like to sponsor one of the IT programs or social events, you will find this sponsorship overview helpful.

To confirm sponsorship, please email IT treasurer Leoma Dunn or send mail to address, Thomas More College Library, 33 Thomas More Parkway, Crestview Hills. Leoma will generate an invoice upon receipt of your sponsor information form.

We appreciate your generous support!

Thank you for your interest in sponsoring the SLA Information Technology Division in 2014. We have many excellent programs planned for the SLA 2014 Annual Conference in Vancouver, as well as the renowned IT Dance Party. The sponsorship options are outlined below.

Bronze – $500

- Acknowledgement at the IT Business Meeting
- Certificate for display in sponsor’s exhibit booth
- Acknowledgement of sponsorship on the IT Division Website
- Acknowledgement of sponsorship in the IT Division publication, b/ITe

Silver – $750 Bronze benefits plus

- Name listed with selected IT event in online and printed conference programs*
- Name listed in mailings about IT events sent to members before and after conference
- Name on signage at entrance to selected IT events

*If received prior to SLA Headquarters deadline

Silver – $1,250 Benefits plus

- Name and logo will appear on a slide prior to start of program (if powerpoint is used)
- Sponsor may distribute information before start of sponsored program
- Sponsor may publish an article in b/ITe, working the b/ITe editor
- Acknowledgement of sponsorship in the IT Division publication, b/ITe

Platinum – $2000 Silver Benefits plus

- Sponsorship of the IT Dance Party
- Sponsor may conduct a drawing for a sponsor-provided door prize at the Dance Party
- Sponsor may distribute information and/or giveaways before and during the Dance Party
- Sponsor may publish an article in b/ITe, working the b/ITe editor

We would also be happy to discuss opportunities for sponsorship of IT throughout the year, including virtual events, division awards and website advertising.

To confirm sponsorship, please complete a sponsor information form and email it to IT treasurer Leoma Dunn or send mail to address, Thomas More College Library, 33 Thomas More Parkway, Crestview Hills.
Meet the Board: Ruth Kneale

March 31, 2014 Categories: b/ITe, v31n1

by Libby Trudell, IT Division Chair

With this issue of b/ITe we are starting a series of interviews to introduce you to our Executive and Advisory Board members. You’ll learn a little bit about who they are, what they do and what they have experienced as part of the IT Board. Our first interview is with Ruth Kneale, the division’s Professional Development Chair.

Q. Ruth, thank you for inaugurating our 2014 “Meet the Board” series. Tell us a little your work, how long have you been an IT Member, and when you joined the Board
RK: I am the Systems Librarian for the Daniel K. Inouye Solar Telescope (formerly the Advanced Technology Solar Telescope), currently under construction on the summit of Haleakala, Maui, Hawaii. I provide a wide range of support to the team, from documentation control and configuration management to running all the web sites and providing tech support to the staff. I was an IT lurker for a while before formally joining the Division in 2007. I came on as the IT Professional Development co-chair in 2011, learning the ropes from Jill Hurst-Wahl, and have been in the Chair position since 2012.

Q. What’s the biggest challenge you’ve had in this role?
RK: Getting folks interested and involved in next year’s continuing education (CE) courses immediately after this year’s conference ends! Due to the schedule set by HQ, we have to start soliciting programs almost immediately after Annual ends, and they’re due in August. It’s hard to foresee what’ll be an exciting topic in a year, when things change so rapidly in IT.

Q. What do you view as your biggest accomplishment in this role?
RK: Succeeding in us having CE courses that folks want to attend. (Woo hoo!)

Q. What’s the funniest thing that’s happened to you during your tenure on the Board?
RK: Doing a half-in-person, half-virtual Board meeting when the mic kept dropping out, there was a lot of “What? Who? Huh?” going on in the room, and a lot of laughing!

Q. Has being on the Board helped you develop any new skills, insights or professional goals
RK: Absolutely. Being in charge of the CEs has encouraged me to think outside the box of my own areas of interest, reach out to others for suggestions, and learn about new topics. It’s also gotten me to pay closer attention to schedule deadlines, and to meet them cleanly rather than listen to the whooshing sound as they go by. .

Q. Would you accept another leadership position in the future or encourage other members to be on the Board?
RK: Absolutely, and yes! It’s a great experience, both in learning and in meeting others who have the same work interests.

Q. Is there anything else you’d like to add about yourself or about the IT Division?
RK: In my field, I rarely meet other librarians like myself; IT is my tribe, and I am happy to be a part of it.
Update from the Chair

March 31, 2014 Categories: b/ITe, v31n1

Update from the Chair
by Libby Trudell, IT Division Chair

The Executive Board and committee chairs for the IT Division have been busy in recent weeks, preparing for the annual conference and also thinking about how the division can continue to develop to support members.

Please join me in congratulating our past chair, Alex Grigg, who is now Chair of the SLA Technology Advisory Council. This connects the IT division to the Association in a very meaningful way, and I know that Alex will keep an eye out for opportunities for IT members to be engaged in new technology initiatives.

Our web team, Chrissy Geluk and Dave Rose, have updated the IT website with a page highlighting our Vancouver conference events. Check it out at: http://it.sla1.org/conferences/2014-annual-conference-at-vancouverjune-8-10/. You’ll also find a downloadable PDF which lists the details of all the IT conference events, for easy reference.

Ruth Kneale, our Professional Development Chair, has put together a strong offering of CE courses with topics encompassing visualization, digitization and analytical models. These sessions are filling fast, so register soon to reserve your space.

Beth Kraemer, our Membership and Awards Chair, has worked with the Board to complete the judging of the nominees for Division awards and we have wonderful winners in all three categories who will be recognized at the conference and at our June 27 Business Meeting.

A reminder that the cost to register for SLA 2014 is US$529 until April 11. After that date, the price goes to US$699. Register today here: http://www.sla.org/attend/2014-annual-conference/register/. To plan your time and find out about the entire conference program, go to the online planner at: http://www.sla.org/2014-online-planner/.

A special thanks goes to our partners Springer, IEEE and Elsevier for their generous sponsorship of IT Division events in Vancouver!
San Diego 2013
April 5, 2014

Access the full San Diego program via the 2013 online planner. Many thanks to ProQuest Dialog, IEEE and LexisNexis for the generous sponsorship of IT and the San Diego conference!

**IT Events from June 2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
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<td>8</td>
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<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>- The Accidental Systems Librarian @08:00-12:00</td>
<td>- Go Beyond Google: Gathering Competitive Intelligence @11:45-13:15</td>
<td>- Just Say NO to Aimlessness: Strategic leveraging of Social Media Content @08:00-09:30</td>
<td>- What Hard-Core Technologies does the Librarian Need to Know? @08:00-09:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>- IT Division Board Meeting @13:00-16:00</td>
<td>- Implementing Open Source @13:30-15:00</td>
<td>- Information Technology Division Business Meeting @12:00-13:30</td>
<td>- Proudly sponsored by IEEE</td>
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<td>- Trivia Night @21:00-23:59</td>
<td>- Proudly sponsored by ProQuest Dialog</td>
<td>- SPOTLIGHT SESSION: The Digital Preservation Network @16:00-17:30</td>
<td>- Speed Geek @10:00-12:00</td>
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<td>- IT Dance Party @21:00-23:59</td>
<td>- Disaster Planning for Information Professionals @10:00-12:00</td>
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Envisioning the Future for the IT Division

April 6, 2014 Categories: b/ITe, v31n3

by Libby Trudell, IT Division Chair

Following up on the member survey done toward the end of 2013, a task team comprised of Kan Kin, Alex Grigg, Leslie Reynolds and myself has been working on a vision for the future of the IT Division. As a first step, we developed a description of “who we are” to help communicate the focus of division both to our own members and to the broader SLA community.

We drew on this description in recent discussions with the conveners of a proposed new Data Caucus for SLA. The IT Board wondered what kind of overlap there might be between the mission of the Data Caucus and that of the Information Technology Division. After discussion about the role of data analysis and management vs the role of technology and information services management, each group gained clarity on its goals, and on opportunities for working together. We are looking forward to collaborating with the Data Caucus when it is launched.

The current version of the description is below and will also be posted on our website. It will continue to evolve, and all comments and suggestions (to ltrudell@netbox.com, please) are welcome.

The IT Division: Who We Are

The IT Division provides a community which helps members share and enhance their knowledge about use of technology to deliver a wide spectrum of information services, and to communicate effectively. The focus is on the ways in which existing and emerging technologies can be applied to improve usability, cost effectiveness and value of information services to users. This includes:

- Website design, development, content and usability (supported by the Webmaster Committee and Web Management Section)
- Use of social media and other internet capabilities to communicate effectively with the client community and improve the user experience for information access, use and collaboration (supported by Social Media Committee and the Communications & Social Media Section)
- Use of technology to support library systems, digital collection and content management, online research, data analysis and delivery of many other information services (supported by the Information Systems and Technical Services Sections)
- Identify, experiment with and report on emerging technologies which may provide new information service capabilities in the future (important for all Sections and Committees, but especially relevant for the Information Systems Section).

Because effective use of technology cuts across all SLA functions and disciplines, the IT Division seeks to collaborate with other SLA units to carry out programming and initiatives which address the intersection of technology with the satisfaction of information needs of all kinds. Through such collaboration, IT can provide a technology backbone and be a resource for the entire Association.
Access the full Chicago program via the [2012 online planner](http://it.sla1.org/?post-type=post&show_title=1&show_date=1&show_categories=1&show_featured_image=1&show_content=1&show_divider=1&printout-meta=on&post-page-break=on&columns=1). Many thanks to Elsevier, Dialog, Dow Jones, Reprints Desk, ISI Emerging Markets, Springer, and IEEE for the generous sponsorship of IT and the Chicago conference!

### IT Events from July 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
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<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>IT Division Board Meeting@13:00-15:30</td>
<td>Vendor Speed Dating@10:00-11:30</td>
<td>eDiscovery Preparation Through Information Management and Data Mapping@08:00-09:30</td>
<td>International Information Exchange Caucus breakfast@07:30-09:30—Proudly sponsored by ISI Emerging Markets</td>
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<td>The New Knowledge Services: Next Steps for Career Professionals@10:00-11:30—Proudly sponsored by Dow Jones</td>
<td>Updates from the World of Cloud Computing@16:00-17:30—Proudly sponsored by Reprints Desk</td>
<td>Social Media: #IKnowTheBasicsWhat’sNext@08:00-09:30—Proudly sponsored by Springer</td>
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<td>Web-scale Discovery Implementation with the End-user in Mind@16:00-17:30</td>
<td>The New Knowledge Services: Next Steps for Career Professionals@10:00-11:30—Proudly sponsored by Dow Jones</td>
<td>Impact of Technical Standards on Metadata and Controlled Vocabulary Projects@10:00-11:30—Proudly sponsored by IEEE</td>
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<td></td>
<td>eDiscovery Preparation Through Information Management and Data Mapping@08:00-09:30</td>
<td>NISO IOTA: Problems with OpenURL@10:00-11:30</td>
<td>Architectural Boat Tour of Chicago@19:00-22:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IT Division Business Meeting@14:00-15:30</td>
<td>IT Dance Party@21:00-23:59—Proudly sponsored by Dow Jones</td>
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Meet the Board: Chrissy Geluk

April 21, 2014 Categories: b/ITe, v31n3

Chrissy Geluk in SCUBA gear!

by Libby Trudell, IT Division Chair

Q. Tell us a little about yourself—for example, what kind of work do you do, how long have you been an IT Member, and when did you start your current Board position?

GK: I have been a member of the IT Division since 2010 and volunteered to be Webmaster in 2011 when I answered a call for the position that was posted on the discussion list. I am also a member of the Pharmaceutical & Health Technology (PHT), CI and Legal Divisions and have held leadership positions with PHT (Fundraiser 2005–2007, Chair–Elect 2007–2008, Chair 2008–2009, Past Chair 2009–2010, Nominating Chair 2010–Present).

On the professional side, I am a member of a 3-person library group for a multinational pharmaceutical company that supports the U.S. sites (R&D and Commercial alike); offers guidance to the UK site and collaborates with our counterparts in Japan. The thing that I love about my job is that I do something different every day, week or month: searches & analyses in the areas like CI, Prior Art, FTO, Due Diligence etc, negotiate & finalize external content licenses, develop & maintain the library website on Sharepoint, oversee the U.S.-wide unmediated document delivery service and provide custom client training on products we subscribe to.

On the personal side, I have an undergraduate degree in mathematics from Fordham University and my library science degree is from Simmons. Science & technology is in my blood both at work and home as my husband is a software developer. So you can imagine we talk ‘geek’ all the time! My husband and I also ‘speak’ Latin ballroom dancing and scuba diving!

Q. What’s the biggest challenge you’ve had in your role as webmaster?

GK: The biggest challenge was that I volunteered for a leadership position in IT after only being a member of the division for a year. So, I was still learning about the IT division when I took on the role. I never regretted it as I never back away from a challenge. I thought that was enough to have held leadership positions with PHT, but I realized that not all SLA divisions are the same…which is a good thing. Shortly after I signed on as webmaster, SLA asked all Divisions and Chapters to migrate over to WordPress. That wasn’t too much of a challenge but it was a lot of work, and I was grateful to the help given by my fellow IT division members. Since I was still learning about the division, it presented a challenge trying to organize the information from the old website to the new, as I did not have any of that institutional knowledge! I was gaining it as I went.

Q. What do you view as your biggest accomplishment in this role?

GK: Without a doubt that would be the migration of the IT site to WordPress in November 2012; and not being the last SLA division to migrate!

Q. What’s the funniest/weirdest/most unusual thing that’s happened to you during your tenure on the Board?

GK: I guess the weirdest thing was trying to find the room where we held the IT Board meeting last year in San Diego. The room was way in a deserted area far to the back of the complex and it was like going through a bunch of mazes. And, at the meeting, we used Alex’s iPad as the microphone when each of us were talking for the benefit of those on the conference call. So you can see, that we IT division live and breathe technology!

Q. Has being on the Board helped you develop any new skills, insights or professional goals?

GK: Without a doubt that would be the migration of the IT site to WordPress in November 2012; and not being the last SLA division to migrate! It is something that I feel helps you grow as a person professionally and personally. So, my answer is yes, with an asterisk id contingent on other things I may have going on in my life and if I can handle an additional task or position. Most definitely I would encourage any current or future members of the IT division to become Board members! Some positions may involve more work than others; so of course that’s something that needs to be considered before accepting. I would encourage those that are interested to talk to past and current Board members to get their insights. Each and every Board position contributes to the success of the division; and together all of the Board positions make up a Team! We IT Division members are friendly bunch!

Q. Is there anything else you’d like to add about yourself or about the IT Division?

GK: I love being a librarian that embraces technology and loves constantly learning and giving back. For example, I have given back my programming skills at work with developing other department’s or group’s websites! It may have been added work but since it’s something that I like to do, it was a pleasure doing it. I even find myself wanting to learn more programming languages like Ruby or C++ as a hobby and I think being a member of the IT division fuels that drive!

Though I am a geek like my husband, we also balance the ‘geekness’ with hobbies like dancing, traveling and scuba diving. One of our favorite scuba diving destinations is Negril Beach, Jamaica! I hope that I have not only entertained you but also made you want to be an IT Board Member!
Changes to IT Division Advisory Board

April 30, 2014 Categories: b/ITe, v31n3

by Libby Trudell, IT Division Chair

Beth Kraemer is stepping down as Membership and Awards Chair. Beth has made many contributions, including managing all of our awards activity for 2013 and 2014. Beth has also worked to establish and document membership procedures, which will greatly facilitate the transition from one Chair to another. Our thanks go to Beth for her diligence, grace and patience, and her many contributions.

We have several new members of the Advisory Board:

- **Helen Keil-Losch** is joining the Advisory Board as Membership and Award Chair, replacing Beth. Helen is Research Librarian at the Federal Reserve Board Library in Washington, DC. She has been a member of SLA since 2004, has served as President of the Silicon Valley Chapter and as a member of the SLA Professional Development Advisory Council. Her email is helen.c.keil-losch@frb.gov.
- **Betty Landesman** is joining the Advisory board as Section Chair, Technical Services. Betty is currently the Head, Technical Services & Content Management for the Langsdale Library at the University of Baltimore. She has been a member of the IT Division since 2003 and of the Taxonomy Division since 2011. Her email is blandesman@ubalt.edu.
- **Ralph Poole** is joining the Advisory Board as Section Chair, Information Systems. Ralph is Partner and Principal Knowledge Management Consultant for Iknow LLC, and also adjunct faculty at Columbia University teaching a course on Findability and Innovation. He has been a member of the IT Division since 2013, and is also a member of several other SLA divisions including Taxonomy and KM. His email is ralph.poole@gmail.com.
- **Wei Xuan** joined the board in January as Section Head for Communications & Social Media and has now agreed also to serve as the Chair of the Social Media Committee. Wei has been a member of SLA since 2012 and joined the IT division in September 2013. He just completed his MLIS at McGill. His email is wei.xuan@mail.mcgill.ca.
Meet the Board: Adrienne Smith

May 9, 2014 Categories: b/ITe, v31n3
Interview with Adrienne Smith, 2014 Program Planner

Adrienne Smith in St. Petersburg, Russia

Q: Tell us a little about yourself—for example, what kind of work do you do, how long have you been an IT Member, and when did you start your current Board position?

AS: My training is in Knowledge Management, but I've always had an interest in how technology can facilitate knowledge sharing and collaboration. In my current position, I manage a team of taxonomists at the Yellow Pages Group. As our biggest competitor is Google, we have our work cut out for us to optimize search results by maintaining the ontology, tracking user behavior and creating a first rate search experience to help Canadians discover local businesses.

I've been an IT member since 2011, when I won the Division's annual Joe Ann Clifton Student Award. As a newly-minted MLIS, I was looking for networking and professional development opportunities, and thus far I've helped chair the Virtual Event Committee and most recently have taken on program planning duties for the 2014 annual conference in Vancouver.

Q: What's the biggest challenge you've had in this role?

AS: I accepted the position of program planner before becoming pregnant with my first child. Planning sessions, coordinating with presenters and other divisions, and meeting all deadlines proved to be a challenge when combined with "pregnancy-brain" and my maternity leave. That being said, what else are sleepless nights with a newborn for than catching up on SLA business?

Q: What do you view as your biggest accomplishment in this role?

AS: As the program planner, I am extremely proud of the innovative sessions we'll be presenting this year in Vancouver. Brainstorming the hot topics for a year in the future is no simple feat, and I really tried to think about what our membership (and the association members at large) would be interested in that hasn't necessarily been seen or done before. Every one of our proposed sessions, including a spotlight one on librarian's role in MOOCs (massive open online courses), was accepted by the planning committee, and we have a number of collaborative sessions with Divisions like Academic and Legal that should interest a diverse crowd. And of course, the IT's legendary dance party will not disappoint, thanks to incoming planner Nancy Kellett!

Q: What's the most unusual thing that's happened to you during your tenure on the Board?

AS: As chair of the Virtual Events Committee, I focused on building partnerships with other Chapters and Divisions in order to attract more members to our events. One 2013 event, Metrics 101, was in collaboration with the Legal Division. Between our two divisions, we represent an enormous number of SLA members, and interest was so high that we had to turn away registrants due to lack of space on the webinar platform. On webinar day, the platform was slammed with attendees, so much so that the application kept crashing! After a tense couple of minutes (and a flurry of emails between organizers and presenters), we decided to reschedule for another date, on another webinar platform. Even the best laid plans...

Q: Has being on the Board helped you develop any new skills, insights or professional goals?

AS: Since my tenure on the Board, I've gained a greater appreciation for just how much work is actually undertaken by what are essentially volunteers – our fellow SLA members.

More concretely, my roles on the Board have helped me to develop better collaborative skills, particularly in project management. I've learned how to better delegate tasks, communicate continuously, and celebrate success, all of which have been directly transferable to my own career path.

Q: Would you accept another leadership position in the future? Would you encourage other members to be on the Board?

AS: I would definitely accept another position in the future, as I found it was a great way to meet other information professionals while contributing to activities that I myself would want to attend.
Are You Ready for SLA Vancouver 2014?

May 13, 2014 Categories: b/ITe, v31n3

by Kan Kin, IT Division Chair-Elect

Have you registered to attend the 2014 SLA Annual Conference? You can find highlights of the general sessions and continuing education course sponsored by the IT Division [here](http://it.sla1.org/?post-type=post&show_title=1&show_date=1&show_categories=1&show_featured_image=1&show_content=1&show_divider=1&printout-meta=on&post-page-break=on&columns=1).

Libby Trudell, the IT Chair, did a division-wide survey last year, and received a great enthusiastic response from our members. The results are encouraging and full of volunteers who want to contribute to the IT Board sections and committees. We are so glad that we are able to recruit a few on board this year.

**IT Open Hours – Chat, anyone?**

We are planning to host IT Division’s Open Hours at the SLA Annual Meeting in Vancouver. We will have the Chair, Chair-Elect and selected board members sitting in the lounge near the Convention Registration Desk on the first floor from 11AM through 12:30PM on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday.

We would like to get to know you and chat about our exciting programs and coming attractions. This is the time and place to meet with our board members. Please join us.
Mark your Calendars and Register NOW for June 27 Meeting!

May 17, 2014 Categories: b/ITe, v31n3

You may have noticed that there is no IT business Meeting on the 2014 conference agenda. Instead, we are holding our annual business meeting as a webinar following conference at 12pm ET, June 27th. Register to attend now at: https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/627249145

As the conference schedule is very crowded, and not everyone can make it to Vancouver, we have planned a separate, virtual meeting after the conference to enable more people to attend. Our agenda will include brief officer reports, recognition of our award winners for Outstanding Member, Chapter Technology Programming and Student, plus a few conference highlights.

We will end with a brief presentation by our student award winner, Sebastian Ferrari. He will highlight key points from his award-winning paper: “The State of Information Visualization in Academic Libraries.” It’s a fascinating and timely topic.

Please mark your calendar for the IT Annual Business Meeting, where you will learn about “the state of the division,” cheer our award winners, and see some cool visualization formats!
Mobile tweeting @sla2014

May 21, 2014 Categories: What's New

We’ve put together a quick guide to help enhance your Twitter experience at the annual conference. (This guide features screenshots from an iPhone 5.)

Before the conference
(you can do this on your device)

Go to twitter.com to create an account (free).

Install the latest Twitter app (you’ll see a prompt to do this, or you can find the app in your device’s app store).

![](mobile.twitter.com)

Once you’re signed in to your account, you can search for SLA Twitter feeds to follow, such as:

![](SLA2014Tips)
![](SLA2014)
![](SLA IT Division)

choose feeds to follow

During the conference

Use the hashtag: Include #sla2014 and/or #slait in your tweets to connect them to those feeds

Connect with other attendees: Message each other through Twitter with free WiFi instead of your cellular service (some international plans = $$$$$, ouch!)

Tweet suggestions:

- Your photos (instructions below)
- Key takeaways from sessions (great quotes, hints, tips)
- A fun place you’ve discovered (great restaurant, coffee house, etc.) – HINT: use the location marker in your tweets
enable the Location setting

Here's how to tweet photos

STEP 1 Start composing a new tweet. You’ll see icons appear at the bottom of the compose window. (The one I’ve highlighted in yellow lets you select a photo.)

STEP 2 You can tag other Twitter users in your photo, if desired. Hit Tweet when done.

STEP 3 Voilà! Your tweet with photo appears in your feed.

Compose and post a tweet
IT Division Board Meeting @SLA2014 Vancouver Details

May 27, 2014 Categories: Board Meetings, What's New

June 24, 2014 Categories: What’s New

The SLA Baseball Caucus and the Business & Finance Division are excited to announce this free webinar wrapping up the SLA 2014 conference. Reserve your webinar seat now. The speakers will take questions and the session will be recorded.

Title: SLA’s Over – Now What?
Date: Thursday, 26 Jun 2014
Time: 11:00–12:00 EDT

Feeling a little post-SLA let-down? Staring at your stack of notes and business cards and trying to recapture the excitement of the conference? In this session – not just another post-SLA debrief – we’ll talk about your critical post-conference actions, important information about the association and how to take the next steps to build your skills. Join us for this 60-minute follow-up that will re-energize you – perfect for anyone, whether you attended #sla2014 or not!

Featuring the following speakers:
Kate Arnold – President
John DiGilio – Treasurer
Jill Strand – President Elect
Tracy Maleeff – 2015 Conference Planner

For more information about this webinar, contact Laura Leavitt, Tony Landolt or Jeff Graveline.
Save the Date! New Librarians Global Connection Webinar Series

June 30, 2014 Categories: Virtual Events Tags: discovery and libraries, librarianship, tech trends, virtual-events

Third Session | 2014 Webinar Series :
“New Librarians Global Connection: best practices, models and recommendations.”

Visit: http://www.ifla.org/node/6141 to access the webinar recording.

*****

For the third consecutive year, IFLA Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning and IFLA New Professionals Special Interest Group are partnering with the American Library Association to present a series of free quarterly webinars on issues of interest to new librarians, library associations and library schools, library-decision makers, and all library workers. This is a great opportunity for membership participation via new worldwide online programming.

Following our tradition of excellence, this year our keynote speakers for each of our quarterly sessions come from different regions of the world. This year they have included IFLA President Elect, Donna Sheeder and other library leaders.

Below, the date and time of the next webinar. Save the date!

July 15, 2014
9:00 a.m. CDT
10:00 a.m. EDT
4:00 p.m. CET
10:00 Singapore

World Clock http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/
Link to access the virtual meeting room – coming soon.

Webinar length is one hour.

*****

Speakers:


Aaron Tay, Senior Librarian, National University of Singapore. Blogger at Musings about librarianship.

Jonathan Hernandez, PhD student in library and information studies at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), member of the board of the National Association of Librarians (CNB) and works as an academic at the Coordination of the Humanities (UNAM). Topics: Internet censorship, Freedom of expression, Infodiversity. Why it is important for new librarians and students to be aware of freedom of expression and privacy.

The topics for the webinars were compiled from global surveys, topics presented by speakers during the CPDWL and NPSIG programs at the WLIC 2013 in Singapore, NPSIG working group, and new librarians’ forums, listservs and online spaces.

*****

The quarterly webinars are presented in January, April, July and October. Stay tuned for more news!

The webinars are archived, therefore you can join them, ask questions and participate in conversations with international colleagues live, or you can listen to them later, anywhere at any time. For more information about the 2012 and 2013 series and to listen to a number of webinars, visit the following link http://npsig.wordpress.com/webinars/

Questions and requests for information:

Loida Garcia-Febo
Series Coordinator
loidagarciafebo@gmail.com
SLA 2014 conference presentations posted

July 1, 2014 Categories: What’s New Tags: Conferences, Slides

We’ve posted slides from some of the presentations sponsored and co-sponsored by the IT Division. We’ll post more as they become available. Enjoy!

Presentations are housed on our Vancouver 2014 page.
#SLAtalk: Mobile Tech in Libraries – Tuesday, July 8

July 2, 2014 Categories: Virtual Events, What’s New Tags: virtual-events
#SLAtalk is partnering with #UKlibchat to discuss mobile technology in information centers and libraries.

Full information is below and here is the promo link: http://www.sla.org/slatalk-mobile-tech-libraries-july-8/

The first hour of this Twitter chat will follow the traditional #SLAtalk format (4 questions, 15-minutes each).

The second hour will follow the #UKlibchat format of discussing questions set by participants (view and submit questions here).

**When:**
- Tuesday, July 8th, 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm EDT (10:30 – 12:30 PDT / 6:30 – 8:30 BST)
  - (What time is that where you are?)

Follow hosts @SLAhq & @UKlibchat, and be sure to include #SLAtalk AND #UKlibchat in your answers!

And, send a tweet during the first 5 minutes (1:30 – 1:35 p.m. EDT) introducing yourself, where you are, and what type of library you work in.

New to this? Check out "How to #SLAtalk" for a quick tutorial.

**Questions to Answer (first hour):**
- Q1 (first 15 minutes): Describe your vision of the library or information center in 2020. For example, what’s changed and what hasn’t? How essential is mobile tech? What uses do you see for near-field communication (NFC)/RFID, and is this tech integrated everywhere? And so-on. Have fun with this one!
  - *Food for thought: “The Coming NFC Revolution?” by Mick Fortune, #UKlibchat*
- Q2 (second 15 minutes): Does your library or information center have a “mobile-ready” approach to delivering online resources? Please share, or share your ideas for incorporating an approach from scratch
  - If you already have one, what have you learned, and what have you learned the hard way?
- Q3 (third 15 minutes): Get to know your users – what can you envision them wanting to do with their mobile devices? What would you like to offer via mobile? What are some barriers you would be dealing with?
- Q4 (final 15 minutes): Which vendor partners do you know that are currently supporting your drive to become mobile ready?

**Questions to Answer (second hour):**
- View and submit your own here.

Reminder:
- Include both #SLAtalk and #UKlibchat in each answer and reference the question number in each answer (especially important for the #UKlibchat portion).

So an example tweet would be:

@Annie_Bob: #SLAtalk #UKlibchat Q1 that’s a great question, looking forward to hearing everyone’s experiences!

Feel free to pop-in and out throughout the session, and lurkers are always welcome. We hope to Tweet you this Tuesday!
Ruth Kneale wins PAM Division Achievement Award!

July 2, 2014 Categories: Awards, What's New

Congratulations, Ruth!!!

The story and photograph of Ruth receiving her award is posted on the PAM website.
SLA 2014 Annual Conference Contributed Papers are Now Available!

July 14, 2014 Categories: What's New

Read & access the 2014 contributed papers!

How do journalists verify the information they get through social media, and what role can information professionals play in this process? Can embedding a library hackfest into a first-year computer science course be an effective method of providing information literacy instruction and advocating for open access? What difference do professional associations supporting the library and information profession make to the members of the profession, to the employers of those members, and to the profession itself?

These and other interesting questions were addressed by SLA members who presented “contributed papers” at the SLA 2014 Annual Conference & INFO-EXPO. A total of 12 such papers were presented, four on each day of the conference. The contributed papers emerged from a process that began in October 2013, when a call for abstracts was posted on the SLA blog and on discussion lists. Roughly two dozen abstracts were submitted; from among these, 12 were selected to be developed into full papers.

The abstracts and papers were evaluated by a team of SLA members: Stacey Greenwell (chair), Joe Anteau, Giovanna Badia, Juanita Richardson, and Erin Waltz. The team members ultimately selected Organizing and Embedding a Library Hackfest into a First-Year Course, by Sarah Shuja of York University in Toronto, as the best contributed paper. Sarah will receive a free registration to the SLA 2015 Annual Conference in Boston, and she will be the subject of the “SLA Member Interview” in the September–October 2014 issue of Information Outlook.
Interview with Beth Kanter: Technology and Social Change

July 24, 2014 Categories: What's New

Beth Kanter is the author of Beth's Blog: How Nonprofits Can Use Social Media, one of the longest running and most popular blogs for nonprofits.

In this interview, Beth Kanter provides readers with an opportunity to gain leadership lessons from a career that she has been passionate about for twenty years. Helping nonprofits make effective use of technology, Beth also shares best practices for nonprofits to consider. You can find it on the EPIP.org website.
It's not too late … Vote before Weds Sep 24th 5PM Eastern!

September 22, 2014 Categories: b/ITe

The SLA e-vote system for the 2015 SLA Board of Directors Election and Bylaws Vote is still open. You will be able to cast your online ballot through 5:00 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, September 24, 2014. You may visit www.sla.org/evote to vote. Log in using your SLA Username and Password.

If you have any questions regarding the election, or would like to request a print ballot, contact the e-vote information center at evote@sla.org or +1.703.647.4950. We welcome your participation!

INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTING

1. Go to the SLA evote system at http://www.sla.org/evote
2. Log in to the system using your SLA Username and Password
3. Review the choices for each position and the proposed bylaws amendments, and then select a candidate for that position and a choice for the proposed amendments. (click the “details” link under each candidates’ name and bylaws question for additional information)
4. Click the “Next” button
5. Review your selections
6. Check the ‘Participant Consent’ box
7. Click the “Submit” button
8. You have now completed the voting process! You can view and print your receipt or exit the e-vote system

Please Note: An e-mail notification was sent to all eligible voters are September 3, 2014. If you did not receive the e-mail, please check your spam filter or consult with your IT department to whitelist the IP address for the e-vote system. The single IP address is 198.2.133.79 for whitelisting purposes.
Congratulations to Ruth & Catherine!!

September 25, 2014 Categories: What’s New

As announced by HQ, Tom Rink will head SLA starting in 2015. For the full story, read announcement from the HQ site.
Meet the Board: Judy Matthews, IT Discussion List Chair

September 25, 2014
Categories: b/ITe

Photo: Judy Matthews

By Libby Trudell

Q: Tell us a little about yourself—for example, what kind of work do you do, how long have you been an IT Member, and when did you start your current Board position?

JM: I'm the Physics-Astronomy subject librarian at Michigan State University (MSU), acting as liaison to:

- The Physics-Astronomy Department (which includes the NSCL- National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory
- IMSU's Abram's Planetarium, which is installing a new generation Digistar Projector [http://statenews.com/article/2014/07/planetarium-turns-50-this-year]
- The Facility for Rare Isotope Beams (FRIB) which will come online in 2020. We are very excited about this huge coup for MSU and the scientific community!

But, all of us librarians here at MSU serve as generalists, handling general reference via chat, desk shifts, etc. I've been a member of SLA since 1991, and have belonged to the IT Division, um, I'm not sure how many years now! Guess that gives you a hint right there.

Q: What's the biggest challenge you've had in this role?

JM: Initially it was just understanding the technical operations/management of the Lyris Listmanager system, the behind-the-scenes stuff. The Lyris software, while getting long in the tooth, is a relatively sophisticated system, and the manual is quite thick. The main interface or “control board,” can seem quite daunting when one first views it - a common reaction at first glance to most software, I suppose. But in truth, the Listserv Manager never uses all of the system's capabilities and for the division's purposes, it's really pretty simple. Beyond that, I stay on top of the subscriber activity on the list, e.g.:

- Assisting with subscribers' changing email addresses and sometimes their changing names;
- Helping those who don't understand how to use the system's basics to subscribe, unsubscribe, send messages, etc. It's really not all that mysterious, but people do need guidance from time to time.
- Once in a blue moon there are some quirky end-user issues: firewalls, viruses, and such.

I generally try to educate folks about how to help themselves, but if someone is particularly frustrated, I'll just get into the system and fix things for them internally if I can. Less stress for members/subscribers = Good!

Q: What do you view as your biggest accomplishment in this role?

JM: Honestly, I'm not sure I've had a “big accomplishment” in this role – darn! But, there is a replacement for Lyris in the works, and perhaps next year I can remark on a successful transition to a new discussion list system.

Q: What's the funniest/weirdest/most unusual thing that's happened to you during your tenure on the Board?

JM: Probably just fending off/removing weirdos and spammers who clearly should not be on the list. You can tell immediately by their email addresses, e.g., HotGuy4U, BabyCakes16, etc. - and those are just some of the names I'm willing to share here.

Q: Has being on the Board helped you develop any new skills, insights or professional goals?

JM: Like membership on any excellent committee, group, or board, I suppose mostly it's helped me to realize that we're all trying to cope with constant change occurring at a frenzied pace. We're all in this together. Different boats and destinations, but the same tumultuous sea.

Q: Would you accept another leadership position in the future? Would you encourage other members to be on the Board?

JM: For me, it depends on the overall future of SLA in the next few years. If SLA continues to maintain organizational health, absolutely yes – I might consider another role and also would encourage others to be on the IT Board. It's an opportunity to work with some truly amazing and energetic people. SLA in general offers a rare concentration of the best and the brightest info-tech folks, not to diss ALA or anything, ahem. 😊

Thank you Judy, for sharing this look at the role of the ListServ manager!
2015 Slate of Executive Officers


It’s that time of year again where we elect a new set of officers for our Executive Board. The nominating committee is proud to bring you the following slate of candidates for our three open board positions:

Chair Elect: Sophia Guevara

Sophia Guevara is a long-time member of the Special Libraries Association. She also serves as a journal committee member for the Nonprofit Technology Network Change journal. In addition to this, she is a Social Media Fellow with the Council on Foundations’ affinity group, Emerging Practitioners in Philanthropy.

Treasurer: Leoma Dunn

Leoma Dunn is the Director at Thomas More College Library. She has been a member of SLA since 2001 and an Information Technology Division member since 2006. She has been active in SLA since 2004 holding numerous positions at the Division, Chapter, and Committee levels. Leoma was honored to be named a Fellow of SLA in 2011. She served as a member of the Finance Committee from 2012-2013. Leoma currently serves as the Treasurer for the Information Technology Division and Chair of the Academic Division. She is looking forward to continuing to serve as Treasurer of the IT Division.

Program Planner: Dorothea Salo

http://it.sla1.org/?post_type=post&show_title=1&show_date=1&show_categories=1&show_featured_image=1&show_content=1&show_divider=1&printout-meta=on&post-page-break=on&columns=1
Dorothea Salo is a Faculty Associate in the School of Library and Information Studies at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, where she teaches about scholarly communication and open access, digital curation, database design, XML, and linked data. In 2009 *Library Journal* named her a Mover and Shaker for her open-access advocacy. She has written and presented internationally on scholarly publishing, copyright, institutional repositories, linked data, and data curation. She holds an MA in Library and Information Studies and another in Spanish from UW-Madison.

I'd like to thank all of our candidates for agreeing to run for office and I'm excited to see what they will do with our division in the coming years.

The IT Division does also have an open nomination policy for all Executive Board positions so if you would like to add yourself or anyone else to the election ballot just find 10 other IT Division members who will support that nomination (including the candidate) and we will be happy to include you in the election. The deadline for any outside nominations is October 15. Please let Alex Grigg (agrigg@lexmark.com) know if you have any questions about that process.

Thank you and remember to vote in the elections next month!

http://it.sla1.org/?post-type=post&show_title=1&show_date=1&show_categories=1&show_featured_image=1&show_content=1&show_divider=1&printout-meta=on&post-page-break=on&columns=1
Update from the IT Division Chair

October 10, 2014 Categories: b/ITe

Dear IT Members,

I hope everyone is enjoying the pleasures of autumn – always a busy time at work, at school and at home. The IT Division Advisory Board has been busy as well, so here are some updates.

Upcoming Webinars

I am very pleased to announce a series of webinars from the Information Technology Division, focusing on some of the technology topics that you suggested in our last membership survey. We are kicking off this series in just a few weeks with a session by our DITE Information Systems Section Chair, Ralph Poole:

Oct 22, 4pm ET/1pm PT: "It's All About Semantics: How Metadata Supercharges KM Solutions," presented by Ralph Poole, Lead Consultant in Knowledge Management, eSentio Technologies. Please register at: https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/741355585

Also mark your calendars for these sessions coming up in November and December:

Nov 13, 12pm ET/9am PT: "Needle in a Haystack: The Technology of Precision Search," presented by Brian Dufek, Sr Product Manager, ProQuest.
Dec 12, 2pm ET/11am PT: "Bringing Order to Chaos: Using Sharepoint for Content Management," presented by Owen Allen, Office 365 Technical Specialist, Microsoft, co-sponsored by the Pacific Northwest Chapter.

Complete descriptions and registration information for the November and December webinars will be sent out shortly.

Work is also underway to tie down details on additional webinars to be offered in January–March 2015, including two sessions focused on social media and one on web content management. If you have suggestions for topics that you would like to see included in our annual conference programs or webinar programs, please let me know!

There are so many opportunities for us to refresh our skills and pick up new ideas from SLA. SLA’s 2014 Virtual Conference (bit.ly/sla2014virtual) is happening Wednesday and Thursday, October 15 and 16. The six sessions featured are some of the most popular from SLA 2014 in Vancouver, so for those unable to make the annual conference, this is a terrific opportunity. Choose either day for only $69, or have access to the entire 2 day event for just $99.

Advisory Board Announcements

I also am pleased to announce some recent additions to our Division’s Advisory Board:

Adrienne Smith – Chair of Web Management Section in 2015 (current Section Chair Andrea Cherney becomes Webmaster in 2015)
Cheryl Yanek – Chair of Social Media Committee and Social Media Section, (Wei Xuan is stepping down)
Wayne Pender – Professional Development Chair for 2015 (replacing Ruth Kneale who was recently elected to the SLA Board of Directors). Wayne has also agreed to be Conference Planner for the 2017 conference!

A hearty welcome to our new Advisory Board members and a big thank you to those who have been serving in these roles! We also have a terrific slate of officers standing for election for 2015, as communicated by Alex Grigg, chair of our Nominating Committee. Voting for these new officers will be occurring soon.

We look forward to your participation in one of these upcoming events!
Meet the Board: Alex Grigg, Past Chair

October 29, 2014 Categories: b/iTe

by Libby Trudell,

Alex Grigg at 2013 IT Dance Party

Q: Tell us a little about yourself—for example, what kind of work do you do, how long have you been an IT Member, and when did you start your current Board position?

AG: I manage the Lexmark Library at Lexmark International’s headquarters in Lexington, KY. We’re a fairly small library with just me and two other part time staff so everybody does a bit of everything. I mostly focus on marketing the library to the company, handling reference requests, and designing our webpage and catalog interfaces. I have been an IT Division member for almost ten years now and I started as Chair-Elect of the division almost three years ago.

Q: What’s the biggest challenge you’ve had in this role?

AG: Perhaps it is just because it was my most recent challenge, but one of the more challenging tasks I’ve had to complete is recruiting officers for the division. So if you would like to make that task easier for Libby Trudell, Chair, and Kan Kin, Chair-Elect, in the coming year please let them know that you’re interested in volunteering ASAP.

Q. What do you view as your biggest accomplishment in this role?

AG: Transitioning the yearly IT Dance Party to an event with a cash bar, rather than an open bar, without much wailing and gnashing of teeth is one of the big things that I was proud we were able to do during my turn as Chair. I was sad to see the change myself, but with sponsorships on the decline the division was no longer able to foot the bill and still remain viable financially. Oh, and coming up as a close second place is our complete update and revision of the IT Division Practices Manual which I spearheaded.

Alex at the SLA Kentucky Chapter awards, with Terri Buckner (Chapter President-Elect) and Susan Brown (Chair of the Nominating Committee)

Q. What’s the funniest/weirdest/most unusual thing that’s happened to you during your tenure on the Board?

AG: I met my fiancé at the Philadelphia Annual Conference while I was still Program Planner for the division and started seriously dating her right after the Chicago Conference and a particularly epic IT Dance Party.

Q. Has being on the Board helped you develop any new skills, insights or professional goals?

AG: It has made me a better organizer of volunteers and helped me understand the intricacies involved in keeping a large organization composed primarily of volunteers running.

Q: Would you accept another leadership position in the future? Would you encourage other members to be on the Board?

AG: Apparently yes, as I am about to be added to the slate of candidates for the Kentucky Chapter, as President-Elect. Also, I continue to serve as the Chair of the Technology Advisory Council for the Association. Yes, I definitely would encourage members to join the Board, especially if you want to influence the course the division takes in the next few years. The best way to do that is to get involved and help steer the boat from the captain’s deck.

Q: Is there anything else you’d like to add about yourself or about the IT Division?

AG: I’m happy to have served as Chair (and Chair-Elect and Past Chair) over the last few years. I do think the division is on a good path right now and we are well placed to leap strongly into the future. I’d like to think I had some small part in making that happen, but I certainly couldn’t have done it without the assistance of everyone on the board for the past few years. It really takes a team effort to make this division run!
IT Webinar: It’s All About Semantics: How Metadata Supercharges KM Solutions, October 22 2014


It’s All About Semantics: How Metadata Supercharges KM Solutions

**Date:** October 22, 2014

**Time:** 4pm ET / 1pm PT

**Speaker:** DITE Information Systems Section Chair Ralph Poole

**Audience:** Everyone

**Charge:** FREE

**Host:** IT Division

**About the presenter:**

Ralph Poole is the Lead Consultant in Knowledge Management at eSentio Technologies.

View the presentation slides (PDF)

Download video
Tasks for Modern Info Pros: Walk the Floors

December 1, 2014 Categories: What's New

As part of the SLA blog series on the Twelve Tasks for Modern Info Pros, SLA President-Elect Tom Rink explains how to keep your finger on the pulse of your organization and create opportunities to contribute to successful outcomes. Visit the blog.
Bringing Order to Chaos: Using Sharepoint for Content Management

December 2, 2014 Categories: b/iTe, v31n2, Virtual Events Tags: virtual-events, web-management-webinar

SLA’s Pacific Northwest Chapter and Information Technology Division are proud to offer a free webinar:

**Title**: Bringing Order to Chaos: Using Sharepoint for Content Management  
**Presenter**: Owen Allen, Technical Solutions Specialist, Microsoft

Does your organization struggle with finding items that have been stored in Sharepoint? Does your team have the task of improving access to your internal documents? In this webinar, Owen Allen will discuss best practices for using SharePoint as a content management system. You will learn about:

- Organizing your site
- Setting up page templates and layouts
- Metadata management
- Controlled vocabulary implementation
- Managing workflow and permissions

All examples will be based on what can be done with SharePoint out of the box, without additional customization. This session is appropriate for people with relatively little knowledge of SharePoint's features for metadata and controlled vocabulary or who are planning a SharePoint implementation.

**About the Presenter**: Owen Allen has extensive experience with content management systems, and specifically with SharePoint, beginning with its earliest versions. He works with his clients to create internal and external business portals and dashboards, mixing content management and business process tools with cloud and big data. He is currently an Office 365 Technology Specialist with Microsoft.

This session will give you new tools for organizing content and improving findability for SharePoint sites.

Download video
Web design trends to look out for in 2015

January 12, 2015 Categories: What’s New

Greetings and Happy New Year!

Now that 2015 is here, I thought this article on web design trends would be interesting to share with website managers out there. It’s geared toward the WordPress community, so it might be of particular interest to SLA chapter/division website managers in the process of choosing themes or making design changes to existing sites.

2015 IT Webinar kick off – Using Analytics to Understand Social Media Activity

January 15, 2015

Categories: Virtual Events, What's New
Tags: social-media-webinar, virtual-events

This program is also Part 1 of the Social Media webinars presented by the IT Division. Please check this page for Part 2 and other topical webinars in the coming months.

**Topic:** Using Analytics to Understand Social Media Activity

**Date:** February 4, 2015
**Time:** 12:00 ET
**Audience:** Everyone
**Registration:** [https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8018277969838780417](https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8018277969838780417)
**Charge:** FREE
**Host:** IT Division/SLA

**Program abstract:**

Librarians make use of social media to be part of communities, or promote services and events. Social media are used to create “participatory services” emphasizing engagement with users. However, there has been little investigation into the success of social media use by libraries.

This webinar will discuss the role of Twitter and Pinterest in enhancing participatory services. Research findings which suggest better strategies for user engagement will be presented, along with several tools and methods that can be used to conduct social media analytics.

The webinar will allow you to:

- understand the role of social media in enhancing participatory services and user engagement
- examine some common tools and practices associated with analyzing social media activities
- learn about the capabilities of different social media channels and how they can be tailored
- use strategies for effectively incorporating social media tools into your own institution

**Speaker background:**

Michelle Chen, Ph.D., is currently an Assistant Professor at the School of Information at San José State University. Prior to joining the SJSU iSchool, she taught in several different universities, including the University of Texas at Austin, the University of Connecticut and the University of San Francisco. Her primary research and teaching areas include information visualization, data mining, social network analysis, and online user behavior. In particular, she is interested in investigating the range of motives that drive online users to seek and exchange information, the interaction dynamics shaped by these networked environments, and the economic and business consequences of the informational and social value derived from such behavior. Michelle’s research can be found in Information Systems Research, Big Data Research, Review of Business Research, etc. She is also a member of SJSU’s Cybersecurity and Big Data Initiative.

[View the presentation slides (PPT)](#)
[View the presentation transcript (PDF)](#)
[View the webinar recording (WMV download)](#)
2014 Joe Ann Clifton Student Award presented

January 21, 2015 Categories: b/ITe

Sebastian Ferrari of The University of Michigan in Ann Arbor received the 2014 Joe Ann Clifton Student award at the IT Division business meeting in Vancouver this year. A bit about Sebastian:

Originally from Argentina, Sebastian Ferrari grew up in North Carolina and earned a Bachelor of Arts with Highest Honors in Comparative Literature at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Starting with his undergraduate thesis and continuing through to the dissertation he wrote for his Ph.D. in Comparative Literature at the University of Michigan, Sebastian has followed an interest in the relationship between text and image in Latin American literature and aesthetics.

After a brief stint as a Visiting Assistant Professor at Kalamazoo College, Sebastian now studies information architecture and user experience design at the University of Michigan School of Information, where he will be completing a Master of Science in Information in April 2015. He is currently a user experience associate at Enlighten, a digital agency based in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

You can read Sebastian’s award-winning paper by clicking here to view the PDF.

For more information, check out the IT 2014 Business Meeting Recording and PowerPoint presentation.
#SLAtalk: Lessons Learned from the 2015 Leadership Summit


#SLAtalk: Lessons Learned from the 2015 Leadership Summit – Wednesday, January 28, 3:00 p.m. ET

https://www.sla.org/slatalk-lessons-learned-leadership-summit/

SLA's Leadership Summit was held last week in Baltimore. Whether or not you attended in person, our hour-long #SLAtalk Twitter chat will be a recap and continuation of the topics that were discussed.

Join us to share your thoughts about leadership and the future of our association. Whether you like to lead, follow or get out of the way, join our #SLAtalk Twitter chat to share your ideas on this special Leadership Summit-themed session!

Wednesday, January 28
3:00-4:00 p.m. ET (What time is that where you are?)
► Follow @SLAhq on Twitter and use #SLAtalk to join in on the conversation.
► New to Twitter chats? Read "How to #SLAtalk."

Q1 What does leadership mean to you? What leadership qualities do you possess, either within SLA or your workplace?
   • Read “30 Ways to Define Leadership.”

Q2 What are your thoughts on “radical management” and “outreach empowerment?”
   • Opening session keynote speaker Steve Denning talked about radical management. Closing session keynote speaker James Calvin discussed “Exercising Leadership Influence for an Empowering Culture in Organizations: Outreach Empowerment.”

Q3 How do you think strategically? How do you apply strategic thinking into leadership, within SLA or your job?
   • Toronto Chapter member Rebecca Jones (@rebeccajonesgal) presented a strategic thinking session at the Leadership Summit. Here’s the link to the very informative and interesting video she played for us: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PcZg51Il9no.

Q4 What are your thoughts about moving SLA forward?
   • SLA President Jill Strand (@jillinfopro) talked about “leaning into the curve” as a way for us to hold steady with the changes the association will be going through during our time of transition. Read “SLA Board Names de Stricker, Shamel Interim Executives.”

Check back after the chat for a summary of what was discussed. All Twitter chats are archived here.
IT Webinar: The Technology of Precision Search, March 11 2015

January 28, 2015
Categories: Virtual Events, What's New
Tags: virtual-events, web-management-webinar

Needle in a Haystack: The Technology of Precision Search

Date: Wednesday March 11
Time: 12:1 p.m. ET
Speaker: Brian Dufek, ProQuest
Audience: Everyone
Charge: FREE
Host: IT Division & SLA

REGISTER NOW

Description:
Have you ever wondered how a precision search engine handles retrieval and why the search results differ from search engines openly available on the web? Go behind the scenes with ProQuest Dialog for the details on the tools and technologies required. You will learn about:

- ProQuest Dialog’s search engine capabilities and technology
- Designing metadata to expand, narrow, and standardize results
- The challenges of identifying duplicate records

This webinar will show you the technology used to enable retrieval that is both relevant and comprehensive.

About the presenter:
Brian Dufek is a senior product manager for ProQuest Dialog and a specialist in search technology. Brian plays a key role in the day-to-day development and maintenance of ProQuest Dialog, and was also instrumental in the 2013 migration from Dialog Classic.

View the webinar slides (PDF)
View the webinar recording (link to Dropbox)
View the Q&A transcript (DOC)
Apply Now! IT’s 2015 Student Award

January 29, 2015 Categories: Awards, Featured

Submissions are now being accepted for the **2015 Joe Ann Clifton Student Award** from the IT Division of the Special Libraries Association (SLA). This award is intended to promote participation in the SLA Annual Conference by an exceptional library science student. The recipient of this award will receive:

- Student membership in SLA for one (1) year.
- Reimbursement for expenses to attend the SLA Annual Conference, not to exceed $1,500 and limited to the following:
  - Economy class round-trip airfare to the Annual Conference (June 14-16, Boston)
  - Student registration for the Annual Conference.
  - Lodging during the conference.
  - Transportation during the conference.

The winner will be recognized at IT events during the Annual Conference and also at the Annual Business Meeting of the IT Division, held via web meeting after the conference where the winner will present the paper. The winning paper will also be published in b/ITe, the official Division newsletter.

**Submission Requirements**

- The topic of the paper should pertain to the use of information technology. A paper which addresses a topic in a practical rather than a theoretical manner is preferred.
- Applicants must be enrolled in an accredited MLS or MIS program at the time of the award competition. Previous winners are not eligible for the award.
- Entries may be a paper which the applicant has written or is preparing for a class but has not been published. Only one paper per applicant will be accepted.
- IT reserves the right not to award the prize if it is the opinion of the judges that no submission is worthy of the award.
- IT will retain first publication rights of the winning paper.
- Paper should be between 4-15 pages in length (content for a 15-20 minute presentation, if selected). See these past winners as examples:
  - 2012: Wayne Pender, *Metadata for Video: Too Much Content, Not Enough Information*

**Submission Deadline**

The deadline for submission is **March 31, 2015 (Tuesday)**. E-mail your paper to Helen Keil-Losch, IT Membership and Awards Chair, at SLA.DITE.Membership@gmail.com. Please include “SLA IT Student Award 2015” in the subject line.

**Submission Format**

Please submit the paper as a word or pdf and include a title and your name at the top of the first page.
IT Webinar: How to Perfect Your Voice on Social Media for Maximum Engagement, April 2 2015

February 4, 2015
Categories: Virtual Events, What's New
Tags: social-media-webinar, virtual-events

Listen to Me: How to Perfect Your Voice on Social Media for Maximum Engagement

Date: Thursday April 2
Time: 12 – 1 p.m. ET

Speakers: Davis Erin Anderson and Cheryl Yanek

Audience: Everyone

Charge: FREE

Host: IT Division and European Chapter/SLA

REGISTER NOW

Description:
The voice is what people hear on social media – but are they really listening? Are they engaged? Davis Erin Anderson and Cheryl Yanek will address how to fine-tune the personality of social media efforts to take it beyond just the voice. Learn how to adjust the voice to communicate with specific audience groups, across and within platforms. Colleagues who may have their own social media contributions don’t always ‘get it’.

At this webinar, you will learn how to:
- gain buy-in, build trust, and work collaboratively to ensure reader preferences and manager preferences are aligned;
- achieve a consistent voice, no matter who is posting; and
- find and write engaging content when social media is only one part of the many parts of your job.

About the presenters:
Davis Erin Anderson is Community Engagement Manager at Metropolitan New York Library Council, a non-profit member services org for libraries, archives, and museums. She graduated from Pratt Institute with her MSLIS in 2013 and currently sits as chair of SLA’s First Five Years Council.

Cheryl Yanek is a Librarian (Director) at the Catalyst Information Center, where she focuses on research, writing, and social media on gender and diversity in the workplace. She serves as the Social Media Chair of the IT Division of SLA, co-chairs the Social Media Special Interest Group for the Metropolitan Library Council with Davis, and has an MLS from Queens College and MFA from Naropa University. She is also a freelance writer, and Race Director of the Burning Man Ultramarathon.
Nominate an IT member for the 2015 Grieg Aspnes Outstanding IT Member Award

February 23, 2015 Categories: Awards, Featured

Do you know someone whose contributions to IT should be recognized? Please consider nominating an outstanding SLA IT Division member for the 2015 Grieg Aspnes Outstanding IT Division Member Award.

The award is given to an individual who has greatly contributed to the profession, the association, and particularly the division. Please send a brief nomination describing recent Division-related activities. Any supporting documentation, such as the nominee’s vitae, is most helpful and appreciated. Self-nominations are also welcomed. The winner of the Outstanding Technology Planning Award will be announced at the annual conference in Boston, and also recognized at the Division’s business meeting to be held virtually after the conference.

The deadline for submission is March 13, 2015 (Friday).
E-mail your nomination to Helen Keil-Losch, IT Membership and Awards Chair, at SLA.DITE.Membership@gmail.com. Please include “SLA IT Outstanding Member Award” in the subject line.

**Please note that current IT board members are NOT eligible for this award. See the Division’s Web site for a list of current members of the Executive and Advisory boards.**
Outstanding Chapter Technology Programming Award – Call for nominations

February 23, 2015 Categories: Awards, Featured

We are looking for the most inspired, cutting edge, and innovative chapter technology programming of the 2014 programming year. We’d like to highlight your great programs and events in our Division newsletter, b/ITe. This will not only get you association level publicity, but you’ll help spread your chapter’s creativity to the membership at large! Because the best programming involves a high level of time and focus, we’d like to recognize your chapter’s accomplishments. Examples of great programming range from technology fairs sponsored by chapters to cutting edge and highly relevant presentations such as deep archiving or digital visualization, to innovative workshops and continuing education events. Programming will be judged on its creativity and impact on membership.

The Outstanding Technology Programming award will be presented to a chapter or region at the 2015 Annual Conference in Boston. The award will consist of an electronic certificate for display on your web page as well as $500 in seed money to develop further technology programming. IT will announce the award winner at our annual business meeting. The winning chapter president and program planner will be invited to the meeting to accept the award. We will then re-announce the award during Joint Cabinet.

The deadline for submission is March 13, 2015 (Friday).

E-mail your nomination to Helen Keil-Losch, IT Membership and Awards Chair, at SLA.DITE.Membership@gmail.com. Please include “SLA IT Outstanding Chapter Technology Programming” in the subject line.
What’s New in the IT Division

March 10, 2015 Categories: Featured, What’s New

Dear IT Division members,

I am the 2015 Chair of the Information Technology Division. I appreciate your continuing support to the Division and the Association.

In addition to the exciting 2015 IT Webinar Series that we kicked out in February, we will present additional IT programs at the SLA Annual Conference in June. Don’t forget to register. The [early bird registration for the 2015 SLA Annual Conference](http://it.sla1.org/?post_type=post&show_title=1&show_date=1&show_categories=1&show_featured_image=1&show_content=1&show_divider=1&printout-meta=on&post-page-break=on&columns=112/194) is April 17, 2015.

You may also recall that we were in the process of establishing the new Digital Asset Management Section (DAM) in February. The section is currently reviewed and discussed at the SLA Division Cabinet meeting, and received great feedback. Plus we are continuing the Division membership outreach effort. All are in full gear to provide opportunities for our members to network and knowledge sharing.

Here are some highlights:

1) The first program in the 2015 IT Webinar Series was “Using Analytics to Understand Social Media activity” that was well received on February 4. If you missed the webinar, please visit our [website for the recording and the PowerPoint presentation](http://it.sla1.org/?post_type=post&show_title=1&show_date=1&show_categories=1&show_featured_image=1&show_content=1&show_divider=1&printout-meta=on&post-page-break=on&columns=112/194).

Here are our upcoming March and April webinars. You still have time to register.

**Needle in a Haystack: The Technology of Precision Search**
*Date:* Wednesday March 11  
*Time:* 12-1 p.m. ET  
*Speaker:* Brian Dufek, ProQuest  
*Audience:* Everyone  
*Charge:* FREE  
*Host:* IT Division & SLA

[Register and get more information](http://it.sla1.org/?post_type=post&show_title=1&show_date=1&show_categories=1&show_featured_image=1&show_content=1&show_divider=1&printout-meta=on&post-page-break=on&columns=112/194)

**Listen to Me: How to Perfect Your Voice on Social Media for Maximum Engagement**
*Date:* Thursday April 2  
*Time:* 12-1 p.m. ET  
*Speakers:* Davis Erin Anderson and Cheryl Yanek  
*Audience:* Everyone  
*Charge:* FREE  
*Host:* IT Division and European Chapter/SLA

[Register and get more information](http://it.sla1.org/?post_type=post&show_title=1&show_date=1&show_categories=1&show_featured_image=1&show_content=1&show_divider=1&printout-meta=on&post-page-break=on&columns=112/194)

2) As usual, the Information Technology Division will showcase these excellent programs at the annual conference in Boston.

**Program:** MASTER CLASS: Mastering the Art of User Experience  
*Date:* June 14 (Sunday)  
*Time:* 1:30–3 p.m.  
*Description:* It’s time to rethink what we know about gathering user data, going beyond surveys and other traditional methods to engage our users in deep conversations around the way they do research in order to develop tools and library resources that support user needs.  
*Speakers:* Debra Kolah, Rice University; Wenbo Wang, Oracle  
*Lead Unit:* Information Technology Division  
*Cosponsoring Unit:* User Experience Caucus

[Program](http://it.sla1.org/?post_type=post&show_title=1&show_date=1&show_categories=1&show_featured_image=1&show_content=1&show_divider=1&printout-meta=on&post-page-break=on&columns=112/194)  
**Program:** CRESCENDO: Enhancing Intranet Search  
*Date:* June 15 (Monday)  
*Time:* 10–11:30 a.m.  
*Description:* This advanced session will discuss various methods and tools that info pros can use to enhance the search experience on the Intranet.  
*Speakers:* Jordan Cassel, Earley & Associates/Google  
*Lead Unit:* Information Technology Division  
*Cosponsoring Unit:* User Experience Caucus

[Program](http://it.sla1.org/?post_type=post&show_title=1&show_date=1&show_categories=1&show_featured_image=1&show_content=1&show_divider=1&printout-meta=on&post-page-break=on&columns=112/194)  
**Program:** CRESCENDO: Open Digital Repositories on a Shoestring  
*Date:* June 15 (Monday)  
*Time:* 12–1:30 p.m.  
*Description:* This session will provide an overview of making digital assets available for use without “breaking the bank.”  
*Speakers:* Nina Brakel-Schutt, Widen; P Scott Lapinski, Harvard Medical School  
*Lead Unit:* Information Technology Division  
*Cosponsoring Unit:* Taxonomy Division

[Program](http://it.sla1.org/?post_type=post&show_title=1&show_date=1&show_categories=1&show_featured_image=1&show_content=1&show_divider=1&printout-meta=on&post-page-break=on&columns=112/194)  
**Program:** Revolutionize Your Data ? Tools for Visualization (CSRT)  
*Date:* June 15 (Monday)  
*Time:* 12–1:30 p.m.  
*Description:* In this 90 minute session, attendees will experience a variety of data visualization tools that will maximize the impact of their research and information display.  
*Speakers:* Stacy Bruss, IEEE; Amanda Malanowski, National Institute of Standards and Technology; Margaret Smith, New York University  
*Lead Unit:* Science–Technology Division  
*Cosponsoring Unit:* Information Technology Division

[Program](http://it.sla1.org/?post_type=post&show_title=1&show_date=1&show_categories=1&show_featured_image=1&show_content=1&show_divider=1&printout-meta=on&post-page-break=on&columns=112/194)
Social Events

Program: Karaoke Party
Date: June 14 (Sunday)
Time: 9 p.m.-midnight

Program: IT Dance Party
Date: June 15 (Monday)
Time: 9 p.m.-midnight

Looking forward to seeing you at the conference and the online webinars. Should you have questions and comments, please let us know. We want to hear from you.

Kan Kin
IT Division Chair
Webinar materials available – The Technology of Precision Search


Missed the webinar? Catch up with the presentation slides, recordings, and Q&A transcript.

Full information about the event
Webinar materials available – Listen to Me: How to Perfect Your Voice on Social Media for Maximum Engagement

April 2, 2015 Categories: Featured, Virtual Events Tags: social-media-webinar, virtual-events

Missed the webinar? Catch up with the presentation slides and recording (wmv format) or for Mac users, recording (mov format).

Full information about the event.
Boston 2015

April 9, 2015

Access the full Boston program via the 2015 online planner.

REGISTER now!

IT Events for June 2015

Saturday 13 June –

- **IT Division Board Meeting**: All Division members are welcome to attend. (1:00 – 2:00 pm)

Sunday 14 June –

- **MASTER CLASS: Mastering the Art of User Experience** (1:30 – 3:00 pm) Kindly sponsored by ProQuest Dialog
  - [Access the presentation materials for the session](#)
- **Karaoke Party**: Event includes a no-host bar. (9:00 pm – 12:00 am)

Monday 15 June –

- **CRESCENDO: Enhancing Intranet Search** (10:00 – 11:30 am) Kindly sponsored by IEEE
  - [Access the presentation materials for the session](#)
- **CRESCENDO: Open Digital Repositories on a Shoestring** (12:00 – 1:30 pm)
  - [Access the presentation materials for the session](#)
- **Revolutionize Your Data – Tools for Visualization (CSRT)** (12:00 – 1:30 pm) Kindly sponsored by IEEE
- **IT Dance Party**: The renowned IT dance party continues! Join us for a revolutionary good time. (9:00 pm – 12:00 am) Kindly co-sponsored by the Academic Division, the CIDivision, the Business & Finance Division, and the Kentucky Chapter
  - [Photos posted](#)

Tuesday 16 June –

- **MASTER CLASS: Science of 3D Printing** (2:00 – 3:30 pm)
Early Bird Conference Registration, Webinars & More: Division News

April 10, 2015

Categories: Featured, What's New

Dear Division members,


To check out what the IT Division’s programming: http://it.sla1.org/conferences/boston-2015/

2) Webinars: We have brought you the 2014 and 2015 IT Webinar series for division members with diverse interests and topics, such as the Oct 22, 2014 IT Webinar: It’s All About Semantics: How Metadata Supercharges KM Solutions, or the April 2, 2015 IT Webinar: Listen to Me: How to Perfect Your Voice on Social Media for Maximum Engagement

Our upcoming webinars in the fall 2015 are: Web Management Section in September and Technical Services Section in October. Please visit our website later for details.

If you miss any of the past webinars, please visit our Virtual Events page for recordings and PowerPoint presentations: http://it.sla1.org/category/virtual/

We have received positive attendee feedback from division members, other SLA units and non SLA members. This will be a good vehicle for our future membership drive. Please spread the word.

3) Proposal – new Division Section for Digital Asset Management: I recently received a few inquiries for our 2015 proposal to establish a new IT Division Section, Digital Asset Management Section. With the overwhelming response and votes in the survey to the IT Division Members in February, we have submitted paperworks to the SLA Division/Cabinet Committee and are waiting for approval since. I will keep you posted.

4) Re-launch of existing Division Sections: We have rebranded and re-launched our existing Sections since 2014: Communications/Social Media, Information Systems, Technical Services and Web Management.

As a Division member, you may select your section affiliation. We encourage you to join these section as many as possible. Please visit your SLA membership page and pick one or more IT Sections for free (http://www.sla.org/).

* At the SLA home page, log in your SLA credentials
* Select “Access Membership”
* Select “Manage Your Membership”
* At the “Member Dashboard” page, select “Edit My Units”
* Scroll down to “Enrolled Section(s) Membership” for free: Communications/Social Media, Information Systems, Technical Services and Web Management

Our upcoming general sessions at the conference and webinars specifically target each section interest and present to the section. Please contact your section leaders for any questions.

I, on behalf of the 2015 Information Technology Board, thank you for your continuing support to the Division. We welcome your suggestions and ideas for webinars and general sessions/continued education classes at the annual conferences.

Looking forward to seeing you in Boston.

Kan Kin
IT Chair/SLA
http://it.sla1.org
#SLAtalk on Wednesday May 27 – #SLA2015

May 27, 2015 Categories: Featured, What’s New

Join me on Wednesday, May 27th from 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Eastern for a pre-conference #SLAtalk Twitter chat! Get into the revolutionary spirit and join our Twitter chat conversation! Follow @SLAhq on Twitter and #SLAtalk. New to Twitter chats? Read, “How to #SLAtalk.”

#SLAtalk about #SLA2015

https://librarysherpa.wordpress.com/2015/05/25/slatalk-about-sla2015/

Wednesday, May 27th from 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Eastern

What time is that where you are? http://time.is/compare

- First 15 minutes : Let’s discuss the conference sessions! Look at the schedule to see what’s in store.
- Second 15 minutes : Let’s discuss Boston! Check out the local arrangements website.
- Third 15 minutes : Let’s discuss tips! Any advice for first timers? How about any networking know-how?
- Last 15 minutes : Let’s discuss conference take-aways and your next steps after you’ve been to the conference.

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From SLA HQ: “Tasks for Modern Info Pros: Build Relationships”

May 29, 2015 Categories: Featured, What’s New

Tasks for Modern Info Pros: Build Relationships

Stuart Hales

In November 2013, SLA published The Evolving Value of Information Management, a report summarizing the results of research commissioned by SLA and the Financial Times. The report, which was based on surveys of and interviews with information professionals and senior information users, identified 5 essential attributes of modern information professionals and set forth 12 key tasks they must perform.

Several SLA members have agreed to share their thoughts about the 12 tasks. In this post, Dee Magnoni says the key to building relationships begins with understanding your organization’s mission and values.

To read the full article, go to the SLA website: http://www.sla.org/tasks-for-modern-info-pros-build-relationships/

To read the full article, go to the SLA website: http://www.sla.org/tasks-for-modern-info-pros-build-relationships/
SLA 2015 Contributed Papers from your IT colleagues

June 9, 2015 Categories: What's New

The SLA Contributed Papers Committee extends a special invitation to members of your Division to attend a Contributed Paper presentation from your membership.

On Sunday, June 14, 3:30 – 5:00 pm, your colleague Bethan Ruddock will present her original research on “Sharing is good: getting the most out of your library’s data” along with papers on “Developing innovative services and products to meet firefighters’ unique needs at the State Fire Academy Library,” “Taking impact metrics to the next level at the National Institute of Standards and Technology,” and “Tales from the tweets: insights into the world of library consulting.”

On Monday, June 15, 10:00 – 11:30 am, your colleague Joe Buzzanga will present his original research on “Beyond keywords: the revolution of search,” along with papers on “Open information and libraries,” “Knowledge management success: an anti-revolutionary approach,” and “Turning the library inside out: putting content where users expect to find it.”

We hope you will be able to attend their sessions.

For more information on contributed papers, see http://www.sla.org/tales-of-tweeting-stories-of-sharing-the-2015-contributed-papers/

(adapted from an email from Leslie J. Reynolds, Chair, SLA 2015 Contributed Papers)
Photos from the 2015 Boston Annual Conference


Stay tuned for more...

Session “Open Digital Repositories on a Shoestring”

“Mastering the Art of User Experience” with Debra Kolah

Thanks to sponsor IEEE!
Digital Repositories on Shoestring – Presentation

June 16, 2015

If you missed the session or want a recap – here are the presentations from Monday’s Digital Repositories on Shoestring presentation:

Presentation Overview (pdf)

Ann Devenish, WHOAS Project Manager (ppt)

P Scott Lapinski, Scholarly Communication & Research Librarian, Harvard Medical School (ppt)

This session will provide an overview of making digital assets available for use without “breaking the bank.” It will begin with planning and exploring available platforms and then progress to the details of implementation and management. Whether you are interested in digital asset management or institutional repositories, this session is for you.
Mastering the Art of User Experience – Presentation

June 16, 2015

If you missed the session or want a recap – here are the presentations from Monday’s Digital Repositories on Shoestring presentation:

Debra Kolah, Rice University (pdf)
Lean UX handout (pdf)
Ethnographic Methods handout (pdf)
Wenbo Wang, Senior UX Designer, Oracle (pdf)

It’s time to rethink what we know about gathering user data, going beyond surveys and other traditional methods to engage our users in deep conversations around the way they do research in order to develop tools and library resources that support user needs. This session will show you new ways to collect data, understand the stories, and sort the data into actionable items. The content will include an introduction to Lean UX and how it can be integrated into library/info center environments, even when the UX “team” consists of one person.

Kindly sponsored by ProQuest Dialog
Boston 2015 Presentations Posted


If you missed a session or want a recap – here are the IT presentations:

- Digital Repositories on Shoestring
- Mastering the Art of User Experience
- Enhancing Intranet Search
- IT Dance Party Photos
Enhancing Intranet Search – Presentation

June 23, 2015

If you missed the session or want a recap – here are the presentations from Monday’s Enhancing Intranet Search presentation:
Enhancing Intranet Search presentation (pdf)
Gary Kahn, Tagging Strategies for Enhanced Search (pdf)

This advanced session will discuss various methods and tools that info pros can use to enhance the search experience on the Intranet. Techniques include developing facets, how to best use auto-complete and “did you mean” functionality, and how to use your search analytics to the best advantage. Moderated by Gary Kahn of Earley and Associates, speakers include accomplished practitioners from IBM and Google, as well as experienced search consultants.

Kindly sponsored by IEEE
2015 IT Dance Party – Superhero Style!


Kindly co-sponsored by the Academic Division, the CI Division, the Business & Finance Division, and the Kentucky Chapter
2014 Joe Ann Clifton Student Award Presented

June 29, 2015 Categories: b/ITe, v31n4 Tags: 2014 Joe Ann Clifton Student Award, Sebastian Ferrari

Sebastian Ferrari of The University of Michigan in Ann Arbor received the 2014 Joe Ann Clifton Student Award at the IT Division business meeting in Vancouver this year. Read his paper here.
Enhancing Intranet Search

June 29, 2015 Categories: b/ITe, v31n4 Tags: Gary Kahn, Google, intranet search, Lisa Kamm, SLA 2015, Taxonomy, Wendy Pohs

Article Submitted by Wayne Pender

The IT Division, in partnership with the Taxonomy Division, presented a Crescendo Session for SLA 2015 Boston attendees called "Enhancing Intranet Search". This well-attended session was moderated and contributed to by Wendy Pohs of the Taxonomy Division. Dynamic search results, role-based content categorization and analytic tools were among the topics presented.

The importance of effective intranet searching was underlined by Gary Kahn, as he shared an interesting statistic: Workers are losing 10-20% of time searching their own intranets. Gary also demonstrated the results of an effective faceted navigation user interface and stressed the importance of role-based categorization of content types to aid intranet search.

Lisa Kamm of Google Moma highlighted the need for using analytics to improve findability. Managing Google’s massive collection of intranet facets requires a steady stream of metrics for corpus clicks, click through, refinement and abandonment. Balancing precision and recall is also a challenge. Ms. Kamm said that, “Golden queries” reveal high numbers of relevant results, and the key is to find the mean of the gold queries for intelligence findings. The challenge of an intranet search is that there are fewer queries to build algorithms than an Internet search.
Open Digital Repositories on a Shoestring

June 29, 2015 Categories: b/ITe, v31n4 Tags: 2015, ann devenish, cloud, digital asset management, kevin powell, no-cost solution, open digital repositories, open source, p.scott lapinski, stewart dick

Article Submitted by Wayne Pender

The IT Division presented a Crescendo Session, Open Digital Repositories on a Shoestring, that aimed at providing ideas for repository solutions to those with a tight budget.

Stewart Dick of Sheridan College opened up the session by discussing the use of an open source cloud solution to handle thousands of new and legacy visual assets when the college rebranded. A Digital Asset Management (DAM) product was selected by the college to provide storage and use of assets while allowing for drag and drop publication layout work.

Kevin Powell of Brown University related his experience with a similar open source cloud solution. Kevin highlighted that user driven metadata used at Brown required training and frequent use of a wiki to help with user experience integration and knowledge sharing. On the downside, he reported that there were limitations to the degree that the user interface could be altered.

Ann Devenish of Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution provided an entertaining and informative overview of her experience tackling a repository challenge and implementing it. Ann stressed the importance of collaboration and leveraging existing resources, as well as knowing when to outsource certain parts of the project. Her parting advice was to “say you’ll do it – then figure out how”.

P. Scott Lapinski of Harvard Medical School urged institutions to find no-cost solutions to learn and develop their knowledge and refine the requirements before venturing into costly repository products. Obviously a Looney Tunes fan, Scott used various characters and scenarios from the iconic cartoon to illustrate the challenges and perils of choosing and using open source repository solutions.
Info Pros & DAM: A Match Made in Heaven

June 30, 2015 Categories: b/ITe, v31n4 Tags: DAM, David Diamond, Deb Fanslow, Picturepark

Article Submitted by Deb Fanslow

How better to introduce the topic of digital asset management (DAM) to the SLA community than to share a series of articles answering the call for more librarians to enter the DAM field?

Below are links to a four-part series published in DAM News over the period of August 2014 – April 2015. This series stands as a response to an article authored by David Diamond, Global Director of Marketing for DAM vendor Picturepark, in which he called for librarians to advocate for the value they bring to the practice of digital asset management. Diamond’s vehement call for action reflects growing recognition within the private sector that technology alone is not a panacea for the challenges of information management – a sentiment long voiced by consultants and practitioners, but only recently entering into the awareness of stakeholders within organizations looking to manage their digital assets effectively and efficiently.

It’s not as common as it should be to see a vendor take an active role in furthering the development and education of an industry in which it operates, beyond just pushing their product. Although this level of industry involvement clearly benefits the vendor’s sustainability, this strategy is undoubtedly beneficial for the entire industry ecosystem as well. It’s certainly not every day that a vendor recognizes the value that information professionals bring to the management of information, and it’s even more rare to be invited to promote ourselves and our skills with the promise of support in finding employment within a dynamic and burgeoning field. How could I resist answering a call to walk down a red carpet, laid directly at our feet?

I couldn’t. So, forty pages later, I answered David Diamond’s call for advocacy on behalf of information professionals, providing information to the DAM community in answer to questions such as:

- Who are information professionals?
- How does DAM relate to other information management fields, and why is this important?
- What DAM skills do information professionals bring to the table?
- How can information professionals contribute to the success of DAM initiatives?
- Why should employers hire information professionals to work in DAM?
- What do recent trends in data management mean for the DAM field, and the value of information management skills?

Who Needs a DAM Librarian?

- Part I: Come Out, Come Out, Wherever You Are
- Part II: Information Professionals: A Field Guide
- Part III: An Open Cover Letter
- Part IV: The Rise of the Information Professional

I invite the SLA community to read Diamond’s call and my response, which is intended to inform the uninitiated of the value that information professionals bring not only to DAM, but to the broader practice of information management within the enterprise. I encourage members of the SLA community to join in the conversation by adding comments to the articles. It’s time for DAM and LAM professionals to get to know one another!
1. Tell us a little about yourself—for example, what kind of work do you do and when did you start your current Board position?

I started my chair-elect board position with the Special Libraries Association Information Technology Division this year. I am looking forward to promoting the innovative activities of the division and the Special Libraries Association among librarians and non-librarians alike. In addition, I am currently a Social Media Fellow with Emerging Practitioners in Philanthropy.

2. How did you develop your interest in technology?

I developed my interest in technology while earning my Master’s degree in Library and Information Science at Wayne State University. Learning how to program in ColdFusion peaked my interest and I continued my learning by taking additional programming courses. In addition, I became interested in social media as the tools were often free and were being utilized innovatively by those I knew.

3. What is a memorable experience you have had with social media?

One of my more unique experiences was participating in Water.org’s Twakeover contest. I relied on the support of many SLA members to finish in the top ten. With my prize being able to have Water.org send out three messages on their vastly popular Twitter account, I used the opportunity to highlight the value of librarians and encouraged followers to visit their librarian to learn more about resources connected to Water.org’s mission.

4. What are some recent examples of innovative technology use that you have seen?

I think that the Special Libraries Association #SLATalk Twitter chats are innovative. I have written about them for the RE:Philanthropy blog and recently shared the lessons I learned from a #BMOCchat hosted by the Council on Foundations. This was the first time I had seen a Twitter chat bring together different organizational partners to encourage discussion about an important topic. In addition, I appreciated the opportunity to represent my fellowship organization and contribute to the session.

5. What advice do you have for others that are interested in using social media but are unsure of what tools to use?

With so many social media tools available, it is important to conduct the research needed to identify the right one you need to meet your organizational goals. Partnering with your organization’s stakeholders to identify the needs of the organization vs. wants can help you set appropriate goals and select the right tools to meet them.
2015 IT Open Board/Business Meeting and DAM Presentation

July 1, 2015 Categories: Board Meetings, Featured, Virtual Events, What's New Tags: dam-webinar, virtual-events

Dear IT Division members, etc.,

In addition to this year’s successful IT Webinar series and the 2015 SLA Annual Conference in Boston, we are excited to announce the 2015 Information Technology Division Open Board/Business Meeting and DAM Presentation.

We have the Taxonomy Division, the Knowledge Management Division and the Data Caucus to cosponsor this special event. We welcome all SLA members and non members to attend.

2015 IT Division Business Meeting and DAM Presentation

Date: Wed, Jul 15
Time: 12:00–1:00 PM (ET)
Registration: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/196498485396520961
Cost: FREE
Co-Sponsors: Taxonomy Division, Knowledge Management Division, and Data Caucus

Picturepark is the proud corporate sponsor of this year’s IT Division Open Board/Business Meeting.

Picturepark digital asset management software features Adaptive Metadata schemas that evolve over time to reflect content, not just files

Twitter: @Picturepark
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Picturepark
Google+: https://plus.google.com/+Picturepark/posts

We are also delighted to invite our new Digital Asset Management (DAM) Section leaders, John Horodyski and Deb Fanslow to present a DAM introduction at this year’s Business Meeting. Here’s the meeting agenda and a short description of the DAM presentation.

Agenda:
1. Call to Order/roll call
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes of June 27, 2014 Business meeting
4. Chair’s summary report on the 2015 and 2016 Annual Conferences
5. 2015 IT Awards
6. Old Business
7. New Business
8. Announcements
9. Adjournment
10. DAM Presentation

Digital Asset Management – An Introduction

This session will introduce DAM, its concepts and foundational elements. Digital Asset Management (DAM) consists of the management tasks and technological functionality designed to enhance the inventory, control, and distribution of digital assets (rich media such as photographs, videos, graphics, logos, marketing collateral) surrounding the ingestion, annotation, cataloging, storage, retrieval, and distribution of digital assets for use and reuse in marketing or business operations. By definition, a digital asset is any form of content or media that has been formatted into a binary source and includes the right to use it.

- You may view and download the PowerPoint slides.
- The recording of the presentation is available here. (Note: following the link, you may click on the Download button on the upper right corner of the screen, and open the MP4 file with your default Media Player. The DAM presentation starts at 9:48)

Speakers Background

- John Horodyski
  Partner, Information Management, Optimity Advisors
  John Horodyski is a Partner with Optimity Advisors with over 15 years of management strategy experience in Information Management including Digital Asset Management (DAM), Metadata and Taxonomy design, Information Governance, Rights Management, and Social Media marketing and Brand strategy. John has provided strategic direction and consulting for a variety of Fortune 500 clients from Consumer Packaging Goods, to Media & Entertainment, and the Pharmaceutical industry. John is also an Adjunct Faculty at San Jose State University where he teaches a graduate course in Digital Asset Management. In addition to regular training and public speaking on digital media and metadata, John is a Board Member and Metadata Editor of the Journal Of Digital Media Management, a monthly DAM contributor to CMS Wire, and is also completing his Ph.D. in social media use in business.

- Deb Fanslow, MLIS
  Deb is the Lead Digital Asset Coordinator for Schawk!, working onsite at the Campbell Soup Company. Deb brings to this position over 7 years of experience in information management within the library, museum, and education fields, following a successful 13 year career as a graphic designer within the publishing industry. She is the founder and co-chair of the SLA IT Division’s DAM section, as well as founder and head curator of The DAM Directory. Deb is a contributing writer for DAM News, and participates in the DAM industry as a Board member of the DAM Foundation, as well as with her work behind the scenes on DAM educational projects such as The DAM Guru Program and the #LearnDAM initiative.
Thank you. Look forward to seeing you online.

Kan Kin
IT Division Chair
Nominations – IT 2016 Executive Board Candidates

July 24, 2015 Categories: Featured, What’s New

Earlier this year, the IT Advisory Board voted to combine the positions of Chair-Elect and Secretary, and starting in 2016, the Chair-Elect will also serve as the Secretary. Therefore, there are two elected positions to be filled for 2016: the Chair-Elect/Secretary 2016 and 2017 Conference Planner. Sophia Guevara (Chair 2016), Kan Kin (past-Chair 2016), Leoma Dunn (Treasurer 2016) and Dorothea Salo (Conference Planner 2016) will continue serving on the Executive Board in 2016.

The IT Division Nominating Committee is very pleased to present strong candidates for these two Executive Board positions. Following is information about each candidate’s background and experience for your review. For the next 30 days, any division member may nominate other candidates, by contacting me at ltrudell@netbox.com. Following that period, an online election ballot including all candidates will be distributed to IT members for a vote.

Chair-Elect/Secretary 2016: Andrea Cherney

Andrea Cherney has been a member of SLA since 1994 and has served the IT Division as Web Management Section Chair and Webmaster since 2014. Since the late 90s, she has served the Wisconsin Chapter as website manager and then as online newsletter co-editor, treasurer, fund-raising chair, and discussion list manager. She is also a member of the Webmasters group and the Transportation Division, providing web design for one of the knowledge networks’ websites.

Andrea has been with the nonprofit energy organization Seventhwave (formerly Energy Center of Wisconsin) for 21 years, helping to shape the website from the early days of HTML to her current adventures in Drupal. Andrea leads Seventhwave’s digital strategy, shaping the organization’s vision and goals for online portals, electronic marketing tools, promotional and educational videos, and an award-winning distance learning program. Andrea fosters a culture of digital innovation, coupling her passion for new technologies and process improvement with a rich background in library science, digital asset and knowledge management, information architecture and user-centered web design.

Andrea’s personal interest in the IT Division comes from her belief that librarians make excellent website designers and developers, whether it’s diving into code, leading a team, or a bit of both. She is excited to be nominated for 2016 Chair-Elect and, if elected, will work with the IT Division Board and members to keep the Division a powerful ambassador of SLA’s mission.

In her spare time, Andrea loves playing electric violin and organ in two bands—one with her drummer husband John, also a member of SLA. Andrea and John also love to travel, exploring unfamiliar places with their folding bikes, tasting wines and brews, and digging into local history.

2017 Conference Planner: Wayne Pender

In 2002, after a twenty-five year career in television news as a cameraman and producer, Wayne decided to strike out in a new direction and began working at the Ottawa Public Library. Wayne attended classes part-time and graduated in 2010 from the University of Ottawa with an honours degree in Communication. He then pursued an MLIS at McGill University and graduated in 2012. After a brief period as an independent consultant in Montreal, he began a career as a Business Information Analyst at Cogniva Information Solutions, where he currently is employed. Wayne works with Canadian federal government clients to elicit functional structures, business processes and information resources of business value used for construction of taxonomies, metadata schemas and controlled vocabularies needed for effective information architectures.

As a student member of SLA, Wayne was introduced to the IT Division when he won the 2012 Jo-Ann Clifton Student Award and presented a paper at the SLA annual conference in Chicago. Late last year he volunteered to assume the duties of CE Chair on the IT Division Advisory Board. In addition, Wayne is currently supporting Dorothea Salo in planning for the 2016 conference.

As a new information professional and a life-long learner, Wayne is interested in exploring the opportunities for MLIS graduates in areas of academic librarianship, archives and digital asset management.

Wayne enjoys running, reading, playing guitar, photography and fishing in his spare time.
Virtual Event – CMS Wizardry: Librarians as Open-Sourcers


Date/Time: September 9, 2015 (Wed), 12 – 1PM (ET)
Speaker: Andrea Cherney, Web Management Section Chair/Information technology Division
Audience: Everyone
Charge: FREE
Host: Web Management Section/IT Division

Register now: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4705826568348003841

Description:
Are you responsible for choosing a content management system for your organization? Or have you been asked to re-evaluate the one you are currently using? As information professionals, we often perform triage with IT, marketing and upper management, with colleagues in those departments seeking our expertise to select the most reliable and cost-effective solutions.

If you are like me, a librarian-turned-web-developer responsible for managing your organization’s online presence, you can probably relate to the challenge. Librarians’ natural instincts for evaluating tools for usability, functionality and rigor can lead to recommending a CMS that’s a perfect fit. This session will provide you with some techniques to accomplish this task.

Although there are zillions of CMS options out there, we’ll focus on the open-source biggies Drupal and WordPress. For small organizations with limited resources, these can be good choices. But what are the pros/cons of each, as I’ve discovered in my work with them so far? I hope you will join me to find out.

Agenda:
- A brief history of the CMS landscape
- Conducting a website needs assessment
- Drupal and WordPress examples: the incredible world of modules, plugins and themes
- Cost and staffing considerations
- Avoiding roadblocks along the way

This session will leave plenty of time for questions and comments.

Take-aways:
- A more critical eye for selecting and recommending a CMS
- Tips for emphasizing and demonstrating your unique expertise
- Recommended resources for your CMS toolbox

Speaker Background:
Since 1994, Andrea Cherney has been the librarian-turned-web-developer with Seventhwave (formerly Energy Center of Wisconsin), a small nonprofit energy engineering, education and research organization. She believes that librarians make excellent website designers and developers, whether it’s diving into code, leading a team, or a bit of both.

Andrea leads Seventhwave’s digital strategy, shaping the organization’s vision and goals for online portals, electronic marketing tools, promotional and educational videos, and an award-winning distance learning program. She has conducted trainings on HTML and web design concepts for energy professionals at conferences and for her Seventhwave colleagues.

She has also been a member of SLA since 1994, first as a member of the Solo Division and now a member of the IT and Transportation Divisions.

Access the event recording and slides
Webinar October 7 – Developing Metadata for Long-Term Preservation, Enhanced Discovery, and Access of Digital Objects

September 8, 2015 Categories: Virtual Events, What's New Tags: technical-services-webinar

Date/Time: October 7, 2015 (Wed), 12 – 1PM (ET)

Speakers: Yu-Hung Lin, Metadata Librarian (Rutgers University) and Juliane Schneider, Metadata Specialist (UC San Diego)

Charge: FREE

Host: Technical Services Section/IT Division, SLA

Register now: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/832146758636966913

Description:

Juliane Schneider will start with her work experience at UC San Diego in metadata collecting for sharing and discovering research data (both scientific and social science data) as well as a quick overview of some of the standards used, such as METS, MODS, PREMIS, MADS. Yu-Hung Lin will then follow Juliane with a presentation on metadata used in dark archives and for journals at the Rutgers Open Journal System.

Speaker Bios:

Yu-Hung Lin is the Metadata Librarian for Continuing Resources, Scholarship and Data at Rutgers University. He works with faculty and researchers to plan and develop metadata application profiles to preserve digital scholarly publication and research data into RUcore (Rutgers Community Repository). He has worked as a cataloger, a web application developer, a system librarian, and a digital services librarian at various types of libraries.

Juliane Schneider is a Metadata Specialist for the Research Data Curation Program at UC San Diego. She works with researchers and faculty to safely transfer their data to the University and develops descriptive metadata for collections and objects for ingest into the Digital Collections system. She has worked as a cataloger for the NYU Medical Center Library, a database designer for EBSCO, and doing ontology and linked data work for the Countway Library, Harvard Medical School.

Access the event recording and slides
Webinar materials available – CMS Wizardry


Missed the webinar? Catch up with the presentation slides and recording.

Full information about the event
Webinar November 13 – Custom Information Solutions at the National Institutes of Health

September 12, 2015 Categories: Virtual Events, What’s New

Title: Custom Information Solutions at the National Institutes of Health
Speaker: James King, Chief/Information Resources and Services Branch
Date/Time: Friday November 13 2015, 12-1 pm (ET)
Audience: Everyone
Charge: FREE
Host: IT Division
Cosponsor: Washington DC Chapter

Register now: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6663220053687537153

Description:

In response to the changing needs at NIH, the Library’s Informationist service has been expanded into several non-traditional areas including bioinformatics, data services, bibliometrics and custom information solutions. This webinar explores the development of the custom information solutions service that offers digitization, technical consulting services, web development, database architecture, and taxonomy development for research groups at NIH.

Speaker bio:

As the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Library’s Branch Chief & Information Architect, James has spent the last several years blending his IT background with librarianship to enhance services and meet the changing needs of the largest medical research agency in the world. James leads the Custom Information Services effort, which is focused on building partnerships to meet the information needs of researchers through the application of information tools.

James is very active in SLA, in his local DC and Maryland chapters and is currently serving on the SLA Board of Directors. James was the recipient of the 2015 Information Technology Division Outstanding Member Award, and recently named the FEDLINK Federal Librarian of the Year by the Library of Congress and regularly carves out free time to go on adventures with his wife Carla and daughter Sarah.

Access the event recording and slides
Congrats – IT Member Dee Magnoni elected 2017 SLA President!

September 24, 2015 Categories: Featured, What's New

Reposted from https://www.sla.org/sla-members-elect-dee-magnoni-as-2017-president/#sthash.zL0mbXkt.dpuf

Dee Magnoni, research library director at the Los Alamos National Laboratory in Los Alamos, New Mexico, will serve as president of SLA in 2017.

Dee is one of four SLA members who will begin serving on the association's board of directors in January 2016. She will serve one year as president-elect, followed by a year as president and a year as past president. Joining her as new members of the board in 2016 are Nick Collison (treasurer), Tom Nielsen (division cabinet chair-elect), and Mary Talley (chapter cabinet chair-elect).

The election for new board members opened on September 2 and closed on September 23. Balloting was conducted online; approximately 22 percent of SLA members cast votes.

In addition to electing four new officers, SLA members also approved several changes to the association's bylaws. More information about the bylaws changes is available here.

For more information about Dee, see the press release.
Congratulations to our new IT Executive Board members - Andrea Cherney & Wayne Pender!

October 2, 2015  Categories: Featured

Dear fellow members of the SLA Information Technology Division,

I am delighted to announce the election of our newest IT Executive Board members: Andrea Cherney (Chair-Elect/Secretary) and Wayne Pender (2017 Conference Planner). They will assume their respective roles in January 2016, joining Sophia Guevara (Chair), Kan Kin (Past Chair), Leoma Dunn (Treasurer), and Dorothea Salo (2016 Conference Planner) on the 2016 Executive Board. Congratulations to Andrea and Wayne!

Hearty thanks as well to Terry Buckner (Secretary) and Nancy Kellett (2015 Conference Planner) for all their hard work. Their terms on the IT Executive Board will come to an end in December 2015, along with mine. I have very much enjoyed being part of this leadership team for the past three years, and look forward to seeing the IT Division continue to move forward and flourish.

I am so grateful as well to all who hold leadership positions on the Division's Advisory Board. It is only through the time and dedication of everyone serving in all of these roles that the Division is able to support our community with excellent webinars, conference sessions, communications, networking and more. If you have not yet had an opportunity to take a leadership role in the Division, please consider doing so in the coming year - you will find it to be a rewarding experience.

Thanks to all!
Libby
Past-Chair, 2015
SLA Information Technology Division
Webinar materials available – Developing Metadata for Long-Term Preservation, Enhanced Discovery, and Access of Digital Objects


Missed the webinar? Catch up with the presentation slides (Juliane Schneider, YuHung Lin) and recording.

Full information about the event
Webinar, Nov 13 – Custom Information Solutions at the National Institutes of Health

November 2, 2015 Categories: b/ITe, v31n5 Tags: Custom Information Solutions, Database, digitization, James King, NIH, Taxonomy, web development, Webinar

Title: Custom Information Solutions at the National Institutes of Health
Speaker: James King, Chief/Information Resources and Services Branch
Date/Time: Friday November 13 2015, 12–1 pm (ET)
Audience: Everyone
Charge: FREE
Host: IT Division
Cosponsor: Washington DC Chapter

Register now: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6663220053687537153

Description:
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James is very active in SLA, in his local DC and Maryland chapters and is currently serving on the SLA Board of Directors. James was the recipient of the 2015 Information Technology Division Outstanding Member Award, and recently named the FEDLINK Federal Librarian of the Year by the Library of Congress and regularly carves out free time to go on adventures with his wife Carla and daughter Sarah.
IT Division Awards Three Honors

November 2, 2015 Categories: b/ITE, v31n5 Tags: 2015 Grieg Aspnes Outstanding Member Award, 2015 Joe Ann Clifton Student Award, 2015 Outstanding Chapter Technology Programming Award, James King, Marrett Pearsall, NIH, Philadelphia Chapter SLA, Tech–Day Workshop

Thanks to Helen Keil Losch, IT Division Membership Chair, for this information.

Each year, the IT Division awards three honors:

- **Grieg Aspnes Outstanding Member Award**
- **Outstanding Chapter Technology Programming Award**
- **Joe Ann Clifton Student Award** (**Not awarded 2015**)

**Grieg Aspnes Outstanding Member Award** – The award is given to an individual who has greatly contributed to the profession, the association, and particularly the division. 2004 was the first year for the award to be presented as the Grieg Aspnes Outstanding Member Award, previously known as the Outstanding Member Award. Grieg Aspnes was one of founding members of the IT Division.

This year the **Grieg Aspnes Outstanding Member Award** goes to **James King** the Branch Chief Information Resources and Services at NIH. He is very active at the chapter, caucus and association level. We are recognizing him for his great technology support for the 2011 conference including creating a google form which enables chapters and divisions to submit programming sessions. At the Leadership Summit in Baltimore this year he facilitated the use of a cloud based shared work tool to collect and track leadership feedback. He is also very active in the “Information Futurists” Caucus.

**Outstanding Chapter Technology Programming Award** – The award is given to the chapter which has put together an exceptional technology–related program–current, relevant programming which has greatly impacted the chapter membership. The purpose of the award is to encourage chapters to continue striving for the most useful, cutting–edge technology programming. The IT Division provides this award not only to recognize the chapter across the entire association, but also to provide a financial gift of $500 to encourage future programs within the chapter. The award was created in 2002.

**Philadelphia Chapter** is the winner of the **Outstanding Chapter Technology Programming Award** this year for a “Tech–Day” Workshop they developed for chapter members. The committee really liked the focus on hands–on set–up for members to learn and create. The workshop covered how to create electronic resumes and Infographics in Inkscope. We hope that the $500 gift will help support future technology enabled programming for the chapter. We look forward to the conference there in 2016. Accepting the award for the Philadelphia chapter is **Marrett Pearsall**.
Resume Tips from Silicon Valley

November 2, 2015 Categories: b/ITe, v31n5 Tags: HR, Human Resources, Phil Wiggett, resume, Silicon Valley, Silicon Valley Community Foundation, social media, Sophia Guevara, tips

Thanks to Sophia Guevara for initiating and conducting the interview. A big thank you to Phil Wiggett, Senior Human Resources Generalist at the Silicon Valley Community Foundation, for your participation!

1. Please provide a brief professional description of who you are and what you do.

I am a HR Professional with 25 years of experience being both a generalist and specialist practitioner focused on staffing and talent acquisition. I have had the opportunity to work in the high-tech, semiconductor, chemical distribution and non-profit fields.

2. When it comes to a resume, how can a candidate put their best foot forward?

Resumes should be easy-to-read and concise in communicating your experience. It should have your area of focus or your area of expertise at the top of the resume. All of your contact information should be on all pages of a resume.

3. Should a CV ever substitute for a resume? When might a CV be more appropriate?

Either one will work as long as it communicates the appropriate work and experience for the position you are applying to.

4. Resume length - when is it just too much?

Most resumes are one- to- two pages. Your last 10 years of experience is going to be the most relevant when an employer looks at your skills.

5. With HR staff and hiring managers often inundated with resumes for a position, in your opinion, what can a candidate do to stand out?

Cover letters are a great way to personalize your application for the position. It gives the hiring manager/HR more information about you, along with a preview of your thinking and writing skills. Following-up is also important as it shows your interest level in the organization and the position.

6. Is the cover letter necessary? Should candidates focus more on the resume?

Your resume needs to be strong, but the cover letter helps to distinguish you from other candidates. It should be well thought out and effective in communicating what solutions you bring to the position and why you are the “right fit”.

7. Some advice online suggests reaching out to the hiring manager to confirm receipt of one’s resume and to show interest in the position. What are your thoughts on this? When can it benefit the candidate and when does it just annoy?

Most hiring managers and HR practitioners appreciate candidates making an effort to follow-up. It shows general interest and helps you stand out in a ground of candidates. As an HR professional, I always look at it as someone helping me fill a position. There is a fine line between following-up and being overly persistent. Listen to the tone of the response when you connect and be respectful of the person’s time when you do reach them.

8. For those transitioning from a focus in one work area to another, what are three tips to help the candidate write a successful resume?

Help the person reading your resume connect the dots on why you have moved a different direction and what work/education experience is applicable to the role you are applying to. Cover letters are great for this. Review closely the qualifications for the position and then address your skills and expertise for the role.

9. What are your thoughts on social media resumes? Do you know of anybody who has been successful in landing an opportunity online via social media?

I think more and more employers are looking at ways to connect with candidates on different forums. Social media is very popular; you just need to be careful of how you are projecting yourself to the rest of the world. Social media allows for a lot of creativity, so it is a good way to stand out!
Nominations – IT 2016 Executive Board Candidates

November 3, 2015 Categories: b/ITe, v31n5 Tags: 2017 Conference Planner, Andrea Cherney, Chair-Elect/Secretary 2016, IT Division 2016 Executive Board Nominations, Wayne Pender

Earlier this year, the IT Advisory Board voted to combine the positions of Chair–Elect and Secretary, and starting in 2016, the Chair–Elect will also serve as the Secretary. Therefore, there are two elected positions to be filled for 2016: the Chair–Elect/Secretary 2016 and 2017 Conference Planner. Sophia Guevara (Chair 2016), Kan Kin (past–Chair 2016), Leoma Dunn (Treasurer 2016) and Dorothea Salo (Conference Planner 2016) will continue serving on the Executive Board in 2016.

The IT Division Nominating Committee is very pleased to present strong candidates for these two Executive Board positions. Following is information about each candidate’s background and experience for your review. For the next 30 days, any division member may nominate other candidates, by contacting me at ltrudell@netbox.com. Following that period, an online election ballot including all candidates will be distributed to IT members for a vote.

Chair–Elect/Secretary 2016: Andrea Cherney

Andrea Cherney has been a member of SLA since 1994 and has served the IT Division as Web Management Section Chair and Webmaster since 2014. Since the late 90s, she has served the Wisconsin Chapter as website manager and then as online newsletter co-editor, treasurer, fund-raising chair, and discussion list manager. She is also a member of the Webmasters group and the Transportation Division, providing web design for one of the knowledge networks’ websites.

Andrea has been with the nonprofit energy organization Seventhwave (formerly Energy Center of Wisconsin) for 21 years, helping to shape the website from the early days of HTML to her current adventures in Drupal. Andrea leads Seventhwave’s digital strategy, shaping the organization’s vision and goals for online portals, electronic marketing tools, promotional and educational videos, and an award–winning distance learning program. Andrea fosters a culture of digital innovation, coupling her passion for new technologies and process improvement with a rich background in library science, digital asset and knowledge management, information architecture and user–centered web design.

Andrea’s personal interest in the IT Division comes from her belief that librarians make excellent website designers and developers, whether it’s diving into code, leading a team, or a bit of both. She is excited to be nominated for 2016 Chair–Elect and, if elected, will work with the IT Division Board and members to keep the Division a powerful ambassador of SLA’s mission.

In her spare time, Andrea loves playing electric violin and organ in two bands—one with her drummer husband John, also a member of SLA. Andrea and John also love to travel, exploring unfamiliar places with their folding bikes, tasting wines and brews, and digging into local history.

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In 2002, after a twenty-five year career in television news as a cameraman and producer, Wayne decided to strike out in a new direction and began working at the Ottawa Public Library. Wayne attended classes part-time and graduated in 2010 from the University of Ottawa with an honours degree in Communication. He then pursued an MLIS at McGill University and graduated in 2012. After a brief period as an independent consultant in Montreal, he began a career as a Business Information Analyst at Cogniva Information Solutions, where he currently is employed. Wayne works with Canadian federal government clients to elicit functional structures, business processes and information resources of business value used for construction of taxonomies, metadata schemas and controlled vocabularies needed for effective information architectures.

As a student member of SLA, Wayne was introduced to the IT Division when he won the 2012 Jo–Ann Clifton Student Award and presented a paper at the SLA annual conference in Chicago. Late last year he volunteered to assume the duties of CE Chair on the IT Division Advisory Board. In addition, Wayne is currently supporting Dorothea Salo in planning for the 2016 conference.

As a new information professional and a life–long learner, Wayne is interested in exploring the opportunities for MLIS graduates in areas of academic librarianship, archives and digital asset management. Wayne enjoys running, reading, playing guitar, photography and fishing in his spare time.
Webinar materials available – Custom Information Solutions at the NIH

November 14, 2015 Categories: Featured, Virtual Events
Missed the webinar? Catch up with the presentation slides and recording.
Full information about the event
2016 Call for Nominations – IT Awards

November 30, 2015 Categories: Awards, Featured

The IT Division is currently seeking nominations for three awards. A quick description of the awards and the due dates for submission follow. Make sure to click through the links to get to the full submission details.

Let IT recognize your achievements and you can get a little programming or travel money too!

Joe Ann Clifton Student Award

This award is intended to promote participation in the SLA Annual Conference by an exceptional library science student. The award recipient will receive a 1-year student membership in SLA and expenses to attend the annual conference in Philadelphia! Submissions are due Thursday, March 31.

Full award details here

Grieg Aspnes Outstanding IT Member Award

Do you know someone whose contributions to IT should be recognized? Please consider nominating an outstanding SLA IT Division member for the 2016 Grieg Aspnes Outstanding IT Member Award. The award will be presented at the 2016 Annual Conference in Philadelphia. Submissions are due Friday, March 11.

Full award details here

Outstanding Chapter Technology Programming Award

SLA’s IT Division is again looking for the most inspired, cutting edge, and innovative chapter technology programming of the 2015-2016 programming year! The Outstanding Chapter Technology Programming Award will be presented at the 2016 Annual Conference in Philadelphia. The award will consist of an electronic certificate for display on your web page as well as $500 in seed money to develop further technology programming. Submissions are due Friday, March 11.

Full award details here
There's An API For That! Understanding how Application Programming Interfaces Benefit Your End-Users

January 19, 2016 Categories: Featured, Virtual Events

Wednesday, April 21, 2016: 12-1pm ET. Register now at https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1642327696162253313

Slides: SLA API Presentation Final

Application Programming Interfaces, or APIs for short, are everywhere. In fact, if you use a computer or smartphone, you likely use them multiple times a day. Understanding APIs has become crucial in the business world – specifically the information industry – as organizations look for simpler, quicker and more flexible ways to help their end-users access content.

Join two experts from the ProQuest Dialog product management team (who just launched an API in 2015) for an educational presentation on APIs. This session will cover API basics, share several examples of how they work, and explain the info pro’s role in implementing APIs to enable seamless access to information.

About the presenters:
Brian Dufek is a senior product manager for ProQuest Dialog and an expert in search technology. Brian plays a key role in the day-to-day development and maintenance of ProQuest Dialog, and was also instrumental in the 2013 migration from Dialog Classic.

Bill Kivett is a lead product manager for ProQuest Dialog and Pi2. With more than 16 years of experience in technology and product management, Bill has expertise in APIs, authentication, and linking.

FAQ

Q: Do APIs cost money?
A: Sometimes, depending on the industry and the business model. Others are free. Services that charge for accessing their data or systems will generally charge for their APIs. Make sure to carefully read the terms and conditions of the API you're using. There may be some restrictions on how you can use the content, especially if the API is free.

Q: What are the skills necessary for creating APIs? How common is it for librarians to create their own?
A: Typically, APIs are created by software developers or those who have experience with software development. However, the skill sets for implementing and using APIs vary. Some can be used with plug-and-play systems, while others require a classic software developer to implement and use content from the API.

Q: How can you determine whether a free API will work for your own specific cases?
A: Look at the API documentation, which usually contains high-level information about the goals and purpose of the API. That should tell you whether the API will meet your needs. You can also pull in someone from your IT team or technical staff to determine whether or not it would work within your organization.

Q: When a client asks if our solution has an API, what exactly will I be handing over to them? A URL, a password, a document? I’m struggling to speak intelligently about this technology because I don’t actually see or use it myself.
A: If a customer is inquiring about an API, you should first provide a link to the documentation for the API that they're interested in. That should contain information on authentication and examples of how it works and makes it easier to understand.

Keep in mind that an API is not intended to be used directly by the customer. Once it's implemented, the customer will only see the end-user interface.

Q: What internal governance models have you seen used at larger corporations? Are there minimum milestones that should be adhered to/are recommended?
A: In terms of implementation, the rules vary based on the type of API and the type of information being accessed. When considering using an API, customers should involve their IT staff as early as possible to discuss and determine how information is transmitted, proper information security measures, etc. The same goes for organizations developing APIs. Any milestones should be agreed upon with all of your stakeholders (users, developers, purchasers, business rule owners, etc.) at the beginning of the process.

Q: Where can I find API definitions for ProQuest Dialog? Do you charge for the ProQuest Dialog API?

http://it.sla1.org/?post-type=post&show_title=1&show_date=1&show_categories=1&show_featured_image=1&show_content=1&show_divider=1&printout-meta=on&post-page-break=on&columns=149/194
A: You can find more information and documentation on the ProQuest Dialog API here. We do charge for the API, but our rates depend upon how you'll be using it. If you're interested in learning more about the API, what it can do for your library or organization, and what it costs, please contact Bill Kivett, Director of Product Management, at bill.kivett@proquest.com.
Webinar: Podcasts and Information Professionals

January 21, 2016 Categories: Featured, Virtual Events

IMPORTANT NOTE

Unfortunately, this webinar has been CANCELLED due to unforeseen circumstances. We apologize, and hope to reschedule it for some later time.

Wednesday, February 10, 2016, 3–4 PM Eastern time.

Podcasts have become more heavily-used media in our society, and are becoming a stronger resource for professionals across the board. The past few years have seen the medium move from hobbies and entertainment to a platform for discussion of cutting-edge medical education and presidential interviews. Join us to discuss podcasts as a new frontier for information professionals and users.

Podcasts have become a tool in our information arsenal. In today’s fast-paced digital world, Special Librarians must often serve a user-base that must be kept informed on-the-go. Podcasts are in a fledgling stage of organization. What is available and how can information professionals play a role in improving access and use?

We will discuss the search and discovery of podcasts, listening, promoting, and organizing, but NOT producing them. Content will appeal to any information professional because podcasts are available in the vast majority of topics. Our discussion will also touch on podcasts that are perfect for professional development in libraries.

Speakers

Sheryl Ramer is the director of the Health Sciences Library at Icahn Mount Sinai School of Medicine at Elmhurst Hospital Center. She promotes the library to health professionals, performs literature searches and teaches classes. Sheryl has taught, “What are podcasts and what role can librarians play,” a webinar for the American Library Association. Her interview with Dr. Scott Weingart, host of EmCrit, a medical podcast, is online. Her favorite podcasts are NPR Fresh Air, You Made It Weird with Pete Holmes, 60 Second Science, LIVE from the NYPL, and Dear Sugar.

Madalyn Baron is an Analyst with Interpublic Group’s Center for Marketing Intelligence. Along with Sheryl, Madalyn has facilitated a workshop with for METRO’s social media SIG on using podcasts in libraries. She has found podcasts to be helpful in reference interview situations and for users that need to learn on-the-go. She is particularly interested in the improvement of metadata and search for podcast content. Her favorite podcasts are HBR IdeaCast, Knowledge@Wharton, Dan Carlin’s Hardcore History, and Ronna & Beverly.
Philadelphia 2016
January 28, 2016
The IT Division is proud to announce its session and event lineup for the 2016 Annual Conference in wonderful Philadelphia! Check back often; we will add additional details as we have them.

Open board meeting
All are welcome to join the IT Division’s open board meeting, in person (Marriott room 406) or remotely! If you will attend (either way), please sign up to let us know.
Interested in serving on the IT Board? Great! Tell us of your interest here.
Meeting slides are available.

Continuing education and masterclasses
Best Practices in Data Management and User Engagement
(led by the Chemistry Division, cosponsored by IT, Government Information, and Transportation divisions)
June 12, 2016, 3:30–5:00 PM; Convention Center room 114
In this masterclass, attendees will learn about the latest trends and best practices for data curation in US government agencies, focusing on data collection, representation and management, digital preservation and archiving, data standards, and policy.
Researchers on our campuses and organizations have a diverse set of data-intensive research obligations - from data management plans to data discovery platforms and services. Librarians are uniquely qualified to assist by providing services including data curation, visualization, interpretation, discovery, storage and analysis. Helping out with these responsibilities has enabled libraries to move beyond their traditional roles to add value in the services they provide to their users and to take on a more active role in user engagement.

The first speaker, Karen Williams, the Dean of University Libraries, The University of Arizona, will lead the program by sharing thoughtful insights on how the roles of the library and librarians have shifted to meet researcher's data-intensive obligations. She will highlight how libraries have modified librarian job responsibilities to take on a more active role in the research data lifecycle - from data management plans to data discovery platforms. Karen will discuss the successes and challenges of assisting and engaging researchers with library-led data initiatives.

The second speaker, Scott Brown, a Cybrarian at Oracle, and owner of Social Information Group, will highlight how to successfully use social media to drive visibility for information services. Scott will describe how to engage constituents with research data tasks, tools, resources and services via social media channels. Scott will help participants understand and effectively use social tools to achieve organizational goals.

The third speaker, Jan Johansson, Information Manager at the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System will discuss the latest trends and best practices in maintaining a vibrant and effective data curation and management program. Participants will learn about the latest tools to assist with data collection, representation and management, digital preservation and archiving, data standards and policy.

Sessions
Helping the Help Desk
(generously sponsored by ReprintsDesk)
Tuesday June 15, 9:45–10:45 am; Convention Center room 202–B
Increasingly information professionals serve more patrons with fewer staff and constricting budgets. Fortunately, tools and services to help are more widely available than ever: reference and information-delivery tools, ticketing tools, contact-tracking tools, real-time communication tools and contract services - from tier one to full service support.
Join us as we collectively list and discuss our favorite tools, and suggest tools to solve specific problems.
Moderators: Jill Hurst-Wahl (Syracuse University), Kendra K. Levine (Institute of Transportation Studies), Dorothea Salo (University of Wisconsin–Madison)

Moving Beyond Aggregation: The New Wave of Content Curation Tools
(co-sponsored by the Competitive Intelligence Division; generously supported by ProQuest and InfoDesk)
11:00–12:00, Tuesday June 14; Convention Center room 204–C
Just a few years ago, “content aggregation” was one of the biggest buzz words in information management. Now, it seems, simply aggregating content is not enough. Even the most carefully aggregated content can easily be too overwhelming to the users. Instead, today’s information users are quickly coming to expect a more personalized and targeted information experience. It’s as if they’re saying, “tell me only what I need to know—nothing else.” To meet this challenge, information and competitive intelligence professionals are discovering a whole new breed of content curation tools to help them sift through the ever-increasing flow of published content and social media.
This panel will explore the reasons for this shift, as well as look at dozens of real life examples of how some top companies and other organizations are tackling this new challenge.
Speakers: Zena Applebaum (Bennett Jones LLP), Lynn Epstein (COO, InfoDesk)

The Role of Taxonomy in Digital Asset Management Systems
(co-sponsored by the Taxonomy and IT divisions)
9:45–10:45, Tuesday June 14; Convention Center, room 114

http://it.sla1.org/?post-type=post&show_title=1&show_date=1&show_categories=1&show_featured_image=1&show_content=1&show_divider=1&printout-meta=on&post-page-break=on&columns=...
Many organizations have systems in place to manage their digital assets. In this session you will learn how taxonomies and controlled vocabularies can be used to enhance search capabilities within those systems. This interactive session is led by experts specializing in enterprise taxonomy and digital asset management (DAM) who will highlight the benefits of integrating a well-designed taxonomy into an existing DAM.

Speakers: Jenny Benevento, Lexy Spry (Training Specialist, Widen Enterprises), Laura Fu (Brandobility). Moderator: Michele Lamorte, (Taxonomy Manager, Guitar Center)

Thinking Digital: Tips and Advice from Archives Specialists

*(led by the Government Information Division; co-sponsored by IT Division)*

12:00–1:30 pm, Monday June 13; Convention Center room 204-C

Are you challenged by the born-digital records in your organization? Hear tips and advice from three digital-archives specialists working in US government agencies on developing and managing digital archives, including best practices on appraising, capturing, preserving, and providing access to electronic records as well as the specific tools and services that help you do this work well.

Events

Tip o’ the Hat to Philly!

Monday, June 13, 9pm–midnight, Philadelphia Marriott Grand Ballroom Salon G/H

Top off your Monday at SLA 2016 and salute Philadelphia at the IT Division dance party! Help celebrate SLA 2016 and attend our soiree in style by sporting your favourite chapeau!

Get creative and make your own (a Liberty Bell hat?) or wear that favorite sun hat (it’s almost summer!) or your favorite sports cap (Flyers, Phillies, Eagles?) or believe it or not a Stetson!

Interested in sponsoring?

If your organization is exhibiting in the INFO-EXPO and would like even more exposure at SLA 2016, take a look at our Sponsorship Overview and then contact Dorothea Salo (salo at wisc.edu)! We will announce your sponsorship at the session or event, list you in the conference program, and urge all session attendees to visit your INFO-EXPO presence. Sponsor the Dance Party and we will put your organization’s name and logo on a sign at the event.

We appreciate your sponsorship!
Philadelphia 2016 schedule up

February 3, 2016 Categories: Annual Conferences, What's New

SLA IT Division’s schedule for SLA Annual 2016 in Philadelphia has been posted. More information will appear as it becomes available.

We still have speaker slots and sponsorships open! If you are interested in showing off your favorite new reference or help desk tool at Helping the Help Desk, or sponsoring any of IT Division’s sessions, please contact Dorothea Salo (salo at wisc.edu).

Early-bird registration for Annual is now open. We hope to see you in Philadelphia this June!
CANCELLED: Podcast webinar

February 5, 2016 Categories: Virtual Events

Due to circumstances beyond our control, we have had to cancel the February 10 webinar on podcasting.

We do apologize. We hope to reschedule for a future time, and will of course let you know if we do.
Webinar: Introduction to Social Network Analysis

March 8, 2016  Categories: Featured, Virtual Events, What's New

May 18th, 3PM EDT. Slides: download here. Session recording: download here.

Social network analysis (SNA) is a systematic approach used to frame, map, and quantify the underlying network structures as realized through the patterns of human relations. For example, SNA can reveal the underlying network structures of organizations to understand the type, access, and flow of resources between individuals and groups within an organization. SNA is also applied to such things as tracking the spread, or potential spread of disease, understanding the flow of information, research and technology transfer, the structure of political constituencies and markets for messages and products. In other fields, network analysis is used, for example, to understand webs of biological organisms and species. Participants in this introductory webinar on SNA will learn about the basic theory and application of social network analysis. Introductory terminology, methods, and data analysis tools and techniques of SNA will be discussed. In addition, a short demo on the use of UCINET, one of many software packages for SNA, will provide participants with insight into how it can be used to investigate, describe, and visualize social network structures.

Presenter: John Burrett

John Burrett's job is to help organizations use the data they have to better understand and explain complex business and policy challenges and results. He focuses on developing effective tools: visual analytics, social/dynamic network analysis and effective presentation; and on building an organization’s capacity to use data effectively, for business, public good organizations and government. A long-time evaluator and policy person, John has also studied with leaders in the area of economic and social network analysis, visual data analysis and communication and professional presentation design.
Innovate your Programming - Five Tips for SLA Leaders

June 8, 2016 Categories: b/ITe, c32n1 Tags: Freeconferencepro, HTML5-compliant, innovate, Learning Together Kit, programming tips, Slideshare, Sophia Guevara, Webinar

For chapter or division leaders who work on programming development for their members, it can take quite a bit of work to develop an effective learning event schedule. From finding the right speaker to identifying whether or not the experience should be on-site, online or a blended learning experience, the work towards an excellent learning experience can be complicated; however, a rewarding experience. For those who are new to this kind of work or are looking for ways to innovate their current approach, check out these five tips:

1. Partner with those who have lessons to share from through their own experience. One partner you can count on is the SLA IT Division. Aside from being eager to share the lessons learned from our experience in both marketing and executing a successful virtual event program, the division also looks to promote tech-focused programs held by chapters with the Outstanding Chapter Technology Programming Award. As an annual award, the Information Technology division awards $500 to the winning chapter to help with future programming.

2. Make use of SLA headquarters’ webinar software. The SLA provides leaders with the opportunity to make use of webinar software to provide members with a virtual learning experience. In addition to being able to provide attendees with an opportunity to login to a presentation on their computer or tablets, the software allows webinars to be recorded. This allows you to expand the impact of learning after the event by posting these recordings to your chapter or division sites for others who may have not been able to attend the event the day and time it was held.

3. If you are concerned about providing access to those who may not be able to download the required software on their computer or the app on their tablet to view the presentation, think about developing a virtual event program that makes use of free teleconference solutions like Freeconferencepro and also Slideshare, which is an HTML5-compliant, free presentation tool. (Recommend – and also Slideshare, an HTML5-compliant, free presentation tool.) While the phone number provided by free teleconference solutions may require a long-distance call, those who are concerned by these charges may think about making use of the free calling option provided by Google Hangouts.

4. Check out the Learn Together Kit to get more ideas on how to develop innovative technology programming. With topic ideas and questions to help you identify the right kind of programming for your members, the kit was proposed as a way to help increase the availability of technology programming for SLA members. From tips on marketing the event to registration, this toolkit may be just what you need to strengthen your current event development practices. Market wisely. Make use of your division or chapter’s social media tools to connect with your members in the virtual space. Use Twitter to highlight the event and if relevant to other divisions, ask them to co-market. Post a message on your chapter or division site and send a message to the list to spread the word to members as well. If you encourage your attendees to develop and tweet out content and help you identify the right kind of programming for your members, the kit was proposed as a way to help increase the availability of technology programming for SLA members.

5. Be innovative in identifying speakers and topics for your programming. Instead of solely relying on suggestions from your own board as to what should be discussed and whom should present, why not send out a survey to your division or chapter list encouraging your members to suggest topics and speakers for future events? In fact, you may even want to ask your members what the best days and times are for these learning events to be scheduled and in what format they should be delivered. Sometimes those who put the most work into the planning and execution of an event are the ones who are the most disappointed when attendance is much lower than expected because they did not think of taking into consideration the interests and availability of their audience.

In conclusion, as Chair of the IT Division, I am personally asking you to partner with us when it comes to innovating your own chapter or division learning event schedule. Our team can share ideas to innovate content delivery or suggest ways in which you can develop a tech-focused learning event that can help your audience stay ahead of the curve.

Author byline: Sophia Guevara is the current Chair of the IT Division and a committee member for the Nonprofit Technology Network’s Connect newsletter. She also serves as co-chair of the Social Network Analysis Topical Interest Group at the American Evaluation Association.
Digital Storytelling – Tools and Tips to Share Your Organization’s Story

June 8, 2016 Categories: b/ITe, v32n1 Tags: digital storytelling, Hatch for Good, infographic, Piktochart, presentation, Prezi, Rockefeller Foundation, social impact, Sophia Guevara, Storify

By: Sophia Guevara

You have facts to share and are looking to make an impact on your audience. You want people to walk away and make use of the information they just learned, but you find that attendees at previous presentations are too often distracted by their mobile devices to truly pay attention. If you want to promote reflective learning and increase the likelihood of your audience sharing the story you provide, digital storytelling might be just the right fit.

As Chair of the SLA IT Division, I decided to tell a digital story of our accomplishments and to highlight the value that we provide to our members by making an annual report infographic. Using the free version of Piktochart, the story of our division was provided in a visually appealing format that communicated our value at a glance.

Some of the other tools I have used are Prezi and Storify. Storify is a great tool that allowed me to curate content developed by attendees at a professional conference. Content creators were thrilled to have their content selected for the project and I used the Twitter account of the organization to alert those whose tweets and pictures had been selected for the conference story. This encouraged the content creators to highlight the story to their own networks – essentially doing the “selling” of the story for the organization.

With this being said, what does it take to make a good digital story? Check out these resources:

- Digital Storytelling for Social Impact - Rockefeller Foundation
- Hatch for Good
- The Power of Digital Storytelling - Tedx

In conclusion, give your audience an experience to remember and motivate them to share their learning with their own networks by using digital storytelling.
Interested in Serving on the IT Division?

June 8, 2016 Categories: b/ITe, v32n1 Tags: IT Division, Section Chair – Information Systems, Virtual Events Committee Chair

Send your interest in the following IT Division openings to Sophia Guevara, sophiaguevara@gmail.com.

1. Virtual Events Committee Chair
2. Section Chair: Information System
IT Division Board Meeting at the SLA Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA, 1 PM ET

June 8, 2016 Categories: b/ITe, v32n1 Tags: 2016 SLA Annual Conference, Board Meeting, IT Division

The IT Division Board Meeting at the SLA Annual Conference in Philadelphia, PA will be held on Saturday, June 11, 1 PM ET.

Register for the Board Meeting

View the Presentation
Submit Your Nominations for the 2017 IT Awards

June 8, 2016 Categories: b/ITe, v32n1 Tags: IT Division 2017 award nominations

E-mail your nomination to Alison Roth, IT Membership and Awards Chair, at Alison.Roth@proquest.com. Please include “SLA IT Outstanding Chapter Technology Programming” in the subject line.

Grieg Aspnes Outstanding IT Member Award

Do you know someone whose contributions to IT should be recognized? Please consider nominating an outstanding SLA IT Division member for the 2017 Grieg Aspnes Outstanding IT Member Award.

Outstanding Chapter Technology Programming Award

SLA’s IT Division is again looking for the most inspired, cutting edge, and innovative chapter technology programming of the 2016–2017 programming year! The award will consist of an electronic certificate for display on your web page as well as $500 in seed money to develop further technology programming.
Observing Pokemon Go

August 23, 2016 Categories: b/ITe, v32n2 Tags: Clara Asuncion, L.A. Times, Los Angeles County, National Safety Council, pokemon, Pokemon Go, Spectrum Scholar

By Clara Asuncion

Recently, a co-worker walked through the door of my library while looking down at his phone. When I asked what he was doing, he said nonchalantly, "Oh, I'm trying to catch Pokemon." Then he showed me a green field that represented our campus, and told me the red dot in the distance was a Pokemon he could catch across the street, but there were none at work. It took me a moment to realize that the app was pulling information from real digital maps and using it to guide people to certain locations with a virtual goal.

This was the first I heard about the Pokemon Go social media phenomenon. It was a Friday, and the app had been out for two days in the United States. By the time I had gone back to work on Monday, everybody was talking about how Nintendo's shares had flared up and how flocks of people could now be found at parks and churches training and catching Pokemon.

I haven’t downloaded or used the app, but I know enough people who have. At a medical office, I sat next to a boy who had the app open on his mother’s phone. I asked him how many Pokemon he’d caught and what level he was at. I also asked who his favorite Pokemon was (Pikachu, of course) and if he’d trained any yet ("Not yet," according to his mother). We spent more time looking at his screen than each other. The app has a way of connecting people through shared knowledge that doesn’t require constantly checking one’s feeds. (Though that helps immensely.) Being in a physical location with other people sharing the same goal is enough. But it is not without its risks.

In less than one week, the National Safety Council issued a warning to Pokemon Go players about the dangers of distracted walking and distracted driving. Numerous media feeds portrayed accounts of people walking and driving with their eyes focused on their Pokemon targets. The Los Angeles County Sheriff Department issued its own suggestions to players (L.A. Times, July 2016, http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-pokemon-go-play-safely-police-20160713-snap-story.html), with guidelines that included sticking to well-lit areas amid reports of attacks which occurred because the victims were distracted. There are also the concerns inherent to individuals, businesses, or organizations who may not know why a stranger (or, more likely, a group of strangers) is wandering around their property holding their phone up to their face.

While the app has the power to peacefully bring people together and to encourage a more active lifestyle, it also encourages people to completely focus on their screens while they are engaging with the outside world. The augmented reality feature allows caught Pokemon to be photographed with their images layered on top of a real-life background. (Cue a child holding his empty hand out in front of him along a sidewalk as someone photographs him.)

The Pokemon Go craze hasn’t faded, but it has begun to settle. Locations can now request to not house Pokemon and Nintendo’s shares have deflated after the company revealed it did not own the game. Recently, at the Los Angeles Arboretum, someone on the tram tour behind me announced that he was “just here for the Pokemon.” If nothing else, the app allows users to engage with both technology and the outside world in a new way.

Author Bio:

Clara Asuncion, a second-year student, works in a corporate library in Los Angeles County. Her research interests include data literacy, cybersecurity, and user experience. She attracts butterflies, is a published poet and writer, and was a Spectrum Scholar for the 2015-2016 school year. Her novel is almost ready for publication. Seriously.
Engaging your Special Library Client – Tips from Digital Asset Management Professional, Robert Metrick

August 23, 2016 Categories: b/ITe, v32n2 Tags: DAM, digital asset management, Jodi Coalter, LibGuides, Robert Metrick, Sophia Guevar, Sophia Guevar

Authors: Jodi Coalter and Sophia Guevara

Are you an information professional who is looking to stay ahead of your client expectations with technology? If so, this article will provide you with tips to increase engagement along with an interview with Digital Asset Management section member, Robert Metrick. Robert is currently serving as the first Digital Asset Librarian at the firm CBT Architects in Boston. With a background in academic libraries, Robert gained experience with DAM through several projects, including the archives of Radio City Music Hall.

Robert suggests that a keystone to your DAM’s success is to make sure that you get to know your user. This might require some visits throughout your organization but he stresses the importance of meeting with “at least one person of every department or sector in the company”. Understanding the language they speak will improve the usefulness of the keywords in your database.

For instance, in his work at CBT Robert found that keywords from the Getty Art & Architecture Thesaurus were not very helpful; they were “much too rigid”. While sources like the Thesaurus are great starting points, time should be spent “adapting those vocabularies to the language of users in the firm.” For example, the words he found repeated in over 500 of the company’s projects, and words he found talking to colleagues worked much better in searches. In other words, “understand the language that they are speaking”.

Getting a solid foundation of keywords can also be vital in selling the DAM to reluctant colleagues. Marketing the need for the tool to your colleagues may be difficult; some may think that a DAM system is not needed because “we can find all the images we want with Windows Explorer – why would we need a DAM?” Having a tailored DAM specifically for their use can go a long way in explaining why a DAM is better. In addition, having principal users, either department managers or beta testers, help explain the DAM’s utility can help sell the system to more reluctant users.

Robert is also using some of his experience as reference librarian working with chat platforms and live library instruction to ease the transition. He stresses the importance of training once the system is up and running. Live instruction is key to helping users discover the usefulness of the new DAM. But a chat system, on par with Library Help, might allow colleagues to ask the numerous questions that will inevitably come. In addition, setting up a platform similar to LibGuides can be helpful; it allows users to learn and explore the database on their own time, and to answer some of the questions they have themselves.

For those who are looking to increase their understanding of Digital Access Management, consider joining the SLA IT Division’s DAM section. This section provides a community for DAM-focused members to connect and learn from each other. Login to Connect to learn more!
Greetings Fellow SLA Members,

It is an honour to be appointed Information Systems (IS) Section Chair for the Information Technology Division. My IS interests and experiences stem from daily operations to policy design to networking. Working with various databases and managing the data through advising on taxonomy application, content structure and implementing other data hygiene solutions to improve information syndication and access. Designing strategic plans, policies and technology overviews functioning as agency framework and operational standards. Most importantly advocating for open data innovation and collaborative information sharing. Looking forward to sharing information with SLA members and IS enthusiasts to ignite and keep the dialogue open.

Kejo Buchanan
Information Professional

http://ca.linkedin.com/in/kejobuchanan
1. Please provide a brief professional description of who you are and what you do. I'm Maureen McCadden, MLS, Digital Resource Specialist at Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square PA. Longwood Gardens is one of the world's great gardens, encompassing 1,077 acres of gardens, woodlands, meadows, fountains and a four-acre conservatory complex. Longwood continues the mission set forth by founder Pierre S. du Pont to inspire people through excellence in garden design, horticulture, education and the arts. I was hired in 2009 to implement a digital asset management system (DAM) to resolve image use issues both internally and externally for the organization. Our DAM is branded The Digital Gallery.

2. What kind of information environment do you work in? Longwood has a Director's Office and six supporting departments: Administration, Education, Guest Services, Horticulture, Facilities Management, and Marketing and Communications. Longwood Gardens, Inc. is a charitable 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation with a Board of Trustees. I am in the Library & Information Services Division of the Education Department, which consists of 6 staff, 3 interns, and 45 volunteers. The LIS Division has about 6,000 'quest' (internal and external) interactions in the Library, Archives, Plant Records and Digital Gallery (DAM) areas. We have ~35,000 items with ~22,300 unique titles, ~360 periodical subscriptions, 10 full-text journal databases, 900 linear feet of archives, 235,000+ photos, 550+ object accessions, and currently 233,000 assets in our Digital Gallery. Our Library, Archives, and Digital Gallery are learning resources for staff, students, volunteers, researchers and other external visitors interested in the fields of horticulture, botany, and the allied arts and sciences, as well as an excellent resource for getting to know Longwood.

3. What is your expertise with Digital Asset Management? I was hired 7 years ago to implement a DAM here at Longwood – my first experience with digital asset management. The goal was to centralize images at Longwood, and provide easy access to them, with lots of information. Prior to 2009, images and audio-visual materials existed on staff's computers, on flash drives, external hard drives, cameras (!) etc. These materials are used for everything from internal presentations, to Marketing publications, and archival documentation, and there was little management of the information associated with these assets, and no tracking of use. In 2007 an institution-wide visual resource management project was launched to make a plan to manage those resources in an electronic environment. After an extensive needs analysis and software evaluation, Asset Bank, from Bright Interactive in the UK was chosen for Longwood. My time is spent managing uploads (we ingest approximately 50,000 born digital images annually), overseeing scanning projects from our Archives, supervising intern work (our year-long internships are paid full time positions) and volunteer projects, responding to image reference requests, editing & weeding assets, staff training, and reviewing image sets that come to the Archives from every department as a result of our Records Management policy.

4. In your opinion, what does Digital Asset Management entail? Organizing digital assets results in many positives for an organization. DAM software provides an efficient means for centralizing, tracking, managing, locating and sharing digital assets within your organization. It takes buy-in from stakeholders in every area of the organization, and inclusion in on-boarding schedules and an expectation of use and image contributions from all employees. Building a strong foundation early ensures a smooth system roll-out, and future success. We've grown our DAM at Longwood to more than 200,000 assets, and integrated it with our Library OPAC to make 'one-stop-shopping' available to users looking for staff authored articles, clippings, and other materials, as well as our Plant Explorer searchable database of plants to provide image delivery, resulting in optimum use of those resources, too.

5. In your opinion, how can it help them provide better service to their clients and better manage their collections? "If you build it, they will come" has proved to be true for digital asset management at Longwood. In 7 years we have grown exponentially, and staff, students, and volunteers in all departments are trained in the system, and know when to reach out for assistance with their image needs. Anticipating institutional need has enabled us to queue up relevant materials for processing so that we can quickly provide electronic access to archival material for instance, when a project commences. Centralizing and curating digital assets reinforces consistent messaging and brand management. Providing easy access makes all of our collections more relevant to the daily work of the organization. Managing images allows us to make policy based decisions regarding duplicates, etc. to control image collections size and future storage strategies.

6. What resources do you use to stay on top of trends in Digital Asset Management? I read blogs and listservs, and participate in the Visual Resources Association, and the Special Library Association. Here are a few links which may be of interest:

   - Visual Resources Association: http://vraweb.org/
   - Asset Bank, from Bright Interactive (Longwood’s system) https://www.assetbank.co.uk/uses/
   - Another DAM Blog (and not just because it’s fun to say!) which is a vendor neutral blog from Henrik de Gyor: https://anotherdamblog.com/
   - DAM News, which contains the latest news, reviews, trends and opinion about the DAM industry: http://digitalassetmanagementnews.org/

7. Anything else? Good IT support is essential, especially if you plan to host your own system, but hiring a librarian to manage your DAM is critical to success. Digital assets are information, and librarians are trained to provide access to credible references. Please feel free to contact me if you’re considering implementing a DAM for your organization. I’ll happily share our experience, and you can take a look (remotely) at our Digital Gallery. Thanks for this opportunity to share our experience.
2017–18 DITE Board Candidates

September 6, 2016 Categories: What's New

The following people are running for 2017–18 DITE office:

**2018 Division Chair/2017 Division Chair-Elect and Secretary**

Adrienne Smith

Adrienne Smith is a Montreal-based knowledge management, taxonomy & user experience consultant. Most recently, she oversaw the taxonomy team at Yellow Pages; previously, she inaugurated the knowledge management function at the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).

As a member of the IT Division, Adrienne has participated in multiple division activities, including heading the Virtual Events Committee and acting as Program Planner for the annual conference in Vancouver.

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**2018 Division Treasurer**

Leoma Dunn (incumbent)

Leoma Dunn is the Director at Thomas More College Library. She has been a member of SLA since 2001 and an Information Technology Division member since 2006. She has been active in SLA since 2004 holding numerous positions at the Division, Chapter, and Committee levels. Leoma was honored to be named a Fellow of SLA in 2011. She served as a member of the Finance Committee from 2012–2013. Leoma currently serves as the Treasurer for the Information Technology Division. She recently was awarded the Kentucky Library Association Lifetime Achievement Award for her services with that organization. Leoma is looking forward to continuing to serve as Treasurer of the IT Division.

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**2018 Program Planner/2017 Assistant Program Planner**

James King
As the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Library's Branch Chief & Information Architect, James King has spent the last 8 years blending his IT background with librarianship to enhance services and meet the changing needs of the largest medical research agency in the world. James leads the Custom Information Services effort, which is focused on building partnerships to meet the information needs of researchers through the application of information tools. Recent efforts have included digitization of a thousand volumes for public access, development of Drupal-based project web sites including one focused on historic pandemic influenza research, and consulting/development of disease space portfolio analyses. Prior to that, James spent 18 years at the Naval Research Laboratory's research library and was fortunate to be a part of a forward-thinking digital library team during the birth of the internet and web era. James assisted with and later managed one of the first and largest government digitization and Web-based efforts in federal libraries. Ultimately rising to the rank of Chief Librarian, James continued to reshape the library to address the changing needs of researchers and engineers in the 21st century. James is very active in the Special Libraries Association (SLA), serving as 2010 DC/SLA President, past convener of the Information Futurist Caucus, a member of two national conference planning councils, was named SLA Fellow in 2011, and is currently serving on the SLA Board of Directors as the 2015 Chapter Cabinet Chair and the 2016 Board Secretary.

Goals:

Several of the core competencies in the recently adopted SLA Competencies for Information Professionals (http://www.sla.org/about-sla/competencies/) are clearly dependent upon a strong understanding and application of technical skills. I believe our division should be leading the way for SLA members through effective programming at the conference and throughout the year. In addition, the growth and expansion of non-library positions into our profession such as information architects is a strong opportunity for us to grow our membership with targeted programming in website design, usability, Drupal, WordPress, and other related areas. I have work experience related to every section in IT that I can apply towards programming in each area—social media, digital repositories, information systems, ILL systems, and website management and design. In addition, I've also been able to play with new, emerging technologies including 3D modeling, printing, and virtual reality—all of which should be brought before the membership. After viewing the association from the SLA Board of Directors vantage point, I want to continue to help the association to turn a corner and grow. I enjoy planning events and programs, having been involved with them for over 20 years. In addition to being a member of the SLA annual conference planning committees in 2008 and 2011, I'm also a core planner of the international Drupal GovCon conference (https://www.drupalgovcon.org) that is hosted at NIH each year and had 1,000 attendees this past summer. I look forward to working with you and the IT board to move us into a strong future!
2017-18 DITE Board elected

October 17, 2016 Categories: Featured

Congratulations and welcome to incoming and incumbent 2017-18 DITE board members!

- Chair-Elect and Secretary: Adrienne Smith
- Treasurer: Leoma Dunn
- 2018 Program Planner/2017 Assistant Program Planner: James King

Our thanks to all who voted.
WEBINAR: Digital strategies in the nonprofit space

November 4, 2016 Categories: Virtual Events, What’s New
Presented by Andrea Cherney (IT Division Chair-Elect) and Marge Anderson, Seventhwave
This webinar will not be aired live. It will be recorded and posted as an on-demand program.
Cost: Free

OVERVIEW

Hear from an executive and a librarian working together to change the world! (or, at least inspire change with a message of sustainability)

Please join us for a lively discussion to learn how we use digital strategies to further our organization’s mission. We will talk about challenges facing nonprofits and some efficient, cost-effective approaches to website development, email marketing, social media, customer database management, and video outreach.

This webinar is geared toward library professionals who have absorbed or morphed into other roles that stretch beyond traditional librarianship into marketing and IT, but non-librarians working for nonprofits, associations and other organizations may find this useful too. We hope you can join us!

ABOUT THE PRESENTERS

Andrea Cherney, ALA-MLS, Senior Project Manager, Seventhwave
Andrea’s unique combination of methodical thinking and imagination inspires her leadership of our digital strategy. With a firm foothold in the library profession, she applies her skills in information architecture and project management to create websites, develop content management systems, and direct an award-winning video webinar process.

Marge Anderson, Executive Vice President, Seventhwave
Marge is passionate about building the human capacity to generate economic and environmental sustainability, with particular emphasis on the built environment. She has a strong background in nonprofit governance, education design and integrating education into energy efficiency programs to meet resource acquisition and market transformation goals.

ABOUT SEVENTHWAVE

Established in 1989, we are an independent nonprofit that advances economic and environmental sustainability through engineering, education and research. For more information, please visit www.seventhwave.org.
Digital Analytics Interview with Alicia Biggers

January 9, 2017 Categories: b/ITe, v32n2 Tags: Alice Biggers, API, Coursera, digital analytics, Digital Analytics Association, Ford Motor Company, g2crowd, global strategy, Google, IBM

1. Please provide a brief professional description of who you are and what you do? I manage the Knowledge Center at Ford Motor Company which is a strategic and planning information center for the company. Our main goal is to ensure what Ford licenses externally supports internally Ford's business plans, processes and systems. Our second goal is to support the company's Global Strategy organization and its research and analysis needs.

2. For those readers who are unfamiliar with digital analytics, what is it and how does it benefit organizations that make use of it? Organizations can benefit from the use of digital analytics by assessing their competitors online presence, understanding perceptions of consumers, see shifts in consumer behavior more quickly, monitor new product acceptance or decline. Ultimately, digital analytics, with permission, allows for an organization to connect. Whether that connection is for a product, a cause, or a campaign, it works to connect at a more intimate, customizable level. Digital analytics is a compliment to data analytics. With digital, the focus is more on the "social" media or online intelligence rather than surveys or sales forecasts, etc.

3. How did you get your start in digital analytics? The more the online and social presence grew, the more we paid attention, the more we needed to understand and analyze… It has been a natural evolution given our focus on competitive intelligence, analytics and consumer experience within strategy.

4. What are three resources you would recommend to those who would like to learn more about digital analytics? We are fortunate to have an incredible IT and Analytics team who support many of our projects and requests. There are many reviews of software for digital analytics and more can be found at this site: https://www.g2crowd.com/categories/digital-analytics Social media sites like, Facebook and Twitter make their data largely available to developers via open, well-documented APIs. Many other social networks websites make their data available via APIs, though their documentation might not be as complete. If you have a research question, it’s quite possible you can answer that question using public data, free tools and APIs. For statistical analysis and data science, free tools with flexibility and capability, the best combination is Python, a highly-readable general purpose programming language. While R is an excellent programming language and software environment geared toward statistical analysis. A great membership association is http://www.digitalanalyticsassociation.org/

5. For students who are interested in a profession requiring its use, what should they keep in mind? Monitor the landscape by joining associations or councils; pay attention to courses from online secondary schools or companies like Coursera to understand requirements. Course in stats and advance math/modeling help too.

6. For those who work at organizations that don’t make use of this, how can those interested in promoting its use best make the case for it? If you want to understand where your customer or client is providing feedback on experiences with your product or service, whether internal or external of an organization, then you need to understand and apply digital analytics. Everything is about connecting, including connecting people. At the heart of any company, non-profit, government agency there are people. Those people can make or break your perception of a product, program or service. The perception received from customers, clients and others is critical. Research has shown focus groups and surveys do not provide the pure feedback as many answer questions to meet expectations, however, within social media, comments are pure feedback with no context.

7. What are three technology tools you would recommend for those interested in making use of digital analytics? The tool of choice depends on an organization's budget, goals and strategy. There are tools that are free (as mentioned earlier) to custom tools (think IBM or Google).

8. Anything else? Our MLIS or MIS allows for cross-functional and matrixed skills to be applied in numerous settings from corporate to government to non-profit. Keep an open mind, keep learning, adjusting and you can have a rewarding career. Digital analytics opens many more opportunities for information professionals to apply their skills in information organization and retrieval as well as mature skills for analytics.
Phoenix 2017 schedule

March 6, 2017 Categories: Phoenix 2017

The IT Division is proud to announce its session and event lineup for the 2017 Annual Conference in amazing Phoenix!

Events

IT Division Dance Party

Dance the night away in Phoenix! Registration may be required.

Sessions

Telling Stories with Open Data

Sunday June 18, 9–10 AM
Presenters: Sophia Guevara, Anali Perry, Michael Simeone

How do we best use data and visualization to tell meaningful stories that demonstrate the value of open data research? Our presentation will describe open data, explore pathways to sustaining and connecting with it, and then delve into integrating data visualization into different kinds of research workflows. A key emphasis will be upon open and free libraries and software.

Using Researcher Networking Tools to Foster Team Science

Sunday June 18, 9–10 AM
Presenters: James King, Claire Valdivia

Team science and globalization has dramatically changed research and research collaboration. Learn more about an effort to dynamically create researcher profiles (or CVs) using pulls from LDAP, PubMed, and other sources. These profiles are loaded into a networking tool based upon Harvard Profiles to foster collaboration across the entire Department of Health and Human Services.

Creating a Window into Data Resources

Tuesday June 20, 9–10 AM
Presenters: James King, Delia Sawhney

In today's world, with the availability of data continuing to increase at phenomenal speeds, it is not enough to point to the resources your clients have available to them. Instead, it is critical to help customers understand what datasets can be used to answer the questions they are facing. As part of the data management cycle, we use data visualization tools, like Tableau, to create a window into data resources, so that our clients can interact with the data immediately, instead of having to pore over documentation in order to glean insight into the content. If you are managing data, come see how we are using data visualization to help customers better understand the information they have at their fingertips.

What is Information Architecture?

Tuesday June 20, 1:30–2:30 PM
Presenters: Christine Coughlan, James King

Come to this session to hear from a panel of information architects. Learn what their jobs entail and how they apply their skills from the information profession to improve services within their organizations.

Meetings

IT Division Board Meeting

Monday June 19, 9–10 PM
All are welcome!

Interested in sponsoring?

If your organization is exhibiting in the INFO-EXPO and would like even more exposure at SLA 2017, take a look at our Sponsorship Overview and then contact Sophia Guevara! We will announce your sponsorship at the session or event, list you in the conference program, and urge all session attendees to visit your INFO-EXPO presence. Sponsor the Dance Party and we will put your organization’s name and logo on a sign at the event.

We appreciate your sponsorship!
Webinar – Artificial Intelligence, Search, and Information Professionals

May 10, 2017 Categories: b/ITe, v32n2 Tags: artificial intelligence, Laura Gordon-Murnane, search, search engines, user experience

Date: May 18th

Time: 1:00 – 1:40 P.M. EST (1:00 P.M. – 1:30 P.M.; 10 minutes for Questions)

Registration link: https://attendee.getwebinar.com/register/8638879734086807809

Today AI (artificial intelligence) techniques are becoming more and more mainstream. Headlines from the New York Times to Technology Review report on the incredible and sci-fi like products and services being offered by the tech giants of today. Google, Facebook, IBM, Thomson Reuters, Amazon, Microsoft as well as hundreds of other companies and startups are investing big dollars and resources into Artificial Intelligence techniques to build new products like self-driving cars, medical imaging tools that identify cancer and other diseases, and virtual assistants like Siri, Cortana, and Alexa to help answer questions. Startup companies are using AI techniques to reshape the professions of law, medicine, and journalism. Search and search engines rely heavily on AI to deliver a better, more personal, user experience and results. Which leads to a couple of questions for librarians and information professions to ask: how is AI impacting search — now and in the future? How will librarians and information professionals continue to be relevant, vital, and employable with these recent technological changes and future changes not yet imagined?

Speaker: Laura Gordon-Murnane, Research Tools & Technology Librarian Analyst, Knowledge Services Bloomberg BNA
The Results are In – IT’s Strategic Planning Survey

March 4, 2018 Categories: b/ITe Tags: 2017 Annual Conference, artificial intelligence, automation, communications, continuing education, data management & analysis, digital asset management & repositories, feedback, IT programming, IT Strategic Survey

Author: Adrienne Smith

Officially released during the Annual Conference in Phoenix, the 2017 IT Strategic Planning survey solicited the opinions of both members and non-members to understand what programming offers they expect, in addition to checking in on how they perceive their membership and its value. In order to serve our current and potential new members, and by extension the association, it is imperative to integrate this type of feedback to our service offering.

Of the 71 survey participants, a whopping 74% were not current members of the Division; other Divisions represented were:

- Leadership & Management – LMD (9 respondents)
- Legal (5 respondents)
- Pharmaceutical & Health Technologies – PHT (4 respondents)
- Physics-Astronomy-Mathematics – PAM (3 respondents)
- Business & Finance (3 respondents)

Respondents overall had a high number of years of experience, with the majority (44%) over 20 years in the industry:

They also represented a diversity of professional backgrounds:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Respondent Work Function</th>
<th>%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corporate</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unemployed / looking for work</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent Consultant</td>
<td>3</td>
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Other responses included law firms; non-profits; and vendors.

**Trending Topics for IT**

The **top 5 areas of interest** within IT (for the next 5 years):

1. Data management & analysis
2. Digital asset management & repositories
3. Search & discovery systems
4. Artificial intelligence, robotics and automation
5. Communications and social media

The above topics were also of interest for upcoming IT programming, whether as Continuing Education events or in the Annual Conference. Also mentioned were **technical services** (including acquisitions, cataloging, catalogs, ERM, Interlibrary Loan) as well as **web development & management**.

**The Value of Membership**

In terms of value for members, respondents mentioned several avenues that the Division could use to enhance our membership offering:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opportunity</th>
<th>%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Continuing education opportunities throughout the year</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webinars outside of the conference</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virtual programming</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Better content / programming</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Better networking opportunities</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Valuable ‘Other’ suggestions included collaborating with other divisions year-round to offer content and programming; strengthening our connection to local chapters for broader outreach; and working to facilitate exchanges between information professionals with diverse backgrounds and differing levels of technical expertise.
More than half of respondents (61%) indicated that they are active in their local SLA Chapters, reinforcing the finding that the IT Division can do more to collaborate with this network to reach new potential members and offer a broader range of programming.

What motivates members to be a part of the Division? Key reasons cited were **the chance to learn from peers & thought leaders (86%)** and **continuing education & professional development opportunities (79%)**

**What’s Next?**
The results of this survey will help guide the Division’s planning on two fronts:

1. **Member retention & acquisition:** knowing more about why existing members participate; in what ways non-members are active in SLA; and how the IT Division is perceived will help us craft strategies to both grow & maintain a vibrant community that represents a diversity of association members.
2. **Programming:** a focus on topics & formats viewed as important will allow us to prioritize our programming both within the Annual Conference and in our ongoing offering to members; specifically, in building collaborations with other Divisions and experts in the domain.

Many thanks to IT Division Chair-Elect & Secretary James King, who initiated this survey. If you’re interested in knowing more, don’t hesitate to comment or reach out!
My Experience with Twitter

March 4, 2018 Categories: b/Te, v32n3 Tags: laptop, lessons learned, smartphone, tablet, tweets, twittet

By Sophia Guevara, MLIS, MPA

If you are familiar with Twitter, have you heard about live tweeting? For those who haven’t, In short, those on Twitter send out tweets about an event while it is happening. I had the opportunity to live tweet from a few sessions from this year’s Special Libraries Association (SLA) conference held in Phoenix this year. For those of you who haven’t yet engaged in live tweeting, here are some tips and lessons learned from my own experience.

Device Choice – Pros and Cons

In my experience, I have had the opportunity to live tweet from a tablet and a smartphone but a laptop is also an option. With this being said, here are a few pros and cons of each device:

- Smartphone: The pros of using your smartphone are that it can often access the Internet due to the data package associated with your phone plan. This can come in handy when conference or event Wi-Fi access fails or is non-existent. In addition, it is often something you have on you and easy to access for any session. With that being said, the small on-screen keyboard can make it easy to tweet typos.

- Tablet: The tablet is also easy to take along with you and I have made use of a keyboard folio to make typing easier. With this being said, you will need to take care to balance the tablet and keyboard on your lap. In addition, you will need to ensure access to Wi-Fi which may not always be available or may not be available without an additional charge.

- Laptop: I have witnessed others live tweeting from conference sessions with their laptop. With the biggest keyboard available, this makes live tweeting quite simple. The cons of using this device are the necessity to balance an often very warm laptop and the necessity to find a good Wi-Fi connection.

Lessons Learned

- If you are attending an event like a conference, check to see if there is an official hashtag in place. If so, use it. Your tweets will be more visible to event attendees and can help others attending the event or conference learn from sessions that they may not have been able to attend in person due to scheduling conflicts.

- Sometimes Twitter will suggest hashtags to use. In my case, an abbreviation for a word was suggested as a hashtag and made it much easier for me to type. In addition, it made it easier for those interested in the tweet subject to find. For example, I attended a conference session that focused on data visualization. I initially typed in #datavisualization but Twitter suggested #dataviz which was much easier to type.

- Think in terms of “nuggets”. While it may be tempting to tweet as much as possible, especially when you consider the event or conference session to be important, mining the session for the nuggets that are most valuable to you and your followers is important. In my own conference session tweets, I often chose to tweet out tools and tips that the speaker shared that were of interest to me and would also be of interest to other information professionals attending the conference.

- Differentiate your tweets. As I was using the #SLA2017 hashtag, I knew that my tweets would be showing up in the conference stream. But, I wanted to make sure those that saw my tweets knew exactly what session I was live tweeting from. So, I typed in the title session (abbreviated) for the first couple of tweets and then used the #dataviz hashtag for the rest of the session’s tweets.

- Learn on the run. If you are new to live tweeting, I suggest you check out the event’s tweet stream to pick up tips on the run. You can do this by checking out the event’s official hashtag on Twitter. Pick up tips in real time from others who are live tweeting by following their examples to help you in your own live tweeting action.

- Mistakes do happen. Keep this in mind especially if you are using a smartphone’s small virtual keyboard to live tweet. At the conference sessions I attended, if I made a mistake, I simply rewrote it correctly and deleted the old tweet.

In conclusion, if you haven’t live tweeted, try it. If you are already a pro, what suggestions do you have for those who are new to it?
B'More Sessions!

March 4, 2018 Categories: b/ITe, v23n3 Tags: 1918 Influenza Pandemic, 2018, 2018 Annual SLA Conference, 3D Printing, Annual Conference Advisory Committee, artificial intelligence, Authentication, Baltimore, CE class, communications

By James King

As the program planning chair for 2018 and a local resident of the Baltimore area, I'm happy to welcome everyone to 'B'more' this summer!

My previous experience with SLA has been focused on the chapter side so I've not been as involved with the conference program planning, though I did plan some sessions through the Information Futurist Caucus and some receptions through the local chapters. Not that I don't have any experience conference planning since for the past 6 years I've been host and planner for the annual Drupal CoCon, an international gathering of developers, administrators, and managers all working with the Drupal open source content management system in a government setting (federal, state, or local). I jumped at the chance to try my hand at SLA conference planning, especially since I had some ideas of how we could do things in newer and better ways.

My overall philosophy has been to look at the entire SLA membership, informed by our survey from last summer, to focus on emerging and important technology topics for our membership. The trending topics for our members included:

1. Data management & analysis
2. Digital asset management & repositories
3. Search & discovery systems
4. Artificial intelligence, robotics and automation
5. Communications and social media

Last year, SLA changed the rules about conference submissions, allowing individual members to submit session ideas for the first time. This was to broaden the pool of great session ideas and introduce a bit of competition into the process. I was one that submitted some individual ideas last year, then brought them under the IT umbrella for the Phoenix conference. For 2018, I decided to be bold and push the envelope so we submitted a record 13 sessions for consideration by the Annual Conference Advisory Committee for the Baltimore 2018 conference. We also actively co-developed 5 additional sessions with other divisions. Of those 18 submitted sessions, we had 9 sessions accepted, which includes one CE class and two co-sponsored sessions.

We will need help at the conference with moderators so if you are joining us in Baltimore and would like to help, let us know!

Here a summary of the sessions that have been accepted:

CE Class: Introduction to Data Analysis and Visualization with R
Librarians increasingly need data literacy skills to be successful in today's data-intensive information environment. Many users within the scientific community are turning to R for their data analysis, organization, and visualization needs. R is a free and open source scripting language which allows users to work with data in highly customizable ways to accomplish tasks that would be difficult or impossible with point-and-click software like Excel. R is easy to learn, even if you've never written a line of code before, and is a great way for librarians to get started with working with their own data, or assisting their patrons with their data needs. Many scientific researchers have embraced R as a simple and effective solution for their data needs, and librarians who provide support for such groups will find it useful to be conversant in using R. Librarians who can master R and provide training for their patrons will undoubtedly find that their skills are much sought-after; the instructor for this CE course offers monthly R workshops and has trained hundreds of researchers at her institution. Even after a year of providing these monthly workshops, classes continue to have waitlists of dozens of researchers who want to learn. Librarians may find also R helpful in working with their own data, including bibliometric data, library stats, or budget data.

Emerging Technologies in Government Libraries: 3D Printing, Virtual Reality, and Beyond! [DGI is leading this session]
Come out to this interactive session to learn about some of the emerging technologies being released in government libraries! We will have speakers from across Federal and State government talking about how they are using 3D printing/maker spaces, data management, and mining, and virtual/augmented reality to benefit their constituents and citizens. In addition, learn how some of the newest emerging areas like robotics and artificial intelligence could affect our futures.

Good, Bad, and Ugly: Germs: Perspectives on the Centennial Remembrance of the 1918 Influenza Pandemic [MAHDL is leading this session]
With the centennial of the Spanish Flu Pandemic in 1918, medical libraries are working with museums to remember the loss of over 50 million lives worldwide. How are librarians helping curators create both interesting and informative exhibits that reach both general and specialized patrons? What research is currently underway at medical libraries on the influenza virus, and how does the Spanish Flu affect current research? This panel explores the link between librarians, researchers, and curators when current research and commemorative remembrance intertwine. Speakers include Kelly Helm, College Archivist from Washington and Jefferson College; Beth Lander, College Librarian from the Historic Medical Library, College of Physicians; a speaker from the National Institutes of Health; and a speaker from Walter Reed Hospital.

IT Dance Party
Join us for THE event of the SLA Annual Conference - the IT Dance Party. This legendary gathering is the hottest party on the schedule. This year, we're paying tribute to our host city of Baltimore with our best "Hon-style" fashion! You can get some tips on how to be ready for our own Honfest here - http://www.baltimoresun.com/entertainment/bal-honfest-clothes-photos-photography.html

A Name By Any Other Name - Persistent Identifier Best Practices
Laure Haak, Executive Director of ORCID and Brett D. Currier, Digital Scholarship Librarian & Library Manager, Center for the Advancement of Data Research in Economics, Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City will lead a discussion on the use, value, and capabilities of persistent identifiers including Digital Object Identifiers (DOI) and ORCID’s.

Keys to the Kingdom – Authentication and Access in the 21st Century
Scott Dineen, Sr. Director, Publishing Production & Technology, from The Optical Society will present a high-level technical discussion about the struggles of publishers to keep their content accessible to subscribers while also secured from hacks and cyberintrusions. Digital access to eBooks, journals, and reference databases as a key enabler of productivity in research organizations. However, changes in authentication, access, and the growing threat of cyberintrusions, publishers and organizations are both rapidly adapting in a "cat and mouse" situation. The session will also explore an emerging standard that it being created by a joint STM-NISO initiative called Resource Access for the 21st Century (RA21), which is striving to facilitate a seamless user experience for consumers of scientific communication.

Quantifying Sci-Hub’s Illegal Gain on Scholarly Research
Sci-Hub is a website created specifically to bypass copyright laws and publisher’s paywalls, currently providing access to over two-thirds of all scholarly articles. Our panel will explore the current state of scholarly publishing and challenges in light of Sci-Hub and how the SLA community should respond. Panelists include Elizabeth Nolan, Deputy Executive Director and Chief Publishing Officer for The Optical Society; Amanda Moran, Manager of Outsell’s Information Management Community; and James King, Branch Chief for the National Institutes of Health Library.

Reading Between the Lines: Document Delivery best practices
Session, in partnership with the Maryland Chapter, will look at the latest advances in Inter-Library Loan and Document Delivery. First, the NIH Library will explore how it continues to reduce response time while also reducing costs as volume continues to decline. In addition, the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center library will discuss how they have been leveraging ILL data with bibliometrics approaches, benefitting both impact research and collection management decisions.

http://it.sla1.org/?post-type=post&show_title=1&show_date=1&show_categories=1&show_featured_image=1&show_content=1&show_divider=1&printout-meta=on&post-page-break=on&columns=176
Virtual/Augmented Reality

Virtual Reality is a computer-generated simulation of a real-life environment, often experienced in an immersion setting utilizing goggles and headphones. Augmented Reality imposes computer-generated simulations atop the real world, and was popularized by the Pokemon Go app. Learn about how both virtual and augmented reality are moving beyond gaming and into areas such as biomedical research, advanced simulator training, therapy, and manufacturing modeling.
Interview with Lila Faulkner

March 4, 2018 Categories: b/ITe, v32n3 Tags: A List Apart, accessibility guidelines, browser developer tools, CSS, HTML, law librarian, usability principles, web management

By: Sophia Guevara MLIS, MPA

1. Please provide a brief professional description of who you are and what you do.

I’m a law librarian at the Department of Justice. I supervise one of our locations and serve as the Chair of the Web Committee. I am also the coordinator for our SharePoint site and handle the selection and evaluation of our electronic resources. My other duties include training and research.

2. Why did you join SLA and the IT Division? What prompted you to serve as the web management chair?

I joined SLA in part because my local chapter (DC/SLA) is so welcoming. It was easy to get involved, and I enjoy meeting the other librarians in my area. I jumped at the opportunity to be the Web management chair. I love working on the Web and have been involved in it my entire career. I’m interested in meeting other librarians who work in the same area.

3. What makes your information environment unique?

I work for a government agency, which means that security is a major consideration. We can’t always take advantage of free web tools and are limited in what we have access to. That can be part of the fun though – figuring out what you can do with what is available to you.

4. What is your experience with web management?

I became involved in web management through a combination of luck, great mentors, and opportunity. I started out with a focus on electronic resources that eventually expanded into electronic services as a whole. I have redesigned several websites and managed websites in academic and government settings.

5. In your opinion, what is the definition of effective web management?

Effective web management is always user-focused. My primary concern is with providing our information in a way that is accessible, understandable, and readable. We also need to make sure that information is the best it can be – accurate, timely, and relevant.

6. In your opinion, what is the definition of effective web management?

I’m a big fan of browser developer tools. All of them have their pros and cons so I usually use a combination: F12 Developer Tools in IE; Chrome DevTools, especially Device Mode; and Firebug. It’s also essential to have a good photo editor, such as Photoshop, and a text editor.

7. For students interested in future careers as web managers, what type of training should they seek while in library school? For those who have already graduated, what are three tips you would provide for those interested in getting better as a web manager?

Anyone who is interested in web management should first and foremost be familiar with accessibility guidelines, web standards, and usability principles, including web writing and content strategy. Knowledge of accessibility requirements is absolutely essential. Even if you don’t do the coding yourself, you should also have a basic understanding of CSS and HTML. The more coding you know the easier it becomes to customize and adapt resources to your patron needs. Future web managers should make sure they get a broad education. You will work with staff in cataloging, systems, reference, collections, and acquisitions. It’s helpful to understand the work in each area.

My tips for becoming a better web manager are related. First, if you have not already, you should learn the new accessibility requirements and become familiar with WCAG 2.0. Second, try to avoid focusing solely on web management. Working directly with patrons will make you aware of patron needs, tasks, and focuses. Finally, look beyond libraries for web trends. Users bring expectations from sites they use in their everyday lives such as Google and Amazon.

8. What resources do you use to stay on top of trends?

I’ve been following A List Apart for years. I also take advantage of webinars offered through library associations. DOJ offers many opportunities internally. I participate in committees comprised of representatives from across DOJ that focus on SharePoint, web content management, and accessibility.

9. Anything else?

Curiosity, enthusiasm, and interest will take you a long way in web management. It’s a fabulous area to work in because it touches all parts of the library.
Interview with Lisa Federer

March 4, 2018 Categories: b/ITe, v22n3 Tags: data management, data science, data visualization, datalibs, informationist, MOOCs, OpenRefine, Python, R, Tableau Public

By Sophia Guevara, MLIS, MPA

1. Please provide a brief professional description of who you are and what you do.

I am a Research Data Informationist at the NIH Library, which serves researchers who work at the National Institutes of Health, in Bethesda, MD. I developed the Library’s Data Services program, which provides support for researchers in a variety of data-related areas, including data management, analysis, visualization, preservation, and sharing. As research becomes increasingly data-driven, and as funders and journals are starting to require researchers to share their data and submit data management plans with their grant proposals, these types of services are greatly needed, and libraries are a natural place to provide them. I’m also a PhD student in information science at the University of Maryland, where I’m studying ways to measure value and reuse of research data.

2. You are a Research Data Informationist. That title is rather unique in the field. How does informationist differ from the librarian title?

The term “informationist” was first coined in 2000 in an article by Davidoff and Flance to describe an information professional who would work in the context of clinical information. They saw an informationist as someone who could meet the unique (and very pressing) information needs of clinicians by 1) being “embedded” with clinicians, or working at the point of care where information needs arise, rather than waiting for the clinicians to come to the library and 2) having training and subject knowledge about clinical medicine to facilitate a deeper understanding of clinicians’ questions and needs. Since then, the term has been broadened to include information professionals who serve not only clinicians, but also other types of specialized audiences. For me, as a Research Data Informationist, my users are biomedical researchers. That means that I spend a lot of time working with researchers in their labs (I never thought I’d be spending time in a Biosafety Level 2 lab when I went to library school!) and in other research settings, like hackathons. My specialized subject matter knowledge includes scientific programming with R and Python, data visualization, and data management.

3. You have experience presenting and publishing. How did you get your start and what would you suggest for others who are looking for opportunities to do the same?

Before going to library school, I was a professor of English, so I had a lot of experience writing and teaching, and the transition to presenting and publishing in the library context was natural for me. But I think you can be very successful in presenting and publishing even if you don’t have that kind of background! I got started by getting involved with my local chapter of my primary professional organization (MLA), writing blog posts and presenting at our local meetings. It was a great way to get a feel for how publishing and presenting in the library community worked, and eventually I worked my way up to being more involved at the national level.

4. What advice would you give to students who aren’t sure how to go about gaining opportunities in publishing or presenting? What advice would you give to seasoned professionals who are looking to start sharing their knowledge but don’t know how to go about doing it?

A good first step is getting familiar with what library publishing and presenting are typically like, at least in the areas that you’re interested in getting involved. Get familiar with the journals that publish articles you find interesting, and check out their information for authors to find out what the expectations are. Read through abstracts or proceedings from previous years for conferences where you’d like to present. When you’re ready to submit something, enlist a colleague or friend to read it over before you send it in. And when you do hear back from the conference or journal, don’t be discouraged if you don’t get an acceptance right away. Getting rejections is never fun, but usually you’ll get some feedback from reviewers that you can hopefully use as an opportunity to further hone your work.

5. For students interested in future careers as informationists, what type of training should they seek while in library school? For those who have already graduated, what are three tips you would provide?

I highly recommend taking advantage of opportunities to gain some hands-on experience, whether it’s through an internship, practicum, or library job. Classes are useful, but there’s no substitute for the real-world knowledge you can gain by actually doing the work. Plus, this is a way to make valuable connections that can help when it comes time to seek a job after graduation. I also recommend branching out of your department and looking for classes that can help you expand your horizons and learn about fields that you may be interested in supporting. For example, I was able to take a class on biomedical knowledge representation that was cross-listed with the library school and the biomedical engineering department. The class was mostly engineers, and it was fascinating to see how they approached working with some of the same problems that I was learning about in library school.

For those who have already graduated, there are lots of ways to add to your skillset and get involved in the community you hope to serve. First, I would recommend looking at MOOCs and other free online learning resources. I’ve learned a lot from Coursera classes, like their Data Science specialization, and from other MOOCs like Indiana University’s Information Visualization MOOC. Second, I encourage getting involved with local organizations and going to talks and lectures related to topics you might want to work with. Where I live, in DC, I’ve found tons of relevant groups on Meetup.com, and there are always interesting talks or networking events going on. Third, I’d recommend getting involved with a professional organization like SLA, whether at the local or national level. Our professional organizations offer lots of opportunities for CE classes and webinars, which are a great way to see what’s going on in the field. Plus, if you get involved at the local level, you’ll get to meet people with similar interests in your area, who will likely know about good local resources they can point you to.

6. For those interested in the type of work you do, what are three technology tools that they should be aware of?

My go-to tool for just about everything is R, which is a programming language that’s useful for pretty much every step of working with all kinds of data, from ingesting the data to cleaning it to analyzing it to visualizing it. Although it takes some time to learn, I’ve found it definitely worth the time, since it has helped me in working with my own data and has made me a helpful resource for our researchers who are using it for their work. I recommend the free eBook *R for Data Science* as a great place to start.

Second, I recommend Tableau Public as a way to get started with data visualization. It makes it fairly easy to create very professional, interactive data visualizations, including dashboards and other real-time visualizations. There are different versions, including Tableau Public, which is free. I’ve taught Tableau to lots of researchers who are using it for their data, but it can also be really useful for librarians who have library-related data that they want to track, like collections data. My colleague Doug Joubert and I recently wrote an article on *Tableau for librarians* that has some ideas for implementing Tableau into library work.

Third, OpenRefine is a nice tool for people who need to do more with their data than what Excel can handle, but aren’t quite ready to learn a programming language like R. It’s a very powerful tool that is especially useful for transforming and cleaning data, and it can handle relatively large datasets. It even has a simple implementation of a few algorithms that can be used for finding patterns and trends in data.

7. What resources do you use to stay on top of trends?

I’m active on Twitter and tend to hear about lots of interesting trends there, especially in datalibs. I’ve also been making an effort to stay more up-to-date with the literature (which is especially important when you’re working on your PhD). My doctoral advisor challenged me to #365papers – reading one paper a day this year and keeping track of it on Twitter with the hashtag. I’ve read lots of interesting articles, and it’s also a good way to learn who else is working on subjects that I’m interested in. I also try to meet people at my institution who have similar interests by going to talks, volunteering for committees and working groups, or just chatting with people when I have the chance. It’s hard to keep up with everything that’s going on, but people are always passing new information on to me once they know that I’m interested!
Interview with Katrina Perez

March 4, 2018 Categories: b/ITe, v32n3 Tags: Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP, Electronic Resources Librarian, Gardner Carton & Douglas LLP, HTML, IT Librarian, Manzama, Michigan State University, Pierian Press, Reference Department, Resource Management Librarian

By Sophia Guevara, MLIS, MPA

1. Please provide a brief professional description of who you are and what you do.

I attended Michigan State University where I worked in the library's Reference Department while obtaining a degree in International Studies. For a year after graduation, I worked as an Associate Editor for Pierian Press. In 1990, I went back to school for my MLS degree at Wayne State University. I began my professional career as a Research Librarian for Keck Mahin & Cate, a law firm in Chicago. I stayed with KM&C for 4 years before taking a newly created position at the Highland Park Public Library: Electronic Resources Librarian. At HPPL I coordinated the development of a community internet home page, taught public internet classes, and assisted with the library's CD-ROM network.


I've been an active member of the Illinois Chapter of the Special Libraries Association since 1992, and served a three-year term as President-Elect, President, and Past President (2008–2010). My first committee role was with the Vendor Relations Committee. I was the Chair of the Web Page Committee and maintained the Chapter's website for several years running.

2. Why did you join SLA and the IT Division? What prompted you to serve?

I joined SLA as soon as I started working professionally. I joined the IT Division when I was the Webmaster for the SLA Illinois Chapter. My involvement on the Vendor Relations and then Web committees in the Illinois Chapter introduced me to the many great people who were involved in the organization. I didn't have to consider very long when I was asked to run for President-Elect in 2008.

Although I've been busy with my career and family the past few years, I've missed that close involvement with the organization and am looking forward to being involved again.

3. What makes your information environment unique?

Every law firm has their own unique setup, but we all are experiencing reductions in space. We are getting creative on where we can keep books when we no longer have a designated “library” area. More and more of our collection is electronic, whether from Lexis and Westlaw, proprietary vendor resources, or ebooks. The remaining print resources that we maintain are housed as close to the relevant practice areas in our offices as possible.

4. In your opinion, what is your definition of effective library resource management?

Libraries can no longer keep everything that anyone in their organization might want on the shelf and up-to-date. Updating print has become more on-demand and large serial sets have moved online. Determining the best – for our needs – electronic databases is a constant review process. Every subscription, print or online, is reviewed every year for cost-effectiveness. The best measure of whether your resource management is working is if your users have what they need when they need it, or if you can get it to them quickly.

5. What are three technology tools that you think others should be aware of when it comes to resource management and why?

I use OneLogin for tracking usage and user password management. It has been a big help in dealing with lost password issues, and in reviewing our subscriptions during budget review. We use our library management system, Sydney Enterprise, to not only keep our library catalog, but also to keep track of all of our invoices, and our spending in each practice area or department. For my own use, I use 1Password to manage my passwords. I strongly recommend getting a password manager and letting it create strong passwords for you.

6. For students interested in this kind of work, what type of training should they seek while in library school? For those who have already graduated, what are three tips you would provide for those interested in getting better at their work?

For those still in school, maybe learn to code. It wasn't really offered (to anyone other than computer science majors) when I was in library school, the big thing then was learning dBase IV (yikes!). I learned networking and HTML right away after library school. Knowing the bones behind SharePoint or any other intranet management tool can really help. Get really familiar with Excel and SmartSheet – you’ll use them for everything. Make friends with your IT department. You’ll need them on your side!

7. What resources do you use to stay on top of trends?

My firm subscribes to Manzama (a current awareness tool created for law firms) so I use them for general news and trends in information science and legal technology. I also (of course!) follow the posts in SLA Connect, AALL, and various library and legal blogs. I am a huge science geek, so my weekly science news fix comes from several podcasts from Scientific American (Science Talk, 60-Second Science), Science Friday, and Science Magazine.

8. Anything else?

Attend the conferences if at all possible. Don't neglect networking with other in and out of your field! You will always learn something new.
From the Desk of the IT Division 2018 Chair

March 4, 2018

Categories: b/ITe, v32n3
Tags: Adrienne Smith, Catholic University, Gopher, IT Division 2018 Chair, James King, Mosaic, Naval Research Lab, NIH, NIH Library, Ruth Hooker Research Library

By James King

I’m honored to be serving as Chair of the IT Division of SLA. I’ve been involved with technology in libraries since 1990 where I was fortunate to work for an innovative government agency library – the Ruth Hooker Research Library at the Naval Research Lab. While there I was involved in pre-web projects including networking CD’s through Telnet and Gopher and locally hosting journal content. When the Mosaic browser was unveiled in 1994, we quickly built our first website and started looking at how to move our telnet-based services onto this new platform. I got to ride the wave caused by the web and digital library movement, including doing bulk digitization of government publications, and negotiating agreements for online journals and databases, including one of the first Web of Science contracts. Nearly a decade ago, I moved from the Navy to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) where I’m managing one of the three branches within the NIH Library, the internal research library serving the nearly 20,000 federal staff at the agency. I’ve been an SLA member since I was in library school at Catholic University in the late 1990’s and have been active ever since. I’ve run the DC Chapter of SLA and have served on the SLA Board of Directors. While on the SLA Board, I quickly became board liaison to the SLA Technology Advisory Council (TAC), helping to roll out SLA Connect. I’m now leading the TAC while also serving as chair of the IT Division.

I believe that the IT Division is a core and critical division of SLA, one that everyone should either be involved with or should greatly benefit from. From what I’ve seen in my career, having a solid understanding of how to apply technology into your work setting is a key driver to success. The IT Division shouldn’t just be focused on systems librarians or those directly managing technology in libraries but should enable all members to grow skills and capabilities in various technology areas. When I first got involved with the IT Division board last year, the first thing we did was create a survey that was open to all members to gauge their needs and value related to technology. As you can see from Adrienne Smith’s article about the survey, we learned a good bit about the SLA membership. We took the top topics that survey respondents were interested in and worked to create conference programs for the 2018 conference in Baltimore.

Due to the changing rules around conference sessions, the IT Division submitted a record 13 sessions for consideration by the Annual Conference Advisory Committee for the Baltimore 2018 conference. We also actively co-developed 5 additional sessions with other divisions. Of those 18 submitted sessions, we had 9 sessions accepted, which includes one CE class and three co-sponsored sessions. Check out the article on our accepted sessions to learn more about how we’re going to rock the conference with IT.

One of the key findings of members was the value in webinars outside of the conference and virtual training opportunities. We are taking a close look at the sessions that were not accepted for the conference as well as ideas generated by the survey to create a webinar series throughout 2018. More details on some of these potential webinars are described in a separate article.

A second key finding from the survey is the value of networking and learning from others. Our division is a great place for members to learn a technology skill in a safe environment that isn’t directly tied to your annual reviews. To that end, we want to encourage as much participation as possible. If you have an idea for a webinar, are active in your local chapter and would like to line up a regional meet-up of IT members, or are willing to help with some of the many logistics with the division or the conference, please reach out to me or the board!

Again, I’m thrilled and honored to be the chair of this awesome division. My promise to you is to do all I can to make this division as vibrant and relevant to as much of the broader SLA membership as possible. However, I can’t do it on my own. Join me in making 2018 an awesome year in SLA.
Apply Now! SLA’s Information Technology Division’s 2018 Student Award

March 9, 2018 Categories: Awards, Baltimore 2018

Apply Now! SLA’s Information Technology Division’s 2018 Student Award

Submissions are now being accepted for the 2018 Joe Ann Clifton Student Award from the IT Division of the Special Libraries Association (SLA). This award is intended to promote participation in the SLA Annual Conference by an exceptional library science (or related field) student. The recipient of this award will receive:

Student membership in SLA for one (1) year.

Reimbursement for expenses to attend the SLA Annual Conference, not to exceed $1,500 and limited to the following:

- Economy class round-trip airfare to the Annual Conference (June 9–13, Baltimore)
- Student registration for the Annual Conference.
- Lodging during the conference.
- Transportation during the conference.

The winner will be recognized at IT events during the Annual Conference and also at the Annual Business Meeting of the IT Division, held via web meeting after the conference where the winner will present the paper. The winning paper will also be published in b/ITe, the official Division newsletter.

Submission Requirements

The topic of the paper should pertain to the use of information technology. A paper which addresses a topic in a practical rather than a theoretical manner is preferred.

Applicants must be enrolled in an accredited Master’s degree program related to SLA IT’s mission at the time of the award competition. Previous winners are not eligible for the award. Those receiving travel support from another organization or employer are not eligible.

Entries may be a paper which the applicant has written or is preparing for a class but has not been published. Only one paper per applicant will be accepted.

IT reserves the right to award the prize if IT deems it is the opinion of the judges that no submission is worthy of the award.

IT will retain non-exclusive first publication rights of the winning paper.

Paper should be between 4-15 pages in length (content for a 15-20 minute presentation, if selected). See these past winners as examples:

- 2012: Wayne Pender, Metadata for Video: Too Much Content, Not Enough Information (http://it.sla1.org/2012/06/metadata/)

Submission Deadline

The deadline for submission is March 26, 2018. E-mail your paper to Jennifer Meekhof, IT Membership and Awards Chair, at jnnfrmkhf@gmail.com.

Please include “SLA IT Student Award 2018” in the subject line.

Submission Format

Please submit the paper as a word or pdf and include a title and your name at the top of the first page.
Opportunities in Data Mining, Visualizing, and Services, April 18th at 1PM–2PM ET


The SLA IT Division has a few virtual learning sessions planned for 2018. Lisa Federer will be presenting our first session of the year focused on data mining, visualization and services.

This will be held online on April 18th at 1–2PM ET.

Webinar Registration Link: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2070220254844920835

Session Description: Information Professionals have a strong potential role in helping our customers/patrons to identify, use, and visualize data. Data Services can be viewed in three interdependent levels – at the bottom is the data or data set storage level. The middle level identifies, filters and provides access to the relevant sets of data needed for an accurate analysis, and the top layer runs analyses and visualizations to understand and make decisions based upon the data. Data visualization is becoming an increasingly common method of presenting large and complex data sets, but the principles of visual communication are not widely understood or practiced. Like other forms of communication, visualization has its own grammar and syntax that, if used, can increase the aesthetics and effectiveness of any visualization. This session will provide an overview of how data services, classes, and visualizations are being used across organizations.
Apps for Your Next Conference

April 11, 2018 Categories: b/ITe, v32n3 Tags: apps, conference, Google Calendar, Google Drive

by Sophia Guevara, MLIS, MPA

What apps do you consider a "must" when you attend conferences and other events outside of your area? I recently had the opportunity to attend the SLA conference in Phoenix, AZ – a city I had never visited before. As a division conference planner and moderator, I had to make sure I could easily find the conference session venues quickly and connect with other professionals at networking events set around the main conference venue. With that being said, I developed a list of apps that I came to rely on during my stay in this new city. Here are a few suggestions of apps that you may want to keep in mind for yourself.

App suggestions

- Conference specific apps. Check to see if your conference organizers have provided a conference app for attendees to use. At the conference I recently attended, the organizers had used an app to provide session scheduling and presenter information to attendees. I found this to be very important as I had lost my original print conference program and needed to ensure that I attended sessions for my division as I was the primary program planner for them.

  The use of conference apps have been particularly popular with the conferences I have attended recently. Another example of a professional conference that has developed an app for their conference attendees is the American Evaluation Association. If you are a conference organizer, check out the benefits of providing an app for your event’s attendees.

- Use Google Calendar or other calendar apps to keep you on schedule. After I lost my original print conference program, I decided to access the online schedule to confirm the date and time of the sessions that I had planned for my division. I then entered the sessions onto the Google Calendar app with a reminder set for thirty minutes beforehand so that I could be at the sessions I had planned or was expected to moderate a few minutes beforehand.

  In addition, I had to schedule volunteers for several conference events and to staff the Information Technology Division kiosk in the conference exhibit area. I found that it was quite easy to develop a public volunteer calendar to show potential volunteers what time slots still needed to be filled and to remind current volunteers of the days and times they were expected to work the kiosk or greet at another large event.

- Use Lyft, Uber, Google Maps or the local transit app. As I was staying about a mile away from the conference center, I had to make my way to and from early morning sessions and late night networking events. I found Google Maps valuable to figure out where I was going in a new city. Lyft and Uber were helpful to get me to and from the conference when the local bus was not.

- FedEx Office or HP ePrint to print on the run. For the session I moderated, I had to introduce three speakers who had provided lengthy professional descriptions. To make sure that I could introduce them properly, I thought about accessing the local FedEx location to print out these introductions. Since I had them stored in Google Drive, it would have been easy to print the documents that were needed before the session.

- Google Drive. I found this to be particularly valuable as I was able to store documents I needed to introduce moderators with and develop board meeting agendas.

- Android Device Manager or Lookout Security & Antivirus. I usually use Android Device Manager but have used Lookout’s app to keep my phone safe – especially in a new city. With these apps, you can locate lost phones, wipe and secure when necessary.

In conclusion, what apps have you found to be especially helpful when visiting a new city?
Virtual Event: Privacy in Special Libraries and at Home


Session Description: Privacy in Special Libraries and at Home

Date: June 22nd, Noon–1pm ET

Presenter: Jesse Lambertson

Webinar Registration Link: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6557942934511826178

There are a number of ways we help users find information. But are we helping them with an eye toward protecting their privacy? Privacy is more than just about denying other humans the ability to track what other humans might be doing, it also means we must look for ways to obscure how computers track users. Therein lies the rub. How do we discuss and change our interactions with various technologies in order to better foster a ‘digital space for privacy?’ Jesse Lambertson’s presentation will use his own knowledge of technology as well as pedagogical suggestions by EFF to present on modes and changes we can each apply to find some private space in the digital realm.
Winner of the Joe Ann Clifton Award


Sandra Svoboda from Wayne State University is the Winner of the 2018 Joe Ann Clifton Student Award from the IT Division of SLA! She will receive student membership in SLA for one year and a travel stipend to attend the 2018 SLA Annual Conference. Her submission will be published in the Division's bulletin, b/ITE.
Five Scholarships Have Been Awarded to the SLA 2018 Annual Conference

May 4, 2018 Categories: Annual Conferences, Awards, Baltimore 2018

Congratulations to IT’s own Sophia Guevara!

Through the many qualified submissions received for this year’s scholarships to attend the SLA 2018 Annual Conference, SLA is proud to announce the following five recipients, who have demonstrated a desire and commitment to advance their career and professional development in this industry.

Kelli Stephens, Tucson, Arizona
Alexandra Hauser, East Lansing, Michigan
Heather Howard, West Lafayette, Indiana
Sophia Guevara, Ann Arbor, Michigan
Zara Rehman, Karachi, Sindh Pakistan

Congratulations and see you in Baltimore!
Exploring Resource Access in the 21st Century (RA21)

May 10, 2018 Categories: What's New

Interested in surrounding yourself with DC area librarians and colleagues to discuss current aspects of Resource Access in the 21st Century (RA21)? In collaboration with American University, Springer Nature invites you to a free one day summit exploring RA21 at American University on June 1st, 2018.

Join keynote speaker, James King, Branch Chief and Information Architect at the NIH Library, followed by two interactive panels moderated by RA21 committee members, Laird Barrett (Springer Nature) and Robert Kelshian (American University).

The summit is appropriate for all library staff interested in resource authentication and access issues, it will not require a technical background.

Please join us at American University’s Constitution Hall in Washington DC for a day filled with engaging speakers and interactive panel discussions. The day begins at 9:30am with a continental breakfast. The program runs from 10:00am until 3:30pm. Lunch is included.

Don’t miss out on this exciting event – Register today!
2018 SLA Annual Conference – IT Division Programming

May 21, 2018 Categories: What's New

Sunday, June 10th

CE Class: Introduction to Data Analysis and Visualization with R (Ticketed Event)

Time: 8:00am – Noon

Sponsor: IT Division

Instructor: Lisa Federer, NIH Library

Price: $125 for SLA members / $200 for non-members

Librarians increasingly need data literacy skills to be successful in today’s data-intensive information environment. Many users within the scientific community are turning to R for their data analysis, organization, and visualization needs. R is a free and open source scripting language that provides users ways to work with data in highly customized ways to accomplish tasks that would be difficult or impossible with point-and-click software like Excel. It is easy to learn, even if you’ve never written a line of code before, and is a great way for librarians to get started with working with their own data, or assisting their patrons with their data needs. Many scientific researchers have embraced R as a simple and effective solution for their data needs, and librarians who provide support for such groups will find it useful to be conversant in using R. Librarians who can master R and provide training for their patrons will undoubtedly find that their skills are much sought-after: the instructor for this CE course offers monthly R workshops and has trained hundreds of researchers at her institution. Even after a year of providing these monthly workshops, classes continue to have waitlists of dozens of researchers who want to learn. Librarians may find also R helpful in working with their own data, including bibliometric data, library stats, or budget data.

Speaker Bio: James King continues to decline. In addition, presenters from the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Library will discuss how they have been leveraging ILL data with bibliometrics approaches, benefitting both impact research and collection management decisions.

Monday, June 11

Reading Between the Lines: Document Delivery best practices

Time: 9–10am

Sponsors: IT Division, Maryland Chapter

Speakers: James King, NIH Library and Brynne Norton, NASA Goddard

Moderator: Sophia Guevara

This session will examine the latest advances in interlibrary loan (ILL) and document delivery. First, representatives from the NIH Library will explore how it continues to reduce response time while also reducing costs as volume of interlibrary loans continues to decline. In addition, presenters from the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Library will discuss how they have been leveraging ILL data with bibliometrics approaches, benefitting both impact research and collection management decisions.

Speaker Bio: James King is a Branch Chief and Information Architect at the NIH Library and is responsible for their large subscription budget and oversees a number of areas including the library’s outreach and training programs. James has over 25 years’ experience blending his IT background with librarianship to enhance library services. James is also very active in SLA, currently serving as IT Division chair and program planner for the annual conference in Baltimore this June.

Brynne Norton has been the Information Services Team Lead for Cadence Group/NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Library for over two years. Prior to that she worked in academic libraries for 5 years. She earned her Masters of Library and Information Science in 2010 from the University of Pittsburgh and her Masters of Liberal Arts in 2016 from McDaniel College. She has spent her career working in academic and special libraries in both Reference and Access Services positions.

Emerging Technologies in Government Libraries: 3D Printing, Virtual Reality, and Beyond!

Time: 2:15–3:30pm

Sponsors: Government Information Division, IT Division

Moderator: Ramona Howerton, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

Speakers: James King, NIH Library; Jill Konieczko, ZAI; Amanda Malanowski, NIST

Come to this interactive session to learn about some of the emerging technologies being implemented in government libraries. We will have speakers from across Federal and State government talking about how they are using 3D printing/maker spaces, data management and mining, and virtual/augmented reality to benefit their constituents and citizens. In addition, learn how some of the latest advances in robotics and artificial intelligence could affect our futures.

Speaker Bio: James King is a Branch Chief and Information Architect at the NIH Library and is responsible for their large subscription budget and oversees a number of areas including the library’s outreach and training programs. James has over 25 years’ experience blending his IT background with librarianship to enhance library services. James is also very active in SLA, currently serving as IT Division chair and program planner for the annual conference in Baltimore this June.

Not Just for fun: Virtual/Augmented Reality

http://it.sla1.org/?post-type=post&show_title=1&show_date=1&show_categories=1&show_featured_image=1&show_content=1&show_divider=1&printout-meta=on&post-page-break=on&columns=… 189/194
Speaker Bio: Kendra Parlock

IT Division Business Meeting (Ticketed, free)

Time: 7-8pm

Sponsor: IT Division

Moderator: Kendra Parlock, Director Baltimore CitiStatSmart

Speaker: Kendra Parlock, Director Baltimore CitiStatSmart

Come learn about how performance measurement and data analysis are being used to improve services and outcomes across a major U.S. city – our host city of Baltimore! Kendra Parlock, Director of Baltimore’s Mayor’s Office of Sustainable Solutions/CitiStatSMART will speak during the IT Division’s business meeting to describe how CitiStat was started during the Mayor O’Malley administration and how it has evolved under Mayor Catherine E. Pugh to build solutions in alignment with the city’s top priorities.

Speaker Bio: Kendra Parlock was appointed Director of the Mayor’s Office of Sustainable Solutions for the City of Baltimore in August of 2017. She is charged with rebuilding and expanding Baltimore’s CitiStat program for issue driven performance management and cross agency collaboration. Kendra has a wealth of experience in strategy, business development and innovation. She previously worked in the private sector where she used market and operations data to develop new products and services. Kendra received her M.B.A. in Marketing and Management from the Robert H. Smith School of Business at the University of Maryland. She is a registered Professional Engineer and holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Maryland.

View Slides Here

Keys to the Kingdom – Authentication and Access in the 21st Century

Time: 10:30–11:30am

Sponsor: IT Division

Moderator: James King, NIH Library

Speakers: Scott Dineen, Sr. Director, The Optical Society

Ralph Youngen, Director of Publisher System Integration at ACS and Co-Chair of RA21

Digital access to eBooks, journals, and reference databases is a key enabler of productivity in research organizations. However, with changes in authentication, access, and the growing threat of cyberintrusions, publishers and organizations are both rapidly adapting in a "cat and mouse" situation. Moreover the European Union’s new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the latest Facebook scandal have raised awareness about personal privacy. This session will explore issues around balancing authentication & access with privacy & security and look specifically at an emerging standard that is being created by a joint STM-NISO initiative called Resource Access for the 21st Century (RA21), which is striving to facilitate a seamless user experience for consumers of scientific communication. Google Scholar’s new Campus Activated Subscriber Access (CASA) program will also be discussed.

Speaker Bio: Scott Dineen is the Senior Director of Publishing Production and Technology at The Optical Society (OSA), where he focuses on innovative use of XML and related technologies to drive product development and create production efficiencies. Scott supervises production, print, and online publishing operations for OSA’s journals and conference proceedings and helps OSA Publishing define and reach its strategic goals. Scott led the creation of OSA’s digital library platform, OSA Publishing, the largest peer-reviewed collection of optics and photonics information in the world.

Speaker Bio: Ralph Youngen received his Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering from Rutgers University. He is currently a staff scientist at the National Institute of Neurologic Diseases and Stroke (NINDS) at the National Institutes of Health. John is the founder of the NIH VARRIG (Virtual and Augmented Reality Interest Group). His main interests are in applying these new technologies to medical research and patient care.

Speaker Bio: John Ostuni received his Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering from Rutgers University. He is currently a staff scientist at the National Institute of Neurologic Diseases and Stroke (NINDS) at the National Institutes of Health. John is the founder of the NIH VARRIG (Virtual and Augmented Reality Interest Group). His main interests are in applying these new technologies to medical research and patient care.

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Speaker Bio: Scott Dineen is the Senior Director of Publishing Production and Technology at The Optical Society (OSA), where he focuses on innovative use of XML and related technologies to drive product development and create production efficiencies. Scott supervises production, print, and online publishing operations for OSA’s journals and conference proceedings and helps OSA Publishing define and reach its strategic goals. Scott led the creation of OSA’s digital library platform, OSA Publishing, the largest peer-reviewed collection of optics and photonics information in the world.

Speaker Bio: Ralph Youngen, received his Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering from Rutgers University. He is currently a staff scientist at the National Institute of Neurologic Diseases and Stroke (NINDS) at the National Institutes of Health. John is the founder of the NIH VARRIG (Virtual and Augmented Reality Interest Group). His main interests are in applying these new technologies to medical research and patient care.
3/1/2019

Laure L. Haak, Executive Director of ORCID, Inc., will discuss using and deploying ORCID (Open Researcher and Contributor ID) identifiers across an organization to help disambiguate authors.

A Name By Any Other Name – Persistent Identifier Best Practices

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Good, Bad, and Ugly Germs: Perspectives on the Centennial Remembrance of the 1918 Influenza Pandemic

Speaker: James King, NIH Library

Speaker Bio: James King is a Branch Chief and Information Architect at the NIH Library and is responsible for their large subscription budget and oversees a number of areas including the library’s outreach and training programs. James has over 25 years’ experience blending his IT background with librarianship to enhance library services. James is also very active in SLA, currently serving as IT Division chair and program planner for the annual conference in Baltimore this June.

Quantifying Sci-Hub’s Illegal Grip on Scholarly Research

Speaker: Elizabeth Nolan, Deputy Executive Director and Chief Publishing Officer for The Optical Society; Sari Francis, Manager Digital License Compliance, IEEE; and James King, NIH Library

Speaker Bio: Elizabeth Nolan is the Deputy Executive Director and Chief Publishing Officer for The Optical Society (OSA). In this role, she oversees OSA’s strategic planning process, its program development and market research, and its publishing program. Specific to publishing, she is responsible for all aspects of the Society’s growing portfolio of 18 subscription based and Open Access titles as well as its award winning membership magazine. As part of this work, she has led the revamp of its wholly owned and operated publishing and peer review platforms, the launch of 4 new Open Access journals as well as the development of several new products and services to better meet the needs of its institutional subscribers. Before joining OSA, Elizabeth was Senior Vice President, Global Sales, Marketing and Strategy at SPI Global. While at SPI, she directed the efforts of a number of different teams and developed a host of new and innovative services for STM publishers. Prior to that, she held senior level positions at Thompson Publishing Group, and The Worldwatch Institute. Her early years in publishing were spent at Wolters Kluwer (Lippincott Williams & Wilkins at the time). With almost 25 years of experience working with not-for-profit and commercial publishers and an Asia-based business process outsourcing provider, Elizabeth has forged a career that is rich in global expansion, new product/service development, as well as journal publishing.

With over 15 years’ experience in the publishing industry, Sari Frances, Manager of Digital License Compliance, has successfully managed IEEE’s IP Protection Program since 2008. IEEE is the world’s largest organization dedicated to advancing technology for humanity. Sari’s responsibilities include collaboration with legal, IT security, IPR, and sales to address worldwide concerns about digital piracy and copyright infringement. Representing IEEE in industry trade associations in anti-piracy efforts, Sari actively participates in initiatives to combat and remediate IP abuses. In addition, she often speaks at industry conferences as a thought leader on digital piracy, and is a certified Project Manager Professional.

A Name By Any Other Name – Persistent Identifier Best Practices

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July 11 Webinar: Selecting the Right DAMs for your Organization: Where to Begin?

June 20, 2018 Categories: Virtual Events, What's New Tags: virtual-events, Webinar

July 11, 2018 – 1:00-1:30 PM ET

Webinar Registration: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/603921753785432834

Presenter: Jennifer Pflaumer – Principal, Paroo

Selecting a DAM system can be a daunting process. There are a number of systems on the market with many of the same features, making it difficult to determine which one is the best fit for your organization. Understanding your needs and getting key stakeholders involved in the process will make choosing a system easier and will provide a solid foundation for a successful implementation. In this session, we’ll provide strategies for gathering requirements and engaging stakeholders to get your organization started on the path to better management of its digital files.

Jennifer Pflaumer launched her information management consultancy, Paroo, in 2009 after realizing the need for concentrated information management solutions for businesses across all industries. Her expertise includes liaising between key business groups and IT departments to manage digital assets, create information strategies, and perform systems analysis and design. She earned her Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) from UCLA, with a focus on human-computer interaction, digital media, and information architecture.
SLA-IT Free Webinar: Secrets to Building a Collaborative Relationship between IT and Library Staff – August 15, 2018, 1–2 PM ET

August 15, 2018

Collaboration is key when providing resources and tools to support your user’s needs. As library services have evolved, there has been more and more tension between the IT and Library departments. Both departments rely on each other while sometimes supporting different audiences. Our panel of managers will address these tensions, share their experiences around managing staff and provide insight on how more collaboration between these departments can happen in the future.

Presenters:

- Janel Kinlaw (janel.kinlaw@gmail.com)
- Denise Callihan – Manager, R&D Library Shared Services, PPG Industries Inc
- Katrina Perez – Resource Management Librarian, Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP
- Susie Corbett – Vice President, Life Science Intelligence, North Carolina Biotechnology Center

SLA’s Leadership and Management Division is this session’s co-sponsor.

Webinar Recording available on SLA IT Connect: https://connect.sla.org/viewdocument/sla-it-lmd-secrets-to-building?CommunityKey=1d13a170-a3fe-45da-bf33-fdf68a9712&tab=librarydocuments
Apply Now! SLA's Information Technology Division's 2019 Student Award

February 19, 2019 Categories: Annual Conferences, Awards, Cleveland 2019 Tags: Awards

Submissions are now being accepted for the 2019 Joe Ann Clifton Student Award from the IT Division of the Special Libraries Association (SLA). This award is intended to promote participation in the SLA Annual Conference by an exceptional library science (or field related to IT Division's mission) student. The recipient of this award will receive:

- Student membership in SLA for one (1) year.
- Reimbursement for expenses to attend the SLA Annual Conference, not to exceed $1,500 and limited to the following:
  - Economy class round-trip airfare to the Annual Conference (June 14-18, 2019 in Cleveland, Ohio)
  - Student registration for the Annual Conference.
  - Lodging during the conference.
  - Transportation during the conference (to/from airport and costs associated with getting to SLA Annual Conference events).

The winner will be recognized at IT events during the Annual Conference and also at the Annual Business Meeting of the IT Division. During the virtual business meeting, the winner will present a summary of their paper. The winning paper will also be published in b/ITe, the official Division newsletter.

Submission Requirements

The topic of the paper should pertain to the use of information technology. A paper which addresses a topic in a practical rather than a theoretical manner is preferred.

Applicants must be enrolled in an accredited Master's degree program related to SLA IT’s mission at the time of the award competition. Previous winners are not eligible for the award. Those receiving travel support from another organization or employer are not eligible. Please include what school you are attending, what program of study you are taking, and when you expect to graduate in your submission.

Entries may be a paper which the applicant has written or is preparing for a class but has not been published. Only one paper per applicant will be accepted.

IT reserves the right not to award the prize if it is the opinion of the judges that no submission is worthy of the award.

IT will retain non-exclusive first publication rights of the winning paper.

Paper should be between 4–15 pages in length (content for a 15–20 minute presentation, if selected). See these past winners as examples:

- 2012: Wayne Pender, Metadata for Video: Too Much Content, Not Enough Information (http://it.sla1.org/2012/08/metadata/)

Submission Deadline

The deadline for submission is March 25, 2019. E-mail your paper to Katrina Perez, IT Division Secretary, at katrina.perez@dbr.com. Please include “SLA IT Student Award 2019” in the subject line.

Submission Format

Please submit the paper as a Microsoft Word or Acrobat PDF file and include the paper’s title and your name at the top of the first page.