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President’s Letter

By the time you read this, I will have returned from the SLA annual conference in Baltimore. Fellow chapter members will have gathered for our annual Georgia dinner and reminisced about the good ole days. We will all have learned a great deal, both from educational sessions and from vendor exhibits. And we will all have returned refreshed, convinced once more of the value of our profession and our association.

The annual conference is just one example of the value SLA brings its members. Thousands of members from around the world come together each year to learn and meet their colleagues. I must say that networking is my favorite part of the conference. Those once-a-year encounters are so valuable in staying connected. And I promise I won’t tell what happened in the News Division suite.

What have you done lately to stay connected? Have you read a professional journal? Attended a virtual seminar? Gone to an SLA meeting and met new people? All of these activities are important to your professional well-being.

If your SLA membership is valuable to you, consider becoming involved with our chapter. The Member Relations Committee currently needs volunteers and is a great place to help others get value from our association.

Best regards,
Allison Evatt
Dialog, a Thomson business | Allison.evatt@thomson.com| |404-352-0348|

Peach State Update

Newsletter of the Georgia Chapter of the Special Libraries Association

Peach State Update is published four times a year: March, June, September, and November. Deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month prior to publication. Contributors should submit materials to the managing editor. Documents may be submitted as Word files or in Rich Text Format; graphics should be submitted in jpeg or tiff files. For advertising rates, contact the advertising editor.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Chair & Managing Editor, Peach State Update
Deanna Morrow Hall
Bio-Lab, Inc., a Chemtura Company
1735 N. Brown Road
Lawrenceville, GA 30043
Phone: 678-502-4097
Email: deanna.hall@chemtura.com

Advertising Editor
Lori Critz
Library & Information Center
Georgia Institute of Technology
Atlanta, GA 30332
Phone: 404-385-4392
Email: lori.critz@library.gatech.edu

Photo Editor
Joanne Tobin
Library & Information Center
Georgia Institute of Technology
Atlanta, GA 30332
Tel 404-894-1395
Email: joanne.tobin@library.gatech.edu

Production Editor
Elisa Lewis
McKenna Long & Aldridge
303 Peachtree Street NE
Atlanta, GA 30308
Phone: 404-527-8425
Email: elewis@mckennalong.com

WebMaster
Rod Bustos
Pullen Library, Georgia State University
100 Decatur Street SE
Atlanta GA 30303-3202
Phone: 404-651-2185
Email: rbustos@gsu.edu

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Treasurer’s Report

In the past few years, the Georgia chapter has grown its treasury. In December 2001, our operating account balance was $1,382.88. As of April 30, 2006, our balance has grown to $13,385.24! Having been relieved of the burden to heavily scrutinize each chapter expense, I can now focus on sharing my knowledge and experience with those interested in our finances. Thus, here’s my call for Finance Committee volunteers.

There are many opportunities for participating in SLA Georgia activities: leading the chapter as an officer, hosting an event, or even attending a program or networking function. Here’s another opportunity: a Finance Committee was one of several which the Chapter Board approved earlier this year. Finance Committee members will be responsible for:

- Accepting and recording chapter event payments
- Maintaining various spreadsheets related to event attendance, cost and sponsorship
- Assisting the Treasurer with investment-related research, e.g. certificate of deposit interest rates

In my four years as Treasurer, I have learned to better manage our funds and would like to see our progress continue. I applied my Treasurer knowledge and experience to the South Atlantic Regional Conference where I served on the Budget Committee. My position has been and still is a rewarding experience that I hope will inspire others to join the Finance Committee. Please contact me with any questions or for more information.

Ernie Evangelista
Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta
ernie.m.evangelista@atl.frb.org | 404.498.8927

Communication Committee: Communications Committee invites volunteers for new position

In the Committee’s efforts to provide for meaningful coverage of Georgia Chapter events, it has become evident that there is a need for more comprehensive and direct attention to them. Therefore, the Chair has obtained the approval of the Board to create a new position titled Events Editor, which will incorporate the duties of the Photo Editor. [This provides an opportunity to express appreciation to Joanne Tobin, who has performed the role of Photo Editor diligently and ably since September 2003.] This new position will serve as a standing member of both the Program Committee and the Communications Committee, and will provide liaison between the two committees. The responsibilities of this position will be:

- Attend all meetings of the Program Committee to maintain awareness of events in terms of their programs, schedules, and venues
- Recruit 2-4 individuals who will be available on a rotating basis for assignment to photograph and/or write a brief synopsis of each event. The Events Editor could also serve in one or the other of these assignments as desired or needed.
- Work with the Communications Committee Chair/Managing Editor of Peach State Update to define expectations for photographs and reporting.

If you would like to volunteer either as the Events Editor, or as a member of the photography or reporting team, please contact me.

Deanna Morrow Hall, chair
deanne.hall@chemtura.com | 678.502.4097
Program Report: 2006 Georgia Chapter Brown Bags Another Hit

The Brown Bag Series for 2006 showcased four diverse libraries - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, InterContinental Hotels Group (a repeat from last year), The Weather Channel, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution. Highlights of each follow:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Onnalee Gomez, Technical Information Specialist of the new Information Center (CDC IC), hosted several Georgia Chapter members to a talk and tour on January 11th. The Center opened in August 2005 in the CDC’s Global Communications Center on Clifton Road in Atlanta. The CDC IC collections include books and journals, CDC publications, and historical publications and documents in the field of public health in its Landmark Collection. This new facility has: wired/wireless public reading areas, collaboratory, training room, developing digital research lab, and Visualization Forum with digital library information on large plasma screens. Hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 to 4:30 and visits can be arranged by calling the CDC Information Center at 404-639-8042.

InterContinental Hotels Group
Ilene Strongin-Garry, Senior Analyst, Library Information, Research & Trends, hosted her second brown bag for the Chapter on January 23rd. Not everyone was able to attend, due to severe weather, but the talk and tour convened as planned. Her talk covered the description of the InterContinental Group and the history of the Information Resource Center (IRC), including DSpace (digital library). Ilene described how DSpace, originally intended for a department of 20 people, went corporate-wide for several hundred! Ilene also shared the resources and services provided by the IRC. A tour of the IRC wrapped up the session.

The Weather Channel
Joyce Jefferson, Manager of Library Services at The Weather Channel, reports that the staff of the Media Archive of the Weather Channel were pleased to have Karalyn Kavanaugh, Patty Phipps, Patricia Kenly and Nancy Snell visit on February 21st for a brown bag lunch. They dined in “The Front” café and enjoyed various entrees from various food stations: “The Warm Front”, “Current Conditions”, “Sunspot Grill”, “Heat Wave” and the “Doppler Deli”. The group toured the LIVE studio, which was fascinating and informative. The last stop of the day was the Media Archive/Video Library - the staff provided insight into acquisitions, indexing, and circulation functions. The thank you notes received from guests conveyed that they all enjoyed their visit, and the Weather Channel enjoyed having them.

Atlanta Journal-Constitution
Richard Hallman, Manager of the News Research Services, hosted about a dozen librarians on March 21st. Richard reported: News Research has 24 full and part-time employees and includes four intertwined operations:

1. Fee based research for the public, provided by two person Stacks staff, who also engage in the other two “Rs” - Reprints and Repurposing.
2. Image archiving and keywording of photos, graphics, photo galleries and PDFs of newspaper pages by three archivists, with some help from an administrative assistant.
3. Research help for our newsrooms performed by six researchers, who also maintain a Newsroom Intranet and do some training and a little writing.
4. Text archiving and web publishing provided by 10 archivists.

Richard also stated: “As usual, our thundering pressroom was the highlight of the tour for those who braved the inky depths of the AJC.”

Clara R. Williams
|cwilliams@admin.atl.devry.edu | 770-521-4900
Program Report: Annual Spring Meeting and Luncheon Anthony’s Restaurant, 3109 Piedmont Road, Atlanta 2 May 2006
“Library Staff of the Future: Through a Crystal Ball”

Speaker: Rebecca Vargha, Librarian at the School of Information & Library Science at the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill.

[Editor’s Note: Rebecca, a member of the Institute of Museum & Library Services (IMLS) Workforce Team at UNC, is currently conducting a once-in-a-decade project: “A National Study on the Future of Librarians in the Workforce.” Here is how IMLS describes this study at http://www.imls.gov.

“The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill will conduct a 2 year study that will include an analysis of current and projected U.S. library workforce data by state and region, by types of employers, and by functional specializations. It will also assess the likely demand and opportunities for librarians over the next decade, the skills that librarians will need, the capacity of graduate schools of library and information science to meet projected needs, and incentives for attracting highly-qualified individuals to the field. The final report will recommend strategies for the recruitment, education, and retention of future librarians.”

This grant is part of the Laura Bush 21st Century Librarian Program, which IMLS describes as follows: “The program supports efforts to recruit and educate the next generation of librarians and the faculty who will prepare them for careers in library science. It also supports grants for research related to library education and library staffing needs, curriculum development, and continuing education and training.”

Rebecca’s remarks incorporated some of the initial findings of this study.]

What does the future hold for us? SLA President-Elect Rebecca Vargha addressed this issue in her remarks at this annual event. More than thirty chapter members gathered to meet each other - always some new faces in the crowd! - and ponder our future. Here are some highlights from the talk.

Forty years from now, will we all simply have the same title - informationist? “Libraries today are in transition, both as institutions and as a building type, every library that embarks on a building program is in a sense on its own. While there is a long tradition to draw on, there is no agreed-on paradigm for the library of the future.”

[Editor’s Note: “Memory Palace, Place of Refuge, Coney Island of the Mind: The Evolving Roles of the Library in the Late 20th Century.” Research Strategies 17:107-121, 2000]

Technology is driving a change in service models from traditional delivery methods to new ones, such as 24/7 reference.

The supply and demand for professional librarians is a recurring theme throughout the literature. Based on 1990 data from the Census Bureau, almost 58% of professional librarians will reach the age of 65 between 2005 and 2019. A synopsis of newly published data files from the 2000 census confirm the surge of retirements, but this wave of retirements will occur slightly later than original numbers indicated - from 2015-2019.


We must mentor and encourage the next generation through internships and residency programs to introduce new professionals to the field. The most valuable assets in organizations like libraries, information centers or SLA are the people. We manage:

- Information Organizations,
- Information Resources,
- Information Services, and
- Information Tools and Technologies.

Allison Evatt
Dialog, a Thomson Company
[allison.evatt@thomson.com] 404-352-0348

(continue on page 8 pictures for this event)
Georgia Chapter Member Ilene Strongin-Garry (InterContinental Hotels Group) receives 2006 Factiva Leadership Award

This year’s recipient of the Factiva Leadership Award, one of SLA’s most prestigious awards, has been awarded to SLA Georgia Chapter member, Ilene Strongin-Garry. Ilene Strongin-Garry is Senior Analyst, Library Information, Research & Trends with InterContinental Hotels Group. She has worked for IHG since 1999. The Factiva Leadership Award is “presented annually to an individual member who exemplifies leadership as a special librarian through examples of personal and professional competencies. The Award was handed out on June 11th at the Opening General Session of the 2006 SLA Annual Conference in Baltimore, Maryland. Here is the official citation:

Ilene’s selection for this award is quite unique. Her success story at InterContinental Hotels Group in Atlanta is a great example of the natural way in which librarians and information professionals can become strategically valuable to their organizations. Ilene’s adoption of the SLA Competencies for Information Professionals in the Twenty-first century in her career was not by design, but by instinct. Her innate ability to understand and meet the strategic needs of her internal clients is uncanny. She led the effort to create the first information center at her company, and has also designed a digital library so that competitive intelligence and market research information can be accessed by employees quickly and easily. After three years, the system holds nearly 3,000 items. Ilene has made presentations to SLA events on her efforts to integrate these knowledge management systems in her organization. And she has fostered strong alliances with her organization’s leaders so that they inherently understand her value to them and to the company. Ilene is a lesson-in-action that information professionals should allow their instincts to flourish while aligning their practice with their organizations’ strategies.
Meeting Announcement: SARC4 Wants You!

SLA's South Atlantic Regional Conference (SARC) express just keeps on rolling! In the November 2005 issue of Peach State Update, you read about SARC3 in Williamsburg, Virginia. On the heels of that successful meeting, planning for SARC4 is underway. The Florida chapter's Cynthia Barrancotto and Sharon Schwerzel are co-chairs of the SARC4 Steering Committee. The conference is scheduled for late February 2008 in St. Petersburg, Florida and the conference theme is “Information Professionals Mastering the Challenge of Time and Space.”

At SLA’s Annual Conference in Baltimore, Sharon hosted a casual get-together of SARC4 volunteers. As chair of SARC4’s Fund Raising / Vendor Relations Committee, I hope that the following background information will be helpful to you:

Committees and Chairs

Steering Committee:
Cynthia Barrancotto
cbarrancotto@flagler.edu
Sharon Schwerzel
sschwerz@mailier.fsu.edu

Logistics Committee:
This committee is responsible for the physical and information technology operations related to facilities leading up to and during the meeting.
CHAIR: Carolyn Edds ufriverat@gmail.com

Budget Committee:
This committee provides financial operations for the conference and covers such issues as budgeting, processing registration payments and paying expenses.
CHAIR: To Be Named

Program Committee:
This committee plans conference sessions and keynote addresses.
CHAIR: Pam Doffek
pdoffek@mailier.fsu.edu

Public Relations Committee:
This committee promotes the meeting to target audiences.
CHAIR: Janice Ballo
jrballo@mitre.org

Fund Raising / Vendor Relations Committee
This committee secures funding for the meeting from various sources. Since the meeting will be subsidized by sponsorships, this group will work closely with vendors to ensure a successful event.
CHAIR: Ernie Evangelista
ernie.m.evangelista@atl.frb.org

Web-Design / IT Committee
This committee establishes and maintains a Web presence for the meeting and will handle Web-related issues.
CHAIR: Catherine Lavallee-Welch
clw@lakeland.usf.edu

As the above list indicates, planning a conference covers many areas and involves great coordination. The reward and satisfaction are certainly worth the effort. Just ask Joanne Tobin or Karalyn Kavanaugh. Joanne was heavily involved with SARC2 in Asheville, North Carolina, while Karalyn served as Public Relations chair for SARC3. As for me, I served on the Program Committee for SARC2 and was secretary for the Budget Committee for SARC3. As already noted, I will be a committee chair for SARC4. Anyone want to join me for what should be a fun and exciting learning and development opportunity?

Ernie Evangelista | Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta | 404-498-8927 | Ernie.M.Evangelista@atl.frb.org
Meeting Announcement: Joint Conference of the Southern Chapter of the Medical Libraries Association & Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Medical Libraries Association

Theme: TOGETHER: New Horizons, New Opportunities

When: October 12-16, 2006

Where: Westin Buckhead, Peachtree St. Atlanta, Georgia

MLA’s Southern and Mid-Atlantic Chapters would like to invite you to the 2006 joint conference in Atlanta, Georgia. This meeting will bring together both chapters in the city where every day is an Opening Day. The program is chock-full of dynamic speakers, a variety of CE opportunities, informative papers & posters, and endless possibilities for fun and entertainment.

SPEAKERS
Dr. David Satcher, 16th Surgeon General of the United States, will speak on health disparities
Dr. Joe Bresee, CDC’s Influenza Branch, will speak on bird influenza
Dr. Mark Williams, Emory Healthcare, will speak on consumer health literacy

CE OPPORTUNITIES include:

SOLINET FAVORITES
Accidental Trainer ------ Disaster Preparedness
------ Survey Says! How to Conduct a Survey

FEATURE CLASSES
Lynne Waymon - How to Make a Point - Without Making an Enemy
Chris Olson - Planning Library Promotion Campaigns

HANDS ON CLASSES
Creating Online Tutorials in Less than 30 Minutes
ABC’s of DNA
Geeks Bearing Gifts - Unwrapping New Technology Trends
Public Health on the Web
Website Usability - Making Content Easy to Find

As you can see we have something for everyone. For complete meeting details to Explore New Horizons & Experience New Opportunities, visit the official conference website: http://www.hsl.ecu.edu/2006/
(L-R) Angela Welch, Rebecca Vargha (SLA President-Elect), Sally Griffin and Miriam Drake

(L-R) Sue Carlson, Karalyn Kavanaugh, Ellen Cooper and Sara June McDavid
(L-R) Bette Finn, Mary-Frances Panettiere and Patty Phipps

Julie Schein (the Cadence Group) presents sponsorship check to GA Chapter Pres. Allison Evatt, as Rebecca Vargha (SLA President-Elect looks on)
(L-R) Rebecca Vargha (SLA President-Elect) and Allison Evatt
Having a good discussion is like having riches

African proverb
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Ever thought you’d like to volunteer to help with SLA Georgia Chapter events, but weren’t sure what was needed - and didn’t want to over-commit???

There are lots of tasks that don’t require lots of time - such as:

• Take photos at a meeting
• Write a summary of a program
• Suggest a topic or speaker
• Help to organize a program
  • Speak at a program
  • Host a program

Yes, successful SLA programs need lots of people - but just a little time from each one.

Contact Allison Evatt  404-352-8053 if you would like to know more.