



The Military Librarian

The newsletter of the Military Librarians Division
of the Special Libraries Association

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MLD Donates to the SLA Professional Development Fund

The Military Librarians Division, while at the annual SLA Conference in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, donated \$3500 to the SLA Professional Development Fund. Carol Ramkey, Division Chair, made the presentation during the SLA Business meeting on 9 June after the MLD Executive Board, during their meeting, voted unanimously to donate that amount to the Fund.

When Ms. Ramkey made the presentation she gave the following remarks:



(Continued on page 2)

A Relic – or a Requirement? Understanding the Need for the Literature Search in AFRL

By Carolyn J. Ray, Corporate Librarian,
Air Force Research Laboratory, AFRL/DII, Wright-Patterson AFB Ohio

In this Google-age of ours, many people – some of our Air Force scientists and engineers among them – consider the librarian-mediated database search as a relic of the past. However, the findings of a recent AF study of the handling of scientific and technical information suggest that this is a relic we may want to keep around. The study dealt only with the literature search in the context of new projects, or the "new work unit", as we say in the Air Force. The study determined that database searching was not a "core expertise" of S&Es and recommended that only "authorized and qualified" people should perform the search when it came to new work units. In general it found that there was a need for more education as to how best to use the commercial databases available at the desktop. More specifically, when it came to the new work unit search, the study highlighted the need for standardization of the process across the AFRL sites. As a result of this, the AFRL technical librarians have been tasked to document the search process and standardize it. And so for the past several months we have wrestled with the how, why, who, what, and when of the search process.

Before going further some background: the Air Force Research Laboratory Technical Libraries operate as a multi-site consortium for the purpose of acquiring electronic resources for the 4,000 or so scientists and engineers [S&Es] across AFRL. Our geographic locations span the continent from Hanscom AFB near Boston to Edwards AFB near Los Angeles - and beyond to an AFRL site in Maui. We centrally fund, and corporately purchase electronic journals and databases that have broad demand across all the AFRL sites, while at the same time, recognizing the need for each site library to supplement and maintain the unique collections and services which they are best qualified to do.

(Continued on page 12)

Executive Board and Advisory Board Members of the MLD

OFFICE	NAME	EMAIL	TERM
MLD Chair	Carol Jacobson	Cjacobso@dtic.mil	2005-2007
Chair-elect	Nellie Moffit	Nellie.Moffitt@navy.mil	2005-2008
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Navy/Marine MLW Director	Carolyn Eaton	Carolyn.Eaton@navy.mil	2005-2007
Air Force MLW Director	Carolyn Ray	Carolyn.Ray@wpafb.af.mil	2004-2006
DOD MLW Director	Lily McGovern	Lmcgovern@ndu.edu	2005-2007

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Awards Committee

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Donation (Continued from page 1)

"The US Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps as well as the Department of Defense have long recognized and supported continuing education and professional development for their military civilian and contractor workforces.

SLA has been a leader in continuing education and professional development for our profession and has recently embarked on several exciting new initiatives.

Therefore, on behalf of the members of the Military Librarians Division and in appreciation for the benefits we have received from our membership in SLA, I have given SLA a check for \$3500 (US) towards the SLA Professional Development Fund."

Notes From the Chair

By Carol Jacobson, MLD Chair

The SLA 2005 Annual Conference in Toronto

The Military Librarians Division (MLD)-sponsored programs really stood out at the SLA 2005 Annual Conference. MLD activities began with our Executive Board Meeting on Sunday evening. Thank you to all of the Board members who were able to arrive in Toronto in time for the meeting. Our daily networking breakfasts were filled with good food, good company, and great conversation! Our programs started in full force on Monday and covered topics such as return on investment in federal libraries; knowledge sharing to provide security; and the state of Government documents. The programs were well-attended and the discussion was lively. Wendy Hill was honored at the Business Luncheon on Wednesday. The Royal Canadian Institute Tour was a fitting end to the wonderful MLD activities at this conference. A special "thank you" goes to Amy Loughran for planning this wonderful program.

MLW 2005 is jut around the corner . . .

I know that it is hard to believe, but MLW 2005 is scheduled for December 5-9 at the Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas, NV - just around the corner! Don't delay. Advanced registration ends on November 22. Anyone not registered by this date must register on-site. The theme for this year's Workshop is "Bright Lights – Military Librarians Shining in Uncertain Times." The bright lights of Las Vegas will provide a fitting backdrop for this exciting Workshop. Sandy Bradley and her team have put together a fantastic program. As always, Service meetings will be held on Monday preceding the Workshop. From Tuesday through Thursday, each morning will begin with an exciting keynote speaker. Keynote sessions will address topics such as leadership strategies, organizational innovation, and work relationships. In addition to the traditional Service and FEDLINK reports, come and learn about the latest developments in NSPS and BRAC. End your stay in Las Vegas with a Friday trip to Library at Nellis AFB, the Thunderbird Museum, the Threat Museum and the Hoover Dam. You will be on your own for lunch at Sam's Town. To register for the Workshop, go to http://www.dtic.mil/mlw/2005/mlw2005_register.html. To make your hotel contact the Riviera Hotel on 1-800-634-3420, and identify yourself as an MLW 2005 attendee to get the Workshop rate.

DMIL list

I would like to encourage all of you to use our DMIL list not only to post vacancy announcements, but also to pose questions, to share resources, and to highlight accomplishments and lessons learned. Just send your input to Tanny Franco at tfranco@dtic.mil.

For your Calendar – Nov 05 – Jun 06

49th MLW – 5-9 Dec 05

Riviera Hotel, Las Vegas, NV

<http://www.dtic.mil/mlw/2005/index.html>

SLA Leadership Summit – 18-21 Jan 06

Houston, TX

<http://www.sla.org/content/resources/leadcenter/LeadershipSummit/06leadsummit/index.cfm>

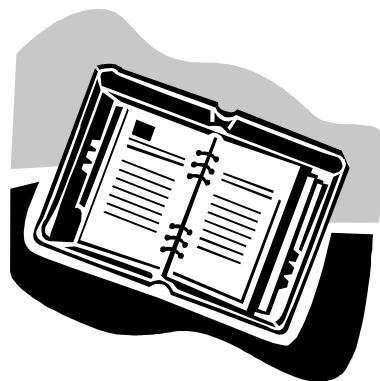
Army Library Institute 24-28 Apr 06

St Louis, MO

SLA Annual Conference 11-14 Jun 06

Baltimore, MD

<http://www.sla.org/content/Events/conference/ac2006/index.cfm>



Military Librarians Division**Executive Board Meeting****Toronto, Ontario, Canada****June 5, 2005****6:30 pm -8:00 pm****Minutes**

1. Carol Ramkey, MLD Chair called the meeting to order at the Fairmount Hotel, Toronto.
2. Carol Ramkey introduced the Executive Board and Committee Members present: Pat Alderman, Lily McGovern, Ed Burgess, Sharon Lenius, Deborah Keller, Faye Couture, Carolyn Ray, Carolyn Eaton, Amy Loughran, Greta Marlatt, Marybeth Dowdell, Carol Jacobson, Wendy Hill, Janice Pepper and Sandy Bradley. Observers: MLD Members Jan Mondale, Phyllis Cassler and Bodhan Kohudiak were also present.
3. Chair(s) Remarks:
Carol Ramkey – Welcome and happy to see so many MLD Members here in Toronto
Pat Alderman - Thanks, everyone for your cooperation and support; great things going for this Division
Carol Jacobson – Looking forward to a very good year.
4. Carol Ramkey called for a motion to accept the Agenda as printed; Ed Burgess made a motion; seconded by Carol Jacobson. Approved.
5. Carol Ramkey called for a motion to accept the Minutes of the Executive Board Meeting held in Columbia, SC, Dec 5, 2004. Approved.
6. Treasurer's Report presented by Marybeth Dowdell.
Discussion on Funding Grants for Future Professional Development. Carol Ramkey appointed Greta Marlatt, Faye Couture, Deborah Keller and Pat Alderman as a Members Benefits Working Group. This group would work on funding for professional development with emphasis on the Military Librarians Workshop.
Proposal to donate to the SLA Professional Development Fund. Discussion on how much to donate. During discussion it was decided to raise the amount to \$3500, and present check at the SLA Annual Business Meeting. Approved.
7. Membership Report: Carol Ramkey and Membership Committee Member, Deborah Keller provided the following report in the absence of the Membership Chair, Gail Nicula: Current Membership Total is 331 Members; of that total, 241 selected MLD as their Primary Division, with 90 members making MLD a secondary selected division. One member has been with MLD for 45 years. Sharon Lenius explained the difference between primary (your one, free Division) and secondary (any additional Division) membership.

8. Awards: Carol Ramkey reported for Alta Linthicum and introduced incoming Awards Chair, Faye Couture.

Two Distinguished Service Awards approved by the MLD Executive Board: The awardees are Wendy Hill and Tracy

Landfried. Wendy Hill will be receiving award in Toronto; Tracy Landfried will be honored at the MLD Luncheon in Las Vegas, Dec 2005. Carol thanked Alta Linthicum for her service the past two years.

9. Communications:

a. MILITARY LIBRARIAN: Carol Ramkey reported that Tracy Landfried, ML Editor was asking for additional volunteers; 1.) layout editor – recommended someone with experience in Microsoft Publisher; 2.) request for one article per year from Board Members. It was suggested that MLD advertise for positions in ML and on the SLA/DMIL Discussion List.

Carolyn Ray mentioned that she would write about a course.

Sharon Lenius noted that Tracy Landfried had been approached by the SLA nominating committee to run for SLA Director. If her management approves, MLD will be looking for a new ML Editor.

b. Web Page. Webmaster Pat Alderman will be updating articles and information on that page.

c. DMIL Discussion List. Continue as a moderated list. Contact Tanny Franco with announcements.

10. Old Business:

10.1 SLA 05 Final Report: Amy Loughran thanked Pat Alderman, Sharon Lenius and Wendy Hill who represented MLD at the Logistics Verification Meeting for MLD activities. Several discrepancies were found, the most telling was the need for a laptop computer for MLD programs. That was solved. Also room for MLD Business Luncheon was determined to be too small for the number of attendees. Increased to 50 people.

Amy Loughran thanked all the MLD Moderators and Program Presenters, and those working with the Evaluations.

MLD Networking Breakfasts – these will be much more than the usual Continental Breakfast; plan to attend.

Amy Loughran announced that the MLD Business Luncheon expected about 50 attendees. The Canadian Tour Company faxed tickets.

MLD Open House, at the Fairmount in the Mezzanine "Library Room." It is scheduled from 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.; unfortunately it is listed as 8 p.m. – 10 p.m. in the SLA 2005 Conference Guide. This event is open to all SLA attendees.

For the Royal Canadian Military Institute Tour, the bus will leave from the Fairmount; expecting about 20 attendees.

10.2a MLW05 Update, Las Vegas, NV, Dec 5-9, 2005. Sandy Bradley reported that the program planning was going very well. She presented some brochures on the Workshop featuring Keynote Speakers Judy Brown on "Learning and Leadership: Strategies for Ensuring Organizational Vitality" from the University of Maryland, Graduate School of Public Affairs; Rick Luce "Thriving in Chaos: A Strategic Approach to Enable Organizational Innovation" from Los Alamos National Laboratory Research Library; Dr. Jan Yager, "Who's That Sitting at My Desk? How to Succeed by Mastering Work Relationships," a prolific author and speaker.

Monies already allocated for Program Planning will be well spent. Decided not to hire a Planner.

Carol Jacobson mentioned that information on the program will need to be sent to Jim Dorsey and Sandy Scroggs for the Web Page and to Candy Parker for Registration.

10.2b MLW06 (San Antonio, TX) the 50th Anniversary Workshop. Sharon Lenius reporting for Shirley Laseter. The MLW06 Planning Committee has been meeting to discuss the program and special events. The hotel, the lovely Wyndham St Anthony near the River Walk will be the site of the 50th Anniversary Workshop, Dec 4-8, 2006. The contract has been signed.

10.2c MLW07. Since Uniformed Services Medical University will not be able to host this MLW, the responsibility falls back on the Army to find a host. Army Representative, Ed Burgess reported that he is negotiating with Jim Moore at Ft Campbell, KY to sponsor MLW in Nashville in 2007.

10.2d Future MLW's. Carol Ramkey reported on the results of the survey concerning which months and how much additional over per diem attendees would pay.

Preferred Months:

February
November
December
January

These results were very close and the sense of the Board is that the Host input to this would be the determining factor. A case can be made for and against each month. The "over per diem" was not clear cut either; however people held the line at \$25 over per diem.

10.3 MLW Practices Document. Janice Pepper reported that there were no changes.

11. New Business

11.1 MLD Finances. Donation of \$3500.00 to SLA Professional Development Fund. To be presented at SLA Business Meeting in Toronto. It is hoped that other Chapters and Divisions will follow MLD example. Carol Ramkey will read statement from a floor microphone at the appropriate time. Consulting with Ethel Salonen on timing. Committee mentioned under Treasurer's Report, #6 will be suggesting other ways of supporting MLD members and SLA.

11.2 MLD Members/Non-Members at MLW. Tim Renick suggested inviting MLW Registrants who are not MLD members or SLA Members to join prior to their arrival at the Workshop site. (He sent this via e-mail)

ACTEDS (Army Prof Ed fund) funded attendees should be encouraged to join.

Lily McGovern suggested a program on the value of MLD Membership. Perhaps for the 50th Anniversary. Ed Burgess suggested that we approach student members of SLA.

11.3 Carol Ramkey spoke about Bob Lane's Memoirs, much of it dealt with libraries and MLD/MLW. He would

like MLD to fund publication. The Board Members did not feel this was appropriate, however, Greta Marlatt suggest that he might want to put it up as and Electronic Publication since he did not appear to want to make a profit from the book. He will be at MLW06; Greta Marlatt further suggested that we print one copy and bind appropriately for his speaker gift. Another suggestion was to ask Carroll Publishing if they would be interested in publishing the Memoirs.

11.4 Future Direction of MLD Discussion List, tabled. The sense of the Board was that a moderated list best served the membership.

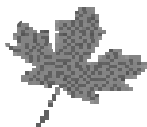
12. News items for MLD Annual Business Meeting. Carol Ramkey suggested:

- a. Announcement at MLD Business Meeting that the Board had voted to donate \$3500.00 to SLA for the Professional Development Fund.
- b. Guidelines for future hosts' of MLD
- c. Working Group established on Member Benefits Enhancement with emphasis on education.
- d. Newsletter: Layout Editor, Assistant Editor needed.

There being no further MLD business, Carol Ramkey called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Pat Alderman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Carol Jacobson. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Lenius
MLD Secretary



Right: Phyllis Cassler
And Wendy Hill

Photos by
Sharon Lenius

Below: Bohdan Kohutiak
and Greta Marlatt



More Photos from the SLA 2005 Annual Conference in Toronto, Canada

Photos by Sharon Lenius

Some attendees found the conference topics absolutely intoxicating,.....

While others seemed to be puzzled.



At least one member felt that she reached new heights as a military librarian.....



Report on a FLICC Brown Bag series: The Embedded Librarian: Making and Leading the Team

by Tracy Landfried

Three National Institutes of Health (NIH) Informationists and a Librarian from USA Today discussed their experiences as "embedded" librarians.

The article cited below is the source for the title that the NIH Librarians now have.

Davidoff, F; Florance, V. "The informationist: A new health profession?"

ANNALS OF INTERNAL MEDICINE, 132 (12): 996-998
JUN 20 2000. ISSN: 0003-4819

Karen Smith, Biomedical Librarian/Informationist at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, described the evolution of her work with the Hematology Team from providing regular literature searches to attending monthly protocol planning meetings and weekly interdisciplinary rounds, including the patient care unit, where she carries a tablet pc to answer questions as they come up.

Douglas James Joubert, Biomedical Informationist, NIH Library, described his work and research. He uses the tools his researchers use, including Linux instead of Windows, and pine for email. He uses a laboratory notebook to track his daily activities and a project workbook for specific projects. He also "brands" his work – as do all NIH Librarians.

Diane Cooper, NIH Library, is an Informationist for the Indian Health Service. She described her journey from stranger to team member in the Bureau of Indian Services Health Care system. She was a stranger until she made personal contact

with NIH doctors at a conference. She was able to persuade them to give her a chance. Now she has demonstrated her work and worth to them and their patients. There is much work still to be done. She is "embedded" in a multi-site system.

All NIH Informationists/Librarians are required to take four hours of related graduate or undergraduate level classes each semester to learn the specialties of their team.

The embedding of Informationists is useful – they know the needs of their team and can fulfill them immediately. Though NIH has many desktop services, Informationists save researcher's time and include non-Internet or pay-per-use resources (i.e., DIALOG, STN) not on the desktop in their work.

Bruce Rosenstein, USA Today, spends part of his time in the newsroom and part in the Library. Embedded librarians at USA Today are relatively new. Reporters and editors can call on "their" librarian or call the library for urgently needed data. Rosenstein described the process as related to "embedded" journalists with military units in Afghanistan and Iraq. He is on the ground with "his" troops. He knows their needs and can sometimes meet them before they are fully articulated.

Embedded librarians work in many settings. Librarians who can overcome resistance and prove themselves to their team have much to offer their organizations.



Military Librarians Workshop 2005

Bright Lights – Military Librarians Shining in Uncertain Times

Hosted by the NAVAIR Weapons Division Technical Library

Agenda

Sunday, December 4th

1:00 to 6:00 Air Force Meeting – Room C105

6:00 to 8:00 MLD Board Meeting – Room C104

Monday, December 5th

8:00 to 4:00 Service meetings – DOD Rm. C104, Air Force Rm. C105, Army Rm. C106, Navy Rm. C107

12:00 to 1:00 Registration is open for pre-registered attendees ONLY – East Desk

4:00 to 6:00 Registration is open for all – East Desk

6:00 to 8:00 Vendor reception – Exhibit Hall Room C101/102

Visit the Cyber Café

*to check your email or search the Web!
Open between 10:00 and 3:00 Tuesday
through Thursday in Room C103*

Tuesday, December 6th – “Learn the Game”

7:30 to 8:30 Registration is open – East Desk

7:30 to 4:30 Information Booth – East Desk

7:30 to 4:30 Exhibits are open – Room C101/102

7:30 to 8:30 Continental breakfast in Exhibit Hall Room C101/102

8:30 to 9:30 Keynote Speaker, Judy Brown, “Leadership and Learning: Strategies for Ensuring Organizational Vitality” How can the way we think about the work of leadership, and our awareness of the dynamics of leadership teams increase our effectiveness as leaders of learning organizations? This interactive opening session will explore some contemporary and classically important frameworks for the practice of leadership in learning communities, and in particular the challenges of the practice of leadership in an intellectual enterprise. Brown teaches leadership in the graduate School of Public Affairs of the University of Maryland and serves as the Director of Education, Outreach and Training for the University's National Center for Smart Growth.

9:30 to 10:00 Film clips and discussion

10:00 to 10:30 Morning Break – *Visit the Exhibits*

10:30 to 11:30 Matt Anderson will speak on Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC), giving a historical perspective on BRAC with implications for the current BRAC. Matt was Head of the Base Realignment and Closure Office, Naval Air Warfare Center (1994-1995) and responsible for all aspects of base realignment and closure for the four Naval Research, Development, Test & Evaluation bases in the Western United States. His effort resulted in the China Lake Base being rated #1, and the Point Mugu base #2 in military value of all the technical centers in the Navy.

11:30 to 12:00 The Air Force Report will be given by Barbara Wrinkle, Director, Air Force Libraries

12:00 to 1:30 Lunch provided in the Exhibit Hall

1:30 to 2:30 Don Summer, Human Resources Specialist with NAVAIR, will speak on the National Security Personnel System (NSPS). Summer has served on an NSPS Working Group, and has first-hand knowledge of the demonstration project in place at China Lake. He will cover the reasons NSPS is needed by DoD, what it will mean for civil servants, and the current status of NSPS.

2:30 to 3:00 The FEDLINK report will be given by Roberta Shaffer, Executive Director

3:00 to 3:30 Afternoon Break – *Visit the Exhibits*

3:30 to 5:00 Technology Update – 30+ Great Ideas in 90 minutes - presented by our Vendors

5:15 to 6:45 MECC Meeting (Military Education Coordination Conference) (Room TBA)

Evening: Dinner and entertainment on your own.

Wednesday, December 7th – “Increase Your Odds”

7:30 to 8:30 Registration is open – East Desk

7:30 to 4:30 Information Booth – East Desk

7:30 to 4:30 Exhibits are open – Room C101/102

7:30 to 8:30 Continental Breakfast in Exhibit Hall

8:30 to 9:30 Keynote Speaker, Rick Luce, “Thriving in Chaos: A Strategic Approach to Enable Organizational Innovation.” Rick Luce is the Research Library Director at Los Alamos National Laboratory. He is widely known as a digital library pioneer and organizational innovator. He will speak about using Strategic Business Management in his library. This talk traces some of the development and evolutionary stages of a research library repositioned to adapt to continuous change in the environment. A glimpse under the hood at LANL's Research Library will share approaches and lessons learned in the development of a strategic context to re-examine how well your library is positioned to thrive in chaos.

9:30 to 10:00 Film clips and discussion.

10:00 to 10:30 Morning Break – *Visit the Exhibits*

10:30 to 11:30 Army Knowledge Management Communities of Practice

11:30 to 12:00 The Army Report will be given by Ann Parham, Librarian of the Army

12:00 to 1:30 Lunch on your own.

1:30 to 2:30 Patricia Breivik will speak on "Information Literacy (IL)." Breivik served as Chair of the National Forum on Information Literacy, an umbrella group of over 80 national and international organizations concerned with the need for people to be able to access and use information effectively. She has authored books on the topic of IL was also the Dean of San Jose State University Library until 2005.

2:30 to 3:00 The DOD/DTIC Report will be given by Carol Jacobson of the Defense Technical Information Center and Lily McGovern of National Defense University Library.

3:00 to 3:30 Afternoon Break – *Visit the Exhibits*

3:30 to 4:30 Teresa Bailey, Librarian at the Jet Propulsion Lab, California Institute of Technology, will speak on “Storytelling in the JPL Library: From Practice to Theory.” Bailey has found storytelling to be an effective way to communicate and understand an organization’s culture that can help employees develop a sense of organizational identity. She will be assisted by a group from the NAVAIR Technical Library at China Lake, CA.

4:30 to 5:00 The Navy Report will be given by Nellie Moffitt of the Navy General Library Program and James King, Director, Naval Research Lab Library.

6:00 to 9:00 MLW Dinner and entertainment – Top of the Riviera, South

Thursday December 8th – “Place Your Bets”

7:30 to 8:30 Registration is open – East Desk

7:30 to 12:00 Information Booth – East Desk

7:30 to 8:30 Continental Breakfast in the conference area

8:30 to 9:30 Keynote Speaker, Jan Yager, “Who’s That Sitting At My Desk? How to Succeed by Mastering Work Relationships.” Jan Yager uses the word *workship* to describe the essential work relationship that is more than an acquaintance but less than a friendship. She will cover how to start, and maintain, a workship, how to turn a workship into a friendship, if you think that's advantageous, handling a friendship with your boss or employee, four positive workships that every worker needs, 14 potential foes you may encounter at work and how to deal with them, international concerns, opposite-sex considerations, how to cultivate positive relationships with movers and shakers, dealing with conflict, and how to maintain workships or friendships after a job or career change. Yager has published more than 20 books including *Who’s That Sitting At My Desk* in 2004.

9:30 to 10:00 Film clips and discussion

10:00 to 10:30 Morning Break

10:30 to 11:30 Michael Loescher will speak on "The Paradox of the Information Revolution – Losing Knowledge and How to Prevent It." Loescher is the Executive Director of the Copernicus Institute. He is the originator of the Navy's Copernicus Architecture, the Service's first Information Warfare doctrines. He is a contributing author to three books on Information Warfare and numerous papers and articles on related topics.

11:30 to 12:00 The SLA Report will be given by Janice Lachance, Executive Director of SLA.

12:00 to 1:30 Luncheon and MLW Business Meeting – Room C101/102

1:30 to 3:00 A Knowledge Café and Wrap-Up Session will be facilitated by Joan Goppelt and Keith Ray from the People, Process, and Product Resource (P³R) group, a NAVAIR internal support group that provides organizational systems engineering. This dynamic experience will foster the MLW community and build on our collective intelligence through the power of conversation. Goppelt and Ray are experienced internal change agents, facilitators, process consultants, trainers, and coaches.

3:00 to 3:30 Afternoon Break

3:30 to 4:00 Knowledge Café Wrap Up

4:00 to 4:30 Closing Ceremonies and preview of MLW 2006

5:00 to 7:00 Optional presentation on Information Warfare - Michael Loescher has given this presentation across the country and he volunteered to add it to the MLW agenda and share it with all who would like to attend. (Room TBA)

5:30 to 7:30 Lessons Learned for the MLW Committee – Room C116

Evening: Dinner and entertainment on your own.

Friday December 9th

8:30 to 5:00 Tours – Meet in Room C103, grab a breakfast-to-go before boarding the bus

Nellis AFB -- Library, The Thunderbird Museum and the Threat Museum

Lunch break at Sam's Town (Dutch Treat)

Tour of Hoover Dam area

Showcase 2005: MLW Vendor/Partners, a Catalog of Library Products and Services

By Sharon Lenius

The exhibits by our Vendor/Partners have a lot to live up to in Las Vegas. The open exhibit area in Columbia, SC with the wonderful holiday lighted trees is difficult to top! Glitzy Vegas could possibly do that with great holiday decorations to feature our 35 vendors. The Exhibits will be located in Capri I and II near the Registration Desk and the main Workshop Conference Room at the Riviera Hotel. All Networking Breakfasts, Breaks and Tuesday Lunch will be in the Exhibits Area to give all a chance to visit with friends and browse the vendor tables for new ideas for your libraries. Many people requested a Cyber Café and this year we will have one in a separate room near the Registration Desk.

The Vendor Show is a great opportunity to meet government and DoD representatives from a variety of businesses. Some of the vendors are a "known quantity," people you have done business with for years. You will be able to learn about new products and technologies from them. Explore the possibilities of our "first time" presenters, too. These are the people who know the federal market and want to make your job easier.

Returning to exhibit you will find our Three-Star Partners for MLW05 – Thomson West, Thomson Scientific, and Dialog. A new vendor in the Three-Star arena is Gateway-DLT Solutions, Inc, supplying the Cyber Café.

Among Two-Star Partners you see familiar faces from Knovel, Swets, LexisNexis, Jane's, Bowker, Factiva and Landmark Audiobooks. Newcomers as vendor/partners at the Two Star level are Praeger (Greenwood Publishing), SirsiDynix, Elsevier and Ex Libris.

One Star sponsors include Thomson Gale, ProQuest, Facts On File, CSA, OCLC, and PTFS. New this year are Comex Systems, IOP Publishing and ebrary. Among Eagle Level vendors you will find some returning favorites: John Wiley & Sons, H.W. Wilson Company, EBSCO Information Services, Newsbank and GSA. New at the Eagle Level are 3M, Baker & Taylor, and Carroll Publishing. Other organizations represented will be IEEE, DTIC and FEDLINK.

Sin City: A View From the Inside



by Deborah Keller

As most of you know by know, the Military Librarians Workshop is going to be held in Las Vegas this year. Sin City. So, I'm sure you've all been wondering... what is it really like there? Like any savvy researcher, I found some primary documents in the form of Las Vegas inhabitants, and did some personal observation of my own. I want to share what I've learned with all of you.

Las Vegas is visually loud. From the moment you step off the plane, your senses will be assaulted with lights, jingling slot machines, bright colors, things constantly moving fast, lots of people, and continuous action. This is a city that never sleeps. Rest ahead and plan accordingly.

The Riviera Hotel, where the MLW will be taking place, is near one end of the Strip. Lining both sides of the strip for about two miles are casinos. Each one has its own theme, from Ancient Egypt or Rome to a Circus, New York City, medieval Venice, or Treasure Island. Most casino-hotels are gigantic, each more plush than the previous one built. They offer slot machines, computerized games, sports betting, bingo, keno, and unique house games. Most also offer tables to play poker, craps, roulette, and more. A recently built monorail system makes the transportation from one venue to another much easier.

With such dense entertainment space, I turned to an insider* to filter out what was really worthwhile. Among the casinos, he recommends first and foremost Caesar's Palace. Caesar's, he says, is the first of the glamorous resort casinos. It projects luxury and cache. He likes Treasure Island, because its theme and interior décor are so unique. And for pure size, he suggests that you visit the MGM Grand. He says every time he goes in there, he gets completely and totally lost, something that he finds appealing, I think, because he enjoys the discovery of finding something new each time he steps inside. I would add my recommendation of the Luxor. I was fascinated by the elevators that rose up the angular walls.

Las Vegas has developed into a large and growing city, because it provides entertainment for its numerous visitors. My insider tells me that dance reviews, whether fully or partially clothed, magic shows, and variety shows are quite popular and that most hotels have a show of some kind. Ladies, this is your chance to see the Chippendales or the Thunder from Down Under, a similar group from Australia. My insider recommends the variety show at our own Riviera hotel, Splash. Gents, the 10:00 version of the show is topless. I was also told that there are ladies dancing every day on the pirate ship at Treasure Island. If magic is your thing, look for David Copperfield at the MGM Grand, Lance Burton at the Monte Carlo, and Penn and Teller at the Rio. And if you are interested in a major theatre-type production, look for one of Cirque du Soleil's shows at the MGM Grand or Treasure

Island, the Blue Man Group at the Venetian, or Mamma Mia! at Mandalay Bay.

In my mind, food is a large component of entertainment. Like any large city, Las Vegas has its share of good restaurants, particularly in its large hotels. Being a tourist attraction, it has attracted numerous star chefs. Emeril Lagasse has restaurants at MGM Grand and the Venetian; Wolfgang Puck cooks at Caesar's Palace, MGM Grand, Mandalay Bay, and the Venetian; Bobby Flay recently opened his grill at Caesar's Palace, and Michael Mina and Nobu cook at namesake restaurants in the Bellagio and Hard Rock. Other excellent choices abound. My insider tells me that Ristorante Italiano at the Riviera makes fabulous veal parmesan. He also recommends the Hofbräuhaus at the corner of Paradise and Harmon. This is a replica of the one in Munich, and it serves a wide selection of beer, including German imports and microbrews. You should also try that Vegas legend, the House of Blues, known best for its gospel brunch, at Mandalay Bay.

In addition to the casinos, there are a few sights that those who live there recommend seeing. First, my insider recommends the Stratosphere Tower. Not only is this one of the tallest buildings in the valley, visible from nearly the entire area, it has amusement park rides and a restaurant at the top. The view of the lights and the mountains at night must be absolutely amazing. He also recommends the Freemont Street experience. Every night, a laser light show is played on the steel cage above a two or three block length of Freemont Street. Like many fireworks displays these days, there is a soundtrack that accompanies the light show. This "downtown" area of Las Vegas is older, quieter, and less flashy than the strip. If you are new to gambling and only want to risk a few pennies—literally—try one of the casinos along Freemont Street.

It is almost a must that you take home some souvenirs for your friends or officemates that shows them where you've been traveling, though you should pass up that tacky snow globe, because it doesn't ever snow in the desert. Fashion Show Mall is the big shopping mecca for the locals, but the designer boutiques are located in the Forum Shops at Caesar's Palace. There is also a lovely collection of specialty stores including an ink and paper store with beautiful journals and the Jimmy Choo shop a few doors down along the canal inside the Venetian.

Attending the conference and trying to squeeze in all of this sightseeing in 1 week will completely wipe me out, I'm sure. So, I'll need to plan a spa treatment for Friday evening when we return from Hoover Dam. A little electronic research turned up the Canyon Ranch SpaClub at the Venetian, world famous for its therapeutic treatments as well as its light and healthy cuisine, and the Elemis Spa at Aladdin, a European-style spa most known for massages and mineral soaks. Truefitt and Hill at the Forum Shops at Caesar's Palace also caught my eye. While I plan to relax in a lavender-scented

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Taxonomies: An SLA Class to Define, Use and Create Them

by Deborah Keller

The Special Libraries Association conference 2005 in Toronto was packed full of informative sessions and useful workshops. The one that I found most valuable was "Taxonomies for Indexing: A Hands-On Approach." Taught by Alice Redmond-Neal and Jay Ven Eman of Access Innovations, Inc., the class defined the term taxonomy, placing it in the context of related terms such as thesaurus, hierarchy, and controlled vocabulary. They also provided numerous examples where taxonomies might be useful.

Redmond-Neal and Ven Eman defined taxonomy as a thesaurus built in hierarchical form entirely from controlled vocabulary terms with specific objects or documents "hanging" as leaves on the final branches. The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and National Information Standards Organization (NISO) each define taxonomy and thesaurus; the differences between them are slight. Definitional differences between the terms thesaurus and taxonomy as well as between different standards organizations are diminishing as new versions are accepted.

The thesaurus, the most time and labor intensive portion of taxonomy-building, is built by creating a term record for each word chosen to be included in the thesaurus, much the same way there is an authority record for each corporate body or subject term in any OPAC. These term records include the preferred term, non-preferred terms, broader or narrower terms if there are any, related terms, scope notes, and a term history.

So how are thesaurus terms chosen? Terms are chosen for their importance in the subject area for which the taxonomy is being developed. Use natural language, terms used in the literature, by organizations, or by the community that will be using the thesaurus. Choose terms that are clear that have the necessary level of specificity or detail. Choose a term with a "parent" or "child" relationship toward another term that you've already used so that a hierarchy develops.

As you choose terms, you need to control for the formulation of synonyms, words that mean the same thing but are spelled differently. This is best handled by selecting one of the terms as preferred and making the other a non-preferred term. Homographs, two or more words that are spelled the same way but mean different things, also present problems when building a thesaurus. Either select terms that are less ambiguous, or use parenthetical qualifiers (i.e., Bush (President) and bush (plant)) to make the terms more specific. Use compound terms if single-word terms are not sufficient to describe the concept.

There are two basic ways that you can go about outlining your subject field with terminology in a systematic way: a top

down approach or a bottom up approach. In a top down approach, determine which topical areas are core and which are peripheral to the subject field. Scan reference sources for appropriate terminology to be included in the thesaurus. In a bottom up approach, select a representative sample of documents. Scan their content for words that should be included in the taxonomy. Almost any kind of books, documents, electronic resources, or search logs may be sources of thesaurus terms.

Throughout their class, Redmond-Neal and Ven Eman used Access Innovations/Data Harmony's Thesaurus Master and MAIstro software. Though they used the software marketed by their own company because it was what was most familiar to them, I did not feel that the class was an infomercial for their products. Thesaurus Master is a customized database designed to help the user build term records for his/her thesaurus, as well as to link together term records that are related, creating the hierarchy. MAIstro is a machine automated indexer. It stores rules about how the thesaurus should be applied against documents. When a new document is run against MAIstro, it suggests thesaurus terms that are appropriate, including relevance ranking based on the number of times these terms or non-preferred terms occurred within the document. You may then accept or select from the terms that MAIstro recommends, or add additional controlled terms.

Both Redmond-Neal and Ven Eman mentioned numerous other products that are currently used in taxonomy work, including Synaptica, Quiver, Vivisimo, and others. Visually, the main difference between these products is how they present their data. Behind the scenes, another difference between them is whether they take a statistical approach, constantly scanning through lots of data and presenting a numerical summary result, or a rule-based approach, requiring human intervention to clarify each confusing situation. MAIstro fits into the latter category. Both presenters recommended experimenting with statistical as well as rule-based taxonomy tools.

As the first presentation that I attended at SLA this year, I was very energized by this class. It was long (an entire day), but I was more excited by this topic at the end of the class than at the beginning. The instructors, particularly Alice Redmond-Neal, were very approachable and made taxonomies as a concept understandable even for someone who hadn't worked with them or read about the topic before.

Though time-consuming, I think that creating and using customized thesauri and taxonomies can be useful for many military libraries. All of us have long since moved away from a strictly print environment, and increasingly, we find that Library of Congress Subject Headings are inadequate to describe the contents of the materials we have in our collections. Terms from a locally-created thesaurus could be an excellent addition to LCSH terms when assigning terms to digitized materials. A shared taxonomy is also a way to link together libraries with similar interests, such as naval undersea warfare or missile defense.

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While we want the site libraries to be robust and proactive in serving their customers, they also need to conform to certain standards; to be consistent with AF requirements as well as accepted library practice. In the case of the new work unit search, we needed to document what was to be standard practice within AFRL. We were tasked to look at this process, involve the S&Es, and come up with a consistent approach. We decided to do a thorough review and document exactly what the search consists of, why we do it, who should do it, when we do it, and what is the content and process of the search. In all of this, our underlying goal is to reinforce upon our organization the librarians' role and the educational and economic value that we add in the literature search process.

Why the need?

A search of the scientific and technical literature is required to ensure that DoD research is not unnecessarily duplicated at the taxpayer's expense and is based on the foundations of existing technology. The literature search should also identify related efforts and other researchers in similar fields, so that AFRL S&Es can build their projects on current or past experience. The search can also identify commercial potential by revealing companies which have worked in specific areas. The DTIC Research Summaries, one of the databases required, lists contact information which can put researchers in touch with colleagues working in related areas, providing networking opportunities and help in refining the research project, if necessary.

Conducting the literature search should also reinforce to the researcher the importance of submitting interim and final reports to DTIC. Researchers should see the value, both economic and social, in providing others, with a need to know, with the ability to locate the research being conducted at AFRL, so that proper credit can be given. AFRL researchers should always strive to make their work known, consistent with DoD guidelines, to researchers in industry or academia, in order to attract individuals and institutions outside AFRL who might be able to contribute to future projects.

**Who Should Conduct the Search?**

Yes, who indeed! Left to their own devices, many of our S&Es would answer that question by saying "well, myself, of course – after all, I have a Ph.D.!" Experience, however, does not support the idea that S&Es are expert or experienced enough to conduct thorough literature reviews. We see it time and time again, and seemingly no matter how hard we try to promote and train them, there is a tendency to stick with what they know, or, *quelle horreur*, to think that a Google search would suffice! It may be human nature, to take the least painful method, or the most familiar route to satisfy a requirement. But with taxpayer dollars on the line in the case of the new work unit, an expert search is called for.

The librarian brings two things to the search process – expertise and objectivity. As librarians, we know how hard it is to keep up with the plethora of choices in databases and the unique functionalities of each. And we work with them on a daily basis! How can S&Es possibly hope to know all of the sources that would constitute an exhaustive search? Then there is the objectivity that someone without a vested interest in the project, brings to the search. With so much time, effort and funding involved in any scientific project, we must insure that all pertinent databases are queried and no stone is left unturned.

For later searches, it may be sufficient to search the Internet, or keep up with the literature in the field in whatever manner the researcher normally uses. For the first search, however, both the librarian, with their knowledge of the databases available and how to most effectively search them, and the researcher, with their knowledge of the subject field and the terminology being used, are both necessary components of any thorough literature search.

When to Conduct the Search:

Conducting an initial literature search when a project is in its earliest conceptual stage can change the direction, or shape and refine various aspects of the project. It is not mandatory, but in AFRL, we strongly encourage that this initial search be done by an expert – the technical librarian. This is a training opportunity for the S&E. They can get training on the various sources available at the desktop, set up alerts, set up a DTIC STINET account, and make adjustments if needed to the direction of the project.

After the initial informal literature search is completed, an updated search should be conducted periodically or at least every 6 months. This can be accomplished either ad hoc by the researcher, or by the librarian, or, if the alerts are returning appropriate results, they can suffice as periodic searches.

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When the contract start date is within 6 months, then it is time for the mandatory new work unit search. At this time, the librarian is required to perform the search and collect the documentation necessary to be filed in the R&D case file.

The content of the new work unit search

The search must cover Department of Defense, federal (e.g. – NTIS or FEDRIP [Federal research in progress]) and commercial databases. A complete search of the open literature includes the full range of databases that are pertinent to the inquiry.

The agency responsible for organizing and indexing all research funded by the Department of Defense is the Defense Technical Information Center (DTIC). DTIC provides access to this research through the Scientific and Technical Information Network (STINET), the public version and the private version. Private STINET, the interface required for the new work unit literature search, provides access not only to public release citations and documents, but also to limited distribution citations and documents (Unclassified, Limited) and includes unclassified citations to classified documents.

Private STINET contains three databases, all of which are required for the new work unit literature search:

- Technical Reports (TR) Database (completed DoD research)
- Research Summaries (RS) Database (interim reports of ongoing DoD research efforts)
- Independent Research & Development (IR&D) Database (restricted to DoD; contractor proprietary information)

Classified STINET, also available to authorized personnel, includes all of the above as well as classified citations to classified documents in the TR Database and classified summaries from the RS Database. If the research is likely to be based on classified terminology/fields, searching Classified STINET is advisable.

Beyond the DTIC databases, there is the world of other federal and commercial open literature and many scientific/technical fee-based databases, such as IEEE Xplore, Engineering Village, the Aerospace Database and others. In AFRL, we use Serials Solutions Central Search product as the federated search tool which allows cross-searching across our flat-fee or “owned” databases. Central Search is primarily an end-user tool, but it can be employed in the new work unit search also. When supplemented with transaction-based Abstract and Indexing databases such as Dialog or STN, then the Technical Libraries can provide the researcher with information accessible beyond what is available at the desktop, and can therefore offer the most comprehensive searching possible.

5. The Search Process:

To accomplish the mandatory new work unit literature search, the researcher completes a form [nothing can be done without a form!] which spells out the nature of the search request and suggested keywords. This form is then submitted, preferably by e-mail to the AFRL Technical Library that serves the researcher’s site. At the same time, we recommend that the researcher make an appointment with the librarian to have the search done. A detailed interview process will ensure that the librarian understands the nature of the problem and can construct an appropriate search strategy. Although time and staffing does not always allow it, with both the S&E and the librarian present, the search becomes an interactive, more efficient process. Feedback on the results allows the librarian to refine and narrow the search to get exactly what the researcher wants, and feedback from the librarian helps the researcher clarify the topic being researched. This experience should help better prepare the researcher to do subsequent searches for “continuing awareness” on their own.

The results of the search are provided in citation/bibliographic format. If after review, full-text articles or reports are desired, the researcher may request that they be obtained or may download them directly if available at the desktop. If not readily available, AFRL Technical Libraries can obtain most reports or articles that not owned within two weeks of request.

With the search strategy refined so that it retrieves appropriate results, that strategy will be used to establish alerts in the various databases. In this way the researcher will be automatically notified when new information is published that relates to his or her project.

The search strategy is documented on the form, along with the librarian-assigned search control number and the signature of the librarian who conducted the search. The form will indicate the search strategy, syntax employed and number of hits and may have attached database print-outs as documentation. Once completed, it is ready to be filed in the proper section of the six-part folder of the R&D Case File. As the project progresses, the researcher should continue to conduct ongoing searches and to document them as a “continuous awareness program” for the Case File. It is not mandatory, but the researcher may request that a librarian perform the current awareness search on a periodic basis.

Summary

The Air Force has recognized the importance of the literature search in the case of new work units, and has further recognized that it should be done by qualified personnel [read librarian]. This is as it should be in any research organization. Librarians have a core expertise that is crucial to R&D – we are the searchers and the educators who know the sci-tech literature and can objectively look at a problem and present the best and most comprehensive data that will contribute to and shape a project. Let scientists do science and engineers do engineering – but let the librarians keep them honest!

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bath at the spa of my choice, the Gentlemen's Barbershop will cater to the men in the group who also need a little pampering before returning home.

I'm sure I've forgotten to ask my insider lots of things that will be useful to know, but I hope I've given you some good ideas about where to start your sightseeing so that a week in Las Vegas won't seem so short or the Strip quite so overwhelming.

*When he is not giving tourist advice, my insider, Donald Bohm, teaches high school science at Spring Valley High School on the west edge of Las Vegas. He has lived in Vegas for 12 years.



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