LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

A Year of Trials and Triumphs

This past year has been a model in resilience. SLA Business & Finance (B&F) members have leveraged what we have learned from the COVID-19 pandemic to connect and collaborate throughout the year online, while still prioritizing the in-person meetings that invigorate us and strengthen our collegial bonds.

SLA 2022 in Charlotte was a fantastic opportunity to network with colleagues old and new. I was impressed by the number of student members in attendance. It is a credit to our colleagues and SLA staff that the conference felt - above all - safe from a public health perspective. As always, our business and finance professionals contributed some of the most compelling educational sessions. I particularly enjoyed:

- “Getting Real with Entrepreneurship”, presented by Steve Cramer and Morgan Ritchie-Baum
- “You, Me, and the SEC Analyzing Financial Data”, presented by Julia Stahl, Kevin Miles, and Mark Gediman
- “Certified Unicorn: Non-traditional Certifications or Credentials That Lead to Career Success”, presented by Lateka Grays and Richard Huffine

And this is to say nothing of the incisive keynotes, relevant sessions led by non-B&F members, and new ideas shared via posters! Many of these sessions are available on SLA’s Learning Hub as recordings, so if you haven’t had a chance to view them, please do! We’ve also seen excellent programming offered by our community members this year, including events led by Lynn Weinstein, SLA President-Elect Seema Rampersad, and SLA Treasurer-Elect Eugene Giudice, to name just a few. Be sure to mark your calendars for MLA SLA in May of 2023, which will be both online and in person in the Motor City: Detroit, MI, USA!

As you know, the Special Libraries Association is at an inflection point. Please do attend the Open Board meetings and Presidential Updates that are promoted on SLA Connect to stay current. Our top-level leadership is working hard to ensure the longevity of the overarching organization in this time of upheaval. It is even more important now to volunteer within the Business & Finance Community, to help futureproof our group as central SLA retrenches. A special thank you to those volunteers who have been working tirelessly to keep the trains running and provide a sense of normalcy over the past few years.
Barbara “Bobbi” Coffey of Princeton University will be taking the reins next year, and I am excited that she has both the Wall Street and higher education experience that will allow her to connect deeply with all of our members. I know our division is in good hands with Bobbi.

From Conference, to member-organized events, to our annual awards, this year we’re seen some of the best work from our members. We’re creating value for one another, sharing our expertise, and helping move careers and organizations forward. I’d like to thank our community members for their contributions, Business & Finance’s Executive and Advisory Boards for their excellent work this year, and Anne Barker (our Board Liaison) and the entire SLA Board for their continued advocacy and leadership.

See you in Detroit!

Dan Hickey, B&F Chair ‘22

AWARDS

The Business & Finance Division offers several awards to individual members each year. Congratulations to the 2022 award winners:

Outstanding Achievement in Business Librarianship:

Hal Kirkwood

This award recognizes a Division member who has made an outstanding contribution to the field of business and finance librarianship and information science. Awarded annually to a member of the Business and Finance Division, the achievement may encompass any area of professional endeavor including, but not limited to, exemplary management, innovative product or service development, research, creative applications of technology, teaching, publishing, leadership in the field, and the dissemination of knowledge to users. The B&F Award for Outstanding Achievement originated in 1984. This award is generously sponsored by Global Financial Data.
Achievement in Academic Business Librarianship Award:

Kelly LaVoice

This award began in 2008 and is administered through the College & University Business Libraries Section of the Division. The intent of the award is to recognize the accomplishments of librarians who are new to the field of academic business librarianship. This award is generously sponsored by Simply Analytics.
Distinguished Member Award:

Jennifer Boettcher

Since 1985, the Business and Finance Community has presented its Distinguished Member Award to an outstanding member who has worked in the profession for more than 25 years. This award is intended to honor individuals who have made exemplary contributions to the field of business librarianship throughout the course of their career. This award is generously sponsored by PrivCo.
New Member Spotlight

Meet Erin Wachowicz

Member since: 2018

Which communities do you belong to? Business & Finance Division

Position title: Librarian for Business & Management

Where do you work? Yale University Library

Hobbies: Traveling, exploring new restaurants & breweries, visiting museums & zoos

Who have been your mentors in SLA? There have been many, but the SLA members I met through my affiliations in other groups, namely the Academic Business Library Directors group, led me to get involved.

What is your favorite SLA memory? Attending my first Annual Conference in Cleveland.

Name something that most other members don’t know about you: Before becoming a librarian, I worked in different university student services roles, including career management and study abroad. Those experiences have been instrumental in how I approach my work in my current position.

Meet Tim Coady

Member since 2021

Which communities do you belong to? Business & Finance Division

Position title: Intern, Walker Management Library

Where do you work? I currently work at Vanderbilt University, in two roles- most days, I’m an assistant in our Government Documents unit, helping with a major move. I’m also an intern at the Walker Management Library at the Owen School of Management. In January, I will be starting a role as the librarian for business at Tulane’s Freeman School of Business.

Hobbies: I love backpacking. I finished the John Muir Trail before leaving California, and I’m excited to start doing more on the east coast. My partner is a diehard emo and pop punk fan, so we see a lot of live shows, which Nashville has been incredible for. I also just love staying home and playing with my dogs, Nymeria and Niffin.

Who have been your mentors in SLA? Kelly LaVoice, Hillary Craiglow, and Robbi De Perri at the Walker Management Library have been so supportive in the transition from student to professional- the process of applying to jobs, learning about an institution, and then going through the presentation and interview process can be overwhelming. Knowing what to ask and what to look out
for can be a daunting process, and having their advice and support was incredibly valuable in navigating this new world. Dr. Jade Winn at the University of Southern California’s MMLIS program has been instrumental in my professional development, both during my time as a student and beyond.

What is your favorite SLA memory? I loved having the opportunity to found a chapter at USC! Getting a chance to talk to people in my cohort about their needs and interests in the world of special libraries was a great way to learn more about them, and the profession more widely. The SLA Information Insights letter has also been something I look forward to; as my capstone project as a student, I researched how conspiracy theories propagate across different social media networks—seeing different ways that librarians and information professionals were studying and confronting the issues of online disinformation, the current information ecosystem, and other non-traditional fields of librarianship was both inspiring and insightful.

Name something that most other members don’t know about you: I spent most of my twenties working in Los Angeles political campaigns and in restaurants—libraries are a major career shift for me. Networks, like SLA, have been so valuable in entering into this new field.

**LETTER FROM THE INCOMING CHAIR**

I came to being a librarian after spending years doing equity research on Wall Street. Oddly, the jobs are quite similar in some ways (clearly not all). My job now is to help researchers find the materials they need to do their job. When I did research on Wall Street, my job was to help clients find the information they need to make investment decisions. While very different worlds, in both cases I rely my knowledge and sometimes the help of others to better assist the researcher. I know a lot about finance, and less about a number of associated areas. I am fortunate that I can ask the other librarians at work for help in most areas.

Ideally, among the librarians and knowledge workers in SLA’s B&F community we can develop a sharing network. So, if someone gets a gnarly finance question, you will know I am around to help out. Similarly, when I get an off the wall real estate question, I know I can reach out to our outgoing Chair Dan Hickey. For marketing questions, I know Heather Howard will likely have the answer. We are all great on our own, we will be an amazing force if we can leverage what we all know.

This concept of a helping network, I believe, will be useful to all but especially those early in the librarian careers. Supporting those new in the profession will strengthen the profession overall and new entrants often have innovative ideas that will improve service, offerings and outreach, that we all can shamelessly appropriate and adapt for our workplaces. If in a workplace environment, I would say I have an open door policy, if my door is open come in. Please know I will have the virtual equivalent of an open door policy reach out to chat or ask questions, I love to chat and for questions, if I have the answer, great, if not I will work to find someone who does have the answer. Bcoffey@princeton.edu or my play email bobbicoffey@yahoo.com

**Bobbi Coffey, B&F Chair ‘23**
The SLA 2023 Annual Conference will be a collaboration with the Medical Library Association (MLA). This collaboration offers SLA members additional opportunities to learn and network with colleagues who face similar challenges in different settings. The conference will feature 100-plus education sessions and networking and social events as well as opportunities to learn about the newest information products and services. Make plans to join us May 16-19 in Detroit for MLA | SLA ’23!

EDUCATION PROGRAM SUBMISSION PROCESS
The submission site for papers and education and immersion sessions for SLA ’23 is now open. We are seeking innovative, engaging conference sessions that will educate and inspire special librarians and information professionals. We invite you to submit proposals for lightning talks and posters. The deadline for submissions is January 26th, 2023. Posters may be presented both in person and on demand or on demand. Acceptance notices for posters and lightning talks will be sent February 28, 2023.
Questions? Send an email to learning@sla.org or call +1.773.251.9373.

ATTENDANCE OPTIONS
SLA ’23 is being presented both in person and on demand (virtually) to allow information professionals to choose the format that best suits their learning preference and budget. The in-person conference will take place in Detroit, Michigan, U.S.A., while the virtual component will feature a mix of pre-recorded and live-streamed sessions.

REGISTRATION
Registration for the conference will open in early 2023.